

## Test 1 Training Listening One-Question Multiple Choice

### Task information

In the real exam task, you will:

- listen to one short recording – it may be a monologue (one person speaking) or a dialogue (two people speaking).
- answer one multiple-choice question with three options.
- hear the recording twice.

#### 1 Look at the example question. Underline the words that you think are the most important in the statement, question and options.

Listen to two friends talking about a clothes store called Riley's.

What do they agree about the store?

- A The staff are helpful.
- B The atmosphere is enjoyable.
- C The prices are reasonable.

#### 2 Look at the question and options in Exercise 1 again. Then answer the questions below.

- Is it likely that you will hear either of the speakers say any of the following sentences? Why / Why not?
  - I've found that the staff there are very helpful.
  - I really enjoy the atmosphere at Riley's.
  - Nothing's particularly expensive at Riley's.
- Why might someone think that:
  - the staff in Riley's are helpful / unhelpful?
  - the atmosphere in Riley's is enjoyable / unenjoyable?
  - the prices are reasonable / high?

#### 3 Which of the phrases below indicate agreement (A) or disagreement (D)? Write A or D.

- No, I guess not. ....
- Absolutely. ....
- Do you really think so? .....
- You might be right, there. ....
- That's true. ....
- I'm not sure about that. ....
- Hmmm, really? .....

#### 4 Listen to the first part of the recording. Which of the options do the speakers mention? Do they show any agreement?

- the staff
- the atmosphere
- the prices

**Tip!** You are given a sentence on the screen and in the recording that sets the context. It outlines who is speaking and what they are speaking about (e.g. 'Listen to two friends talking about the weekend.'). Make sure you pay attention to the context sentence as it will give you a better understanding of what you are about to hear.

**Tip!** Before you listen to the recording, try to predict the reasons or explanations the speakers might give for each option. It may help you to identify incorrect answers, as well as the correct one.

#### Remember!

The speakers won't use the same language that you read on the screen so try to predict other ways the statements in the options could be expressed.

**Tip!** Questions about agreement or disagreement are common in this part of the test, so listen closely to identify words and phrases which indicate this.

**5** Listen to the full recording. Which is the correct option?

Listen to two friends talking about a clothes store called Riley's.  
 What do they agree about the store?

- A The staff are helpful.
- B The atmosphere is enjoyable.
- C The prices are reasonable.

**6** Now read the audioscript and underline the words that gave you the right answer. Why are the other options incorrect?

**Man** Is that your new top from Riley's? I love the design.  
**Woman** Thanks. Yeah, the clothes in that store are fantastic. And nothing's particularly expensive there, either.  
**Man** No, I guess not, but I don't go often, to be honest. It's always too crowded, and the music's so loud!  
**Woman** Do you really think so? I like that about the place! It gives me a lot of energy when I'm shopping. The staff seem to enjoy working there, too. They're always smiling and joking.  
**Man** That's true, but they're often too busy chatting to each other to notice the customers. I can never get anyone's attention when I need to ask something.  
**Woman** Hmm, really? I haven't found that myself, to be honest. Anyway, I'm glad you like the top.

**7** Read the example question. Underline words from the question and options that you think are important. Then listen and choose the correct option.

Listen to an explorer talking about her work. What is her main point about exploring?

- A Its focus is likely to change in the future.
- B Its appeal has naturally reduced over time.
- C Its basic purpose remains the same as in the past.

**8** Listen to the recording again. Check your answer by matching the options (A–C) to the statements (1–3). What was the correct answer and why?

A Its focus is likely to change in the future.	1 The speaker makes the opposite point to this option.
B Its appeal has naturally reduced over time.	2 The speaker mentions this option, but it is not her main point.
C Its basic purpose remains the same as in the past.	3 This option summarises the speaker's main point.

**Tip!** In One-Question Multiple Choice, the speaker(s) will not necessarily refer to options A–C in the order they appear on screen, i.e. from top to bottom.

**Remember!**

The speakers may sometimes use negative language for agreement, e.g. A: 'I don't think there's anywhere better than this.' B: 'No, there really isn't.'

**Tip!** When the question asks you to identify the speaker's main point, it is important you listen to everything they say before choosing the correct option.

