

C. LISTENING

Exercise 1. In this unit, you will practise the skills you need to understand what type of information to listen for in a general conversation between two or three people. Read the information about Section 1 of the IELTS Listening test. Choose two answers for each question.



In Section 1 of the IELTS Listening test, you will hear a conversation between two or three people, in a general situation. They will be attempting to do something specific in their conversation (for example, reach a decision, or get information). You will hear this only once, and you will have a short period of time to read the questions before listening.

- 1 In this part of the test, who might you hear?
 - someone telephoning about a sports event
 - a careers advisor, giving a short talk about what to do after university
 - a tour operator advising someone on planning a trip

- 2 What kind of conversation might it be?
 - a group of friends preparing a party
 - a student discussing an essay with her tutor
 - two people discussing arrangements for a charity cycle race

- 3 What might the people be trying to do?
 - decide what to do next
 - find out information about a product
 - tell an interesting story

Exercise 2: Read the information. Then look at the table quickly and decide what type of information you need to listen for. Match the information with the questions. There are more types of information than you need.



In Section 1 of the IELTS Listening test, look quickly at the questions before you listen. This will help you decide what type of conversation you are likely to hear, and what the people want to achieve or find out.

In this type of task, you usually need to listen for nouns: things, people, objects or numbers (for example, dates, times or prices).

Apartment 1

facilities	has a (1) that guests can use for free
location	lots of shops nearby, but unfortunately, it's also near a (2)
cost	(3) €..... per person for one night.

For Question 1, you need to listen for	●	an event
For Question 2, you need to listen for	●	a number
For Question 3, you need to listen for	●	something people do in a hotel
	●	something people normally pay for
	●	a number of people
	●	a place or building

Exercise 3: Read the information. Then listen to two people choosing the best apartment for a trip. Choose the correct words to complete the table. (☞ Track 3.1)

The speakers may say more than one thing which could fit in a gap. You need to listen carefully and decide which is the information you need, and which you don't need.



Apartment 1

facilities	has a (1) that guests can use for free
location	lots of shops nearby, but unfortunately, it's also near a (2)
cost	(3) €..... per person for one night.

1 swimming pool gym car park

2 road supermarket restaurant

3 35 42 70

Exercise 4: Listen to the conversation again. Choose the correct options to complete the explanations of why the answers are correct or incorrect. (☞ Track 3.1)

Facilities: has a (1) that guests can use for free.

The answer is swimming pool because using it is included in the price. The car park and gym are/aren't free.

Location: lots of shops nearby, but unfortunately, it's also near a (2)

The answer is restaurant, because the woman mentions some disadvantages of staying near it (*it could be noisy at night*). She doesn't say that being near a restaurant/ road/ supermarket would be a disadvantage. There isn't a restaurant/ road/ supermarket near the apartment.

Cost: (3) €..... per person for one night

The answer is €35 because this is the price per person at the cheapest apartment. The price based on two people staying is €35/ €42/ €70 and the price per person at another apartment is €35/ €42/ €70 per person.

Exercise 5: Listen and complete the table. Write ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER for each answer. (P Track 3.2)

Beachside Holiday Park			
	facilities	location	cost
Cabin 1 'Economy'	has bedroom for up to 4 people doesn't have its own (1)	near the (2)	£85 per night
Cabin 2 'Family'	bring a (3) for each person	great view of the lake	(4) £..... per night
Cabin 3 'Superior'	can take up to 8 people has its own small (5) outside	close to the office so there might be some (6) at night	£175 per night

Exercise 6: Read the information. Then, complete the chart. Use the phrases in the box.

It will help if you can recognise when the speakers are making suggestions, or agreeing and disagreeing. It will also help if you can understand at what point the speakers arrive at a final decision. For example, if someone says '*Definitely*', then they are agreeing firmly with the other person, and ending the discussion.

I can ... OK. Good. I don't think ... That's a brilliant idea. Definitely.

