**Advanced Speaking and Listening MidTerm Test September 2020**

**Answers** Possible answers follow. Some variations of these answers were also accepted**.**

**Q1** Warm up question: Name these characters A w z W h r c Ψ Υ ψ L q P R H φ X

*alpha omega zeta omega eta rho chi psi upsilon psi lambda theta pi rho eta phi xi*

**Q2** Knowledge of culture and language cannot be completely separated. Explain this statement with a simple example.

*Native speakers often use references from their culture in everyday speech.  
A reference to a ‘hare’ is probably related to the children’s story about the hare and the tortoise.  
or  
People may be described using known characteristics of animals, e.g. oxen are considered ‘strong’.*

**Q3** You hear your English speaking friend talk about a child – “That boy is a real monkey!”. What do you think he really means?

*Monkeys in childrens’ stories are mischievous, so he or she is saying the boy is naughty or mischievous.*

**Q4** You are listening to a discussion between several engineers and you hear several new words that you have never heard before. Your phone is broken, so how should you try to understand the new words that you just heard?

*Split the new words into root words that you already know. Then you may be able to infer from context what the new word means.*

*Interesting suggestion from one student: Ask them to spell the words .. to work out what the roots are.*

**Q5** Prefixes commonly modify the meaning of technical words. For each prefix in the list below, what does it mean? Give an example of its use. For example

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *(a) hyper-* | *above (or strong)* | *hyperbole = exaggerated speech (ballein = throw)* |
| *(b) hypo-* | *below* | *hypothesis = something which starts a discussion (something with ‘underpins’ the discussion)  (thesis = place)* |
| *(c) mis-* | *bad or wrong* | *mistake* |
| *(d) a-* | not | *aspheric = not round* |
| *(e) dia-* | *through* | *diameter = meter (measure or line) through the centre* |
| *(f) homo-* | same | *homophone = word which has the same sound as another - phonos = sound* |

**Q5** Eicosanoic acid is a long chain saturated fatty acid. How many C’s are in its formula?

20 .. from the Gk, eicos = 20

**Q6 Understanding new words.** For each of the following words, (i) explain its meaning (simply!) and (ii) explain how it was derived (*i.e.* its etymology). Approximate transliterations of Greek words are acceptable, *e.g.* for Greek grafos, you can write

grafos *or* graf *or* grapho *or* graph- = write

Any one is OK. Similarly, any variant of a Latin word, *e.g.* decem *or* decus *or* dec- = 10, is OK.

(a) epiphyte A plant which grows on another plant  
 epi = on + phyte = plant

(b) deciduous Describes a tree which drops its leaves  
 decidere (Lat) = fall down

(c) antibiotic A chemical which acts against bacteria  
 anti = against + bio = life

(d) bathysphere A vehicle (usually round) which can descend deep in the ocean  
 bathy (Gk) = deep + sphaira (Gk) = sphere

(e) triceratops a dinosaur with three forward facing horns, *i.e.* on its face  
 tri = three + keras (Gk) = horn + ops (Gk) = face

(f) dipterocarpus\*\* A large tree which sheds seeds which have two wings  
di = two + pteros (Gk) = wing + karpos (Gk) fruit

\*\* *Dipterocarpus alatus* is ยางนา in Thailand