**Tip!** Don't try to listen for specific points of detail, because the question is testing your overall understanding of what you hear.

## Test 1 Exam practice


## Listening One-Question Multiple Choice

### Action plan

- 1 Read the context statement carefully to better understand the topic and prepare yourself for listening.
- 2 Read the question and options quickly and decide which words are the most important.
- 3 Try to predict what the speaker(s) might say (e.g. reasons to support an argument).
- 4 As you listen the first time, try to identify the incorrect answers as this may help you choose the correct answer.
- 5 Listen to the whole recording before choosing your answer. This is especially important for main idea questions.

Do the exam task. You can use the advice to help you.

For this question, choose the correct answer. You have 10 seconds to read the question. You will hear the recording twice.

 Listen to a man telling his friend about an event he hosted.

The man tells his friend that he was

- (A) grateful to have been offered assistance with the catering.
- (B) puzzled about the additional fee the venue had added.
- (C) frustrated not to have had time to speak to all of the guests.



### Advice

**A** How does the man describe his feelings when his friends 'came over to lend a hand'?

**B** Does the man understand why he had to pay an additional fee?

**C** At the start of the recording, what does the man say about trying to speak to all the guests? What does the word 'awful' refer to?

**Tip!** You will hear the context sentence, but not the question that follows. Read the question and the options quickly before you listen to the recording.

## Test 1 Training Listening Five-Question Multiple Choice

### Task information

In the real exam task, you will:

- listen to one longer recording of about 4–5 minutes with one, two or three speakers. (If there are two or more people, one of them will be interviewing the other(s)).
- answer five multiple-choice questions, each with four options.
- hear the recording twice.

The exam task tests:

- your overall listening comprehension (e.g. identify feelings, attitudes).
- your ability to understand an extended monologue or dialogue.

#### 1 Read the example context statement. Then answer the question.

Listen to a woman called Paula Dale talking about her career as a journalist.

Why might a young person decide they want to become a journalist?

#### 2 Now listen to the audio and answer the questions using your own words.

- 1 What does Paula say about her involvement with a website?
- 2 What does Paula report that a friend from school did?
- 3 What happened in the place where Paula lived?
- 4 Why does Paula mention internet sites?

#### 3 Look at the exam question below and use your notes from Exercise 2 to choose the correct answer.

What led to Paula's initial interest in becoming a journalist?

- A being asked to write an article for a website
- B having a friend who worked in the media
- C living somewhere that was featured in the news
- D seeing a commercial on a social media channel


#### 4 Listen to the audio again to check your answer. Why are the other options incorrect?

#### 5 Listen to the next part of Paula's talk and write down your answer to the question.

What does Paula admit that she often did when she was at university?


**Tip!** Before you listen, read the sentences that introduce the recording – you will have 45 seconds to do this. Think about the topic and what you know about it. This may help you to follow what the speaker(s) say(s).

**Tip!** The speaker will introduce each new section with a paraphrase of the words in the question, e.g. 'So, how did I get into journalism?' in the audio, is a paraphrase for the question, 'What led to Paula's initial interest in becoming a journalist?'. Listening for these paraphrases will help you know when the next question is coming.

- 6**  Read the next question. Keeping in mind what you have just listened to and written down, what is the correct answer? Why are the other options incorrect? Now listen again and check your answers.

When talking about her time at university, Paula admits that she often

- A focused too much on her social life.
- B refused to ask for help when she needed it.
- C felt unable to keep up with her peers.
- D failed to make the most of the facilities available.

- 7**  For the next two questions, you will hear Paula talking to an interviewer. Read the exam question and the extracts from the audio. Which of the options (A–D) are extracts (1–5) most likely to refer to?


Paula decided to work for herself as a result of wanting to

- A live somewhere more peaceful.
  - B gain more control over her schedule.
  - C increase her chances of being paid more.
  - D imitate a more successful colleague's achievements.
- 1 ... my hours would vary enormously ...
  - 2 ... a journalist friend moved to the countryside ...
  - 3 ... I felt so much less stressed ...
  - 4 ... walking away from a regular wage ...
  - 5 ... I just felt confident I could make everything work ...

