

Action plan

- 1 Use the time before each question to carefully read the first line. What's the situation? Will you hear one speaker or two?
- 2 If there are two speakers, does the question tell you who will give the answer? (e.g. *Why does the woman ...?* or *What does the man ...?*) Or, will the answer come from both speakers? (e.g. *What do they both think about ...?*)
- 3 Read the direct question and stem (e.g. *Who is the woman?*) and underline the key words.
- 4 When you first hear the recording, try to think of an answer to each question in your own words. Then choose (from A, B or C) the option most like your answer.
- 5 Check your answer the second time you listen, making sure that you have not made a mistake – speakers may use words connected with more than one option.
- 6 If you're still not sure which is the correct answer, cross out any you are sure are wrong and guess.
- 7 When the recording has finished and you have chosen your answer, forget about that question and concentrate on the next one.

 4 Follow the exam instructions, using the advice to help you.

You will hear people talking in eight different situations. For questions 1–8, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- 1 You hear a man talking about crime fiction. What is his attitude to crime novels now?
 A He thinks they are a useful distraction.
 B He prefers to buy only one crime novel at a time.
 C He finds them less memorable than other types of novel.
- 2 You hear two sports journalists talking about a tennis player who is retiring. What do they agree about the tennis player?
 A He will look for opportunities to work on TV.
 B He is likely to start a new career as a coach.
 C He has chosen to stop playing at the right time.
- 3 You hear an inventor talking about her work. What does she say about inventions?
 A They are the result of a lot of hard work.
 B She enjoys encouraging others to create them.
 C Ideas for them come to her at unexpected times.
- 4 You hear two friends discussing their plans for the weekend. What is the man doing?
 A persuading his friend to take up cycling
 B recommending a new cycle route to his friend
 C inviting his friend to accompany him on a cycle ride

Tip! Before you listen, think of other expressions for the words in the question, e.g. *What does he do?* – *He works in ...*, *His job is ...*, *He's employed as ...*, etc.

Tip! Make sure you always know which question and situation you are listening to.

Advice

1 He talks about when he used to read crime fiction. But what does he say about reading crime fiction now?

2 You need to listen for the opinion that they both share.

3 A: Is inventing a lot of hard work for her? B: Does she encourage other people? C: When/How does she get ideas?

4 What language might the speaker use to persuade, recommend or invite?

- 5 You hear a woman talking about crossword puzzles.
How does she feel about doing them?
 A relaxed while she is focused on a crossword
 B excited if she can solve all the clues correctly
 C satisfied that she is exercising her brain
- 6 You hear two colleagues talking about travelling to work.
What do they disagree on?
 A that the time spent travelling is a waste of time
 B that travelling to work is very expensive
 C that it's better to live outside the city and travel in to work
- 7 You hear a researcher talking about social media.
What point does he make about it?
 A It's easy to forget that social media is a recent development.
 B The disadvantages of social media are often exaggerated.
 C Friendships on social media cannot replace face-to-face contact.
- 8 You hear a woman telling a friend about her experience of using a life coach.
What has the woman decided to do differently?
 A stop worrying about whether she achieves her goals
 B set herself smaller goals that are easier to achieve
 C reflect on which goals are most important to achieve

Advice

5 She mentions reasons why other people enjoy doing crosswords, but what does she say about herself?

6 Listen for a phrase which means I don't agree.

7 Listen to the whole piece. Is the speaker for, against or neutral about social media?

8 What does she say about how she will do things from now on?