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# **EAEko HEOak *EEOOI DE CAPV* *ENGLISH EXAM SAMPLE***

## **LEVEL B2**

### **DOCUMENT 1: TASKS**

**IMPORTANT:** For further information, check this link:

[Proben deskribapena](#) (Basque)

[Descripción de las pruebas](#) (Spanish)

## A) READING COMPREHENSION

60 minutes

### Task 1 (Marks: 6)

Read the following text. Six clauses have been removed from the article. Choose from clauses B – I the one that fits gaps 1 – 6. There are TWO sentences you do NOT need to use. Write the correct answer on the answer sheet provided. 0 is the example.

### DANNY MACASKILL

Danny MacAskill is a professional street trials mountain bike rider from Dunvegan on the Isle of Skye in Scotland. As you may know, 0 **A** (example) on YouTube.

When interviewed last year, Danny explained, "I feel very lucky to have grown up on the island. I always had a lot of freedom to do what I wanted as a child. My parents say **1**, going off into the middle of nowhere to build tree houses or having bonfires. It really was an amazing place to grow up." What is undeniable is that **2**, for Danny it was just the beginning of a love-affair with cycling. Riding to school on the Isle of Skye, and practising the odd trick, he then discovered street trials (non-competitive freestyle bike tricks) as a teenager.

In April 2009, his *Inspired Bicycles* video showed him practising, and 'improving' at bike stunts in Edinburgh. The video quickly notched up thousands, and then millions of views, **3**. That video alone has now been viewed over 38 million times. More videos followed, and they continued to astound not only bike enthusiasts **4**. Danny was quickly recognised with accolades, including winning the National Geographic Adventurer of the Year Award, and carrying the Olympic Torch through Glasgow in 2012.

In 2014, Danny launched the *Drop and Roll Tour*, where he and other accomplished bikers perform thrilling tricks live in international locations **5**, in beautiful Scottish spots in Glasgow, Edinburgh, the Cairngorms National Park, and at Belladrum Tartan Heart Festival by Beaulieu near Inverness. Danny's first longer-form mountain biking video *The Ridge*, which was filmed up the notorious Cuillin Ridge on the Isle of Skye, **6**, having now reached more than 49 million viewers. *The Ridge* took Danny's fans to the Isle of Skye where he grew up. He wanted to introduce them to the island, which he still considers home, and see how far he could push his skills in a seriously exposed landscape.

Adapted from *Scotland.org*

- A. his incredible biking skills have amassed hundreds of millions of views (0) (example)
- B. and it has resulted in Danny becoming recognised as a top sportsman in his field
- C. as well as closer to home
- D. but an increasingly wider audience too
- E. this mainly involved either riding my bike
- F. was aired on TV in 2014 and became an overnight success
- G. where an iconic destination in Scotland is
- H. while learning to ride a bike is a rite of passage for most children
- I. while other riders all over the world

Example	0	A
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1		2		3		4		5		6	
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## Task 2 (Marks: 8)

Read the following text. For questions 7 – 14, choose the correct answer a), b) or c). Circle the correct answer on the answer sheet provided. 0 is the example.

### JOHN'S DILEMMA

#### JOHN'S DILEMMA

*I have a two-year-old granddaughter, who my wife and I love dearly. My son and his partner have jobs, and we agreed to care for her one day each week. We have found, to our shame, that we've come to dread these days. We both still work freelance, and the arrangement frequently interferes with this and other activities. We try to make the day fun, but I find it an exhausting chore. I also feel resentful over silly things, such as the inability of the parents to provide a change of clothes or food. To an extent, we feel taken for granted. My instinct is to explain we underestimated the task and suggest a new arrangement. Or we could find a childminder to take our granddaughter for a couple of hours. That, of course, would require permission and would probably not be met with enthusiasm. We want to play a big part in our granddaughter's life, but we'd be happier if this was done in circumstances more suited to our lifestyle. Is that really so bad?*

