# Defense Language Proficiency Test 5 (DLPT5) Multiple-Choice Format

# Arabic-Yemeni Familiarization Guide



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# Introduction

This Familiarization Guide is designed to provide prospective examinees with information about the Defense Language Proficiency Test 5 (DLPT5) in multiple-choice format. This guide contains general information about the test design, the format of the test, its length, its content, the skills tested, and procedures used in scoring and reporting the scores. In addition, screen shots of what the examinees will see when taking the test on the computer as well as information on testing procedures are provided. Finally, there is a section of sample listening passages with questions, answer choices, and explanations for each choice.

# **Overview of the DLPT5 Multiple-Choice Test**

Department of Defense Instruction DoDI 5160.71, 2019 identifies the Defense Language Proficiency Testing (DLPT) System—for reading, listening, and speaking modalities—as an essential component of the Defense Language Program, and critical to the Department's ability to measure and capture the language capabilities of the DoD Components and to determine readiness.

Except as otherwise provided in DoDI 5160.71, 2019<sup>1</sup> or as authorized by public law, the DLPT System is the only test battery authorized for assessing an individual's proficiency in a foreign language and for determining qualification for receiving a Foreign Language Proficiency Bonus (FLPB) for military personnel pursuant to DoD Instruction 1340.27 or Foreign Language Proficiency Pay (FLPP) for civilian personnel pursuant to DoD 1400.25-M in the Department of Defense.

The fifth generation of the Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT5) measures target language proficiency in two modalities, reading and listening, regardless of how the target language has been acquired. Target languages refer to the languages other than English for which the DLPT5 is developed. Like all previous generations of DLPT—since the inception of the first standardized Army Language Proficiency Tests in 1948—the DLPT5 was developed as a bilingual test requiring English language proficiency as prerequisite for foreign language proficiency testing.

The DLPT5 tests measure proficiency as defined by the Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) Skill Level Descriptions, levels 0+ through 4 (<u>https://www.govtilr.org/</u>), where available. The results of the DLPT5 will be used to make operational readiness, incentive pay, and training decisions for civilian and military language analysts in the United States government.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: DoD Language Testing Program, Department of Defense Instruction 5160.71, January 26, 2009, Incorporating Change 2, Effective April 9, 2019, USD(P&R).

# Description of the DLPT5 Lower-Range Test in Multiple-Choice Format

### • Test Design

- Typically, the Lower-Range Listening Comprehension Test contains approximately 60 questions with about 37 passages. A listening passage can have up to 2 questions, each with 4 answer choices.
- Examinees have 3 hours to complete the Listening Comprehension Test. Approximately halfway through the test, examinees will be given a 15-minute break. The break does not count toward the test time. For the Listening Comprehension Test, although the playing of the passages is controlled by the computer, examinees may take as much or as little time as they wish to answer each question. Managing time effectively is the examinee's responsibility.

#### • Test Content

- The DLPT5 is designed to measure proficiency in the target language regardless of how that language has been acquired. For this reason, and because of the broad proficiency orientation of the test, its content is not tied to any particular language-training program.
- The majority of passages included in the test are sampled from authentic materials and real-life sources such as radio and television broadcasts, the Internet, etc.
- The passages cover a broad range of content areas, including social, cultural, political, economic, geographic, scientific and technological, and military and security topics.
- The content of the test forms will be systematically updated.
- **Test Format**: The test includes instructions on how to take the test, examples of how to answer the questions, and question sets. Each question set contains the following parts:
  - **Orientation**: This is a short statement in English that appears before each passage. Its purpose is to identify the context from which the passage is taken.
  - **Passage**: This is the only element of the test that is in the target language being tested. The maximum length of a Listening Comprehension passage in the test is approximately 2 minutes.
  - **Question statement**: Each individual question is based on the passage, is written in English, and is posed in the form of a complete question or an incomplete statement. The questions may ask about what is explicitly stated in the passage or, in some cases, what is implied in it. Occasionally, questions may ask about

specific words or phrases that are used in the passage. The number of questions asked about each passage is related to the length and complexity of that passage.

• Answer choices: Each question statement is followed by 4 answer choices, also written in English, only one of which is the correct answer. Each answer choice is displayed on the screen with a button next to it that examinees will click to select that choice. Examinees can change their selection by clicking on a different button.

