UNIT 2: LEISURE AND RECREATION

D. LISTENING

Exercise 1: In this unit, you will practise the skills you need to understand a monologue in an academic situation and complete short-answered and multiple-choice questions. Read the information about Section 4 of the IELTS Listening test. Choose two answers for each question.

> In Section 4 of the IELTS Listening test, you will hear a monologue in an academic situation. You will hear this only once. As usual, you will have 30–45 seconds to read the questions before listening.

1 In this part of the test, what might you hear?

- ☐ One person talking for a long time, without stopping.
- ☐ Two or more university students trying to solve a problem.
- ☐ A lecturer talking about a specific subject.
- ☐ A manager giving advice to company workers about how to do something.

2 What might you be asked to do in this part of the test?

- ☐ Listen carefully for specific information.
- ☐ Decide what your opinion is on the topic.
- ☐ Make your own notes on the information you hear.
- ☐ Complete a summary of what you hear.

Exercise 2 : Read the information. Then match the topics in the box with the introductory sentences from the lecture.

> A lecture is made up of several main points. A good lecturer will always introduce a new main point. This makes it easier for the listener to understand what the lecture is about. The lecturer doesn't usually give important details in these introductory sentences, but listen carefully, because they will help you to understand the general topic of the section.

Early forms of transport	How New Zealand was affected by the introduction of trains
The future of steam trains	The use of trains for personal transport
What the trains transported	

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1 Before the railways were built, transport could be slow and unreliable.

2 But once the railways were built, everything changed: farmers could send their milk by train.

3 Another thing we should think about is the impact that the development of the railways had on the New Zealand landscape.

4 Now, one interesting difference between the railway in New Zealand and railways in other countries is that New Zealand trains have always been used to carry more goods than people.

5 Many railway lines are no longer used, which is a great shame in my opinion, although the government is still deciding whether it is possible to create a new network in the city centre, for electric trains, of course.

<u>Exercise 3:</u> In this unit, you will hear one speaker talking about a topic related to transport. This is a common topic in IELTS so it's a good idea to familiarise yourself with key vocabulary related to transport. Match the words in the box with the correct definitions.

commute | construct | goods | impact | petrol | steam | transport | unreliable

1 not able to be trusted or believed:

2 to build something or put together different parts to form something whole:

3 an effect that something has, especially something new, on a situation or person:

4 the hot gas that is produced when water boils:

5 to take goods or people from one place to another:

6 items for sale or possessions that can be moved:

7 a liquid used as fuel for cars or other forms of transport:

8 to make the same journey regularly between work and home:

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Exercise 4 : Listen and complete the notes. Write ONE WORD ONLY for each answer *(Track 2.1)*

1 Before railways were built, people transported goods by sea and on a _____ .

2 Railways were used to transport products such as milk, wood, coal and _____ .

3 In the 1900s, as railways were built, trees were cut down, and lots of _____ were built next to the lines.

4 Because the price of _____ has gone up, trains are becoming more popular with passengers.

5 Working steam trains can be seen at the _____ .

- Remember what type of information you need to listen for.
- The speaker may mention several of these types, but only one is correct.
- Complete each gap with a word that the speaker uses.
- Make sure your spelling is correct, and that you have only used one word in each gap.

Exercise 5 : In the next exercise you are going to listen to the next part of the talk. Read the information. Then match the categories with the things which could be included in those categories.

A *category* is a way of describing a group of things. For example, *weather* is a category. *Rain, sun, snow,* etc. can be categorised as types of weather. Often, a lecture will be divided into sections – each section talking about a different category.

1	finance	●	● arguments, unhappy
2	type of land	●	● snow and fog
3	material	●	● mountains and dense bush
4	workers	●	● councils, department
5	government	●	● diggers, carpenters, blacksmiths, mechanics
6	weather conditions	●	● economy, capital
7	disagreements	●	● iron, wood

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Exercise 6 : Listen and decide which problem each of the following railway lines had.

Choose five problems and write the correct letters, A–G, next to the railway lines 1–5.

(Track 2.2)

- Look quickly at the names of the five railway lines (1–5). The speaker will mention these in order. (The place names may look difficult to pronounce, but you will be able to recognise them when the speaker says them!)
- The speaker will talk about each railway line separately. Listen for key words in the talk which match the categories in the list of problems (finance, type of land, material, workers, etc.).
- Choose one problem for each railway line before the speaker moves on.

Problems	**Railway line**
A a lack of finance	1 Christchurch to Ferrymead ___
B the type of land	2 Invercargill to Makarewa ___
C unsuitable material	3 Napier to Gisborne ___
D a lack of workers	4 North Island ___
E lack of government interest	5 Raurimu ___
F terrible weather conditions	
G disagreements between planners	

Exercise 7. Complete the sentences below. Write NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS for each answer. *(Track 2.3)*

Example: *Answer:*
Most people lived in homes made of ....mud.... .

