LISTENING COMPREHENSION – SOLAR BACKPACK

You are going to listen to a news report about a new, innovative backpack.

I) Before listening, try to figure out the meanings of the vocabulary below:

to stay connected to lose the charge an electrical outlet a light charge exposure to light it is ready to go

a system that changes solar light into electrical power to load batteries the amount of light which is available to keep in touch with other people you can use it right away to have an empty battery where you usually plug in a cable

The phone cuts on and off.	[] The phone has sharp edges. [] One time the battery is loading, then not.
Plug your phone in and you're charging.	[] You can see how much you must pay. [] Just connect the cable to load the battery.
The V-Dimension backpack runs about 130 bucks.	[] The new backpack costs 130 dollars. [] You can run 130 meters with the backpack

- II) Now, listen to the recording twice. Take notes while listening.
- a) Then answer the questions below in 2-3 sentences each.
- 1. Why does the new backpack have solar cells on it?
- 2. According to the creator of the backpack, where can it be used?
- 3. Why does the backpack include adapters?
- 4. How long do you have to wait until the batteries are loaded again? What does it depend on?
- 5. Where can you buy the backpack and how much does it cost?
- b) (OPTIONAL) Tick true or false; correct the false statements.

10. The backpack is available in many different colors.

		T	F
1.	The new backpack has an integrated mobile phone and music player.		
2.	Cell phones and iPods are very important in our society.		
3.	It's annoying when the battery of your phone or iPod is empty.		
4.	You aren't allowed to listen to your iPod in the office.		
5.	Anyone can go to an electrical outlet.		
6.	The adapters make it possible to connect many different devices to the charger.		
7.	The phone or iPod can only be charged if there is enough light.		
8.	The backpack can be used to load batteries right from the start.		
9.	You can't buy the backpack in stores yet.		

III) Free writing: choose one of the two tasks and write about 180-200 words.

- a) Write an informative advertisement for the new V-Dimension backpack. Include a close description of how it looks and how it works as well as all the advantages of the new technology. You should think of a good start to your text.
- b) Do you think that a solar-powered backpack is a useful invention? Would you buy one? Why/Why not? What else could solar power be used for in our daily lives?