

UNIT 4: TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT

D. LISTENING

Exercise 1. Read the information. Then read the statements about Section 3 of the IELTS Listening test. Decide if the statements are True or False. Choose the correct answers.

1 In this part of the test, you might hear someone giving a lecture.

☐ True ☐ False

2 You might hear a pair or a group of students planning a presentation for a seminar.

☐ True ☐ False

3 You might hear someone complaining, for example in a shop or a hotel.

☐ True ☐ False

4 You might hear people discussing what to do, and arriving at a set of decisions.

☐ True ☐ False

5 You might hear someone describing a past experience.

☐ True ☐ False



In Section 3 of the IELTS Listening test, you will hear a conversation, with a maximum of four people taking part. They will be talking in an academic context. You will hear this conversation only once, and you will have a short period of time to read the questions before listening.

Exercise 2 :

Read the information. Then, listen to a conversation between two students. Complete the conversation with the words you hear. (🔊 Track 4.1)

When people talk, they often have a purpose, in other words, they want to achieve something. Their language has a *function*. For example, they may want to agree or disagree, start a new topic, or explain something. Often, the words we use have specific functions. For example, we can use *however* to contrast different things, or *you mean ...?* to check if we have understood correctly what someone said.

A: So, have you studied anything for our seminar next week, Kara?

B: On the topic of lying? Yes, it's an interesting subject. I've been reading lots of articles. For example, I read that when some people tell lies, they don't make eye contact with the person they're speaking to.

_____, in some cultures, avoiding eye contact is a sign of respect.

A: That's interesting. I read that in the US, police have been able to find out whether people are lying using technology.

B: _____ with machines?

A: _____. Machines can tell us a lot, apparently.

B: _____, it's usually possible to tell if someone's lying from their body language, isn't it?

A: Some people think so, yes.

B: I'd say that it's easy to find out if someone's a liar.

A: That's not always true, _____, because liars often believe the things they're saying.

B: Another interesting thing is that people are less likely to lie when they're face-to-face with you – _____, when they're right in front of you.

Exercise 3: In the next exercise you will hear two students preparing for a seminar presentation on the topic of 'recognising why and when people tell lies'.

Match the words in the box with the correct definitions.

body language

detect

dishonest

fake

lie

pretend

psychologist

survey

- 1 behaving in a way that is not truthful:
- 2 to behave like something is true when you know that it's not:
- 3 someone who studies the human mind and human emotions and behaviour:
- 4 something that is not real:
- 5 the movements or position of your body that show other people how you are feeling:
- 6 to say or write something that is not true:
- 7 to notice or discover something, usually by using a special method:
- 8 a study of opinions or behaviour by asking people questions:

Exercise 4: Read the information. Then listen to extracts from a conversation between the two students. Complete the extracts with the words you hear. (▶ Track 4.2)

- 1 _____ men lie more than women. I think they're all equally dishonest!
- 2 _____ children lie all the time, but it's possible that they don't realise that they are lying. They think they are just playing.
- 3 A lot of people lie in order to get a job. We _____ see that as normal, regardless of how we feel about it.
- 4 _____ everyone tells lies. Not everyone is dishonest.
- 5 If a person is very smart, you _____ never know whether he or she has lied to you or not.
- 6 Many people tell small lies, _____ if they think they won't get caught out.

When speakers are sure about something, they emphasise it, using language like *will* or *should*.

Speakers can also emphasise special information by introducing it with phrases like *The thing is* ...

Exercise 5: Read the information. Then, listen to the next part of the conversation. What comment, 1–3, do the students make about the topic? Choose the correct answer. (▶ Track 4.3)

In the IELTS Listening test, you may be asked to decide what comment a speaker made on a topic. Listen carefully, and then choose the best option. All the options may use similar words from the conversation, but only one will be correct.

Topic

People lie in order to get work.

Comment

- ☐ 1 They put large lies on their CV.
- ☐ 2 A lot of people lie in job interviews.
- ☐ 3 Big lies will be discovered.

Exercise 6: What comments do the students make for each of the following topics related to lying?
 Listen and choose five answers and write the correct letters, A–G, next to the topics 1–5. (🔊 Track 4.4)

Comments

A It has unexpected statistics.

B It may not show how people really feel.

C It is something that people learn to do.

D It gets lots of media attention.

E It may have an unexpected positive outcome.

F It can be detected easily.

G It is becoming less common.

Topics related to lying

1 Children lying ____

2 telling 'white' lies ____

3 body language ____

4 being dishonest online ____

5 lying about academic work ____

Exercise 7:

Listen to Jane and Bill, who are discussing the results of a survey about changes to their town, Ashtown, over the last 25 years, and choose the correct answer, A, B or C.