- 8** Match the examples (1–6) with the verbs (a–f).

- 1 The reason why I think that is ...
- 2 A good way to improve your skills is ...
- 3 The only option is to ...
- 4 The main point I'm making is ...
- 5 I think you'd be great at ...
- 6 Yes, that would work well.

- a recommending
- b confirming
- c highlighting
- d justifying
- e advising
- f encouraging

- 9**  Read the exam question below. Underline the important words in the question and options. Then listen and choose the correct answer.

What would Paula like to do more of in her job?

- A advising less experienced journalists
- B writing about the news in other countries
- C focusing only on events that she is interested in
- D seeing her articles in a wider range of news media

**Tip!** If there is an interviewer, their questions to the main speaker(s) will signal when you need to move to the next question on the screen.

**Tip!** Some phrases that you hear may seem to refer to more than one option. Make sure you listen closely to decide which option matches exactly what the speaker is saying.

**Tip!** Some questions test your understanding of the function or purpose of what the speaker is saying. So, listening for the speaker's intention can help you choose the correct option.


## Test 1 Exam practice

## Listening Five-Question Multiple Choice

### Action plan

- 1 Before the recording starts (45 seconds), quickly read the questions and options, and consider how the important words might be paraphrased.
- 2 Listen for paraphrases of the questions, as these will tell you which question you need to answer. If you have missed a question, just move onto the next question. Then try and answer the question on the second listening.
- 3 If you are not sure, try to eliminate options that are definitely not correct. If you are still not sure, make a best guess from the remaining options.

Do the exam task, using the advice to help you.

 For these questions, choose the correct answer. You have 45 seconds to read the questions. You will hear the recording twice.

Listen to a woman called Tania talking about working as a ranger in a US national park.

- 1 Why did Tania apply for a job in a national park?
  - (A) She wanted to work outdoors.
  - (B) She needed flexible working hours.
  - (C) She thought it would be well paid.
  - (D) She expected to learn about wildlife.
  
- 2 What does Tania say about the first project she was involved with?
  - (A) It gave her a chance to impress her boss.
  - (B) It was very popular with visitors to the park.
  - (C) It turned out to be surprisingly demanding.
  - (D) It allowed her to get to know her colleagues.
  
- 3 How does Tania feel when she camps in the park overnight?
  - (A) concerned about potential dangers
  - (B) keen to maintain contact with her family
  - (C) hopeful she may observe something unusual
  - (D) pleased to have a break from her everyday routine

### Advice

- 1 Listen carefully to what Tania says about what she likes and does not like.
- 2 What does Tania say about the 'final exhibition'?
- 3 Focus on Tania's feelings.

- 4 What does Tania say about the volunteers at the park?
- (A) They are crucial to the running of the park.
  - (B) They come from a wide range of backgrounds.
  - (C) They often decide to work permanently at the park.
  - (D) They have been selected because they have relevant skills.
- 5 Tania hopes she will never have to
- (A) search for a missing person.
  - (B) help in a medical emergency.
  - (C) control traffic inside the park.
  - (D) fight a wildfire in the park.

**Advice**

4 What examples does Tania give?

5 How does Tania express a negative feeling?

**Tip!** The questions in Listening tasks always come in the same order as the recording.



## Test 1 Training Listening Two-Question Multiple Choice

### Task information

In the real exam task, you will:

- read a context statement, questions and options before the recording starts (45 seconds).
- listen to a short recording with 1–2 people speaking.
- answer two multiple-choice questions, each with three options.
- hear the recording twice.

- 1** Read the question and options below. Then read the audioscript and underline the parts that tell you options B and C are incorrect.

What point does the woman make about her sleep tracking app?

- A It is good value for money.
- B It is simple to use.
- C It is attractively designed.

**Man** How are you getting on with that sleep tracking app?

**Woman** Oh, it's fantastic. It's not much to look at, admittedly ... just basic black and white screens mostly, although I think the creators did that so you're not staring at loads of bright colours before trying to sleep. And it took me a fair bit of time to get used to how all the different programs work, but it's been worth the effort in the end.

