TRANSKRYPCJA NAGRAŃ

Zadanie 1.

Text 1.

And now some news about social networking sites. One of them, Facebook, has shown itself to be useful for more than just posting pictures and playing online farming games: it's a powerful tool for mobilizing potential voters. Research carried out by *Nature Magazine* using data from more than 61 million people reveals that Facebook users who see a post in which one of their friends says that they have voted are more likely to go to the polls themselves. And if the post also contains a picture of the person who has voted, there is an even higher probability that their friends will follow their example. These results have led to numerous experts speculating that social networking sites might also be able to have a beneficial influence in other spheres of life. For example, they could help people to fight addictions such as smoking or overeating.

Na podstawie: *www.sciencenews.org*

Text 2.

Woman: And our next guest today is Dr. Gary Anderson. We're going to talk about sunglasses. Welcome to the show!

Man: Good afternoon. I'm glad to be here.

Woman: Dr. Anderson, many of us buy sunglasses on the basis of how good they make us look, but are there any problems we need to be aware of?

Man: It is commonly believed that just any kind of sunglasses will provide some protection from the sun, but that isn't true. You might find a stylish pair of sunglasses at a supermarket for $3. They will keep out the brightness, but they won't protect you from the UV rays. These sunglasses will actually damage your eyes more than if you are wearing *no* sunglasses at all. So unfortunately, your $3 won't get you a good pair of sunglasses, but rather the opposite.

Woman: Oh, I didn't know that! So how can we be sure that our sunglasses actually have UV protection?

Man: Well, it's certainly not just about the price. The first thing to look at is...(fade)

Na podstawie: *blog.safetyglassesusa.com*

Text 3.

For some time a Los Angeles office building had an external glass slide which let riders glide from the 70th floor to the 69th ensuring a rush of adrenaline. The slide was located on the top floor of the Skyspace Tower. When the building first opened, more than 80% of its space was occupied. By 2013 when it was acquired by a Singapore-based company, just 56% of the space was in use, which meant financial losses. The company realized an innovative solution was necessary to change that and began to discuss how to attract more than just office workers. Numerous ideas were put forward, like an observation deck, bungee jumping from the roof and a zip line to the ground. Finally, they went for an external glass slide hoping that this extravagant structure would become a new tourist attraction and draw a number of ventures such as cafes, restaurants and shops to the Skyspace Tower. Unfortunately, the plan didn't work out and in 2021 it was announced that after four years in operation the slide was going to be closed.

Na podstawie: *www.latimes.com*

Zadanie 2.

Speaker 1
Many cities with heavy traffic are introducing pricing systems aimed at encouraging cleaner ways of getting to your destination. An example is the Ecopass scheme in which drivers are charged a fee to enter the central districts of a city. There is an important difference between the Ecopass and most other similar schemes. In cities which use Ecopass, drivers are charged according to the amount of exhaust fumes their type of car produces. So, petrol-fuelled cars and electric cars aren't charged the same rate to enter the city centre because they are not doing the same damage — in fact the drivers of electric cars don't have to pay any fee at all. To me, this seems a reasonable approach to take.

Na podstawie: *www.smartcitiesdrive.com*

Speaker 2
I've just visited my relatives in Vancouver. My impression was that you cannot feel safe in the streets of that city because pedestrians are treated like second-class citizens there. Drivers are supposed to give way to pedestrians at zebra crossings, but in fact they often get as close as an inch from your legs because they are being pressured by the traffic from behind. How did such drivers pass their driving tests? I think many of them need to be sent on refresher courses. On the other hand, the city's bus and subway systems were really reliable, with convenient routes and low prices! On the buses I felt like a first-class citizen and the subway was also efficient!

Speaker 3
With pedestrians increasingly glued to their mobile phones and a rising death rate among absent-minded jaywalkers, Hong Kong is trialing a novel approach at road crossings. Instead of just relying on traditional 'Red Man' stop signals, authorities have additionally installed LED lights that bathe crossing points in a red glow. The authorities hope that people looking down at their devices will see the sidewalk lit up and stop. The reactions to the new lights have been mixed. While most pedestrians acknowledged in a survey that the lights did redirect their attention back to the traffic, some of them concluded they would quickly become distracted by their mobiles again.

Speaker 4
Motorists should have more awareness of the problems pedestrians may face. For a start, they should be able to recognise places where pedestrians might want to cross, even if it is not allowed and poses a great risk. Why not put a pedestrian safety section into the driving test so that learner drivers become aware of how dangerous walking in some areas with heavy traffic can be? They could also be shown videos shot from the perspective of a pedestrian trying to cross the street.

Na podstawie: *www.news.bbc.co.uk*

Speaker 5
Southern California isn't the first place I would consider an example to follow when discussing transportation policy. San Diego has a highway charging system which allows you to go past drivers stuck in heavy traffic by using an express lane. A charge is imposed for doing so. These express lanes have been called "Lexus Lanes" as they benefit the rich and leave the poor with no solution. It is just not right that people who can afford to pay the charge can get somewhere fast while the rest of us have to wait in traffic jams and breathe in all the pollution! What about improving public transport or encouraging the use of smaller cars instead?

Na podstawie: *www.smartcitiesdrive.com*

Zadanie 3.

Smart speakers using artificial intelligence are becoming an integral part of many homes. A lot of people use them to play music. However, that's only the second most common use. The first is to set a timer, for example, to prevent a meal from burning. They are also used to create shopping lists. Surprisingly, smart speakers can tell a joke too, though this function is rarely selected. They can also be a great way to control lighting and heating systems at home.

While most people find smart devices useful, it's clear that more needs to be done to make voice recognition features work more smoothly. A study on the performance of two popular smart devices: *Amazon Alexa* and *Google Assistant* was conducted in 309 locations in the UK and included users with a wide variety of accents. The researchers asked these users to record themselves giving ten everyday commands such as: *Turn off the lights* or *Play the next song, please*. The researchers then graded each recording on a scale of 1 to 10, based on whether the smart device was able to understand the owner's accent or not. The study found that smart devices get confused by more than 20% of regional accents. English spoken by Welsh people turned out to be the hardest for smart devices to understand – with the Cardiff accent being the most challenging. Other cities where *Amazon Alexa* and *Google Assistant* struggled were Glasgow, Liverpool and Belfast. In contrast, Londoners rarely had any problems controlling their smart equipment.

Na podstawie: *www.dailymail.co.uk*