


7. Klasse – Test 3 (mit Key und Tapescripts)

Name: _____ Klasse: _____ Datum: _____

1. Listening: Four tips for surviving your mid-20s

 You are going to listen to a recording about how to survive your mid-20s. First you will have 45 seconds to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice. While listening, match the beginnings of the sentences (1–5) with the sentence endings (A–H). There are two extra sentence endings you should not use. The first one (0) has been done for you. After the second listening you will have 45 seconds to check your answers.

Four tips for surviving your mid-20s

0	After graduating from high school young adults ...	E
Q1	After settling down into adult life it is common to ...	
Q2	Even though it is important to keep learning, you sometimes ...	
Q3	After finishing your education it is important not to...	
Q4	A big social support group will ...	
Q5	The more you trust yourself, the easier you can ...	

A	... get too hung up in your job.
B	... help you increase your chances in life.
C	... need mentors to help you along.
D	... make you take on new challenges.
E	... are commonly insecure about their own future.
F	... make decisions in a hurry.
G	... deal with adult life.
H	... feel not entirely satisfied with life.

KEY

- 0–E** are commonly insecure about their own future.
- Q1–H** feel not entirely satisfied with life.
- Q2–C** need mentors to help you along.
- Q3–A** get too hung up in your job.
- Q4–B** help you increase your chances in life.
- Q5–G** deal with adult life.

TAPESCRIPT

Announcer:

You are going to listen to a recording about how to survive your mid-20s. First you will have 45 seconds to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice. While listening, match the beginnings of the sentences (1–5) with the sentence endings (A–H). There are two extra sentence endings you should not use. The first one (0) has been done for you. After the second listening you will have 45 seconds to check your answers.

Speaker:

Imagine a beautiful summer day! You are standing in front of your school building... with the key to life in your hands: your high-school diploma.

You are (*cheerfully*) thrilled, (*pause*) (*more slowly*) excited – (*disillusioned*) clueless!

Are you now asking yourself “WHY CLUELESS”?

Well, because that’s how many young people feel after years of fixed schedules, clear assignments and being guided by their teachers.

All of a sudden reality kicks in: You are on your own! Everything you will experience from now on is within your control.

What happens next is often the same for a lot of young people: You go to college, get yourself a mediocre job that you don’t really like, find the “one” – or at least think that it’s the one – settle down, have some kids, buy a house that you have to get a mortgage for because you couldn’t afford it otherwise.

If you ask such people whether they are happy, you frequently get the same answer: I guess so!

(*enthusiastically*) Now listen! This is NOT what life is about! Life is definitely NOT about “I guess so’s”. It’s about finding yourself, feeling free and living your dreams!

How do you do that? I’ll tell you!

You only have to follow four easy tips.

Number 1: Take your time!

You are young! Take the time to experiment and see what you can find out there, in this huge and scary world. There is no need to rush things, neither in your personal life nor in your job. Don’t be afraid to pause for a moment and listen to yourself. If you plan your future accordingly instead of making hasty decisions, you’ll definitely be rewarded afterwards.

Number 2: Keep learning!

Nobody can ever teach you as much about your chosen industry as you can by keeping your will to acquire more and more knowledge alive. Finding a mentor who guides you through the ins and outs of your field of interest is valuable but will never replace what you can achieve when auto-didactically upgrading your education. Also don't forget to read something for fun once in a while. A good fictional book can get your mind off current problems, give you a break and maybe open up new perspectives.

Number 3: Socialise! Talk to a lot of people!

While you are always surrounded by lots and lots of people during your academic career – just think of the dorm that you lived in, the classes you attended, the bars and clubs you went to or the study groups you were a part of – real life in the real world looks a little different. People entering the working world often very much isolate themselves because they are busy sorting everything out with their new jobs and don't have that much time to get together with other people.

NOW THAT'S a BIG mistake! Especially when you are young and trying to find your place in life, you need to socialise! You need to build up your own network of people to expand your opportunities.

And finally ...

Number 4: Don't take your job too seriously!

Have you ever talked to your grandparents or parents about the good old days in which you got one job when you were 17 or 18 years old and you got to keep that job until retirement? Well, that DEFINITELY is a thing of the past! Employment has changed quite a bit in the past two decades. While companies are not focusing on training good and qualified staff anymore who will work for them for substantial periods of time but rather concentrate on their output, the job market is becoming more and more unstable.

How can you deal with that? Well, don't be afraid to take risks! Make sure that you stay flexible. And, like I said earlier, keep learning because that will actually allow you to jump around a lot, trying out new things. And don't be satisfied too easily! Just keep looking!

Mastering the transition from school to life can be traumatic. It's leaving a structured environment behind that often irritates young people. Let me tell you something: Everything will turn out fine! Just follow my tips, take your time to set some really good goals and never stop striving for a good life!