**Man** That makes sense. Is it free?

**Woman** No, it's £4 a month, which sounds like a lot if you consider how many similar apps are free. Given the way it's sorted out my sleep habits, though, I'd be happy paying double that.

- 2** Look at the audioscript from Exercise 1 again. How does the woman paraphrase 'good value for money'?

- 3** Match options (A–C) with the more likely excerpts from the audio (1–3).


What is the man doing when he talks about a free app he downloaded?

- A complaining about the adverts that kept appearing while he used it
  - B criticising the limited amount of time it could be used each day
  - C expressing his frustration with using unreliable technology
- 1 '... you only get half an hour's use each day before it automatically logs you out.'
  - 2 '... you have to wait until the following day to input everything from the day before!'
  - 3 '... every five minutes, up pops another ad which you have to watch before you can carry on using it ...'

**Tip!** A speaker's main point could be stated at any point as they speak. Listen closely to everything they say – don't just try to pick out individual words.

**Tip!** Some questions will ask you to identify what the speaker is doing as they are talking. The options will include 'function' words like criticising, explaining, complaining, etc.

**4**  Listen and answer the exam question in Exercise 3.

**5**  Read the rubric and the question below. Then listen to the audio and answer the question in your own words.

Listen to two colleagues talking about travelling into work.

What do they agree about the traffic in the city centre?

**6**  Now read the options. Then, listen again and choose the correct answer.

What do they agree about the traffic in the city centre?

- A** It is less heavy than in other cities.
- B** It has become worse since the previous year.
- C** It is equally bad at all times of the day.

**7** Read the exam question and options (A–C). Then read the statements (1–3). Complete each statement so that it paraphrases the feelings expressed in A–C.

How does the man feel about travelling to work by train?

- A** worried that the service may soon change
- B** annoyed by the increasingly frequent delays
- C** frustrated at how much he pays for a ticket

- 1** Apparently, they might be changing the timetable soon ... I really hope *I'll still be able to get a seat in the morning / I don't end up getting fired because I'm always late.*
- 2** *I've come to accept / never been more furious about* the fact that the train doesn't turn up on time most mornings.
- 3** At least I wouldn't have to *pay this overpriced train fare. / a train fare to pay for if I lost my job.*

**8**  Listen to the rest of the conversation and complete the task in Exercise 7.

**Tip!** Don't choose an answer simply because you hear the same (or similar) word(s) as you read in the options. For example, in this question, the speakers use 'some cities', 'last year' and 'time of the day'. Before you listen, try to predict some other ways in which the key words in the options might be expressed.

**Tip!** If a question asks you what the speakers agree about, you must hear clear agreement between the two speakers. After you hear a speaker refer to one of the options, you may have to wait to hear the other speaker agreeing – it may not come straight after.

**Tip!** You will hear each recording twice. Try to get the correct answer the first time you listen, then use the second listening to check your answer.

## Test 1 Exam practice

## Listening Two-Question Multiple Choice

### Action plan

- 1 Read the context statement, question and options and try to predict the paraphrases you might hear.
- 2 Listen to the complete recording before you choose your answer – remember, you might have to wait to hear an agreement or disagreement, for example.
- 3 Don't match the words you hear – think about the meaning of what is being said.
- 4 Try to choose your answer when you listen the first time and use the second listening to check your answer.

Read the exam questions and do the task. You can use the advice to help you.

For these questions, choose the correct answer.

You have 15 seconds to read the questions. You will hear the recording twice.

 Listen to part of a talk about plans to improve the city of Sandford.

- 1 What does the speaker imply about the new buildings in the city?
  - (A) He regrets that they will take so long to construct.
  - (B) He feels that they should have been built long ago.
  - (C) He believes there will be problems with the budget.
- 2 What point does the speaker make about the smart bins?
  - (A) Each household will have to pay for a new one.
  - (B) People will be charged on a monthly basis for using them.
  - (C) They will determine the amount of money payable by households.

### Advice

1 'imply' is when an idea is suggested, rather than explicitly stated.

2 Focus on the speaker's main point rather than descriptions or explanations.

**Tip!** Although the questions will be in the order you hear them, the options within the questions will not.