

Angol B2

Reading

Task 1.

You'll read an article about eating out. Match the headings (A-I) with the paragraphs (1-5). There are 3 headings you don't need. There is an example (0) for you.

How to Stop Eating Out From Killing Your Budget

0. H) The Importance of Being Strict

If there was ever a statistic about why modern budgets fail again and again, I am certain that eating out would be on the list, if not the leading act! More than any other habit of the modern American family, eating out is positively the worst thing you can do for your financial and physical well-being.

1. ...

This is fairly common advice for curbing your lunch habits, so why is it so hard to follow? Because not all of us are morning people. It's also difficult to prepare "wet" dishes or things that need re-heating, unless a microwave is available (which doesn't always taste very good).

2. ...

One of the main reasons people like to frequent restaurants is because the food simply tastes better. However, if you've ever been around someone who has spent a little bit of time learning how to cook food properly, they will probably tell you that they can make better-tasting food than *most* restaurants. Start slow and develop your own style of cooking. Don't worry about setting things on fire, food tasting bad, or the dog not wanting to touch what you made – every new skill takes time.

3. ...

If you know someone who has quit "cold turkey," congratulate them on it! You also probably know that it was an incredible challenge of their willpower and determination. A great alternative to stopping in mid-action is the gradual plan. I recommend this if you've been addicted to eating out for a long time.

4. ...

What's the one thing you want so badly in your life that you would give up almost anything to get it? That one financial target that's so attractive that it can literally stop you in your tracks when you think about spending money somewhere else.

5. ...

One of the best tools I've heard of for combatting impulse spending is analysing the purchase based on your income, in order to determine the amount of time required to pay off that purchase. Why not do the same thing for lunch?

- A) Compare It to Your Hourly Rate
- B) Homemade Can Be Better
- C) Never Change the Plan
- D) Pack Your Lunches
- E) Set a Very Desirable Goal
- F) Take a Lesson from Smoking
- G) The Best Way to Do It
- H) The Importance of Being Strict
- I) You Should Do It Overnight

- **1.** D
- **2.** B
- **3.** F
- **4.** E
- **5.** A

Task 2.

You'll read a reader's letter about an online article. Complete the answers with a maximum of 2 words. There is an example (0) for you.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I found your article about Greek culture shock very impressive. That is why I would like to share my experience with you about this topic. I had no previous knowledge of the Greek culture or language when I arrived in Athens, Greece, for my semester abroad.

As a resident of New York, I was pleasantly surprised by the generosity and hospitality of the Greek population. For my first few weeks in Athens, it was comforting to find the people so willing to help the lost American girl asking for directions. On one occasion, I asked a man who spoke very little English for directions and, although he did not know the area, he continued to call and find someone who could help, while not even stopping until he hailed a taxi for me. That sort of kindness is hard to overlook and is definitely not as common back in New York.

In the evenings, I learned that many Greeks go out to eat for late dinners at traditional tavernas, where house wines and shots of ouzo, the drink of choice in Greece, are commonly on the house. There is no declining these free drinks either, as it is considered highly disrespectful to do so. Regardless of what is ordered, it is expected that one will sit for hours on end without having to worry about getting rushed out by the staff.

My Greek may still be etsi-kai-etsi — so-so — and I am sure I have a lot more to see and learn but living and learning in the birthplace of western civilization is an unforgettable experience that I will definitely look back on with nostalgia.

Yours faithfully,

Samantha Smith

0. How did Samantha Smith like the article?
She found it <u>very impressive</u> .
1. What did we learn about Samantha? Regarding Greece, she had no
2. What were the things that Samantha was surprised about in Greece? She was amazed that Greek people were very generous and
3. How did the man she asked finally help Samantha? He got her
4. What did we learn about eating out in a Greek restaurant? If you get free drinks, never
5. What else did we learn about eating in a Greek restaurant?
Even if you ordered only a glass of water, you needn't
Javítókulcs:
1. previous knowledge experience
2. hospitable
3. a taxi
4. refuse them decline them be disrespectful
5. leave early hurry rush

Task 3.

You are studying in Dublin. You and your classmates are looking for flats/ houses to rent. You are looking at a website to try to help them choose the most suitable one.

Match the situations (1-5) with the texts (A-H). One situation has no match.

