UNIT 3: RECOGNISING PARAPHRASE

Recognising paraphrase

In this unit you will practise:

- identifying distractors
- recognising paraphrase
- selecting from a list
- matching items
- sentence completion

1. Identifying distractors

Test Tip: For most questions in the Listening paper, you will hear two or more potential answers to each question, but only one will be correct. The incorrect answers are called distractors.

1.1. Listen to extracts from each Section of the Listening paper. Write down each possible answer and cross out the incorrect ones. Write ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER for each correct answer.

	Questions	Distractors
1	What date will they leave?	
2	What day will the tour visit a farm?	
3	The students decide to do a project about	
4	Problems: • poor weather • a lack of	

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2. Recognising paraphrase

Test Tip: The speakers often use different words to those in the questions. You may hear a synonym (a word with a similar meaning). The questions may paraphrase an idea that you will hear (express the same idea in a different way).

2.1. Match words/phrases 1-8 with their synonyms a-h.

1. a price	**a.** money
2. a location	**b.** to carry
3. funding	**c.** a drawback
4. dangerous	**d.** a fee
5. a solution	**e.** a place
6. to transport	**f.** risky
7. disadvantage	**g.** an impact
8. an effect	**h.** an answer

2.2. Listen to more extracts from each Listening Section. Complete the first column by choosing the correct answer. Write the synonyms or paraphrases you hear for the underlined words and phrases. Then explain why the other possible answers are incorrect.

		Synonyms/paraphrase	Reasons the other options are incorrect
1	What do they decide to organise first? **A.** a place to stay **B.** their airfares **C.** car hire		
2	What change will they make in the garden? **A.** improve the shade **B.** remove plants **C.** add a water feature		

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3	What do the students agree they need to do with their project? **A.** do more research **B.** make some cuts **C.** add some visual effects		
4	The scientists are studying **A.** how snow forms in different conditions. **B.** the effects that snow has on our climate. **C.** the effect diffferent clouds have on snow		

3. Selecting from a list

Test Tip: The questions in the Listening paper are in the same order as the information you hear. This means that you will hear the infomation you need for Question 1 before you hear the information for Question 2, etc. However, in questions where you have to choose an **option** from a list, (e.g. multiple choice or matching items) the list of possible options will be in random order.

Make sure that you pay close attention to any negatives in the options, as well as any adjectives. With matching or multiple-choice tasks, pay careful attention to the question, as well as the options. The question will tell you how many answers you have to choose, as well as what you need to listen for (e.g. problems, solutions, advantages, etc.).

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3.1. Look at the question and list of possible answers. Before you listen, underline the key ideas you need to listen for. Remember, the ideas will be paraphrased, so you may not hear the same words you see in the options. Then, listen carefully and tick the options that match the information in the recording.

What TWO disadvantages of the new mobile phone does the speaker mention?

A. It isn't very user-friendly

B. It is very expensive

C. It can't take photographs

D. It has a short battery life

E. It is quite big

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