

Issues at school

1a What do you think makes a good teacher? Put these things in order of importance (1 = most important). Then compare your opinions with a partner.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> how friendly they are | <input type="checkbox"/> what they know about their subject |
| <input type="checkbox"/> their appearance | <input type="checkbox"/> their age |
| <input type="checkbox"/> how well-organised they are | <input type="checkbox"/> how strict they are |

1b Make a list of any other things that you think are important in a teacher.

2 Make correct definitions for these words by completing the sentences.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 If a school has a good reputation , | a) it's not allowed there. |
| 2 If teachers enforce the rules, | b) you hear very informal words like <i>innit</i> . |
| 3 If students have the wrong attitude at school, | c) they feel angry and upset about it. |
| 4 If a school bans something, | d) they make sure students obey them. |
| 5 If someone uses lots of slang , | e) they behave badly and don't do their work. |
| 6 If someone resents something, | f) people have a positive opinion about it. |

3 Read this exam question and match the options A–C with the explanations 1–3.

You hear two friends talking about the kinds of clothes teachers wear. Both friends think the way teachers dress


- | | |
|--|---|
| A affects the reputation of the school where they work. | 1 tells us what teachers feel about the work they do in school |
| B sets an important example for their students. | 2 makes a difference to the way people from outside think about the school |
| C shows what their attitude to the job is like. | 3 is something for other people in the school to follow and learn from |

4 In the question above, you have to decide which idea both speakers agree about. Read part of the conversation and discuss the questions.

- a)** Which option **A**, **B** or **C**, does the extract refer to?
b) Do both speakers have the same opinion?

Girl: Well, people who look smart and formal are usually well-organised and hardworking, which is important in a teacher.

Boy: I've had great teachers who wear jeans and T-shirts.

5  Listen to the recording and decide what the correct answer is (A, B or C). Listen twice if you need to.



Exam tip!

When you answer multiple-choice questions, make sure you read each option carefully. Sometimes 'explaining' the options to yourself in other words is helpful.

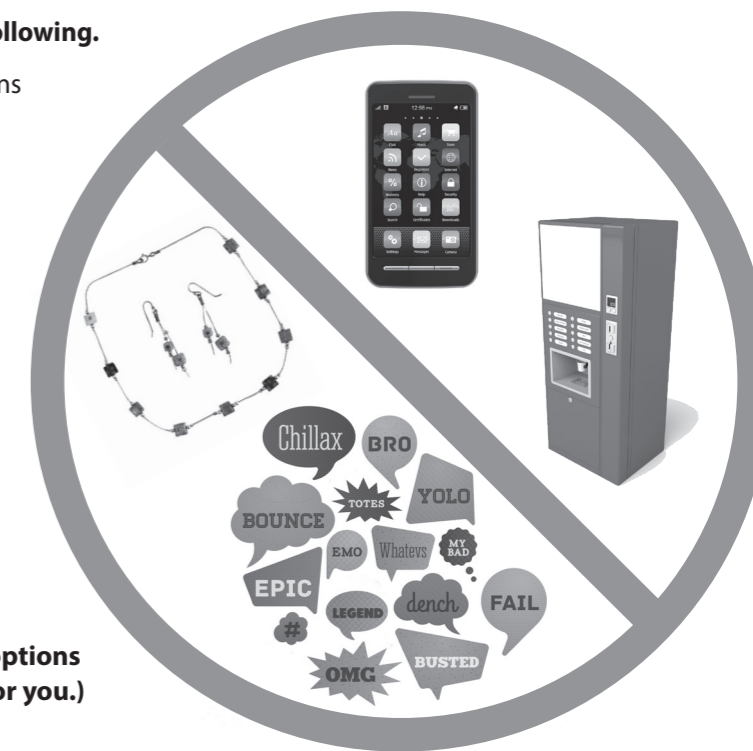
6  Now look at the transcript and do the following.

- a)** Highlight the parts where the ideas in options **A**, **B** or **C** are mentioned.
b) Check that you chose the correct answer.


7 The things on the right are banned in some schools in the UK. Is banning them a good idea or not? Discuss in pairs.

- mobile phones
- earrings or other jewellery
- machines selling fizzy drinks, sweets and snacks
- slang

8 Read the Exam task carefully. Underline or highlight the most important words in options A, B and C. (The question is already done for you.)




EXAM TASK

9a  You will hear two teachers talking. Listen to the recording and choose the best answer (A, B or C).

You hear two teachers discussing the idea of banning slang in school.

They agree that banning slang from their school would be

- A** good for students' language skills.
B helpful for teachers in class.
C popular with pupils' parents.

9b  Listen again and check that you have chosen the correct option.

10  Now look at the transcript and do the following.

- a)** Highlight the parts where the ideas in options **A**, **B** or **C** are mentioned.
b) Check that you chose the correct answer.

11 Discuss these questions in small groups.

- Do you like using slang in your own language?
- When is it bad to use slang and when is it fine to use it?
- Is it a good idea to learn slang in English?
- Do you know any slang words in English?

