

**ŽUPANIJSKO NATJECANJE U ZNANJU ENGLESKOG  
JEZIKA  
za 2. razrede srednjih škola**

<b>SLUŠANJE S RAZUMIJEVANJEM</b>
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Good morning. May I have your attention, please? The listening part of the test will start now. Open your tests to page 2. As you can see, the listening task and questions are on this page.

You will hear a recording of someone who works from home.

You will hear the recording twice. There will be a short pause between the two listenings.

You can write your answers during both the first and second listening.

For questions 1- 10, complete the sentences using no more than one word or a number for each gap. You will hear the exact words that you need to use. You do not need to change them. The answers will occur in the same order as the questions.

While you are listening, write your answers on the task itself. You may cross out your answers, change them, make notes or underline words if you wish.

After the second listening, you will have 1 minute to check your answers and transfer your final answers to the separate Answer Sheet. You must do this carefully and clearly, and you must not change what you write on your Final Answer Sheet in any way.

Now, let's begin. You have 30 seconds to read through the questions.

(30 seconds)

Now you will hear the recording.

## Working From Home

I first started working from home some nineteen years ago. It wasn't a particularly easy decision to make at the time. I had a friend who had been doing it and strongly recommended it. I could just about handle the early starts in the job I was doing, but I couldn't stand commuting any more.

To begin with, I was worried that I wouldn't be able to do all the things that I could do when I was working in a traditional office. Not having a routine was of particular concern to me, though I couldn't say the same about the lack of face-to-face meetings.

My friend advised me to adopt a strict schedule for each day. Even though I'm working at home, my morning coffee and roll are always preceded by a shower. If you get up like it's the weekend, you'll stay in that frame of mind while you're working, which can't be a good thing for your business. Similarly, your wardrobe is important. It might be tempting to stay in your pyjamas all morning, but it's not appropriate for work, especially if you have meetings via Skype. I always have a decent top on, although I give the suit a miss. A punctual start is also imperative. My friend normally begins at eight on the dot, and I do likewise, which is a change from my previous seven o'clock. Even though I have the freedom to begin at nine if I want to, self-discipline is important if you're working from home.

It's also crucial to have a special space where you work and which is separate from the rest of your home life. My friend is fortunate enough to have her own study. My accommodation, however, is somewhat smaller. I have a work desk in the corner of the lounge. It's not ideal but it was either that or the bedroom. It's perfectly ok, I can fit my laptop on it and I have enough room for the printer, phone and all the other things I need.

I have regular breaks. I find that I work better in short bursts of forty-five minutes or so. During a break, I might have a snack or even listen to some music for ten minutes. I avoid computer games, as they would be too much of a distraction. As far as snacks are concerned, again it's important to be disciplined. At work I was always drinking cola and snacking on biscuits. Working from home makes it easier to pay attention to my health. If I fancy a quick bite I normally have some nuts, though I do occasionally eat a piece of fruit, a chocolate bar or a sandwich.

Working from home means that I have to be able to use different kinds of technologies to communicate. At the office, I was constantly on the phone or texting. These days, I'm more likely to use e-mail, although video-conferencing and instant messaging have their place. Basically, you need to be flexible.

On the whole, it's been a positive experience and I'm even better off in terms of money. I could work and earn more but for me it's more important to maintain the life-work balance. The financial advantage actually comes down to the fact that I can save in areas like transport and eating out.

I mentioned the life-work balance and it's crucial that I get out of the space that I work in all day. I occasionally go to restaurants and clubs with friends. Sometimes, I might go round to their house. A couple of days ago, I visited a gallery with some mates. I've even been known to attend a football match from time to time. It doesn't really matter what it is as long as I get out of 'the office' for a bit.

(20 seconds)

**(You will now hear the recording again.)**

## Task 1: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

### Task 1: Working From Home

You will hear a recording of someone who works from home. Listen carefully to the instructions. For questions 1-10, complete the sentences using no more than one word or a number for each gap. You will hear the words or numbers that you need to use. You do not need to change them. The answers will occur in the same order as the questions. You will hear the recording twice.

The task begins with an example (0).

After you hear the recording for the second time, you have 1 minute to check your answers and transfer them to the separate answer sheet.

- (0) The speaker started working from home because she disliked commuting .
- (1) At first, the absence of \_\_\_\_\_ when working at home worried the speaker.
- (2) Having a \_\_\_\_\_ is the first thing that the speaker does every day.
- (3) The speaker likes to wear a smart \_\_\_\_\_ even when working at home.
- (4) The speaker usually starts work at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock.
- (5) The speaker works in the \_\_\_\_\_ in her flat.
- (6) During breaks from work, the speaker sometimes plays \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (7) The speaker generally eats \_\_\_\_\_ when she has a snack while working.
- (8) When working, the speaker tends to communicate via \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (9) The speaker now has more money, because she is able to \_\_\_\_\_ more.
- (10) The speaker has recently been to a \_\_\_\_\_ in her free time.

(10 points)

**Key:**

<b>TASK 1 – LISTENING COMPREHENSION</b>	
<b>1</b>	<b>routine</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>shower</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>top</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>eight/8</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>lounge</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>music</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>nuts</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>e-mail/email</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>save</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>gallery</b>