#### MARIELLA REPLIES

First, thank you, on behalf of every working parent blessed with healthy grandparents prepared to assist in lightening the load of childcare. My own parents-in-law made so many things possible for us that I am eternally in their debt. In their early 70s, they took on not one but two toddlers with only 13 months between them for weekends and even an entire week here and there, making work and precious downtime as a couple an available option. It's not just free babysitting that grandparents provide, but the reassurance that your kids are with adults who love them as much as you do. Friends without such backup never fail to point out to me how lucky I've been. Anyone who's looked after a child knows it's no easy task, so I think you should know how important you are and certainly shouldn't be feeling taken for granted. And I hope you realise how valuable you grandparents are, particularly for the many for whom regular childcare remains an unaffordable luxury. If it weren't for family members like you, so many parents (and women particularly) would be forced to leave their jobs or to work part-time, with a knock-on effect on family budgets, mental and physical well-being, and the economy as a whole.

We're all familiar with the notion of the *squeezed middle*: those whose children are not yet independent and whose parents are becoming less so. Perhaps we don't give enough thought to the likes of you and your wife, struggling to maintain a decent lifestyle while being forced back into a role you thought you'd long completed. That said, at present, you are both healthy and active and your child now reaches out to you for assistance. Of course, you are under no obligation to take on this onerous duty, but time moves on at speed and very soon these days of exhaustive effort on the caring front will be far behind you. In that non-distant future, you'll hopefully be rewarded for today's efforts by a rich bond with your maturing granddaughter and be integral to her life, rather than simply being distant members of her extended family.

So, I think the best is to talk and agree on a way forward that works better for you. For all the reasons I've given, I'd be tempted to reach a compromise. The suggestion of a two-hour childcare session could work though it hardly seems worth the reverberations it may cause. If a whole day is too much for you, why not instead offer two halves, which you won't find so onerous and still reduces the childcare costs? Most importantly, I think you need to reset expectations and feel no compunction in asking for the practical things that would make the task easier, including support on the basics you mention. And remember that the feeling of happiness in your family will probably make up for any effort and will last for life.

Adapted from *The Guardian*

0. John says that looking after their granddaughter ... **(example)**
  - a) **has forced them to interrupt their working routine.**
  - b) has made them fear their old working life.
  - c) has become a relaxing but compulsory activity.
7. John thinks that taking a childminder ...
  - a) wouldn't make any difference.
  - b) wouldn't be considered a good idea.
  - c) wouldn't need their son's consent.
8. Mariella says that her parents-in-law ...
  - a) cared for her children mostly at weekends.
  - b) looked after her twins since they were one year old.
  - c) helped her and her husband financially.
9. Mariella has some friends who ...
  - a) did not accept the assistance of their families.
  - b) did not get financial help from their parents.
  - c) did not have the same support as she had.
10. Grandparents become especially necessary ...
  - a) when parents have two or more children.
  - b) when parents cannot pay for childcare.
  - c) when parents have very large budgets.
11. The *squeezed middle* refers to those people who have ...
  - a) young children and active parents to care for them.
  - b) grown-up kids but parents in need of help.
  - c) children and parents who both need some help.
12. Mariella suggests that John's efforts will be compensated by ...
  - a) the relationship with his granddaughter.
  - b) the pleasure of an active lifestyle.
  - c) the deep gratitude of his son.
13. For Mariella, a two-hour childcare session ...
  - a) will be the best option for John.
  - b) will bring more problems than benefits.
  - c) will increase their son's childcare costs.
14. Mariella recommends that John and his wife ...
  - a) should look after the child for two half days.
  - b) should ask for a minimum amount of money.
  - c) should reduce the number of hours by half.

Example	0	<input checked="" type="radio"/> a) b) c)
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7	a) b) c)	8	a) b) c)	9	a) b) c)	10	a) b) c)
11	a) b) c)	12	a) b) c)	13	a) b) c)	14	a) b) c)

## Task 3a (Marks: 8)

Read the following text. For questions 15 – 22, choose the option a), b), c) or d) that best fits each gap. Circle the correct answer on the answer sheet provided. 0 is the example.

