

LanguageCert

Academic Test (Speaking)

Test 3

Interlocutor's instructions

CHECK THAT THE RECORDER IS RECORDING (VIDEO AND AUDIO)

Test time: about 14 minutes

I = Interlocutor

C = Candidate

Part 1 (3 minutes)

- I: Hello. My name's (give full name). And you are *(give candidate's full name)*, right?
- C: *(Confirms.)*
- I: Thank you. Can you spell your surname for me, please?
- C: *(Spells surname.)*
- I: Thank you. Where are you from?
- C: *(Responds.)*
- I: Thank you. Exam begins. LanguageCert Academic, *(give today's date)*. Now, Part One. I'm going to ask you some questions about yourself and your ideas. *(Choose **up to five** questions, one from each of the different topic areas, as time allows. Name the topic; e.g., 'Now, TV.'*)

Topics

TV

- How has the amount of TV you watch changed since you were a child?
- What can TV provide that other forms of media cannot, in your opinion?
- What risks are associated with watching too much TV, in your opinion?
- Tell me about an interesting thing you've learnt from a TV show.

Learning styles

- Do you find pictures and diagrams helpful when you are studying? (Why?/ Why not?)
- Do you make a lot of notes when you listen to a lecture? (Why?/ Why not?)
- What's the best way to make sure you remember new information?
- Is it more effective to study with a partner or on your own?

Health and fitness

- Do you have a fitness watch, or would you like one? Why?/ Why not?
- Do you pay attention to health advice in the media?
- What's easier for you, eating well, or being active? (Why?)
- Do you prefer to exercise indoors or outdoors? (Why?)

Career

- Why do some young people find it hard to choose a career?
- Have you set yourself any specific career goals? (If not, why not? If yes, what are they?)
- In your opinion, is job satisfaction more important than a good salary? (Why?/ Why not?)
- Which careers are hardest to get into in your country?

(continued)

Fashion and clothing

- What is the most useful item of clothing you own?
- Is being fashionable important to you? (Why?/ Why not?)
- Why do many people buy more clothes than they need?
- Do you admire people who ignore fashion? (Why?/ Why not?)

C: *(Responds.)*

I: *(Interlocutor responds and/or comments **briefly.**)*

I: Thank you.

Part 2 (2 minutes)

I: Now, Part Two. We're going to role-play some situations. I want you to start or respond. First situation (*choose one situation from A*).

A

- We're classmates. I start.
How about getting together a study group with a few of our friends?
- I'm a university librarian. I start.
Is there anything you'd like to know about the library?
- We're friends. I start.
I'm really struggling with this new computer programme we're using!

C: (*Responds.*)

I: (*Role-play the situation with the candidate – approximately two turns each.*)

I: Second situation (*choose one situation from B*).

B

- We're friends. I'm wondering how I can save money on textbooks. You start.
- I'm your lecturer. You need more time to finish your experiment. You start.
- We're classmates. I'm stressed about a presentation I'm giving tomorrow. You start.

C: (*Initiates.*)

I: (*Role-play the situation with the candidate – approximately two turns each.*)

I: (*Role-play a third situation from A or B if time allows.*)

I: Thank you.

Part 3 (4 minutes)

I: Now, Part Three. You're going to read a short passage out loud. When you've finished, I'll ask you some questions about the topic of the passage.

(Share Candidate Task Sheet 1 on screen.)

You now have twenty seconds to look at the passage, then I'll ask you to read it out loud.

(Withdraw eye contact for twenty seconds. Don't stop the recording.)

OK. Please start.

- **Interlocutor Task Sheet 1**

When analysing the decline of newspapers, it is necessary to begin in the 1980s, when sales began to fall. The reduction in sales for the first few years was not sufficiently large to cause alarm with advertisers, and nor did it create unease in newspaper boardrooms, as advertising revenues were not only holding up, but were actually growing. In this atmosphere of complacency, there seemed to be no need to investigate why sales were falling or to question the thought processes which had served the industry well for so many years. By the time the internet arrived on the scene, the opportunity to repair the damage inexpensively had passed.

C: *(Talks.)*

I: Thank you. Now I'm going to ask you some questions.

(Ask one or more follow-up questions, as time allows.)

Follow-up questions:

- What is the writer's main message in this passage?
- Why do you think print newspapers have become less popular?
- What would be lost if newspapers, both print and digital, disappeared completely?

