

## Listening week

- Day 1**
- Make sure you know exactly what the Listening Test is like. Go to <https://www.ielts.org/about-the-test/test-format> and read the information carefully.
  - Get an idea of what your IELTS level is like now. Go to <https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/take-ielts/prepare/free-ielts-practice-tests/listening> and read this information carefully too. Then do the practice test. Check your answers (out of a total of 40) and go to <https://www.ielts.org/ielts-for-organisations/ielts-scoring-in-detail> to get an approximate idea of what Band Score you might get in the actual test.
  - Download the answers [https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/sites/default/files/listening\\_practice\\_answers\\_121012.doc\\_0.pdf](https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/sites/default/files/listening_practice_answers_121012.doc_0.pdf) and do the test again, listening very carefully for those answers you got wrong. Think about what made that particular point difficult to hear or understand. Make a note of interesting and useful new vocabulary.
- Day 2**
- Part 1 of the Listening Test is a conversation between two people. They will talk about everyday things such as travel, accommodation, finding a job etc. The information you need to answer these questions (1-10) is often key information such as names, times, dates, prices.
- Go to <https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/6-minute-english/ep-200109> and choose a subject you are interested in. Listen and answer the questions. Check your answers in the audio script.
  - For further practice go to <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening> and choose your level. If you do not know your CEFR level (A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2), do the level test here: <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/online-english-level-test>
  - Download the IELTS Prep app <https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/take-ielts/prepare/free-apps> and do Part 1 of Practice Tests 2 and 3. Download the answers and do the test again, listening very carefully for those answers you got wrong. Think about what made that particular point difficult to hear or understand. Make a note of interesting and useful new vocabulary.
  - Go to <https://www.roadtoielts.com/>. Go to the Listening Practice section and practise short answer and table completion questions.
- Day 3**
- Part 2 of the Listening Test is a monologue. You will hear a recorded message. As in Part 1 the subjects will be everyday things such as cultural events, festivals, sporting events. The information you need to answer these questions (11-20) is often key information, but do think about how words in the questions might be expressed differently in the listening text.
- Go to a news site, <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p002vsmz/episodes/player> and listen to the 5-minute news bulletin. Practise listening by writing down the topics of each bulletin, writing down all the numbers you hear, and what they refer to. Listen again to check. You can listen to as many bulletins as you have time for.
  - Go to <https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/take-ielts/prepare/free-apps> and do Part 2 of Practice Tests 2 and 3. Download the answers and do the test again, listening very carefully for those answers you got wrong. Think about what made that particular point difficult to hear or understand. Make a note of interesting and useful new vocabulary.

**Day 4** Part 3 of the Listening Test is a conversation between 2 or 3 people in an academic context. You could hear, for example, two students discussing a project, or a tutor and a student having a discussion. The information you need to answer the questions (21-30) might be key details, opinions and support for that position, attitude of the speaker, main ideas etc.

a) To practice listening to several speakers use this material  
<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening>.

For C1 level go to

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/advanced-c1/a-project-management-meeting>

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/advanced-c1/challenges-at-work>

For B2 level go to

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/upper-intermediate-b2/creating-a-study-group>

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/upper-intermediate-b2/office-party-planning>

For B1 level go to

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/intermediate-b1/a-student-discussion>

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/intermediate-b1/arriving-late-to-class>

For A2 level go to

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/pre-intermediate-a2/changing-a-meeting-time>

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/pre-intermediate-a2/changing-plans>

b) Go to <https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/take-ielts/prepare/free-apps> and do Part 3 of Practice Tests 2 and 3. Download the answers and do the test again, listening very carefully for those answers you got wrong. Think about what made that particular point difficult to hear or understand. Make a note of interesting and useful new vocabulary.

**Day 5** Part 4 of the Listening Test is a monologue in an academic context. You will hear, for example, a lecture. The information you need to answer the questions (31-40) might be key details, opinions and support for that position, attitude of the speaker, main ideas etc.

a) Listen to TED Talks. The audio scripts are available so you can listen + read, then listen again. There are plenty of topics to choose from so choose something you are interested in. Here is a playlist:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/TEDtalksDirector/playlists?app=desktop>

b) To practise listening to academic lectures and talks go to  
<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening>

For C1 level go to

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/advanced-c1/the-history-of-hand-gestures>

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/advanced-c1/the-helix>

For B2 level go to

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/upper-intermediate-b2/a-lecture-about-an-experiment>

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/upper-intermediate-b2/a-talk-about-motivation>

For B1 level go to

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/intermediate-b1/an-introduction-to-a-lecture>

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/intermediate-b1/an-interview-about-listening-skills>

For A2 level go to

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/pre-intermediate-a2/facts-and-figures>

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/pre-intermediate-a2/instructions-for-an-assignment>

c) Go to <https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/take-ielts/prepare/free-apps> and do Part 4 of Practice Tests 2 and 3. Download the answers and do the test again, listening very carefully for those answers you got wrong. Think about what made that particular point difficult to hear or understand. Make a note of interesting and useful new vocabulary.