

Hello everyone! Today's test is the London Tests of English Level 4. The theme of this test is Role Models and Heroes. This test lasts two hours and thirty minutes. There are five tasks. Tasks one and two are listening. You must listen to the tape and write your answers in this booklet. Good luck!

1. Task One: Children's Role Models and Heroes (15 marks)

You are doing a project on role models and heroes. Listen to a radio interview with two people, a young man called Mark and an older woman called Sally. Listen to the interview and complete the sentences with **four words or fewer**. The first one is an example.

You will hear the interview twice. Do as much as you can the first time and finish your work the second time.

You have one minute to look at the sentences below.

Example:

People who we admire and copy are known as role models

1. What impressed Mark about Mr Hempstead was that he had had
..... than the other teachers.
2. Mark enjoyed Mr Hempstead's lessons because they included
..... of his own.
3. Mr Hempstead was interesting because he had done things like
.....
4. Before being a teacher, Mr Hempstead had worked as a
.....
5. Besides knowledge and good humour, Sally admired
..... and
in her favourite teachers.
6. Sally expected women teachers to wear clothes that were smart and
.....
7. Sally's main reason for admiring Kennedy was that he was
.....
8. The interviewer suggests that someone with strong convictions is possibly just
.....



Leave
blank

9. Sally thinks that the role models children have today

..... those she had as a child.

10. For Sally the biggest problem is having

Q1

(Total 15 marks)



2. Task Two: National Heroes (15 marks)

You hear a talk on national heroes. Listen to the talk and for questions 1 to 10 put a cross (☒) in the box next to the correct answer A, B, C or D.

You will hear the talk twice. Do as much as you can the first time and complete your work the second time.

You have one minute to study the questions below.

The first one is an example.

Example:

Listeners had to vote for

- A the greatest living British person.
- B the greatest English person.
- C the greatest British singer.
- D the greatest British person.

1. What was people's general reaction to the poll?

- A They found it amusing.
- B They thought it was important.
- C They were not very interested.
- D They were disturbed by it.

2. The speaker says the British are

- A not inclined to show their patriotism openly.
- B proud of their country.
- C frequently inclined to demonstrate their patriotism.
- D not as patriotic as some other nations.

3. The speaker's reaction to national heroes who actually never existed is

- A gratitude that this is not true of his country's main heroes.
- B indifference.
- C sympathy for the country concerned.
- D amusement.



4. One additional element that contributed to Nelson becoming a national hero was
- A he did not survive.
 - B he was fighting a traditional enemy.
 - C he was already well known.
 - D he was a sailor.
5. The writer says that most national heroes
- A are credited with doing more than they actually did.
 - B were recognised as great while they were still alive.
 - C are heroes only to their own countries.
 - D played an important role in their country's history.
6. What is the speaker's feeling about the story of Nelson?
- A He would never become a hero today.
 - B Nelson's achievement has been overestimated.
 - C People are wrong to continue to see him as a hero.
 - D The story still has significance for him.
7. How does Wellington compare with Nelson according to the speaker?
- A He was less brave.
 - B What he did was not as important.
 - C He was less attractive to the public.
 - D He had less ability.
8. What is the meaning of the Greek saying that the speaker quotes?
- A Some people are not worthy of approval.
 - B Who you choose as a hero reveals your character.
 - C Be careful who you make friends with.
 - D A hero will help you as you go through life.



9. The speaker says most of the people who got a lot of votes in the poll

- A tended to be scientists.
- B had no military connections.
- C were mostly writers.
- D had no political connections.

10. Who won the poll?

- A Brunel
- B Nelson
- C Newton
- D Shakespeare

(Total 15 marks)

Q2

That is the end of the listening tasks. The other tasks test your reading and writing of English. Now go on to Task Three.



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December 2005 Level 4**

PERFORATED INFORMATION SHEET 1 FOR TASK THREE (a)

The trouble with boys - role models

“I am not a role model,” the basketball player Charles Barkley announced in a 1993 Nike advert. I am not paid to be a role model. I am paid to perform on the basketball court.” Those who manage and comment on football would do well to listen to Barkley’s words. In Britain, at least, sports stars are still expected to behave like role models. The British feel outraged when footballers behave badly in nightclubs, get convicted of driving offences, and thump each other during the half-time break. Journalists expect today’s multimillionaire football stars to conform to the standards of a hypothetical golden age when footballers were supposedly men of impeccable character who never drank more than a small beer after a match. **1.** Continually talking about the “good old days” remains one of football fans’ most distinctive characteristics.

Still, the ideal of the sporting role model is now so outdated that its very persistence is intriguing. Where does it come from? And why has it survived so long? The belief that sportsmen have a special duty to behave well goes back to the 19th century. In leading English schools of that time, presided over by idealistic headmasters, there arose a particular belief. **2.** Character, according to the proponents of this view, could be instilled through a combination of vigorous moral instruction and games-playing. This led to the belief that physical health and moral purity were in some way connected.

