

Study Skills Listening

The Listening module is the first part of the IELTS exam. Do this quiz to see how much you know about it.

Quiz

- 1 The Listening test lasts for about minutes.
A forty B eighty C twenty
- 2 There are forty questions and points.
A eighty B forty C twenty
- 3 You will hear each part of the listening
A twice B once C three times
- 4 You have some time to read the questions before the listening starts. True or false?
- 5 You have some time to transfer your answers onto the answer sheet when the listening finishes. True or false?
- 6 In the first section of the listening you hear
A two people talking B one person talking
C up to four people talking
- 7 In the second and fourth sections of the listening you usually hear
A two people talking B one person talking
C up to four people talking
- 8 In the third section of the listening you hear
A two people talking B one person talking
C up to four people talking
- 9 Choose **two** correct answers.
Sections 3 and 4
A are more difficult than Sections 1 and 2.
B are easier than Sections 1 and 2.
C have more academic content than Sections 1 and 2.
D have more information about social situations than Sections 1 and 2.
- 10 You need to know a lot about academic subjects to do well in the exam. True or false?

Section 1

Skills development

Completing a form: predicting topic vocabulary

Listening module

Section 1:

Exam information

Number of people: two (a dialogue)

Context: conversation about a social situation

Example situation: a student applying for a bank account

Remember

Read the question carefully before you listen. Think about the meaning of each of the words on the form and the topic. Predict which words you will hear for each gap. This will help you to listen for *key information* (i.e. the most important information). For example:

Application to join the health centre

Previous doctor:

Medical history:

Key words could be: *health, doctors, illness, medicine.*

You will hear a name of a doctor here. You'll probably hear the title 'Doctor' (Dr) and then a surname.

This is about past health problems so you'll hear descriptions of the person's past illnesses. You might hear some names you don't recognize, but the speaker will probably spell them.

- 1 Look at the possible titles

1-3 below and read the form. Choose the best title for the form. Underline key words in the form which helped you choose the title.

- 1 Bank account application
- 2 Job application
- 3 Accommodation form

Surname: 1

Initials: 2

Marital status: 3

Occupation: 4

No. of bedrooms: 5

Preferred location: 6

- 2  Complete the form using words from the box. Then listen to Part 1 of the conversation and check your answers.

single student three singles city centre C.J. Minguez

Understanding letters and numbers

- 1 02 How do you say these letters in English? Write the letters in the correct group. Listen and check your answers.

A	B	F	G	H	L	O	P
Q	R	S	U	V	W	Y	Z

- 1 /eɪ/, as in pay: J, K,
 2 /i:/, as in bee: C, D, E, T,
 3 /e/, as in egg: M, N, X,
 4 /aɪ/, as in fly: I
 5 /əʊ/, as in no:
 6 /u:/, as in too:
 7 /ɑ:/, as in car:

Remember

- You can write numbers like this: 3, or like this: *three*
- You can write dates like this: *October 9* / *October 9th*, or this: *9 October* / *9th October*
- You can use abbreviations if they are recognized around the world e.g. *the U.K.* (but not *Sat.* for *Saturday* or *Oct.* for *October*)

- 2 03 Listen to three similar answers A–C and number them in the order that you hear them.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 A 07778 8976364 | B 07788 8976364 | C 0788 8976364 |
| 2 A £402 | B £4,002 | C £42 |
| 3 A August 10, 2013 | B September 8, 2013 | C September 18, 2013 |
| 4 A h_atkinson@twinky.it | B h.atkins-son@twinky.it | C ha@atkins_it |

- 3 04 Now listen to Part 2 of the conversation between the student and accommodation officer and complete the form.

Monthly rent:	7
Starting:	8
Contact – phone:	9
email:	10

Avoiding mistakes

- 1 Read the exam question and look at the student's answers. Find three mistakes.

Questions 1–8

Complete the form below.

Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

Remember

- Use the correct spelling or you will lose points.
- Follow the instructions in the exam question carefully; if it says 'no more than two words', don't write three.
- Words and numbers written with hyphens count as one word e.g. *thirty-three*
- Contractions count as two words e.g. *he's*, *I'd* etc.

Library card application form

Name: (1) *Robert Flack*

Gender: (2) *he's male*

Age: (3) *twenty-one*

Year of study: (4) *first year*

Hall of residence: (5) *John's College*

Subject: (6) *Engineering*


Type of degree: (7) *BA**

*Short for Bachelor of Arts, the type of qualification you get if you study a degree subject like English, History or Philosophy. If you study a science, your degree is BSc (Bachelor of Science).

Sentence completion: dealing with extra information

- 1 Match sentences 1–3 to extracts A–C below from the recording script. Underline information in A–C which is similar to information in 1–3.
 - A I've thought about the basketball club, but I'm not sure if I can go to all of the practice sessions. One of them, on a Wednesday evening, is at the same time as an evening lab lesson I have.
 - B Yes, I know, but the problem is that I don't know which club to join and they all need us to enrol now – in the first week of term.
 - C Yes, well that is a problem because one of the rules is that your attendance must be 75%. I suppose if you don't go to most of the sessions, it's a waste of money.
- 1 Students have to enrol in clubs at the start of
- 2 club is on a Wednesday evening.
- 3 Students must go to % of the club sessions.

- 2 Complete each sentence 1–3 with one word from the recording extract.


- 3  05 Listen and complete sentences 4–8.
 - 4 If students join more than one club, they get a % discount.
 - 5 Linda thinks aikido is a sport.
 - 6 Some of Aisha's begin at 9 a.m.
 - 7 Aisha is excited about joining the
 - 8 The students agree to go to ballroom

Remember

Sometimes there is more information in the listening than there is in the sentence you need to complete. Also, the information in the listening is in a different order to the words in the sentence. Listen carefully for keywords in each sentence and try to ignore the extra information.

Skills practice

Now practise the skills you have learnt by answering questions 1 and 2.

- 1  06 For questions 1 and 2, listen and choose the correct answer, A, B or C.
 - 1 How many people will be going on the trip?
A fifteen B seventeen C thirteen
 - 2 How old are the students?
A over eighteen B over nineteen C over twenty
- 2 For questions 3–10, complete the form and the tutor's notes below. Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

Czech Tours Booking form	
Date of arrival	(3)
Date of departure	(4)
Type of accommodation:	Hostel
Length of stay (nights):	(5)

Prices of hostels: Charles Bridge Hostel is (6) Koruna / €30
 Castle Hostel (7) £25 / €
 Charles Bridge phone: (8) 00 420
 Castle Hostel email: (9)
 Opening hours of Charles Bridge: (10) 9 to