

**SÈRIE 1.****Part 1: Reading Comprehension**

Choose the best answer according to the text. Only ONE answer is possible. [0.5 points each correct answer. Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.16 points. There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

**1- Nas wants to join the Air Forces...**

- because he will look cool in his uniform.
- **because he has always dreamt of becoming a pilot.**
- because he doesn't want to do a degree.
- in order to avoid the pressure of exams.

**2- When Nas walks to the park with his friends...**

- they get hostile looks from everyone they come across.
- they feel ashamed, as people walk away from them.
- they understand why people seem to be afraid of them.
- **they have mixed feelings at the adults' reactions to them.**

**3- According to the text, "a walker" is ...**

- someone who walks the streets on Sunday mornings.
- someone generally called a distribution expert.
- someone who walks through wind and rain.
- **a person that delivers the paper to people's houses.**

**4- Why does Nas feel his mother confides in him now? Because...**

- she divorced and now she has remarried.
- **their relationship has changed and she now explains things to him.**
- she has always liked to explain everything to him.
- Nas has grown and can understand why she divorced.

**5- The main reason Nas does not speak much slang is that...**

- he doesn't like learning foreign languages
- African parents want their children to preserve their native language.
- he wants to be integrated in the cool group.
- **African parents encourage their children to use language correctly.**

**6- According to the text, what is Nas's opinion about the "cool group" at school?**

- He dislikes them because he thinks they all drink and take drugs.
- He would have liked to join them but he's left out at times.
- He thinks they do not behave correctly but he admires them.
- **He disapproves of their drinking and thinks they take no interest in school.**

**7- When the text argues that the kids "are colour blind", it is trying to make the point that...**

- they do not distinguish colours appropriately.
- they are against racially mixed groups.
- **there is no racist attitude to be detected among these children.**
- the children in the group are all coloured people.

8- **On the whole, the text suggests that...**

- Nas's behaviour shows him to be an immature boy in comparison with other teenagers.
- Nas is surprisingly unfit to join the Air Forces for his age.
- **Nas's generation has been unjustly demonized.**
- society's demonization of present day teenagers responds to their reality.

**Listening Comprehension****"Butter, bread and green cheese...**

In the following conversation you are going to hear some new words. Read and listen to them.

Make sure you know what they mean

*grant* : atorgar / otorgar

*threat* : amenaça / amenaza

*huge* : enorme

*overwhelming* : aclaparador / apabullante

*detrimental*: perjudicial

Ready?

Now read the questions on the following page. Read them carefully before listening to the interview.

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"Butter, bread and green cheese...is good English and good Friese". This saying refers to the similarities between English and Frisian, a language spoken on the Northern coast of Holland which is closer to English than any other language, including German and Dutch. In the following conversation, Troy Gallagher interviews Matthias Paulsen, a professor of Frisian language and literature at the University of Nijmegen in Holland who has just written a book about Frisian.

[Now listen to the interview]

**Troy:** Professor Paulsen, thank you for accepting to talk to us about the Frisian language and its situation in modern-day Holland.

**Professor Paulsen:** Thank you, Troy, for inviting me. It is a pleasure to be able to talk to your audience about Frisian.

**Troy:** Even though Frisian is, as you say in your book, the closest language to English, most English speakers have never heard of this language. Why do you think that is?

**Professor Paulsen:** Well, to begin with, Frisian is a minority language, spoken primarily in Holland but also in small parts of Germany and Denmark. It has just over 400.000 speakers, the majority of which are also speakers of other languages, mostly Dutch but also German and Danish. So it isn't surprising that it should not be very well known to anybody outside these areas.

**Troy:** And what is the current status of the language in Holland? Is it an official language?

**Professor Paulsen:** For many years Frisian was considered a language of peasants, spoken at home by fishermen and farmers and so it had no official recognition. Fortunately, it was granted

official language status in the province of Friesland, in Holland, in 1956 and nowadays it is one of the two official languages in the country, together with Dutch. In Germany it is protected as a minority language also. An interesting detail is the fact that the official name of the province is now 'Fryslân', the Frisian name, instead of the earlier Dutch 'Friesland'.

**Troy:** And how did this recognition change the situation of the language?

**Professor Paulsen:** Well, in many ways Frisian is still, we could say, a 'country' language, spoken by people in rather remote, rural areas, especially on the Frisian Islands. But since it achieved official recognition, there have been some important improvements. For example, it is now possible for children to attend school in Frisian and there are also some University courses that are taught in Frisian.

**Troy:** Is Frisian used at all levels of community life? I mean, can you for example use Frisian in court or in public institutions?

**Professor Paulsen:** Yes, this is a right that is guaranteed by the fact that it is considered an official language. However, it is still rather unusual for most people to use Frisian outside the family environment and therefore many switch to Dutch when they have to speak to people they don't know or in the administration.

