KEY (KET): LISTENING

You will hear each recording **TWICE**. While you are listening, write your answers on the question booklet. At the end of the listening you will have eight minutes to transfer your answers to the answer sheet. You will hear accents from the UK, Australia and North America, and will be slightly slower than normal conversational speed. Try to familiarise yourself with these different accents in advance. Many students find the listening the hardest skill to acquire, so do not be discouraged. Listen to the radio or ebooks, as by listening, this way you will be relying purely on your hearing to help you understand without the benefit of visual clues.

Key to success in the listening section is to be able to write numbers, letters and times.

**Part 1**

In this section you will need to choose the correct answer to **five questions**. Each question has three picture answer possibilities but only one answer is correct. Topics may include prices, days of the week, numbers, times, countries, shapes, etc. Read each question carefully and highlight the key word. Look at the three pictures and see how they are different. The speakers will mention aspects of all three pictures but the question might say, for example, ‘When does the shop open?’. The extract might also mention when the shop closes at the weekend and during the week, but you need to listen specifically for the time of the action specified in the question.

**Part 2**

Here you will need to match information in two lists. There are **five questions** in the first list and eight items to choose from in the second list. You may have to match, for example, five people to their favourite sport or hobby, etc. Once again you may hear the speaker talk about all eight items in the second list, but only five items will match the first list. Firstly, note if the people speaking are male, female, young, or old? When listening the second time, check that you choose the correct information, listening for content rather than for individual words. The stress will be on the verbs, adjectives and adverbs that you are looking for.
Part 3
You will listen to two people having a conversation, either on the telephone or face to face. There are five multiple choice (a/b/c) questions. Look at the first line of the instructions as this tells you about the situation who the speakers are, where the speakers are and what they are talking about. Look at the questions and highlight the key question word (Who? Where? What?) before listening. In order to distract you, the speakers will talk about all three answers, but only one of the answers matches the question. It is therefore important that you listen to the end of the extract. There are usually one or two questions that test your recognition of numbers or days of the week. To prepare, think about different ways that you can say the time (e.g. ‘three fifteen’, ‘quarter past three’, etc.).

Part 4
You will listen to two people having a conversation on the telephone or face to face. There are five questions which will require you to write down five pieces of information in words or numbers. Look at the first line of the instructions and again think Who? Where? What? You will sometimes need to write people’s names or addresses/street names. When the name is difficult, one of the speakers dictates the information for you so you MUST take it down and spell it correctly. Practise taking down numbers and addresses with a friend.

Part 5
You will listen to one person speaking, such as a friend, a tour guide, etc. leaving a message on an answer phone five questions which will require you to write down five pieces of information in words or numbers. Again look at the first line of the instructions as this will tell you about the topic. As in part 4, if the name or address is difficult the speaker will spell the information and it is important that you use this ‘clue’ to write it down correctly with the correct spelling. When you transfer your answers, make sure that you copy correctly. The speaker usually repeats a word if it is difficult. Once again the focus is on specific details such as numbers, prices, times, dates, etc. However, Part 5 is a little different from Part 4 in that you hear only one speaker and you need to write and understand more information.