

Test 1 Training Listening Section 1

What is Listening Section 1?


- a conversation between two people, either face to face or on the phone
- the subject is a topic of general interest (e.g. booking a holiday or course of study)
- one or two tasks (e.g. note completion)
- an example and 10 questions

What does it test?


- understanding specific information (e.g. dates, everyday objects, places, etc.)
- spelling

Useful language: spelling

If you are asked to write the name of a street, person, company, etc., it will be spelt for you. You need to be very familiar with the names of the letters of the alphabet as you only hear them once.

 **02** 1 Listen and repeat the names of these letters.


A E I S

 **03** 2 Now listen to these letters and put them in the correct column according to how we pronounce their names.

C F G H J K L N O R T U V W X Y

Four of the letters don't fit in any of the columns. Which are they?

A	E	I	S
	C		

 **04** 3 Listen to some words being spelt out and write down what you hear. Read the word you have written. Can you say it? If not, maybe you missed a vowel!

- 1 Address: 23 Road
- 2 Name of company: Limited
- 3 Name: Anna
- 4 Meeting place: School
- 5 Name of village:
- 6 Website address: www.com

Tip! When a letter is repeated, we say 'double', e.g. EE is 'double E'.

Task information: Note completion

This task requires you to fill the gaps in the notes someone makes during a conversation. The notes are in the same order as the information you hear. There are other similar completion tasks that you will see: tables (e.g. Test 1 Section 4), sentences (e.g. Test 3 Section 4) and forms (e.g. Test 2 Section 1).

You have to:

- listen to a conversation – you hear it once only.
- write one/two/three words or a number or date in each gap in the notes.
- write the exact words you hear.
- spell everything correctly.
- transfer your answers to the answer sheet after all four listening sections.

Useful language: numbers

 **05** Listen to these sentences and write the number you hear in the gaps.

- 1 King Street
- 2 Family ticket costs \$
- 3 Mobile phone number:
- 4 Theatre opened in
- 5 Secretary is in Room
- 6 Cost of flight: £


Tip! The numbers you write in the exam will be a year, a price, a phone number or part of an address, etc.

Advice

3 When we say a phone number, we can pronounce 0 as 'oh', or say 'zero'.

6 When we talk about money we say, for example 'four pound(s)/dollar(s)/euro(s) fifty' (£4.50 / \$4.50 / €4.50).

Useful language: dates

 **06** Listen to these sentences and write the dates you hear in the gaps.


- 1 The course begins on
- 2 Date of birth:
- 3 Date of appointment:
- 4 The wedding will take place on
- 5 Date of arrival in New York:
- 6 Date of interview:

Advice

2 We say dates like 1985 or 2014 as 'nineteen eighty-five' and 'twenty fourteen'. For years between 2000 and 2010, we can say, for example, 'two thousand and one'.

Tip! You can write a date in different ways to get a mark (e.g. 3rd March, March 3 or 3 March). This fits the 'one word and/or a number' in the instruction.

Useful language: measurements

 **07** Listen to these sentences and write the measurement you hear in the gaps.

- 1 Mount Everest is high.
- 2 Distance from Wellington to Auckland:
- 3 John's height:
- 4 Add flour to sugar.
- 5 Weight:
- 6 Width of desk:

Tip! You can write the whole measurement or an abbreviation (e.g. 25 metres or 25m, 19 kilometres/kilometers or 19km).

Useful language: deciding what to write in the gaps

Look at the sample exam task below and complete this table.

Tip! Predicting what type of word will go into each gap helps you to be ready to hear it during the recording.

Which gaps need ...		What tells you this?
a date?	1	
a distance?		
only numbers?		
a price?		
a website address?		
nouns:		
● a meal or kind of food?		
● a place?		
● a facility?		
● clothes or a piece of equipment?		
● an event?		

Pony-trekking holiday

Example	Answer
Holiday lasts8..... days.

Holiday starts on 1

Children must be over 2 years.

Group rides 3 each day on average.

Hats provided but not 4

Holiday costs 5 £..... per person

All food included except 6

Camp site has a 7

Find more information at www. 8com

At least one day is spent riding in the 9

A 10 will take place one evening.

