

UNIT 8: NATURAL WORLD

C. LISTENING

Exercise 1. In this unit, you will practise the skills you need to complete an IELTS Listening note completion task. You will also hear a talk connected with the topic of transport. This is a common topic in IELTS, so it is a good idea to think about some vocabulary you might hear.

Match the words in the box with the correct definitions.

Destination	elevator	fare	hire	lane	route	sign
	traffic	underground	vehicle			

1. a railway system in which trains travel through tunnels below a city: _____
2. something that gives travel information to drivers and other road users: _____
3. a particular way or direction from one place to another: _____
4. a special part of a road that can only be used by certain kinds of transport (e.g. buses or taxis):

5. car, buses and other kinds of transport moving along a road: _____
6. a machine, usually with wheels and an engine, used for transporting people or things, especially on roads: _____
7. to pay use something for a short period of time (e.g. a car): _____
8. The money that you pay for a journey (e.g. on a bus or a train): _____
9. the place where someone is going or where something is being sent or taken: _____
10. something that moves up and down, carrying people or things to different floors of a building:

Exercise 6. Match the words and phrases on the left to the correct synonyms and paraphrases on the right.

1. ask for one	●		●	helpful
2. best for	●		●	come out of
3. check	●		●	recommend
4. exit (verb)	●		●	go and see
5. planning to	●		●	perfect method
6. suggest	●		●	make sure
7. useful	●		●	thinking about
8. visit	●		●	pick one up

Exercise 7.

THE AMERICAN BULLFROG

Origin

- East United States
- was introduced into the UK at the beginning of the 1 _____ century

Physical description

- female weighs up to 2 _____ grams
- has a green and brown body
- has a flat 3 _____
- male frog has a 4 _____ coloured throat

Reasons for unpopularity

- breeds rapidly, so numbers are increasing
- eats the food of native British frogs - insects, fish, birds and animals including 5 _____ - and also eats the frogs themselves!
- carries a disease that can kill other frogs
- financial cost - a total of £ 6 _____ already spent on research into American bullfrogs

Read the notes about the American bullfrog.

Match gaps 1–6 in the notes with the questions a–f below.

- a How much does it weigh?
- b What colour is the throat of the male?
- c What part of its body is flat?
- d When did it come to Britain?
- e What kind of animals does it eat?
- f How much money has been spent on control measures?

Exercise 8.

Complete the notes below. Write ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER for each answer.

THE BOX JELLYFISH

Habitat

In warm seas, not far from the coast
Most dangerous box jellyfish found in the sea near 1 _____

Appearance

Shaped like a box

Light blue in colour

Tentacles grow up to
2 _____ metres in
length

Has 3 _____ eyes

How the box jellyfish stings

- cells on tentacles can produce a powerful poison
- when tentacles touch a human or a fish, they 4 _____ to them and deliver a strong sting

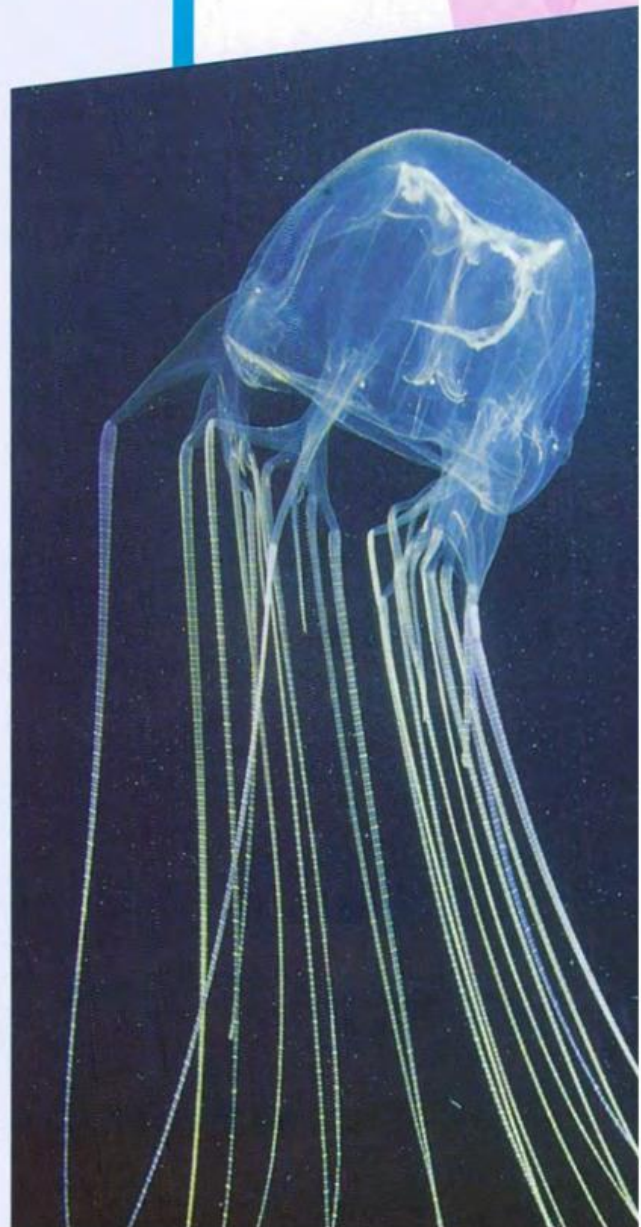
Dangers to people

The sting can result in death

- by causing a heart attack
- if a swimmer can't swim back to the shore because the sting has caused such great
5 _____

What to do if someone has been stung

- heart attack - try to revive them
- pour vinegar over the tentacles
- if vinegar not available, put
6 _____ on the skin



D. SPEAKING

Exercise 1. Before the IELTS Speaking test begins the examiner will ask you some questions. Complete the questions, using the words in the box. Then watch the video to check.