### LONDON BLUE PLAQUES

Visitors to London can expect to find as many as 900 round blue plaques on the walls of different buildings. They are part of London's blue plaques scheme, **0** run **(example)** by English Heritage, which celebrates the links between notable figures of the past and the buildings in which they lived and worked. Started in 1866, the commemorative plaque scheme is still running today and has inspired many **15** schemes in the UK and around the world.

Since it was founded 150 years ago, almost all the proposals for the blue plaques have been **16** by members of the public who write or email the organisation before submitting a formal proposal. If you believe someone deserves a plaque and meets the criteria for acceptance, you can contact the English Heritage's Blue Plaques panel of experts who **17** three times a year and advise which of the many suggestions presented should be successful. These proposals are placed on a shortlist. Because the scheme is so popular, and because a lot of detailed research has to be **18**, it takes about three years for each case to go through the whole process.

To be **19** an official English Heritage plaque, the proposed recipient must have died at least 20 years before the nomination is made. Also, and according to the **20** of the scheme, plaques are as much about the buildings in which people lived and worked as about the subjects being commemorated. For this reason, a plaque is erected only if there is a surviving building closely associated with the person in question.

Other requirements are that the building must survive in a form that the commemorated person would have recognised, and be visible from a public highway. No more than two plaques are **21** on one building and buildings with many personal associations, such as churches, schools and theatres, are not normally **22** for plaques.

Adapted from [www.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk)

- |            |               |                |                |                |
|------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>0.</b>  | <b>a) run</b> | b) carried     | c) followed    | d) taken       |
| <b>15.</b> | a) alike      | b) equal       | c) likewise    | d) similar     |
| <b>16.</b> | a) done       | b) made        | c) set         | d) put         |
| <b>17.</b> | a) come       | b) hold        | c) join        | d) meet        |
| <b>18.</b> | a) set aside  | b) looked down | c) carried out | d) put forward |
| <b>19.</b> | a) awarded    | b) nominated   | c) raised      | d) won         |
| <b>20.</b> | a) aim        | b) promotion   | c) condition   | d) effects     |
| <b>21.</b> | a) challenged | b) let         | c) allowed     | d) offered     |
| <b>22.</b> | a) argued     | b) considered  | c) dared       | d) applied     |

Example	0	<input checked="" type="radio"/> a) b) c) d)
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15	a) b) c) d)	16	a) b) c) d)	17	a) b) c) d)	18	a) b) c) d)
19	a) b) c) d)	20	a) b) c) d)	21	a) b) c) d)	22	a) b) c) d)

## Task 3b (Marks: 8)

Fill in the gaps in the following text with **ONE** suitable word. For questions 23 – 30, write down the correct word on the answer sheet provided. 0 is the example.

### BLACK FRIDAY

Some years **0** ago (example), a department store worker was injured by crowds at a Black Friday shop opening in New York. The event was just 23 of a number of incidents that happened on that distinctly American occasion. Black Friday 24 place today, 25<sup>th</sup> November, and it is surely the busiest shopping day of the year in the US.

But, in recent years, shopping malls in the UK have begun to follow this trend. Black Friday, 25 was once only seen by Britons when watching US television shows, is now a regular part of the calendar. It was first introduced in 2013 by big companies, and now those strange annual scenes of heavy consumption have 26 common across the UK. Inevitably, Black Friday has established itself as one of the busiest shopping days in Britain, too – though now sales cover an extended period and some companies offer 27 whole week of discounts.

However, in Britain 28 has always been debate on shopping. In the 1990s, popular movements 29 as the *Church of Stop Shopping* criticised a spiritually poor culture and described a world that was colonised by marketing. These concerns were accompanied by increasing environmental activism and climate emergency messages. Today, the idea of excessive consumerism is giving way to a sense of responsibility for the consequences of shopping and the necessity to 30 it more sustainable.