The DLPT5 is Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) and the unauthorized discussion, disclosure, or possession of any of the test content is forbidden.

For military personnel, failure to comply with this prohibition is a violation of Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice, and will result in administrative or disciplinary actions.

For civilian personnel, failure to comply with this prohibition may be prosecuted under Title 18, Section 641 of the United States Code.

# Scoring

Examinee scores are reported in terms of ILR levels, including "plus" ratings. Lower-Range tests are intended to cover ILR levels 0+ through 3. Possible scores are 0, 0+, 1, 1+, 2, 2+, and 3.

Scores reflect current functional language proficiency in listening as defined in the ILR Skill Level Descriptions (<u>https://www.govtilr.org/</u>). Scores do **NOT** reflect proficiency in speaking or writing, nor do they reflect examinees' job-related performance or ability to perform specific language-related tasks under special circumstance (e.g., listening to a target language passage indefinitely many times with the aid of supplemental reference materials and information sources).

Scores on the test are based on the number of questions answered correctly. Since there is no penalty for incorrect answers, it is to the examinee's advantage to attempt to answer every question, even if it involves guessing.

# **Preparation for Taking the DLPT5**

The purpose of this publication is to familiarize prospective examinees with the DLPT5 multiple-choice format and general testing procedures. Other than carefully reading this guide so that the test instructions and format are familiar, there is very little to be gained from "studying" for the test. The best preparation for the DLPT5 is the acquisition of a solid base of general proficiency in the target language, both through formal training and through language exposure and use in a variety of real-life language-use settings. Study aids (i.e., dictionaries, reference books, etc.) are not permitted for this test.

# Test Procedures and Instructions for Taking the DLPT5

The purpose of this section is to familiarize prospective examinees with how to take the DLPT5 multiple-choice Listening Comprehension Test. Test procedures and instructions for the Listening Comprehension Test are provided.

# **Test Procedures Overview**

This section is to help prospective examinees become familiar with the test procedures of the DLPT5 multiple-choice Listening Comprehension Test. First, there will be a short description of what the examinees see before the actual test begins. Then screenshots of what examinees will see on the computer screen will be provided.

At the beginning of the test session, the examinee logs on to the system using a Common Access Card (CAC). The examinee must click on the [CAC Logon] button before moving to the next screen.

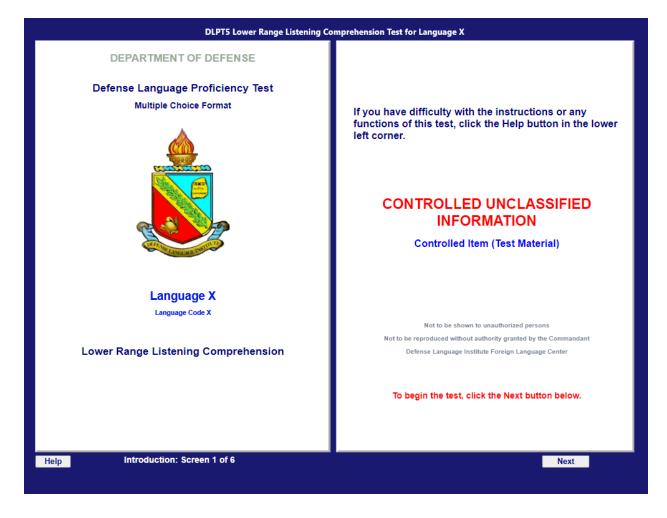
| DMDC | Information a                 | and Technology for Better Decision Making | 📰 – 8 × |
|------|-------------------------------|---|---------|
|      | ting                          |   |         |
|      | Candidate Logon               |   |         |
|      | The Test Administrator has su | cessfully logged in.                      |         |
|      | CAC Log on                    | User ID & Password                        |         |
|      | CAC Logon                     | User ID:<br>Password:<br>Submit           |         |
|      |                               |   |         |
|      |                               |   |         |
|      |                               |   |         |
|      |                               |   |         |
|      |                               |   |         |
|      |                               |   |         |
|      |                               |   |         |
|      |                               |   |         |
|      |                               |   |         |
|      |                               |   |         |

The next screen provides a list of tests for which the examinee is registered; the examinee selects the appropriate test from the list.

