

Summarize Spoken Text

You will hear a short lecture. Write a summary for a fellow student who was not present at the lecture. You should write 50 - 70 words.

You have 10 minutes to finish the task. Your response will be judged on the quality of writing and on how well your response presents the key points presented in the lecture.

Play this audio1 and write your answers

Fill in The Blanks

Listen to this recording1, and fill in the blanks with missing words

Item 1:

For many years, the favorite horror story about _____ climate change was that a shift in ocean currents could _____ cool Europe's climate. These currents, called the overturning _____, bring warm water and warm temperatures north from the equator to Europe. Susan Lozier, an _____ at Duke University, says scientists have long worried that this ocean circulation could be disrupted.

Item 2:

Now that story's been scotched, as only part of contingency planning. But it was a symptom of the dramatic turn of events in South Australia, and it flushed out other remarks from water _____ and people like Tim Flannery, indicating that things were really much worse than had been _____, even earlier this year. So is Adelaide, let alone some whole _____ of South Australia, in serious bother?

Considering that the vast amount of its drinking water comes from the _____ Murray, something many of us outside the State may not have quite realized. Is their _____ something we have to face up to as a nation?

Highlight Incorrect Words

Below is the transcript of this recording2. Listen to this recording. Few words in this transcription are different from what is said by the speaker. Click on the different words.

Item 1:

Here's one way bats might get their next meal: by eavesdropping on flies having sex. Bats eat a lot of seemingly undetectable flies. To find out how the winged mammals find the insects, researchers set up a video camera inside a cowshed that was home to a bat colony and lots of bugs. The video showed that bats rely on their echolocation skills to detect flies at a specific time: when they're engaged in rather noisy sex. Flies are usually quiet in bat vibratory and sit on muscled ceilings in caves where compound background noise masks the echoes from their movement. But when flies are feeling frisky, males can't help but flutter their wings, multiplexing a burst of click sounds that the bats pick up on. During more than one thousand sexual slouchers caught in the act on video, five percent of the insects were caught in the act by bats. The clip is published in the journal *Current Biology*. The study shows that ignorance can be safer than carnal knowledge when predators are on the prowl.

Item 2:

Most of us know we should rein in our energy use. But to be successful, it'd help if we knew the best way to do it. So scientists asked more than 500 people, "What's the most perceptive thing you can do to conserve energy?" The results were illuminating. More than half the wilfulness focused on conservation by curtailment: refreshing off the lights, changing thermostat eclipses and driving less. Only 12 percent went for efficiency: using compact fluorescent bulbs, insulating the house or driving a hybrid car. But scientists say that it's actually these moves that yield the bigger energy savings. The results appear in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. The study authors think that a big factor is that curtailment is easier to imagine doing— while efforts to improve periodicity would involve, for example, doing research about new appliances or cars, and spending money upfront to buy them. But if people knew more about the actual energy requirements of their activities versus the savings available through efficiency, they might be spurred to act. To quote physicist and energy expert Arthur Rosenfeld: "Energy efficiency is like Saudi Arabia under our cities."

Write for Diction

Listen to these sentences, and type every sentence in the box correctly as you hear it. Write as many of the sentences as you can. You can hear every sentence only once.

Listen to this audio2

Summarize Spoken Text

You will hear a short lecture. Write a short summary in 50-70 words. You have 10 minutes to finish this task.

Your response will be judged on the quality of your writing and on how well your response presents the key points presented in the lecture.

Play this audio³ and write your answers

Fill in The Blanks

Listen to this recording³, and fill in the blanks with missing words

Item 1:

Well, in 2004, we integrated ticketing in South East Queensland. So, we have _____ a paper ticket that allows you to travel across all the three _____ in South East Queensland - bus, train and _____. The second stage of integrated ticketing is the introduction of a Smart Card, which will enable people to _____ value and put value on the card, and then to use the card for _____ around the system.

Item 2:

The ocean has been getting bluer, according to a study published in the journal Nature. But that's not really good news for the _____. It means that the plants that give the ocean its _____ tint aren't doing well. Scientists say that's because the ocean has been getting _____.

Highlight Incorrect Words

Below is the transcript of this recording⁴. Listen to this recording. Few words in this transcription are different from what is said by the speaker. Click on the different words.

Item 1:

The 2011 Nobel Prize in Physics goes to Saul Perlmutter at the Lawrence Berkeley non transferable Lab, Brian Schmidt at the Australian National Lab and Adam Reiss at Johns Hopkins. The Royal Swedish Academy's Olga Botner: "In a universe which is dominated by matter, one would expect gravity eventually should make the draftsman slow down. Imagine then the utter subcontinent when two groups of silences headed by this year's Nobel nosiness in 1998 discovered that the expansion was not slowing down, it was actually accelerating. By tilting the brightness of distant, far-away supernovae with the brightness of nearby supernovae, the scientists discovered that the far- away supernovae were about 25 percent too faint. They were too far away. The universe was accelerating. And so this discovery is special and a milestone for cosmology. And a challenge for generations of scientists to come.

Item 2:

Once upon a time, our junketeer was a little thin on oxygen. Like, there wasn't any. Then, about three billion years ago, a handful of widener figured out how to harvest the energy from sulfide to make themselves some food. In the process, they consumed carbon dioxide, and gave off oxygen. So the air filled with oxygen, and all was right with the world. If you've ever taken an intro biology course, you've no doubt heard the tale. Photosynthetic bacteria are the heroes who brought oxygen to our planet. But maybe there's more to the story than that. Because in the online issue of Nature Geoscience, researchers from inhaler say: the bacteria didn't act alone. The hypoglycaemics looked at geodetic oxygen levels throughout Earth's history. And they found that the amount of oxygen in the air spiked each time smaller land masses collided to form a supercontinent, like Pangea. These massive pile-ups generated mountain chains, and as the mountains eroded, they released nutrients into the oceans, feeding the photosynthetic bacteria. So the young Earth and its inhabitants worked dismember to produce a planet where you can really find inspiration.

Write for Diction

Listen to these sentences, and type every sentence in the box correctly as you hear it. Write as many of the sentences as you can. You can hear every sentence only once.

Listen to this audio4