Adapted from *The Guardian*

Example	0	ago
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23		24		25		26	
27		28		29		30	

## 40 minutes

**You are going to listen to 4 different extracts. For questions 1 – 10, choose the correct answer a), b) or c). Circle the correct answer on the answer sheet provided. You will hear the recording TWICE. You now have 1 minute and 30 seconds to read the options. 0 is the example.**



### EXTRACT ONE: MADELINE

- 0.** Madeline Manning-Mims is ... years old. (**example**)  
a) **71**                                      b) 68                                      c) 72
- 1.** Madeline speaks about her experience in the world of ...  
a) jewellery design.                      b) medicine.                              c) competitive sport.
- 2.** She is proud she showed that women of colour can ...  
a) break a world record.  
b) become rich in America.  
c) have a professional career.

3. Historians are now interested in the influence of ... on friendship.
  - a) economic changes
  - b) demographic factors
  - c) new technologies
4. Professor Barbara Cane says that people now ...
  - a) have more problems to make friends.
  - b) recognise the importance of friends.
  - c) do not value the support of their families.

5. The expert says that ...
  - a) Chaucer's birthplace and his father's job were connected.
  - b) Chaucer's father died when Chaucer was a teenager.
  - c) it's impossible to know where Chaucer was born.
6. About Chaucer, we learn that ...
  - a) he became a member of the aristocracy.
  - b) he had several jobs throughout his life.
  - c) he was a servant until he died.
7. According to the expert, Chaucer was probably buried in Westminster Abbey because of ...
  - a) his fame as a poet.
  - b) his place of residence.
  - c) his aristocratic friends.

8. The actress interviewed says she ...
  - a) prefers comedy to drama.
  - b) prefers drama to comedy.
  - c) likes both drama and comedy alike.
9. She thinks actors should do ...
  - a) both TV and films.
  - b) only one type of role.
  - c) their best all the time.
10. She mentions she used to be offered ...
  - a) leading roles.
  - b) secondary roles.
  - c) romantic roles.

Example	0	a) b) c)
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1	a) b) c)	2	a) b) c)	3	a) b) c)	4	a) b) c)	5	a) b) c)
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6	a) b) c)	7	a) b) c)	8	a) b) c)	9	a) b) c)	10	a) b) c)
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## Task 2 (Marks: 8)

Listen to what happened to a group of friends when they were in Scotland some time ago. For questions 11 – 18, choose the best answer a), b) or c). Circle the correct answer on the answer sheet provided. You will hear the recording TWICE. You now have 1 minute and 30 seconds to read the options. 0 is the example.



[Audio link for Task 2](#)

### A LONG NIGHT

Adapted from *Radio 4*

0. The protagonist of the story was in Scotland ... **(example)**
  - a) **having a holiday.**
  - b) on a business trip.
  - c) visiting her family.
11. On their last night, some people were playing music ...
  - a) in the concert space of the village.
  - b) in the only bar of the village.
  - c) in the local festival hall.
12. The group of friends had to leave the place ...
  - a) because the lights went out.
  - b) because it was too crowded.
  - c) because it was time to close.
13. The musicians proposed ... and the group of friends agreed.
  - a) to continue the party somewhere else
  - b) to walk to a nearby pub they knew
  - c) to meet more friends in the village
14. The speaker gave the flashlights to her friends because ...
  - a) she knew the way better than them.
  - b) she was used to walking in the dark.
  - c) their flashlights were not working properly.
15. When the road turned into a small lane, ...
  - a) the speaker was walking ahead of her friends.
  - b) the speaker tried to reach the musicians.
  - c) the speaker's friends stopped to wait for her.
16. When the speaker was hit and fell to the floor, ...
  - a) she bumped her head against the floor.
  - b) the musicians heard her screaming.
  - c) her friends thought it was a joke.
17. While the speaker was waiting for the ambulance, she ...
  - a) was lying unconscious.
  - b) was awake all the time.
  - c) felt a lot of pain.
18. They knew that it had been a deer because ...
  - a) someone had run into it.
  - b) some local people saw it on the road.
  - c) they found its marks on the ground.