1 The city probably functioned as the ..... of the region.
2 The name 'Zimbabwe' may mean ..... .
3 Construction is thought to have started in the ..... century.
4 The Great Enclosure was probably a ..... home.
5 ..... was probably held back by the relatively poor soil.
6 ..... is no longer believed to be the reason for founding the city here.
7 The city was rich because it was a ..... .
8 A shortage of ..... and other resources probably contributed to the city's decline.
9 Nobody lived in the city after approximately ..... .

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Exercise 8. You are going to hear a radio interview with Gary Phillips, the head of an advertising agency. Listen to the first part of the interview.

Questions 1-6 *(Track 2.4)*

Complete the sentences below. Write ONE WORD ONLY for each answer.

1. Early advertising provided only_____.

2. In the late nineteenth century, manufacturers advertised because they needed to increase the _____ for their goods.

3. Companies were able to make a large _____by selling luxury goods.

4. Increased _____meant that companies risked going out of business if they didn't advertise.

5. Persuasive advertising tries to involve people's_____.

6. Persuasive advertising stresses the _____of buying particular products.

Questions 7-11 *(Track 2.5)*

Which technique does each product exemplify? Choose your answers from the box.

Example:	*Answer:*
children's clothing	...H...
7 running shoes	.....
8 furniture	.....
9 washing powder	.....
10 snacks	.....
11 engine oil	.....

A wide product range
B humour
C a claim that is suggested and not expressed
D a name that young children can remember
E celebrity endorsement
F repetition
G greater value for money
H creating a brand

Exercise 9. Listen to the last part of the message and complete the table with the pieces of equipment. Write ONE WORD ONLY in each gap.

Sport event	basketball	gymnastics	table tennis	badminton	weightlifting
Equipment	nets	vaulting horse	tables	1 _____	barbells
	2 _____	3 _____	nets	racquets	weights
		4 _____	5 _____	shuttlecocks	6 _____
		rings			chalk
		pommel horse			

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Exercise 10.

The Director of Sports, Jeff, leaves another message for the three helpers, Steve, Amanda and Malik. In the message, he tells them who should be in charge of each event. Listen and write the correct organiser, A, B, C or D next to events 1–6.

A Steve
B Amanda
C Malik
D Jeff

1 badminton _____
2 gymnastics _____
3 weightlifting am _____
4 basketball _____
5 weightlifting pm _____
6 table tennis _____

E. SPEAKING

Exercise 1: What do you know about IELTS Speaking Part 3? Choose the correct answers.

In IELTS Speaking Part 3, you will be asked general discussion questions related to the topic from Speaking Part 2.

1 Do you have any preparation time?

◯ Yes ◯ No

2 Do you have a conversation with the examiner?

◯ Yes ◯ No

3 Do you talk about yourself?

◯ Yes ◯ No

4 Does the examiner ask you several questions?

◯ Yes ◯ No

5 How long is IELTS Speaking Part 3?

◯ 3–4 minutes ◯ 4–5 minutes

Exercise 2 : In IELTS Speaking Part 3, you will be asked general discussion questions related to the topic from Part 2. Look at the common types of questions you may be asked. Match each of the general discussion questions (on the left) with what the question asks you to do (on the right)

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1	Tell me about popular hobbies in your country.	●	● Question asks you about the future
2	Is it better to play games to win or for enjoyment?	●	● Question asks you for your opinion
3	What do you think about school sports?	●	● Question asks you to compare the past to the present
4	What will the Olympics be like in 20 years' time?	●	● Question asks you to compare two things
5	Why do people like team sports?	●	● Question asks you to describe something
6	How have sports on TV changed since you were a child?	●	● Question asks you to explain something

<u>Exercise 3 :</u> Read the information. Do you think the examiner might ask the questions below in Part 3? Choose the correct answers.

In IELTS Speaking Part 2, you talk about your personal opinion on a topic. In Part 3, you answer questions which are related to this topic, but you should give a general opinion.

Examples:
I like to play football. = personal opinion (Part 2)
People in my country like to play football. = general opinion (Part 3)

1 Do you think that playing sports is less important now than in the past?

◯ Yes ◯ No

2 What sport don't you like?

◯ Yes ◯ No

3 Do you watch sports alone or with your friends?

◯ Yes ◯ No

4 What are the advantages of watching sports live rather than on television?

◯ Yes ◯ No

5 Do you think professional sportspeople will continue to get stronger and fitter in the future?

◯ Yes ◯ No

6 Who is your favourite tennis player?

◯ Yes ◯ No

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Exercise 4 : **Read the information. Then complete the table with the phrases in the box.**

In IELTS Speaking Part 3 you should *extend* your answers, i.e. make them longer and more complete. You can do this by giving an example, making a suggestion or using conversation fillers, etc.

