

ОЧНЫЙ ТУР

Английский язык

LISTENING AND READING

PART 1

You will see a video of a live interview with Alistair Jones, the director of Cambridge School Ganollers, talking about the Welsh language. The text below is on the same topic as the interview.

Read the text, then watch the video and do the task (questions 1-10) choosing

A – the idea is expressed in the text and the interview

B – the idea is expressed in the text only

C – the idea is expressed in the interview only

D – the idea is not expressed in either source

You now have 10 minutes to read the text.

WELSH IS JUST ANOTHER OF THOSE ANCIENT LANGUAGES THAT AREN'T GOING TO BE AROUND FOR MUCH LONGER, RIGHT?

It's difficult to tell. But it is a test case, a minority language with a chance of surviving. If Welsh can do it, maybe others can too. The stakes are high, not just for people who speak Welsh today but for speakers of thousands of minority languages around the world.

Like its cousins Scottish Gaelic or Irish, Welsh suffers from its proximity to the English-speaking world. But Welsh has stuck around while the other neighbouring languages have lost most of their speakers. In Scotland, many assert their difference from Britain by voting for independence. In Wales, they do it by speaking Welsh.

A few decades ago, things weren't looking so rosy. Welsh was in sharp decline. If parents spoke it, they didn't pass it on to their kids, who didn't learn it at school either. "I never heard Welsh in my family," says Julian Ruck, a writer who grew up in Swansea in the 1960s. "I never heard Welsh at school, and I never heard the Welsh language amongst my friends." After finishing school, Ruck left Wales for London and didn't return for 30 years. "It was a culture shock when I came back," says Ruck. "I had no idea that the promotion of the Welsh language had progressed so far. It was almost like coming back to a foreign country." Ruck isn't happy about this turn of events, but he's in a minority. Most Welsh people want the language to stick around.

Today, there are TV shows in Welsh, produced in local studios. There are schools too that use Welsh as the language of instruction. In Cardiff alone, there are 17 Welsh-language elementary schools. Thirty years ago, there was one. "Their children are going to Welsh language schools, so the parents go to evening classes to learn Welsh," says Ian Cox, who himself is taking classes in Cardiff. "I lived here all my life and decided

it's about time... to learn the language," Cox says. "Everywhere we go abroad people say, 'Do you speak Welsh?' and it is embarrassing that we don't."

The commitment of so many to the language is impressive. Of course, these are learners. To become fluent, to turn themselves into something approaching natural speakers, they'd need to take things further. That's what Jamie Bevan did. His first language is English, although he studied some Welsh at school. When he was in his late 20s, he and his family decided to start talking to each other in Welsh. I ask him if anything got lost when they switched to a language that wasn't their mother tongue – and wasn't the one they forged their family ties in. "Definitely not," Bevan says. "All of us as a family have gained so much. It's something we regret not having done earlier."

Bevan has expressed that zeal in other ways. He is a language activist and chairman of the Welsh Language Society. He has served jail time for acts of civil disobedience, like refusing to respond to court summons written in English. Protest has been at the heart of Welsh language activism for decades. It's helped Welsh achieve its official status, alongside English. What Bevan has done with his family is clearly exceptional. It's the private, personal nature of it – the part that is missing in most Welsh learners' experience of the language. Children are learning Welsh in schools, but what about at home? How can we make a leap to growing up in Welsh, playing games in Welsh, falling in love in Welsh?

It is something that Welsh Language Commissioner Meri Huws thinks about a lot. "We now have young people who are first generation Welsh within their families," says Huws. "Within the home environment they have no one else to communicate with in that language." Many of these new first generation Welsh speakers are in their teens now. Huws says the challenge is to ensure that they have the opportunity to communicate in Welsh outside the structured environment of school.