Use the for this. There is an example (0) for you.



	Situation	Best choice
0	Joanna loves cooking, but hates it when she can smell the food everywhere in the flat	В
1	Franco would like to live outside of Dublin in a house.	
2	Olga has a lot of boxes full of books that she needs to keep somewhere.	
3	Joe and Anushka would like to rent a small house together and sometimes would welcome visitors to stay at their place for a few days.	
4	Pavel doesn't have too much money – he can only rent a room.	
5	Suzanna has her own furniture too.	

- **A**. Fantastic, 1-bed apartment to let right in the centre of the city. Top floor bright and airy apartment with stunning views of the city centre and full of character. Lots of storage space and perfect for a single person or couple. No smokers.
- **B**. Totally revamped two bedroom, second floor, spacious corner apartment set in this secure development off Harcourt Street. There is a separate, fully fitted kitchen off the lounge, complete with washer/dryer, oven, dishwasher and full size fridge/freezer.
- C. This superb house is divided between 2 floors. The ground floor consists of a large living room, WC, utility room and kitchen/ family room, leading to the back garden. On the first floor there are 2 bedrooms, a main bathroom and an entertainment room which can be easily used as an extra bedroom.
- **D.** Bright and spacious, this stylish unfurnished apartment comprises a large entrance hall, open plan living / dining / kitchen area with all modern conveniences, master bedroom en suite with balcony. Unfortunately, pets are not permitted in this complex.
- **E.** Wonderful top floor property in the prestigious pavilion building with breathtaking sea and mountain views. Available immediately, from 4,200 Euros per month. Located in the seaside town of Dún Laoghaire, it enjoys two large balconies and secure car parking, as well as an excellent balance of living and bedroom accommodation.
- **F.** Superb Four Bed Detached family home (2000 sq. ft.) ideally positioned in this quiet, culde-sac setting. Upstairs are four double bedrooms (master en-suite) and a family bathroom. Garage and off street parking to the front.
- **G.** Tenant is required for 2 bedroom+living room apartment. We are looking for someone tidy, clean and easy-going. You will be sharing with a medical student. The house is close to all amenities. Please send email with information about yourself.
- **H.** Double bedroom with shared bathroom available to rent in two bedroom apartment. I'm looking for a friendly, non-smoking, and tidy person. You will be sharing with one professional female in her mid 30s. No students or couples please.
- **I.** Superb Dublin furnished bedsit with two large windows facing the river. Splendid offer, but no credit please!

- 1.
- 2. A
- 3. C
- 4. G
- 5. D

Task 4.

You'll read an online article about the weather in England. Mark the right answer (A, B or C). There is an example (0) for you.



Winter in England

Many people have a romantic idea of what winter in England is like: snow covered rolling hills, small robins (birds with red chests) chirping on a red post box, and rosy-cheeked kids building a snowman. Unfortunately, winters in England aren't quite like that. We don't really get much snow -- the last two years have been an exception -- it's far too cold to spend much time outside.

As a hater of cold weather and a staunch advocate of global warming, there are two main things which I hate about the English winter. The first is the rain. It doesn't come down very heavily and it rarely floods, but it rains. And rains. For weeks. Not only does it rain endlessly, but this rain doesn't come down from the sky. This rain comes at you sideways, whipping you in the face and leaving your cheeks and forehead stinging, red raw. The wind is so strong that it stops the rain from falling vertically and hitting the ground and instead seems to blow it directly into your face, no matter which direction you happen to be trying to walk in. There's no point in using an umbrella (it would get turned inside out anyway) and there's no point trying to see where you are going – you will be squinting, trying to protect your eyes from that driving rain.

The second thing I hate about winters in England is the grayness. It doesn't get light until 10am and it's pitch black by 4.30pm, which means that we have about 6 hours of daylight. And when I say daylight I don't mean actual sunlight – it stays pretty dark, cars have to keep their headlights on at all times and the sun itself won't be seen for months.

However, the winter in England is good for one thing: it gives us something to complain about. Us English love to complain and we love to talk about the weather. Complaining about the weather is a national pastime that has unified us as a nation with one common goal – to moan and berate the cold weather and to yearn for the summer. And what do we do when it comes to August and we get our one month of summer, when temperatures start to hit 20°C? We stand around sweating, moaning about how hot it is and long for the winter!

