

4C

Listening

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I can infer information which is implied rather than overtly stated.

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Listening Strategy

Sometimes information can be implied rather than clearly stated. For example, a subsequent contrast or concession can make the speaker's opinion clear:

We spent the morning shopping for souvenirs, but then we had a relaxing afternoon at the beach. (Implication: the morning was not relaxing.)

1 **1.19** Read the Listening Strategy. Then listen to six speakers and decide which of the two options (a or b) is being implied.

- 1 Speaker 1 implies that the campsite they stayed at last month
a did not have very good facilities.
b was not near the sea.
- 2 Speaker 2 implies that her visit to Hyde Park yesterday
a was not the first time she has been there.
b was not as enjoyable as her first visit.
- 3 Speaker 3 implies that his Thai meal
a was nicer than he'd expected.
b was spicier than he'd expected.
- 4 Speaker 4 implies that her attitude to running
a has changed since meeting her husband.
b is more negative than her husband's.
- 5 Speaker 5 implies that he doesn't usually
a go to bed early.
b watch TV in the evenings.
- 6 Speaker 6 implies that she would prefer not to
a stay very late at Misha's party.
b walk home after Misha's party.

2 Circle the correct verb in these phrases.

- 1 put / reduce taxes so that ...
- 2 bring / reverse the trend towards ...
- 3 bring / initiate a project to ...
- 4 bring / initiate in legislation ...
- 5 cut / reverse the red tape surrounding ...
- 6 make / provide funding for ...
- 7 make / raise it illegal for people to ...
- 8 provide / put a stop to ...



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3 Read the text. Complete the gaps with four of the phrases from exercise 2.

Founded in July 2015, the UK Parliament petitions website allows people to create petitions which may, if enough signatures are collected, be debated in Parliament. One successful petition persuaded the government to '_____'. _____ related to sugar levels in processed food and drinks. But most petitions fail – like the one which wanted the government to '_____'. _____ every family in the UK to buy a piano, or another which aimed to '_____'. _____ talk in a 'quiet' carriage on trains. Some are rejected before they are even published, because they relate to personal rather than national issues. For example, one petition demanded direct flights from Birmingham Airport to Sibiu in Romania, because 'we're going there next year'. Another e-petition wanted to '_____'. _____ e-petitions completely, on the grounds that too many of them were not serious.

4 **1.20** Listen to five people talking about e-petitions. Which speakers started their own petition?

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5 **1.20** Listen again. For questions 1 and 2, choose from the list (A–H). There are three extra sentences. Write your answers below.

- 1 What is the aim of the petition each speaker refers to?
A to improve the local transport provision
B to save an important building
C to allow year-round access to a communal facility
D to ban dangerous substances used in buildings
E to force dog-owners to act responsibly
F to protect a wild animal
G to increase the number of people with internet access
H to prevent the building of a new facility

Speaker	1	2	3	4	5

2 How does each speaker explain the failure of the petition to attract many signatures?

- A a lack of concern for 20th-century architecture
B a prejudice against people who can't drive
C a lack of interest beyond the local community
D the misleading wording of the petition
E the selfish nature of the petition
F people's aversion to the animal concerned
G the fact that the petition was not publicised
H people's concerns about wasting energy

Speaker	1	2	3	4	5