



Listening skills

Multiple matching Preparing for the task

STUDY SKILLS

Read the questions and possible answers in both tasks before you listen and identify the key words. Think of what the question is asking for e.g. opinion, attitude, purpose, feeling, etc. While listening, focus on the gist meaning of the audio rather than detail.

- a) Read question 1 and the possible answers (A-C). Pay attention to the underlined key words. What is the question asking for: opinion, attitude, reason or speaker's feelings?
 - 1 Choose from the list (A-C) why the speaker attended the event.
 - A to keep someone company
 - B to find out something
 - C to congratulate a friend
 - b) Read the extract from an audioscript. Look at the underlined phrases. Which option (A, B or C) best answers question 1 in Ex. 1a? Why?

I went because I've known her for a long time, before either of us joined the company. And I do love the conference centre. They have a great reception hall so I was looking forward to going. I thought it was important to celebrate her achievement, but I didn't know a soul there because I don't have any dealings with her department. I have to say the food was excellent and there was some good music but, in all honesty, I found it really boring and was glad to leave.

- a) Read question 2 and the possible answers (A-C). Underline the key words. What is the question asking for?
 - 2 Choose from the list (A-C) what the speaker thinks spoiled their enjoyment of the evening.
 - A the lack of people to talk to
 - B the facilities that were on offer
 - C the entertainment and catering
 - b) Read the extract in Ex. 1b again. Choose the option (A, B or C) that best answers question 2. Highlight the words that helped you decide.

- You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about special events.

 Before you listen, check these words in the Word List.
 - · overwhelmed · go to great lengths · bash
 - rapport extended family get hitched
 - · devastated · coincide · right as rain
 - cry the house down put a spanner in the works • run oneself ragged • choked up
- Read the questions and possible answers in both tasks and identify the key words.

 Decide what each question is asking for.

TASK ONE

For questions 1-5, choose from the list (A-H) the reason each speaker gives for enjoying the event.

Speaker 1

Speaker 2

Speaker 3

Speaker 4

Speaker 5

2

3

4

5

- A quality time with family
- B a sense of pride
- C a family member's reaction
- D the chance to get to know someone better
- E a reminder of the past
- F a show of support
- G the attendance of a loved one
- H the discovery of a new skill

TASK TWO

For questions 6-10, choose from the list (A-H) what each speaker thinks could have potentially upset the event.

- A too many attendees
- B an untimely illness
- C a move abroad
- D bad weather
- E a miscommunication
- F mixed feelings
- G a scheduling conflict
- H a late start

Speaker 1	6
Speaker 2	7
Speaker 3	8
Speaker 4	9
Speaker 5	10

Listen to the speakers and do the tasks.

Note

You may answer the tasks in this exercise either together, as you listen the first time (and check during the second) or one task each time the recording is played.

What special moments have you celebrated with your friends/family? What made them interesting? Tell the class.