Look at the phrases in the table. You can use them to extend your answers.

It might happen.	My view is that ...	That's an interesting question.	
alternatively,	for instance,	should	the reason is that ...

Giving an example:	such as for example,
Giving your opinion:	In my opinion ... I believe ...
Suggesting other opinions:	or ... if you look at ...
Offering an explanation:	because ... the explanation is ...
Making a suggestion or recommendation:	I would recommend / suggest ... We could ... People ...
Considering possible outcomes:	Maybe ... It depends on ... (+ something / someone)
Conversation fillers:	

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Exercise 5 : Complete the phrases for extending your answers. Use the words in the box.

as	**believe**	**depends**	**explanation is**	**happen**	**instance**	**is that**	**opinion**
question	**suggest**						

1 for_____,

2 In my _____...

3 the reason _____...

4 I would_____...

5 such_____

6 It _____on ...

7 That's an interesting_____.

8 It might _____.

9 I _____...

10 the _____...

Exercise 6 : In IELTS Speaking Part 3, you should extend your answers. Read the conversation from IELTS Speaking Part 3 and complete the student's answers. Use the words in the box. Then watch the video and check your answers. *(Video 2.1)*

For example	**Maybe**	**because**	**have never thought about it**	**just my opinion**	**should**
such as	**you look at**	**'ve never thought about it**			

Examiner: Do you think that playing sports is less important now than in the past?

Student: I _____ but I think it's important _____ students are shy about finding new friends. Playing sports, _____ football which is a team sport, can help find new friendships … I don't know, it's _____ .

Examiner: How can people be encouraged to take part in more sport?

Student: Maybe they might be encouraged by their parents. Parents _____ encourage them because playing sports gives you a better lifestyle. _____ some sports should be for free for some students, otherwise students from poor families can't afford to play. _____ , hockey is a really expensive sport so maybe the government should subsidise it.

Examiner: Do you think top sportspeople will continue to get stronger and fitter in the future?

Student: If _____ football players like Messi or Ronaldo, they still work hard on their football skills and it doesn't seem like they will stop and say that they are good enough, and don't need to train anymore.

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Exercise 7 : **Read the examiner's questions and complete the student's answers with the extra information. Use the phrases in the box. Then watch the video and check your answers *(·Video 2.2)***

I'd say the disadvantage is that it takes away the feeling that you're there.

Now we are more dependent on technology. | Some people might think so.

others, for enjoyment and fun. | whereas you can watch it for free on TV.

1 **Examiner:** Do you think that the way people watch sport has changed much over the years?
Student: I think it has changed dramatically, yes. _____

2 **Examiner:** Is it a good idea to watch sport on your mobile phone?
Student: It has its advantages and disadvantages.
_____

3 **Examiner:** Is it more realistic if you watch it on a large screen?
Student: I think it depends on your personal perspective. _____

4 **Examiner:** What are the advantages and disadvantages of watching sport live rather than on television?
Student: Nowadays, going to watch a football match is expensive,
_____

5 **Examiner:** Do people who watch a lot of sport also play a lot of sport?
Student: Some people may watch sport just to compare their own performance to the players,
_____

Exercise 8: **Read the extracts from the IELTS Speaking Part 3 conversation. Then watch the video and complete the student's answers to the examiner's questions. Use the words in the box. *(·Video 2.3)***

Nowadays | advantages | believe | compare | dependent | depends on

might | others | say | whereas

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1 **Examiner:** Do you think that the way people watch sport has changed much over the years?

Student: I _____ it has changed dramatically, yes. Now we are more _____ on technology.

2 **Examiner:** Is it a good idea to watch sport on your mobile phone?

Student: It has its _____ and disadvantages. I'd _____ the disadvantage is that it takes away the feeling that you're there.

3 **Examiner:** Is it more realistic if you watch it on a large screen?

Student: I think it _____ your personal perspective. Some people _____ think so.

4 **Examiner:** What are the advantages and disadvantages of watching sport live rather than on television?

Student: _____, going to watch a football match is expensive, _____ you can watch it for free on TV.

5 **Examiner:** Do people who watch a lot of sport also play a lot of sport?

Student: Some people may watch sport just to _____ their own performance to the players, _____, for enjoyment and fun.

<u>Exercise 10 :</u>Practice answering the following IELTS Speaking Part 3 questions.

1. Do you think that playing sports is less important now than in the past?

2. How can people be encouraged to take part in more sports?

3. Do you think top sports players will continue to get stronger and fitter in the future?

4. Do you think the way people watch sports has changed much over the years?

5. What are the advantages and disadvantages of watching sports live rather than on television?

6. Do people who watch a lot of sports also play a lot of sports?

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