



# **ESEMPI DI DOMANDE INVALSI DI INGLESE AL TERMINE DEL SECONDO CICLO DI ISTRUZIONE**

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**INVALSI** Istituto nazionale per la valutazione del sistema educativo di istruzione e di formazione

*Ente di Diritto Pubblico Decreto Legislativo 286/2004*

# **ESEMPI DI DOMANDE INVALSI DI INGLESE LISTENING COMPREHENSION**

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## 1. TASK IDENTIFIER

TITLE	<b>My life so far</b>
LENGTH OF SOUNDFILE (minutes)	02:54
LISTENING BEHAVIOUR	Selective listening
GENERAL FOCUS	Listening for specific information and important details
CEFR LEVEL	B1
TEST METHOD	Short answer questions
NUMBER OF ITEMS	7



## My life so far

Listen to an English woman who is talking about important events in her life.

First you will have 1 minute to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice.

While listening, complete the sentences (1-7) using a maximum of 4 words.

Write your answers in the spaces provided.

The first one (0) has been done for you.

After the second listening, you will have 1 minute to check your answers.

0	She was born in ____.	1974
Q1	Her life as a young girl was very ____.	
Q2	She studied for five years at ____.	
Q3	At college she did not like studying ____.	
Q4	Her university course lasted more than ____.	
Q5	She spent the first part of her Erasmus year in ____.	
Q6	Her course to become an English teacher lasted ____.	
Q7	She got to Italy on ____.	



## 2. TASK IDENTIFIER

TITLE	<b>Travel to Luxembourg</b>
LENGTH OF SOUNDFILE (minutes)	03:16
LISTENING BEHAVIOUR	Careful listening
GENERAL FOCUS	Listening for main ideas and supporting details
CEFR LEVEL	B2
TEST METHOD	Multiple Choice Questions
NUMBER OF ITEMS	7



## Travel to Luxembourg

Listen to an interview with Rosie, an American who now lives in Luxembourg. First you will have 1 minute to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice.

While listening, tick the correct sentence ending (A, B, C or D) for the beginning of the sentences 1-7.

Only one answer is correct.

The first one (0) has been done for you.

After the second listening, you will have 1 minute to check your answers.

0. Before leaving the US, Rosie

- A believed Luxembourg was in Belgium.
- B had been to Luxembourg once to visit a friend.
- C had considered moving to Germany.
- D *did not even know that Luxembourg existed.*

Q1. Rosie moved to Luxembourg because

- A it was easier to find a good job there.
- B she and her husband were looking for a change.
- C one of her closest relatives lived there.
- D her husband had studied in the country's capital.

Q2. Rosie says visiting Luxembourg

- A requires a special international visa.
- B takes a good sense of direction.
- C is a topic she really enjoys talking about.
- D is a relatively easy thing to do.

Q3. When exploring Luxembourg, tourists

- A may sometimes see rubbish around.
- B will have to travel long distances.
- C will probably meet other foreigners.
- D can visit some interesting museums.

Q4. Luxembourg is a place that

- A hosts famous fashion companies.
- B offers different types of accommodation.
- C stands out for its religious buildings.
- D is home to some European organizations.



Q5. Visiting Luxembourg city

- A can be disappointing for adults with small kids.
- B is accessible if you can speak English.
- C is particularly suitable for adventurous travellers.
- D requires spending a lot of money.

Q6. According to Rosie, a trip to Luxembourg

- A should start from its capital city.
- B must include a meal in a typical restaurant.
- C is more pleasant in winter than in spring.
- D requires at least a week's stay.

Q7. What makes Luxembourg city unique is that

- A its inhabitants always move around on foot.
- B it takes one single day to visit.
- C it has an upper and a lower part.
- D the centre is off limits for means of transport.





### 3. TASK IDENTIFIER

TITLE	<b>BBC News at Midday</b>
LENGTH OF SOUNDFILE (minutes)	02:27
LISTENING BEHAVIOUR	Selective listening
GENERAL FOCUS	Listening for gist
CEFR LEVEL	B2
TEST METHOD	Multiple Matching
NUMBER OF ITEMS	6



## BBC News at Midday

Listen to a number of BBC speakers reading both national and international news items.

First you will have 1 minute to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice.

While listening, match the speakers (1-6) with their statements (A-H).

There is one extra statement that you should not use.

The first one (0) has been done for you.

After the second listening, you will have 1 minute to check your answers.

