

GRADE TWELVE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
SEMESTER ONE
ACADEMIC YEAR: 2026/2027
FIRST SESSION
(Practice Exam - Exam Two)
LISTENING SCRIPT

LISTENING 1

You are going to hear an interview about a national robotics competition. Listen, and shade in the bubble next to the correct option.

(The text is read TWICE.)

Interviewer	Good evening, everyone, and welcome to 'Young Oman'. Our guest today is Salma Al-Rashidi, a Grade 12 student who led her school team to first place in the National Robotics Competition. Salma, welcome to the programme.
Salma	Thank you for having me. I'm still very excited about our win!
Interviewer	Tell us first where the final round took place.
Salma	It was held in Sohar, at the university campus there. Forty-two school teams from every governorate reached the finals.
Interviewer	Forty-two! That's impressive. How did your team first get involved in robotics?
Salma	Well, three years ago our physics teacher started a small robotics club after school. There were only six of us at the beginning, and we knew almost nothing. We learned from online videos and from our mistakes - and we made a lot of mistakes!
Interviewer	And what was the challenge this year?
Salma	Each team had to build a robot that could collect rubbish from a model beach and sort it into recycling bins. The robot had to finish the task in less than three minutes.
Interviewer	That sounds very difficult. What made your robot special?
Salma	Most teams used expensive sensors, but our robot used a simple camera and software that we wrote ourselves. The judges told us they chose our design because it was clever but also cheap to produce, which means any school could build one.
Interviewer	I hear there was a dramatic moment in the final. What happened?
Salma	Oh, yes! Ten minutes before our turn, one of the robot's wheels broke. We repaired it with tape and a piece of plastic from a water bottle. We were terrified, but it worked perfectly.
Interviewer	Incredible! What did the team win?
Salma	We received a trophy, new laptops for the whole team, and a trip to an international

	robotics exhibition in Singapore next spring.
Interviewer	And what about your own future, Salma?
Salma	I want to study mechanical engineering at Sultan Qaboos University. After that, I hope to design robots that can help farmers in Oman.
Interviewer	Finally, what would you say to students who think robotics is too difficult for them?
Salma	I would say: don't be afraid to start small. You don't need expensive equipment - you need curiosity, patience and good teammates. And remember that every expert was once a beginner.
Interviewer	Wonderful advice. Salma Al-Rashidi, thank you for joining us, and congratulations again to you and your team.
Salma	Thank you so much.

Number of words: 395 (target: 350-400 words)

Do not write in this space

LISTENING 2

You are going to hear a talk about 'Ibn Battuta, the famous traveller'.

Part One: For each item, write a short answer (not more than FOUR WORDS).

Part Two: For each item, shade in the bubble next to the correct option.

(The text is read TWICE.)

Today, I would like to tell you about Ibn Battuta, one of the greatest travellers in history. Over nearly thirty years, he visited most of the Islamic world, as well as Africa, India and China - longer and farther than the famous Marco Polo.

Ibn Battuta was born in 1304 in Tangier, a city in Morocco. His family were judges, and as a young man he studied Islamic law. But in 1325, at the age of twenty-one, he left home to perform the Hajj pilgrimage to Mecca - and he did not return to Morocco for twenty-four years.

After completing the Hajj, instead of going home, Ibn Battuta continued travelling. He later said that he was guided by a simple rule: never to travel along any road twice, if he could find another way. He visited Egypt, Syria, East Africa, Turkey, India and the islands of the Maldives. He even served as a judge in Delhi and in the Maldives for several years. Historians believe that, in total, he travelled about 120,000 kilometres, which is three times the distance around the Earth - and remember, all of this was done on foot, on horseback, by camel and by ship.

Travel in those days was extremely dangerous. Ibn Battuta was attacked by robbers, nearly drowned in a storm at sea, and was once put in prison in India. In 1348, he finally returned to Morocco, where the ruler ordered a writer named Ibn Juzayy to record Ibn Battuta's adventures.

The result was a famous book called 'The Rihla', which means 'The Travels'. It describes the people, cities, food and customs of the fourteenth-century world in amazing detail. Today, historians still use it as one of the most important sources of information about that period. Without this book, we would know far less about life in Africa and Asia seven hundred years ago.

Ibn Battuta died in Morocco around the year 1369. For centuries, his book was not well known in Europe, but today he is recognised as one of history's greatest explorers. The world's largest themed shopping mall, in Dubai, is named after him, and a crater on the Moon also carries his name.

Number of words: 363 (target: 350-400 words)