**Troy:** And what about the media? Do you have Frisian TV or radio service?

**Professor Paulsen:** We do not yet have Frisian TV but we have had a Frisian radio station for a while in Fryslân. Also, even though we do not have any newspapers that publish entirely in Frisian, many do carry occasional columns in the language.

**Troy:** In your book you mention that, even though the number of speakers of Frisian is larger than the number of speakers of, for example, Icelandic, there are some serious threats to the survival of the language in the near future. Why is that?

**Professor Paulsen:** You see, this is a complicated situation but the possibilities for a language to survive into the future do not depend only on the number of speakers. There are other factors that can be more decisive in this respect. For example, nearly all Frisian speakers are bilingual in other, more powerful languages such as Dutch or German. These languages can have a huge influence on young Frisian speakers through their overwhelming presence on the media, like TV, the Internet, etc. That is why many people feel that speaking Frisian does not represent any advantage in today's world and therefore stop speaking the language or stop teaching it to their children. Some people even think that speaking Frisian can distract them from learning Dutch properly!!

**Troy:** But that is not true, is it?

**Professor Paulsen:** Certainly not! There is no scientific evidence at all to suggest that knowing or learning more than one language can be detrimental for another. In fact, quite the opposite seems to be the case. The more languages you learn, the easier it is to learn new ones and there is hardly ever any interference between them.

**Troy:** So what do you think needs to be done to make sure that Frisian remains a living language for many centuries?

**Professor Paulsen:** The most important thing is that Frisian speakers take their language seriously and that they speak it in as many different situations as possible. But above all, it is essential that the language be taught to children so that there can be new generations of native speakers and that the transmission of the language is not interrupted or broken. It is very easy to lose a language but extremely difficult to bring it back.

**Troy:** Well, Professor Paulsen, thank you very much for your very interesting words. It has been a pleasure talking to you and I hope that your expectations for the survival of the Frisian language turn out to be true. But before we finish, I have one more question for you, do you really eat green cheese in Fryslân?

**Professor Paulsen:** Ha ha!! No, we don't! The expression says 'green cheese' because of the similarity between the words in English and Frisian, but as far as I know, there is no green cheese in Fryslân. We do love cheese though, even blue cheese, but not green!

Choose the most appropriate answer according to the text. Only one answer is correct.

[0.25 points each correct answer Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.08 points. There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

**Clau de Respostes****1. How many Frisian speakers are there?**

- Less than 400.000.
- **Just over 400.000.**
- There are 400.000 in Denmark.
- There are just over 400.000 monolingual speakers of Frisian.

**2. In 1956...**

- Frisian was declared an official language in Germany.
- the name of the language was changed to 'Fryslân'.
- Frisian was officially recognized as a 'country' language.
- **Frisian was given official status in Holland.**

**3. What is the situation of Frisian in schools?**

- it can only be taught in schools in remote rural areas.
- it is only taught at University.
- **it is taught in schools.**
- children can attend Frisian schools only on the islands.

**4. In their relationship with the administration...**

- Frisian speakers use Frisian exclusively.
- Frisian is never used.
- **people hardly every use Frisian.**

people use Frisian when they are accompanied by their family.

**5. What is the presence of Frisian in the media?**

- There is no Frisian TV or radio, but there are some Frisian newspapers.
- **There is no Frisian TV, but there is Frisian radio.**
- There are some newspapers that publish exclusively in Frisian.
- There are no media in Frisian.

**6. According to Professor Paulsen, one of the threats to the survival of Frisian is...**

- the fact that it has more speakers than Icelandic.
- **the fact that most Frisian speakers are bilingual.**
- the fact that most Frisian speakers watch TV and use the Internet.
- the fact that speaking Frisian distracts them from learning Dutch.

**7. What is the most important thing that needs to be done to ensure the survival of Frisian?**

- Frisian speakers must use their language in serious situations.
- The language needs to be taught by children.
- Frisian speakers need to lose the language and then bring it back.
- **The language must be taught to the new generations.**

**8. Green cheese is...**

- very popular in Fryslân and in England.
- **only part of a saying about the resemblance between Frisian and English.**
- only eaten in Fryslân but not in England.
- loved more than blue cheese in Fryslân

## SÈRIE 4

## Part 1: Reading Comprehension

Choose the best answer according to the text. Only ONE answer is correct.  
[0.5 points each correct answer. Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.16 points. There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

Questions:

