

READING AND LISTENING

40 MIN

Do tasks 1-30 according to what you learn from the reading and video materials and what you know on the subject. Spend 10 min working with the text and the questions below. You will then watch the video twice and have time to complete the tasks.

THE GIANT'S CAUSEWAY

For centuries countless visitors have marvelled at the majesty and mystery of the Giant's Causeway. Located on the north coast of Northern Ireland, in County Antrim, about three miles northeast of the town of Bushmills, the Giant's Causeway is an area of about 40,000 interlocking basalt columns.

According to the legend, the columns are the remains of a causeway built by a giant. The story goes that the Irish giant Fionn Mac Cumhaill, from the Fenian Cycle of Gaelic mythology, was challenged to a fight by the Scottish giant Benandonner. Fionn accepted the challenge and built the causeway so that the two giants could meet. In one version of the story, Fionn defeats Benandonner. In another, Fionn hides from Benandonner when he realises that his foe is much bigger than he is. Fionn's wife, Oonagh, disguises Fionn as a baby and tucks him in a cradle. When Benandonner sees the size of the 'baby', he reckons that its father, Fionn, must be a giant among giants! He flees back to Scotland in fright, destroying the causeway behind him so that Fionn would be unable to chase him down. Across the sea, there are identical basalt columns at Fingal's Cave on the Scottish isle of Staffa.

The discovery of the Giant's Causeway is attributed to the Bishop of Derry who had visited the site in 1692. The existence of the site was announced to the wider world the following year by the presentation of a paper to The Royal Society from Sir Richard Bulkeley, a fellow of Trinity College, Dublin. The Giant's Causeway received international attention when Dublin artist Susanna Drury made watercolour paintings of it in 1739. In 1765 an entry on the Causeway appeared in Volume 12 of *The French Encyclopédie*, which was informed by the engravings of Drury's work. French geologist Nicolas Desmarest suggested, for the first time in print, that such structures were volcanic in origin.

Modern geologists and volcanologists believe that during the Paleocene Epoch, around 50 to 60 million years ago, Antrim was subject to intense volcanic activity, when highly fluid molten basalt intruded through chalk beds to form an extensive lava plateau. As the lava cooled, contraction occurred. Horizontal contraction fractured in a similar way to drying mud, with the cracks propagating down as the mass cooled, leaving pillar-like structures, which are also fractured horizontally. In many cases the horizontal fracture has resulted in a bottom face that is convex while the upper face of the lower segment is concave, producing what are called ball-and-socket joints. The size of the columns is primarily determined by the speed at which lava from a volcanic eruption cools. The extensive fracture network produced the distinctive columns we see today.

The tops of the columns form stepping stones that lead from the cliff foot and disappear under the sea. Most of the columns are hexagonal, although there are also some with four, five, seven or eight sides. The tallest are about 12 metres (39 ft) high, and the solidified lava in the cliffs is 28 metres (92 ft) thick in places. Some of the structures, having been subject to several million years of weathering, resemble objects, such as the Organ and the Giant's Boot. Other features include many reddish weathered low columns known as the Giant's Eyes, created by the displacement of basalt boulders; the Shepherd's Steps; the Honeycomb; the Giant's Harp; the Chimney Stacks; the Giant's Gate and the Camel's Hump.

The site became popular with tourists during the 19th century, particularly after the opening of the Giant's Causeway Tramway. It was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1986, and a national nature reserve in 1987 by the Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland. Much of the Giant's Causeway and Causeway Coast World Heritage Site is today owned and managed by the National Trust, and it is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Northern Ireland. In 2005 the Giant's Causeway was named as the fourth greatest natural wonder in the United Kingdom. Access to the site is free of charge and visitors can walk over the basalt steps at the edge of the sea.