Example	0	a) b) c)
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11	a) b) c)	12	a) b) c)	13	a) b) c)	14	a) b) c)
15	a) b) c)	16	a) b) c)	17	a) b) c)	18	a) b) c)

### Task 3 (Marks: 12)

You will hear a podcast about Portsmouth. For questions 19 – 30, complete the sentences with one word or short phrase from the recording. Write your answers on the answer sheet provided. You will hear the recording TWICE. You now have 1 minute and 30 seconds to read the options. 0 is the example.



[Audio link for Task 3](#)

## PORTSMOUTH

Adapted from *Tips for Travellers*

0. Portsmouth is on the south coast of the UK. (example)
19. Portsmouth is a place to visit if you are a fan of \_\_\_\_\_, the sea or the Royal Navy.
20. Portsmouth is also a good destination if you travel with \_\_\_\_\_.
21. Portsmouth is a one-hour-thirty-minute \_\_\_\_\_ from London.
22. Visitors can reach Portsmouth by car and train, and there are also \_\_\_\_\_.
23. Portsmouth is, in fact, the true \_\_\_\_\_ of the Royal Navy.
24. The Royal Navy still keeps \_\_\_\_\_ of their forces based in Portsmouth.
25. About 17,000 people are \_\_\_\_\_ in Portsmouth docks.
26. You can visit a historical battleship that was open to the public in \_\_\_\_\_.
27. The first ship mentioned, the *HMS Warrior 1860*, used steam and \_\_\_\_\_ to navigate the seas.
28. The second ship mentioned, the *HMS Victory*, still has a/an \_\_\_\_\_ and it is a flagship of the Royal Navy.
29. The third ship mentioned, the *Mary Rose*, \_\_\_\_\_ near Portsmouth.
30. Next to the Mary Rose Museum, there is a/an \_\_\_\_\_ for schoolchildren.

Example	0	south
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## C) WRITING

80 minutes

### Task 1 (Marks: 10)

This is an extract from an email you have just received from your best English-speaking friend.

*I really do not know why, but I can't sleep well at night. This has been going on for two months and I'm exhausted.*

Write an email to your friend (**90 to 110 words**) where you tell your friend about the consequences of the lack of sleep and offer some advice.

### Task 2 (Marks: 20)

#### WALK YOUR WAY TO SCHOOL

Local councils in the English-speaking country where you live are launching a campaign to encourage children to walk to school instead of getting to school by car. Write **an essay (200 to 220 words)** for your English teacher where you develop **at least two** of the following ideas:

