FOUNDATION YEAR
LISTENING TEST

TITLE: Population Pressures

LEVEL: Final Exam

WHAT: Practice Listening Exam including:
Worksheet
Answer Key
CD

WHY: To give practice in multiple choice test format similar to the Foundation Studies Listening Exam

SKILLS: Listening and note-taking; answering examination questions

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE IN THE PAGES OF THIS PACKAGE

IF ANYTHING IS MISSING OR DAMAGED,
PLEASE TELL THE TEACHER
INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS:

The topic of the lecture you are going to hear is **Population Pressures**.

- Listen to the lecture **twice**.
- **Do not look at the questions** while you are listening to the lecture.
- On separate sheets of paper, take notes on both occasions using note-taking techniques.
- Using the notes you have taken, select the most appropriate answer to the following questions.
- You will have **20 minutes to answer the questions**.
- Check your answers in the Answer Sheet.

**Time approximately: 50 minutes**

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**SECTION 1: Understanding the main ideas and structure of the lecture**

1. The speaker’s purpose is:
   a) to warn people about the need to limit family size
   b) to explain the ways in which population growth is affecting the world
   c) to suggest ways in which population issues need to be dealt with to protect the environment
   d) to analyse the ways in which human impact on the environment is measured by experts.

2. The speaker appears to assume that the audience consists of:
   a) population experts
   b) young school children
   c) a general but educated public
   d) students specialising in environmental science.

3. The structure of the talk is best represented by which of the following sequences of sub-titles:
   a) Human Impact; Countries at Risk; The Ehrlich Formula; The United Nation’s Role
   b) Population Density; Population Carrying Capacity; Urban Populations; Age Structure
   c) The Meaning of Population Pressure; Too Much Prosperity is Harmful; The Urban Explosion; Where Human Activity Hurts Most.
   d) Measuring Human Impact; Areas Most Affected; Population Groups Involved; Quality of Life.

4. What is the speaker’s attitude to the subject of population growth?
   a) She is very pessimistic and thinks that the world is facing disaster
   b) She is rather pessimistic but feels something can still be done to prevent major destruction
   c) She is uncertain about whether the world will be a better or worse place in future.
   d) She is optimistic that the problems of population growth can be solved to improve the quality of life.

5. Which of the following is NOT discussed by the speaker:
   a) the measurement of population growth
   b) the measurement of carrying capacity
   c) the measurement of human impact
   d) the measurement of quality of life
SECTION 2: Understanding the details of the lecture

6. Population pressure is said to be a matter of
   a) too many people in too little space
   b) an uncontrolled rate of population growth
   c) the population carrying capacity of an area
   d) the absolute number of people using the local resources

7. “Human impact” is said to be related to population carrying capacity, and refers to
   a) the effect of several human activities on the environment in a particular place
   b) the practices used to harvest resources.
   c) the actions of leaders to protect the environment from over-exploitation
   d) a broad concept which cannot be defined clearly as it refers to too many interacting variables.

8. The Ehrlich formula I=PAT represents
   a) a way of measuring the relationship between human population and activities, and resources
   b) the way impact on the environment can be controlled by technology
   c) a way of showing how larger populations cause more damage than smaller ones
   d) a system for multiplying the various factors affecting the environment

9. The speaker says that
   a) the poor countries cause more environmental destruction than the rich countries
   b) the rich countries cause more environmental destruction than the poor countries
   c) both the very richest and the very poorest cause the greatest destruction
   d) large populations cause more destruction than small populations

10. When the speaker refers to the countries of the “South”, she means
    a) those south of the equator
    b) those in the southern part of each continent
    c) all of Asia, Africa and Latin America
    d) the countries otherwise known as ‘developing’ and ‘least developing’ countries.

