The Big Challenge 2026

Level 5

Answer key / Correction

1 **Look, and listen to the woman's question. What can the man answer?**



♪ AUDIO

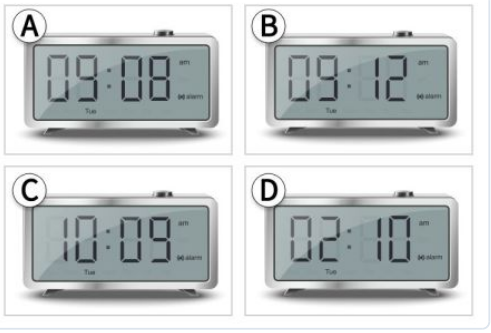
By train, of course.

No, I'm not going yet.

Pretty well, actually. ✓

He's fine, thanks.

2 **What time is it? Listen and choose the right clock.**



♪ AUDIO

A ✓

B

C

D

3 **Look, and listen to the man. He's talking about a woman in one of these pictures. Which picture?**



♪ AUDIO

A ✓

B

C

D

4 **Look, and listen. Which man is the woman talking about?**



♪ AUDIO

A

B

C

D ✓

5 **Listen. When was Rosa Parks born (day/month/year)?**



♪ AUDIO

- **4/2/1913** ✓
- 2/4/1913
- 4/2/1930
- 4/2/1933

6 **Look and listen. Which object is being described?**



♪ AUDIO

- A shoe.
- A pen.
- **A banana.** ✓
- A notebook.

7 **Listen to the conversation in the school playground. What can the boy say now?**



♪ AUDIO

- I hope so.
- I expect.
- That's nice.
- **I hope not.** ✓

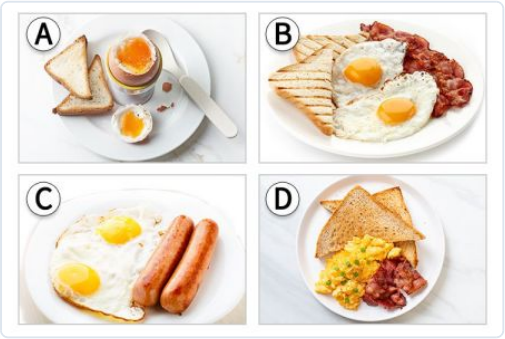
8 **Listen to the phone conversation. What can the woman say now?**



♪ AUDIO

- Hang up, please.
- Wait for it.
- **Hold on, please.** ✓
- Don't move.

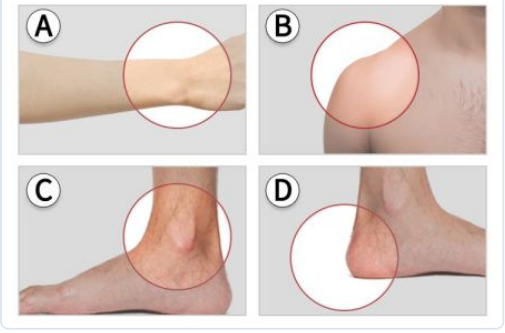
9 **Look, and listen. What's the woman going to have for breakfast? Find the right picture.**



♪ AUDIO

- A
- **B** ✓
- C
- D

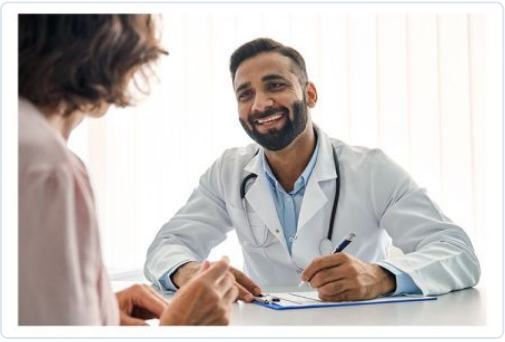
10 **Look, listen and answer the question.**



♪ AUDIO

- **A** ✓
- B
- C
- D

11 **Listen. What's the woman's name?**



♪ AUDIO

- Marjorie
- Margary
- **Margery** ✓
- Marjery

12 **Listen to the conversation between American tourists in a London shop. How much does the teapot cost?**



♪ AUDIO

- £10.15.
- **£10.50.** ✓
- Less than $12.
- More than twelve pounds.