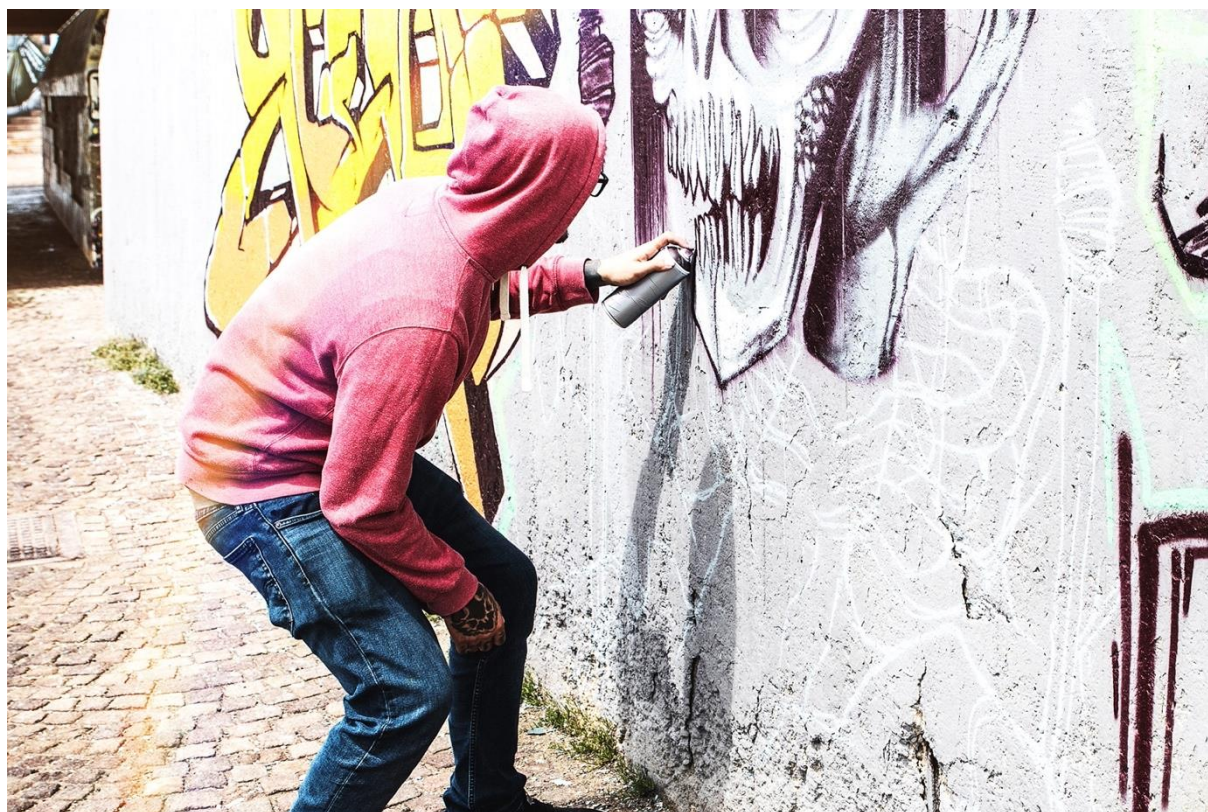
- Benefits for children and parents.
- Possible risks and how to prevent them.
- Going to the school in the past and nowadays.
- Is this scheme workable in any school?

## D) SPEAKING

14 minutes

### Task 1: MONOLOGUE (Marks: 15)

Give a short presentation (4 minutes) on the following subject: **GRAFFITI**.



Think about what you can say about the topic. You will be allowed to take down a few guidelines or keywords, which you can have a **brief** look at during the exam. Please feel free to refer to the photograph briefly, but **do not describe it in detail**. You might find the following guidelines useful to give your presentation, but they are not compulsory.

- Graffiti: the work of vandals or artists?
- The influence of graffiti on advertising.
- Graffiti and music.
- Public money for street art?

As a further suggestion, you could talk about your own personal experience, or / and compare habits in your country with those from other parts in the world...



## Task 2: INTERACTION (Marks: 15)

Discuss the topic with your partner (5 minutes). It is important to justify your points of view as well as to listen to what your partner says and react (i.e. agree, disagree, add ideas, offer solutions or suggestions...). It is not necessary to describe the photos in detail. Your partner has the same photographs.

### CHALLENGES

Talk together and say:

- How does each of the photographs relate to the topic?
- Where is the limit to what human beings can do?