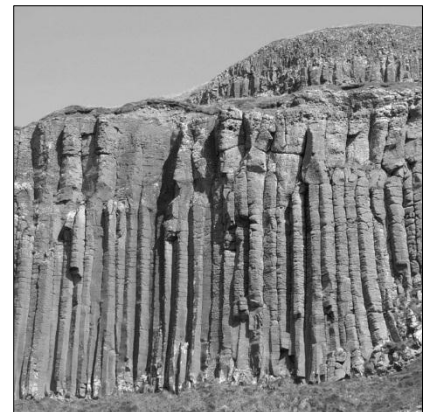
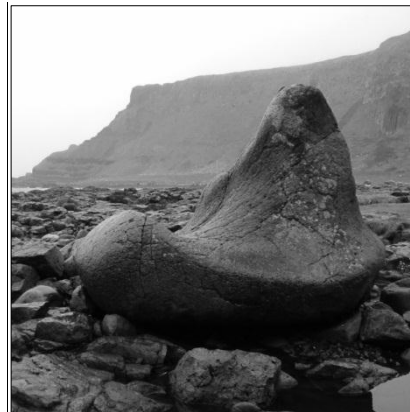
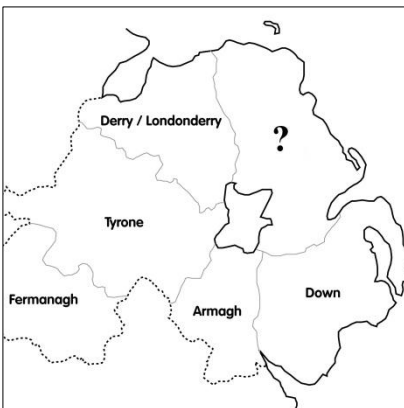
The Giant's Causeway is not only a geological wonder but also is a wealth of wildlife. It is a good place for rock pooling trips, and there is an amazing selection of marine to look out for. Amongst the marine life are Limpets, Sea Anemones and Cushion Star Fish. It is also a very good spot for birding. The birds which can be easily seen are the Fulmar, an ocean going seabird which can emit a strange oily vomit on would-be assailants, the Rock Pipit, the Wheatear, the Oystercatcher and the Guillemot. Many plants have adapted to the conditions, including the Oyster Plant, the Scots Lovage, which is only found in Northern Ireland and Scotland, the Sea Spleenwort and the Devil's-bit Scabious. The great thing about the Giant's Causeway is the diversity of the wildlife from birds and butterflies to crabs, plants and lichens.

Suggest the most appropriate captions for these pictures.

Example: *County Antrim*

1. _____

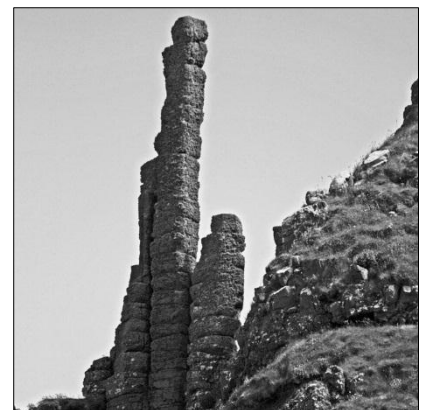
2. _____



3. _____

4. _____

5. _____



For statements 6-15, choose A if the idea is expressed in the text and the video, B if the idea is expressed in the text only, C if the idea is expressed in the video only, D if the idea is not expressed in either source.

6. The Giant's Causeway is the main attraction in Bushmills, a small town in Northern Ireland. _____
7. The site became known outside Antrim in the late 17th century. _____
8. Its first depictions by an Irish landscape painter appeared in the press. _____
9. When the Causeway became a place of interest, local entrepreneurs saw an opportunity for themselves. _____
10. The Giant's Causeway is made up of thousands of volcano rock columns; most of them have six sides and six angles. _____
11. The pattern of the Causeway is so regular that the earliest theory suggested it was a man-made structure, created by ancient islanders. _____
12. The legend goes that the Causeway was built by an Irish mythical hero who wanted to fight and win his rival across the sea. _____
13. A more likely version is that these pillar-like basalt structures are the result of volcanic movement underneath the surface of the earth. _____
14. The formation is intensively studied by geologists and protected not only for its beauty but also because it is home to numerous species of birds and plants. _____
15. The Giant's Causeway is not unique – there are many other similar structures around the world. _____

For questions 16-22, choose the correct answer A, B, or C.

16. The noun **causeway** means...
 - A. a raised path across water or wet ground
 - B. the land along a coast of a particular shape or appearance
 - C. a long narrow passage filled with water
17. The guide describes the site as **dramatic**, meaning that...
 - A. it was a sudden and surprising discovery
 - B. it caused a lot of discussion about how it was created
 - C. it is impressive and exciting to see
18. According to the text, the formation of the columns...
 - A. resembled mud drying and cracking horizontally and down
 - B. was affected by the fast speed of lava cooling down
 - C. took millions of years

19. Geologists believe there are some forty-odd thousand columns at the site. The element **-odd** means...

- A. various
- B. approximately
- C. unusual

20. The guide shows evidence ... throughout the coast, supporting the Mac Cumhail legend of the Causeway.

- A. little
- B. littered
- C. litre

21. **Rock pooling** is the activity of...