- 1 In Bill's opinion, why are there fewer buses in Ashtown?
 - A The buses are old and uncomfortable.
 - B Fares have gone up too much.
 - C There are not so many routes.
- 2 What change does Bill think has benefited the town centre the most?
 - A the construction of a bypass
 - B the development of cycle paths
 - C the banning of cars from certain areas
- 3 Which area does Bill think most people are employed in?
 - A manufacturing
 - B services
 - C education

What changes have been made to the facilities? Choose FIVE answers from the box and write the correct letter, A–G, next to facilities 4–8.

Action

- A it has moved to a new location
- B it is now used for a different purpose
- C it uses more technology than in the past
- D it has been closed down
- E it is less popular than it used to be
- F it has been sold to a different organisation
- G it has been expanded

Facilities

- 4 railway station car park
- 5 cinema
- 6 indoor market
- 7 library
- 8 art college

E. SPEAKING

Exercise 1. Put the letters in the correct order to complete the collocations you can use to talk about travel and transport

1

environmentally

r

y

i

f

e

d

l

n

2

traffic

s

m

a

j

3

budget

n

i

e

s

a

l

r

i

4

carbon

s

s

e

i

n

s

o

m

i

5

season

i

t

e

k

t

c

6

fuel

i

c

e

c

f

y

i

f

e

n

7

electric

r

a

c

8

long-

c

i

n

e

t

a

d

s

Exercise 2. Complete the travel words and phrases. Use the words in the box. Then watch the video and check your answers.

air pollution	air travel	cars	cars	jams	place to another
the pavement	transport	travel			

- 1 public
- 2 traffic
- 3 walk on
- 4 long distances
- 5 go from one
- 6 reduce
- 7 electric
- 8 cheap
- 9 environmentally-friendly

Exercise 3. Choose the correct words to complete the sentences about travel and transport. Use the words in the box.

air	distance	domestic	efficiency	electric	forms	friendly
jams	season	ticket				

- 1 An advantage of walking to work is that you avoid traffic .
- 2 Cycling is good for the environment because it reduces pollution.
- 3 It's cheaper to use the train if you buy a ticket.

- 4 My father prefers to use the car for long- _____ journeys.
- 5 I like all _____ of transport. I love to travel!
- 6 It's usually more economical to buy a return _____ instead of two singles.
- 7 I don't like flying so I prefer to take the train instead of _____ flights.
- 8 Do you think that _____ cars will be cheaper in the future?
- 9 Fuel _____ is thought to be better in diesel than petrol cars.
- 10 Public transport is popular in our city because it's environmentally _____ and cheap.

Exercise 4. Read and complete the conversation from IELTS Speaking Part 3. Use the words in the box. Then watch the video and check your answers. (Video 4.1)

Yes,

comfort

developed

distances

forms

private

public

relatively

take

using

wait

Examiner: ... Let's consider, first of all, types of transport. Which are the most popular [] of transport in your country?

Student: I believe it's mostly [] transport, ... because it's easy to use and it's relatively cheap ...

Examiner: So, has public transport in Dubai been [] fairly recently?

Student: ... [] it's [] easy and cheap.

Examiner: How do people travel long [] in your country?

Student: They prefer public transport to go from city to city. For example, you can [] a bus.

Examiner: What are the disadvantages of [] public transport?

Student: I think a disadvantage would be the crowds, because you have to [] in line to get a ticket.

Examiner: In your own, [] car you would probably arrive later, wouldn't you?

Student: Yes, but you would have your own space and [] .

Exercise 5 :

It's important not to run out of things to say in the IELTS Speaking test. Complete the table with some words and phrases you can use to develop a conversation.

... relatively ...	Let's consider, first of all, ...	In general, ...	You know ...
... whereas ...	Lastly, ...	For example, ...	I would/wouldn't say that ...
... mostly ...	Not at all.	... which/that ...	That's why ...
While ...	Yes, of course ...	Another point is ...	

Ordering your ideas

Firstly, ...

Generalising

Explaining your ideas

Comparing and contrasting ideas

Conversation fillers

Exercise 6 : Complete the conversation from IELTS Part 3 using the words and phrases in the table.

Ordering your ideas Firstly, ... Let's consider first of all ... Another point is ... Lastly, ...	Generalising In general, ... I would/wouldn't say that ... mostly	Explaining your ideas For example, which/that ... That's why ...
Comparing and contrasting ideas While whereas relatively ...	Conversation fillers You know ... Yes, of course ... Not at all.	

Examiner: Let's consider, first of all, types of transport. Which are the most popular forms of transport in your country?

