**Listening and speaking**

1. You are going to listen to a radio programme about the country that topped The Economist’s survey. Which country do you expect it to be and why? Listen to the introduction of the programme and take notes on the following:

a) What led to the mass emigration from the country

b) The factors that contributed to the economic turnaround

c) The results of the economic miracle of the 1990s

2. Compare what you heard with the partner. Discuss together with the partner.

a) Were you surprised that this country came in at number 1?

b) How much do you know about the country?

c) Was there anything that surprised you in the introduction? d) Do many people emigrate from your country? Where to and why?

3. Have you heard any other stories regarding national economies and the World Bank / IMF (International Monetary Fund)?

Now listen to the three Irish people who moved back home after living abroad – Ian, Jackie and Mary. As you listen, decide which person:

a. has found moving back a bit of a let-down. ……………

b. is concerned about the growing wealth gap. …………...

c. feels their privacy is sometimes invaded. ……………....

d. thinks the new Ireland is over-rated. …………………….

e. left Ireland because of limited employment opportunities. ……………

f. got fed up with some of the Irish people they met abroad. …………….

g. found it really easy to find work on their return. ………………………

h. enjoys the irony of the new employment situation in Ireland. …………

i. expresses serious reservations about the changes. ………..

4. How do you personally feel about the following? Use the given expressions to voice your opinions about each. **A nice idea in theory, it works in reality, to be in favour of, to have a few slight reservations, to be a big fan of smth, to be fundamentally opposed to, to stand on smth, to be in two minds about smth.**You might also use the expression to explain how you feel – **I couldn’t care less about it!**

 a cut in welfare spending

 unregulated business activity

 the European Union

 a maximum 40-hour working week

 free dental care for all

 globalization

 a 5-per-cent cap on wage increases for the next five years

**Vocabulary**

1. Complete sentences 1-10 with one of the five particles and write its meaning.

1. Selling my bike should bring…………..some cash, but less than I need.

2. Petrol prices have really shot …………..since oil exports were reduced.

3. We couldn’t pay the bill so they cut …………… our electricity.

4. We’d better drink …………… because the bar is closing.

5. The grocer’s shop on the corner will have to close ………… unless sales improve.

6. We need to cut …………..our spending on luxuries if we are to afford a holiday.

7. I hear Cindy’s getting …………….. quite well in her new job.

8. My parents used ………….. every last penny of their savings on repairs to their house.

9. An angry farmer told the boys on his land to clear …………….., and not to come back.

10. The moment he put ……………. the lights, everyone sang “Happy Birthday”.

2. Match the ten idioms in italics with these meanings. There is one you don’t need.

to pay 50% each

to not have much money

to pay for everyone

to return stolen money to its owner

to neither gain nor lose money

to set aside cash for future needs

to use some money already saved

to pay too much money for something

to control the spending of a family’s or organization’s money

to steal money from the place where you work

1. When we got to the restaurant my friends told me they had no money on them, so I had to *foot the bill*.

2. We don’t expect to make a profit in our first year; we’ll be happy just to *break even.*

3. It’s very generous of you to offer to pay, but I think we should *go halves*.

4. Although things are going well now, it’s never a bad idea to *save some money for a rainy day*.

5. I might have to *dip into my savings* to buy myself that coat.

6. I used to be able to afford to go out every night, but now I’ve bought a house I’m *feeling the pinch*.

7. He *paid through the nose* for that thing he got at the flea-market.

8. She *had her fingers in the till* so she soon lost her job.

9. This is his wife who *holds the purse strings* at home, so he can’t decide anything.

5. Complete the sentences with the correct form of these idioms.

*to feel the pinch, to pour money down the drain, to spend money like water, to make ends meet, to be rolling in it, to cost an arm and a leg, to break even, to pay over the odds.*

1. I sold the painting for as much as I’d paid for it, so in the end I…………..

2. With low incomes and high outgoings, lone parents often find it hard to……

3. The diamond in Sonia’s ring is huge; it must have ……………

4. If you buy things in the tourist areas like that, don’t be surprised if you …….

5. Rock stars like Madonna and Sting, who’ve been around for years, must be…………

6. Mick had lots of money to spend when he had a job, but now he’s………….

7. Buying such useless rubbish as that is like ………………

8. Since Jane won the pools she’s been out shopping every day; she’s ………...

**Speaking**

1. Would you be happy or miserable if you:

 Fell on hard times?

 Lived on a shoestring?

 Lived in the lap of luxury?

 Were living rough?

 Couldn’t make ends meet?

 Were rolling in money?

 Had to penny-pinch?

 Were made of money?

 Were down and out?

 Had to tighten your belt?

 Had a business that was doing a roaring trade?

 Lost a quid and found a fiver?

2. Which people do these words describe? Why?

*Thrifty, skinflint, well off, hard up, privileged, underprivileged*

3. Discuss how money or the lack of it affects your life. Observe the following aspects:

 Can you think of any activity ‘more virtuous’ than making money? If so, what is it, and why is it more virtuous?

 Does having money generally have a positive or negative effect on people’s character? Justify your answer.

 Imagine you’ve been given $100,000 to spend in a week. Work in groups and decide how you’re going to use it. What are you going to buy? Are you going to make any investments? Will you give any to family/ friends/ charity? Come to a group decision. What do you think your plans say about your character?

4. Choose one of the topics and make a five-minute speech.

1. What is your attitude to credit cards and other kinds of debt?

2. What is your attitude to lending money to friends?

3. Do poor and rich people have equal opportunities in your country?

4. How much are the problems of the world due to the influence of money?

5. How much money do you think you personally need to be happy? Can you think of

any disadvantages about coming into a lot of money?

