

IELTS Test Prep

LISTENING SECTION



Gradhopper

Structure and Timing

4 sections

Lasts 30 minutes

- + 10 minutes to fill out answer sheet for the paper test
- Computer test includes 2 minutes extra to review answers

Structure and Timing

4 sections:

- Conversation between 2 people in a social context
- A monologue (1 person speaking) in a social context
- A conversation with multiple people in an educational context
- A monologue (1 speaker) in an academic context

Scoring

IELTS Listening Scores

Correct Answers	Band Scores
39 - 40	9
37 - 38	8.5
35 - 36	8
32 - 34	7.5
30 - 31	7
26 - 29	6.5
23 - 25	6
18 - 22	5.5
16 - 17	5
13 - 15	4.5
11 - 12	4

Subject matter

Social context

- Situations that can happen in everyday life
 - Renting an apartment, booking a hotel, meetings

Academic context

- Situations from an educational setting, such as lectures from university courses

Types of questions

Table completion

Complete the table

*Write **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** for each answer.*

Name of Office Bearer	Responsibility
Robert Young: President	To manage meetings
Gina Costello: Treasurer	to 18. <input type="text"/>
David West: Secretary	to 19. <input type="text"/>
Jason Dokic: Head Coach	to 20. <input type="text"/>

Complete the form below.

Write **NO MORE THREE WORDS AND OR/NUMBERS** for each answer

Hotel Information	
<i>Example answer</i>	
Name of accommodation:	(0) <i>Carlton Hotel</i>
Length of stay:	3 nights
Ages of children:	(1) <input type="text"/>
Rooms available:	Two en-suites at £270
Price inclusive of:	(2) <input type="text"/>
Payment method:	credit card
Name:	Michael (3) <input type="text"/>
Date of birth:	(4) <input type="text"/> 1968
Address:	273, Stanton Court, London.
Post code:	(5) <input type="text"/>

Form completion

Types of questions

Sentence completion

Questions 11 - 13

Complete the sentences below

*Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** for each answer.*

11. The next meeting of the soccer club will be in the in King's Park on 2 July.

12. The first event is a .

13. At the final dinner, players receive .

Complete the notes below

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

Behaviour of Dolphins

- almost 40 species of dolphin
- found (31)
- usually in shallower seas
- carnivores

SOCIALISING

- very sociable and live in pods
- super-pods may have more than (32) dolphins
- have strong social bonds
- help other animals - Moko helped a whale and calf escape from (33)

Note completion

Types of questions

Note completion

Write **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** for each answer.

Box Telecom

Problems: been affected by

- drop in **21.**
- growing **22.**
- delays due to a strike

Causes of problems:

- high **23.**
- lack of good **24.**

Types of questions

*Choose the correct letter, **A**, **B**, or **C**. for each answer*

Multiple choice

11 The company expanded in

A 2000

B 2007

C 2014

12 The number of permanent staff is

A 75

B 90

C 150

Types of questions

Short answer

Answer the questions below.

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

What **TWO** factors can make social contact in a foreign country difficult?

- **11**
- **12**

Types of questions

Matching

*What main problem do the students suggest each company has.
Match the company to the problem. The first has been done for you.*

Choose your answers from the box and write the letters **A–G** next to questions 23–27.

A *knowledge about their customers*

B *long-term gain*

C *competition*

D *customer satisfaction*

E *employees*

F *external factors*

Example

E. Stacks Stationary

23. *Princeton Windows*

24. *MK Cars*

25. *Lakeside Golf*

26. *Bryson's Meats*

27. *Mojo's Music Shop*

Which opinion does each person express about Mojo's Music?

Choose your answers from the box and write the letters **A-F** next to questions 28-30.

A It has good managers

B It has been operating for too long

C There aren't enough music shops

D It needs more innovative marketing

E It will close down in the end

F It has a good long-term future

Matching

28. Sarah

29. John

30. Neil

Types of questions

Plan/map/
diagram/labelling

Questions 6–10
Label the map.
Choose five answers from the box and write the letters A–H next to Questions 6–10.

A bird cages
B football field
C play equipment
D pond
E recycling centre
F sports field
G storyteller's chair
H tree house

The map shows the layout of Cranley Hill Primary School. At the top left is a wind turbine. To its right is a large open area with a circle and a dashed line labeled '10'. Further right is another circle with a solid line labeled '9'. Below the wind turbine are two trees and a 'secret garden'. To the right of the secret garden is a 'vegetable patch' containing several small circles and plants. Below the secret garden is a large area with a circle and a solid line labeled '8', which is identified as a 'play area'. At the bottom center is a shaded rectangular area labeled 'primary school'. To its right is a 'car park' with a circle and a solid line labeled '7'. On the left side of the map is a large rounded rectangular area with a circle and a solid line labeled '6'. A north arrow is located to the left of the map.

Types of questions

Plan/map/diagram/labeling

Some useful phrases to study for this section include:

- At the top/at the bottom
- Slightly north/south/east/west of
- In the southeast
- Just past, before you get to
- In the middle of

Types of questions

Plan/map/diagram/labeling

Some useful phrases to study for this section include:

- Above/below, Inside/outside
- Opposite/in front of
- Adjoining, via, alongside
- Clockwise/anticlockwise

Strategies

Read questions during the allotted time, before hearing the audio

- Pay close attention to special instructions

Take notes while listening

General Tips

General Tips

Take notes

- You only get to hear things once!

General Tips

Pay attention to word count limits

General Tips

Don't fill in the answer sheet right away

- Sometimes information will be repeated or changed later in the recording

General Tips

Familiarize yourself with a variety of accents

Don't only study the North American accent

General Tips

Allow yourself to listen to the audio multiple times when you first start practicing

- After you are comfortable with the test, start to time it and listen only once

General Tips

Practice listening to audio that has a transcript to check later. Take notes when listening and compare them to the transcript

- You can do this with many forms of audio, not just IELTS practice tests (TED Talks, music, YouTube videos, etc.)

General Tips

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet carefully

- Spelling and grammar counts, so be sure to write the answers correctly
- Note: British and American spelling both count as correct, so use whichever one you are most comfortable with

General Tips

Don't leave anything blank

- Points are not taken away for wrong answers

Other ways to prepare

Listen to as much content in English as possible!

- Practice tests, television, movies, videos, music, etc.
- Listen to things for fun and listen to more academic things while taking notes.
- Active listening is important, but extra listening practice in English is always helpful too

Other ways to prepare

Listen to a wide range of types of situations to learn new vocabulary

Listen to content in a variety of accents (not just North American accents)

Practice, practice, practice

Please join us again for our next
video!