It doesn't take much, linguists say, for a minority language community to flip to the majority language. Once a community drops below 70 percent minority language speakers, it's in trouble. The part of Wales that Lynch comes from is down to 69 percent Welsh speakers. The latest national census also reflects that. It finds fewer Welsh speakers overall. Some policymakers are now calling for protective measures – even so far as restricting new housing projects if they dilute the concentration of Welsh speakers!

Whatever happens, Welsh has become a test case for language survival – and possibly, revival.

Watch the interview and compare the text and the interview. For questions 1-10, choose

- A – the idea is expressed in both the text and the interview**
- B – the idea is expressed in the text only**
- C – the idea is expressed in the interview only**
- D – the idea is not expressed in either source**

1. The advent of the English language threatens the existence of Welsh. _____
2. Experts describe a language as dead if fewer than fifty thousand people speak it. _____

3. Language activists helped Welsh to get a more important status in the country than before. _____
4. Several decades ago children didn't learn Welsh at school.
5. Welsh has now become the language of the classroom in many schools. _____
6. It's good to grow up to be bilingual. _____
7. Some Welsh people feel ashamed they don't speak their mother tongue. _____
8. You can lose fluency even in your mother tongue if you get no practice. _____
9. The Welsh language is poetic, melodious and sensual. _____
10. Welsh is much more widespread than the other languages of its group. _____

You have 3 minute to complete the task.

PART 2

You will see the interview again. For questions 11-15, complete the sentences (use between 1-3 words).

Welsh emerged in approximately 11. _____ alongside several other British languages.

This means that Welsh is one the oldest languages of 12. _____.

Unlike many modern languages, Welsh is hardly related to 13. _____.

This is one the reasons why Welsh is not easy 14. _____.

However, the Welsh people feel extremely 15. _____ about the future of their mother tongue.

PART 3

For questions 16-25, choose the best answer (A, B or C) according to what you have learnt from the text and the interview, and what you know on the subject.

16. Wales 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 in the English Channel

17. The official language(s) of Wales is(are)...

- A English
- B Welsh
- C English and Welsh

18. In academic terms, Welsh, Breton, Cornish and Gaelic languages form a branch of...

- A Germanic languages
- B Romance languages
- C Celtic languages

19. Over the last century the Welsh language...

- A has been in real danger of becoming extinct
- B has undergone great changes
- C has become a thriving language

20. The revival of Welsh is largely attributed to the fact that...

- A children now have to learn Welsh at school
- B there is less influence from English media today
- C young people over the age of sixteen have to use Welsh as their second language

21. Welsh is currently used by...

- A all the Welsh people
- B one fifth of the population of Wales
- C teachers and linguists who want to promote the language

22. Welsh is famous for the longest place name in Britain, Llanfairpwllgwyngyll-gogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogoch, which is...

- A the name of a town
- B the name of a pub
- C the name of a river

23. As far as pronunciation is concerned, Welsh is easier to learn for...

- A people who speak English
- B Spanish speakers
- C for people who know another British language

24. What students find extremely difficult to pick up is...

- A Welsh vocabulary
- B complicated grammar structures
- C initial consonant mutations

25. A lot of Welsh words were borrowed into other languages and are used worldwide, including *bard*, meaning 'poet, singer,' and *penguin*, meaning...

- A 'white head'
- B 'Antarctic bird'
- C 'flightless'

USE OF ENGLISH PART 1

Write the underlined abbreviations out in full in the space provided.

