

LISTENING SKILLS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ENGLISH Paper – 1

Guidelines for the Examiner

Material

1. The examiner's copy comprising Guidelines for the Examiner and the Passage for Oral Reading.
 2. The question paper comprising questions and answers in multiple choice.
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Instructions for the conduct of the assessment

Candidates are seated as for a written examination.

The recommended number of candidates at a sitting is 30.

The question paper and a sheet of rough paper are distributed to candidates before the readings of the passage take place. At this stage they enter their names, class, roll no. on the question paper and read the note for candidates.

The passage is read aloud clearly by the Examiner twice, the first time at normal speed (about 110 words a minute) and the second time at a slower speed. Between the two readings the Examiner may give a pause of about three minutes to allow the candidates to read the questions and answers.

During the readings the candidates may make *brief notes on the rough paper* given to them.

At the end of the second oral reading the examiner directs the candidates
to answer the question paper.

Candidates will enter their answers *in ink*.

The duration of the assessment is **30 minutes**, which includes the time taken for the two readings and answering the questions on the question paper.

Note: Based on the above guidelines, candidates shall be assessed in Classes IX & X.

The Examiner reads :

In this passage, Satyajit Ray, the renowned film maker, describes how he tried to shoot a scene for a film, using a circus tiger.

The door of the cage was unfastened and Mr. Thorat, the trainer, called out to the tiger. It responded almost at once and sprang out of its cage. Instead of walking sedately in a dignified manner the tiger started prancing around with tremendous enthusiasm. It leapt, it jumped, it rolled about, dragging its poor trainer, who was desperately clutching the wire tied to the tiger's collar, in a futile attempt to bring it under control.

The camera was still standing on its three legs, staring into the bamboo grove, but the tiger showed no sign of making its way there.

After nearly five minutes of madness, the tiger calmed down. Mr. Thorat and his two assistants looked a sight. The trainer spoke through pale lips and explained that this particular tiger had never been in the wild. It was born in a circus and had seldom been released from its cage. A sudden taste of its natural habitat had probably gone to its head.

Once the tiger had calmed down, we managed to take a few shots we needed.

Now another problem arose. The door of the cage was standing wide open. A stool had been placed near the cage. The tiger was supposed to jump on to the stool, when its trainer said, 'Up!' and then run into its cage. Mr. Thorat went blue in the face saying 'Up!' but the tiger ignored him completely. Instead, it seemed far more interested in sitting in the bamboo grove and tasting the young leaves on a stem.

The tiger's behaviour made us feel quite reassured, even bold. A tiger that chewed bamboo leaves could definitely not be a man-eater. I took the camera even closer to the tiger to capture its most un-tiger-like behaviour.

Then, even as the camera was running, the tiger took a giant leap and got back into its cage.

Adapted from *Childhood Days, A Memoir*, by Satyajit Ray.

Translated by Bijoya Ray.