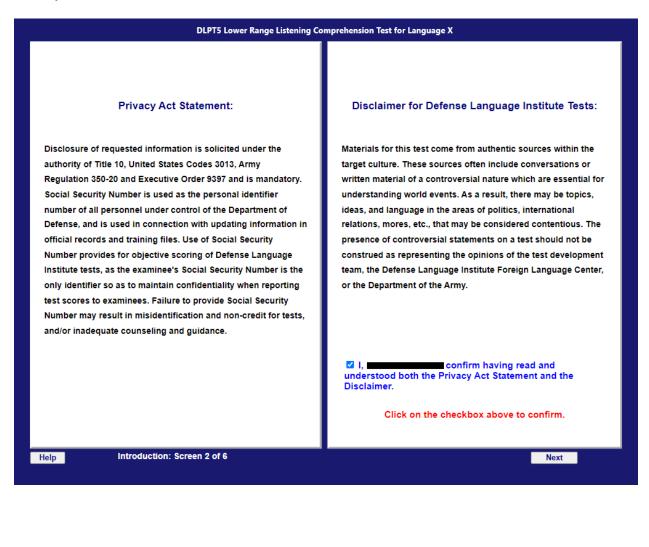
| DC | Information and Technology for Better Decision Making | - e |
|----|---|-----|
|    | esting  |     |
|    | Available Tests                                       |     |
|    | Language X<br>Take Test                               |     |
|    | Language X<br>Take Test                               |     |
|    |   |     |
|    |   |     |
|    |   |     |
|    |   |     |
|    |   |     |
|    |   |     |
|    |   |     |
|    |   |     |
|    |   |     |
|    |   |     |

Once the test has been selected, a series of introductory screens appears. These screens contain the Privacy Act Statement, the Disclaimer for Defense Language Institute Tests, the Non-Disclosure Statement, and the Test Administration Statement (of the examinee's ability to take the test at that time). The examinee must click on the indicated checkboxes under the Disclaimer Statement and then the Test Administration Statement before moving to the next screen.

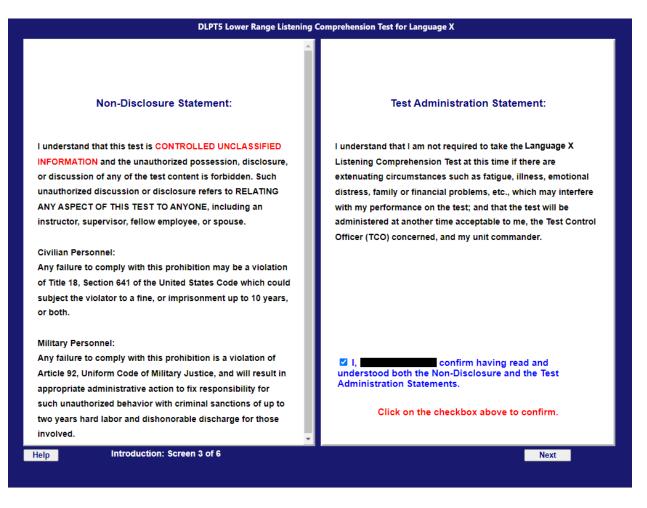
Below are introductory screens from a Listening Comprehension Test.



Privacy Act Statement and Disclaimer:



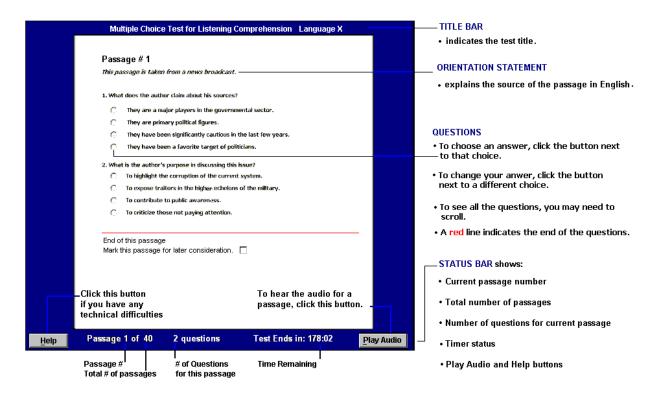
#### Non-Disclosure Statement and Test Administration Statement:



# Listening Comprehension Test

Example of screen layout for the Listening Comprehension Test:

Explanations of the parts of the screen are provided. Familiarize yourself with the features of this screen now.



