

PRONUNCIATION: CHUNKING

Exercise 1: Listen and mark the pause.

E.g. A few years ago / I read in a newspaper / that the staff at a library.

1. A few years ago _____ I read in a newspaper _____ that the staff at a library _____ in a small town _____ in the west of England _____ had noticed _____ that the number of visitors _____ to the library _____ was going down and down, _____ and the number of books _____ they were borrowing _____ was going down even faster.
2. They couldn't understand this, _____ so they decided _____ to do some research _____ to find out _____ the reason.
3. They interviewed people _____ and asked them _____ to fill in questionnaires _____ and so on.
4. And _____ guess what they discovered.
5. The reason was _____ simply _____ that everybody _____ had read all the books already!

Exercise 2: Record the sentences above.

Exercise 3: Listen and mark the pause.

1. This seems _____ unbelievable _____ but it's a true story _____ in fact.
2. A farmer _____ was working _____ in the fields _____ with his tractor.
3. The tractor crashed _____ and he fell out _____ and landed on _____ the ground _____ unconscious.
4. As he fell, _____ his mobile phone _____ fell _____ out of his pocket.
5. Soon after, _____ a bird that was flying _____ around the fields _____ saw the phone _____ and started pecking it _____ with its beak.
6. Amazingly _____ it dialed the number 999 _____ and soon _____ the emergency services arrived _____ to help the farmer.

Exercise 4: Record the sentences above.

Exercise 5: Listen and mark the pause.

1. When I woke up _____ I didn't even _____ realise _____ what time _____ it was.
2. Of course _____ it's written in a language _____ that hardly _____ anyone can _____ understand.
3. I was working late _____ because they want _____ it done _____ as quickly as _____ possible.
4. Because he was _____ ill _____ I didn't _____ expect him _____ to come to work.

5. If I get ____ some time ____ I'll be over on the weekend ____ to see you ____ both.
6. Luckily ____ we haven't had any rain ____ since ____ the day ____ we arrived.
7. It should ____ never have ____ been built ____ in my opinion ____ this new office building.

Exercise 6: Listen to the answer for the IELTS Speaking Part 2. Identify the chunks in the following options.

Ok, I'm going to talk about a problem with the environment in my country. One of the most serious problems at the moment is flooding. This is starting to happen every year and each year it seems to get worse. I think it may be caused by a number of factors. Firstly scientists **believe that global warming** is **causing more** severe weather so this may account for the increasing amount of rain that we seem to be seeing. It **also means** the soil is more dry so again the rainwater runs off it rather than being **soaked up**.

global warming

believe that

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soaked up

also means