

Homework: Unit 8: Lesson 3

Listening

UNIT / 06: THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

LISTENING

IN THIS UNIT YOU WILL LEARN HOW TO

- complete a diagram showing a process
- answer multiple-choice questions
- understand the use of signposting words
- revise quantifiers with countable and uncountable nouns.

LEAD-IN

01▶

You will hear a lecture about the environment and energy sources. Listen to the first part of the lecture and complete the table with the energy sources from the box.



Audio

fracking petroleum solar power wave power

Renewable sources	Non-renewable sources
Hydroelectric power	Coal
Wind power	Natural gas



COMPLETING DIAGRAMS

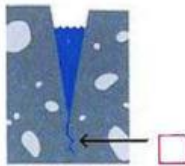
02 You are going to hear a lecture about fracking (a method of obtaining gas from the ground). First, listen to descriptions of some words from the lecture and match them with the correct picture, A–D.

Audio

A



B



C



D



1 drill

2 well

3 shale

4 fissure



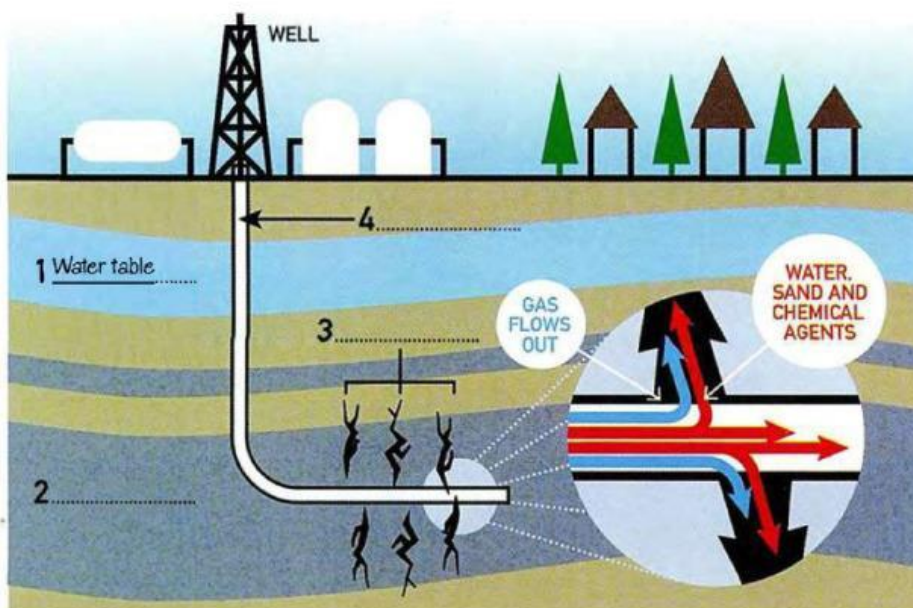
In the Listening test, you may have to listen and complete a diagram showing a process and what happens in a sequence of events. Some of the labels in the chart will be missing. You will need to listen and complete the missing labels.

03 Now look at the diagram below and discuss these questions with a partner.

- 1 Do you need to look at the whole diagram carefully to complete this type of task?
- 2 Do you need to understand all the words? What can you do if you don't understand some of the words?
- 3 Why is there a large circle in the diagram? What does it tell you?
- 4 The diagram shows you the sequence of events in the process. Can you find where it starts, where it goes and where it finishes?
- 5 What type of word do you think is missing in each case?

04 The lecturer is talking about the fracking process. Listen and complete the diagram with NO MORE THAN ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER for each answer.

Audio



QUANTIFIERS WITH COUNTABLE AND UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS



Nouns in English can be either countable or uncountable. Some nouns can be both countable and uncountable, usually with differences in meaning.

'Quantifiers', like *some*, *many*, *few* and *all*, are used to refer to quantity. There are three types of quantifier – those which are used:

- only with countable nouns
- only with uncountable nouns
- with both types of noun.

05 Choose the correct quantifier in these sentences.

- 1 Little / Few of the renewable energy sources, such as wind and wave power, have been developed and used around the world.
- 2 Although coal is still widely used, much / many more gas is used instead these days.
- 3 All / Every non-renewable resources have negative effects on the environment.
- 4 Several / Some energy production in the UK comes from wind turbines.
- 5 There are not a lot of / much suitable sites for solar power in the UK.

06 The lecturer is talking about fracking in different countries. Listen and complete the sentences with the quantifier from the box which correctly reflects what the lecturer says. There are more quantifiers than you need.



Audio

a little	more	all	every	few	fewer
a lot of	many	less	much	some	several

- 1 In Canada, _____ shale gas has been found in various areas.
- 2 Only a _____ Canadian regions have allowed fracking to take place.
- 3 In the USA, _____ of the requirement for gas is met by shale gas.
- 4 A great deal _____ shale gas is being produced in Australia now than a decade ago.
- 5 If fracking takes place in the UK, people might save _____ money on their gas bills.
- 6 There are far _____ people per kilometre in the USA than in the UK.

07 Write the quantifiers from the box in exercise 6 in the correct place in the table.

Used only with countable nouns	Used only with uncountable nouns	Used with both countable and uncountable nouns

TIP 06

Remember that you will hear the recording **only once** in the exam.

MULTIPLE-CHOICE TASKS



In the exam you will need to answer multiple-choice questions about a recording. You have three choices and must choose one correct answer. The two wrong answers are distractors: they seem as if they could be correct but are not.