But just because a person is capable of submitting to one type of discipline (that is, that which is required to become a top athlete), this is no guarantee that he or she is more likely to submit to another (behaving perfectly). Many of today’s footballers become famous while still in their teens. **3.** It is hardly surprising that, suddenly becoming famous, many are ill-equipped to deal with the pressures and temptations of fame.

There is another issue, however. **4.** **H** When feminism was gaining ground in Britain in the 1970s and 1980s, it was girls, not boys, who were felt to be most in need of positive role models. It was thought that, in the absence of female executives, lawyers, bankers, doctors and so on, young women needed the example of older women to demonstrate that it was possible for them to succeed in education and in professional careers.

Today, there is no shortage of inspiring female role models. It is now boys, lagging behind girls at school, who are thought to need adult role models of the same gender. But the sporting role model, even if it could be cleaned up, is hardly relevant to most young boys. **5.** Moreover, their admiration for footballers is likely to lead them to believe that males are mere physical beings. Academic success has little relevance.

Is there an alternative? Pop stars are one possibility. The behaviour of today’s highly manufactured boy bands and girl bands is far more controlled than footballers’ behaviour. **6.** Therefore, they need parental approval. But do we really want all our young men to want to become pop stars? Probably not. When it comes to male role models, we’re desperate — and that’s why we care so much about footballers.

(Source: Adapted from New Statesman (journal) by William Skidelsky)

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PERFORATED INFORMATION SHEET 2 FOR TASK THREE (b)

Worries about 'Celebrity Worship'

As the sales of magazines featuring celebrities rocket, it appears that the public's interest in the lives of famous people cannot be satisfied. What's more, a new study has found that those who go so far as to worship celebrities, may be harming their mental health.

A team of researchers questioned 372 men and women about their attitudes to celebrities. They found that at least one in five (22%) of these could be classed as 'celebrity worshippers'. These could then be divided into three distinct groups of celebrity worshipper:

- Entertainment-social celebrity worshipper.
- Intense-personal worshipper.
- Borderline-pathological worshipper.

The study found that those who followed the lives of famous people for entertainment and social reasons, did not have significant mental health problems. In fact, they appeared to be more outgoing, optimistic and happy.

Those who demonstrated the highest levels of worship (borderline-pathological) were found to be generally anti-social and solitary. However, again their mental health did not appear to be affected.

However, among the middle group - intense-personal worshippers - mental health problems did become evident. This type of worship involves feelings such as considering a particular celebrity to be your soul mate or keeping pictures or souvenirs of that person in a particular place.

This group was more likely to suffer poorer mental health, including depression, lower levels of satisfaction with life and stress.

The researchers, based at the University of Leicester in the UK, believe that this is because intense-personal worshippers use neurotic ways of coping with life, such as dealing with stressful events by focusing on the celebrity and going into a state of denial, rather than facing up to things.

"Celebrity worship should not be a concern when carried out in moderation. However for those who worship for intense personal reasons, there may be consequences for mental health. These individuals are characterised as tense, emotional and moody and tend to withdraw from the world", explained researcher, Dr John Maltby.

They should be encouraged to address their emotions and stop withdrawing from stressful situations, he added.

(Source: Adapted from www.bps.org.uk, The British Psychology Society)

Continued on P10

Worshipping celebrities 'brings success'

Following David and Victoria Beckham's every move could be good for you

Those hours spent following the exploits of J-Lo and Ben, Posh and Becks or Robbie Williams could be time well spent: scientists say celebrity worship could help us live our lives more successfully.

Evolutionary biologists say it is natural for humans to look up to individuals who receive attention because they have succeeded in society. In prehistoric times, this would have meant respecting good hunters and elders. But as hunting is not now an essential skill and living a long time is more widely achievable, these qualities are no longer revered.



David and Victoria Beckham

The vast majority of people will identify a favourite celebrity, but don't say they read about them or think about them all the time. Instead, we look up to celebrities whose fame and fortune we want to match. Evolutionary anthropologist Francesco Gill-White from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia told *New Scientist*: "It makes sense for you to rank individuals according to how successful they are at the behaviours you are trying to copy, because whoever is getting more of what everybody wants is probably using above-average methods."

But Dr Robin Dunbar, an evolutionary biologist at the University of Liverpool, said following celebrities did not necessarily mean they were seen as role models. "We're fascinated even when we don't go out of our way to copy them." He said people watched how celebrities behaved because such people received a great deal of wealth from society and people wanted to be sure it was invested properly.

