



Unit 6 Practice

Part A

Task 1 (p.18)

Announcer : Part A. Situation.

You are Louisa Tong, a reporter for the school magazine. You are responsible for conducting interviews and writing articles.

You will have a total of three tasks to do. Follow the instructions in the Question-Answer Book and on the recording to complete the tasks. You have two minutes to familiarise yourself with Tasks 1 to 3 before the recording begins.

Task 1.

You are interviewing Thomas Yip, a professor of Information Technology. Listen to the conversation and complete the table below.

You now have 30 seconds to study the task. At the end of the task, you will have 1 minute to tidy up your answers.

Louisa : Thank you, Professor Yip, for taking the time to meet me today.

Thomas : It's my pleasure. QR code readers are an interesting topic. They are becoming more common and popular these days.

Louisa : What does QR stand for exactly?

Thomas : Quick response.^⑧ And, though QR code readers for smartphones were just invented in 2011, the technology dates back to 1994.

Louisa : Oh, I didn't know that.

Thomas : But for smartphones, like I said, they

were just introduced in the spring of 2011.

Louisa : Have there been other code readers used in the past?

Thomas : Yes, back in 1999, there was an invention called the CueCat.^① It was a complete failure and not popular at all.^②

Louisa : I've never heard of it. What was it called again?

Thomas : CueCat. You never heard of it because it wasn't popular.

Louisa : Tell me about CueCat. What was it?

Thomas : It was a plastic device that looked like a cat.^③ It was used to scan barcodes^④ on products and then direct users to the company websites.^⑤

Louisa : Plastic and looked like a cat...mm... You said it can scan barcodes on products and direct people to the company websites. It seems quite useful, isn't it?

Thomas : But that was not popular at all.

Louisa : OK. And does a QR code reader do the same thing?

Thomas : The QR code readers today are a software that^⑥ can be installed in smartphones.^⑦ With the camera phone and the software, you can scan QR codes.

Louisa : Where can I find these QR codes?

Thomas : You can see them on any objects where users might need information, for example, magazines, signs and advertisements.^⑧ It can be used as a promotion tool sometimes.^⑨

Louisa : Oh yes, I remember seeing a QR code on a lucky draw poster. I guess by scanning it using a camera phone, people can visit the websites that give information about the event.

Thomas : Exactly. ¹⁴ Just like what you've said, it can display texts and contact information and link to wireless networks.

Louisa : Wow, that's great!

Thomas : ¹⁵ Yeah, it's a great piece of software, and even better, it has the error correction function.

Louisa : What does that mean?

Thomas : Sometimes there're art designs in the QR codes that may affect the decoding work. In the past, such artwork would cause an error. With the error correction function, we can read the codes without any problems.

Louisa : Oh! That's really good. ¹⁶ And I've heard that the QR code reader is free.

Thomas : That's right. So it's gaining wide popularity these days.

Louisa : ⁷ And what about CueCat? Is it free too?

Thomas : No, if I remember correctly, it costs US\$9.

Louisa : US\$9? That's expensive!

Thomas : Yes, the reviews were not very positive.

Louisa : On the other hand, QR code readers are very common these days. And people find them very convenient and informative.

Thomas : Yes, I think QR readers are here to stay.

Louisa : Well, thank you Professor Yip. It has been very informative for our readers.

Announcer : This is the end of Task 1. You now have 1 minute to tidy up your answers.

Task 2 (p.19)

Announcer : Task 2.

You are attending the product launch for the Y-Phone 5. Paul Jobs, the chairman of the company, is giving a presentation. Listen to the presentation and complete the presentation slides below.

You now have 30 seconds to study the task. At the end of the task, you will have 1 minute to tidy up your answers.

Paul : Good morning, everyone. It's very exciting to be here today to launch the new Y-Phone 5, the most advanced and most stylish smartphone in the market.

I'll start by talking about the Y-Phone's built-in 10-megapixel camera. Yes, you heard that right. ¹ A 10-megapixel camera — that's 80% more megapixels than the camera on the Y-Phone 4. ² The camera also comes with a custom lens that will make your photos sharper and clearer.

