

# CAM 16 – L TEST 4

## SECTION 1:

Hello?

Oh hello. I was hoping to speak to Jack Fitzgerald about renting a .

I'm his , Shirley, and we own the cottages together, so I'm sure I can help you.

Great. My name's Tom. Some friends of ours rented Granary Cottage from you last year, and they thought it was great. So my wife and I are hoping to come in May .

What date did you ?

The week beginning the 14th, if possible.

I'll just check ... I'm sorry. Tom. It's already **booked** that week. It's free the week beginning the , though, for . In fact, that's the only time you could have it in May.

Oh. Well, we could manage that, I think. We'd just need to change a couple of things. How much would it cost?

That's the beginning of the , so it'd be £550 for the week.

Ah. That's a bit more than we wanted to pay, I'm afraid. We've up to £500 for .

Well, we've just finished another building into a cottage, which we're calling Chervil Cottage.

Sorry? What was that again?

Chervil. C-H-E-R-V for Victor I-L.

Oh, that's a , isn't it?

That's right. It grows fairly wild around here. You could have that for the week you want for .

OK. So could you tell me something about it, please?

Of course. The building was built as a . It's a little smaller than Granary Cottage.

So that must sleep two people, as well?

That's right. There's a .

Does it have a garden?

Yes. you get to it from the living room through French doors, and we provide two . We hope to build a in the near future, but I wouldn't like to guarantee it'll be finished by May.

OK.

The front door opens onto the old . and parking isn't a problem - there's plenty of room at the front for that. There are some trees and there.

What about in the cottage? It has standard things like a cooker and fridge, I

In the kitchen area, there's a and we've just put in an electric cooker.

Is there a ?

Yes. There's also a TV in the living room, which plays DVDs too. The bathroom is too small for a , so there's a instead. I think a lot of people prefer that nowadays, anyway.

It's more , isn't it? Unless you spend half the day in it!

Exactly.

What about heating? It sometimes gets quite cool at that time of year.

There's , and if you want to light a fire, there's a **stove**. We can provide all the wood you need for it. It smells so much nicer than , and it makes the room very - we've got one in our own house.

That sounds very . Perhaps we should come in the winter, to make the most of it!

Yes, we find we don't want to go out when we've got the . There are some attractive views from the cottage, which I haven't mentioned. There's a - it's one of the oldest in the region, and you can see it from the living room. It isn't far away. The bedroom window looks in the direction and has a lovely view of the hills and the at the top.

Well, that all sounds perfect. I'd like to book it, please. Would you want a ?

Yes, we ask for thirty percent to your booking, so that'll be, urn, £144.

And when would you like ?

You're coming in May, so the last day of March, please.

Fine.

Excellent. Could I just take your details ...

## SECTION 2:

Right. Next on the , we have traffic and highways.

Thank you. Well, we now have the results of the survey carried out last month about traffic and road transport in the town. People were generally the state of the roads. There were one or two complaints about which will be addressed, but a significant number of people complained about the increasing number of using our local roads to avoid traffic elsewhere. We'd expected more complaints by about the reduction in the train service, but it doesn't seem to people too much. The cycle path that runs alongside the river is very well used by both and since the surface was improved last year, but overtaking can be a problem so we're going to add a bit on the side to make it wider. At some stage, we'd like to extend the path so that it goes all the way through the town, but that won't be happening in the .

The plans to have a pedestrian crossing next to the Post Office have unfortunately had to be put on hold for the time being. We'd budgeted for this to be done this , but then there were that the Post Office was going to move, which would have meant there wasn't really a need for a crossing. Now they've that they're staying where they are, but the Highways Department has told us that it would be dangerous to have a pedestrian crossing where we'd originally planned it as there's a in the road there. So that'll need some .

On Station Road near the station and level crossing, drivers can face quite long waits if the level crossing's closed, and we've now requesting them not to leave their running at that time. This means pedestrians waiting on the to cross the railway line don't have to breathe in . We've had some problems with cyclists leaving their bikes to the outside the ticket office, but the station has agreed to provide bike racks there.

So next on the agenda is ' for improvements to the '.  
Councilor Thornton again.

Well, since we managed to \_\_\_\_\_ the recreation ground, we've spent some time talking to local people about how it could be made a more \_\_\_\_\_ space. If you have a look at the map up on the screen, you can see the river up in the north, and the \_\_\_\_\_ near the entrance from the road. At present, cars can park between the Community Hall and that line of trees to \_\_\_\_\_, but this is quite dangerous for pedestrians so we're suggesting a new car park on the opposite side of the Community Hall, right next to it. We also have a new location for the \_\_\_\_\_. As we've now \_\_\_\_\_ additional space to the east of the recreation ground, beyond the trees, we plan to move it away from its current location, which is rather near the road, into this new area beyond the line of trees. This means there's less danger of \_\_\_\_\_ hitting cars or pedestrians.