11. The major effect of population pressure in developing countries is said to be
    a) the loss of the renewable resources of soil, water and forests
    b) the destruction of ecologically fragile areas
    c) that fact that 65% of cropland will be lost by 2100 in Asia, Africa and Latin America
    d) the Green Revolution

12. Which of the following is NOT given as an example of environmental destruction in developing countries?
    a) loss of cropland
    b) oil spills
    c) desertification
    d) loss of forests
13. The speaker suggests that the lost resources
   a) cannot be replaced
   b) can be replaced
   c) could be replaced if new technology is developed
   d) would be replaceable if the population does not keep growing

14. The reasons given for the increase in urbanisation are
   a) the availability of better jobs in cities
   b) government policy
   c) loss of resources on the land
   d) the need to consolidate land use

15. The effect of increased urbanisation is said to be:
   a) more loss of land and resources
   b) less loss of land and resources
   c) an improvement for all except the slum dwellers
   d) a potential solution to the problems of infrastructure

16. Which of the following statistics are reported:
   a) developed countries have 25% of the world’s population and produce 50% of the world’s greenhouse gases
   b) 50% of the world population lives in developed countries and produce 25% of the greenhouse gases in the world
   c) the US alone produces 25% of the world’s greenhouse gases
   d) people in developing countries produce 25% more greenhouse gases than those in the North

17. Water is discussed in order to show
   a) that it is more important than the loss of forests
   b) that shortage, salinity and pollution will lead to conflicts
   c) that Africans will be the most affected by water shortages
   d) industrialised countries use more than developing countries

18. Quality of life is defined as
   a) social carrying capacity
   b) dependent on high income
   c) the ability to have choices, including health, education and a good environment
   d) consisting of a number of factors, including high birth rate.

19. The speaker concludes that
   a) the population growth rate is the most serious problem in the world
   b) increasing investment in human resources will reduce population and improve quality of life
   c) the UN has had years of experience and should conduct more programmes in health and education
   d) women should be given more status and access to family planning education than men to reduce population growth rates.
SECTION 1: Understanding the main ideas and structure of the lecture

1. The speaker’s purpose is
   b) **to explain the ways in which population growth is affecting the world**

2. The speaker appears to assume that the audience consists of
   c) **a general but educated public**

3. The structure of the talk is best represented by which of the following sequences of sub-titles:
   d) **Measuring Human Impact; Areas Most Affected; Population Groups Involved; Quality of Life.**

4. What is the speaker’s attitude to the subject of population growth?
   **b) She is rather pessimistic but feels something can still be done to prevent major destruction**

5. Which of the following is NOT discussed by the speaker:
   d) **the measurement of quality of life**

SECTION 2: Understanding the details of the lecture

6. Population pressure is said to be a matter of
   c) **the population carrying capacity of an area**

7. “Human impact” is said to be related to population carrying capacity, and refers to
   a) **the effect of several human activities on the environment in a particular place**

8. The Ehrlich formula I= PAT represents
   a) **a way of measuring the relationship between human population and activities, and resources**

9. The speaker says that
   d) **large populations cause more destruction than small populations**

10. When the speaker refers to the countries of the “South”, she means
    d) **the countries otherwise known as ‘developing’ and ‘least developing’ countries.**

11. The major effect of population pressure in developing countries is said to be
    a) **the loss of the renewable resources of soil, water and forests**

12. Which of the following is NOT given as an example of environmental destruction in developing countries?
    b) **oil spills**

13. The speaker suggests that the lost resources
    a) **cannot be replaced**

14. The reasons given for the increase in urbanisation are
    c) **loss of resources on the land**

15. The effect of increased urbanisation is said to be:
    a) **more loss of land and resources**

16. Which of the following statistics are reported:
    a) **developed countries have 25% of the world’s population and produce 50% of the world’s greenhouse gases**

17. Water is discussed in order to show
    b) **that shortage, salinity and pollution will lead to conflicts**

18. Quality of life is defined as
    c) **the ability to have choices, including health, education and a good environment**

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    b) **increasing investment in human resources will reduce population and improve quality of life**