³ Besides taking sharper and clearer photos, the Y-Phone 5 can also shoot amazing high quality HD videos. ⁴ The colour is always perfect with HD videos, and our anti-shaking feature will keep your videos steady and clear. Even if you're active and on the go, the anti-shaking feature will make sure that you get steady, clear videos all the time.

⁵ We also have our popular FaceChat video calling software that works with all the products in our family. Our FaceChat video calling software allows you to stay in touch with your family and friends.

⁶ And now for the newest and most anticipated feature of the Y-Phone 5, let me introduce to you, Mara, your own personal intelligence assistant.

You can talk to Mara as you would talk to a person. Mara will likely become the best personal intelligence assistant you'll ever have.

Now to run all these great features, you'll need speed and power. ⁷ So we've doubled the speed of our wireless network connection. ⁸ To support for a longer using time, we've upgraded the battery life to 300 hours. A faster wireless connection and a longer battery life of 300 hours will make sure that you have the speed and power you need.

⁹ And lastly, the Y-Phone 5 now comes with a worldwide GPS function and a waterproof case. You'll always be able to find your way around with the worldwide GPS function, and the waterproof case ensures that your phone is well protected from rain and moisture.

In short, the Y-Phone 5 is the best and the only phone you'll ever need. Thank you very much for your time and attention. I'll stop now and open the floor for questions.

Reporter 1 : The Y-Phone 5 sounds like a great product, Mr Jobs. Could you let us know the release date for the phone?

Paul : ¹⁰ The official worldwide release date is the 11th of November, in 2 weeks' time.

Reporter 2 : Have you decided on a price for the Y-Phone 5 yet?

Paul : Yes, we have, though prices may vary in different local markets. ¹¹ For the 16-gigabyte model, the price is US\$199. ¹² The 32-gigabyte model will cost US\$299, ¹³ and the 64-gigabyte model will be US\$399.

Reporter 3 : And how about availability? What countries will the Y-Phone 5 be available in?

Paul : ¹⁴ I'm not going to list all the countries, but I can tell you that it will be available in 70 countries. I'll have to stop here. Thank you for your questions and...

Announcer : This is the end of Task 2. You now have 1 minute to tidy up your answers.

Task 3 (p.20)

Announcer : Task 3.

You are working on two bar charts for an article you have written. Listen to the conversation and complete the bar charts. Some have been done for you as examples.

You now have 30 seconds to study the task. At the end of the task, you will have 30 seconds to tidy up your answers.

Kenneth : Hi, Louisa. Is your article for the next issue of the magazine ready?

Louisa : Hi, Kenneth. The text is ready. I'm just putting these two bar charts together.

Kenneth : Do you need any help?

Louisa : Yes, that'd be great. If you can read me the numbers, I'll draw the bars.

Kenneth : OK, where's the data?

Louisa : Right here. ¹ The next number I need is mobile phones for 15 to 18-year-old students.

Kenneth : Let me see. That's...85%.

Louisa : So 85% of 15 to 18-year-old students have mobile phones. Now let's move on to MP3 players.

Kenneth : ² For 11 to 14-year-olds, it's 75%. ³ And for 15 to 18-year-olds, it's 80%.

Louisa : 75% and 80%. That's quite high for both groups.

Kenneth : Students do love listening to music.

Louisa : How about notebooks?

Kenneth : For notebooks, the numbers are lower. ^④ It's 20% for 11 to 14-year-olds and ^⑤ 45% for 15 to 18-year-olds.

Louisa : 20% and 45%. OK, got it.

Kenneth : ^⑥ Then for handheld games consoles, we've got 55% for 11 to 14-year-olds. ^⑦ And for 15 to 18-year-olds, it's...let me see...is that 40 or 70?