Student: I believe it's _____ public transport, because it's easy to use and _____ cheap.

Examiner: So, has public transport in Dubai been developed fairly recently?

Student: Yes, it now has trams and buses which take people from Dubai to other cities.

Examiner: So, people are using their private cars less?

Student: I _____ say that, because there's so much traffic.

Examiner: How do people travel long distances in your country?

Student: They prefer public transport because it's _____ cheap.

Examiner: What are the disadvantages of using public transport?

Student: I think a disadvantage would be the crowds because you have to wait in line to get a ticket, that's _____.

Examiner: Let's move on now to talk about changes in transport. Tell me, how has transport changed over the last few decades?

Student: The government has recently opened a tram system and the Dubai metro, which they are expanding.

Examiner: So, do you really need buses if you have the tram or metro?

Student: Buses are more usual because they travel from Dubai to Sharjah or Abu Dhabi, _____ the metro and tram is only in Dubai.

Examiner: Do you think people will be using different types of transport in the future?

Student: In my opinion, I believe people might be using electronic cars.

Exercise 7 : Complete the table with some more useful words and phrases you can use to develop a conversation in IELTS Speaking Part 3. The first one has been done for you.

Let's move on now to talk about ...	Right, OK ...	It has been predicted that ...	
In my opinion, ...	To begin with, ...	People might/may ...	Well, ...
... not only ... but also ...	For instance, ...	However, ...	I'd like to add that ...
So, as a result of this/that, ...	To sum up, ...	In spite of this/that, ...	
It's usual/usually ...			

Ordering your ideas Firstly, ... 	Generalising 	Explaining your ideas
Comparing and contrasting ideas 	Conversation fillers 	

Exercise 8 : Read the examiner's questions. Choose the correct words and phrases to complete the student's answers.

1 Examiner: Let's consider, first of all, types of transport. Which are the most popular forms of transport in your country?

Student: Right/ That's why/ Well, I would say buses are popular for getting around cities.

2 Examiner: Has public transport in your city been developed or improved recently?

Student: Yes, the stations are often modernized despite/ however/ in spite of the London Underground being over 150 years old.

3 Examiner: Do people use private cars much in your country?

Student: Traffic jams are a common problem, so I 'd like to ask/ will/ would say that private cars are still overused.

4 Examiner: How do people travel long distances in your country?

Student: Trains are never/ plus/ relatively inexpensive, so this is how people generally prefer to travel.

5 Examiner: What are the disadvantages of using public transport?

Student: It's often unreliable because of this/ inspite of this/ plus, it can be expensive.

6 Examiner: Let's move on now to talk about changes in transport. Tell me, how has transport changed over the last few decades?

Student: Mostly/ No/ Right, OK ... well, I think that the government is reducing carbon emissions by improving public transport.

7 Examiner: Do you think there are any negative effects of cheap air travel?

Student: Yes, I do. Budget airlines allow people to fly more frequently. As a result/ Due/ However of this, air pollution has increased.

8 Examiner: Do you think people will be using different types of transport in the future?

Student: Yes, of course. For instance, / In my opinion/ It has been predicted that oil will run out one day, so electric cars will be usual.

Exercise 9 :

Find and correct the student's mistakes. There are eight mistakes.

Examiner: ... Which are the most popular forms of transport in your country?

Student: Cars. Almost everyone in my country uses the car to transport from one place to another.
(1 mistake)

Examiner: Why is that?

Student: Because public transports are bad in my country and it's because petrol is cheap ...
(2 mistakes)

Examiner: Is it a good thing that there are so many cars in your country?

Student: Actually it's a bad thing because there is always traffic jams. ... (1 mistake)

Examiner: How do people travel long distances in your country?

Student: By car, because my country's too small ... it only take you two hours to go from east to west. ...
(1 mistake)

Examiner: ... How has transport changed over the last few decades, would you say?

Student: More cars are being used ... If you take a look at the country, you will see that each house got morethan five cars. ... (1 mistake)

Examiner: Have people started to use electric cars now?

Student: No, not yet. ... No-one want it to use them. ... (1 mistake)

Examiner: Do you think that people will be using different types of transport in the future?

Student: ... Yes, of course, but they also be using ... environmentally-friendly cars. (1 mistake)

Exercise 10 :

You are going to do IELTS Speaking Part 3. Answer the questions.

1. Which are the most popular forms of transport in your country?
2. How do people travel long distances in your country?
3. What are the advantages and disadvantages of public transport?
4. How has transport changed over the last few decades?
5. Do you think there are any negative effects of cheap air travel?
6. Do you think people will be using different types of transport in the future?