

Hörverstehenstexte Prüfung 2024



Part 1 – Tips on how to learn vocabulary

(Audiotrack: QR-Code rechts / Aufgaben S. 1)

Reporter: When learning a new language, words are most important. We've asked two students, Sophie and Paul, and their teacher, Ms King, to give you some tips on how to learn vocabulary more efficiently. This is Sophie's advice.

Sophie: When I have some difficult words, I don't just read and repeat the words but sing, shout or record them. On my way to school, I listen to the words again. I often name different everyday things on the way there. I also write my homework list in one of the foreign languages I'm learning. Some-times I choose a "word of the day" that I write on a paper and tape it to my bathroom mirror so I always see it when brushing my teeth and it really sets in!

Reporter: Let's listen to Paul's suggestions.

Paul: I love reading magazines and listening to podcasts in different languages to keep updated with the latest scientific developments. I soon found out that doing research on an interesting topic also improves my language skills. Well, and if you still want to do more: online learning tools and apps also provide a fun way to practise words in combination with others which will make it easier for you to use them later when talking to people.

Reporter: Even teachers never stop learning. So, this is what Ms King thinks you should keep in mind.

Ms King: As most people tend to talk about themselves a lot, make sure you look up words that will enable you to talk about yourself in a detailed way. Gathering and storing them in little paper booklets is much better than going online. And one more thing – set yourself a certain time of day to revise the most difficult vocabulary words. Practise for just about five minutes since our brains can only take in a limited number of words at a time. This is why language learning should become a brief but daily ritual.

[Eigener Text IBBW]



Part 2 – Silicon Valley – home of the modern computer industry

(Audiotrack: QR-Code rechts / Aufgaben S. 2)

You will hear a podcast about Silicon Valley. You will hear the recording twice. One ending to each of the sentences is correct. Mark the correct ending.

It is not made of silicon, and it is not a river valley either, but a region about 50 miles south of San Francisco: Silicon Valley in the state of California. In the past, the region was famous for its fruit production. Today, Silicon Valley is known as the birthplace of the modern computer industry. It all started in the 1960s when many students dreamed of sunny California and had revolutionary new ideas. Many of the best students did not look for jobs with big companies when they finished university. Instead, they wanted to be free and start their own businesses – and stay in California.

The perfect place was Silicon Valley, because the high-tech industry was already present with the computer company Intel, which had been founded in 1968 – the same year when the first computer mouse was built at Stanford University. About ten years later, in 1976, an electronics student named Steve Jobs founded a small computer business in his garage: Apple. Steve Jobs gave his company the same name as the record company of the Beatles which was also called "Apple". Meanwhile, the small computer firm has turned into a globally known brand. Its headquarters in Silicon Valley look more like a park and less like a business area. In the area called "Apple Park", the company provides its employees with wellness and fitness facilities as well as cafés and restaurants while working. Tourists, however, are only allowed to the visitor center.

Microsoft, Apple's biggest rival, is not based in Silicon Valley, but near Seattle in the state of Washington. Even without Microsoft Silicon Valley is definitely the home of today's computer industry.

Adapted from [<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Apple-Inc> (27.03.2023);

<https://linguapress.com/intermediate/silicon-valley.htm> (18.11.2022);

<https://www.handelsblatt.com/politik/international/it-industrie-was-das-silicon-valley-besonders-macht/26621932.html> (28.03.2023);

<https://valleyofheartdelight.com/> (28.03.2023)]

Part 3 – The hippo problem

(Audiotrack: QR-Code rechts / Aufgaben S. 3)



You will hear a report about the relationship between hippos and African fishermen at Lake Naivasha. You will hear the recording twice. Take notes to fill in the table.

When it comes to hippos, many usually think of clumsy und cute giants sleeping peacefully in African waters. But the people living at Lake Naivasha in Kenya, a place that a huge number of hippos call their home, probably wouldn't agree with that.

On average, a hippo's height is up to 5.2 feet at the shoulder whereas their length is about 13 feet. Weighing up to four tons, hippos usually spend most of the day in the water to escape the heat. Then, after sunset, the huge animals come ashore to feed on soft grasses and fallen fruit outside the water during night time. Hippos are normally rather peaceful animals. Mothers only attack when they feel that their babies are threatened. However, all hippos become really nervous and get extremely aggressive when humans get too close and stand between them and the water, so their way back into the water is blocked. Something that has often happened at Lake Naivasha lately.

For a long time, Lake Naivasha had been a place where humans and hippos had lived peacefully together. But within the last few years the number of hippo attacks has increased tremendously. In recent years, the lake level has risen enormously and lots of green land and farms were flooded due to heavy rains and deforestation. So today, hundreds of hippos have to feed around the remaining villages at night. And, since many farmers who had lost their land simply started fishing, getting in the hippos' way can hardly be avoided.

Unfortunately, there's no clear solution in sight. Some people suggest limiting the number of fishermen whereas local fishermen think that it would be best to kill some of the hippos to reduce their numbers. A bad solution, as in 2016, hippos were officially classified as vulnerable to extinction.

Adapted from [<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/aug/02/call-for-hippos-to-join-list-of-worlds-most-endangered-animals-aoe> (10.01.2023); <https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/animals/2021/01/human-hippo-conflicts-are-exploding-in-this-pristine-patch-of-kenya> (13.07.2023)]



Part 4 – Teenagers and their favourite games

(Audiotrack: QR-Code rechts / Aufgaben S. 4)

Interviewer: Hello, today we'll talk with Anna and Ben who'd like to inform us about board games and video games. Let's start with board games, Anna.

Anna: Many board games date back to ancient times. The origins of chess for example can be traced back to the 6th century. Although buying them isn't always cheap, they can save you a lot of money in the long run, because you usually don't have to pay for any expensive updates.

Interviewer: Do you often play boardgames yourself?

Anna: Yes, they're a great way to relax. But what I like best about them and why I'd always go for board games is that I spend time with family and friends.

Interviewer: Video games on the other hand can be played with people living far away in another country. Let's hear some more about them from Ben.

Ben: After the invention of the computer, "Tennis for Two" – the first entertainment video game – came out in 1958. And only 20 years later, video games with consoles became very popular and have turned into a great success story since then. Over the years, video games have attracted more and more people because of their photorealistic graphics. But what people like best about them is that many games are easy to play because their rules very often don't need long explanations.

Interviewer: Ben, can you give our listeners some advice on how to become successful?

Ben: Yes, turn up the heating since warm hands allow you to have the best reaction time. And even if you're not a great player, you can always beat people who use worse systems than you. So, with good equipment you're much more likely to win.

Interviewer: Unfortunately, video games have their downsides, too: research shows that too much screen time can damage your eyes and what's even worse is that some young players end up being lonely. And, especially parents have their concerns as some teenagers even get addicted.

After a short break we'll be back with parents and a psychologist talking about that problem.

Adapted from [<https://blog.eyewire.org/video-games-vs-board-games-a-strategic-match-up/> (20.03.2023); <https://realwomenofgaming.com/2017/05/17/video-games-vs-board-games-which-is-better/> (15.11.2022); The Week Junior, 26.02.2022, issue 324 [theweekjunior.co.uk](https://www.theweekjunior.co.uk) (18.11.2022); [https://www.gamespot.com/articles/qotw-how-important-are-graphics-to-games/1100-2693475/\(03.03.2023\)](https://www.gamespot.com/articles/qotw-how-important-are-graphics-to-games/1100-2693475/(03.03.2023))]



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