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TEST YOURSELF 8

Tekst til lytteøvelserne

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Topic 1: Singapore

Listening comprehension.

Read the questions for the listening comprehension about Singapore.

You'll hear the text twice.

Now listen to Derek Chan talkingg about his everyday life in Singapore.

Hi, my name is Derek Chan. I'm 15 years old. **My mother comes from a British family** and my father comes from an Asian family. Maybe you had already guessed that from my name? Most of my friends here have families with different cultural backgrounds. Sometimes you can tell from the way they look. Or you can tell from their names. Like: **I play cricket in the Singapore Cricket Club.** Some of my friends there have names like Marc Chow, Ismail Forrester, Daniel Xiang, Lionel Kadir and so on.

Many people in Singapore play cricket or rugby – you know – good old British games – HAHA – at least that's something good we got out of being part of the British Empire!

Another way you can tell that we used to be ruled by the British is if you go to visit a school. **My school is called River Valley High School.** The school started in 1956 while Singapore was still part of the British Empire. So the school system is build just like it is in Great Britain with school uniforms and everything. **Not everybody likes to wear a school uniform.** I quite like my school uniform though – you known – it makes it so much easier to dress in the morning – HAHA – no, seriously...I **DO** like my school uniform!

Our school uniform is all white: White shirt, white socks, white shoes and white shorts.....that is....for boys! Girls have to wear a pinafore – that's like a dress with a belt ...and guess what ... they have to be white too of course! It's not very practical – my mum says! – as it has to get washed all the time, BUT it's quite nice to wear when it's warm.

The weather in Singapore is often quite warm and humid ...well; **YOU** might say that it's quite **HOT** compared to Denmark. **Someone told me that you get SNOW every winter, is that right?** And that sometimes you can go ice-skating outside on lakes and so on...is that true? I mean... on lakes that are **NOT** artificial? WAUW – I would like to try that! Very close to where I live we had an indoor ice-skating rink: Fuji Ice Palace. It was next to a shopping mall. I used to go there a lot when I was younger....you know...**when my parents went shopping I would go ice-skating** ...more fun than shopping – HAHA. It has just closed down recently unfortunately, so.....

At school I really like that we have **SO** many computers! I guess you have computers in your school as well? **We use computers for English, for science and for maths.** We even use it for arts sometimes.

A few years ago River Valley High received an ‘Excellence Award’. **That means that we are one of the best schools in Singapore.** I think it's important to be good at school, because I want to have a good education so that I can get a good job.

Most of the time I do all my homework, BUT....sometimes I forget....ohhhhhh**OR** maybe it's because I sometimes spend too much time watching TV or playing computer games. My **absolute** favourite though is: Playing sports games on my wii with my friends!

Listen again and check your answers.

(Herefter gentages hele teksten)

The listening text is now finished.

Topic 2: Ireland

Listening comprehension.

Read the questions for the listening comprehension about Ireland.

You'll hear the text twice.

Now listen to the tour guide on a sightseeing bus for tourist in Dublin.

Hello folks, let me introduce myself: My name is Jim O'Connell – andyes you're absolutely right – it's just like the famous O'Connell Street where we are right now. You have probably already done some shopping in one of the many shops in this street. It not – the bus will be back here later in the afternoon, so you'll have another chance.

Welcome onboard this green and yellow City Tour bus. I'll take you around Dublin, and if you prefer to stay on the bus, a complete tour lasts around 1 hour and 15 minutes. BUT I suppose you'll like to get off every now and then to have a closer look at our beautiful capital. You can hop on and off the bus as many times as you wish within the next 24 hours. There are 21 stops on the tour.....SO – I hope you'll enjoy yourself!

Our first stop is right next to The O'Connell Monument here in O'Connell Street. The monument was built back in 1882 to honour one of my great-grandfathers – Daniel O'Connell – who is called 'the liberator of Ireland'. He was one of the leading figures in Ireland's independence. BUT enough about my family.... let's get rolling!!!

Our next stop is Trinity College – the oldest university in Ireland. It was founded in 1592 – UHHhh – that's a LONG time ago – actually more than 400 hundred years ago! How about that?

Well, today it's also a very modern university and it has an amazing library with more than 4.5 million books! Don't get lost there – maybe you'll never be found again! Hope to see you later.....

