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HellenicAmericanUniversity

**BCCE**<sup>TM</sup>

Basic Communication  
Certificate in English

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**Official Past Examination  
Form B**

**Transcript**

Material developed by Hellenic American University,  
Office for Language Assessment.

**FREE OF CHARGE**



**LISTENING TEST**

Narrator: The Basic Communication Certificate in English Examination. Copyright Hellenic American University. Form B.

The Listening section of the test, questions one through thirty, is divided into four parts. Instructions and examples are provided at the beginning of each part. All questions are worth one point.

**LISTENING - PART 1**

In this part of the listening section, questions one through ten, you will hear ten short conversations. After each conversation, you will hear a question that is also written in your test booklet. You must choose the correct response from the three picture choices, A, B, or C, in your test booklet, and darken the appropriate circle on your answer sheet. You will hear each conversation and question only **once**.

Here is an example.

Narrator: The following is a conversation between two friends.

Woman: Do you think it's gonna rain? I forgot to bring my umbrella.

Man: No, don't worry about it. I checked the weather forecast and it said it's just going to be cloudy for the rest of the day.

Woman: I hope tomorrow will be a bit better. I'm getting tired of this weather.

Man: Actually, it's supposed to be nice tomorrow. Lots of sunshine.

Narrator: What is the weather like now?

Narrator: The correct answer is B. Do you have any questions?

Narrator: Now we will start Part 1 of the listening test.

Narrator: **Number 1.** The following is a conversation between two friends.

Woman: These apples you bought are really fresh and delicious - like they were just picked on the farm! Where did you get them, the farmers market?

Man: No, I got them at the supermarket. But you're right, they taste just as good as the ones from the farmers' market.

Woman: Were they expensive?

Man: About the same as at the market.

Narrator: **Question 1. Where did he buy the apples?**

Narrator: **Number 2.** The following conversation takes place at a post office.

Man: I'd like to send this package to my grandmother in Canada. Her birthday's in three days and I'd really like it to get there by then. So what's the best way to send it?

Woman: Then, I'd suggest you use our express parcel service. It takes only two days.

Man: Express ... that sounds expensive. Are there any other options?

Woman: Well, our normal international parcel service takes between three and five business days. It's cheaper than express, but we can't guarantee it'll get there on time.

Narrator: **Question 2. What does the man want to send?**

Narrator: **Number 3.** The following is a conversation between two friends.

M: Guess what? I won the pet photography contest!

W: You won! That's great! Did you send in the picture of the cat climbing the tree?

M: Actually no, I was between that one and the one of the cat chasing the dog, but at the last minute I sent in one of a cat sleeping in a tree - and it's a good thing I did!

W: Well, congratulations!

Narrator: **Question 3. Which picture won the contest?**

Narrator: **Number 4.** The following is a conversation between two coworkers.

W: Which train should we catch? There's one that leaves at seven forty-five that gets in at nine.

M: That's a little early, don't you think? What's the one after that?

W: Eight-thirty. It gets in at ten o'clock exactly. But I guess that still gives us plenty of time. Yeah, okay, let's do that.

M: Good. Then let's just meet at the station, okay?

Narrator: **Question 4. What time will the speakers' train leave?**

Narrator: **Number 5.** The following is a conversation between two colleagues.

Woman: We're going to need a larger room. I don't think this room's going to fit everybody.

Man: Are you sure? The hotel said this room fits about two hundred people, and we're only expecting around a hundred and fifty.

Woman: That number's gone up. People are coming in from Boston, Chicago, Miami - I think we may have as many as two fifty.

Man: Oh, I didn't know that. Then yes, we're definitely going to need a larger room.

Narrator: **Question 5. How many people is the woman expecting?**

Narrator: **Number 6.** The following is a conversation between a bookstore clerk and a customer:

M: Hi, I'm looking for a book about local flowers.

W: You mean how to grow them?

M: No, no, I mean how to identify them. You see, I'm going camping next weekend, and I'd like to have a book, or a guide or something to help me identify the local plants and flowers.

W: Ah, you need a field guide. We have

several different ones. If you follow me, I'll be happy to show you what we have.

Narrator: **Question 6. Which book will the man buy?**

Narrator: **Number 7.** The following is a conversation between two coworkers.

M: Have you decided where to hold the conference?

W: Not yet, but we're down to three choices: Pittsburgh, Atlanta, and Kansas City. At the moment we're leaning towards Pittsburgh, because it's the cheapest, but the others have their advantages.

M: Kansas City might be a better location - it's more central. And Atlanta might have better weather at that time of year.

W: That's true, but at the moment we're focused on keeping costs down.

Narrator: **Question 7. Which city does the woman prefer?**

Narrator: **Number 8.** The following is a conversation between two students.