08▶

The lecturer is talking about the benefits of fracking. Listen to the first part of the lecture, look at question 1 and choose the correct answer, A, B or C. Why is this answer correct?



Audio

1 Those who are in favour of fracking say that the main benefit is

- A better energy supply.
- B lower energy bills.
- C increased electricity generation.

09▶

Listen to the first part of the lecture again and make a note of the words and phrases in the listening which mean the same as the main part of the question and the correct answer.



10▶

With a partner, discuss why you think the other options are wrong.

TIP 10

It is important not to listen for words which are in the question. You must listen and understand the idea that the speaker is expressing and choose the answer which means the same.

11▶

Underline the important words and phrases in question 2, then listen and choose the correct answer, A, B or C.



Audio

2 When fracking starts in a new location

- A local businesses lose many of their employees.
- B companies bring in most of the workers needed.
- C it creates more opportunities for businesses in the area.

12▶

Did any of your underlined words and phrases help you choose the correct answer rather than the distractors? Why? / Why not?

TIP 08

In multiple-choice tasks in the Listening test you will hear the answers in the same order as the questions.

Audio

TIP 11

Focus on the important parts of the question by looking at it carefully and underlining the words and phrases you think are key. Then listen and choose an answer. Make sure you listen to the end before making your final choice.

13▶**Audio**

Look at questions 3 and 4 and underline the words and phrases you think are significant. Then listen to the next part of the lecture and choose the correct answer, A, B or C.

- 3 Although burning gas produces carbon dioxide,
A it does not produce chemicals which are harmful to the body.
B the amount produced is slightly less than from coal and oil.
C it produces much less water than coal and oil burning produces.
- 4 Some people think that using more gas from fracking to produce energy means that
A 50% less electricity will be produced than now.
B more water can be used in the production of coal and oil.
C there will be more time to work on environmentally friendly sources of energy.

14▶**Audio**

The lecturer is talking about people's concerns about fracking. Before you listen, underline the words and phrases in the statements that you think are important, so that you can recognise words and phrases which express the same ideas in the recording. Then listen and choose the correct answer, A, B or C.

- 1 One of the environmental concerns is that
A increased use of shale gas will significantly raise carbon dioxide levels.
B using shale gas in some areas will not benefit the environment overall.
C countries that use shale gas will still use high levels of oil and natural gas.
- 2 Fracking may not be economically beneficial because
A it can reduce the value of homes in the areas where it takes place.
B after five years of fracking, production can fall significantly.
C the levels of gas in the ground are unlikely to be sustainable.
- 3 One medical concern related to fracking is that
A the quality of the water supply in some areas can be badly affected.
B poor air quality causes breathing problems in healthy people.
C workers are passing on illnesses to local people.
- 4 Fracking has not been able to take place in some places because
A local people have managed to prevent it.
B the authorities are waiting for better information about its effects.
C some countries want to follow the example of France.

15▶

Check your answers, then think about why the other options are wrong and discuss your reasons with a partner.

TIP 13

Focus on the ideas that the questions and options express, not the words themselves.

UNDERSTANDING SIGNPOSTING TO FOLLOW A TALK



To help listeners follow a lecture or talk, speakers often use 'signposting'. This involves words and expressions that tell the listener what the speaker is going to say, for example: saying how many main points there are, giving examples, emphasising a point, summarising what has been said, etc.

16▶

Listen again to the lecturer talking about people's concerns and write signposting words and expressions from the box in the table. Write the correct function for each expression: sequencing (SE), contrast (C), addition (AD), summarising (SU), topic change (T) or attitude (AT).



Audio

clearly	earlier	to begin with	secondly	now	while
that	first	to summarise	what's more	last	

TIP 16

Signposting can help you know where you are up to with the exam questions because these occur in the same order as the script. If you get lost, signposting words and expressions may help you find your way back to the right question.

	Signposting word/expression	Function
	<u>To begin with</u> , let's look at the environmental concerns.	SE
1	The _____ and possibly most significant environmental concern is ...	
2	_____, it is likely that, although countries which produce shale gas ...	
3	_____, there are serious pollution problems ...	
4	The _____ environmental concern connected with drilling is that of earthquakes.	
5	_____ I'd like to turn to the economic concerns.	
6	_____ there's clearly an increase in economic activity ...	
7	As I mentioned _____, there are a lot of concerns ...	
8	_____, a lot more research needs to be done ...	
9	So _____, there are significant environmental ...	
10	We can see that the future is very uncertain, and _____ is what I'd now like to discuss.	

EXAM SKILLS

17▶



Audio

The lecturer is talking about the future of fracking and other forms of energy. Listen and choose the correct answer, A, B or C.

- 1 The problem with fracking is that it
 - A has caused carbon dioxide levels to rise by more than a third.
 - B will not help countries meet their energy requirements.
 - C will make the world climate warmer by 1 degree Celsius.
- 2 One result of climate change is
 - A lower levels of rain in some parts of Europe.
 - B serious problems for food production in some African regions.
 - C increased risk of ice in populated areas by the sea.
- 3 A reason renewable energy sources are not being developed quickly is that
 - A fracking is the best way to reduce global warming at the moment.
 - B governments want to find other long-term solutions.
 - C energy companies are afraid the cost will affect their businesses.
- 4 To develop renewable sources further
 - A commercial organisations need external help.
 - B governments need to produce less gas and oil.
 - C countries should work together to change their economies.
- 5 Environmental groups believe that
 - A fracking can help reduce global warming in the short term.
 - B non-renewable sources can continue alongside renewable sources.
 - C only renewable sources will be able to provide energy in the future.