(Unit 8_Video 1)

call	full	identification
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1. Good afternoon. My name is Maggie Scott. Can you tell me your _____ name please?
2. And what shall I _____ you?
3. Can I see your _____ please?

Exercise 2. In the IELTS Speaking test the examiner is checking your *lexical resource*. This means you should use a range of vocabulary related to the topic. Read the IELTS Speaking Part 2 task card. Then match the the words you might use to talk about this topic with the definitions.

Describe a place you visited where the air was very clean and fresh.

You should say:

Where this place was

When and why you visited this place

Who you were with

And explain how you felt visiting a place where the air was so clean and fresh.

atmosphere	clean green	condition industry	countryside peaceful	factories pollution	fresh (air)
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1. Not dirty _____
2. Covered with grass or other plants _____
3. The state that something or someone is in _____
4. The air you breathe in a place _____
5. The companies and activities necessary to produce goods for sale, especially in factories

6. Clean and cool _____
7. Quiet and calm _____
8. Damage caused to water, air etc. By harmful substances or waste _____
9. Land not in towns or cities that is used for farming or is left for forest etc. _____
10. A buildings or groups of building where large amounts of products are made using machines

Exercise 3. Look at the pictures. Then put the letters in the correct order to make words relating to the topic of nature and the environment. You could use these words to show the examiner *lexical resource*.

1.



a	i	a	e	n	n	a	t	n
o	g	r	m	u (two words)				

2.



a	r	t	e	d	e	s
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

3.



a	n	s	f	a	o	i	r	e	t	r
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

4.



p	o	n	t	i	l	l	u	i	o
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

5.



The	r	n	y	u	e	o	c	s	i	t	d
-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

6.



a f i r e o s t c

7.



l e l f l l d w

8.



a l o f d o

9.



a l v e a r y r e v l i (two words)

10.



the E h t a r

Exercise 4. For the IELTS Speaking Part 2 task card below, you need to speak in the *past simple*. Watch the student doing the task and notice the grammatical errors she makes. Then correct the seven errors. (·Unit 8_Video 2)

In the IELTS Speaking test the examiner is checking your grammatical range and accuracy. This means you should use a variety of tenses and types of sentences, and try not to make mistakes.

1. I *have been* there in February last year.
2. There *is* a lot of clouds and a lot of mountains.
3. Some people who *guide* us *can* speak Korean and Japanese. (2 mistakes)
4. It *is* a very safe area, so we *can* have a walk alone at night. (2 mistakes)
5. When I *go* to Cusco I was with my friends.

Exercise 5. Choose the correct articles to complete the conversation from IELTS Speaking Part 3

Examiner: Now we've been talking about a/the environment and I'd like to discuss with you one or two general questions related to this. Let's talk about living in a/the countryside. What are a/the disadvantages of living in a/the countryside?

Student: In general, living in a/the countryside might be inconvenient because a/the public transport there is not very good. For example, people need to use taxis or take the bus, because there's no special transportation such as the underground. I think that is a/the disadvantage for living in a/the countryside. Other possible disadvantages are...

Exercise 6. Watch the student doing IELTS Speaking Part 3. Then put the questions that the examiner asks in the correct order. (·Unit 8_Video 3)

In the IELTS Speaking test the examiner is checking your fluency and coherence. This means you should try to speak without a lot of pauses, and discuss your ideas clearly in logical order.

Examiner: Now, we've been talking about the environment and I'd like to discuss with you one or two general questions related to this. Let's talk about living in the countryside.

What are the disadvantages of living in the countryside?

Is it possible for people to have a high standard of living without seriously damaging the environment?

Do you think humans can live in a completely unnatural or artificial environment?

What are some ways people change or affect the environment when they live in the countryside?

Do you think people damage the environment more when they live in a town or when they live in the countryside?

Exercise 7. Match the examiner's questions with the student's responses.

Examiner: Do you think humans can live in a completely unnatural or artificial environment?

Examiner: Do you think people damage the environment more when they live in a town or when they live in the countryside?

Examiner: Is it possible for people to have a high standard of living without seriously damaging the environment?

Examiner: What are the disadvantages of living in the countryside?

Examiner: What are some ways people change or affect the environment when they live in the countryside?

1. _____
Student: One main disadvantage of living in the countryside might be that it's inconvenient because public transport isn't very good.
2. _____
Student: In my opinion, people affect the environment if, for example, they buy themselves a car.
3. _____
Student: I think, in general, people who live in a town have more of an effect on the environment. This is because a lot of people live in towns and, as a result, there is a lot of traffic and rubbish on the streets.
4. _____
Student: I think it's possible, although it depends on where you live. For example, you might be able to afford a car, but you might choose to cycle to work or to school instead.
5. _____
Student: I think in some areas people already live in these kinds of conditions. However, I don't think it's a good idea to live without any nature.

Exercise 8. You are going to practise the full IELTS Speaking test. You will need some paper and a pencil.

Describe a place you visited where the air was very clean and fresh.

You should say:

Where this place was

When you were with

Who you were with

And explain how you felt visiting a place where the air was so clean and fresh.