

Informace o písemných přijímacích zkouškách

(úplné zadání zkušebních otázek či příkladů, které jsou součástí přijímací zkoušky nebo její části, a u otázek s výběrem odpovědi správné řešení)

Bakalářský studijní program

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Anglický jazyk

Sunak's wealth isn't an image problem for voters – except when he refuses to talk about it

People don't generally go into British politics for the money, although the money isn't bad. The basic annual MP's salary of £84,144 is more than double the UK average. Ministers earn even more. But there are quicker ways to get rich.

There are careers where greed can go naked. In politics it has to skulk in itchy robes of public service. Bankers and hedge fund managers don't need to explain what principle called them to global finance. When Rishi Sunak did those jobs, I doubt he was ever asked why. By the time he switched to politics, he had earned heaps of cash and married Akshata Murthy, the daughter of a billionaire. Cupidity was not the reason he sought office.

Likewise, the prime minister's failure to declare a conflict of interest over government childcare subsidies probably doesn't expose venal machination. Only in the flickering bunker light of internet conspiracy theory does it look like a devious diversion of budget resources. Carelessness is the plausible explanation. But it is the cultivated carelessness of an unusually rich politician who is desperate to look normal.

Sunak has a reputation in government for nerdy attention to detail. It would be surprising if he forgot that his wife owns shares in a company that trains childminders, or that this company stands to benefit from new government childcare subsidies, when discussing the policy with a parliamentary committee. The prime minister was asked if he had anything to declare. He said no, adding that his interests were declared "in the usual way".

It isn't much of a challenge to govern more competently than Liz Truss and break fewer rules than Boris Johnson. Sunak paid a fine for attending one of the illegal Downing Street parties during lockdown, but something about his geeky persona meant the smell of reckless wrongdoing didn't stick. It was the same when he was busted for not wearing a seatbelt in a moving car. Sunak's uptight manner suggests the kind of person who is mostly fastidious in buckling up.

So the prime minister is not in danger of being reviled as a reprobate. His brand can still be tarnished by hypocrisy. It doesn't help that his efforts to sound authoritative come across as preachy and his blokeish affectations for the campaign trail are cringemaking. It was around the same time that Sunak was filmed failing to operate a contactless card payment device. It was part of a bungled publicity stunt in which he put petrol in a mid-range car that turned out to be borrowed for the purpose, because it was humbler than any vehicle in his personal fleet.

These are the sorts of details that stick in voters' minds. They can make the difference between casual acceptance that a prime minister is rich – aren't they always? – and the suspicion that he lives far away on Planet Money, squinting down on the little people below scurrying around trying to make ends meet in their dinky cars, with their insufficient maths qualifications.

True or false?

- 1) UK ministers earn more than double the country's average salary. T
- 2) Rishi Sunak used to be a banker but he made his fortune in politics. F
- 3) He was in a conflict of interests over government policy regarding childcare. T
- 4) The meeting where the conflict of interests was revealed took place in a bunker and some people participated online. F
- 5) Sunak does not care for normal people because he is so rich. F
- 6) Sunak's wife's business led him to his conflict of interests. T
- 7) Sunak was repeatedly caught not wearing a seatbelt in a car since he usually does not drive himself. F
- 8) His PR team filmed him operating a cheap rented car so that normal people could relate to him. T
- 9) He did not know how to pay for the petrol for the rented car. T
- 10) Voters do not like prime ministers who are rich. F

Find these words:

- 1) *adj informal* a) BRITISH (of an object or place) attractively small and neat b) AMERICAN disappointingly small and insignificant DINKY
- 2) *adj informal* having a tendency to give moral advice in a tedious or self-righteous way PREACHY
- 3) *adj* very attentive to and concerned about accuracy and detail FASTIDIOUS

- 4) *adj informal* very knowledgeable about and interested in a particular subject, especially one that is technical or of specialist or niche interest GEEKY
- 5) *adj informal* anxious or angry in a tense and overly controlled way UPTIGHT
- 6) *n* greed for money or possessions CUPIDITY
- 7) *adj* showing or motivated by susceptibility to bribery; corrupt VENAL
- 8) *v* keep out of sight, typically with a sinister or cowardly motive SKULK
- 9) *adj* the quality of causing an uncomfortable feeling on the skin that makes you want to rub it with your nails ITCHY
- 10) *adj* (of an argument or statement) seeming reasonable or probable PLAUSIBLE