Woman: I missed you at the bus stop this morning. I thought you weren't coming to school today.

Man: I was running late so I thought I could get a lift from my brother, but he couldn't do it. So I ended up riding my bike.

Woman: Wow! That's such a long way. You must be tired!

Man: Actually, it wasn't so bad. I'm thinking I might do that every day

Narrator: **Question 8. How does the man usually get to school?**

Narrator: **Number 9.** The following is a conversation between two friends.

Man: What's wrong Amy? You look worried.

Woman: Well, I've got to make a presentation next month and I'm really stressed. Every time I have to present something

I get so nervous I can't even breathe. It's worse than going to the dentist.

Man: Why not try taking a yoga class? That might help you relax in front of an audience.

Woman: I'll think about it. Thanks for the advice.

Narrator: **Question 9. What is the woman not looking forward to doing?**

Narrator: **Number 10.** The following conversation is between a customer and a salesperson.

M: This has something called jojoba in it.

What exactly is jojoba?

W: It's a plant that grows in the desert. The seeds are used in a lot of hair products.

M: Really? I thought it was some kind of chemical.

W: That's the whole point. It's a natural product. A lot of salons are recommending jojoba. It works better than chemicals.

Narrator: **Question 10. What are the speakers discussing?**

Narrator: **End of Part One.**

## LISTENING - PART 2

In this part of the listening section, questions eleven through nineteen, you will hear nine short messages or announcements. After each message or announcement, you will hear a question that is also written in your test booklet. You must choose the correct answer from the three choices, A, B or C, in your test booklet and darken the appropriate circle on your answer sheet. You will hear each message or announcement only **once**.

Here is an example.

The following is a voicemail message.

Woman: Mark, it's Julie. Just called to tell you that the meeting has been changed and it won't be on Wednesday. I know you're busy all day Thursday, so it will be on Friday. I'd prefer the morning if you can make it. Please call me to arrange a time.

Narrator: **When will the meeting be?**

Narrator: The correct answer is C. Do you have any questions?

Narrator: Now, get ready to listen to the messages or announcements.

Narrator: **Number 11.** The following is a voicemail message.

Woman: Hi Dave, its Michelle. I know you're busy studying for the history test tomorrow, but could you give me a call? It's important. I need to know when the math exam is, and I left my schedule in my mom's car. Thanks a lot.

Narrator: **Question 11. Who is calling Dave?**

Narrator: **Number 12.** The following is a recorded message.

W: Welcome to Global Cinemas. Today's films and show times: in Theater One we're showing The Day Beyond. Running time is one hour and fifty minutes, show times are four-twenty, six-forty, and nine p.m. In Theater Two we're showing Night Mystery: running time two hours and five minutes, show times are four-twenty and six fifty-five p.m.- two shows only. Finally, we have The Athlete in Theater Three, running time one hour and forty minutes, show times are four, six, and eight p.m.

Narrator: **Question 12. Which film is shown only twice per day?**

Narrator: **Number 13.** The following is a voicemail message.

Woman: Hello, Mr. Peters. This is Phyllis from Mystic Travel. I'm calling about your Budapest trip. I wanted to let you know that the airline dropped the price of your ticket by fifty dollars - there's a lot of competition between airlines right now, and they're all cutting fares. In fact, I'd suggest waiting another day before

actually buying the ticket, because fares might continue to go down. I just wanted to give you the good news -I'll be in touch. Bye.

Narrator: **Question 13. What does the caller tell Mr. Peters?**

Narrator: **Number 14.** The following is a voicemail message.

W: Hi mom, it's me, Jenny. I'm just calling to let you know that I picked up your dress from the cleaner's. That grape juice stain came right out - it looks as good as new! The total was fifteen dollars. I put the dress and your change on your bed. I guess that's it ... Um, oh yeah, I'm planning to go over to Sarah's house to study this afternoon. I'll be home about six this evening. I'll see you then. I hope you're having a good day. Bye!

Narrator: **Question 14. What is Jenny's message mainly about?**

Narrator: **Number 15.** The following is an announcement in a classroom.

W: Today you're going to start researching local news stories in different newspapers. You'll each choose an article that you find interesting. Then, you'll write a short paragraph describing what you read and why you found it interesting. The best articles will be put on the class webpage.

Narrator: **Question 15. What does the woman want the students to do?**

Narrator: **Number 16.** The following is a radio advertisement.

M: Come to the Grand Opening of Tim's Electronics Warehouse on Saturday, May 2nd, at the Cumberland Mall. Come attend a fabulous party with live music and free food. We're giving away dozens of prizes, including a 50-inch flatscreen TV. Collect your free ticket at the door. The prize drawing takes place at 2pm and winners need to be present to win.