(Source: Adapted from www.bbc.co.uk/i/hi/health)

3. Task Three: Hero Worship and Celebrity Worship

During your research you become interested in celebrity worship.

Task Three (a): Reading (10 marks)

For the next part of your research you read a magazine article on footballers as role models. A sentence is missing from each paragraph. Read the article on **Perforated Information Sheet 1 for Task Three (a)**.

The excerpt has 6 gaps labelled 1–6. Find the best missing sentence for each from the list A–H below and cross (☒) the box in the Missing Sentence Letter column of your choice below.

Be careful! There are two more missing sentences than you need. Do not use any letter more than once.

Gap 4 has been done for you as an example.

- A. Both boys and girls need role models, but of a different kind.
- B. Having focused on football from an early age, their lives are likely to have been extremely sheltered.
- C. This was that schools have a responsibility to develop character.
- D. No matter that for every footballer of good character, there have always been others that let the side down.
- E. They were seriously mistaken in this.
- F. They can never hope to have a career in football or any other sport.
- G. This is because they are designed to appeal mainly to a pre-teen audience.
- H. It concerns feminism and the place of women.

Gap number	Missing sentence letter							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(Total 3(a) 10 marks)

Q3(a)



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PERFORATED INFORMATION SHEET 3 FOR TASK FOUR

HORATIO BOTTOMLEY – HERO OR VILLAIN?

A

Cynical people might say there is not much difference between a successful business man and a criminal. With this in mind, was the early twentieth century British business man and politician Horatio Bottomley just a twenty-first century fat cat boss before **his** time? Or was there little more than self-seeking dishonesty to this man, who became infamous for his love of promoting business projects and horse racing?

B

Born in Bethnal Green, London on the 23 March 1860, Horatio Bottomley lost his father at the age of three, then his mother six years later. He spent the next five years in Sir Josiah Mason's childrens' home in the English industrial city of Birmingham. With this inauspicious start, he left for London and found work in a solicitor's office. Bottomley was bright. Although only 14 years of age, he quickly picked up a knowledge of legal matters, **something** that was to serve him well, time and time again, in future years.

C

Bottomley then went on to work as a shorthand writer in the London law courts which not only gave him a useful understanding of the English court system but also awakened his interest in journalism. **This** led him to found a number of publications, including the now famous newspaper, the London *Financial Times*. However, most of his journalistic enterprises collapsed before making a profit. He also turned his attention to promoting Western Australian gold mining projects, some genuine, but others based on misrepresentation and fraud. Nor was Bottomley the kind of man to let a little matter of failed business ventures stop him. In the space of four years, between 1901 and 1905, he was taken to court for bankruptcy no less than 67 times. Somehow, mainly due to his chaotic record-keeping, which made it impossible to prove anything against him, he survived virtually unscathed. Here was a man whose self-possession and confidence – some would call it total arrogance – set him apart from others.

D

At this point he turned his attention to politics and decided on a career in the British Parliament. He was duly elected a Member of Parliament representing the Liberal Party for the London district of Hackney in 1906. His court appearances, where he insisted on representing himself, continued. Declared bankrupt in 1912, he had no choice but to leave Parliament as a result and was expelled from the Liberal Party. Undaunted, he maintained a high profile in the First World War (1914–1918). He gained great popularity by using an over-patriotic magazine which he owned, *John Bull*, to argue that the British should be more aggressive in the war, denouncing anyone he considered less patriotic than himself. He spoke at many public meetings, supposedly for nothing, but actually taking large fees for doing **so**.

E

There was nothing a modern image-maker could have taught this shameless self-promoter. He could charm with his silver tongue, an ability that made him immensely popular with ordinary British people who, by now, were so impressed by Bottomley's constant arguments with politicians and judges that he was voted back into Parliament as an independent member in 1918, taking nearly 80 per cent of the vote.

F

His most notorious venture, and his downfall, was the so-called John Bull Victory Bond Club. In the euphoric days in Britain following the end of the First World War in 1918, Bottomley was quick to exploit the way the nation felt. Promoted as an ideal way for the less well-off to save for the good of the country, Bottomley's Victory Bonds were innovative in that they did not increase in value but they offered cash prizes for those bondholders whose bond numbers won a monthly prize draw. Popular enthusiasm grew to fever pitch with crowds of people investing £100,000 a day. Police had to be called to make people who wanted to buy bonds form orderly queues. However, chaotic organisation and the small matter of Bottomley stealing investors' money to buy controlling interests in two newspapers he was interested in, led to huge losses for the ill-fated venture. Thousands of people saw their money disappear, although Bottomley attempted to return some funds to angry bondholders.