0. The writer thinks that most people have ... concept of what English winters are like.

- A) an idealistic
- B) a realistic
- C) an old-fashioned

1. In the past two years, there has been...

- A) far too much cold weather.
- B) a lot of snow.
- C) very little snow.

2. The writer hates...

- A) the advocates of global warming.
- B) not seeing the sun for a long time.
- C) winter as a season.

3. During the winter it rains....

- A) constantly.
- B) heavily for quite many weeks.
- C) on and off.

4. He thinks in winter...

- A) it rains in a different way from other seasons.
- B) rain is really bad for your eyes.
- C) you can still use an umbrella.

5. The writer thinks English people are unified...

- A) against other nations.
- B) because there are 11 months of winter.
- C) through the weather complaints.

- **1.** B
- **2.** B
- **3.** B
- **4.** A
- **5.** C

Writing

Task 1.

You have seen the following post on a debate site on the Internet and decided to share your thoughts with others. Write a reply of about 120 words with a suitable greeting and closing formula.



Should children have cell phones?

"SueMarie" - Interesting question... Let me tell you what I think. I'm a 12-year-old girl and I highly disagree with children having smartphones, especially at the school. Most of my friends are busy texting each other during class, leaving me to do whole projects alone sometimes.

Another thing that bothers me is that I have actually lost some of my friends because I don't take my phone to school. They say that it's not "cool". I think it's unnecessary and it distracts me.

You should:

- say why you (dis)agree with SueMarie
- what the situation is/was like at your school
- say what you think of her friends

Task 2.

Option 1.

You have just returned from your holiday, which was a disappointment. Write a blog post of about 150 words to an online travel site.

You should write about:

- the reasons for choosing that place
- the things that went wrong
- what you tried doing to alter things
- your feelings now

Option 2.

You have seen a play in the theatre. Write a review of about 150 words about the play to an online magazine.

You should write about:

- the actors
- what you liked about the play
- what you disliked about the play
- why you would recommend seeing it

Listening

Task 1.

You'll hear some radio advertisements. Listen to the 3 texts and choose the correct answer. There is an example (0) for you. You can listen to the recordings twice.

Advertisement 1.

- 0. They advertise a(n)...
- A) service.
- B) product.
- C) event.
- 1. They offer
- A) a couple of family houses
- B) peace and quiet
- C) huge discounts
- 2. If you contact them quickly, you can
- A) take part in their open days
- B) get yours before winter
- C) find out about the community

Advertisement 2.

- 3. They are promoting $a(n) \dots$
- A) fashion business
- B) charity organisation
- C) upcoming event
- 4. You can pay
- A) on the premises
- B) by phoning them
- C) at their office on the corner

Advertisement 3.

- 5. The ad is aimed at
- A) families.
- B) the elderly.
- C) groups of friends.

6. If you accept their offer, you

- A) don't have to worry about household chores.B) can enjoy three benefits.C) can save 25% of your salary.

- **1.** B
- **2.** B
- **3.** C
- **4.** A
- **5.** B
- **6.** A

Task 2.

You'll hear an interview with a fashion designer about the latest fashion trends. Look at the sentences. Are they true or false? Mark the right answer. There is an example (0) for you. You can listen to the recording twice.

	True	False
0. Márta designs and makes the dresses in her workshop.	X	
1. Márta's style is different from other fashion designers'.		
2. She follows a certain method when designing clothes.		
3. She enjoys looking at everyday people who sit in cafés.		
4. Lace used to have a different function than nowadays.		
5. Today fashion changes very fast.		
6. Fashion rules are less strict than previously.		
7. Fashion follows the changes in lifestyle.		

- **1.** T
- **2.** F
- **3.** F
- **4.** T
- **5.** F
- **6.** T
- **7.** T

Task 3.

You'll hear a tour guide speaking about Edinburgh Castle. Listen to the recording and fill in the notes by using a maximum of three words. There is an example (0) for you. You can listen to the recording twice.