I: Thank you. *(Stop sharing Candidate Task Sheet 1 on screen.)*

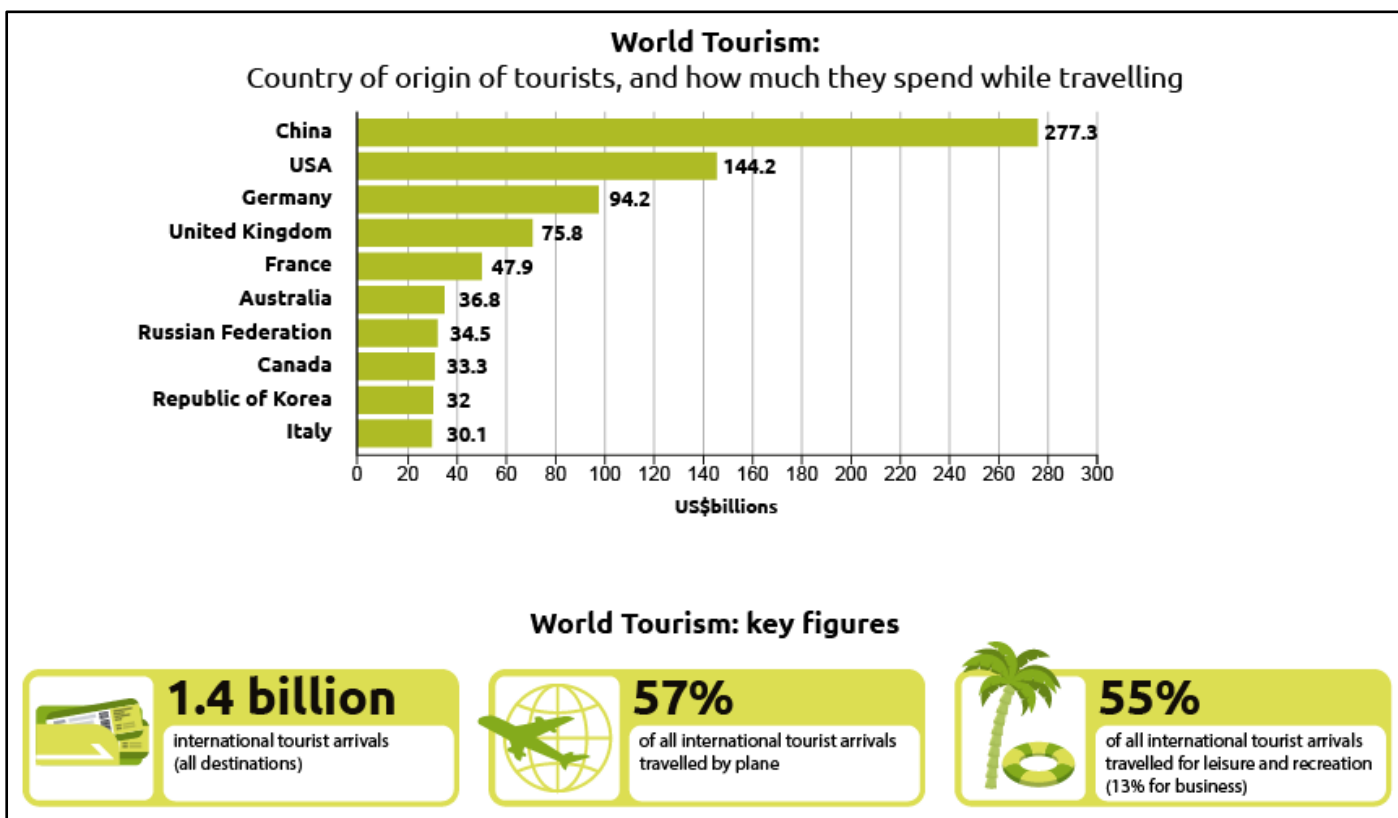
Part 4 (5 minutes)

I: In Part Four, you're going to talk on your own for about two minutes on the topic of global tourism. Here is some information about the topic.

(Share Candidate Task Sheet 2 on screen.)

You now have one minute to look at the information, then I'll ask you to talk about it. You can write some notes to help you.

- **Interlocutor Task Sheet 2**



I: *(Withdraw eye contact for one minute. Don't stop the recording.)*

OK, so now you have two minutes to talk about the topic. Please start.

C: *(Talks.)*

I: *(When candidate has talked for a maximum of two minutes, say: 'Thank you. Now I'm going to ask you some questions.' (Ask one or more follow-up questions as time allows.)*

Follow-up questions

- Which of these figures do you think is the most surprising?
- How important is tourism to the economy of the country where you live? (Why?/ Why not?)
- Do you think the tourism industry will continue to grow in the future? (Why?/ Why not?)

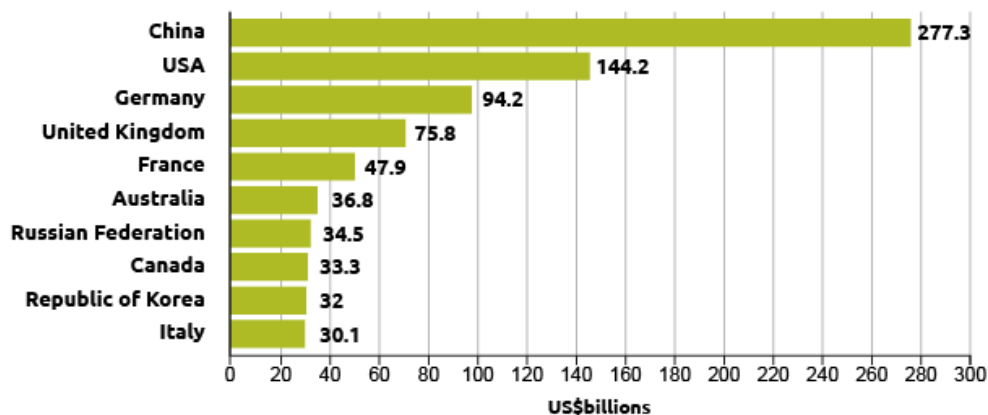
I: Thank you *(candidate's name)*. That is the end of the exam. *(Stop sharing Candidate Task Sheet 2 on screen.)*

Candidate Task Sheet 1

When analysing the decline of newspapers, it is necessary to begin in the 1980s, when sales began to fall. The reduction in sales for the first few years was not sufficiently large to cause alarm with advertisers, and nor did it create unease in newspaper boardrooms, as advertising revenues were not only holding up, but were actually growing. In this atmosphere of complacency, there seemed to be no need to investigate why sales were falling or to question the thought processes which had served the industry well for so many years. By the time the internet arrived on the scene, the opportunity to repair the damage inexpensively had passed.

Candidate Task Sheet 2

World Tourism:
Country of origin of tourists, and how much they spend while travelling



World Tourism: key figures



1.4 billion

international tourist arrivals
(all destinations)



57%

of all international tourist arrivals
travelled by plane



55%

of all international tourist arrivals
travelled for leisure and recreation
(13% for business)