26. Work was under way to prepare and agree with EC proposals under the plan of joint Russia-EC actions aimed at realizing obligations in the field of intellectual property under the Russia-EC Partnership and Cooperation Agreement. – _____

27. The first steam locomotive, introduced in 1825, could muster a top speed of only thirteen mph, and the great sailing ships of the time labored along at less than half that speed. – _____

28. For instance, if you use a hosting service, you might want to link the www address. – _____

29. I had never played football in my life other than the brutal touch football games I'd been drafted into during PE class, and I knew nothing, absolutely nothing, about tackle theory. I didn't know how to hit or where, but I knew what to do now. – _____

30. By 20,000 BC Cro-Magnons had moved fully into Europe and Asia, decimating the vast herds of large game to such an extent that other foods had to be found. – _____

31. Stories of fantastical celestial apparitions have been told since antiquity, but the term UFO was officially created in 1953 by the United States Air Force. – _____

32. Create your CV online. – _____

PART 2

Read the text. Some lines are correct and some are wrong because they have a word which should not be there. If a line is correct, put a tick (V) in the space provided. If a line has a word which should not be there, write it in the space provided.

When I look up at the world I find myself dividing people into two main		33.
groups according to the way they think about work. One group		34.

look upon the work as a hateful necessity, whose only use is		35.
to make money for them, so that they can be escape from work		36.
and do something else. They feel that only when the day's labour		37.
is over can they really begin to live and be like themselves. The		38.
other group look on their work as an opportunity for enjoyment and		39.
self-fulfilment. They only want to make money so that when they may		40.
be free to devote on themselves more <i>single-mindedly</i> to their work.		41.
Their work both and their life are one thing; if they were cut off from		42.
their work, they would feel as that they were cut off from life.		43.

PART 3

Put the beginnings (44-48) and the ends (a-m) of these five short conversations together. There are extra replies in the second column which you do not need to use. Write the correct number from the first column and the correct letter from the second column, for example, 44 – e.

<p><u>Conversation 1.</u> 44. - What really drives me mad is the man's arrogance! He's is one of those people who'll just never accept they've done anything wrong.</p> <p><u>Conversation 2.</u> 45. - A really amazing thing is that his new girlfriend has a kid already from her previous marriage, so it must be tough for him!</p> <p><u>Conversation 3.</u> 46. - The boss was very direct and severely criticized the staff.</p> <p><u>Conversation 4.</u> 47. - The girl opposite keeps herself to herself, really. But the guy next door is great! He seems to be really nice and chatty.</p> <p><u>Conversation 5.</u></p>	<p>a. - Put your foot down with him or he's going to completely go off the rails!</p> <p>b. - He is just playing devil's advocate, if you ask me.</p> <p>c. - He is definitely dragging the rest of the team down with him!</p> <p>d. - I see what you mean! He doesn't mince his words at all.</p> <p>e. - Well, I'm sure he'll take it all in his stride!</p> <p>f. - Seriously? He can be very hard work, you know.</p> <p>g. - Oh, he's getting on a bit now.</p> <p>h. - I guess you hit it off straightaway.</p>
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<p>48. - What's up? - It's Connor again. He's got another detention. Miss Jones said he's constantly answering back...</p>	<p>i. - He'd better not beat around the bush. j. - Oh, yes! He is so full of himself. k. - He doesn't even register when people are taking the mickey! l. - He never lifts a finger in the house. m. - He was at a bit of a loose end when I called last night.</p>
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PART 4

For questions 49-58, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each space. Use ONE word in each space.

Just after I left university, I met 49. _____ old friend who offered me the opportunity to join his company, Phono, selling a new type 50. _____ mobile phone. I organized an advertising campaign and set 51. _____ a mailing list with the names and addresses of people 52. _____ might be interested in it. The main selling point of the phone was that it included an answering machine and was the only one of its kind 53. _____ the market at the time. At first the demand was 54. _____ great that there was a waiting list of people wanting to buy one. Unfortunately, a year later Sonex brought out its new video phone, and this was the turning point for Phono. Demand 55. _____ our phone plummeted. We did a lot of cost-cutting to try to save money, but it wasn't long 56. _____ we knew we were fighting a losing battle and decided to close the company. I've been out of work for a few months now, but this has given me the breathing space to decide what I want to do next. When I worked 57. _____ Phono, I helped produce a video-recording to advertise the product. I enjoyed this a lot, and that's why I'd now like to get 58. _____ film-making.