The following skills will help you to implement these strategies in Part C of the Listening Comprehension section of the TOEFL test.

BEFORE LISTENING

SKILL 23: ANTICIPATE THE TOPICS

It is very helpful to your overall comprehension if you know what topics to expect in Listening Part C. You should therefore try to anticipate the topics that you will be hearing (as you did in Listening Part B). For example, are the talks about American history, or literature, or some aspect of school life? A helpful strategy is therefore to look briefly at the answers in the test book, before you actually hear the talks on the recording, and try to determine the topics of the talks that you will hear.

EXERCISE 23: Look at the answers to the five questions together, and try to anticipate the topic of the talk for those five questions. (Of course, you cannot always determine exactly what the topic is, but you often can get a general idea.) Questions 1 through 5 have been answered for you.

1. (A) During a *biology* laboratory session.
   (B) In a biology study group.
   (C) On the *first day of class.*
   (D) Just before the final exam.
2. (A) Once a week.
   (B) Two times a week.
   (C) Three times a week.
   (D) For fifteen hours.
3. (A) To do the first laboratory assignment.
   (B) To take the first *exam.*
   (C) To study the laboratory manual.
   (D) To read one chapter of the text.
4. (A) Room assignments.
   (B) Exam topics.
   (C) *Reading assignments.*
   (D) The first lecture.
5. (A) *Exams and lab work.*
   (B) Reading and writing assignments.
   (C) Class participation and grades on examinations.
   (D) Lecture and laboratory attendance.

What is the topic of the talk for questions 1 through 5?

the requirements of a biology class

You can guess this because of the following clues:

- *biology*
- *first day of class*
- *reading assignments*
- *exams*
- *lab work*

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6. (A) What caused the Ring of Fire.
   (B) The volcanoes of the Ring of Fire.
   (C) Hawaiian volcanoes.
   (D) Different types of volcanoes.

7. (A) The Ring of Fire.
   (B) The characteristics of volcanoes in the Ring of Fire.
   (C) The volcanoes of Hawaii.
   (D) Mauna Loa.

8. (A) In Hawaii.
   (B) In the United States.
   (C) Along the Ring of Fire.
   (D) Within the Ring of Fire.

9. (A) They are not so violent.
   (B) They are located along the Ring of Fire.
   (C) They contain a lot of gas.
   (D) They contain thick lava.

10. (A) A volcano on the Ring of Fire.
    (B) An island in Hawaii.
    (C) A long, low volcanic mountain.
    (D) An explosive volcano.

What is the topic of the talk for questions 6 through 10?

_____

11. (A) An artist.
    (B) A tour guide.
    (C) An Indian.
    (D) Orville Wright.

12. (A) Several.
    (B) Sixty thousand.
    (C) Sixteen million.
    (D) Millions and millions.

13. (A) The National Air and Space Museum.
    (B) The Museum of Natural History.
    (C) The American History Museum.
    (D) The Smithsonian Arts and Industries Building.

14. (A) The American History Museum.
    (B) The Smithsonian Arts and Industries Building.
    (C) The Washington Museum.
    (D) The National Air and Space Museum.

15. (A) To the White House.
    (B) To the Smithsonian.
    (C) To the mall.
    (D) To various other museums.

What is the topic of the talk for questions 11 through 15?

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

SKILL 24: ANTICIPATE THE QUESTIONS

It is very helpful to your ability to answer individual questions in Listening Part C if you can anticipate what the questions will be and listen specifically for the answers to those questions (as you did in Listening Part B).

Example

In your test book, you read:

(A) For three weeks.
(B) For three days.
(C) For three months.
(D) For three hours.

You try to anticipate the question:

How long does (something) last?

In this example, you can be quite certain that one of the questions will be about how long something lasts. Since you are sure that this is one of the questions, you can listen carefully for clues that will give you the answer. This example shows that a helpful strategy is therefore to look briefly at the answers in the test book, before you actually hear the talks on the recording, and try to determine the questions that you will be asked to answer.

EXERCISE 24: Study the following answers and try to determine what the questions will be. (You should note that perhaps you will only be able to predict part of a question, rather than the complete question.) If you cannot predict the question in a short period of time, then move on to the next group of answers. Question 1 has been answered for you.

1. Question: When does the talk probably take place?
   (A) During a biology laboratory session.
   (B) In a biology study group.
   (C) On the first day of class.
   (D) Just before the final exam.

