

Listening A2

At the Mall

Part 1: Listen to the dialogue. While listening answer the questions below. Underline or highlight the correct answer (choose between a, b or c).

You will hear the recording twice.

You will have 20 seconds at end of the second recording to complete your answers.

You now have 20 seconds to look at the task.

1. Who would like to go to the mall ?	a. Katie. b. A friend of Todd's. c. Todd.
2. Where are the computer stores?	a. On the first floor. b. On the third floor. c. On the fifth floor.
3. What kind of books would Todd like to buy ?	a. Spanish books. b. English books. c. Italian books.
4. What can you buy at 'Subways' ?	a. Coffee. b. Cake. c. Sandwiches.
5. Why is the café a good place to 'people watch' ?	a. Because there are big windows. b. Because there are a lot of lights. c. Because it's in the street.
6. What <u>can't</u> you find at the mall?	a. A cinema. b. Cheap clothes shops. c. A supermarket.
7. When is the best time to go there?	a. During the week. b. Only in the morning. c. At the weekend.

Living in Melbourne

Part 1: Listen to the dialogue. While listening answer the questions below. Underline or highlight the correct answer (choose between a, b or c).

You will hear the recording twice.

You will have 20 seconds at end of the second recording to complete your answers.

You now have 20 seconds to look at the task.

1. Where is Shirley from ?	a. Sydney. b. Melbourne. c. Both places.
2. The Botanical Gardens has ...	a. a zoo. b. a lot of fruit trees. c. a small lake.
3. The shopping is good because of the ...	a. variety. b. low prices. c. quality.
4. Shirley says that housing is ...	a. very expensive. b. cheaper than in Sydney. c. getting cheaper.
5. How many big universities are there in Melbourne ?	a. one or two. b. two or three. c. three or four.
6. Shirley says that Melbourne is a great place to ...	a. go out. b. do sport. c. live.

Great Places

Part 1

Listen to Keren speaking to Todd about all the great places she has visited. While listening, complete the table below. Cross true or false for each sentence.

You will hear the recording twice.

You will have 20 seconds at the end of the second recording to complete your answers.

You now have 20 seconds to look at the task.

	True	False
1. Ayers Rock is also called Uluru.		
2. Keren spent 2 years in Peru.		
3. Machu Picchu is an ancient ruin of an old castle.		
4. The Alhambra is the capital of Spain.		
5. Keren has been to four different Asian countries.		
6. In Hokkaido she worked on a farm.		

Part 2

Listen again. Underline the correct answer.

You will have 20 seconds at the end of the recording to complete the task.

You now have 20 seconds to look at the task.

1. Keren spent in Australia.

- a. *less than four months*
- b. *more than four months*
- c. *four months*

2. At Ayers Rock ...

- a. *the land is very red.*
- b. *the sky is very red.*
- c. *the air is very dry.*

3. Where is Machu Picchu?

- a. *Peru*
- b. *Brazil*
- c. *Venezuela*

4. How old is Machu Picchu?

- a. *It's about five or six hundred years old.*
- b. *It's about six or seven hundred years old.*
- c. *It's about seven or eight hundred years old.*

5. What can you do in the Alhambra?

- a. *You can visit the ruins.*
- b. *You can have lunch in a restaurant.*
- c. *You can go shopping*

6. In which country is Keren's favourite place?

- a. *Australia.*
- b. *Japan.*
- c. *Spain.*

Reading Test A2

Why is Charlie so cool ... like ?

In April 2007, a 16-year-old boy named Charlie McDonnell was studying for his exams. But he was bored, so he turned on his laptop computer. He found a website called YouTube and

watched a video of another teenager like him. The teenager was sitting in his bedroom and talking about how bored *he* was. "I can do better than that!" thought Charlie. So, he used his laptop and webcam to make his first video, and posted it on YouTube under the name *Charlieissocoollike*.

YouTube started in 2005 and is now the world's largest video website. More than 3 billion videos are watched every day on YouTube and a large number of those are video blogs. These are simply videos of people talking to a camera about their lives or things that interest them.

Two days after Charlie posted his first video, he had 150 subscribers, so he decided to make more videos. He soon became quite popular. A few months later, Oprah Winfrey, the famous American TV host, showed one of his videos called *How to be English* on her programme. In this video, Charlie wears a suit and tie and talks in a funny accent. He shows viewers how to make a cup of tea. Charlie suddenly became very famous in the United States too.

To say thank you to all his fans he made a video called *Challenge Charlie*, asking people to suggest funny or difficult things for him to do in his videos. Challenges included drinking tomato ketchup, wearing all his clothes at once and painting himself purple!

Charlie is also a singer and songwriter. His most popular videos are of him singing and playing the ukulele. In *Duet with Myself*, he uses special effects to sing a duet with himself about what a boring person he is. This has now been watched over 7 million times!

Charlie's best friend, Alex Day, is also a musician and video blogger. They met through YouTube and started a band together. The band is called *Chameleon Circuit*, and they have made two CDs and performed several concerts.

With more than one and a half million subscribers, Charlie is the most popular video blogger in the UK. He has now made enough money to buy a house with his friend Alex. But what is the secret of his success? "I make the kind of videos that I want to watch," he says. And when asked how fame has affected him, Charlie says, "I still sit in my bedroom talking to my camera, and that's what I want to do."

