# UNIT 2: FOLLOWING A CONVERSATION

**Following a conversation**

In this unit you will practise:

- identifying the speakers
- identifying function
- understanding categories
- matching items
- completing notes
- completing a table

## 1. Identifying the speakers

**Test Tip:** In the IELTS Listening paper, Sections 1 and 3 are conversations between two or three people. Sections 2 and 4 are monologues with only one main speaker. Sometimes, you may hear another speaker introducing the talk or asking questions.

***1.1. You will hear three short extracts from Listening Section 1. Listen and identify what makes each speaker different, and what information they want to find out.***

| | People | Description | Information wanted |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | travel agent | older female | The customer would like information about... |
| | customer | | |
| 2 | hotel receptionist | | The receptionist needs to find out the guest's... |
| | guest | | |
| 3 | interviewer | | The applicant would like to know about ... |
| | job applicant | | |

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***1.2. You need to listen to both speakers carefully. Listen to the rest of the conversations from 1.1 and answer the questions below. Look at the final column in the table and circle the person who provided the answer. Sometimes both are possible.***

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | **NOTES:**<br>• No need to book the 1. ..... from the airport | travel agent<br>customer |
| | • the customer wants me to organise 2. ..... | travel agent<br>customer |
| 2 | **1.** How many nights will the man stay?<br>**A.** one night<br>**B.** two nights<br>**C.** three nights | hotel receptionist<br>guest |
| | **2.** Which of the following is on the 10th floor?<br>**A.** the gym<br>**B.** the business centre<br>**C.** the restaurant | hotel receptionist<br>guest |
| 3 | **1.** Which country has the applicant worked in most? | interviewer<br>job applicant |
| | **2.** What department would the applicant like to work in? | interviewer<br>job applicant |

**2. Identifying function**

***2.1. Listen to seven short extracts from different conversations. Complete extracts 1-7.***

**1.** .....getting her a new bike?

**2.** .....We arrive on 22nd July.

**3.** That sounds great. .....

**4.** .....I'd enjoy that one.

**5.** You said you'd prefer to have the party outside, .....?

**6.** ....., it's just gone up to $250.

**7.** .....accommodation? Where would you like to stay?

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***2.2.What is the function of the phrases you wrote in 2.1? Match extracts 1-7 to the correct function (A-H). There is one extra letter that you do not need to use.***

| **Functions** | |
|---|---|
| **A.** agreeing | **E.** confirming |
| **B.** correcting | **F.** moving to a new topic |
| **C.** rejecting an idea | **G.** checking information |
| **D.** suggesting | **H.** showing anger |

***2.3. Listen to extracts from two conversations: one from Section 1 and one from Section 3. Choose the correct answers (A, B or C).***

**Listening Section 1**

**1.** What food do the speakers decide to prepare for the party?

**A.** pizza

**B.** sandwiches

**C.** hot dogs

**2.** What will they do next?

**A.** go shopping

**B.** decide on the music

**C.** sort out the invitations

**Listening Section 3**

**3.** What aspect of pollution do the students decide to concentrate on?

**A.** water pollution

**B.** air pollution

**C.** industrial pollution

**4.** What do the students decide to do next?

**A.** contact their tutor for more help

**B.** visit the library to find more resources

**C.** check which topic other students have chosen

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### 3. Understanding categories

In the Listening paper, you may be asked to complete a sentence.

***3.1.Listen to an extract from a conversation and answer the question below.***

| |
|---|
| **Test Tip:** Pay attention to the number of words you need to write. **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** means that you may need to write one word or two words. **NO MORE THAN ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER** means that if you write two words or more, then your answer will be wrong. Each of the following is an example of **ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER:** 16th June/three books/6.11.12/twenty-four cats/$450.50. |

Complete the sentence below with **NO MORE THAN ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER**

The expo will be useful because there will be more than .....experts there.

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