

Scripts

Task 1

You will hear a radio interview with a girl called Anita who takes part in the motor-sport called karting.

For each question, choose the correct answer *a*, *b* or *c*.

You have 45 seconds to look at the questions.

Pause 45 seconds

Now we are ready to start. Listen carefully. You will hear the recording twice.

Int: Hi. This week I'm talking to Anita Dixon who takes part in the motor-sport called karting. Anita, what is karting exactly?

Anita: Well, karting's a motor-sport for kids, where you drive round a racetrack. The karts are like tiny formula-one racing cars. I mean, some teenagers think it's like a theme-park ride, you know, just playing at driving, but that's rubbish, because you're actually driving for real.

Int: So, tell us about your first time.

Anita: Well, I was thirteen and my brother Toby was eleven. We went to a special track where they teach you to race properly, so we started off with a classroom lesson. Toby was a bit bored by that, but actually it was all really useful, especially the bits about safety. It only lasted an hour or so.

Int: So, how did you feel when you actually got in the kart?

Anita: Like a real professional, putting on the driving-suit, gloves and helmet – that was brilliant. And there's lots of noise, even though the karts only have small 200cc engines, which came as a bit of a shock. Then when you start it feels really fast because you're so close to the ground. Just like we'd been told it would.

Int: So, what happened on that first drive?

Anita: Well, it wasn't a race against other people. We all had exercises to do, like driving round the track showing we could use the brakes and steer to the left and right and stuff, and I did fine. I felt sorry for Toby because he drove into a pile of old tyres, but he only laughed afterwards. Typical! Like most of the boys he just tried too hard.

Int: Did you get to actually race?

Anita: Sure. Once you've shown that you can do all the exercises, you're divided into groups, and you race round the whole 350-metre track. I was fine with that, but the girls in my group were dead nervous, and kept asking questions that held up the start. I mean I did win, but one girl didn't even finish and the others went really slowly, so it wasn't much of a race!

Int: So can anyone go karting?

Anita: I'd say it's good for kids who're okay with following instructions, because you can't afford to make mistakes. You learn skills which will help you when you grow up, but don't go if you're easily frightened – oh, and it's just as much for girls as for boys.

Int: Sure! Anita, thanks.

Now you have 30 seconds to fulfil the task.

Pause 30 seconds

Now listen again.

The recording is repeated]

Now you have 30 seconds to check your answers.

Pause 30 seconds

This is the end of Task 1.

Task 2

You are going to listen to a radio programme about Oymyakon. For each question 7–12, fill in the missing information in the notes above.

You have 30 seconds to look at the questions.

Pause 30 seconds

Now we are ready to start. Listen carefully. You will hear the recording twice.

Presenter: Oymyakon, in East Russia, is extremely cold and people live there! The lowest temperature, of minus 71.2 degrees, was recorded in 1926 beating all records, Dave Gunhill reports.

Dave: Extremely low temperatures are frequent in Oymyakon, with temperatures going below minus 45 degrees Celsius regularly. Winters are long and cold and often last at least nine months. The summers are much warmer than the winters. Temperatures can rise to 35 degrees Celsius but then there is the problem of mosquitoes.

About 2.300 people live in Oymyakon. Life is very much the same as 100 years ago – apart from television. For example, there are no indoor bathrooms and people use ice instead of water from the tap. The valley used to be famous because some of the oldest people in the country lived there. Fiodor Arnosow, Oymyakon’s oldest-ever inhabitant, died in 1967. He was 109.

There are about 300 children in the local school. Up until recently, there didn’t use to be any heating in the school. The children did their classes in their coats. These young people dream of having mobile phones, an Internet café and disco with a CD-player that works.

A local businessman, Alexander Krylov, wants to bring tourists to the area. He has also built the town’s first hotel to attract these tourists. Each of the ten rooms has hot and cold water. The most famous visitor until now is the Hollywood actor Ewan McGragor, who visited the place – in summer of course – on the back of a motorbike.

Now you have 20 seconds to fulfil the task.

Pause 20 seconds

Now listen again.

The recording is repeated

Now you have 20 seconds to check your answers.

Pause 20 seconds

This is the end of Task 2.