We've got plans for a children's playground which will be \_\_\_\_\_ by a \_\_\_\_\_ from the Community Hall and will be alongside the river. We'd originally thought of having it close to the road, but we think this will be a more attractive location.

The \_\_\_\_\_ is very popular with both younger and older children - we had considered moving this \_\_\_\_\_ the river, but in the end, we decided to have it in the \_\_\_\_\_ near the road. The \_\_\_\_\_ is very well used at present by both football players and \_\_\_\_\_. It will stay where it is now - to the left of the line of trees and near to the river - \_\_\_\_\_ for both the football and cricket pitches.

And finally, we'll be getting a new notice board for local information, and that will be directly on people's rights as they go from the road into the recreation ground.

## SECTION 3:

Now that we've done all the research into \_\_\_\_\_ in cities around the world, we need to think about how we're going to organize our report.

Right. I think we should start by talking about the benefits. I mean it's great that so many cities have introduced these schemes where anyone can \_\_\_\_\_ a bike from dozens of different locations and hire it for a few hours. It makes riding a bike very \_\_\_\_\_ for people.

Yes, but the costs can \_\_\_\_\_ and that puts people on low incomes off in some places.

I suppose so, but if it means more people, in general, are cycling rather than driving, then because they're increasing the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ they do, it's good for their health.

OK. But isn't that of less importance? I mean, doesn't the impact of reduced \_\_\_\_\_ air pollution have a more significant effect on people's health?

Certainly. In some cities bike-sharing has made \_\_\_\_\_ to that. And also helped to cut the number of cars on the road \_\_\_\_\_.

Which is the main point.

Exactly. But I'd say it's had less of an impact on noise pollution because there are still \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ around.

Right.

Shall we quickly discuss the \_\_\_\_\_ we're going to make?

In order to \_\_\_\_\_ bike-sharing schemes are successful?

Yes.

OK. Well, while I think it's nice to have really \_\_\_\_\_ bikes with things like GPS, I wouldn't say they're absolutely necessary.

But some technical things are really important - like a fully functional app - so people can make payments and book bikes easily. Places which \_\_\_\_\_ that have really struggled.

Good point... Some people say there shouldn't be \_\_\_\_\_ offering separate bike-sharing schemes, but in some really big cities, competition's beneficial, and anyway, one company might not be able to manage the whole thing.

Right. \_\_\_\_\_ how much to invest is a big question. Cities which have opened loads of new bike lanes at the same time as introducing bike-sharing schemes have generally been more successful - but there are examples of successful schemes where this hasn't happened ... What does matter though - is having a big \_\_\_\_\_.

Definitely. If people don't know how to use the scheme or don't understand its benefits, they won't use it. People need a lot of \_\_\_\_\_ to stop using their cars.

Shall we look at some examples now? And say what we think is \_\_\_\_\_ about them.

I suppose we should start with Amsterdam as this was one of \_\_\_\_\_ to have a bike-sharing scheme.

Yes. There was already a \_\_\_\_\_ cycling here. In a way, it's strange that there was such a demand for bike-sharing because you'd have thought most people would have used their own bikes.

And yet it's one of the \_\_\_\_\_ schemes ... Dublin's an interesting example of a success story.

It must be because the public transport system's quite limited.

Not really - there's no underground. But there are \_\_\_\_\_ and a good bus network. I'd say the price has a lot to do with it. It's one of the \_\_\_\_\_ schemes in Europe to join.

But the buses are really slow - anyway, the weather certainly can't be a \_\_\_\_\_ !

No - definitely not. The London scheme's been quite successful.

Yes - it's been a really good thing for the city. The bikes are popular and the whole system is \_\_\_\_\_ but it isn't expanding quickly enough.

Basically, not enough \_\_\_\_\_ been spent on increasing the number of \_\_\_\_\_ .

Hopefully, that'll change.

Yes. Now, what about outside Europe?

Well, bike-sharing schemes have \_\_\_\_\_ in places like Buenos Aires.

Mmm. They built a huge network of cycle lanes to support the introduction of the scheme there, didn't they? It \_\_\_\_\_ huge numbers of cyclists where previously there were hardly any.

An example of good planning.

