

**Answer key**

**Listening Comprehension: TED Talk**

# 1. Match the words to their definitions:

1. roughly **a.** a mixture of loud, unpleasant sounds
2. a cacophony **b.** approximately
3. a sound bite **c.** a short memorable extract from a recorded interview or speech
4. trivial **d.** a situation that could happen
5. conscious **e.** done on purpose
6. embedded **f.** fixed into
7. understated **g.** not trying to attract attention
8. a scenario **h.** unimportant



# 2.

* 1. **Watch a sound expert talk about how to listen better. Then put T (True) of F (False) next to the statements below**

ht[tps://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cSohjlYQI2A](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cSohjlYQI2A)



1. We spend about 40 percent of our communication time listening. False
2. People are not usually aware that they filter different sounds. True
3. The ways of recording things that we have invented mean we don't listen as carefully to things. True
4. Silence will help you to listen better. True
5. Paying attention to everyday sounds isn't a good way to enjoy listening to things False
6. To change the way that you listen, try listening from a different position. True

# watch the second part of the talk, do the same as in the previous activity and put T (True) of F (False) next to each of the statements below.

1. The acronym to achieve better listening is an ancient word for ‘conscious’. False
2. The word `so' is very important when you are communicating with someone. True
3. According to the speaker, listening is taught as a skill in some schools. False

# 3. Match the words and/or phrases in the talk to their meanings below:



1. a sound that echoes and makes things seem to shake **reverberation**
2. think about an idea or thing to form an opinion about it: **try this one for size**
3. ordinary and boring, usually because it happens regularly: **mundane**
4. in a way that includes everything, from the most to the least important part: **down to**
5. thinking deeply about something for a long period of time: **deeply**

# Match the adjectives on the left to the words on the right to make collocations from the talk.

* 1. a mental **a.** basis
  2. absolute **b.** environment
  3. a noisy **c.** process
  4. a slippery **d.** range
  5. a whole **e.** silence
  6. a daily **f.** slope



**Reading:**

1. (a) It is necessary to have good communication skills because of people judge, evaluate,

promote or block a person on the basis of his/her communication skills.

(b) Communication skills can be developed by observing great communicators and adopting

their styles and traits both in written and verbal forms.

(c) Speaking unnecessarily, speaking too fast, sending formal e-mails with grammatical errors in

them and holding emotional conversations that one might regret later should be avoided while

communicating.

(d) One should be careful enough to observe boundaries and not utter anything that could

offend anyone.

**2. A. (i) estimate**

**B. (iii) quality**

**C. (ii) speak**

**D. (iii) trouble**

**Linking words**

**Practice**

* **Fill in the blanks with the correct subordinate conjunctions or similar expressions chosen from the pairs given in brackets.**

**For example:** I went for a walk \_***because***\_ the sun was shining. (***because***, otherwise)

1. We recognized her at once, **although** we had not seen her for years. **(although, in case)**
2. He kept reading **until** he fell asleep. **(for, until)**
3. The moon will rise **as soon as** the sun sets. **(as soon as, than)**
4. It looks **as though** the train will be late. **(while, as though)**
5. In the end, he decided to sell his car. This, **incidentally**, proved to be a mistake.

# (incidentally, also)

1. **After** she got her degree, she became a teacher. **(After, Than)**
2. We will not go skiing **unless** the weather is good. **(as if, unless)**
3. Towards the end of the party he got up and danced on the table. **In other words**, he made a complete fool of himself. **(in other words/however)**
4. **Before** he left, he made sure he had his keys with him. **(Before, For)**
5. **Even if** I told the truth, you would not believe me. **(Even if, So that)**

# Choose the correct linking word from the list:

***even though - however - in order to - no sooner - not only - not only - only if - under no circumstances - therefore***

* 1. **Not only** are larger cars more expensive, but they also cost a lot to maintain.
  2. Milk from our factory is tested regularly **in order to** give our customers the best possible quality.
  3. **No sooner** had we moved in than our neighbours started complaining about the dog.
  4. All countries voted in favour of the plan, **not only** France.
  5. **Even though** we knew who the murderer was, we enjoyed most of the film.
  6. **Under no circumstances** must this door be left open.
  7. I should punish you for disobeying, **however**, I am prepared to give you another chance.
  8. **Only if** we book today will we get a 50% discount.