Note: Below the red line is a check box that may be selected if the examinee wants to return to these test questions later. However, be aware that the audio of the passage will NOT be played again.

The next two screens contain instructions for the Listening Comprehension Test.

| DLPT5 Lower Range Listening Co   | mprehension Test for Language X                                      |
|--|--|
| <ul> <li>DLPTS Lower Range Listening Co<br/>Test Sequence</li> <li>When a passage screen opens, you will see the<br/>passage number, orientation statement, and the<br/>question or questions with their answer choices.</li> <li>At the very bottom of the screen a [Play Audio] button<br/>will be visible.</li> <li>When you click the [Play Audio] button, the audio will<br/>begin. The phrase 'Audio Playing' will be displayed in<br/>the status bar at the bottom of the screen.</li> <li>You may answer questions at any time during the<br/>playing of the audio.</li> <li>You may not move to the next passage until the audio<br/>finishes playing. When the audio finishes, the [Next]<br/>button appears at the bottom of the screen. Click it<br/>when you are ready to move on to the next passage.<br/>You will not be able to go back to previous passages<br/>until the end of the test.</li> <li>The [Help] button reappears at the end of the audio<br/>playing for each passage. If you need help concerning a<br/>passage, make sure that you click the [Help] button<br/>before moving to the next passage.</li> </ul> |                                    |
|  | Click the minus to lower the volume or the plus to raise the volume. |
| Help Introduction: Screen 5 of 6   | Back Next  |

Instructions screen for the Listening Comprehension Test:

|      | DLPT5 Lower Range Listening Comprehension Test for Language X   |  |
|------|---|--|
|      | ATTENTION: You have already heard a voice reading the instructions below.   |  |
|      | <ul> <li>When a passage screen opens, you will see a short statement in English that explains the context from which the passage was taken, and below that, the question or questions associated with the passage.</li> </ul>   |  |
|      | <ul> <li>When you are ready to hear the passage, click on the [Play Audio] button located at the bottom right corner of<br/>the screen.</li> </ul>  |  |
|      | <ul> <li>You will then hear the short statement in English followed by the passage. All passages will be played twice.</li> <li>There will be a short tone signal just before the passage is played the second time.</li> </ul>   |  |
|      | <ul> <li>You do not have to wait until the passage has finished playing to begin answering the questions. After hearing the passage you will be reminded to answer the question or questions. Read each question and its answer choices carefully. Some questions may be in the form of an incomplete statement.</li> </ul> |  |
|      | <ul> <li>Based on what you have heard in the passage, choose the correct answer to each question from among the<br/>four answer choices. The answer to each question may be stated overtly in the passage or only be implied.</li> </ul>  |  |
|      | <ul> <li>Click on the button next to the answer you have chosen. You may change your answer by clicking on a different button.</li> </ul>   |  |
|      | <ul> <li>Click on the [Next] button at the bottom right of the screen to go to the next passage.</li> </ul>   |  |
|      | <ul> <li>There is no penalty for guessing, so it is to your advantage to answer all of the questions.</li> </ul>  |  |
|      | A sample passage follows on the next screen.  |  |
|      | If you need help during the test, click on the [Help] button.   |  |
|      |   |  |
|      |   |  |
|      |   |  |
|      |   |  |
|      |   |  |
| Help | Introduction: Screen 6 of 6 Back Next   |  |

Presented here is an example of a Listening Comprehension Test sample question (the sample passage audio would be played while the screen is displayed):

| <i>Note:</i> | Examinees | may select | their answer | s to the q | uestions | while the | audio is | s playing. |
|--------------|-----------|------------|--------------|------------|----------|-----------|----------|------------|
|              |           |            |              |            |          |           |          |            |

|      | DLPT5 Lower Range Listening Comprehension Test for Language X  |  |
|------|--|--|
|      | Sample Passage   |  |
|      | This passage is a public announcement.<br>S1. What is one thing said about the event?  |  |
|      | <ul> <li>It will offer a variety of goods at low prices.</li> <li>It will have a tourism exhibit.</li> <li>It is open to the general public.</li> <li>It features a variety of food stands.</li> </ul> |  |
|      | End of questions for Sample Passage<br>Mark this passage for later consideration.  |  |
|      |  |  |
|      |  |  |
|      |  |  |
|      |  |  |
| Help | Sample Passage 1 question Play Audio   |  |