3. Reading: Ordinary people

Read the text below, then choose the correct heading (A–I) for each paragraph (1–6). There are two extra headings you should not use. Write your answers in the boxes provided at the end of the task. The first one (0) has been done for you.

An interview with author David DeFord about his book *Ordinary people can achieve the extraordinary – a practical guide to goal achievement*

... (0)

DeFord: It all came to me last year at a New Year’s party that I had been invited to. At some point a friend of mine asked the classic question: What’s your New Year’s resolution? I didn’t have one. In fact, I was a bit annoyed by the question itself, because I thought about all those resolutions people have around New Year’s Day but never take seriously.

... (Q1)

DeFord: I do not have any numbers to prove my theory but I would say that the top three plans for the coming year are “stop smoking”, “lose weight and exercise” and “spend more time with family and friends”.

... (Q2)

DeFord: For sure, there are some people who get their act together, stay focused and try to achieve the goals they have set themselves. The majority of people, however, are not determined enough to resist certain temptations.

... (Q3)

DeFord: Not necessarily, but I just think their approach could be different. This is actually what I talk about in my book. I have met so many people who complain about their jobs, their partners, their children or their looks. They are very passionate about the fact that they want to change. If I ask them what they are already doing to change their lives, they usually do not know what to reply.

... (Q4)

DeFord: Well, I am convinced that if you keep doing what you are doing at the moment, you will keep getting exactly what you are getting right now. If you really want to break this cycle, you need to change the way you approach your problems.

... (Q5)

DeFord: Reading my book, people might for example find an answer to the question of how to finally take control of their future, how to find their “great one thing” or how to select the right goals. They will learn about the benefits of keeping a journal and about different ways to overcome their fears and doubts.

... (Q6)

DeFord: If you want to break the – what I call – New Year’s resolution cycle, you need to focus and finally take some action. It’s all about setting yourself a goal and being determined and willing to do whatever it takes to eventually achieve it.

A	Would you say that people are not strong enough?
B	What made you write this book?
C	Would you say some people have got the wrong dreams?
D	Do you think that most people do not abide by their resolutions?
E	What are some of the issues that you address in your book?
F	What will happen if you do not change anything in your life?
G	What would you say are common New Year’s resolutions?
H	What message are you trying to send to your readers?
I	Do you have an answer for people lacking determination?

0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6
B						

KEY

0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6
B	G	D	A	I	E	H

4. Reading: Binge drinking

Read the text below, then answer the questions (1–6) using a maximum of four words. Write your answers in the spaces provided. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Binge drinking

For most adults, consuming alcohol at social events and gatherings has become something entirely normal and acceptable. The occasional glass of wine or beer is something we enjoy after a bad day at work or when having dinner with our partner. It seems harmless to indulge in an alcoholic beverage every now and then. We think nothing of pouring ourselves a small drink twice a week or even every other day. After all, we are far from waking up every day feeling the urge to drink.

However, this attitude has taught our children and teenagers that it is perfectly OK to drink at certain times, such as festivities or social events. They might even assume that they will be required to consume alcohol in order to blend in with the crowd or be part of it. Although legally most countries share the consensus that teens should not drink before they reach a certain age and are mentally and physically mature enough, this age varies considerably from country to country. While America has decided on 21 as the most sensible legal drinking age, Australia allows teenagers to drink at 18 and most European countries agree on teenagers being allowed to consume alcohol at 16 years of age.

Nevertheless, the fact that teenagers want to be part of the adult world by drinking alcohol does not automatically mean that they will do so in a way that will harm them in a mental or physical way. Depending on how responsibly their role models, for example older siblings or parental figures, handle alcohol consumption, they will be more or less likely to lose control. Addictive behaviour of any kind, be it connected to alcohol, drugs or medication, that is displayed by a family member may result in similar problems faced by the teenagers born into such families. Thus, young adults who never learn to limit their consumption habits to small doses tend to overdo it, especially when they go out in larger groups.

This lack of control seems to be on the rise among teenagers in particular, as increasing numbers of binge drinking incidents in European countries indicate. Binge drinkers cause their blood alcohol levels to rise enormously within very short time by downing virtually litres of alcohol within a few hours. The problem occurring here is twofold, with the latter issue being the more problematic one. Not only do young adults drink more, but they also prefer hard liquor to more traditional drinks such as beer or wine. Since most teenagers have little to no experience with the number of drinks they can safely consume, consequences ranging from suffering from a bad but relatively harmless hangover the next day to ending up in hospital at the end of a night out are likely to be the result. No matter whether they were trying to impress their peers or to escape from the real world for a little bit, they might regret having made this choice.