13 **Listen. What action is being described?**



♪ AUDIO

- **Scrolling** ✓
- Deleting
- Scanning
- Sharing

14 **Look and listen. Someone is talking about one of the women. Find the right picture.**



♪ AUDIO

- A
- B
- **C** ✓
- D

15 **Look and listen. You will hear the title of one of the pictures. Which one is it?**



♪ AUDIO

- A
- B
- **C** ✓
- D

16 **Listen to the conversation. The man is at work. Where is the conversation taking place?**



♪ AUDIO

- In a cinema.
- In a taxi.
- **At a railway station.** ✓
- At a fast-food restaurant.

17 **Listen to this football coach, Mrs Harrison, and one of the players. Finish the football coach's sentence for her.**



♪ AUDIO

- … he won't get away with it
- … he won't get along with us
- **… he won't let us down** ✓
- … he won't throw it away

18 **Look, and listen to the woman. Which object is she talking about?**



♪ AUDIO

A ✓

B

C

D

19 **Look, and listen to the woman. Which picture is she in?**



♪ AUDIO

A

B ✓

C

D

20 **Look at the picture and listen to the four sentences. Which sentence could the people NOT be thinking?**



♪ AUDIO

A

B

C ✓

D

21 **Listen to Carla. She's talking to Sam. What can you say about the situation?**



♪ AUDIO

- **Carla is sure that her sister doesn't want to go out with Sam.** ✓
- Carla thinks that it's a good idea for Sam to ask her sister to go out with him.
- Sam is going to get a nice surprise when he asks Carla's sister to go out with him.
- Carla knows that another boy is already going out with her sister.

22 ♪ AUDIO

Listen to the phone conversation. What can the man say now?

- **Oh, what a pity!** ✓
- Aren't you lucky!
- Congratulations!
- I'm glad to hear it.

23 ♪ AUDIO

Listen to the conversation. What are they talking about?

- A carpet.
- **A hat.** ✓
- A cake.
- A pot of paint.

24 **?**

♪ AUDIO

Listen to this business meeting that is taking place by phone. One attendee is missing. What is the reason for his absence?

- Martin is too busy to attend.
- **Martin isn’t at work because he’s unwell.** ✓
- Martin is having problems travelling into work.
- Martin has asked his assistant to go instead.

25

♪ AUDIO

Listen to this conversation between a woman and a delivery man. They are speaking over an intercom. Which sentence is true?

- The delivery man rang the wrong door by mistake.
- The man can’t deliver the package to the correct address because Mr Foster is out and it’s too big
- The delivery man wants the woman to let him in the building so he can park in the car park.
- **The woman might have signed for the package if the delivery man had come upstairs.** ✓

26

♪ AUDIO

A guide is taking a group of visitors around an art gallery. Listen to her conversation with one of the members of the tour group. Which sentence is true?

- **The man maintains that an artwork’s value is fundamentally linked to its recognisability.** ✓
- The tour guide doesn’t think that the sale price of a painting is an indication of its quality.
- The man’s son is a celebrated young artist.
- “Apples and a Vase” is a painting by an artist who painted in the same style throughout his career.

27

♪ AUDIO

Listen to the conversation between Mark and Nadia. What did Mark probably do a few minutes ago?

- He trod on Nadia's dress during a dance competition.
- He missed an easy goal and his team lost the football match.
- **He said the wrong thing when he met Nadia's parents for the first time.** ✓
- He cooked a meal that everyone appreciated.

28

♪ AUDIO

Listen. Jane runs a café. She’s telling her husband Peter about some difficult customers today. Which sentence is NOT true?

- If the customers had been on time, they wouldn’t have been given a small table.
- Jane is more annoyed by the negative feedback than by anything else the clients did.
- In spite of making changes to the food, it still didn’t satisfy the clients.
- **The customers were unhappy because the cakes were made by someone else.** ✓

29 ♪ AUDIO

Listen, and find the word that rhymes with the word you hear.

- **rinse** ✓
- fits
- twins
- pence

30 ♪ AUDIO

Listen, and find the right answer to the question.

- altered
- avoid
- **athlete** ✓
- April

31 ♪ AUDIO

Listen. Which of these phrases can you hear?

- apartment that
- **had to get into** ✓
- in their meals
- a bit of

32 ♪ AUDIO

Listen, and identify the country.

