

IELTS Listening Practice - Section 4

The Psychology of Fitting In

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: ____ / 10

You will hear a psychologist discussing why people sometimes change their behaviour to gain social acceptance. You will hear the recording once only.

Questions 31-35

Complete the notes below.

Write NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS for each answer.

Why people change themselves

- | | |
|----|--|
| 31 | Pretending to share another person's interests is described as a form of _____ |
| 32 | Highlighting similarities can improve the _____ of a conversation. |
| 33 | During human evolutionary history, belonging to a group increased the likelihood of _____ |
| 34 | The human brain pays attention to behaviour and opinions that appear to receive social _____ |
| 35 | Changing ourselves can feel rewarding in the _____, even if it later creates problems. |

Before listening: Read the incomplete notes and predict the type of word needed in each gap. Do not try to predict the exact answer.

Questions 36-40

Choose the correct letter, A, B or C.

36. According to the speaker, when does similarity become a problem?

- A When it prevents people from discovering new interests
- B When it is achieved at the expense of authenticity
- C When it causes relationships to develop too quickly

37. Why can a person find it difficult to trust that other people accept them?

- A Other people may only know a carefully controlled version of them.
- B Their friends may frequently change their opinions.
- C They may believe that acceptance never lasts very long.

38. According to the speaker, loneliness can be caused by

- A having too few opportunities to meet people.
- B feeling that other people do not admire you.
- C feeling that other people do not truly know you.

39. What may happen after someone has spent years adapting to different people?

- A They may become uncertain about their own identity.
- B They may find it easier to express strong opinions.
- C They may lose interest in forming close relationships.

40. What does the speaker recommend as a way of developing closer relationships?

- A Avoiding people who have different interests
- B Taking small risks by expressing genuine preferences
- C Sharing highly personal information immediately

Record your answers for Questions 36-40

36		37		38		39		40	
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