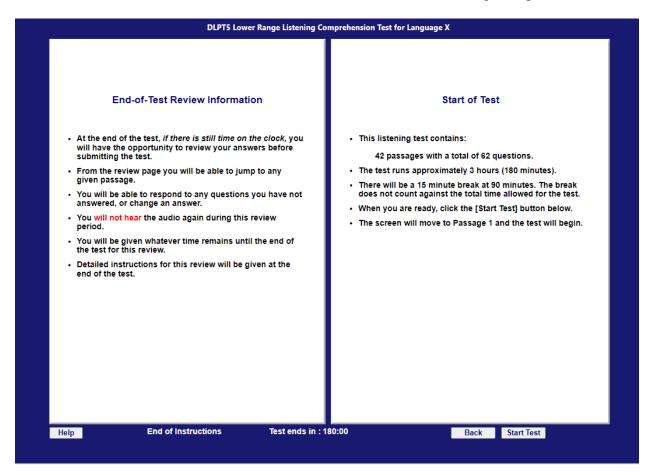
Note: After audio plays, the [Next] button will appear at the lower right of the screen.

When a passage screen opens, examinees can start the audio by clicking on the [Play Audio] button whenever they are ready to listen to the passage. When the audio finishes, the [Next] button will appear.

Examinees can move on to the next passage once the audio has finished playing by clicking on the [Next] button. At the end of the test, examinees will be able to move back to previous questions, but the audio will not play again.

After the sample passage, the examinee clicks on the [Next] button and moves to the End-of-Test Review Information and Start of Test screen.

End-of-Test Review Information and Start of Test screen for the Listening Comprehension Test:



By clicking on the [Start Test] button, the examinee moves to the first passage of the test and starts the clock.

## **End-of-Test Review Information**

At the end of the test, a review screen appears for examinees to review their responses to the questions before submitting the test.

On the review page, examinees will be able to click and jump to any given passage. They will be able to respond to any questions they have not answered, or they can change an answer.

The audio for the Listening Comprehension Test will **NOT** be played again during this review period.

Example of the review screen:

|             |          |          |        |               |          | E           | End                  | of Lis  | sten  | ing Tes   | t             |       |         |       |        |         |
|-------------|----------|----------|--------|---------------|----------|-------------|----------------------|---------|-------|-----------|---------------|-------|---------|-------|--------|---------|
| • In the    | char     | t below  | , an a | asterisk      | (*)      | in the A    | nswe                 | er colu | mn n  | neans tha | at you have   | ans   | wered   | quest | ion.   |         |
| • If you    | see 1    | the wor  | dB     | LANK          | it m     | ieans th    | nat <mark>n</mark> e | o answ  | er ha | is been r | egistered     | for t | his que | tion. |        |         |
| you w       | ere t    | aking th | ne te  | st.           | •        |             |                      |         |       | -         | ked that pa   |       |         |       |        | tion as |
|             |          | Answer   |        | Passage       |          |             |                      |         |       | Answer    | Passage       |       | •       |       | inver. |         |
| Passag<br>1 | 1        | Answer   |        | Passage<br>17 | 19       | Answer<br>* |                      | 27 27   | 37    | *         | Passage<br>36 | 54    | *       |       |        |         |
| 2           | 2        | *        |        |               | 20       | Blank       |                      | 21      | 38    |           | 50            | 55    | *       |       |        |         |
| 3           | 3        | *        |        | 18            | 21       | *           |                      | 28      | 39    | *         | 37            | 56    | *       |       |        |         |
| 4           | 4        | *        |        |               | 22       |             |                      | 20      | 40    | *         |               | 57    | *       |       |        |         |
| 5           | 5        | *        |        | 19            | 23       | *           | x                    | 29      | 41    | *         | 38            | 58    | *       |       |        |         |
| 6           | 6        | *        |        |               | 24       | *           |                      |         | 42    | *         |               | 59    | *       |       |        |         |
| 7           | 7        | *        | X      | 20            | 25       |             |                      | 30      | 43    |           | 39            | 60    | *       |       |        |         |
| 8           | 8        | *        |        |               | 26       | *           |                      |         | 44    | *         |               | 61    | *       |       |        |         |
| 9           | 9        | *        |        | 21            | 27       | *           |                      | 31      | 45    | *         |               |       |         |       |        |         |
| 10          | 10       | *        |        |               | 28       | *           |                      |         | 46    | *         |               |       |         |       |        |         |
| 11          | 11       | *        |        | 22            | 29       | ^           |                      | 32      | 47    | *         |               |       |         |       |        |         |
| 12          | 12       | *        |        |               | 30       |             |                      | 33      | 48    | *         |               |       |         |       |        |         |
| 13          | 13       | *        |        |               | 31       | *           |                      |         | 49    | *         |               |       |         |       |        |         |
| 14          | 14       | *        |        | 24            | 32       | Blank       |                      | 34      | 50    | *         |               |       |         |       |        |         |
| 15          | 15       |          |        |               | 33       | *           |                      |         | 51    | *         |               |       |         |       |        |         |
|             | 16       | î.       | X      |               | 34       |             |                      | 35      | 52    |           |               |       |         |       |        |         |
| 16          | 17<br>18 |          | X      | 26            | 35<br>36 |             |                      |         | 53    | <u> </u>  |               |       |         |       |        |         |

