

B2

Listening for all

Listening for all
Teacher's

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Unit 1

All about Listening

Warm-up

Discussion:

- Why is listening an important skill?
- What makes a person a good listener?
- Do you find listening exercises difficult? If so, why?



Learning how to Listen

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A. Listen to an interview with a listening-skills expert.
Listen once to get a general sense of what the expert says and answer the questions below.

1. Who is being interviewed?
 A. a university professor
 B. a famous author
 C. a waiter
2. What is the interview about?
 A. how to improve your understanding of foreign languages
 B. a new book on the significance of listening skills
 C. when to ignore people who are not important to you

B. Now, listen again and write down the questions that are asked by the interviewer, as in the example.

1. Question 1: How long did it take you to write this book?
2. Question 2: What made you write this book / Why did you write this book?
3. Question 3: Why is listening such an important skill?
4. Question 4: How can somebody improve their listening skills?
5. Question 5: What is the biggest mistake they (students) make?



Read the following questions. While you listen to the piece a third time, write down short answers to the questions, as in the example.

Example: How long did Alan Short spend on the book altogether?

eighteen months

1. Why did Alan Short write this book?

to help others understand the importance of listening skills

2. What is the most important reason why listening is important?

If you don't know how to listen, you can never have a real relationship with another person.

3. What should you do with words you don't know?

try to ignore them

4. What is the biggest mistake students make?

going blank / letting a big block get in their way

5. What happens if a student thinks about an answer too much?

He / She will miss what comes after it.

Sound Confusion: Silent Letters

Listen to the following words and write them down in the space provided. Then match them to their definitions in the table alongside. You will hear each word twice.

WORDS YOU HEAR		DEFINITIONS	
1.	Climb	5	A. idea, thinking
2.	Foreign	1	B. go up, rise
3.	Through	2	C. from another country
4.	Though	7	D. truthful
5.	Thought	8	E. hit
6.	Where	3	F. from one side to the other
7.	Honest	4	G. while, however
8.	Knock	6	H. the place something is

WORDS YOU HEAR		DEFINITIONS	
9.	Calm	15	I. something we use to straighten our hair
10.	Island	9	J. not excited
11.	Fasten	11	K. close, do up (a seatbelt)
12.	Wrong	13	L. belonging to
13.	Whose	10	M. a piece of land in the sea
14.	Could	12	N. not correct
15.	Comb	16	O. the colour of snow
16.	White	14	P. was / were able to

TIP
In some circumstances, some letters in English are not pronounced. This is a common cause of confusion for non-native speakers.

Listening for Specific Information

A. Here are some short extracts giving information. The first time you hear each one, just listen. The second time, try to fill in the missing information. You will hear each extract twice.



Cherry Festival

Cost of admission:

(1) £2.50

Number of events:

(2) 5

Amount of prize money:

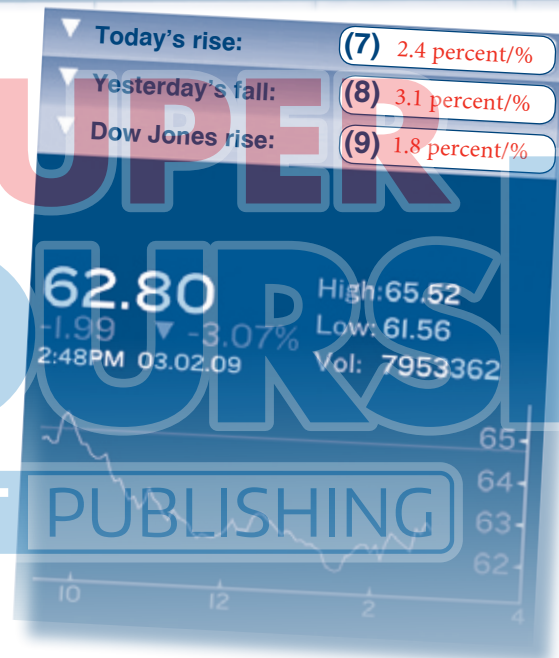
(3) £350

DEPARTURES					10:32
AIRLINE	FLIGHT	DESTINATION	TIME	BOARDING	GATE
RYANAIR	104	LONDON-STN		29	
		NEWYORK-JFK	(4) 15:40	407	7
		NEWYORK-EHR			
BER LINGUS	125	DUBLIN	13:10		
		CHICAGO			
		NEWYORK-LGH	13:20		
		NEWYORK-LGH			
BER LINGUS	376	LONDON-LHR	13:35		

Flight number from Rome: (4) 407

New time for flight from Rome: (5) 16:40

Original time for flight OA93: (6) 16:40



B. Now listen again and answer the following questions, marking True or False.

		T	F
EXTRACT 1.	A. Admission to other events costs extra.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	B. Anyone can enter the contest.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EXTRACT 2.	A. Weather conditions have caused delays.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	B. Flight OA93 will be arriving 20 minutes late.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
EXTRACT 3.	A. Yesterday, stock market activity decreased.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	B. The Dow Jones has experienced a minor decrease.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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EXAM PRACTICE SECTION

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Unit 1.1

The City & Countryside

Warm-up

Discussion:

- Divide the class into two groups. The first group must come up with the advantages of living in the countryside and the second the advantages of living in the city.
- Appoint a speaker who will describe your group's advantages to the other side.
- Discuss which group came up with more convincing arguments.