0	Where do adults commonly consume alcohol?	<i>at social events/gatherings</i>
Q1	According to the author, which frequency of alcohol consumption do most people still see as normal?	
Q2	How do teenagers feel about drinking alcohol because of the example they are given?	
Q3	What do most countries agree on concerning teenage alcohol consumption?	
Q4	What has the biggest impact on teenagers' control of drinking?	
Q5	Which ability do teenagers with alcohol problems lack?	
Q6	What is the biggest problem connected to binge drinking?	

KEY

- 0** at social events/gatherings
- Q1** twice a week/every second day/every other day
- Q2** feel required to drink/are required to drink
- Q3** mental and physical maturity/a certain maturity/a certain age
- Q4** behaviour/consumption of role models/siblings/parental figures
- Q5** ability to limit consumption/limiting consumption/drinking only small doses
- Q6** drinking hard liquor

5. Language in use: Pets are the better doctors

You are going to read a text about pets. Some words are missing from the text. Use the word in brackets to form a word that fits in the gaps (1–9). Write your answers in the spaces provided at the end of the text. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Pets are the better doctors

It is common **(0)** ... **(know)** that owning a pet has a positive influence on your life. The time you spend caring for it usually helps you relax and its **(Q1)** ... **(condition)** love improves your self-esteem. Pet owners are less susceptible to **(Q2)** ... **(depress)** as well as sleeping disorders and are more satisfied with their private lives. However, what you might not have known is that your cat or dog can be a live-in warning signal in terms of health or **(Q3)** ... **(nature)** disasters.

Scientists have recently discovered that many pets seem to have the **(Q4)** ... **(able)** to detect severe illnesses long before human doctors can. Even though they are not **(Q5)** ... **(entire)** sure about the reasons, research seems to suggest that the human smell changes when we suffer from diseases that might harm us or even be lethal. Thus, pet owners should remain sensitive to **(Q6)** ... **(behave)** changes in their animals. Although there is no reason to be hysterical about it, sudden shifts in the pet's **(Q7)** ... **(day)** routine should not go unnoticed.

This is also true in terms of natural disasters. According to many pet owners living in areas where tornadoes, hurricanes and earthquakes hit **(Q8)** ... **(frequent)**, animals tend to behave strangely shortly before such events. They seem to display nervousness and try to stay close to their owners for **(Q9)** ... **(protect)**. Thus, if we experience changes in our pets' attitudes and moods and we cannot determine a reason for them, it might be wise to consult a doctor or be on the lookout for upcoming dangers.

Prime Time 7

0 knowledge
Q1 _____
Q2 _____
Q3 _____
Q4 _____

Q5 _____
Q6 _____
Q7 _____
Q8 _____
Q9 _____

KEY

0 knowledge
Q1 unconditional
Q2 depression
Q3 natural
Q4 ability

Q5 entirely
Q6 behavioural
Q7 daily
Q8 frequently
Q9 protection

KEY

<p>You want to buy a new car, a house or the designer clothes? No problem, as long as you have the money. While this might have had been true a few decades ago, most people today would not think of twice about going into a bit of debt in order to purchase what they want when they want it.</p>	<p><u>the</u> 0</p> <p><u>had</u> 00</p> <p><u>of</u> Q1</p> <p><u>✓</u> Q2</p> <p><u>✓</u> Q3</p>
<p>The problem is that most companies do not only encourage to us to go beyond our financial limits, they even promote the possibilities to do so by offering minimum of payments on bigger purchases. However, once you accept this seemingly generous an offer, the situation quickly gets worse. While you might be able to afford the monthly rates, you might not be aware of the fact that you never quite will manage to pay your debt off by this way.</p>	<p><u>to</u> Q4</p> <p><u>✓</u> Q5</p> <p><u>of</u> Q6</p> <p><u>an</u> Q7</p> <p><u>✓</u> Q8</p> <p><u>will</u> Q9</p> <p><u>by</u> Q10</p>
<p>The younger the customers are, the easier it is for them to fall into this trap. Due to a lack of the experience with loans and credits, many young adults only realise what they have done when their debt has grown so high that they cannot go get rid of it any more. This forces many of them to start their working life with a huge credit on their backs and leaves them little to look in forward to in the future.</p>	<p><u>✓</u> Q11</p> <p><u>the</u> Q12</p> <p><u>✓</u> Q13</p> <p><u>go</u> Q14</p> <p><u>✓</u> Q15</p> <p><u>in</u> Q16</p>

7. Writing: Cultural diversity

Recently you have read an article in a big Austrian newspaper about an African American who was denied access to a restaurant by the owner due to his skin colour. Since you despise discrimination, you decide to write a **letter to the editor** of this newspaper in which you protest against such actions. In your letter, you should:

- discuss why cultural diversity is valuable and important for a country
- analyse which consequences discrimination can have
- suggest how we can reduce prejudices and prevent discrimination

Write about **250 words**.