We'll see you at the grand opening of Tim's Electronics Warehouse, starting at noon Saturday, May 2nd at the Cumberland Mall!

Narrator: **Question 16. What will happen at 2pm?**

Narrator: **Number 17.** The following is a voicemail message.

Woman: Hi Charlie, it's me Rose. I know this is the third time I'm calling you, but I really need to know if you're attending next week's conference in Chicago. I have to make the hotel reservations so please give me a call as soon as possible. Thank you.

Narrator: **Question 17. What does Rose want to know about Charlie?**

Narrator: **Number 18.** The following is a radio advertisement.

Man: The Morgantown Book store is having its yearly used book sale from Thursday to Saturday, September first through the third, from ten AM to four PM at our store. The money will be given to the Save the Dolphins Organization. To help, bring your used books to our bookstore located on Pearl Street. For more information call three oh four, two nine two, two four, six four...

Narrator: **Question 18. What is being advertised?**

Narrator: **Number 19.** The following announcement is heard in a restaurant.

M: Attention dinners. Our lunch special today is a Southern-style crispy fried chicken served with mashed potatoes and gravy, and our famous homemade biscuits. This comes with your choice of soup or salad. Today's soup is a vegetable tomato cream soup.

Narrator: **Question 19. What is true about the lunch special?**

Narrator: **End of Part Two.**

**LISTENING - PART 3**

In this part of the listening section, questions twenty through twenty-five, you will hear an interview in three parts. After each part, you will hear two questions that are also written in your test booklet. You must choose the correct answer from the three choices, A, B, or C in your test booklet, and darken the appropriate circle on your answer sheet. You will hear each part only **once**.

You are going to hear an interview between a radio talk show host and a guest. Now listen to the beginning of the interview followed by an example question.

M: Welcome to Today's Teen Issues, where we focus on the issues that're most important to today's teens. I'm your host, Adam Wyman. With us in the studio today is Jean Beckoff, an expert on the college admissions process. Welcome to the program Jean.

W: Thanks, Adam, it's good to be here.

M: So Jean, let's get straight into it. When I talk to teens about college admissions, they tell me the number-one thing they worry about is the college interview. Could you give our listeners some advice?

W: I'd be happy to.

Narrator: **What will the woman probably talk about next?**

Narrator: The correct answer is A. Do you have any questions?

Narrator: Now, get ready to listen to the rest of the interview.

W: You've gotta understand, the interview's designed to help both you and the interviewer find out whether the school you're applying to is a good match. The interviewer isn't trying to trick you, or make you feel foolish, or anything like that.

M: See, I always assumed the idea was to see how well you handle pressure ...

W: No, no, nothing like that. That's what happens in a job interview; a college interview's very different.

M: So, what are they ... what are the interviewers looking for?

W: Well, remember, the interview's a two-way thing - the school's trying to impress you, as much as you're trying to impress them. The interviewer's trying to get a feel for your personality, your interests, that kinda thing ... trying to figure out whether you're a good match. I mean, the last thing any school wants is to have students who aren't happy there.

M: Uh huh, that makes sense, 'cause unhappy students generally don't do well, which makes the school look bad.

W: Exactly. It's all about matching what the student wants with what the school has to offer.

Narrator: **Question 20. What does the woman say college interviewers look for?**

Narrator: **Question 21. What do the speakers say schools want to avoid?**

M: Okay, um, so, can students prepare for interviews?

W: They can - and they should. But they need to be careful that they come across naturally. I mean, be prepared, but don't sound like you've been rehearsing interview questions.

M: Uh huh. You just wanna be yourself ...

W: Yeah, that's very important.

M: So, um ... what're some typical questions?

W: Well, you can count on getting "Tell me about yourself." This seems like a really easy question, but actually, it's kinda hard.

M: Okay, so, what, you say things that the interviewer wants to hear, like "I'm a friendly person," or "I'm a great student"?

- W: No, in fact, that's exactly what you don't wanna say. I mean, you want the interviewer to know you're friendly, and a good student, but these're the kind of things that everyone says. You need to say something that makes you memorable, something that makes you stick out from the other applicants. This is your chance to really show your personality. Do you have an unusual talent? Have you been anywhere interesting? What're your passions?
- Narrator: **Question 22. According to the woman what is important for students to do?**
- Narrator: **Question 23. What does the woman feel students should avoid doing?**
- M: Right. Okay, so ... any other questions students can expect?
- W: Hmm ... Well, one you're almost guaranteed to get is, "Why are you interested in this school?"
- M: Uh huh, and so, what should people say?
- W: Well, this is your chance to show that you've done your homework about the school, that you've thought about what they have to offer, and there's something you like. Tell them what this something is.
- M: Like, you mean, if they have a good program in what you want to major in ...
- W: Yeah, exactly, that kinda thing. The important thing is, be specific. Don't say something general like "I wanna get a good education." Of course you do. But why this particular school? Give a reason. Make sure you're able to mention at least one thing about the school that made you interested in it, preferably something about its academics - rather than that it's cheap, or it's close to where you live, or whatever.
- M: Well I think we're about out of time now. I'd like to thank you for being on the show.
- W: It was my pleasure.
- Narrator: **Question 24. According to the woman, what should students be prepared to discuss?**
- Narrator: **Question 25. What does the woman advise students to do?**
- Narrator: **End of Part Three.**

