

Listening activities

Unit 4

Student's book, page 40.

EXAM SKILL

Understanding responses to questions

- When speakers answer yes/no questions, their answer doesn't always start with *Yes* or *No*. They sometimes use other words and phrases. Some of these appear in Exercise 2.
- Whatever word or phrase they use, it's important to be able to tell if they're introducing a positive or negative response to the question, or a mixed response.

- 2** Decide whether these words and phrases are used to introduce a positive answer (P), a negative answer (N) or a mixed positive/negative answer (M).

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| 1 To a certain extent | _____ |
| 2 Definitely | _____ |
| 3 On the contrary | _____ |
| 4 Quite the opposite | _____ |
| 5 Absolutely | _____ |
| 6 Up to a point | _____ |
| 7 Yes and no | _____ |
| 8 Absolutely not | _____ |

Multiple choice (single extract)

- Always read the questions and options before you start listening.
- As you listen the first time, note down words and phrases you hear that might help you answer the questions.
- Don't worry too much about choosing the correct option the first time you listen because you will hear the recording a second time.

4

1.22 Listen again to the radio interview with Lena Callow and choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- What happened in the period before Lena went on her trip?
 - She had to persuade her father to let her go on her own.
 - It was hard to choose between this trip and a beach holiday.
 - Many of the accommodation arrangements were made.
- What does Lena say about where she'd like to live?
 - She doesn't want to live in another country.
 - She prefers living in a rural environment.
 - She'd love to live in Montreal one day.
- What surprised Lena about Athens?
 - how old some of the buildings were
 - how different it was from Istanbul
 - how it was nicer than she had imagined
- What was Lena's view of New York?
 - It's actually a city you can relax in.
 - She prefers cities that are less busy.
 - It's too big to see all the main sights.
- What does Lena say about visiting Mexico City?
 - It has elements of the other cities.
 - She spoke Spanish there.
 - She went to lots of museums.

1 Read the questions and responses and decide what each response means, a or b.

- 1 **A:** Did you find Melbourne boring?
B: On the contrary, it was quite lively with lots of interesting things to do.
a) No, I didn't. b) Yes, I did.
- 2 **A:** Would you say that large cities are dangerous?
B: Up to a point, but it's up to you to be careful.
a) Yes, definitely. b) Yes, partly.
- 3 **A:** Were the local people rude?
B: Absolutely not. They were extremely kind and helpful.
a) No way. b) I believe they were.
- 4 **A:** Is Cairo very noisy?
B: To a certain extent, but there are quiet places if you look for them.
a) No, not at all. b) No, not all of the city.
- 5 **A:** Do you think you will ever visit Buenos Aires again?
B: Definitely. There's a lot I didn't see the first time.
a) Yes, I intend to. b) Maybe.
- 6 **A:** Were the beaches clean?
B: Quite the opposite. I was very surprised.
a) Some were OK. b) No, they weren't.
- 7 **A:** Have you decided where you'll go?
B: Absolutely. I just need to book my ticket.
a) Yes, I have. b) I'm not sure yet.
- 8 **A:** Was the food in London OK?
B: Yes and no. I had a few nice meals.
a) Yes, it was very nice. b) Not all of it was good.

2

07 Listen to a radio interview and choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- 1** What does Matt say about the weather in Athens?
A He definitely wanted to experience it.
B It prevented him from doing a lot of things.
C He coped with it in the same way the Athenians do.
- 2** What surprised Matt about a museum he visited?
A the architectural style of the building
B some objects were not Greek
C a statue he only knew about from books
- 3** Why did Matt go to cafés so often?
A partly to get out of the sun
B to think about democracy
C to talk to Athenians
- 4** What does Matt believe led to democracy in Athens?
A the atmosphere when people had discussions
B it was a place of ideas and knowledge
C a combination of some important factors
- 5** What is Matt's view of Athens?
A It's too noisy for him.
B It's a city of contrasts.
C He can't understand the lifestyle.