## E) MEDIATION

29 minutes

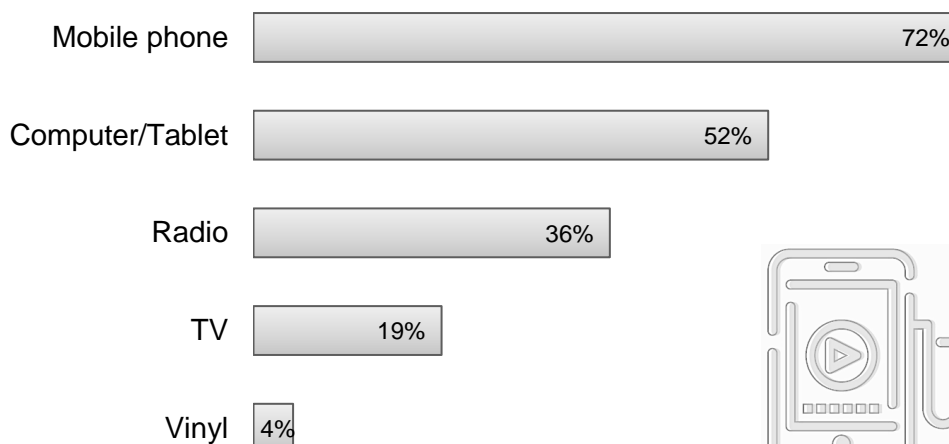
### Task 1: WRITTEN MEDIATION (Marks: 15)

#### MUSIC IN THE EU

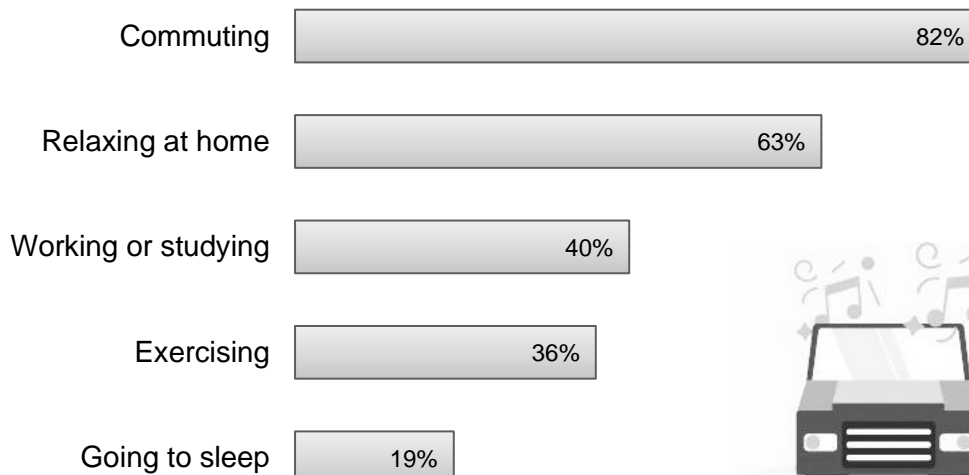
Explain the handout below to a classmate who was absent today and needs the information to prepare a project. **Use your own words (70 to 90 words).**

Point out the most significant information in the graphics. Remember that your explanation needs to be about the information below, **not about your personal opinion or previous knowledge of the topic and it cannot be just a list of numbers.** You do **NOT** need to explain your classmate's absence or that you saved the handout for him/her. It's already been done for you.

#### IN THE EU, WE LISTEN TO MUSIC USING OUR ...



#### ... WHILE



**ROUGH PAPER (It will not be marked by the examiner. Write the final version on the answer sheet provided.)**

To: Mike

Subject: Today's Handout – Music in the EU

Hi mate,

How are you doing? I hope you're feeling a bit better. This is the explanation for the handout the teacher gave us this morning. I've also attached a picture of the handout, so that you can follow my explanation more easily.

If there's anything you didn't understand, please tell me. Get well soon!

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## Task 2: ORAL MEDIATION (Marks: 15)

### HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

Explain the information in the picture below to a classmate who was absent today and needs the information to prepare a project. **Use your own words.** Remember that your explanation needs to be about the information below, **not about your personal opinion**. You may need to use some of the words in the text, but **do not copy expressions and/or full sentences**. You may want to use your own examples to clarify your explanations. You do **NOT** need to explain your classmate's absence or that you saved the handout for him/her. (About 2 minutes.)