Mission to Mars

1a Work in pairs to choose the correct word in these sentences about Mars. Use a dictionary to help you.

- Mars is the *second / third / fourth* planet from the sun.
- Mars is the *second / third / fourth* smallest planet.
- Mars has *one / two / three* moons.
- The average temperature on Mars is $-15^{\circ}\text{C} / -50^{\circ}\text{C} / -75^{\circ}\text{C}$.
- Mars is known as the *Red / Orange / Pink* Planet because of minerals on the surface which give it a certain colour.
- There have been *eight / sixteen / twenty-four* successful missions to Mars.
- Mars has about *17% / 37% / 57%* of the Earth's gravity.

1b  Listen and check your answers.

2 Read this text about preparing the way for people to land on Mars, and underline words which mean the following.

- carrying humans
- journeys with a special purpose
- copy very closely
- difficult to live or even survive in
- people who take part in an activity
- group of people who work together (e.g. on a boat)

Exam tip!

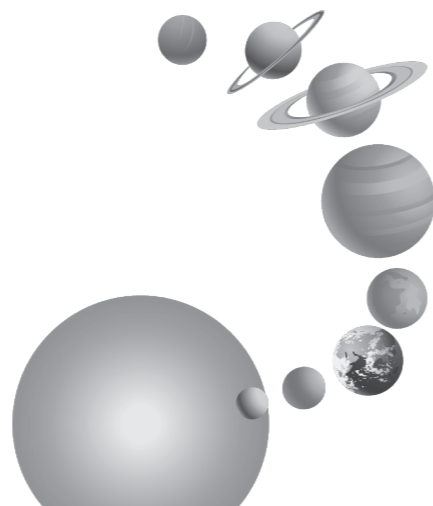
Some Part 4 tasks may be about subjects that you are not very familiar with. However, the questions will focus on ideas that you can understand. Try to work out the meaning of any unfamiliar words from the context, i.e. other words in the text.

3 Answer these questions.

- According to the text, is it possible for humans to go to Mars? Why? / Why not?
- What is the purpose of the project in Hawaii?
- Why was the location in Hawaii chosen for the project?

4  You are going to listen to an interview with a woman called Rashida Khan, a participant in a similar project to the one in Hawaii. Listen to part of the interview and use the context to work out the meanings of the underlined words below. Then check your ideas in pairs.

- Out of several hundred applicants, six of us were chosen.
- I happen to be the first woman of Asian origin to have been recruited for one of these projects.
- The scientists who run them study various things, like the composition of the crews.
- We looked at combinations of cookable dehydrated ingredients and pre-cooked meals.




Mars landings

It may be twenty years or more before the first people actually set foot on Mars, but scientists and engineers are already preparing for manned space missions. Current technologies, built to take astronauts on short trips to the moon or the International Space Station, won't work on a Mars mission that could last three years or more. New spacecraft and life-support equipment will be needed, so scientists are running projects which simulate the hostile conditions on the Red Planet.

One of these projects is a simulated space community in a lava field on a Hawaiian volcano, one of the most Mars-like environments on Earth. Participants live in groups in a shell-shaped structure called a geodesic dome for months on end, and are responsible for testing technologies and practices that a crew could use on a future mission to Mars. In order to make the experience as similar as possible to the real thing, participants have no contact with the normal world, apart from electronic communication, and whenever they go outside onto the lava bed, they have to put on imitation spacesuits.


EXAM TASK

5  Listen to the whole interview. For questions 1–6, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- Rashida thinks she was chosen to take part in the project because of
 - her ambition to become an astronaut.
 - her research experience.
 - her family background.
- What were the project directors most interested in finding out?
 - how suitable different types of food were
 - how efficient the design of the accommodation was
 - how well the participants cooperated with each other
- At first Rashida was concerned that she would miss having
 - good supplies of water available.
 - regular contact with family and friends.
 - varied opportunities for physical exercise.
- Rashida says the project directors were surprised at
 - how unhappy some participants were.
 - how much weight participants lost.
 - how creative the participants were.
- What does Rashida suggest is the best argument for trying to send people to Mars?
 - One day the human species will need to move to another planet.
 - Research in the space industry benefits human life on Earth.
 - Humans are better than robots at space exploration.
- Rashida says she has sympathy for people who are
 - disappointed with the results of Mars research so far.
 - unconvinced that humans will be able to live on Mars.
 - critical of the amount of money spent on Mars research.



participants working at a Mars simulation project

6  The adjectives *desirable* and *undesirable* are both in the interview. Look at the transcript and find other adjectives with the suffix *-able* and with both the prefix *un-* and the suffix *-able*.

7 The adjectives in exercise 6 are formed from the verb *desire*. Use the verbs below to form adjectives with *-able* and *un- ... -able*. Be careful with the spelling.

accept afford do forget imagine like rely watch

8 Write three sentences with one of the negative adjectives from exercise 7 in each sentence.

It's unacceptable to spend so much money on space exploration when there are so many problems on Earth.