

BGE NYVK	B2	Listening Comprehension	
English for Business Communication		30 minutes	40 marks
Sample			

* including 3 minutes' transfer time

INSTRUCTIONS

Read the instructions for each part of the paper carefully. Answer all the questions. Write in blue ink.

There are two parts to the test. You will hear each piece **twice**. For each part of the test, there will be time for you to look through the questions and time for you to check your answers.

While you are listening, write your answers on the **question paper**. You will have 3 minutes at the end of the test to copy your answers onto the separate **answer sheet**.

At the end of the test, hand in both this question paper and your answer sheet.

When you hear a signal, the text begins.

Text 1

You will hear 2 pieces of British business news. The first is about suggestions to the government how to address climate change, the second is about the collapse of Thomas Cook, the travel operator.

I. | **Decide if the following statements are true (T) or false (F) according to the**
1-10 | **text.**

The advising committee's suggestions on how to meet climate targets

1. A 49% growth of demand in air travel is acceptable.
2. Frequent flyers should pay extra fees for each travel.
3. Some of the committee's suggestions have been accepted.

Thomas Cook, the travel operator went into liquidation

4. The business secretary Andrea Leadsom expects a long investigation.
5. The collapse of Thomas Cook was surprisingly quick.
6. In 9 years the chief executives got £18 ½ million altogether.
7. About 150,000 holiday makers got stranded abroad.
8. Deirdre Hutton works for the Civil Aviation Authority.
9. The majority of passengers have been brought back already.
10. The operation of bringing passengers home has been smooth.

Text 2

You will hear an interview with Alice Lascelles, a drinks expert, about the falling beer consumption among young people in the UK.

II. | While listening, fill in each gap in the notes with a maximum of 3
11-20 | words.

Beer consumption in the UK

Why young people choose alcohol-free alternatives

More interest in recently (11)

Fruit juice drinkers used to drink (12)

People in a different way (13)

Friends visit gyms, escape rooms, (14)

Expensive new, fancy beers

.....: has not much effect on consumption (15)

Interest shifts from possessions to (16)

What breweries and drinks companies do

A lot of (17)

Launching non-alcoholic beer or (*Give 1 example!*)(18)

The taste of non-alcoholic beers

Breweries: do a (19)

Non-alcoholic spirits market: room for (20)

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KEY

Text 1	
1.	F
2.	T
3.	F
4.	F
5.	T
6.	T
7.	T
8.	T
9.	F
10.	F
Text 2	
11.	wellness / health / to be healthy
12.	sugary / fizzy (drinks)
13.	socializing / socialize
14.	food markets
15.	money / price
16.	experiences
17.	investment / innovation
18.	low(er) alcohol (alternatives)
19.	great job
20.	improvements

Text 1

AirTaxThomasCook2news

- It's 7 o'clock on Tuesday the 24th of September. The BBC news is read by Charles Carroll.

- The committee which advises the government on climate change has warned that it will miss its climate targets unless the growth in air travel is curbed. The advisers have suggested a number of remedies. Here's our environment analyst Rodger Harrabin.

- Ministers are currently planning to accommodate an increase of up to 49% in the demand for flying. The committee says that must be reduced to a maximum growth of 25%. The committee says the government could hold down passenger growth by raising taxes on aviation. It could restrict airport capacity or it could introduce a frequent flyer levy in which rich passengers who fly most would be hit with extra fees each time they take to the air. The department for transport says it will study the advice.

- The government says the conduct of the directors of Thomas Cook will form part of the investigation into the company's collapse. The travel operator went into liquidation yesterday after 178 years of trading. The business secretary Andrea Leadsom is calling on the insolvency service to fast-track its investigation into the collapse of Thomas Cook. Here's our business correspondent Dominic O'Connell.

- The government's insolvency service is required to look into every company collapse. But Mrs Leadsom wants some quick answers on Thomas Cook. She's written to the head of a service TB asking him to treat the enquiry as a priority and to focus on the conduct of directors immediately prior to and at insolvency. There has been surprise at how quickly Thomas Cook went under and questions over whether they told the stock market about its financial problems in a timely fashion. There's also scrutiny of the size of the payments to the company's chief executives. Of the last 9 years the three chief executives shared 18 and a half millions pounds in salaries and bonuses with the current boss Peter Fankhauser taking 8 million pounds in the last five years.

- About 150000 holiday makers need to be brought back from abroad. Dame Deirdre Hutton who chairs the Civil Aviation Authority is overseeing the operation.

- We ran 64 flights, we brought back just under 15 thousand people but I'm conscious that we've got a huge job to do still 'cos that's about 8% of the total but a reasonable start. There were some operational problems and we'll continue to see those so you know again I ask people to bear with us as we deal with the sort of bumpiness of this.

Source: BBC Today 24 September 2019, <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0008nvq>
Time: 2'35"

Text 2

BeerSales

- Alice Lascelles is a drinks columnist for the Financial Times and judged the BBC food and farming awards on Radio 4 this year. Why do you think people are choosing alcohol free alternatives, these younger people?

- Well, I think it's a combination of factors. There's really been much more interest in **wellness** in the last few years particularly amongst the under thirty-fives. It's actually fashionable to be healthy these days. But I think probably a lot of these fruit juice drinkers are people who might in the past have been drinking **sugary fizzy drinks**. So it's an improvement on that. But I think there are other factors involved as well. We are seeing people **socializing** differently, alcohol is no longer the social low cost that it might have been in the past, people are may be seeing their friends in the gym or doing things like escape rooms or visiting **food markets**. The pub and the bar isn't the place under-thirty-fives are socializing so much.

- Hard to imagine. Could it be that some of the new, fancier beers are quite expensive and that explains the drop in the worth of the sector?

- I don't think actually that **money** has so much to do with it because you're seeing under-35s spending a lot more money on food for example. They might not be so interested in possessions, but **experiences** where they're spending their money now so maybe it's just where they're spending their money rather than spending less.

- Should the breweries be worried? Do they need to be doing something about this? Enticing drinkers back?

- Well, they are doing a lot about it, there's a lot of **investment** not just by brewers, but drinks companies of all kinds in the non-alcoholic and low-alcohol sector. So we are seeing all the big breweries now launching one or two or even three different types of non-alcoholic beer or **lower alcohol alternatives**. So there's a lot of innovation and investment going on there now.

- Have you tried many of them? Because they used to have not such a great reputation for taste.

- I have tried a lot of them actually, yes, and I think the brewing industry is doing a **great job**. There are other areas may be in the non-alcoholic spirits, in inverted commas, markets where there's still a lot of room for **improvements**.

- Alice Lascelles, drinks columnist for the Financial Times.

Time: 2'10"

Source: BBC Radio 4, You and yours, 12 September 2019

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m0008b9n>