- A. watching the flora and fauna of small water pools between the rocks
- B. climbing steep rock surfaces
- C. trekking along winding rocky coastlines

22. The guide climbs the middle of the Causeway. It is called **the Honeycomb** because...

- A. it is an important habitat for many species of plants and insects
- B. it is of different shades of brown and yellow
- C. it looks like a set of cells created by bees

For questions 23-30, choose the best answer A, B, C or D according to what you know on the subject.

23. Northern Ireland is a country that is part of the United Kingdom and is situated...

- A. in the west of Great Britain
- B. to the north of England
- C. on an island in the North Sea
- D. to the north of the Republic of Ireland

24. The capital city of Northern Ireland is...

- A. Dublin
- B. Antrim
- C. Belfast
- D. Londonderry

25. A poetic or romantic name for Ireland is *The Emerald Isle*. This name is associated with the country's...
- A. green countryside
 - B. rich emerald deposits
 - C. lakes and rivers
 - D. shape / borderline
26. The largest lake in Northern Ireland and in the whole of the UK is...
- A. Lock Lomond
 - B. Lake Windermere
 - C. Lock Ness
 - D. Lough Neagh
27. St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, has his feast day in...
- A. March
 - B. April
 - C. May
 - D. June
28. The most recognisable symbols of Northern Ireland are...
- A. the Red Dragon, the daffodil, Eisteddfod, rugby
 - B. the shamrock, the fiddle, leprechauns, the harp
 - C. bagpipes, the thistle, tartan, the unicorn
 - D. the red rose, St. George's cross, Bonfire Night, the lion
29. One of the most famous Irish writers is...
- A. Jerome David Salinger
 - B. George Bernard Shaw
 - C. Jerome Klapka Jerome
 - D. Sir Walter Scott
30. The Irish people are known for being...
- A. artistic, affectionate, optimistic
 - B. courageous, hospitable, dour, thrifty
 - C. shrewd, witty, with a good sense of humour
 - D. honest, reserved, serious, hard-working

TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET

USE OF ENGLISH
50 MIN

For questions 31-40, think of one word only which can be used appropriately in all three sentences.

- Example:**
- One doesn't need to be an expert to appreciate the beauty of classical music.
 - Houses in this area will appreciate in value in the next few years.
 - I'll always appreciate your help and support.
31. ▪ After working hard in the garden, he needed to _____ for a while.
▪ He had to _____ against the gate when he felt dizzy.
▪ The future of the economy will _____ on the number of goods the country can export.
32. ▪ James needed to _____ his mind to the task in hand.
▪ The information didn't _____ to them, so they were told to ignore it.
▪ When the dog darted in front of the car, I had to _____ the brakes abruptly.
33. ▪ At long last the couple decided to arrange a _____ for their wedding.
▪ This particular kind of _____ grows in Egypt.
▪ Susan had a dinner _____ so she couldn't attend the meeting.
34. ▪ He _____ money in his will to the local children's home.
▪ The little girl was _____ by her mother in the old house.
▪ The flight to Damascus _____ much later than was scheduled.
35. ▪ Primary education deals with the age _____ of five or six to twelve.
▪ David's brother is a drummer in a famous _____.
▪ A metal _____ encloses the wooden strips at each end of the barrel.
36. ▪ The joiner used an electric _____ to bore holes in the door.
▪ The teacher liked to give the students a regular spelling _____.
▪ The uniforms were made of khaki _____ which was very unattractive.
37. ▪ His chronic _____ affected his ability to work.
▪ The house was left in total _____ after the party.
▪ Incident of civil _____ led to formation of a riot squad.
38. ▪ Her attempt at making rice pudding failed when the mixture refused to _____.
▪ She _____ the alarm clock so it would ring at 6 am.
▪ Being practical, Tom proved that his feet were _____ firmly on the ground.
39. ▪ They had a cunning _____ to overthrow the government.
▪ This room could be made so much more attractive with a different colour _____.
▪ Suddenly he understood he was no longer part of her _____ of things.
40. ▪ The pianist never _____ the potential he'd known as a teenager.
▪ Mark _____ his ambition when his novel became a bestseller.
▪ Ann _____ she'd been cheated by the shopkeeper when she checked her change.

For questions 41-50, choose the correct word A-M to complete each idiom. There are some extra words which you do not need to use.