Edinburgh Castle

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Intr	rho•	ıcti	nn

•	The washroom: at the back (0)	between the buildings
•	The most important exhibit: the (1)	

The Scottish National War Memorial:

	771	of the building:	1 (2)	
A	I he nurnage	of the hilliding.	to remember ()	1
•	THE DUIDOSE	of the bullating.		,

English memories:

	Cootland and England on	a mamma a anta d bry (2)	
•	Scotland and England ar	e represented by (3)	

- Cromwell used the castle as (4) ______
 The old ceiling still doesn't contain (5) ______

The Royal Palace:

- The Stone of Destiny was used (6)
- The stone is now **(7)** _____

- 1. Scottish Crown Jewels | Scottish crown jewels
- 2. dead Scottish soldiers | killed Scottish soldiers | Scottish soldiers killed
- **3.** two flowers | thistles and roses
- **4.** a military base | his military base | a base
- 5. metal | any metal | screws and nails
- **6.** for Scottish coronations | for Scottish coronation | for coronation | for coronations | for
- 7. in Scotland/ in glass case/ in the castle

Task 4.

You'll hear a radio programme about friendship. Choose the correct option from A-C. There is an example (0) for you. You can listen to the recording twice.

0. The talk is about how to

- A. accept the end of a friendship
- B. behave with your friends
- C. make some new friends

1. First, it is always important to investigate whether you

- A. let your friends down
- B. offended your friends
- C. want to save the friendship

2. If you did something wrong,

- A. apologise for it
- B. let it go and move on
- C. try to fix it

3. Younger people tend to end their friendships with no

- A. decisions planned
- B. emotions shown
- C. reasons given

4. The end of a friendship may help you realise

- A. how hard it will be without your friends
- B. that you don't need certain people in your life
- C. what you should do better next time

5. Lessons of life may teach you things you didn't think you

- A. had to feel
- B. needed to know
- C. wanted to cope with

6. It is recommended that you

- A. choose friends who love you
- B. make your friends feel good
- C. support your friends

Javítókulcs:

1. B 2. C 3. C 4. B 5. B 6. A

Speaking

Task 1. - Monologue

Speak about the public transport in your area to your English speaking friend. Look at the 4 points and speak for 3 minutes. You have 1 minute to think about what you want to say.



Talk about

- the public transport options
- the best and cheapest way to get around
- one thing you are happy with
- one thing you would like to change

Task 2. - Transaction

You are abroad and you have bought a sweater that turned out to be faulty, because it shrank after the first wash. Talk to the shop assistant. You can listen to the recordings twice. Click on the picture in the corner for more information about the task.



This is the beginning of the dialogue:

Shop assistant: 'Hi. Can I help you?
You (example): 'Yes, please. I'd like to return this sweater.'

You should:

- explain the situation
- complain about the washing instructions
- ask for compensation
- accept or reject the offer

1. Shop assistant: I'm sorry to hear that. What happened?
2. Shop assistant: How did you wash the sweater?
3. Shop assistant: I see. What did the washing instructions say?
4. Shop assistant: What I can do is to exchange the sweater for another one, but we don't have it in the same colour.
5. Shop assistant: Ok, I see.
6. Shop assistant: Well, I can give you credit on your next purchase, but since the item you purchased was on sale, we can't give you a refund. Is that acceptable for you?

Task 3. Conversation

You are at home and your two friends, Anna and Martin, have just arrived. You are planning to go to a summer festival together. Watch the videos and talk to the speakers. You can watch the videos twice. Click on the picture in the corner for more information about the task.



This is the beginning of the dialogue:

Martin: 'Shall we discuss which summer festival to go to?'

You (example): 'Of course! Anna, do you want to come, too?'

Anna: 'Well, I'm not so sure – let's talk about it and then I'll decide.''

someth	ning else?
1.	
Anna:	I think going to a theatre festival could be interesting. What do you think?
2.	
	Right. Well, why I would enjoy that is that I don't really like big crowds and loud And you?
3.	
sugges	n: Well, as I see it, summertime is when we should have fun, laugh and dance a lot. I st going to the 3-day music festival at Lake Wasatry from the 3rd to the 6th of July. I get free tickets!
4.	
Martii	n: I'm sure I'll go as a friend of mine has a house there. We could stay there together.
5.	
Anna:	Well that sounds better but you decide!
6.	
	I'm in! Actually to be honest I've always wanted to visit that festival. Is there anything e need to discuss?
7.	?

Martin: What sort of festival would you be interested in going to? Music, folk, film or