

B1 Preliminary Part 4

1 Match the first sentences (1–4) with the following sentences (a–d). Then say what the words in bold refer to.

- 1 Tablets are a convenient way to read books.
 - 2 You listen to audiobooks, you don't read them.
 - 3 The inventor Thomas Edison had the idea for audiobooks.
 - 4 Some writers are creating stories for particular actors to read.
- a Because of **this**, people who find reading difficult can enjoy more books.
 - b **They** write thinking about that person's voice.
 - c You can take **them** anywhere.
 - d **He** wanted something that would speak words to people.

2 Write the type of text for the definitions using the words in the box. There are three extra words you do not need to use.

blog • cookbook • graphic novel • newspaper • non-fiction • novel • play • poetry • textbook

- 1 a book that contains lists of ingredients and instructions for making food
- 2 a text to be performed by actors in a theatre or on the radio
- 3 a book that uses drawings to tell the story
- 4 a book that has information about a subject, often used in schools or universities
- 5 a text that is about real people and events, not imaginary ones
- 6 a long story about characters and events that aren't real
- 7 text that uses beautiful language arranged in lines of different lengths

☒ Exam tip

When you finish, read the text with your answers in place. Do reference words and phrases (e.g. *it*, *them*, *these*, *they*, *this idea*, etc) make sense?

3 For each question, choose the correct answer.

- A Suddenly, it was easy for everyone to download audiobooks.
- B Because people are buying more audiobooks, publishers are working on ways to improve them.
- C Audiobooks are a very flexible way to read books because you can listen anywhere.
- D Over the next few years, it is believed this amount will go up far more.
- E This means audiobooks are more interesting to listen to than ever before.
- F For some people, they are a welcome alternative to screens.
- G Surprisingly, they have even managed to turn graphic novels into audiobooks.
- H This age group rarely buys books but seems to love the option of listening.

Listening to books

Audiobooks which you can listen to on your smartphone, tablet or online are becoming increasingly popular. Two years ago, people around the world spent around \$2.67 billion on them, and last year it was an estimated \$3.5 billion.

(1) But what is behind this growth in popularity?



Audiobooks first appeared in 1932 and were originally created for blind people. To listen to an early audiobook, you had to listen to lots of 15-minute recordings, each on a separate record, on a large record player. Tapes and then CDs made longer recordings possible. However, the arrival of smartphones really changed things. (2) Today, there are over 400,000 books available, including a wide range of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, plays and even textbooks.

Audiobooks can be used in different ways. (3) They listen while they're relaxing at home instead of watching TV. Other people listen while they're exercising, travelling to school or work, or while they're doing something else. Some people try audiobooks because listening to a narrator read can make a text easier to understand. They're great for people with conditions that make reading hard, such as dyslexia. Interestingly, they're also popular with 18- to 24-year-olds. (4) Teenagers who've grown up with podcasts and other audio content also find the range of young adult audiobooks appealing.

(5) Some now have amazing special effects and well-known people reading them, and there is often more than one narrator. Some authors are now writing audio-only content, designed to be listened to rather than read. Many audiobooks are also far cheaper than books. And you can usually download audiobooks for free from libraries with your library card. Some online services allow you to download many audiobooks for free, too.

B1 Preliminary Part 1

1 Choose the correct alternative.

When looking at a short text, after you choose your answer you **(a) *should/shouldn't*** read the text and your choice again. You **(b) *should/shouldn't*** check your answer. You **(c) *should/shouldn't*** just move on to the next question.

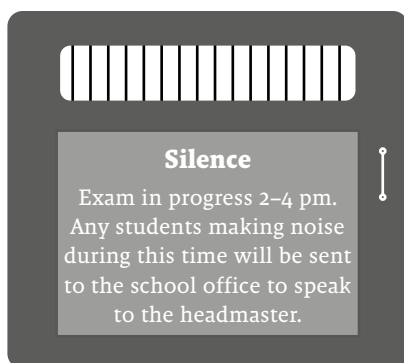
2 Complete the book genres.

- 1 an exciting story, often about something dangerous
t.....
- 2 a story in which events happen that are not explained until the end
m.....
- 3 a story about an imaginary future or about space travel
s..... f.....
- 4 the story of your life that you write yourself
a.....
- 5 a story that is intended to frighten people
h.....
- 6 a traditional children's story where magical things happen
f..... t.....

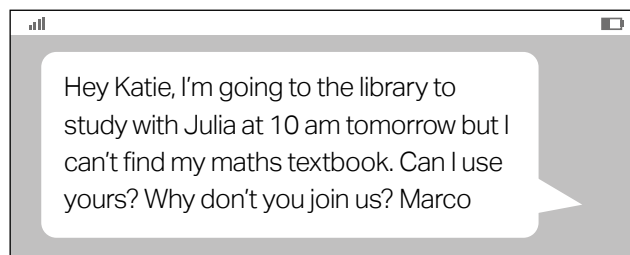
✓ Exam tip

After choosing an option A–C, read the text again and the option you chose to check your answer.

3 For each question, choose the correct answer.



- 1 What is the purpose of this sign?
 - A To tell students they mustn't talk when they are doing the exam.
 - B To ask students to be quiet outside the exam room.
 - C To inform students that they must be quiet in the school office.



2 Marco has written this message to ...

- A invite Julia to go to the library.
- B tell Katie he can't study with her tomorrow.
- C ask if he can borrow something from Katie.

Think before you throw something away! Can you reuse or recycle it? We all need to take care of our planet and reduce the amount of rubbish we produce.



3 What is this sign telling people to do?

- A To always put rubbish in the rubbish bins.
- B To choose the correct recycling bin when they throw things away.
- C To think of the environment and throw fewer things away.

Writing Club

Want to write a mystery, thriller or science fiction? Or start writing your autobiography? Whatever it is, Writing Club can help! Work with a group of professional writers to develop your creativity. No experience necessary.

4 What is the main idea of this notice?

- A The club is suitable for inexperienced writers.
- B The club is for writers who only want to write one kind of genre.
- C The club is looking for professional writers to join the group.

Reward!

A small grey cat with a silver collar is missing. Pandora is friendly, especially if you have food. She is curious so she may be inside your garage. If you have any information, call Simon on 07422 88554.

5 Simon ...

- A wants to get a cat and is asking anyone has one available.
- B has found a grey cat and is looking for the owner.
- C has lost his cat and wants help finding her.