



Exams Corner — Listening

Part 1 (p.32)

Announcer : Part 1.

Toby and her friends are planning to go trick-or-treating during Halloween.

You have 25 seconds to read the questions below. The conversation will be played twice. There are five questions in all. Do as much as you can the first time and complete all answers the second time.

The conversation will begin now.

[Toby : Hi Ginny! Hi Sam! Are you two allowed to go trick-or-treating during Halloween?

Ginny : Yes, both our parents said we could go.

Sam : We just need to sort out the arrangements. What time should we go?

Toby : I was thinking we could go around 5:30, so that we can get to houses earlier than other children and people will be more likely to have sweets for us.

Sam : Why don't we go around 7 pm then?

Toby : That's a bit late.

Ginny : ^① How about 6:30 pm then? That's a good compromise.

Sam : That's good for me.

Toby : Me too. So we'll meet at 6:30. What costumes are you going to wear? We have to dress up for Halloween. I was thinking of going as a pirate.

Sam : Oh! But I have a pirate costume! We cannot both go as pirates.

Toby : Oh, OK, I'll go as something else. What are you going as, Ginny?

Ginny : I'm going to be a fairy. I have wings and

a pink dress. We have a fancy dress box at home so I got them from that.

Toby : I wish we had a fancy dress box. Hmm, maybe I could go as a sailor. I could wear white trousers and a blue and white stripy T-shirt and draw a ship's anchor on my arm.

Sam : Do you have white trousers and a blue and white stripy top, Toby?

Toby : Er, no, I don't, Sam.

Sam : So why not go as a ghost instead? It is easy to make a ghost costume.

Toby : ^② Oh yes, I could wear a big white sheet and cut out eye holes.

Ginny : Good idea, you would look very spooky.

Sam : Hey, apart from our costumes, what else are you two bringing?

Ginny : I'm bringing a camera so we can take photos of us dressed up.

Sam : What are we going to collect the sweets and chocolates in?

Ginny : Oh, yes, good question. You should bring a bag or a basket if you have one.

Sam : All right, I can get a bag. Hopefully we will get a lot of treats.

Toby : Yes, I'm really excited about this.

Ginny : ^③ Actually, I'm a bit anxious. What if people get angry with us for disturbing them or if they shut the door on us?

Sam : Come on Ginny, it's going to be fun! Most people understand it is a Halloween custom to go trick-or-treating and have candy ready by the door to give out.

Toby : Yes, don't worry, we'll be fine. I had a great time last year.

Ginny : Did you go trick-or-treating in your building?

Toby : Yes, I started at the top and worked my way down.

Sam : ^④ I live on the 3rd floor so I think we should start there this year and work our way up instead. That way, we can start with my friendly neighbours.

Ginny : Why don't we start on the ground floor?

Sam : There are only shops on the ground floor, no flats.

Ginny : OK, then, let's start on your floor and work upwards.

Toby : ^⑤ We may find it easier to knock on doors that have Halloween decorations on them, as they are more likely to have candy to give out.

Ginny : Yeah, that's a good idea. Let's do that. Spooky decorations are used to celebrate Halloween. If people don't have them, we will not knock on their door.

Sam : OK, then, so we are agreed. We're going to have a wonderful evening!]

Announcer : Now listen to the conversation again.

Repeat []

You have 25 seconds to check your answers.

This is the end of Part 1. *

Part 2 (p.33)

Announcer : Part 2.

You are listening to a radio programme about St Patrick's Day.

You have 30 seconds to read the questions below. The programme will be played once only. Listen to the dialogues and answer each question that follows when you hear a beep. *

The programme will begin now.

Host : Welcome to *Holiday Express*, the programme that tells you all about the best holidays around the world.

^① Today, we are going to tell you about St Patrick's Day, a fantastic Irish holiday that is celebrated around the world. It celebrates the man who is supposed to have spread the Christian religion in Ireland many years ago. Although the most famous place to celebrate is in Dublin, the capital city of Ireland, today we focus on celebrations in New York, America, which has a large number of Irish people.

Announcer : Question 1: St Patrick's Day is an _____ holiday. *

Host : ^② In New York City, festivities last for a week, from the 8th to the 17th of March, but the event you do not want to miss is the St Patrick's Day Parade, which occurs on the 17th of March and attracts thousands of tourists every year.

Announcer : Question 2: When does the parade take place? *

Host : You shouldn't miss the parade because it's always a marvellous sight. ^③ Many people wear T-shirts that are either completely green, or have pictures of beer on them. Some people wear T-shirts that have a three-leafed plant on them. Some people even dye their hair green and bars serve green drinks. Although no cars, floats or exhibits are allowed in the parade, over 150,000 marchers take part every year.

Announcer : Question 3: What will you see in the parade? *

Host : The streets of New York are filled with crowds watching the parade all along the route. The parade starts at 11 am and ends around 2 pm. ^④ It starts on 5th Avenue near 44th Street and ends on 86th Street.

Announcer : Question 4: The parade usually starts _____.*

Host : If you want to get a good view of the parade, you should stay away from the big crowds. You should watch the parade towards the south end of the route, keeping away from 5th Avenue and 86th Street. A view from the upper steps of the Metropolitan Museum of Art is the best way to see the parade but make sure you get there early.

Announcer : Question 5: Where should you stand if you want a good view of the parade? *

Host : There are many things you can do to celebrate St Patrick's day as well as watching the parade. You can go to a concert of traditional Irish folk music or you can eat traditional Irish food such as cabbage and potato stew. Beer is very popular on St Patrick's Day too. Many people wear a badge of a three-leafed plant to show they are celebrating the festival. There is a lot to see and do.

Announcer : Question 6: What could you do if you want to experience more St Patrick's Day entertainment? *

You have 30 seconds to check your answers.

This is the end of Part 2. *