Test 1 Exam practice Listening Section 1 Questions 1–10

Action plan for Note completion

- 1 Look at the instructions to find out how many words you can write.
- 2 Look at the heading and read through the notes. There is time to do this before you listen.
- 3 Look at the gaps and think about what kinds of word or number are needed (e.g. a date, a distance, an address, a noun).
- 4 Listen to the introduction, which tells you what the recording is about.
- 5 Listen carefully to the conversation and focus on each question in turn. As soon as you've written the answer to one question, listen for the answer to the next.

Tip! Write an answer in every gap even if you aren't sure about it. A guess might get a mark but an empty space can't!

CP 08 Questions 1–10

Complete the notes below.

Write no more than **TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

Cycling holiday in Austria

Example	Answer
Most suitable holiday lasts10..... days.

Holiday begins on **1**

No more than **2** people in cycling group.

Each day, group cycles **3** on average.

Some of the hotels have a **4**

Holiday costs **5** £ per person without flights.

All food included except **6**

Essential to bring a **7**

Discount possible on equipment at www. **8**com

Possible that the **9** may change.

Guided tour of a **10** is arranged.

Tip! Remember you only hear the recording once.

Tip! If one of your answers is more than two words and a number, it is wrong!

Advice

The words you hear are usually different from the words in the notes, except for the word(s) you have to write.

1 Make sure you write the whole date.

2 What question does the woman ask which tells you the answer is coming? Which words in the man's answer mean 'no more than'?

3 Which word tells you the answer is coming? Which words do you hear that mean 'on average'?

6 If the word you hear is plural, don't forget to write the 's'.

7 Which words do you hear which tell you that you will soon hear the answer?

8 Write only the missing word(s). There's no need to write www. and .com on the answer sheet.

10 You must spell everything correctly but both American and British English spelling are acceptable here. Check your spelling when you transfer your answers.

Test 1 Training Listening Section 2

What is Listening Section 2?

- a talk / speech / announcement / recorded message / radio excerpt given by one person, sometimes with an introduction by another person
- the subject is a topic of general interest (e.g. what's on, a place of interest)
- usually two tasks (e.g. multiple choice, matching, completing a flow-chart)
- ten questions – there is a brief pause in the recording before the start of the next task

What does it test?

- understanding specific factual information
- selecting relevant information from what you hear

Task information: *Multiple choice (three options)*

Multiple-choice questions usually focus on the details. They follow the order of the recording.

You have to:

- listen to the recording – you hear it ONCE only.
- choose from options A, B or C to answer a question or complete a statement so that it means the same as the recording.
- transfer your answers to the answer sheet after all four listening sections.

There is another kind of multiple-choice task – see Test 2 Listening Section 2.

Task information: *Matching information*

Matching information requires you to listen to detailed information and relate it to a number of places, people, etc.

You have to:

- listen to part of the recording – you hear it ONCE only.
- match one piece of information from the box to each question.
- transfer your answers to the answer sheet after all four listening sections.

There are other kinds of matching task (e.g. Test 2 Listening Section 3, Test 4 Listening Section 3).

Useful language: paraphrasing

In many IELTS tasks, you have to choose a correct answer from a number of options. The options express ideas using different words from the recording.

Match these phrases (1–10) to ones with similar meanings (a–j).

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 a wide variety | a a convenient location |
| 2 recently | b a special occasion |
| 3 easy to get to | c not long ago |
| 4 no more than | d looks out over |
| 5 a peaceful spot | e a huge range |
| 6 birthday | f has changed |
| 7 has a view of | g the maximum number |
| 8 is different | h kitchen equipment |
| 9 upmarket | i a quiet place |
| 10 saucepans | j luxury |

Test 1 Exam practice Listening Section 2 Questions 11–20

Action plan for *Multiple choice (three options)*

- 1 Read the questions. They give you an idea of what the recording will be about and what information you should listen for.
- 2 Listen to the introduction. It tells you what the recording is about.
- 3 Follow the recording by listening for the answer to each question.

Tip! Listen out for key words, so that you know which question to answer.