- Australia
- **New Zealand** ✓
- India
- Ireland

33 ♪ AUDIO

Listen, and find the answer to the question.

- At London Zoo.
- **On the London Underground.** ✓
- On a ferry from France to England.
- On English beaches.

34 Those doughnuts are delicious but I wish they … so much sugar in them.



- don't put
- haven't got
- **didn't have** ✓
- wouldn't have

35 As soon as the milk … , pour it over the chocolate.



- will be hot
- will boil
- **boils** ✓
- boiling

36 A team of scientists … the building since early this morning. They'll have finished very soon.



- **has been decontaminating** ✓
- has decontaminated
- was decontaminating
- decontaminated

37 I like children but I don't know … as a parent.



- will I be like
- **what I'll be like** ✓
- how will I be
- who could I be

38 The accident was his own fault. He ... there was no one behind him before he reversed.



- should make sure
- looked to see if
- can't have realised
- **ought to have checked** ✓

39 By the time I ... 50, I think we ... a cure for cancer.



- will be ... have found
- will have been ... would find
- reach ... will find
- **am ... will have found** ✓

40 We know that Colin ... .

New message

From: George Snagg To: Colin Hemsworth

Dear Colin,

Ever since you left us ten years ago to join Carston Rovers, I've been following your career with great interest and, when you were picked to play for England last month, I was over the moon. I've been going around telling everyone I was your very first coach!

But you've probably guessed I'm not writing just to congratulate you, but to ask for a favour. I'm sure you get emails every day asking you to do all sorts of things: attend events, open supermarkets or just give money. I expect most of them end up in the trash, but I hope that won't happen to this one, because I know how much you enjoyed your schooldays here.

The thing is, it's our annual Sports Day on 15th June and usually the Mayor or the local MP comes and opens it. But, this year, we thought of you. You wouldn't have to stay long or make a long speech – just say a few words. What do you think? I know you don't have a match that day and we would all love to see you.

Hoping for a yes. All the best,
George Snagg
Head of Sport, Ludford High School

- used to teach at Ludford High School
- was George's coach in the past
- **plays sport at a high level** ✓
- is going to answer this email

41 We know that George ... .

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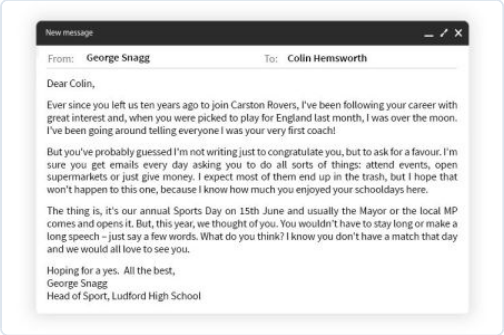
- **likes people to know that he coached Colin** ✓
- is simply writing to congratulate Colin
- doesn't know much about Colin's career
- wants Colin to run in a race on Sports Day

42 If Colin agrees to do what George is asking, he will ... .



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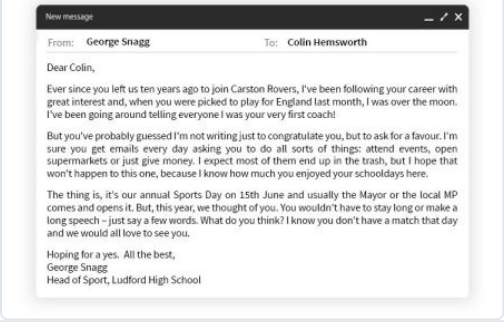
- **only have to spend a short time at the school** ✓
- need to give a lecture
- have to cancel an important match
- certainly meet the Mayor or the local MP

43 George doesn't think that Colin ... .



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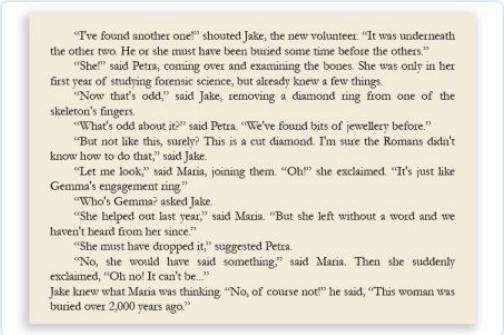
- is often asked to do favours and donate money
- has to deal with a great many emails every day
- remembers his old school with fondness
- **takes much notice of many of the emails he receives** ✓

44 What would be a suitable title for this book?



"I've found another one!" shouted Jake, the new volunteer. "It was underneath the other two. He or she must have been buried some time before the others."

