

Understand the Listening test

# Purpose of the test

- The IELTS Listening test assesses a wide range of listening skills, including how well you:
- understand main ideas and specific factual information
- recognise the opinions, attitudes and purpose of a speaker
- follow the development of an argument

# Timing

- The IELTS Listening test takes approximately 30 minutes, and you are allowed an extra 10 minutes to transfer your answers from your question booklet to your answer sheet in pencil.
- **Each section is heard once only.**
- It is essential that you transfer your answers to the answer sheet. Nothing you write on the question paper will be marked.

# Four sections

1. You listen to **a conversation** between **two people** set in an **everyday social situation**, e.g. a conversation in an accommodation agency, and answer questions on your comprehension.
2. You listen to a **monologue** set in an **everyday social situation**, e.g. a speech about local facilities or a talk about the arrangements for meals during a conference.
3. You listen to **a conversation** between **up to four people** set in an **educational or training context**, e.g. a university tutor and a student discussing an assignment, or a group of students planning a research project.
4. You listen to **a monologue on an academic subject**, e.g. a university lecture.

# Questions

There are 40 questions.

A variety of question types is used, and you may be asked to

- answer multiple choice questions
- label a plan, map or diagram
- fill in a form
- complete a table
- complete a flow-chart
- give short answers

# Marking

Each correct answer receives one mark.

Scores out of 40 are converted to the IELTS 9-band scale. Scores are reported in whole and half bands.

# Listening test advice

## Make the most of your Listening test

- if you cannot hear the audio clearly, let a member of staff know **straightaway**
- **follow the instructions** carefully; they may be different to practice or previous tests
- listen for the **specific information** you want
- try and **anticipate** what the speaker will say; this will require concentration
- do not worry if there is a word you do not understand; you **may not need to use it**
- if you do not know the answer to a question, **attempt it but do not waste time**; move quickly onto the next one
- be careful with your **spelling and grammar**
- **do not panic** if you think the topic is too difficult or the speaker is too fast; relax and tune in
- **read, write and listen at the same time** (is it possible???)
- **focus precisely on what you are asked** to do in completion type questions
- pay attention to **the word limit**; for example, if you are asked to complete a sentence using no more than two words, if the correct answer is 'leather coat', the answer 'coat made of leather' would be incorrect
- if the question asks you to complete the note 'in the...' and the correct answer is 'morning', note that 'in the morning' would be incorrect; the correct answer is 'morning'. Check!
- **attempt all questions**; there are no penalties for incorrect answers
- **check** your answers

# Example Listening test answer sheet

Pencil must be used to complete the answer sheet

Write your candidate number in the boxes indicated and shade the corresponding boxes

Write your name in capital letters

Shade the boxes to indicate the test date

Write your answers in the boxes

If you want to change an answer, erase or cross out the original answer and write in the new answer

Do not write anything in the ✓/X columns

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IELTS Listening and Reading Answer Sheet

Centre number: **TR002**

Please write your full name in CAPITAL letters on the line below:  
**PERVIN KARA**

Then write your six digit Candidate number in the boxes and shade the number in the grid on the right.

Test date (shade ONE box for the day, ONE box for the month and ONE box for the year):  
 Day: 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31  
 Month: 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 Year (two digit): 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

|    | Listening          | Listening | Listening | Listening | Listening | Listening      |
|----|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| 1  | to Bierbeck        | ✓         | X         |           | 21        | A              |
| 2  | April              | ✓         | X         |           | 22        | C              |
| 3  | 5 weeks            | ✓         | X         |           | 23        | A              |
| 4  | intuspectus        | ✓         | X         |           | 24        | B              |
| 5  | internet           | ✓         | X         |           | 25        | C              |
| 6  | face to face       | ✓         | X         |           | 26        | A              |
| 7  | lipdoo             | ✓         | X         |           | 27        | report writing |
| 8  | quality department | ✓         | X         |           | 28        | group          |
| 9  | green              | ✓         | X         |           | 29        | interview      |
| 10 | bookstore          | ✓         | X         |           | 30        | fee            |
| 11 | C                  | ✓         | X         |           | 31        | C              |
| 12 | A                  | ✓         | X         |           | 32        | E              |
| 13 | G                  | ✓         | X         |           | 33        | F              |
| 14 | E                  | ✓         | X         |           | 34        | D              |
| 15 | D                  | ✓         | X         |           | 35        | D              |
| 16 | H                  | ✓         | X         |           | 36        | poverty        |
| 17 | central            | ✓         | X         |           | 37        | leather        |
| 18 | 3rd floor          | ✓         | X         |           | 38        | salt water     |
| 19 | activity           | ✓         | X         |           | 39        | violet         |
| 20 | to                 | ✓         | X         |           | 40        | agriculture    |

Marked 2 marks: \_\_\_\_\_ Marked 1 mark: \_\_\_\_\_ Used Score: \_\_\_\_\_ Listening Time: \_\_\_\_\_

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