6. It's not spiritual to have money; it's better to give than receive.

7. Everything depends on money.

5. Make up a presentation based on the saying «Does money make the world go round?»

6. Analyse the peculiarities of the style of scientific texts; paraphrase the marked expressions by more neutral ones

a) *The degree of liberty possessed by the citizens of a state has become the key standard by which liberal democracies are compared with other forms of government.. However, there is much less consensus on the meaning of liberty.*

In political **thought** liberty is **largely synonymous** with **freedom.** But it **is as well to** recall that liberty or freedom have not always been **valued** in Western or other forms of political thought. **Indeed** religious and political **authoritarians,** and many conservatives and traditionalists, **equate liberty with licence,** the absence of control, moral chaos. **Moreover,** many political philosophers, **from** Plato to Hobbes, have **argued** that **human beings** should **sacrifice** their freedom to **ensure** order or stability, in the form of strong and/or **enlightened** government.

Many **political theorists** make a **distinction** between **positive** liberty ('freedom to do', or self-mastery') and **negative** liberty ('freedom from' or 'not being obstructed') although others **argue** that the distinction is not **logically sustainable,** that it just **confuses matters. The concept** of liberty, whether positive or negative, or both, evidently means 'not being controlled' or 'not being **obstructed'.**

The most **notable exponents** of positive liberty were Rousseau and Kant. They argued that genuine freedom is possessed only by individuals who are **autonomous agents** — that is, by those whose **power of reason** is free from **manipulation by others,** and **are capable of exercising self-determination in their moral and political choices.** We are free only when we act rightly, and vice versa: we are free when our 'real self is **in charge. This thesis** can, of course, become a means for **suggesting** that people are not free even when they **claim to be.**

The idea of negative liberty, by contrast, is **derived from the doctrine** of natural rights which claims that individuals have certain **inalienable** rights which should not be **transgressed** by any individual, group or government. Such rights are 'liberties', that is, rights to be free from control, and are most **vigorously** supported in the doctrine of libertarianism. Negative liberty exists where citizens are free to behave in any way which does not harm another citizen or **contravene** specific laws. Negative liberty is often tested in societies where governments or **pressure groups attempt to define what constitutes** harm to others: thus the private sexual **activities of consenting adults** would appear to be harmful to neither the **practitioners nor** the **general public,** yet many **states prohibit by** law **certain types of private sexual expression**

b) *Such* ***innovations*** *will involve changes to the* ***diet*** *of the whole* ***populations,*** *including a sharp* ***reduction*** *in* ***consumption of intensively- reared*** *cattle.* ***An international agreement was reached*** *at the* ***J*** *992* ***Earth Summit,*** *although the* ***policies agreed*** *will* ***only reduce the rate of increase of greenhouse gases.*** *This,* ***coupled with a fear*** *that American* ***voters regard*** *their right to drive large cars as* ***on a par with*** *the* ***constitutional right to bear arms,*** *made the* ***administration*** *of President Bush* ***very obstructive in international negotiations. Given*** *the economic and political power of the USA, and their* ***consumption of energy, this stance has reduced other countries' readiness to respond.*** *Finally, it* ***is worth noting*** *that any* ***suggestion that global warming threatens life on Earth is highly exaggerated.*** *The changes in* ***atmospheric composition are significant in relation to*** *changes in the last few million years, but* ***are neglectable compared*** *with the changes brought about by life.*

7. Analyse the peculiarities of publicist style in the following extract from the First Inaugural speech by Thomas Jefferson; paraphrase the bookish expressions by more neutral ones:

Friends and Fellow Citizens ...

During the contest of opinion through which we have passed, the animation of discussion and of exertions **has** sometimes worn an aspect which might impose on strangers unused to think freely and to speak and to write what they think; but this being now decided by the voice of the nation, announced according to the rules of the constitution, all will, of course, arrange themselves under the will of the law, and unite in common efforts for the common good. All, too, will bear in mind this sacred principle, that though the will of the majority is in all cases to prevail, that will, to be rightful, must be reasonable; that the minority possess their equal rights, which equal **laws** must protect, and to violate which would be oppression. Let us, then, fellow citizens, unite with one heart and one mind. Let us restore to social intercourse that harmony and affection without which liberty and even life itself are but dreary things. And let us reflect that having banished from our land that religious intolerance under which mankind so long bled and suffered, we have yet gained little if we countenance a political intolerance as despotic, as wicked, and capable of as bitter and bloody persecutions. During the throes and convulsions of the ancient world, during the agonizing spasms of infuriated man, seeking through blood and slaughter his long-lost liberty, it was not wonderful that the agitation of the billows should reach even this distant and peaceful shore; that this should be more felt and feared by some and less by others; that this should divide opinions as to measures of safety. But every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle. We have called by different names brethren of the same principle. We are all republicans — we are all federalists. If there be any among us who would wish to dissolve this Union or to change its republican form, let them stand undisturbed as monuments of the safety with which error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it. 1 know, indeed, that some honest men fear that a republican government cannot be strong; that this government is not strong enough. But would the honest patriot, in the full tide of successful experiment, abandon a government which has so far kept us free and firm, on the theoretic and visionary fear that this government, the world's best hope, may by possibility want energy to preserve itself? I trust not. I believe this, on the contrary, the strongest government on earth. I believe it is the only one where every man, at the call of the laws, would fly to the standard of the law, and would meet invasions of the public order as his own personal concern. Sometimes it is said that man cannot be trusted with the government of himself. Can he, then, be trusted with the government of others? Or have we found angels in the forms of kings to govern him? Let history answer this question.