

ŽUPANIJSKO NATJECANJE U ZNANJU ENGLESKOGA JEZIKA

za 8. razred osnovnih škola

SLUŠANJE S RAZUMIJEVANJEM

This is the listening part of the County Competition.

There are two tasks in the listening part. You will hear each recording twice, and you will have time to read the questions before each recording starts.

While you are listening, write your answers on the task paper 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 copy your FINAL answers onto the separate Answer Sheet. You must do this carefully and clearly, and you must not make any changes to your final answers once they are written.

Open your tests at page 1.

Task one. You will hear a recording about a heist at the Louvre. For each statement (1 –6), write T for true or F for false. There is an example at the beginning (0). You will hear the recording twice.

You now have 30 seconds to read the questions.

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You will now hear the recording.

Transcript

One of the most famous museums in the world, the Louvre Museum in Paris, had to close its doors to the public, following a bold heist that took place on 19 October 2025. Although the doors remained closed for three days only, the incident signals an unusual disruption in the art world as the Louvre is seldom closed even for maintenance. As a result, questions about levels of security are being posed and art lovers are looking for some answers from the authorities.

The spectacular robbery, however, was not the first time priceless art was stolen from the Louvre. On 21 August 1911, an Italian handyman stole the Mona Lisa, causing an international sensation and turning what used to be an ordinary painting into one of the most recognisable artworks. On that particular occasion, the thief hid in a closet overnight and simply walked out in the morning, with the painting safely tucked under his clothes. He claimed his main motive was patriotism as he firmly believed that the painting belonged in Italy, not France. More than two years later he tried to sell it to an art dealer in Florence but was caught, and the Mona Lisa was brought back to Paris. After the theft, the Louvre strengthened its security measures, and the masterpiece was placed behind climate-controlled security glass to keep visitors at bay, since silent alarm technology had not yet been developed.

It seems, however, that the museum's security measures proved insufficient in the case of the most recent robbery. According to the authorities, eight items were taken including necklaces, earrings and brooches that once belonged to French royalty or imperial rulers. A crown of an empress was also stolen but was recovered damaged near the museum after the thieves seemingly dropped it. It is believed that the missing jewellery will be melted down and recut so as to hide evidence of the crime. Otherwise they would be difficult to sell on the black market. The final price might not be what the original artefact was worth, but it will still be considerable.

Aside from the obvious damage that is now being measured in millions, the weakness of the security system has once again become a hot topic. According to the police report, for the Louvre's 465 galleries, security staff had 432 CCTV cameras to monitor the interior in 2024. While that's nearly a 50% increase on the number available in 2019, it still left a number of galleries without any CCTV coverage. However, the weaknesses in the Louvre's security weren't all physical. An inside source claims that the password for the server managing the museum's CCTV network was simply LOUVRE. 'If this is indeed true, the board of directors deserve to be fired', some say. The public believes that instead of spending millions of euros on glitzy, eye-catching purchases and altering the museum

layout, the Louvre officials should have thought about an upgrade in the security infrastructure so as to prevent another heist. It remains to be seen whether this type of criticism will bear fruit as no executives have yet been fired.

You will now hear the recording again.

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You now have 1 minute to check your answers and copy them onto the Answer Sheet.

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This is the end of the first listening task.

Task two

You will hear an interview with Drew Binsky, a travel influencer. For questions 1-6, choose the best answer (A, B, C or D). There is an example at the beginning (0). You will hear the recording twice.

You now have 45 seconds to read the questions.

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You will now hear the recording.

Transcript

Interviewer: Hello listeners, today we have one of the most famous travel influencers here in the studio with us, Drew Binsky! Drew — great to have you here! You've travelled to all 197 countries in the world. Could you tell us a little about your background?

Drew: Sure! I grew up in Scottsdale, Arizona and later studied at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where I did a double major in economics and entrepreneurship. I was debating whether or not to enroll in the field of history, but my parents advised me against it – they weren't sure what I would do with that degree. While I loved my time at college, the moment that changed everything was studying abroad in Prague during my junior year. The university had an amazing exchange program where we branched out a bit into the effects of the media in one of the courses they offered. I lived in Europe from January to May 2012, travelled to over 20 countries, and then figured out I wanted to make traveling my career. What I loved most was that Europe has so many different countries with a variety of cultures within reach!

Interviewer: That's exciting. What happened after college?

Drew: Two months after graduating, I moved to South Korea to work as an English teacher — even though most of my classes in college were business-related and I had zero teaching experience. I treated the job as a chance to live abroad and explore a new world. While there I also started my first travel blog, called “The Hungry Partier”. I spent over 50 hours a week writing posts, networking, and building social media. After about three years, it had over 150,000 monthly readers and over 100,000 followers.

Interviewer: How did the name change to “Drew Binsky” come about?

Drew: Well, initially I had thought of selling the original blog name, “The Hungry Partier,” along with its followers. However, it didn't take me long to turn down the offer. What I realized was that the main issue was the pseudonym - it didn't really reflect who I was. So, I decided to rebrand, using my own name — and now that's how I'm known on all social channels: Drew Binsky.

Interviewer: You've visited many countries, including some that people consider risky. Why do you go there?

Drew: I love visiting places like Afghanistan, Venezuela, Iraq, Syria, Pakistan, Libya and Iran. To me, those trips offer some of the best memories. I want to break stereotypes and share positive stories about the people and cultures there. The funny thing is, I started going to these areas purely by chance, there was no plan made in advance, especially regarding safety reasons. Nevertheless, there's no end in sight – I plan to keep travelling and build the strongest travel community on earth.

Interviewer: And what's your goal for your audience?

Drew: My ultimate goal is to help others become better travelers and save money. I want to be the number-one resource when you think about travelling. I also want to be a role model for high-school and college students who dream of seeing the world. I read and answer as many messages as I can, spending 2-3 hours daily replying to emails, Instagram comments, Facebook messages and so on. I have an amazing team behind the scenes who reply to any sponsors who offer their products or services. In the end, I have to give a big thank you to everyone who has supported me — they mean the world to me!

Interviewer: Thank you, Drew, for taking the time to be with us today, I'm sure our listeners have enjoyed learning something new about you. Keep up the good work, and safe travels!

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You will now hear the recording again.

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You now have 1 minute to check your answers and copy them onto the Answer

Sheet.

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This is the end of the second listening task. This completes the listening part of the test. You may now continue with the rest of the test.