0	Example	H
Q1	Speaker 1	
Q2	Speaker 2	
Q3	Speaker 3	
Q4	Speaker 4	
Q5	Speaker 5	
Q6	Speaker 6	



A	The cost of living has reached a new height this year after a long increase
B	Higher train tickets are justified with improvements to the network
C	Innovative vehicles will be available for those people most in need in the near future
D	Toxic fumes from cars and power plants have caused a health crisis in an Asian country
E	Experts claim this year will be record-breaking for its extremely high temperatures
F	UK economic depression has led to lower pay for civil servants
G	A soccer team has recently engaged a new chief executive
H	<i>Unclear economic strategies on a type of fuel have affected car sales</i>



## Keys

### Task 1: My life so far

0	1974
Q1	happy
Q2	high school secondary school
Q3	art
Q4	3 years three years
Q5	France
Q6	5 weeks five weeks
Q7	her birthday 2nd October (1998) 2 October (1998) the second of October

### Task 2: Travel to Luxembourg

0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7
D	B	D	C	D	B	A	C

### Task 3: BBC News at Middyay

0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6
H	C	E	A	D	G	B



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# **ESEMPI DI DOMANDE INVALSI DI INGLESE READING COMPREHENSION**

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## 1. TASK IDENTIFIER

TITLE	<b>Animal heroes</b>
NUMBER OF WORDS	598
READING BEHAVIOUR	Selective reading
GENERAL FOCUS	Reading for gist
CEFR LEVEL	B2
TEST METHOD	Multiple Matching
NUMBER OF ITEMS	6



## Animal Heroes

Read the texts about animals that have saved people, then choose the correct texts (A-H) to answer the questions (1-6).

Use each text once only.

There is one extra text that you should not use.

The first one (0) has been done for you.

- A** While doing his daily farm work, farmer Noel Osborne was accidentally knocked into a pile of manure, shattering his hip. He was rendered immobile and stranded too far away for anyone to hear his calls for help. For five days, his goat Mandy huddled by his side keeping him warm, even throughout stormy, cold nights. Perhaps more remarkably, Mandy allowed Osborne to milk her for sustenance.
- B** In 1919, a ship called *Ethie* crashed into rocks, stranding 93 sailors amidst stormy seas. After one of the sailors was swept out to sea, the crew turned to their dog, Tang. With the rope in his mouth, he leaped into the water. When he reached land, onlookers were amazed to discover that his jaw was still fastened to the rope. All 92 of the remaining sailors were pulled to safety due to Tang's ceaseless bravery.
- C** Diver Yang Yun was part of a competition to hold her breath for as long as possible in a pool of beluga whales in China. The dive was going smoothly until she tried to move her legs and she couldn't. That's when Mila, one of the beluga whales, came to her rescue. Sensing something was wrong, the animal swam to the drowning diver, took Yun's leg in her mouth and lifted her to the surface to breathe, saving her life.
- D** 8-year-old Amber Mason was saved by a 4-year-old elephant during the 2004 tsunami in Thailand. Just as the wave struck, the elephant took Amber on its back and ran for higher ground. As the wave crashed around them, the elephant even turned its back to the water, creating a protective wall from the impact. "If she had been on the beach on her own or with us on the beach, she would never have lived," Amber's mother recalled. "The elephant took the pounding of the wave."
- E** A 2-year-old named Hannah would have choked to death if it wasn't for Willie the parrot. "While I was in the bathroom, Willie started screaming like I'd never heard him scream before and he started flapping his wings," said Megan, the babysitter. "Then he started saying 'mama baby' over and over again until I came out and looked at Hannah and Hannah's face was turning blue." Willie saved the day.
- F** Surfer David Rastovich describes how a dolphin saved him from a shark attack. "I was sitting in the water, when all of a sudden I saw a dolphin next to me that was behaving unusually hectic. From the top I saw how the dolphin came flying and hit a shark hard in the side. I myself hadn't even seen the shark before," he recalled.



- G** Here's the remarkable story of Jambo, a silverback gorilla at the Jersey Zoo. After a young boy, Levan, fell into the gorilla's zoo enclosure, fracturing his skull and breaking limbs, Jambo immediately came to his aid. The silverback stood firmly next to the young boy and even stroked his back in comfort, protecting the boy from danger. When Levan woke up and began to cry, Jambo led his entire troop away so human rescuers could reach the boy.
- H** After a gasoline-powered water pump leaked odorless carbon monoxide into the Keesling family's home, their cat Winnie began to nudge and meow loudly at their ears. "It was a crazy meow, almost like she was screaming," said Cathy Keesling. By the time she got up, Cathy Keesling was already dizzy and nauseous from the fumes, and her husband and son were completely unconscious. But thanks to Winnie, Cathy was able to dial 911 before anyone was seriously harmed.