G

The Victory Bond Club was one venture too many, and he was charged with fraud. Never one not to exploit a captive audience, his court appearances to face the charge were used by Bottomley as an opportunity to impress with his powers of oratory. At one point Bottomley pointed to the courtroom statue of the figure of Justice holding her sword and, turning to the jury, he said, "That sword would drop from her hand if you returned a verdict of guilty against me." The jury took only 25 minutes to do exactly **that**. The sword did not fall. He received a seven-year prison sentence for "fraudulently converting to his own use sums of money entrusted to him by members of the public".

H

After his release from prison in 1927 he was not the same man, and died in poverty in 1933. Yet Bottomley's ability to fascinate and attract people and to make them smile, has pursued him beyond the grave. Loved by the British public, even the investors he deceived would look upon him with respect. One man, £40,000 the poorer as a result of entrusting his money to Bottomley's schemes, said, "I heard him speak. I won't have you say a word against him. I am not sorry I lent him the money, and I would do it again".

(Source: www.lhi.org.uk Local Heritage Initiative by Rosie Hopley)

4. Task Four: Horatio Bottomley

Your attention now turns to a popular hero who deceived the public. Read the text on Horatio Bottomley, a British businessman and politician of the early twentieth century, (on **Perforated Information Sheet 3**) and complete the tasks below.

Task Four (a): (8 marks)

Read the statements about the information in the text. Put a cross (☒) in the correct column in the table below to indicate whether the statement is True, False or Not Stated. The first one is an example.

Statement	True	False	Not stated
Example: Bottomley had an interest in sport.	☒	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1. Bottomley qualified as a lawyer.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. All Bottomley's businesses were dishonest.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Bottomley was intentionally disorganised.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Bottomley was forced to resign as a Member of Parliament.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Bottomley had firm opinions about the First World War.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. In the end he returned all the money he owed on Victory Bonds.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. On trial for fraud, Bottomley lost his self-confidence.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. At the end of his life Bottomley felt regret for what he had done.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(Total 4(a) 8 marks)

Q4(a)



Task Four (b): (8 marks)

Find words or phrases in the text about Horatio Bottomley that mean the same as each of the following expressions. The first one is an example:

Example: gained a bad reputation (*paragraph A*) became infamous

- 1. intelligent (*paragraph B*)
- 2. be of great use to him (*paragraph B*)
- 3. without suffering any negative effects (*paragraph C*)
- 4. heavily criticising (*paragraph D*)
- 5. beautiful way of talking (*paragraph E*)
- 6. business activity (*paragraph F*)
- 7. became very strong indeed (*paragraph F*)
- 8. after his death (*paragraph H*)

(Total 4(b) 8 marks)

Q4(b)



Task Four (c): (4 marks)

In the article, there are five words highlighted. Explain briefly what each refers to in the spaces provided.

Example: his (*paragraph A*) ..twenty-first century fat cat boss.....

1. something (*paragraph B*)

2. This (*paragraph C*)

3. so (*paragraph D*)

4. that (*paragraph G*)

(Total 4(c) 4 marks)

Q4(c)



5. Task Five: Writing (20 marks)

At the end of your research, your supervisor has asked you to do a piece of writing.

Choose ONE of the following tasks.

EITHER

A Write a **magazine article** about a person who has strongly influenced you at some time. You must include

- who the person was or is
- an account of his or her life and personality
- how the person has influenced you
- the reasons why he or she has been so influential

OR

B Write an essay discussing the following statement.

“National heroes play an important role”

You must include comments on

- someone who is a hero in your country
- the role that person plays in the life and identity of your country
- the value of a national hero in the 21st century



Task 3b Writing (20 marks)

Article. Bulleted points must be included.

Use information from both texts as well as own ideas.

Task 4 Horatio Bottomley**Task 4a (8 marks)**

Statement - ID	True	False	Not Stated
<i>Ex - sport</i>	X		
1 - lawyer		X	
2 - dishonest		X	
3 - disorganised			X
4 - resigned	X		
5 - World War I	X		
6 - Victory Bonds		X	
7 - trial		X	
8 - regret			X

Task 4b (5 marks)

Find words or phrases that mean ...

<i>Ex</i>	<i>became infamous</i>
1	bright
2	serve him well
3	unscathed
4	denouncing
5	silver tongue
6	venture
7	grew to fever pitch
8	beyond the grave

Task 4c (4 marks)

Reference for highlighted words

<i>Ex</i>	<i>twenty-first century fat cat boss</i>
1	a knowledge of legal matters
2	his interest in journalism
3	speaking at many public meetings
4	return a verdict of guilty

Task 5 Writing (20 marks)

Neither task is a likely piece of writing to be required at the end of a research project. A report would be more usual. A bit contrived.

Task A – Magazine Article

About a person who strongly influenced you

Bulleted points must be included.

OR

Task B – Essay

National heroes play an important role

Bulleted points must be included.