

Listening

UNIT /08: FESTIVALS AND TRADITIONS

LISTENING

IN THIS UNIT YOU WILL LEARN HOW TO

- identify key information in summaries and tables to guide your listening
- classify information as you listen
- listen carefully to complete summaries and tables.

LEAD-IN

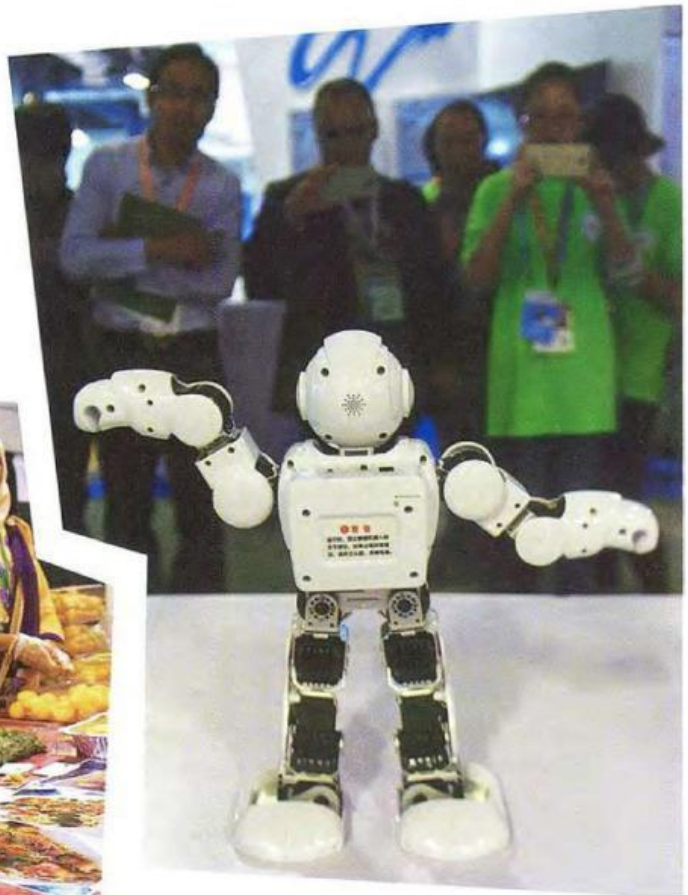
01

Listen to these short extracts from talks and complete the table to show the type of event each speaker is talking about.

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Audio

Speaker	Event
	Music festival
	Arts and crafts festival
	Poetry and literature festival
	Food festival
1	Sports festival
	Technology fair



SUMMARY COMPLETION



In the Listening test you may have to complete a summary with words from the recording. You may need to write up to *three words and/or a number* in each gap. Before you listen, you need to look at the summary and gaps and think about:

- what the topic is
- what the missing information could be
- what kind of words you can put there (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, etc.).

You also need to pay attention to key words and phrases in the summary which will help you to listen carefully for the correct words.

02



Audio

The speaker, Dr Saunders, is talking about the preparations for a recent arts festival at a university. Before you listen, look at sentences 1–4 and underline the key words and phrases. Listen and choose the correct alternative in each sentence to create a summary of his talk. (You may hear both alternatives, but the context should help you make the correct choice.)

- 1 The festival has grown in four years from having mostly music and performing arts in the first year to including other art forms, most recently painting and crafts / photography and films, especially from the university students.
- 2 Dr Saunders is particularly encouraged by the number of students / professional artists who took part in the latest festival.
- 3 The festival visitors stayed at the university and at the city college, with the students helping with the accommodation / catering arrangements.
- 4 The aims of the festival include extending the university's reputation and giving students the chance to get experience of organising events, mainly as paid workers / volunteers.

TIP 02

Remember that the information on the recording is in the same order as in the summary.

03



Audio

Listen to Dr Saunders' review of the festival and complete the sentences in the summary. Write up to **TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** in each gap.

- At 12,500, visitors were up by 10% on the previous year.
- The 1 _____ event was the most popular with many different entries and high levels of attendance.
- One of the main musical attractions had to call off through illness and a replacement could not be found in time, so money had to be returned to the customers.
- The crafts exhibition was 2 _____ despite the variety and quality of crafts on display, so it needs to be reviewed.
- Although there was good security present, 3 _____, which were worth about £3,000, were stolen so there is a need for better security in future.
- There were some complaints about accommodation because many visitors booked it very late. Unfortunately, the extra accommodation which was supplied was of a 4 _____.
- More volunteers are needed as some visitors did not get enough information.
- A lot of money was spent on 5 _____ to work with the volunteers but they were possibly not worth the money, so suggestions for reducing costs in that area are welcome.
- The programme needs to be updated and there needs to be more 6 _____, such as advertising and sponsorship, from local companies for the next festival.

TIP 03

Before you listen, look at each sentence and underline the key words and phrases to help you focus on listening for the correct words.

COMPLETING TABLES



In the Listening test you may have to complete a table with words from the recording. The table will have information in clear categories, so before you listen, you need to look at the categories with gaps and think about what kind of information is required in each gap. This will help you to listen carefully for the correct missing words.

04▶

A lecturer, Dr Reynolds, and two students, Sangita and Lawrence, are discussing the festival programme. Listen and choose the correct alternative in these notes.