- 1 - **According to the article, under the new UK Government's law...**
  - **tobacco will no longer be displayed at points of sale.**
  - tobacco will be forbidden by the Government.
  - tobacco machines will be allowed in bars and shops.
  - vending machines will soon disappear in the UK.
- 2 - **Mr. McCartney condemns vending machines because he thinks they...**
  - are a serious danger to children's entertainment.
  - have contributed to change history.
  - **legally provide a product that causes death.**
  - prevent children from suffering illness and premature death.
- 3 - **Health and anti-smoking activists have long been campaigning...**
  - **to stop the presence of tobacco machines in pubs.**
  - to restrict tolerance in the sales of alcohol and knives.
  - in favour of free access to pubs.
  - to join the British Heart Foundation.
- 4 - **Deborah Arnott welcomes the new legislation because she thinks...**
  - **it reinforces the existing law against easy access to addictive products.**
  - tobacco is more lethal than any other addictive drug.
  - it will make dangerous products accessible to children.
  - the Government will forbid children from using vending machines.
- 5 - **According to Harpal Kumar, Cancer Research UK's chief executive,**
  - **the new law will reduce the percentage of addictions amongst youngsters.**
  - the new law will not protect young people from smoking.
  - all long term smokers are killed by tobacco.
  - d) this new law was voted to protect tobacco marketing
- 6 - **Conservative members of Parliament opposed the ban on the display of cigarettes. Davies argues that...**
  - **in time of recession shop-keepers will lose business.**
  - people should be able to buy tobacco as they buy cakes.
  - shops will continue to display cigarettes.
  - Government should protect the tobacco industry.
- 7 - **Newsagents are angry and have said they would...**
  - refuse to participate in the next general election.
  - **campaign against Labour vote at the general election.**
  - boycott the Conservative Party.
  - put shop-keepers out of their business.

8 - **Health Minister Gillian Merror is convinced that the new law will...**

- **help prevent children from becoming potential smokers**
- prevent children from contracting new diseases
- encourage more people to keep on smoking.
- protect young people from infectious diseases.

**Listening Comprehension****Vasa – the most expensive and highly decorated warship**

In this radio programme you are going to hear some new words. Read and listen to them. Make sure you know what they mean.

**warship** : *vaixell de guerra / barco de guerra*

**shipyard**: *drassanes / astilleros*

**mast**: *màstil / mastil*

**inquiries**: *investigacions / interrogatorios*

**preserved**: *conservat / conservado*

**mollusk**: *molusc / molusco*

Ready?

Now read the questions on the next page. Read them carefully before listening to the radio programme.

**Presenter:** The warship *Vasa* was lost on her first voyage in 1628. Today this magnificent ship rests in the *Vasa* Museum in Stockholm, Sweden, as a testament to her past. Today in our programme "Round the World", I'm pleased to introduce Julia Donhauser, a keen traveller to the North and an expert on warships. Hi Julia and welcome to our programme.

[Now listen to the interview]

**Julia:** Hello. It's a pleasure to be here today.

**Presenter:** Julia, I started this interview telling our listeners that the most expensive ship in the world was lost on her first voyage. But before telling us something about this catastrophe, could you tell us something about the ship?

**Julia:** Well, maybe, first of all we have to go back to the seventeenth century in Sweden. In the early 17th century, Sweden was busy building an empire around the Baltic Sea in northern Europe. A strong navy was essential. During the 1620s Sweden was at war with Poland. In 1625 the Swedish king Gustavus Adolphus ordered new warships and amongst them the *Vasa*. The King wanted to build the most impressive, the most expensive warship.

**Presenter:** The *Vasa* was built to be a warship, right, but ... err... Why such an impressive one?

**Julia:** The new ship filled everyone with admiration. People from Stockholm were proud of it. And the enemies were really afraid, frightened by the news that came from Sweden. There are a number of letters that prove so. The Danish Ambassador in Stockholm wrote a letter where he, impressed, spoke about the 64 cannons in the ship. So, as I said, the ship was needed to win wars but also to impress both the people in Sweden and the rest of the world.

**Presenter:** And ... how was the ship built?

**Julia:** The *Vasa* was built at the Stockholm shipyards by Henrik Hybertsson - an experienced Dutch shipbuilder. His experience was much needed as the *Vasa* was to be the most powerful warship in the world, armed with 64 guns. It took three years to build the ship. More than a thousand oak trees were used for its construction, including 50-meter tall masts and hundreds of golden statues. The ship was built in the centre of Stockholm, just beside the Royal palace, so everybody could see it.

**Presenter:** What an expensive toy! (*laughs*) So, how come it sank on her first voyage? It seems hard to believe...!

**Julia:** Well ... yes, in 1628 the ship was ready. Sunday August 10 was the day of the Vasa's first voyage. The beaches around Stockholm were filled with spectators, among them foreign diplomats. The weather was nice and a weak wind was blowing.

**Presenter** (*interrupting*): I can picture the scene...

**Julia:** Well, yes! The first voyage was to be an act of propaganda for the ambitious Swedish king Gustavus Adolphus. The Vasa set sail and fired a salute. But only after a few minutes of sailing the ship began to sink. Water started to enter through the open gunports. And, to everyone's horror and disbelief, the glorious and mighty warship suddenly sank! Of the 150 people on board, between 30 and 50 died in the disaster. When the Vasa was rescued, in 1961, archaeologists found the remains of 25 skeletons.