Oh! How did Charlie do in his exams back in 2007? Well, he passed with nine A grades and one B! He says that he wants to go to university in the future but decided to try and make a career on YouTube before that. So far, it's going very well!

*Brendan Dunne*¹

¹ <https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/study-break/reading-zone/a2-graded-reading/why-is-charlie-so-cool-like-a2>

A. Cross under True or False.

(0) is an example.

Statements	True	False
0. In April 2007 Charlie was 16 years old.		
1. Charlie watched a video of another young person talking about how busy he was.		
2. Charlie made his first video in 2005.		
3. More than 3 billion videos are watched on YouTube every day.		
4. Oprah Winfrey showed one of Charlie's videos on her programme.		
5. Charlie once drank a bottle of tomato ketchup in one of his videos.		
6. Charlie plays the piano.		
7. Charlie and Alex's band is called 'Charlieissocoollike'.		
8. Charlie got good exam results.		

B. Multiple-choice. Underline the correct sentence.

1. You Tube started in _____

- a. 2005.
- b. 2006.
- c. 2007.

2. Charlie made his first video while he was _____

- a. *reading.*
- b. *playing in his room.*
- c. *studying for his exams.*

3. In 'How to be English', Charlie talks about _____

- a. *cooking.*
- b. *making tea.*
- c. *speaking in a funny accent.*

4. 'Duet with myself has now been watched _____

- a. *7 thousand times.*
- b. *7 million times.*
- c. *7 billion times.*

5. 'Charliissocoollike' is now the most popular You Tube video blogger in _____.

- a. *the USA.*
- b. *the UK.*
- c. *Europe.*

6. Charlie and Alex have now made enough money to _____

- a. *start their own website.*
- b. *build a bigger bedroom.*
- c. *buy a house together.*

Reading Test B1

Walking for six weeks²

My name's Anne and last summer my friend Lina and I walked for six weeks along the west coast of England. We'd done a two-week hike a year earlier and even though we'd found some of the walking quite difficult, we'd come back even better friends than when we'd left! On the first morning we couldn't believe we were on our way at last – our backpacks had been ready for weeks. We'd also talked to people who'd done the coastal walk, so we knew we could expect lots of adventures.

We weren't disappointed although I hadn't done much exercise before our holiday and wasn't in great condition. The villages on our route were pretty, but it was the fantastic scenery that impressed us the most. Our accommodation in hostels was very basic, but we always slept well. I had a sore knee for a couple of days after slipping on a rock on a steep path, but it wasn't a big problem.

We never stayed anywhere for more than a night, apart from in one town with a beautiful castle. We arrived there late and were going to leave early the next day. But there was a terrible thunderstorm the following morning, so we thought we'd better not carry on that day as the next part of our journey was along some high cliffs. So, we went on a tour of the castle instead and learnt all about life there over the centuries – and had a little break from hiking, too!

In another place we chatted to a little girl whose family ran the hostel we were staying in. She wanted to know where we were from, what we were studying, what we wanted to do in the future, our favourite TV programmes – everything! She couldn't understand why so many people like walking because she prefers riding her bike. She thought it was funny that Lina usually got to the top of every slope in about half the time it took me!

Now the trip is over, Lina and I agree that it was one of the best things we've ever done. And we're already planning our next hike together!

² Practice test plus by Pearsons

A. Read the text carefully. Cross ☒ the best option.

1.	The first hike that Anne and Lina did together was ... than this one.	longer.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		shorter.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		the same length.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	How did Anne and Lina feel when they set off ?	pleased to be doing something new.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		worried whether they would get on.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		excited they had finally started.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	What did Anne and Lina particularly like during their walk ?	the views they saw.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		the meals they ate.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		the beds they slept in.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.	What did Anne injure when she slipped on a rock ?	her knee.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		her elbow.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		her ankle.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.	Why did Anne and Lina stay an extra night in one place	they needed rest.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		it had an interesting history.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		the weather was bad.	<input type="checkbox"/>

7. What message would Anne send to her family at the end of the walk ?

A

It's been really amazing!
And you won't believe it,
but I didn't have any
accident during the
whole trip.

B

I must get fitter before
my next walk! Lina was
always faster than me
when we were going on
the slopes!

C

Lina and I had a few
arguments before we
left. But in the end we
both had a fantastic time!

D

I can't wait to get back
home and see you all
again. I've missed my
favourite TV programmes
too!

B. For each question choose the correct answer.

Stay Healthy by Walking³

Everybody worries about their general health and fitness. However, what many people don't realise is that walking is one of the best ways to keep healthy.

This doesn't mean that you **1.** _____ to go on long walks in the countryside.

You can walk home from work, from school, or you can walk to the shops.

You can use the stairs **2.** _____ of using the lift.

You can even walk a dog **3.** _____ you have one!

Now let's look **4.** _____ the benefits of walking.

Firstly, it's relaxing. Secondly, it improves your fitness and your health. Finally, it's a great way to socialise with people.

Remember, you don't need **5.** _____ expensive equipment for walking. You just need a good pair of walking boots or shoes.

- | | | | |
|--------------|----------|-----------|---------|
| 1. A must | B have | C should | D might |
| 2. A instead | B enough | C else | D well |
| 3. A whether | B if | C as | D that |
| 4. A on | B at | C for | D with |
| 5. A many | B any | C various | D some |