

GRADE TEN, LISTENING SCRIPT (Practice Exam - End of Semester 1 - Exam 1)

FIRST SESSION

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LISTENING 1

(a conversation between a reporter, Salwa, and a student, Ahmed, about his school media club)

- Woman:** Good morning, Ahmed. Thank you for talking to our programme today.
- Man:** Good morning, Salwa. It's a pleasure to be here.
- Woman:** Tell us about your school media club. What are you making at the moment?
- Man:** We're making a weekly podcast. We record a new episode every week.
- Woman:** A weekly podcast! That's impressive. What was your first episode about?
- Man:** It was about plastic in the sea. We interviewed a marine scientist from Muscat.
- Woman:** Interesting choice. Why did you pick that subject?
- Man:** Because our beaches are full of plastic bottles, and students see the problem every day.
- Woman:** How many students listened to the episode?
- Man:** More than four hundred! We were really surprised by the number.
- Woman:** Where do you record your episodes?
- Man:** In a small studio next to the school library. Our headteacher gave us the room last year.
- Woman:** Do teachers help you with the recording?
- Man:** A little. Ms Helen checks our scripts, but we do the recording and editing ourselves.
- Woman:** And what's the next episode going to be about?
- Man:** It's about solar energy in Oman. We're going to visit a solar park in Ad Dhahirah.
- Woman:** That sounds exciting. When will you publish it?
- Man:** Next Thursday, if everything goes well. We're recording the interviews on Sunday.
- Woman:** Ahmed, many young people spend hours on social media. Is your podcast different?
- Man:** Yes, because we create media instead of just watching it. You learn much more that way.
- Woman:** Wise words! Finally, what advice do you have for other schools?
- Man:** Start small. A phone and a quiet room are enough to record your first episode.
- Woman:** Thank you, Ahmed. Good luck with the podcast!
- Man:** Thank you. Please listen to us every Thursday!

(273 words) (Target Range: 250-300 words)

LISTENING 2

(a talk about solar energy in Oman)

Good morning, everyone. Today I want to talk about solar energy and why it matters so much for Oman's future.

Oman is one of the sunniest countries in the world. Most areas receive strong sunshine for more than three hundred days a year. For a long time, this sunshine gave us light and heat, but very little electricity. Almost all of our power came from burning gas and oil.

This is now changing. In 2019, Oman opened its first large solar park, Ibri Two, in the Ad Dhahirah region. It has thousands of solar panels and can produce enough electricity for tens of thousands of homes. More projects are being built in other parts of the country, including huge plans for green hydrogen.

Why is solar power so important? First, it is clean. Unlike oil and gas, solar panels do not produce harmful gases that warm our planet. Second, it saves money over time. Once a solar park is built, the sunshine itself is free. Third, using less gas at home means Oman can sell more of it abroad, which helps our economy.

There are challenges, of course. Solar panels work best during the day, so we need batteries to store energy for the night. Dust and sand can cover the panels, so they must be cleaned regularly. Engineers are working on smart solutions, including robots that clean the panels without using water.

Schools can help too. Some Omani schools now have solar panels on their roofs, and students can watch a screen that shows how much electricity the panels are making every day.

The sun has always shone on Oman. Now, at last, we are learning to turn that sunshine into power. Thank you for listening.

(287 words) (Target Range: 250-300 words)