**Which text mentions an animal that helped**

0	<i>a family by producing a loud sound and keeping one member awake?</i>	<i>H</i>
Q1	a child by making a noise to attract the nanny's attention?	
Q2	a person by preventing them from being violently attacked?	
Q3	a group of people by guiding them to the shore?	
Q4	a person by feeding and protecting them from the cold for several days?	
Q5	a child by providing protection from its fellow creatures?	
Q6	a person by dragging them upwards out of the water?	



## 2. TASK IDENTIFIER

TITLE	<b>Truly unique</b>
NUMBER OF WORDS	375
READING BEHAVIOUR	Careful reading
GENERAL FOCUS	Reading for main ideas and supporting details
CEFR LEVEL	B2
TEST METHOD	True /False /Justification
NUMBER OF ITEMS	6



## Truly unique

**Read the text about an unusual type of animal behaviour.**

**Decide whether the statements (1-6) are true (T) or false (F), then write the first four words of the sentence which supports your decision in the space provided.**

**The first one (0) has been done for you.**

*No wild cat has ever been observed nursing a cub from another species – the event may be the result of the Tanzanian lioness having lost her own litter.*



A lioness has been spotted nursing a tiny leopard cub in Tanzania, the first time a wild cat is known to have adopted a cub from another species. The five-year-old lioness, called Nosikitok, is closely monitored by conservationists in the Ngorongoro conservation area and is known to have had a litter of her own in mid to late June.

How she came to adopt the leopard cub, thought to be three weeks old, is not known. But Luke Hunter, president of big cat conservation group Panthera, said her recent births are a critical factor: “She is physiologically primed to take care of baby cats, and the little leopard fits the bill – it is almost exactly the age of her own cubs and physically very similar to them.

“She would not be nursing the cub if she wasn’t already awash with a ferocious maternal drive. Even so, there has never been another case like it, and why it has occurred now is mystifying. This is a truly unique case. It is quite possible she has lost her own cubs, and found the leopard cub in her bereaved state when she would be particularly vulnerable”.

The unique spectacle was captured on camera on Tuesday by a guest at the Ndutu Lodge in Tanzania’s Ngorongoro conservation area. But the cub faces an uncertain future, even if the lioness continues to nurse it. “It is very unlikely that the lioness’s pride will accept it”, Hunter said. “Lions have very rich, complicated social relationships in which they recognise individuals – by sight and by roars – and so they are very well equipped to distinguish their cubs from others. If the rest of the pride finds the cub, it is likely it would be killed.”

However, if the cub manages to survive for 12-18 months and reaches adulthood, it is likely to revert to leopard behaviour, Hunter said: “Even its early exposure to lion society would not override the millions of years of evolution that has equipped the leopard to be a supreme solitary hunter. I am sure it would go its own way.”



0	<i>Researchers have proven that wild cats adopt animals of different species.</i>
Q1	It is evident how the lioness decided to nurse the baby leopard.
Q2	Her baby cats would have been older than the baby leopard.
Q3	The lioness was thought to be suffering loss when she found the leopard cub.
Q4	What is certain is that the baby leopard will survive.
Q5	The lions' social structure is very different from that of leopards.
Q6	The baby leopard will act like a lion when it becomes an adult.

	<b>True [T] or False [F]</b>	<b>First four words</b>
0	<i>F</i>	<i>A lioness has been</i>
Q1		
Q2		
Q3		
Q4		
Q5		
Q6		



### 3. TASK IDENTIFIER

TITLE	<b>Chinese art collector</b>
NUMBER OF WORDS	546
READING BEHAVIOUR	Careful reading
GENERAL FOCUS	Reading for main ideas and supporting details
CEFR LEVEL	B2
TEST METHOD	Multiple Choice Questions
NUMBER OF ITEMS	8



## Chinese art collector

Read the text about a Chinese trader who has bought a famous piece of artwork, then tick the correct sentence ending (A, B, C or D) for the beginning of the sentences 1-8.

Only one answer is correct.

The first one (0) has been done for you.



Liu Yiqian, a former taxi driver turned billionaire art collector, confirmed on Tuesday that he was the buyer of the painting of a nude woman by Amedeo Modigliani that sold for \$170.4 million at Christie's New York on Monday night.

Speaking by telephone from Shanghai, the Chinese collector said he planned to bring the work back to the city, where he and his wife have two private museums.

"We are planning to exhibit it for the museum's fifth anniversary," he said. "It will be an opportunity for Chinese art lovers to see good artworks without having to leave the country, which is one of the main reasons why we founded the museums."