Absolutely. New York is a good example of how not to introduce a scheme. When they \_\_\_\_\_ it, it was more than ten times the price of most other schemes.

More than it costs to take a taxi. Crazy. I think the organizers \_\_\_\_\_ and there.

I think so too. Sydney would be a good example to use. I would have expected it to have grown pretty quickly here.

Yes. I can't quite \_\_\_\_\_ why it hasn't been an instant success like some of the others. It's a shame really.

I know. OK so now we've thought about...

## SECTION 4:

One of the most famous cases of \_\_\_\_\_ is that of a bird known as the dodo. In fact, there's even a saying in English, 'as \_\_\_\_\_ as the dodo', used to refer to something which no longer exists. But for many centuries the dodo was alive and well, although it could only be found in one place, the island of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean. It was a very \_\_\_\_\_, about one meter tall, and over the centuries it had lost the \_\_\_\_\_, but it survived happily under the trees that covered the island.

Then in the year \_\_\_\_\_ the first \_\_\_\_\_ ships stopped at the island. The sailors were carrying \_\_\_\_\_ back to Europe and found the island a convenient stopping place where they could \_\_\_\_\_ food and water for the rest of the voyage, but they didn't settle on Mauritius. However, in 1638 the Dutch arrived and set up a \_\_\_\_\_ there. These first human \_\_\_\_\_ of the island found the dodo birds a convenient source of meat, although not everyone liked the taste.

It's hard to get an \_\_\_\_\_ of what the dodo actually looked like. We do have some written records from sailors, and a few pictures, but we don't know how \_\_\_\_\_ these are. The best-known picture is a Dutch painting in which the bird appears to be \_\_\_\_\_, but this may not be accurate - an Indian painting done at the same time shows a much \_\_\_\_\_ bird.

Although \_\_\_\_\_ were made to preserve the bodies of some of the birds, no complete specimen survives. In the early \_\_\_\_\_ four dried parts of a bird were known to exist - of these, three have \_\_\_\_\_, so only one example of \_\_\_\_\_ from the dodo survives, a dodo head. Bones have also been found, but there's only one complete \_\_\_\_\_ in existence.

This single dodo **skeleton** has recently been the subject of \_\_\_\_\_ which suggests that many of the earlier beliefs about dodos may have been incorrect. For example, early accounts of the birds mention how slow and \_\_\_\_\_ it was, but scientists now believe the bird's \_\_\_\_\_ would have made it capable of movement which was not slow, but actually quite fast. In fact, one 17th century \_\_\_\_\_ wrote that he found the birds hard to catch. It's true that the dodo's small wings wouldn't have allowed it to \_\_\_\_\_, but the scientists suggest that these were probably employed for balance while going over \_\_\_\_\_ ground. Another group of scientists carried out analysis of the dodo's \_\_\_\_\_. They found that the reports of the lack of intelligence of the dodo were not \_\_\_\_\_ by their research, which suggested the bird's brain was not small, but average in size. In fact, \_\_\_\_\_ its body size, it was similar to that of the \_\_\_\_\_, which is known to be a highly intelligent bird. The researchers also found that the structure of the bird's skull suggested that one sense which was particularly \_\_\_\_\_ was that of smell. So the dodo may also have been particularly good at locating \_\_\_\_\_ and other food in the island's thick \_\_\_\_\_.

So it looks as if the dodo was better able to survive and \_\_\_\_\_ itself than was originally believed. Yet less than 200 years after \_\_\_\_\_ first arrived on the island, they had become extinct. So what was the reason for this? For a long time, it was believed that the dodos \_\_\_\_\_, but scientists now believe the situation was more \_\_\_\_\_ than this. Another factor may have been the new species brought to the island by the sailors. These included dogs, which would have been a threat to the dodos, and also \_\_\_\_\_, which ate the fruit that was the main part of the dodos' \_\_\_\_\_. These were brought to the island \_\_\_\_\_, but the ships also brought another type of \_\_\_\_\_ - rats, which came to land from the ships and rapidly \_\_\_\_\_. These \_\_\_\_\_ the ecology of the island, not just the dodos but other species too. However, they were a particular danger to the dodos because they \_\_\_\_\_ their eggs, and since each dodo only \_\_\_\_\_ one at a time, this probably had a \_\_\_\_\_ effect on populations.

However, we now think that probably the main cause of the birds' extinction was not the introduction of \_\_\_\_\_, but the introduction of agriculture. This meant that the forest that had once covered all the island, and that had provided a



perfect home for the dodo, was so that crops such as sugar could be grown. So although the dodo had survived for thousands of years, it was gone.