An Extended Conversation

A. Listen to the conversation and answer the questions. You will hear the conversation twice.

1. Why was Robert surprised to see Jenny?
 A. He thought she had moved.
 B. He didn't know she likes Asian food.
 C. He hadn't seen her for ages.
 D. He knows she hates the city.
2. How does Jenny feel about the city?
 A. She likes it. C. The pollution bothers her.
 B. She's not used to it. D. She hates it.
3. Why did Jenny and her family move to the country?
 A. Her husband is a doctor.
 B. for her daughter's health
 C. They hated the city.
 D. for professional reasons
4. What has made Jenny's husband's life more difficult?
 A. He has a new job.
 B. There is no longer a demand for his line of work.
 C. He hates country life.
 D. It takes him longer to get to work.
5. How does Jenny's husband feel about the countryside?
 A. He loves it.
 B. It's unfamiliar to him.
 C. He's pushing for them to move back to the city.
 D. He's indifferent.
6. What does Robert say about city life?
 A. There isn't much to do.
 B. It's starting to depress him.
 C. He doesn't get to see enough sights.
 D. He enjoys most aspects of it.
7. What does Jenny miss most about the city?
 A. grocery shopping
 B. the coffee shops
 C. entertainment
 D. her social life
8. What is NOT true about Robert?
 A. He's willing to change jobs.
 B. He doesn't see his friends often.
 C. He's happily married.
 D. He dislikes living in the city.

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TIP!

When listening to an informal conversation, close your eyes and try to imagine real people having the conversation. It's helpful to try and work out what type of people they are and discover what you can about their characters. For example, is she a working mother who has no time? Is he an athletic type that doesn't understand people's feelings? This may help you to predict answers or at least to rule out ones that are clearly wrong and meant to confuse you.

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B. Now, listen to the conversation for a third time. Complete the notes about each person, considering what they like and don't like.

Robert	Jenny
Dislikes	Likes
the hustle and (1) <u>bustle</u> of life in the city	cooking (4) <u>Japanese</u> food
(2) <u>exhaust</u> fumes	having (5) <u>coffee</u> with her friends
the noise of (3) <u>traffic</u>	the (6) <u>slower</u> pace of life in the countryside

Descriptions

Listen to these people talking about where they live and decide which residence they are referring to. Listen to the recordings and select the correct option. You will hear each speaker twice.

SPEAKER ONE

- A. a cottage in a rural area
- B. a small house in the suburbs
- C. a flat in the city

SPEAKER TWO

- A. a houseboat
- B. a flat without a kitchen
- C. a seaside villa

SPEAKER THREE

- A. a tent
- B. a basement flat
- C. a flat with a view

SPEAKER FOUR

- A. a houseboat
- B. a motorhome
- C. a retirement home

SPEAKER FIVE

- A. country cottage
- B. city flat
- C. suburban house

SPEAKER SIX

- A. semi-detached house
- B. detached house
- C. terraced house

Buying a House

You will hear a conversation between two people. Choose the correct answer. You will hear the conversation twice.

1. The man's name is...
 - A. Michelle Karleston.
 - B. Michael Charleston.
 - C. Michael Charlston.
2. The woman's name is...
 - A. Denise Hutchins.
 - B. Dennis Hawkins.
 - C. Denise Hawkins.
3. The woman says that she...
 - A. would like to move to the country quickly.
 - B. wants to buy a house in the country.
 - C. has to sell her country house.
4. Lately, people are...
 - A. moving to the city.
 - B. moving to the country.
 - C. buying second homes in the country.
5. Concerning money, the woman believes that...
 - A. country life is more expensive.
 - B. people make less money in the city.
 - C. the cost of living is higher in the city.
6. The woman's first consideration is...
 - A. cost.
 - B. location.
 - C. appearance.
7. The woman would not like...
 - A. to take out a bank loan.
 - B. to look at any photographs.
 - C. to live in complete isolation.
8. The man says that...
 - A. all of the houses are inexpensive.
 - B. prices are not fixed.
 - C. they should visit the houses to see what they're like.
9. What is the man's occupation?
 - A. a banker
 - B. a real estate agent
 - C. a photographer
10. What does the woman do for a living?
 - A. She is a manager.
 - B. She is a pensioner.
 - C. It is unclear from the conversation.