**Presenter:** I can imagine the faces of those people watching. And the king, was he there?

**Julia:** No, no. The king was away, he was not in Sweden at the time. He was fighting on one of his wars in Poland. It took two weeks for him to learn about what had happened. When he did, he wrote angrily that the disaster had happened because of "imprudence and negligence" and that those who were guilty had to be punished.

**Presenter:** So... he wanted someone guilty.

**Julia.** Yeah. So many efforts, so much money, apart from the lives of those that died! Well, just after the disaster the captain of the Vasa - Söfring Hansson - was arrested. The Government accused him of not doing his job. They said that the crew, the sailors, were drunk and that the cannons were not well built. Söfring Hansson and many others were questioned at the Royal Castle in Stockholm.

**Presenter:** What happened then?

**Julia:** They all said the same: that everything was OK in the ship and that no one was drunk since it was Sunday and they had gone to church. At the inquest people were troubled by the fact that the shipbuilder Henrik Hybertsson had died the year before the Vasa was completed. Instead, his brother and partner, was responsible for the completion of the ship. But in the end no one was condemned for causing the disaster. The people in charge of the inquiries concluded that the ship was well built - but badly proportioned.

**Presenter:** Right, but that's not the end of the Vasa, is it? Even if it was a total failure, now it's a treasure.

**Julia:** Yeah, yeah. On 13<sup>th</sup> September 1956, a brief piece of news was published in the Swedish newspaper *Expressen* about the discovery of an old ship in the port of Stockholm. The 38-year-old engineer, Anders Franzen, had found the Vasa. He had studied the Vasa. He also knew that the ... the Baltic Sea was unique in the sense that it does not have a special mollusc that destroys wood. That's why ships in the Baltic Sea can be preserved for longer.

**Presenter:** An interesting fact: a mollusc that destroys the wood in Oceans but not in the Baltic Sea.

**Julia:** Well, water isn't so salty there, that's why. Anyway, he "fished" a black piece of oak wood, something that he thought could belong to the Vasa. His friend Edvin Fälting dived and confirmed his suspicions. It took five years to bring it back on land.

**Presenter:** And then, the museum. Today the Vasa Museum is the most visited museum in Scandinavia, with over one million visitors a year.

**Julia:** Exactly, nowadays the Vasa is the only preserved seventeenth-century ship in the world, and a unique art treasure. For nearly half a century the ship was carefully restored to a state approaching its original glory. More than 95 percent of the ship is original, and it is decorated with hundreds of sculptures. The three masts on the roof outside the museum show the height of the ship's original masts.

**Presenter:** This is an amazing story! It's been a very interesting discovery. Thank you, Julia, for being with us today.

**Julia:** My pleasure. Thank you.



**Clau de respostes**

Choose the best answer according to the text. Only one answer is correct.

1. **Why was the Vasa built?**
  - Because the Danish Ambassador wanted to.
  - To carry 64 cannons to the war in Poland.
  - **To impress both the people of Sweden and their enemies.**
  - To prove that Swedish people could build the most expensive ship.
  
2. **Which of these things does the Vasa NOT have?**
  - More than one hundred statues.
  - Masts that are 50 meters tall.
  - Wood taken from a thousand oak trees.
  - **Two golden guns.**
  
3. **What happened in 1628?**
  - The Swedish King Gustavus Adolphus saluted the people on the ship
  - Between thirty and fifty people died while building the Vasa.
  - The Vasa was rescued from the bottom of the sea.
  - **The Vasa started her first voyage.**
  
4. **When and where did the King learn about the tragedy?**
  - Immediately. He was right there, on the beach.
  - **Two weeks later in Poland.**
  - Two weeks later in Stockholm.
  - Immediately; he was in his palace in Sweden.
  
5. **Who was first arrested for the disaster?**
  - The builder of the ship.
  - **The Captain of the ship.**
  - A group of sailors.
  - The builder's brother.
  
6. **Why did the Vasa sink, according to the inquiries?**
  - **The ship was badly proportioned.**
  - The sailors were drunk.
  - The cannons were not well built.
  - The Captain did not do his job correctly.
  
7. **Why was the Vasa so well preserved when it was taken on land?**
  - The ship was new when it sank so it was well protected against corrosion.
  - **The Baltic Sea does not have a mollusc that destroys the wood of ships.**
  - Black oak protected the ship. It does not deteriorate so quickly.  
No one knows.
  
8. **How many people visit the Vasa nowadays?**
  - Ninety-five per cent of the people that visit Stockholm.
  - Hundreds of people every year.
  - **More than one million people every year.**
  - Seventeen hundred people every week.