- 4 As soon as you've chosen the answer to a question, listen for the answer to the next one.
- 5 Check your answers and then transfer them to the answer sheet at the end of the Listening test.

09 Questions 11–14

Choose the correct letter, **A**, **B** or **C**.

- 11 The market is now situated
- A** under a car park.
B beside the cathedral.
C near the river.
- 12 On only one day a week the market sells
- A** antique furniture.
B local produce.
C hand-made items.
- 13 The area is well known for
- A** ice cream.
B a cake.
C a fish dish.
- 14 What change has taken place in the harbour area?
- A** Fish can now be bought from the fishermen.
B The restaurants have moved to a different part.
C There are fewer restaurants than there used to be.

Advice

11 The prepositions on the recording are different from the ones here. Check that the answer you choose means the same as what you hear.

12 Think about the kinds of word you might hear before you listen (e.g. what is 'local produce?').

13 Although the questions follow the order of the recording, each set of options (A, B, C) may not.

14 Read the question carefully. You need to listen for what has **changed**.

Action plan for *Matching information*

- 1 Read the options in the box. Think about words you might hear that have a similar meaning.

Tip! At the end of the first task there is a pause. Use this time to read the questions for the next task.

- 2 Listen to the instructions for the task (if this is the first task).
- 3 Look at the names of places, people or things that you need to match to the options.
- 4 Look at the options in the box while you listen to the recording. Choose one answer to each question.

Tip! If you can't choose between two answers for one question, write them both down for now. One might be the answer to a later question, then you will know you can't choose it twice.

- 5 Check your answers and then transfer them to the answer sheet at the end of the Listening test. Make sure you transfer the answers for both tasks!

09 Questions 15–20

Which advantage is mentioned for each of the following restaurants?

Choose **SIX** answers from the box and write the correct letter, **A–H**, next to questions 15–20.

	Advantages
A	the decoration
B	easy parking
C	entertainment
D	excellent service
E	good value
F	good views
G	quiet location
H	wide menu

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-------|
| 15 | Merrivales | |
| 16 | The Lobster Pot | |
| 17 | Elliot's | |
| 18 | The Cabin | |
| 19 | The Olive Tree | |
| 20 | The Old School Restaurant | |

Tip! You can only choose each option (Advantages A–H) once, so two of the options aren't needed.

Tip! The options are in alphabetical order, not in the order you hear them.

Advice

B For some restaurants you will hear information about parking but it might not be 'easy'.

D You will hear information about service but it might not be 'excellent'. The answer is only correct if the meaning matches exactly what you hear.

Tip! The restaurants (15–20) are in the order you hear them so listen for each one in turn.

What is Listening Section 3?

- a discussion between two to four speakers (e.g. between one or more students and/or a university teacher)
- the subject is some aspect of academic life (e.g. a past or future project)
- up to three tasks (e.g. flow-chart, multiple choice, labelling a diagram)
- 10 questions – there is a brief pause in the discussion between the parts that relate to each of the tasks

What does it test?

- identifying key facts and ideas and how they relate to each other
- identifying speakers' attitudes and opinions

Task information: *Flow-chart completion*

Flow-chart completion requires you to follow the development of a discussion. The steps in the flow-chart are in the same order as what you hear.

You have to:

- listen to part of the discussion – you hear it **once** only.
- choose one option (**A, B, C**, etc.) from the box to complete each space in the flow-chart according to what you hear.
- transfer your answers to the answer sheet after all four listening sections.

There is another kind of *flow-chart completion* task – see Test 5 Listening Section 4.

Task information: *Diagram labelling*

Diagram labelling requires you to transfer the information you hear to a simple picture or plan. You need to follow language expressing where things are.

You have to:

- listen to part of the discussion – you hear it **once** only.
- choose the correct words from a list to label the diagram.
- write **A, B, C**, etc. in the spaces on the diagram. There are always more words in the box than you need.
- transfer your answers to the answer sheet after all four listening sections.

There are other kinds of *diagram-labelling* task (e.g. Test 2 Listening Section 2, Test 5 Listening Section 3).