I'm not sure ... If you like, I'll ... Alright. I see what you mean. Maybe, but ...

I couldn't agree more. OK, but ... It would be good if ... If we ..., we should ...

I'm afraid ... How about ...?



Making a suggestion**Showing doubt****Showing agreement****Exercise 7: Listen and choose the correct answers, A, B or C (Track 3.3)**

1 Tom and Annie agree that they should start their journey ...

- A on Friday evening.
- B early on Saturday morning.
- C on Saturday afternoon.

2 What do Tom and Annie decide about food?

- A to eat soon after they arrive at the holiday park
- B to look for a café along the route to the holiday park
- C to bring snacks to eat during the trip to the holiday park

3 Annie doesn't want to book a horse ride until she is certain about ...

- A the weather.
- B the times.
- C the prices.

4 Tom and Annie both think that during the holiday their children ...

- A should learn a new skill.
- B must look after each other.
- C could have more independence than usual.

- Read through the questions so you know what kind of thing you need to listen for.
- Listen and pay attention to how the speakers ask for each other's opinions, make suggestions, and agree or disagree.
- Pay special attention to what the speakers finally agree on.
- Go back and choose the best answers, **A**, **B** or **C**.



Exercise 8: Listen and complete the sentences with the words the speakers use to introduce topics, and make and respond to suggestions. (Track 3.4)

1 _____ we go first thing Saturday morning? Then we won't have to drive in the dark.

2 OK, good. So _____ all come round to our house for about nine, we can set off together. And _____ food for the journey?

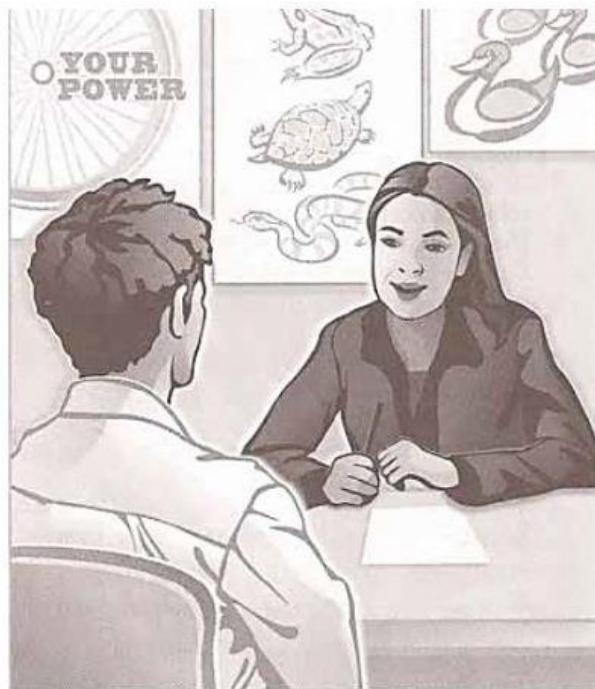
3 That's a _____. Then we can stop off somewhere on the way and eat.

4 I mean, it's fine right now, but _____ a possibility it might rain at the weekend. So _____ wait until we get there.

5 I'd feel better if you did. But it _____ we could teach them how to make a fire, like dad taught us.

6 Definitely. I _____ more.

Exercise 9. Listen and answer questions 1-10 (Track 3.5)



Questions 1-6

Complete the notes below.

Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

The Volunteer Agency

- has recruited 1 people for environmental projects
- project abroad involves doing 2 or going into the rain forest
- major project for dealing with 3 in the countryside
- project for improving conditions for 4
- 5 projects in urban areas
- some projects do not have any 6

Questions 7–10

Complete the table below.

Write **ONE WORD** for each answer.

Name of organisation	Numbers	Example volunteer activity
Wildlife Link	24,000 volunteers	getting information about 7 of wildlife
Wildlife Watch	300 8	doing administrative work
9 Earth	908 projects	building 10 and walls