2. Question: _____
   (A) Once a week.
   (B) Two times a week.
   (C) Three times a week.
   (D) For fifteen hours.

3. Question: _____
   (A) To do the first laboratory assignment.
   (B) To take the first exam.
   (C) To study the laboratory manual.
   (D) To read one chapter of the text.

4. Question: _____
   (A) Room assignments.
   (B) Exam topics.
   (C) Reading assignments.
   (D) The first lecture.

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5. Question: _____
   (A) Exams and lab work.
   (B) Reading and writing assignments.
   (C) Class participation and grades on examinations.
   (D) Lecture and laboratory attendance.

6. Question: _____
   (A) What caused the Ring of Fire.
   (B) The volcanoes of the Ring of Fire.
   (C) Hawaiian volcanoes.
   (D) Different types of volcanoes.

7. Question: _____
   (A) The Ring of Fire.
   (B) The characteristics of volcanoes in the Ring of Fire.
   (C) The volcanoes of Hawaii.
   (D) Mauna Loa.

8. Question: _____
   (A) In Hawaii.
   (B) In the United States.
   (C) Along the Ring of Fire.
   (D) Within the Ring of Fire.

9. Question: _____
   (A) They are not so violent.
   (B) They are located along the Ring of Fire.
   (C) They contain a lot of gas.
   (D) They contain thick lava.

10. Question: _____
    (A) A volcano on the Ring of Fire.
    (B) An island in Hawaii.
    (C) A long, low volcanic mountain.
    (D) An explosive volcano.

11. Question: _____
    (A) An artist.
    (B) A tour guide.
    (C) An Indian.
    (D) Orville Wright.

12. Question: _____
    (A) Several.
    (B) Sixty thousand.
    (C) Sixteen million.
    (D) Millions and millions.

13. Question: _____
    (A) The National Air and Space Museum.
    (B) The Museum of Natural History.
    (C) The American History Museum.
    (D) The Smithsonian Arts and Industries Building.

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14. Question: _____
    (A) The American History Museum.
    (B) The Smithsonian Arts and Industries Building.
    (C) The Washington Museum.
    (D) The National Air and Space Museum.

15. Question: _____
    (A) To the White House.
    (B) To the Smithsonian.
    (C) To the mall.
    (D) To various other museums.

WHILE LISTENING

SKILL 25: DETERMINE THE TOPIC

As you listen to each talk in Listening Part C, you should be thinking about the topic (subject) or main idea for the talk (as you did in Listening Part B). Since the first sentence is generally a topic sentence, you should be asking yourself what the topic is while you are listening carefully to the first part of the talk.

Example

On the recording, you hear:

(man) *The major earthquake that occurred east of Los Angeles in 1971 is still affecting the economy of the area today.*

You think:

The topic of the talk is the effect of the 1971 earthquake on Los Angeles today.

EXERCISE 25: Listen to the first part of each of the talks, and decide on the topic of each talk.

NOW BEGIN THE RECORDING PROGRAM AT EXERCISE 25.

1. What is the topic of Talk 1?

_____

2. What is the topic of Talk 2?

_____

3. What is the topic of Talk 3?

_____

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SKILL 26: DRAW CONCLUSIONS ABOUT *WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE*

As you listen to each talk in Listening Part C, you should be trying to set the situation in your mind (as you did in Listening Part B). You should be thinking the following thoughts:

- *Who is talking?*
- *When does the talk probably take place?*
- *Where does the talk probably take place?*
- *What course is the talk concerned with?*
- *What is the source of information for the talk?*

Example

On the recording, you hear:

(woman) *The next stop on our tour of Atlanta will be the original home of Coca-Cola, at 107 Marietta Street. Coca-Cola was manufactured at this location until early in September of 1888.*

You think:

Who is probably talking?	(a tour guide)
Where are they?	(in Atlanta)
When does the talk take place?	(in the middle of a tour)

EXERCISE 26: Listen to the first part of each of the talks and try to imagine the situation. Then answer the questions in the text.

NOW BEGIN THE RECORDING PROGRAM AT EXERCISE 26.

Talk 1

1. Who is probably talking? _____
2. Where does the talk probably take place? _____
3. When does the talk probably take place? _____
4. What course is being discussed? _____

Talk 2

1. Who is probably talking? _____
2. Where does the talk probably take place? _____
3. When does the talk probably take place? _____
4. What course is being discussed? _____

Talk 3

1. Who is probably talking? _____
2. Where does the talk take place? _____
3. When does the talk take place? _____

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