Bidding by telephone, Mr Liu, 52, was one of six people competing for Modigliani's 1917-18 canvas, *Nu Couché*, during the auction. The final price of \$170.4 million with fees was well above the previous auction record of \$70.7 million for a work by Modigliani. With Mr Liu's winning bid, the painting became the 10th work of art to reach the elite nine-figure club for works sold at auction.

"Modigliani's works already have a pretty established value on the market," Mr Liu said. "This work is relatively nice compared to his other nude paintings. And his nude paintings have been collected by some of the world's top museums."

As a teenager growing up in Shanghai during the tumultuous years of the Cultural Revolution, Mr Liu sold handbags on the street and later worked as a taxi driver. After dropping out of middle school, he went on to ride the wave of China's economic opening and reform, making a fortune through stock trading in real estate and pharmaceuticals in the 1980s and 1990s. According to the 2015 Bloomberg Billionaires Index, Mr Liu is worth at least \$1.5 billion.



“To me, art collecting is primarily a process of learning about art,” Mr Liu said in an interview with The New York Times in 2013. “First you must be fond of the art. Then you can have an understanding of it.”

Mr Liu, together with his wife, Wang Wei, is one of China’s most visible – some say flashy – art collectors. Over the years, they have built a vast collection of both traditional and contemporary Chinese art, much of which is displayed in their two museums in Shanghai: the Long Museum Pudong, which opened in 2012; and the Long Museum West Bund, which opened last year. Ms Wang, 52, is the director of both museums.

“I first came up with the idea that the Long Museum should collect international objects about two years ago,” said Ms Wang, adding that her husband has been very supportive of her work.

The couple’s collection includes a 15th-century silk hanging, called a thangka, bought by Mr Liu for \$45 million at a Christie’s auction in Hong Kong last year. The purchase made headlines when it set the record for a Chinese artwork sold at an international auction.

With that purchase, Mr Liu broke a record he had set months earlier when he paid \$36.3 million at a Sotheby’s sale for a tiny Ming dynasty porcelain cup known as a “chicken cup”. Soon after, he caused an uproar after a photograph that showed him sipping tea from the antique cup spread online.



0. A Chinese tycoon is going to display his Modigliani

- A in the capital where he grew up.
- B at an art gallery in Hong Kong.
- C at a charity event in New York.
- D in one of the two museums he owns.

Q1. Mr Liu would like his countrymen to

- A enjoy international works of art in China.
- B go abroad and see foreign exhibitions.
- C appreciate European painters better.
- D improve their taste in Chinese modern art.

Q2. The price of the *Nu Couché* masterpiece in a public sale was

- A the second highest paid for a Modigliani.
- B within the top ten sums spent on works of art.
- C slightly lower than any other Modigliani.
- D the year's record at Sotheby's auctions.

Q3. In his adolescence, Mr Liu witnessed

- A an economic boom in his own country.
- B hard times while living in Beijing.
- C dramatic population growth in China.
- D historical changes in Chinese society.

Q4. About 40 years ago, Mr Liu became very rich as a result of his

- A prestigious role in Chinese politics.
- B business deals in European artworks.
- C profitable financial investments in specific sectors.
- D export company which he had set up in Asia.

Q5. Mr Liu believes art collectors should

- A be accomplished artists themselves.
- B be keen on art and appreciate it.
- C keep artworks for their private use.
- D know the artist's life to value their work.





Q6. Thanks to their two museums in Shanghai, Mr and Ms Liu

- A can lend their pieces to overseas art collections.
- B are supporting and promoting young local artists.
- C exhibit Chinese art and also foreign masterpieces.
- D have become experts in international artistic trends.

Q7. At a Sotheby's auction, Mr Liu spent a fortune on

- A an antique piece of pottery of very small dimensions.
- B a French decorated saucer from a very old collection.
- C an old Japanese sword with a mysterious inscription.
- D a golden framed mirror dating back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

Q8. Mr Liu shocked people when he

- A admitted cracking his newest purchase.
- B sold his silk painting online.
- C drank from a priceless object.
- D accidentally dropped his precious teacup.



**Keys**

**Task 1: Animal heroes**

0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6
H	E	F	B	A	G	C

**Task 2: Truly Unique**

	True [T] or False [F]	First four words
0	F	<i>A lioness has been</i>
Q1	F	How she came to / Even so, there has
Q2	F	But Luke Hunter, president / She is physiologically primed
Q3	T	It is quite possible
Q4	F	But the cub faces / If the rest of
Q5	T	Lions have very rich
Q6	F	However, if the cub

**Task 3: Chinese art collector**

0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8
D	A	B	D	C	B	C	A	C