Test 1 Exam practice Listening Section 3 Questions 21–30

Action plan for *Flow-chart completion*

- 1 Read the instructions and check how many gaps there are in the flow-chart.
- 2 Look at the heading of the flow-chart to find out the topic of the discussion.
- 3 Look at the flow-chart and try to predict what the discussion will be about.
- 4 Read the list of options in the box.

Tip! Look at each line of the flow-chart in turn. Think about which of the words in the box might fit each space.

- 5 Listen carefully to the conversation, using the flow-chart to help you follow it.

Tip! The words you hear before the missing word may be synonyms of the words in the flow-chart.

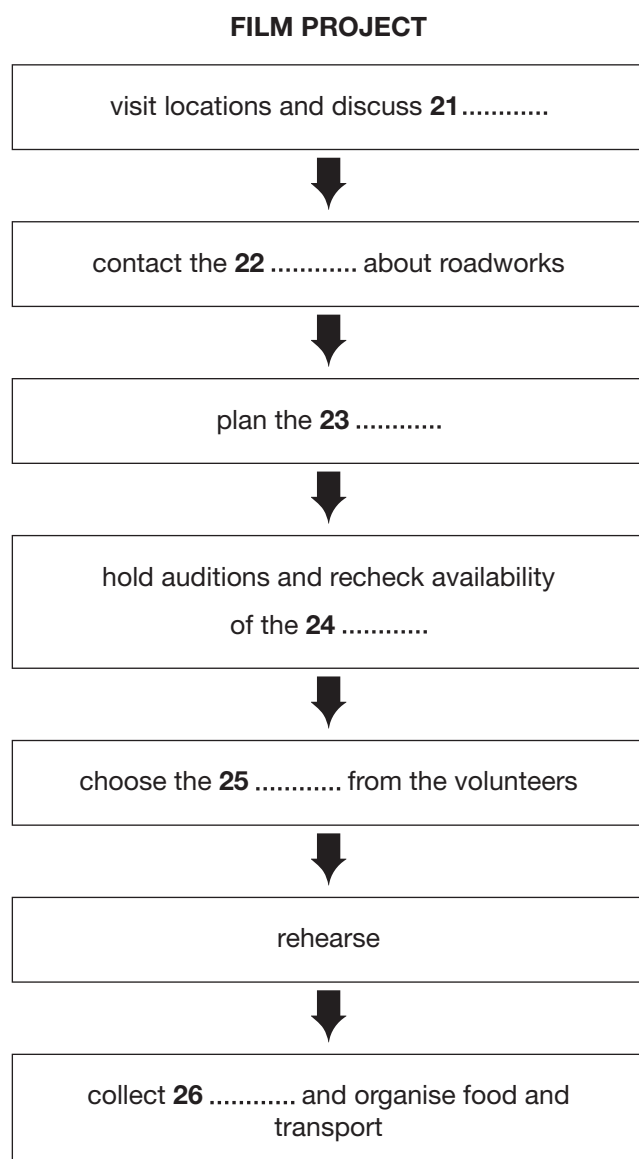
- 6 Transfer your answers to the answer sheet at the end of the Listening test. Make sure you transfer the answers for both tasks!

 **10 Questions 21–26**

Complete the flow-chart below.

Choose **SIX** answers from the box and write the correct letter, **A–I**, next to questions 21–26.

- | | |
|----------|-------------------|
| A | actors |
| B | furniture |
| C | background noise |
| D | costumes |
| E | local council |
| F | equipment |
| G | shooting schedule |
| H | understudies |
| I | shopowners |



Tip! As soon as the first part ends, look at the next task.

Tip! Look at the list in the box and the flow-chart before you begin.

Advice

A–I These items may be mentioned in any order.

Three of them will not be needed.

Tip! Focus on each question in turn. As soon as you have answered one question, look at the next line.

Advice

21 The answer must be something they plan to talk about when they go somewhere.

22 Probably a person or organisation.

24 The answer comes after they have talked about auditions. Listen out for words which mean 'recheck' and 'availability'.

25 This answer is likely to be A, H or I because they are people.

26 The answer will come after they have talked about rehearsals.