Before coming to Dublin Castle we'll pass by Temple District. In the daytime you can get a pub lunch or a big ice-cream here after shopping, but this is also where you'll want to come at night to listen to traditional Irish music. A fun place to be! Anybody wants to get off here?

Dublin Castle was first founded in the year 1204 by King George of England. It's a real medieval castle and one of Dublin's tourist attractions. Walk around the castle and try to imagine what life was like hundreds of years ago in the

We're now coming up to one of the finest breweries in the world: The Guinness Storehouse on Market Street. This is definitely Ireland's tourist attraction number one! Your dad may want to spend the next hour in the sky bar with the amazing view of Dublin while he drinks a pint or two of the very tasty dark Guinness. BUT I'll advice you to take a good look around the interesting museum to see how a brewery works. It's also interesting to.....

So folks, we're now back in O'Connell Street. Thanks for choosing City Tour. Do you know that we also have a special night tour? Well, it's called 'The Scary Night Tour' and it starts right here at 9 pm. Why don't you just show up her tonight and I'll take you round on the scariest tour you have ever been on! You'll come across ghosts, haunted houses, you'll hear about murders and mysteries from the colourful past to modern Dublin. Some legends are SO scary you'll always remember to lock your doors at night after this experience. So.....see you later!

Listen again and check your answers.

(Herefter gentages hele teksten)

The listening text is now finished.

Topic 3: Caribbean

Listening comprehension.

Read the questions for the listening comprehension about the Caribbean.

You'll hear the text twice.

Now listen to Martin talking about his visit to the Caribbean.

Hi, my name is Martin. I'm 15. I consider myself an ordinary guy, but I'm gonna tell you about my latest holiday which was **not** so ordinary.

Together with my parents I travelled to several of the islands in the Caribbean Sea. Do you know where that is? Most people my age don't! I mean....it's like having geography at school, right? But anyway....I'll try to explain it without being too much of a geography teacher!

If you look at a map of America you'll find Canada and the USA to the north, countries like Brazil, Argentina and Chile in South America, and Central America with countries like Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama in between. East of Central America you have the Mexican Gulf and the Caribbean Sea and **here** – just to the north of the Equator – you'll find some of the best beaches in the world! There's just **so** many beaches with **so** much great sand and the waves are fantastic. I'm telling you the beaches are nice! And the weather.....hmm....the sun always seem to shine and you can walk around in your t-shirt all year round. Forget about cold and rainy days in Europe!

We flew from London to Bridgetown on Barbados. You fly for **hours** and when you look out of the window all you can see is the dark Atlantic Ocean. I'm glad that you can watch films, listen to music or just sleep which was what I did!

All of a sudden the colour of the sea changes....I mean....**I** didn't notice, but my parents did. The water is not so dark anymore. Then you can see the small islands and when you get closer you can also see the beacheswauw.....and it's even nicer when you actually get there. You can swim in the warm water, surf on the great waves or just lay in the shadow under a coconut tree. School seemed very far away!!!

Barbados is about the same size as the Danish island of Bornholm. Some of the other islands are much bigger – like Cuba or Jamaica – and some of the islands are so small that it'll only take you 1 or 2 hours on a bike to go round the whole island.

We travelled to several of the other islands – sometimes we sailed and at other times we flew in small airplanes.

I really enjoyed my holiday in the Caribbean – especially visiting Barbados and Jamaica – you know, a lot of swimming in the sea and not many museums! HAHA...

Listen again and check your answers.

(Herefter gentages hele teksten)

The listening text is now finished.

Topic 4: Australia

Listening comprehension.

Read the questions for the listening comprehension about Australia.

You'll hear the text twice.

Now listen to the radio reporter talking about Australian football.

Welcome to MCG – Melbourne Cricket Ground. It's a sunny day in October here in Melbourne, Australia.

Spring has just arrived so I can't think of a better place to be than at a football match. Can you?

As you know this is one of our biggest football stadiums. **It's not as pretty as the opera house in Sydney, but you can certainly have more people in this stadium.** All in all there's room for more than 100,000 spectators – and I think that's just about how many we are gonna see today for what I think is gonna be a just marvellous game in the opening match of this years Australian Football League!

Most Australians just LOVE football ...or 'Footy' as we call it. Today there are almost a million people – young and old – who play footy. **There are more than 2,700 clubs in Australia!** Amazing isn't it? But then again it's our national sport.