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Audio

Discussion on events

Event	Sangita	Lawrence
Music	Artist in reserve 1 Student band / Well-known local band	Unlikely for the main act to be unable to play in future 2 Book local band for the last night / Book local band every night
Crafts	Have clothes separate from other crafts	Make more of the fashion section 3 Show clothes, glass and pottery / Show only clothes
Theatre and poetry	Performances in students' own languages	4 Have students' plays and poems / Have only famous plays and poems
Photography	5 Have only digital photographs displayed / Have digital and non-digital photographs displayed	Only have photographs displayed digitally

05

Dr Reynolds, Sangita and Lawrence are discussing the practical aspects of the festival. Listen and complete the notes with **ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER**.

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Audio

TIP 05

Remember to look at the different categories in the notes and think about what information would come under that category. This will help you to focus on the correct words when listening.

TIP 05

You may need to write up to **three words and/or a number** in each gap in the exam.

Discussion on organisation		
Aspect of organisation	Sangita	Lawrence
Accommodation	Use holiday accommodation for 1 _____.	Having young people at the festival helps the university in future.
Catering	Encourage students to give their ideas and offer to use their own 2 _____ skills.	Agrees
Professional help/volunteers	Former students would organise it better.	The 3 _____ did not work well as they saw the festival as just a student event.
Security	Windows were open. Everyone should be more careful and take personal 4 _____ for security.	Nothing to add, as there were security guards around all the time.
Finance	It's a good idea for businesses to sponsor or advertise as long as they respect the spirit of the festival.	Students might not be happy with commercial organisations taking a role. Businesses can sponsor specific events and present 5 _____.

EXAM SKILLS

06

Dr Reynolds is telling Dr Saunders about the students' suggestions. Listen and complete the table with NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER.

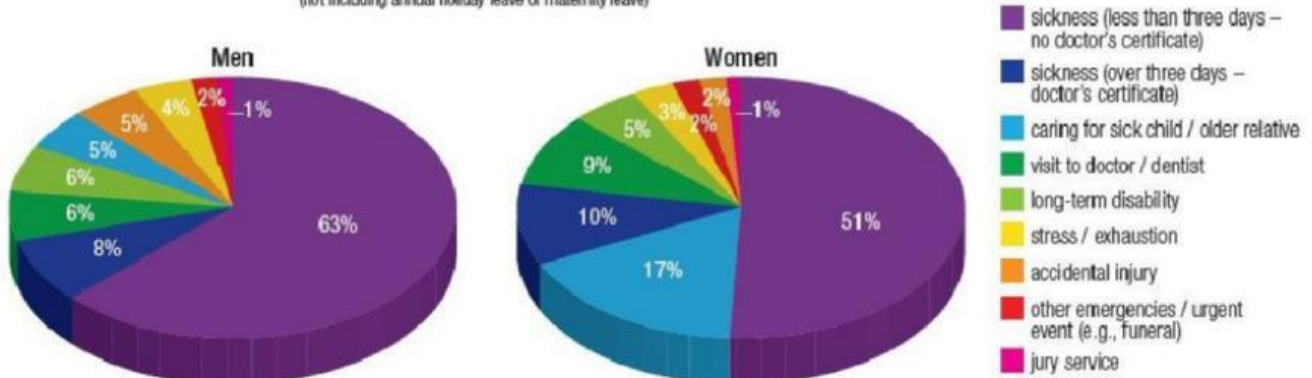
73

Audio

Suggestions from the discussion on the festival		
	Suggestion and reason accepted	Suggestion and reason rejected
Music	Local bands and student bands: encouraging people to take part	Using replacement bands: too complicated
Crafts	Fashion show: good idea as it can involve many international students	Stop pottery and glass exhibition: need to encourage all 1 _____ of art, not just the popular ones
Theatre and poetry	Plays and poems by students: it would help to raise 2 _____ Works in different languages: help international students feel more at home and valued	–
Photography	–	Digital and non-digital exhibition: not next year because of the 3 _____
Accommodation	–	Using the holiday park: unlikely to be ready in time, but a good possibility for future festivals
Catering	Encourage students to take part in cooking: helps their 4 _____	–
Professional help/ volunteers	Find better organisers: have a better selection system	Using former students instead of professional organisers: not really possible – too much trouble to find and employ them
Security	Encourage students to be more careful: it will increase 5 _____ among students	–
Finance	Encourage businesses to sponsor events and advertise: would encourage more interest in the university and improve relationships with business	Encourage students to have more events to raise money: would take their attention away from their 6 _____

Writing

Reasons for absence from work by gender
(not including annual holiday leave or maternity leave)



The pie charts show the reasons why male and female employees are absent from work.

Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.

Complete the report below with your own ideas. Use one or two words in each space. Then check the model.

The pie charts show the various reasons why men and women take time off work as percentages. Although there _____, there are some noticeable differences too.

The most common reason for absence for both men and women is a short period of sickness. Nearly _____ of time taken off by men is due to this, _____ for women it is just over half. Time taken off for more serious illness is about _____ for men and women.

Women are _____ to take time off to care for a child or older relative. At 17%, this is _____ most common reason for women to be absent. Caring for another person accounts for only 5% of time taken off by men.

Absence due to long-term disability or stress is similarly likely for both men and women _____ is a visit to the doctor or dentist. Men, however, are more than _____ as likely to take time off due to accidental injury.