

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE SYLLABUS A**

Paper 4 Oral Communication Test 1

1190/04

September/October 2016

Approximately 20 minutes

**PART 1  
READING ALOUD**

*You recently spent two weeks of your school holiday working as a volunteer helper at an old people's home in your neighbourhood. Your teacher has asked you to report on this experience to your class. This is what you say to them.*

I'd never been inside an old people's home before. I had the idea that it might be a quiet, sad sort of place – full of old people parked in front of TV sets. But I could not have been more wrong!

The old folk who live there are joined on most days by others who live outside, on their own – but who come to what is now called a 'Senior Activity Centre'. And there is a lot of activity! It's more like a social club, in fact. You would not believe how fit and active many of our senior citizens are – and the aim is to keep them that way. So all kinds of games are played, and there's a constant buzz of conversation and chatter, as old friends exchange gossip, news and memories.

As a volunteer, you spend some time helping the nursing staff, you do some tidying up, and an awful lot of tea-making. And you make new friends – and one or two I made are over 90! This is what Mrs Lee, a lovely lady in her eighties, said to me:

'It's really good to see young faces here. This place is great. It's a life-saver for some of us, especially for those who want to keep active and in touch.'

Then she went off to play table tennis – at which she likes to win. She's still pretty good!

I'll certainly be going back there – and maybe you should volunteer too, because helpers are always needed.

**PART 2**  
**SPOKEN INTERACTION**

Study the picture.



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