

IELTS Listening

Semester 6 -Employability skills

(303193353)



Course Outcomes

After Learning the course the students shall be able to:

- Get ready for IELTS tests
- Develop a professional resume.
- Get an understanding of the interview process.
- Improve employability skills through mock tests.
- Use soft skills during job interviews.

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Learning Objectives

By the end of this session, learners will be able to:

- **Explain** the structure, timing, and question types of the IELTS Listening test (both paper & computer versions).
- **Identify** key listening challenges (accents, distractors, paraphrasing) and demonstrate active listening strategies.
- **Apply** prediction, note-taking, and paraphrase recognition while attempting sample questions.
- **Practice** effective time management and answer-transfer techniques.
- **Evaluate** personal performance using a mini-test and create a short practice plan for improvement.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this session, learners will be able to:

- Explain the format, timing, and structure of the IELTS Listening test for both paper-based and computer-delivered versions.
- Identify various IELTS Listening question types and their respective strategies for effective answering.
- Demonstrate active listening skills by recognizing key information, paraphrases, and distractors.
- Apply effective prediction, note-taking, and time management techniques during listening practice.
- Implement spelling, grammar, and accuracy rules during answer transfer to enhance scoring consistency.

Topics to be Covered

- Introduction to IELTS Listening
- Test Format and Structure
- Question Types
- Key Test-Taking Strategies
- Final Preparation & Accuracy Techniques
- Conclusion
- References


Overview

- Understand the format of **IELTS Listening Test** step-by-step.
- Understand all the **four sections**, and learn **expert strategies**.
- A brief look at **every question type** and crucial final tips.

Test Format Overview

- **Same Content:** The Listening test is **identical** for IELTS Academic and General Training candidates.
- **4 Sections, 40 Questions:** There will be **four recordings** and candidates have to answer **40 questions** in total.
- **Play Once Only:** Each recording will be played **for once**.
- **The Choice:** Candidates are given choice to select their format, **Paper-Based** or **Computer-Delivered**. The content and scoring are the same.
- **Skills Assessed:** Understanding main ideas, specific factual information, speaker opinions, and following the development of an argument.

Understanding IELTS Listening Test Format

	QUESTION NUMBER	CONVERSATION TYPE	DETAILS
SECTION 1	1-10	Real-Life Based Conversation	Conversation between 2 people in an everyday social context.
SECTION 2	11-20	Real-Life Based Monologue	A monologue set in an everyday social context
SECTION 3	21-30	Academic Conversation	Discussion among 3/4 people set in educational/training context
SECTION 4	31-40	Academic Conversation	Monologue related to academics

Essential Question Types

Completion Tasks

- **Form/Note/Table/Sentence Completion:** Filling in gaps using words from the recording. **Adhere strictly to the word limit** (e.g., 'NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER').

Selection Tasks

- **Multiple Choice:** Choosing one or more correct answers from a list.
- **Matching:** Matching items (e.g., names) to options (e.g., actions).

Visual Tasks

- **Plan/Map/Diagram Labeling:** Relating descriptive language (directions, location) to a visual.

Strategy Tip: Read the instructions and the questions *before* the recording starts to predict the context and the type of answer needed (e.g., a name, a date, a number).

The CRITICAL Difference in Timing

Feature	Paper-Based IELTS	Computer-Delivered IELTS
Duration	30 minutes listening	30 minutes listening
Answer Method	Write answers in the Question Booklet	Type answers directly on the screen
Review/Transfer Time	10 minutes extra to transfer answers to the official Answer Sheet	2 minutes extra to check answers on the screen
Equipment	Loudspeaker audio (or room headphones)	Individual high-quality headphones

Test - Taking

Strategies

Strategy 1: Predict & Prepare

- **Use the Reading Time:** You are given time before each section. **Read the questions, not the answer options** (yet).
- **Underline Keywords:** Highlight the key words in the question that tell you *what* to listen for (e.g., 'name,' 'date,' 'reason').
- **Predict the Answer Type:** Think: is the missing word a **noun, verb, adjective, number, or place**? This narrows your focus dramatically.

Strategy 2: Listen for Paraphrasing

- The words you hear in the recording are often **synonyms** or **paraphrases** of the words in the question.
- *Example:* Question says "near future," audio says "**in a couple of weeks.**"
- **Listen for the whole meaning**, not just a single word match.

Strategy 3: Don't Panic & Move On

- **The Answers are in Order:** If you miss Question 5, you know the answer to Question 6 will come *next* in the audio.
- **Stay in Sync:** Don't waste time thinking about a missed answer; that will cause you to miss the next one. **Guess and move your attention to the next question immediately.**

Understanding Question Format

Completion Tasks (Form, Note, Table, Sentence):

- You fill in a gap using words from the audio.
- **The Golden Rule: STRICTLY follow the word limit.**
- *Example:* **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER.**
 - Correct: *'train station,' '5th May,' '2 words'*
 - Incorrect: *'at the train station,' 'five days in May'*

Multiple-Choice Questions (MCQ):

- Requires you to listen for **details** and **distractors**.
- The speaker often mentions all options, but only one will be the **final** or **correct** piece of information.
- Listen for words like "*but*," "*however*," or "*actually*" - these often signal the real answer.

Matching:

- You match items from a list (e.g., people, places) to a set of options (e.g., opinions, features).
- Focus on **identifying the speaker's core opinion** or a specific link between the items.

Let's understand in detail

Watch the video

<https://youtu.be/Z16XUXJyVIk?si=f8PxGDXX7OCdu1rb>

Final Preparation and Tips

Final 10 Minutes (Transfer Time):

- This time is **only for transferring** answers from your test booklet to the official answer sheet.
- **Do NOT** use it to try and guess missing answers; your focus must be on **accuracy**.

Crucial Accuracy Checks:

- **Spelling:** Every answer must be spelled **100% correctly**. Practice common subject-specific words.
- **Grammar:** Your answer must fit **grammatically** into the sentence or form. (e.g., using a singular vs. plural noun).
- **Plurals:** Listen closely for the 'S' sound; if the answer is plural, you *must* write the 'S'.
- **Capitalisation:** All answers can be written in **CAPITAL LETTERS** on the answer sheet (e.g., TOWER BRIDGE) to avoid mistakes.

References

- IELTS Official Website – www.ielts.org
- YouTube: *The 10 types of question*
- Google Images – Used for educational illustration
- British Council & IDP – *IELTS Preparation Resources*

Thank You!