"She!" said Petra, coming over and examining the bones. She was only in her first year of studying forensic science, but already knew a few things.

"Now that's odd," said Jake, removing a diamond ring from one of the skeleton's fingers.

"What's odd about it?" said Petra. "We've found bits of jewellery before."

"But not like this, surely? This is a cut diamond. I'm sure the Romans didn't know how to do that," said Jake.

"Let me look," said Maria, joining them. "Oh!" she exclaimed. "It's just like Gemma's engagement ring."

"Who's Gemma? asked Jake.

"She helped out last year," said Maria. "But she left without a word and we haven't heard from her since."

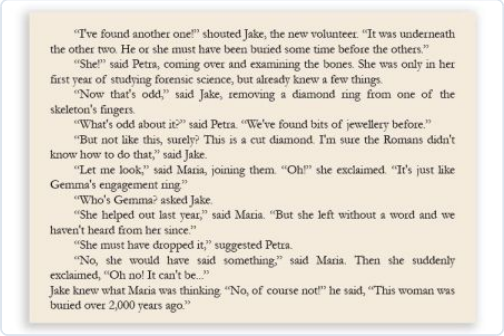
"She must have dropped it," suggested Petra.

"No, she would have said something," said Maria. Then she suddenly exclaimed, "Oh no! It can't be..."

Jake knew what Maria was thinking. "No, of course not!" he said, "This woman was buried over 2,000 years ago."

- **'Death Beneath the Stones'** ✓
- 'The Mysteries of Japan'
- 'Gardening For Beginners'
- 'Hollywood Scandals'

45 What do we know about Jake, Petra and Maria?



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- Jake is getting paid for working on the site.
- They are all excavating some Medieval ruins.
- **At least one of the three is a student.** ✓
- Maria is a new volunteer this year.

46 The skeleton talked about in the passage ... .

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- is the first one to be found on this site
- **was wearing a ring on one of its fingers** ✓
- was lying on top of two other skeletons
- wasn't discovered by a volunteer at the site

47 The passage tells us that ... .

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- Petra has never met Gemma
- the Romans didn't value diamonds highly
- Maria was surprised when Gemma said goodbye
- **Gemma never told anyone she'd lost a ring** ✓

48 Jake doesn't think the skeleton is Gemma's because ... .

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- there's a modern ring on one of the skeleton's fingers
- someone else might have put her ring on the skeleton
- **Gemma couldn't have been buried so long ago** ✓
- the other skeletons might have been buried afterwards

49 Since 2021, Juneteenth – or Freedom Day – has been a federal holiday in the USA. What occasion does it commemorate?



- The end of British rule.
- The end of the civil war.
- The end of World War II.
- **The end of slavery.** ✓

50 The … – the annual championship match of one of the USA's most popular national sports – was watched by 125 million viewers in 2026.



- World Series
- Masters
- **Super Bowl** ✓
- US Open

51 The Secretary of State is the American equivalent of the British … .



- Prime Minister
- Home Secretary
- **Foreign Secretary** ✓
- Cabinet Secretary

52 "He's still unconscious," said the nurse. "I expect he'll … in about half an hour."



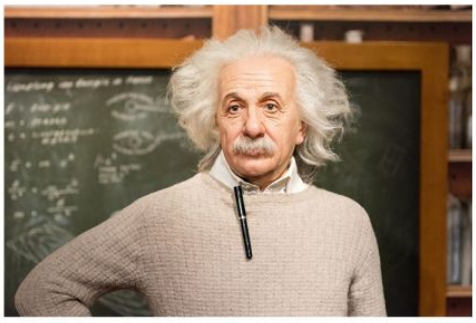
- set up
- **come to** ✓
- drop in
- pass out

53 “Plain” can mean “obvious”. When we say, "It's as plain as ... ,” we mean, “It's very obvious.”



- the fingers on your hand
- **the nose on your face** ✓
- the hair on your head
- the toes on your feet

54 Albert Einstein was one of the fore... scientists of his time.



- **most** ✓
- saken
- front
- head

55 The owners of this house don't know the value of their paintings because they've never ... by an expert.



- **had them looked at** ✓
- made them valued
- been examining them
- been seen