41. 'Hi Ben! How is your health?' 'Thank you. I'm in the _____ . I've never felt better.' A. black
42. Our neighbours don't take much care of the staircase. They only clean it once in a _____ moon. B. brown
43. My mum bought a new CD player for me, but it's a _____ elephant. I don't need it, I don't even have any CDs! C. blue
44. People say that John Milton, the millionaire, is stingy and selfish. But I know he's not as _____ as he is painted. He spends loads of money on charity in Africa, but he does it without much publicity. D. red
45. You can rely on Paul's intelligence. His _____ matter is most admirable. E. green
46. November the 12th was a _____-letter day for our family. Our father regained consciousness after two years in a coma, then. F. grey
47. William was _____ with envy when I told him about my date with John. G. pink
48. Don't even ask her to accompany us through the forest. She is so _____-bellied that she wouldn't stay at home alone. H. silver
49. My father does not like to be disturbed when he is in a _____ study in his office. I. white
50. I know it's been a pretty tough situation for you after the divorce. But as they say every cloud has a _____ lining. Now, you're starting a new life. J. golden
- K. purple
- L. yellow
- M. violet

Complete the binominals in sentences 51-55 with one word.

Example: I'm sick and *tired* of this constant noise of the city.

51. I go swimming every now and _____, but not often, I'm afraid.
52. You should think long and _____ before you take the job.
53. We went to the mountains for a bit of peace and _____ .
54. It'll take about three weeks, give or _____ a day or so.
55. There was a complete breakdown of law and _____ in the town.

In sentences 56-65, some lines are correct and some are not because they have a word which should not be used. If a line is correct, put a tick (V) in the space provided. If a line is incorrect, write the word which should not be there.

Example:

Managers spend most of their time communicating – reading, and writing,	<i>and</i>
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	talking or listening – yet the evidence is that they do not always do this	V
56.	as successfully. One reason that has been suggested for this is that, in the	
57.	past, communication was regarded as a natural process, not been taught	
58.	in any formal sense. This theory has been changing, and with the concept	
59.	of communication as an ‘art’ now appears regularly in the management	
60.	courses and seminars. Communication is probably only one of the least	
61.	appreciated aspects of management, and more and more organisations are	
62.	realizing that effective communication involves telling staff why all things	
63.	are happening. This not only helps day-to-day working but allows changes	
64.	to be introduced more smoothly, and sometimes leads to improvements for	
65.	being mentioned by staff.	

Read the text and think of one word which best fits each gap.

WHAT IS A SHORT STORY?

That might seem to be a silly question. We all know **66.** _____ a short story is. It’s a – well, it’s a short story, **67.** _____ heaven’s sake. A story that is, say, up to 5,000 words long, perhaps, but more likely in today’s markets to be rather less. It tells you about something happening to people. It’s not a novel, **68.** _____ it must be a short story.

Right. But it’s not quite as easy **69.** _____ that. Recognising a short story when you read it is one thing; recognising it before you actually write it is quite another. There are certain fundamental differences between a short story and a novel. I’ve read short stories that were more **70.** _____ articles, stories that **71.** _____ to have been novels, stories that didn’t seem to be about anything at all.

A short story is **72.** _____ merely a smaller version of a novel. The theme for a novel will not fit into the framework for a short story; it’s like trying to cram a mural **73.** _____ the frame of a miniature. And, as in a miniature painting, details need to be sharp. The short story is an illustration of one facet of human nature, generally that moment when a character alters in some way: undergoes some change of attitude to life **74.** _____ a problem, experiences a development of personality. The short story **75.** _____ say something but it’s not an attempt to explain the entire meaning of life.

TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET

SPEAKING

You have received a WhatsApp voice message from your classmate in which he invites you to take part in a series of talk-shows on YouTube. This YouTube channel is going to be devoted to youth problems ranging from school, career and politics to hobbies, new technologies and fashion. The topic of the first talk-show has not been chosen yet.

Send a voice message to your classmate (**4-5 minutes**). In the message:

- tell him / her why you want to participate in the talk-show as a host, guest or audience member (2 reasons);
- suggest a topic for the first talk-show;
- explain why you think this topic is interesting to discuss (2 reasons);
- describe how you are going to prepare for the talk-show;
- ask your classmate what he / she thinks on the issue.

Remember to

- use the appropriate style
- present your ideas in a logical and coherent way
- speak continuously, not read your notes

You now have **3 minutes to prepare your voice message**.