This week James Corden celebrated one year as host of CBS’s Late Late Show with an hour-long primetime special. His job has been marked by a rebirth of the Late Late Show as obligatory viewing and, perhaps more importantly, his becoming the rising leader in the late-night viral video arms race – much of which is due to the runaway success of his sketch Carpool Karaoke.

Županijsko natjecanje iz engleskoga jezika – ispit slušanja

You will hear the recording about James Corden's Carpool Karaoke.

You will have time to look through the sentences before you listen. Write your answers on the test first but don't forget to copy your answers onto the answer sheet when you finish. The recording will be played twice, and there will be a short pause between the two listenings. You can write your answers during both the first and the second listening.

For each statement, 1 to 10, decide whether they are true or false. Write T for true, or F for false. There is an example at the beginning (0). Copy your answers onto the Answer Sheet.

You now have 30 seconds to go through the statements.

Now you will hear the recording.

The formula for the bit is almost ridiculously simple: two people driving around and singing along to the radio and chatting casually. Corden has persuaded everyone from Justin Bieber to Mariah Carey to One Direction to ride shotgun with him and drive around the streets of Los Angeles, freely chatting, frightening pedestrians and joyfully singing along to their greatest hits.

To say it’s a “hit” is an understatement – it’s a phenomenon. His segment with Adele has become the most viewed online clip in the history of late-night television. It has been watched a staggering 90m times in two months, thanks in no small part to the joy of watching Adele flawlessly rapping Nicki Minaj’s verse in Monster.

Bieber’s video has close to 70m views, and Iggy Azalea’s ride has been watched more than 31m times. And just three days after J Lo hopped into the car, her clip has earned 15m views. The numbers are so massive that it seems clear that if someone far better at math sat down and did the computation, Carpool Karaoke would register as having a disastrous impact on the world’s productivity levels.

It’s hard to say what exactly accounts for the wild success of Carpool Karaoke, what makes viewers click and share the videos across the web at a rapid-fire pace. Attempts to reverse engineer virality always seem to hesitate, but it seems that one key element to making something go viral is that people are more likely to share something if they have a strong, positive emotional response to it. It’s hard not to have a positive emotional response to watching Corden in action on Carpool Karaoke. Whether he’s singing Baby along with Justin Bieber or making jazz hands in the drive-thru with Jennifer Hudson, Corden is having more fun than anyone in late night.

Whether Coldplay’s Chris Martin or Sir Elton John is in the passenger seat, Corden plays the part of a real fan with a deep knowledge of their discography. He knows every word as he sings along to their hits (hitting all the notes as he goes), which not only proves that he is a music enthusiast, but also makes the singers feel at ease. Stevie Wonder was happy to sing I Just Called To Say I Love You to Corden’s wife over the phone.

While the host is undoubtedly a fan of his guests and happy to let them take the lead in the fun, he also never seems intimidated by the presence of the star in his car. It’s a neat trick that lets him play chauffeur to some serious star power while also remaining completely in control of the situation, as he sits behind the wheel.

Over the last year, the sketch has developed a life of its own. It’s fitting then that Corden and his executive producer are interested in making Carpool Karaoke a standalone show.