# **Sample Passages**

The purpose of this section is to familiarize prospective examinees on the levels and types of passages as well as their associated questions that appear in a given DLPT 5 test in multiplechoice format. Below are some sample passages from ILR levels 1 through 3 in listening taken from Arabic-Yemeni, and their associated questions and answer choices. Explanations of the correct answer for each question are also provided.

## Listening Comprehension Sample Passages

Note: Examinees will NOT see passage transcripts in an actual DLPT5 Listening Test.

Sample Passage: ILR Level 1

#### This passage is a conversation between two friends.

Transcription:

الصديق 1 (ذ) :دريت أن أخي سليم تعسكر ؟ الصديق 2 (ذ) :صدق؟ والله ما دريت. الصديق 1 (ذ) : ايوه، دخل الكلية الحربية. عيبدع في سبتمبر إن شاء الله.

- 1. What is one thing mentioned about Saleem?
  - (A) He joined the military.
  - (B) He received a promotion.
  - (C) He works at the university.
  - (D) He trains soldiers for combat.

The correct answer is (A).

Justification:

(A) is the correct answer.

The first speaker begins by telling his friend that Saleem has joined the military

- (B) is **not** the correct answer. There is no mention in this conversation of someone being promoted.
- (C) is **not** the correct answer. The first speaker says that Saleem enrolled in military college, but it does not say anything about working at a university.
- (D) is **not** the correct answer. There is no mention of combat training in this conversation.

## Sample Passage: ILR Level 2

### This passage is from a report by a tour guide.

Transcription:

| م :كهف حوق أحد أغرب الكهوف في العالم. مساحته من الداخل 3 كيلومتر، و            |
|--|
| في وسطه بحيرة ماء عذب، و صنف كأعجوبة الدنيا الثامنة لجماله و تاريخه            |
| العالمي، فهو الأن أصبح متحف مفتوح لكل الزائرين الى سقطرى. و يوجد في            |
| جزيرة سقطري ما يقارب 52 كهف، لكن أجملها كهف حوق، و الذي ما عرفوا               |
| مساحته بشكل دقيق لا حد الآن.   |
| و أضافة الى ذلك، أنّ هنالك حقائق تاريخية تحكي أن الكهف كان يستخدم كمعبد        |
| ديني يأوي اليه المسافرين و البحارة من أنحاء العالم اللي كانوا يسافرون عبر قارة |
| آسيا و أفريقيا. و معلومة لكل اللي يشتوا يزورا الكهف: لازم تصحى من باكر،        |
| لانه الكهف لازم تتسلق له أقل شيء ساعة و نصف ساعتين عشان توصله، و               |
| بعدين تدخل ليه يشتي له مسافة, مسافة كبيرة، يعني أقل شيء ساعتين.                |
| كمان أنصحكم أن أنتم ما تحملوا أنفسكم كثير عشان ما تتعبوا في الطلعة أو في       |
| النزلة. الطريق مرة وعرة، كمان لا تنسوا تأخذوا معكم كشافات عشان بالداخل         |
| ظلام دامس.   |
|  |

#### 2. What is one thing the guide says about Hoq cave?

- (A) It provides emergency shelter to villagers.
- (B) Its tours are available all year round.
- (C) It features paintings on the walls.
- (D) Its exact size is still unknown.

