

Unit Two

Numbers

In the IELTS Listening test, candidates are frequently required to listen to a variety of numbers like telephone numbers, times, dates, amounts of money, etc.

This unit will help you to practise:

- listening and writing figures, fractions, percentages, cardinal and ordinal numbers in English.
- listening and writing dates (days and months) in English.

It is a good idea for you to do all the exercises in this unit. In addition, after checking with the answer key or scripts, try to repeat all the numbers, times and dates so that you can improve your pronunciation and write down figures and dates accurately.

Part One Cardinals

The numbers used to count the objects in a group are called *cardinal numbers*: 1, 2, 3, etc.

1 one	2 two	3 three	4 four
5 five	6 six	7 seven	8 eight
9 nine	10 ten	11 eleven	12 twelve
13 thirteen	14 fourteen	15 fifteen	16 sixteen
17 seventeen	18 eighteen	19 nineteen	20 twenty
30 thirty	40 forty	50 fifty	60 sixty
70 seventy	80 eighty	90 ninety	21 twenty-one
32 thirty-two	43 forty-three	54 fifty-four	65 sixty-five
76 seventy-six	87 eighty-seven	98 ninety-eight	99 ninety-nine

Exercise 1 Reading the numbers 13. MP3

Listen to the following numbers and repeat them after the speaker.

13 18 7 20 23 31 54 39
71 14 40 58 60 67 85 97

Exercise 2 Number dictation 14. MP3

Listen to the following numbers and write them down.

Exercise 3 Ticking the numbers you hear 15. MP3

You will hear someone reading the numbers in the box. Some of them are correct, and some are not. When the number is correct, put a tick (✓) by it. If it's wrong, put a cross (×). Look at the box below and listen to the recording.

5		53		99	
14		27		62	

36	11	74
52	96	50
19	88	12
27	45	33
78	77	49

Exercise 4

16. MP3

Listen to Exercise 4 in the recording. When you hear a number that is in the box, draw a cross (X) next to the number. One of the numbers in the box is not in the recording. Which number is it? Now listen to the following numbers.

6	96	49	11	13	78
19	18	57	83	24	75
64	51	25	33	22	91

Put your answer here: _____

Exercise 5

Number practice

17. MP3

Listen carefully and write the numbers in the blanks. Write the numbers in figures, not words.

- The sweater costs _____ pounds.
- Tom bought _____ books yesterday.
- Mary is _____ years old.
- Janet was _____ minutes late.
- There are _____ students in my class.
- My grandfather has _____ grandchildren.
- Bill wears size _____.
- The temperature was _____ °C yesterday.
- The train arrived at _____ o'clock.
- I got _____ on my English test.

Listen carefully and circle the correct numbers.

1. The student from New York bought (50 – 15) new books last week.
2. My uncle George lives at (13 – 30) King's Road.
3. Mr. Johnson was (40 – 14) minutes late for his lecture.
4. It took (16 – 60) hours to finish his work.
5. Mary finished the test in (17 – 70) minutes.
6. My friend Alan lost (19 – 90) pounds on the first day of class.
7. I paid (80 – 18) pounds for that coat.
8. He lives at (5062 – 1562) Green Street, York.
9. Her address is (3040 – 1340) Farm Street, Brighton.
10. We bought (14 – 40) CDs last month.

Notes

100 one hundred, or a hundred

200 two hundred

300 three hundred

400 four hundred

500 five hundred

600 six hundred

700 seven hundred

800 eight hundred

900 nine hundred

212 two hundred and twelve

338 three hundred and thirty-eight

402 four hundred and two

509 five hundred and nine

627 six hundred and twenty-seven

741 seven hundred and forty-one

853 eight hundred and fifty-three

999 nine hundred and ninety-nine

1. In Britain, we use a comma (,) not a point (.) for thousands and millions. This is different from the system in some other countries.

2. The numbers 1100, 1200, 1300, 1400, 1500, 1600, 1700, 1800, 1900 are sometimes said as eleven hundred, twelve hundred, thirteen hundred, etc.