15.1 Speaking: routines, plans and asking for things

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 13 marks**

KEY WORDS politeness ladder

Speaking: routines, plans and asking for things

Objective

Supported preparation: Change engines between routine, plan and request; Climb the politeness ladder correctly. This is original classroom practice, not an official exam paper.

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

> **Three engines.** Routine: present simple + frequency. Plans: I am meeting Li on Sunday (fixed) versus I am going to visit Grandma (decided). Requests: Can I (friends) < Could I < Could you (asking action) < Would you mind (top rung; agree with Not at all). Answer plans with plans; answer with two pieces and a question back.

2 Practice

2.1 Routine or plan: She goes swimming every Friday / She is going swimming this Friday. [2]

2.2 Ask a stranger for the time, two rungs up from Can. [1]

2.3 Answer politely: Would you mind opening the window? [1]

2.4 Which future form carries a fixed arrangement with its time? [1]

2.5 What does the request engine always carry in speech? [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 *(Engine style.)* Change engines mid-talk: A: I usually play basketball on Saturdays. B replies with a plan for this Saturday, then A asks to watch (request, one rung above Can). [3]

3.2 *(Ladder style.)* Write requests for: borrowing a pen from a friend; asking a teacher to explain a question. [2]

3.3 *(Fuel style.)* Your partner asks: What are you doing this weekend? Reply with a plan plus a question back. [2]

Solutions

2.1 Routine: goes swimming every Friday (1); plan: is going swimming this Friday (1).

2.2 Could you tell me the time, please? (1).

2.3 Not at all (or: No, not at all) (1).

2.4 The present continuous: am/is/are + verb-ing + a time word (1).

2.5 A rising voice (a question mark in writing) (1).

3.1 B plan: This Saturday I am joining the school team (1); A request: Could I watch? (1); request above Can named (Could) (1).

3.2 Friend: Can I borrow your pen? (1); teacher: Could you please explain question three? (1).

3.3 Any plan plus a return question, for example: I am visiting my grandparents. What about you? (2).

Local review guidance: (R1) 3.1 changes engines smoothly; 3.2 matches rung to reader; 3.3 returns the ball. Authored guidance.