The correct answer is **(D)**.

Justification:

- (A) is **not** the correct answer. The guide mentions that in the past sailors and travelers from other continents took refuge here. He does not state that it is used as a shelter for villagers.
- (B) is **not** the correct answer. The guide mentions only that it is open for all visitors but does not talk specifically about tours.
- (C) is **not** the correct answer. The guide mentions that it is a beautiful and historical cave. He does not say anything about paintings on the walls of the cave.
- (D) is the correct answer.

The guide clearly mentions that the precise area of this cave is still unknown today.

#### 3. What does the guide caution visitors about?

- (A) To arrive early to avoid crowds.
- (B) To respect religious observance.
- (C) To prepare to walk a long distance.
- (D) To bring enough food for the day trip.

The correct answer is (C).

Justification:

- (C) is **not** the correct answer. The guide does tell his listeners to wake up early but does not mention the place being crowded.
- (D) is **not** the correct answer. The guide mentions that this cave was used as a religious temple in the past but makes no mention of respecting religious observances.
- (C) is the correct answer. The guide gives a tip to people to wake early because of the long climb to the cave and the long walk inside it.
- (E) is **not** the correct answer. The guide does not mention anything about food.

#### Sample Passage: Level 3

#### This passage is from a speech by a military commander.

Transcription:

قائد عسكري (ذ): شاهدتوا مقابلات بثتها قناة المسيرة الأسبوع الماضي، لعدد من أفراد المقاومة الوطنية الذي حذرناهم وبعضبهم خرج غياب أو إذن وراح إجازة هالبلاد. مسكوه وعذبوه وخلوه يدى باعترافات أنه سلم نفسه وأنو هارب من الجبهة. بالعكس، بعض الناس حب يغامر وبروّح البلاد. ومن خالف التعليمات الذي أحنا بنوجها عندما نعطيكم تعليمات هي حرصاً عليكم،على أمنكم على سلامتكم. فأرجوا أن هذه ما تتكررش منكم أيها الأبطال. ما حررناه، سهل نروح، لكن نحذر نحذر ، لا نطمئن أنفسنا ولا أحد يطمنا، أنت ما دام خرجت وقاتلتهم، هؤلاء فئة لا تعرف الحوار، ولا تعرف السلام ولا تعرف الأمن ولا تعرف العهد، ولا تعرف الميثاق. كم عهود نقضوها، كم تحالفات خانوها، آخرها ما حصل بينهم وبين المؤتمر الشعبي العام، الذي حاول أن يُعيد.. يعيدهم إلى رشدهم أو إنّو يحاول بوجودهم واستيلائهم على السلطة الفعلية أنه يبنوا مؤسسات دولة وبحافظوا على مؤسسات الدولة. لكن عصابة عبارة عن شوبة لصوص متنفذين، همهم غير جمع المال والاستيلاء على الأراضى والبيوت.. والاستيلاء على المعسكرات، حتى مرتبات الجنود ومرتبات الموظفين نهبوها. نحنُ أتينا هُنا لنستعبد أراضينا ويبوتنا وكرامتنا وقرانا، و مرتباتنا.

- 4. What is the reason the commander relates the story about a group of people who went home?
  - (A) To emphasize an ongoing threat.
  - (B) To justify punishment of the guilty.

## (C) To expose hypocrisy in the army.

### (D) To criticize the enemy for fleeing.

The correct answer is **(B)**.

Justification:

- (A) is **not** the correct answer. The commander does not refer to anything about punishment for people guilty of crimes or any kind of military offenses.
- (B) is the correct answer.

The commander mentions that the people were warned about going back home to places that had not been taken back and were asked to stay at the places that had already been liberated.

- (C) is **not** the correct answer. There is no mention of hypocrisy in the military. The commander talks about the ongoing threat and the warnings given to people about the threat.
- (D) is **not** the correct answer. There is no mention about the escape or fleeing of the enemy. In fact, the commander says that enemies or Houthis are still strong in the areas that have not been liberated.