Did you know that the first match was actually played here in Melbourne in 1859!!! I mean....

WAUW.....even though it's such an old game it still seems to be very exciting every time a new season starts and both players and spectators look forward to every single match.

Not very many people play footy outside Australia. There are a few footy teams in the UK and in France, but – believe it or not – also in Denmark! Almost every year we have young Australian players going to Denmark for a semester. They go to school and stay with Danish families, and they also teach Australian football. Maybe that's why the Danish teams are so good? I mean.....for European standard that is – HAHA!! **The Danes visit us every second year, they play on the big stadiums, but they hardly ever win.** It's good fun though for everybody, so I hope they'll keep coming back.

Maybe you don't know so much about footy? I'll tell you a few things:

Footy is much more of a contact sport than soccer. You have to be really tough to play this game!

Players may use any part of their body to advance the ball. Usually they are kicking, handballing or running with the ball.

Footy is played outside on a large oval shaped grass field with four goal posts at each end. There are 18 players on each team. To score goals the ball – which is oval like a rugby ball – has to be kicked between the posts of the other team. **The winner is the team that has the highest total score at the end of the fourth quarter.** Simple isn't it?

HMMmm...now time is running as they say and we are still waiting for the players to arrive, but.....oh... yes....ahhhh.... the players are coming now. Let's give them a hand and hope for a good match. May the best team win!!!!

Listen again and check your answers.

(Herefter gentages hele teksten)

The listening text is now finished.

Topic 5: India

Listening comprehension.

Read the questions for the listening comprehension about India.

You'll hear the text twice.

Now listen to Mohitama Suri talking about India.

Hi, my name is Mohitama Suri. I'm 15 years old and I live in Newcastle in England. I was born here but both my parents were born in India. My grandparents and some of my uncles and aunts still live in India, but most of my family moved to England years ago.

We're a big family, you know. **I have cousins all over England.** Some live in Bristol, some in Leeds and some in London. Not so long ago two of my favourite cousins moved to Birmingham. They used to live in Brighton. Now I can see them more often – that's cool.

You'll maybe think that I would **hate** all the time spent travelling to visit the family – I mean – you don't just 'drop in' as it takes a couple of hours to go there! **But that's just NOTHING compared to visiting the family in India.** I'm telling you!

We try to go to India every summer, but it's quite expensive, so sometimes we only go there every second year. **I really like to visit my family in India.** My mothers parents live near New Delhi in the north of the country and granny makes the BEST 'rice and curry' – I just love it! My fathers family all live in the south of India – most of them live near Madras – funny name by the way, isn't it?

India is just SO big you won't believe it! From north to south it's like going from Copenhagen to Rome and back again! The roads aren't very good, so it's useless going by car. Anyway – when you are in Delhi there are SO many holy cows walking the streets and because they are holy you have to wait for them. **You can even go to jail if you kill or harm them!**

One of my favourite places to visit is the Taj Mahal close to New Delhi, so I always go there when I visit my grandparents. **It's so beautiful and also SO romantic!**

I also like to go to Ranthambore National Park where there are more tigers than anywhere else in India.

Last time we visited the steps in Varanasi next to the River Ganges. Like most young people I'm not very religious, but my parents are. We're all Hindus and every good Hindu **MUST** visit Varanasi at least once in her life.

Every morning when the sun shines thousands and thousands of Hindus gather around the River Ganges. **There are both pilgrims and locals.** They come to wash or to drink from the river as it is said to be holy water. I didn't want to drink the water – **YAK** – but it was a fantastic experience to be there with all the people.

There are just **SO** many people in India!!! You won't believe it until you have seen it! **I think that there are now more than 1 billion people living in India!** Amazing isn't it? I mean, how many people live in your local city? Or even in your country? In India you just can't go ANYWHERE without being surrounded by lots of people. **Just imagine the noise!!!!** But then again, I DO like being in India.

Listen again and check your answers.

(Herefter gentages hele teksten)

The listening text is now finished.

Topic 6: Washington DC – A visit to museums in Washington DC

Listening comprehension.

Read the questions for the listening comprehension about museums in Washington DC.
You'll hear the text twice.

Now listen to the tour guide talking about some museums in Washington DC.