## LISTENING - PART 4

In this part of the listening section, questions twenty-six through thirty, you will hear a short talk. After the talk, you will hear five questions that are also written in your test booklet. Answer the questions by choosing A, B, or C based on the information in the talk and darken the appropriate circle on your answer sheet. You may take notes as you listen. You will hear the talk **twice**.

You are going to hear a guided tour around a dinosaur exhibition.

Now, listen to the beginning of the tour followed by an example question.

Woman: Welcome to the first permanent exhibit of dinosaur fossils available for public viewing in Sydney. These bones - we call them "fossils" - are really copies of originals from the New York Museum of Natural History, which has one of the best and largest collections of dinosaur fossils in the world. We have copies

of fossils from around the globe, from Beijing to Cape Town.

Narrator: **Where is the exhibition?**

Narrator: The correct answer is A. Do you have any questions?

Narrator: Now get ready to listen to the rest of the talk.

Woman: On the right is a skull from a dinosaur known as Triceratops. The name Triceratops means "three-horned face."



You can easily see why. There are three large horns on the head, as well as other bones around the neck, which were used for protection. Now, Triceratops was a herbivore, in other words, a plant eater, and we know that by the bird-like beak it has at the front of its mouth, which was used for tearing off leaves and branches, and by its flat teeth, which are more suitable for grinding plant material than chewing meat.

Moving, on, next to Triceratops we have a full-sized Tyrannosaurus Rex or T.Rex. The first thing you notice about T. Rex is its size. The typical adult was about seven meters tall and sixteen meters long. The name Tyrannosaurus Rex means, of course, "king of the lizards," but you might be surprised to learn that its closest relatives today are not lizards. In fact, the T. Rex is more closely related to modern birds. Let me show you what I mean. Look at this back leg. It's almost four meters long, but see.. the bones of the feet and the leg? ... You can see the connection with birds. Notice the three-toed foot, and how the shape of the leg is very much like that of a modern bird you'd see today. Later we'll see a film about how T. Rex hunted other dinosaurs and used its sharp teeth.

Okay, next up, our full skeleton of Stegosaurus. Stegosaurus is one of the more well-known dinosaurs because of the distinctive double row of plates on its back. For a long time, people assumed the plates were for protection, but now scientists believe they were used as a way for Stegosaurus to manage its body temperature - as a way to keep from getting too hot or too cold. Stegosaurus was also a herbivore, and as you can see from the ribs, it had a very large stomach. It protected itself with its long spike-covered tail that you see here. Notice its large back legs; it's likely that Stegosaurus could stand

upright, perhaps so that it could get to the leaves on trees.

All right, now, as we continue along, you'll see inside the glass case that we have a one-hundred-million-year-old dinosaur egg from a dinosaur called Hypselosaurus. An adult Hypselosaurus was about thirteen meters long. They were also herbivores. Now, this egg is real, it's not a copy; it was found in France and is one of the largest and best-preserved dinosaur eggs in the world. Now, next to the egg, you'll see a model, an artist's idea, of what it might look like when a young Hypselosaurus hatched and came out of the egg.

Narrator: Now listen to the talk again.

Woman: On the right is a skull from a dinosaur known as Triceratops. The name Triceratops means "three-horned face." You can easily see why. There are three large horns on the head, as well as other bones around the neck, which were used for protection. Now, Triceratops was a herbivore, in other words, a plant eater, and we know that by the bird-like beak it has at the front of its mouth, which was used for tearing off leaves and branches, and by its flat teeth, which are more suitable for grinding plant material than chewing meat.

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Narrator: Now get ready to answer the questions.

Narrator: **Question 26. What is learned about the first dinosaur mentioned?**

Narrator: **Question 27. What does the speaker say is surprising about T. Rex?**

Narrator: **Question 28. What does the speaker describe about the Stegosaurus?**

Narrator: **Question 29. What is true about the egg?**

Narrator: **Question 30. What makes T-Rex different from the other dinosaurs mentioned?**

Narrator: **End of Part Four.  
End of the Listening Test.**





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