Louisa : That's a 7, so it's 70%. Now the first bar chart is done. Let's go to the next chart on the average amount of money spent on gadgets. I started it the other day and this one is a bit more complicated. We've got the same age groups but the data is split into girls and boys. So let's be careful.

Kenneth : OK.

Louisa : Let's start with notebooks for 11 to 14-year-olds. Girls first, then boys.

Kenneth : ^⑧ For the girls, the average spending on notebooks is \$3,000. ^⑩ For the boys, it's \$3,500.

Louisa : Girls, \$3,000. Boys, 3,500. ^⑨ OK, and now the 15 to 18-year-olds.

Kenneth : For the girls in that age group, it's \$4,200...

Louisa : ...girls, 4,200. And the boys?

Kenneth : ^⑪ For the boys, \$4,700.

Louisa : \$4,700. All right, let's move on to the handheld games consoles.

Kenneth : ^⑫ For 11 to 14-year-olds, handheld games consoles is \$1,000 for the girls and \$500 more for the boys.

Louisa : ^⑭ So the boys is 1,500. OK.

Kenneth : ^⑬ Then for the 15 to 18-year-olds, girls spend \$900 and boys spend \$300 more.

Louisa : ^⑮ Interesting. The girls spend only \$900 and the boys \$1,200. The older students spend less money on handheld games consoles.

Kenneth : Maybe they're too busy.

Louisa : Maybe. Well, we have finished both charts. Thanks for helping, Kenneth.

Kenneth : No problem.

Announcer : This is the end of Task 3. You now have 30 seconds to tidy up your answers.

Part B (pp.21-25)

Announcer : Part B. Situation.

You are Iris Ng. You are working as a helper at a community centre during the summer holiday.

You will listen to a conversation between you and Mr Yeung, the secretary of the community centre. As you listen, you can make notes on page 1 of the Data File.

Follow the instructions in the Question-Answer Book and on the recording to complete the tasks. You will find all the information you need in the Question-Answer Book, the Data File and on the recording.

You now have five minutes to study the tasks and the Data File.

The conversation will begin now.

Mr Yeung : Hi, Iris. Could I ask you to order some computer products for the centre?

Iris : Sure, Mr Yeung, what do we need?

Mr Yeung : ^{T4} ^⑤ The first thing we need is a wireless router. The old one is not fast enough. ^{T4} ^③ We also need 3 wireless optical mice to update our workstations.

Iris : OK, a wireless router and 3 wireless optical mice.

Mr Yeung : Since we're having a number of workshops on flash animations, I think we'll need some microphones and speakers.

Iris : ^{T4⑥} What about 4 microphones and 4 sets of speakers? Is that enough? ^{T4②}

Mr Yeung : ^{T4⑦} Yes, that should be OK. Then we also need one 27-inch LCD monitor.

Iris : A 29-inch LCD...

Mr Yeung : 27, not 29.

Iris : OK, a 27-inch LCD monitor.

Mr Yeung : ^{T4①} Right. The last thing we need is 6 USB flash drives.

Iris : Sorry, Mr Yeung, for the USB flash drives, how many gigabytes do you want?

Mr Yeung : ^{T4①} I want 8 gigabytes.

Iris : So that's six 8-gigabyte USB flash drives.

Mr Yeung : Yes, thanks. Let me show you the website of the computer shop. You can fill in the order form there.

Iris : Ever Perfect Computer Products? I've never heard of this shop before.

Mr Yeung : ^{T5⑬} It's a new shop nearby. I got their leaflet last week and they are giving out a free gift for orders before January — a free pack of 100 DVD-ROMs.

Iris : I see.

Mr Yeung : Oh, by the way, you can use my credit card to pay for the order. I'll give it to you later.

Iris : ^{T4⑧, T5⑦} No problem. And when would you like the products to be delivered?

Mr Yeung : ^{T5⑨} The 15th of November. Actually their leaflet says that they will deliver goods within 2 weeks.

Iris : OK, Mr Yeung, I'll order everything today.

Announcer : That is the end of the recording. You now have 30 minutes to finish the tasks.