Tour guide: Hello and welcome to this magnificent tour. **We'll visit some of the best museums in the whole world!**

I'm your tour guide **and I'm going to show you around for the next 2 hours**. My name's Bob....bob-bob.... but you can call me Al.... HA-HA....well, young lady, don't you think that's funny??

Lady: Well...I.....

Tour guide: That's OK....anyway....**what you are about to see today is amazing**. We'll of course be visiting The White House, but before that we'll have a look at some of the dinosaurs. **Do you like dinosaurs' young lady?**

Lady: Well...I.....

Tour guide: I'm sure you will after this visit!

Lady: Well...I.....oh, well...

Tour guide: Welcome to The Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. **First we'll drop by the beautiful Butterfly Garden.**

Then I'm sure you won't want to miss the Dinosaur Hall, where **you can see giant skeletons of creatures that dominated the earth for 140 million years**.

Good for us that they all died about 65 million years ago... HA-HA. Please follow me....

Lady: Excuse me....

Tour guide: Yes, young lady, if you are looking for the ladies' room it's at your left, but **maybe you want to buy a postcard or a nice poster?** Then just go straight on and you can't miss the gift shop....you young people always want to shop, right? HA-HA...

Lady: Well...I.....

(2 sec pause)

Tour guide: **OK folks – back to the bus, please.**

We'll make a short stop at one of the newest attractions in Washington: "The International Spy Museum."

Here you'll see photos of spies who took part in dangerous missions; you can try interactive spy games on a computer, OR – especially for you young lady – you can visit the gift shop and buy a secret agent kit or a houseplant that is actually a hidden camera! What about that?

Lady: Well...I.....

(2 sec pause)

Tour guide: We are now passing by the big George Washington Monument. As you may know, we also call him "The Father of our Country". Bless his soul!

Please be aware, that when we are entering The White House you'll be searched. You are not allowed to bring any kind of weapons. **We want to keep our President alive** – HAHA....you know what I mean! ...HA-HA...

(2 sec pause)

Tour guide: For those of you who haven't had enough by now we'll make a short stop at the National Archives and then at the Air and Space Museum.

For the rest of you I'll just say: Thank you for your attention – you've been an absolutely wonderful group. I hope you've enjoyed the trip and I'll look forward to seeing you again soon.

And what about you young lady – have you enjoyed the tour?

Lady: Well...I.....I was going to ask you hours ago if this is the bus to New York...but I suppose I can catch a later bus....and I DID enjoy the tour thank you!

Tour guide: Oh dear....for crying out loud! I beg you! **Why didn't you just leave the bus?** And where is your ticket? Oh, oh...forget it....

Well, anyway I hope you all enjoy the rest of your stay in our wonderful capitol Washington DC – and I hope you'll have a nice day. Goodbye.

Listen again and check your answers.

(Herefter gentages hele teksten)

The listening text is now finished.

Topic 7: South Africa

Listening comprehension.

Read the questions for the listening comprehension about South Africa.

You'll hear the text twice.

Now listen to Sibongile talkling about life in South Africa then and now.

Hi, my name is Sibongile Matiti. I live in Cape Town in South Africa with my family. My fathers name is Mvuyo, my mothers name is Lindi and my younger brother is called Karabo.

I was born in 1994, so both my brother and I are so-called ‘Born Frees’. That means that we are born **after** Nelson Mandela became president of South Africa in 1994. Mandela was the first **black** man to become president of South Africa. Sounds great doesn’t it? I mean....to be president of a big country with almost 48 million people?

Wow – I wouldn’t mind being president when I grow up. Then I could become the first black **female** president of South Africa! Think about that: A woman as president!

Well, maybe I’ll not become a president, but I want to have a good education so I can get a good job. I think I want to study law at university so I can become a lawyer. My parents will really like that to happen. They say that I have better chances than they had when they were young.

Their parents – you know, my grandparents – were poor. They all lived in Soweto which was kind of a ghetto for black people. It was hard for their parents to get jobs. A lot of the jobs black people could get were being servants for white people or else it was poorly paid jobs.

We are not rich and we are not poor ... ehhhh.... well... I think we’re something in-between....like, you know... we’ve got a nice house, a car and both my parents have jobs.....and last year we also went on holiday, so....ehhhh..... yeah I think we’re doing okay.

Anyway both Karabo and I go to good schools. In our school there are kids of all races. It wasn’t like that when my parents were young. Back then you had good schools for white students and not so good schools for black students. There were more students in the classes for black people and the white schools had better books and stuff.

Black and white people were not even allowed to go to the same schools. They were not even allowed to sit on the same bench in the park or go to the same toilets! Can you imagine that?

My grandfather was sort of white and his girlfriend was black so they had to go to another country to get married. Blacks and whites were not allowed to get married – in fact they were not allowed to mix at all! That was called Apartheid. My grandparents couldn’t come back to South Africa until something like 20 or 25 years agoI can’t really remember.....

Anyway: I’m glad it’s not like that anymore. My friends have all different colours and we can visit each other and we can also date each other.

Well, even though everything is not fair between different races, then life today in South Africa is **SO** much easier and **SO** much better now for me and my family.....I think I have a good life anyway ☺

Listen again and check your answers.

(Herefter gentages hele teksten)

The listening text is now finished.

Topic 8: New Zealand

Listening comprehension. Read the questions for the listening comprehension about New Zealand. You'll hear the text twice.

Now listen to Kylie Hackett talking about bungee-jumping. Hi, my name is Kylie Hackett. Most of my friends just call me Kyle. **Others call me ‘Kookaburra’ – strange, isn’t it?** Do you know what a Kookaburra is? Well, first of all it’s a bird and actually a rather big bird. It lives in New Zealand, Australia and New Guinea. **It’s also called a laughing Kookaburra.** That’s because when it calls out it sounds as if a human laughs very loudly in a hysterical sort of way! SO – why am I called a Kookaburra then? Well, I’m really fond of bungee-jumping and my friends tell me that when I jump off the bridge I sound **just like a Kookaburra!!!** Charming, isn’t it? HMMmmm..... Well, fortunately the Kookaburra is considered a good-looking good-natured bird – AND I’m also rather good-looking and good-natured... HAHA... SO... anyway: that’s why I’m called ‘Kookaburra’. **Well, – I live with my family in Queenstown.** I’m 15 and I have a twin-sister called Alicia. You can’t really tell that we are twins. We are just SO not alike! I mean: I’m blond – and she has got dark hair, I’m tall – and she is like..... well, she’s definitely shorter than me! I really like being outdoors and doing all kinds of wild things. **I like trekking, river rafting, bungee-jump and stuff like that.** Do you know what Alicia likes? You’ll never guess!! She likes Ballroom dancing!!! I mean..... honestly... and we’re twins!!! It all started when she watched the TV programme ‘Strictly Come Dancing’. Do you have that in your country? **It’s a competition that’s on TV every Friday in the winter.** You have some celebrities who learn how to dance and then you get to vote. At the end of the season you have the winners. Honestly!!! Is that all the excitement people want? Well, Alicia thinks it’s just THE best TV ever, so last year she started dancing herself. Good for her! I’ll much rather be out in the nature in all kinds of weather. I’m a bit like my uncle. **He’s quite famous, you know.** Maybe you’ve heard of him? He’s called ‘A.J.’ – well, it’s short for Alan John Hackett. He sort of invented bungee-jumping!! WAUW! How about that? **He became world famous when he threw himself off the Eiffel Tower in Paris in 1987.** That’s of course before I was born, but I’ve seen pictures and heard about it SO many times so I almost feel I was there! **Have you tried bungee-jumping?** I still think it’s a bit scary even though I’ve tried it a lot of times – you know – you wait in a queue with all your safety equipment on and ... eh... you can see the person in front of you falling towards the river below you AND you can hear her SHOUTING and SCREAMING all the way – even when she bounces up and down, and up and down – until she **finally** stops and you think: “NO, I’m not gonna DO this!! – but then again: I REALLY REALLY like the feeling. **It must be almost like flying.**

Actually Queenstown is quite famous for this kind of activity. **Every year THOUSANDS of visitors come here to bungee-jump off the Kawarau Bridge.** If you get tired of that you can try out stuff like: Bungee Rocket, River Surfing, Paragliding, Jet Boating and in the winter you can go skiing and snowboarding SO as you can hear I have LOTS and LOTS of fun... and sometimes I even have time to go school – **which is something my PARENTS really appreciate!**

Listen again and check your answers.

(Herefter gentages hele teksten)

The listening text is now finished.