



**ESOL International**  
**English Listening Examination**  
**Level B2 Independent User**

**Texts to be used with the examination.**

**These will be recorded and sent to the centre on a disk prior to the examination.**

**Instructions are written in underlined italics and should not be recorded.**

**The recording must be played to learners in full from start to finish.**



This is the NOCN ESOL International Independent User Level B2 Listening examination.

Please check that your name and other details are on your mark sheet.

The invigilator will have explained how to fill in the mark sheet.

Do not write on your examination paper.

Put your answers on the mark sheet.

The Listening examination will now begin.

**Part 1**

You will hear ten sentences.

Read the replies on your examination paper.

You have two minutes to read the replies on your examination paper.

**Pause for two minutes**

Listen to the sentences. You will hear the sentences in full twice. Choose the best reply for the situation.

You will then have two minutes to check your answers.

**Play the sentences**

1. Do you have any bad habits?
2. I hate cleaning the house.
3. What should I wear for the interview?
4. Where can I see a band play?
5. Which subject do you use a calculator for?
6. I have a sore throat today.
7. I need to wear my wellington boots this morning.
8. The sun is in my eyes.
9. What is the fastest sport?
10. What is next to the swimming pool?

**Pause for five seconds after the first reading.**

Now listen to the sentences again.

**Play the sentences again.**

Now check your answers. You have two minutes to check your answers.

**Pause for two minutes after the second reading.**

**Part 2 – Conversations**

You will hear two conversations. Read the questions and answers on your examination paper for both conversations. You have two minutes to read them.

**Pause for two minutes**

Listen to **Conversation 1**. You will hear the conversation twice. Answer the questions.

You will then have two minutes to check your answers.

**Play the conversation**

<b>Harry:</b>	Morning Sara. It's two months until we go on our walking holiday, should we start discussing where to go?
<b>Sara:</b>	Hi Harry. Yes, sure, I didn't realise it was so close to it. I've actually been thinking about it and I was wondering if you would like to go on a hill walking holiday in a national park or go on a coastal walk?
<b>Harry:</b>	You are thinking along the same lines as me. What about discussing the choices? I was thinking of the hill walking.
<b>Sara:</b>	Okay. Which national park, as we've been to the Lake District and the Peak District Parks.
<b>Harry:</b>	Well I was thinking of Hawkstone Park in the West Midlands. It's not a national park, but very beautiful. I have read many good reviews of it on ramblers.com.
<b>Sara:</b>	Tell me more Harry!
<b>Harry:</b>	There are some fantastic views at the top of the four hills that are wild and dramatic. Apparently, the Victorians brought in many exotic trees and flowering plants from all over the world and they say the view from the Swiss Bridge is the most dramatic. Right Sara, tell me about the coastal choices.
<b>Sara:</b>	Sounds good. Okay. I was thinking of the south coast, Dorset, known as the Jurassic Coast, because of the dinosaur fossils found there. I thought we could start at Lulworth Cove and end in the town of Lyme Regis, taking in the stunning chalk and clay cliffs that have been taken away by the sea in many places.
<b>Harry:</b>	I haven't been along there, I hear it is incredible.
<b>Sara:</b>	Yes, it is. Lots of steep slopes with views to old fishing boats and even a ghost village, not lived in since the 1940s. Apparently, ¼ million people walk this path every year. Should we add to that?
<b>Harry:</b>	Mmmmm. I like the idea of that and the feel of the sea air in my lungs...sorted!

**Pause for five seconds after the first reading.**

Now listen to the conversation again.

**Play the conversation again.**

Now check your answers. You have two minutes to check your answers.

**Pause for two minutes after the second reading.**

**Part 2 – Conversations**

Listen to **Conversation 2**. You will hear the conversation twice. Answer the questions.

You will then have two minutes to check your answers.

**Play the conversation.**

- Yvonne:** Are you ready to cook for the dinner party tonight Trevor?
- Trevor:** Yes, sure. I peeled all the vegetables last night and put them in water, in the fridge, ready for today. Tell me who we've invited again!
- Yvonne:** Jimmy and Rita, as they are our oldest friends; your workmate and his wife, Ian and Samira; and of course, my best friend Vicki and her partner Joe.
- Trevor:** Right, so there are eight of us all together. I've enough vegetables prepared, but I think I'll do a bit more of the beef in red wine, as we don't want to run out of the main meal. What are you doing for the starter?
- Yvonne:** Well, I thought I would go a bit Italian. I found a great recipe in Gino D'Acampo's cook book, 'Gino's Islands in the Sun'. It's spicy tomato and scallop soup, served with warm, crusty bread from that new bakery on the high street, Fresh Yeast.
- Trevor:** Feeling hungry already Yvonne. I agree, the bread from there is fresh and truly delicious. Can't wait to hear what you are making for the dessert...my favourite, by any chance?
- Yvonne:** Sorry, no. No bread and butter pudding today, it's too filling after the beef. So I'm going to try and make some ice cream.
- Trevor:** Oh, could that be a bit of a risk? What if it doesn't freeze?
- Yvonne:** Ah! I bought an ice cream maker. Listen to this...it's going to be cherry and pistachio nut ice cream. On the island of Sicily, Italy, pistachios are known as, 'green gold', and are some of the best in the world. Yes, it's another one of Gino's recipes.
- Trevor:** Well Yvonne. I think our guests will want to stay with us for ever after that meal.
- Yvonne:** It's a shame we don't cook like that every day!

**Pause for five seconds after the first reading.**

Now listen to the conversation again.

**Play the conversation again.**

Now check your answers. You have two minutes to check your answers.

**Pause for two minutes after the second reading.**

**Part 3 – Broadcasts**

You will hear two broadcasts. Read the questions and answers on your examination paper for both broadcasts. You have two minutes to read them.

**Pause for two minutes.**

Listen to Broadcast 1. You will hear the broadcast twice. Answer the questions.

You will then have two minutes to check your answers.

**Play the broadcast.**

We are here today, at MoveOnMusic 7698FM, to talk about the brave actions of a woman, who surfed the biggest recorded wave of 2020, at the age of thirty-three.

Brazilian born surfer, Maya Gabiera, has beat her own Guinness World Record of 68 feet, by surfing the highest ever by a woman, at 73.5 feet.

Maya puts her success down to finding the hardest and tallest part of the wave, where the most powerful energy is. The peaks that she surfs, are classed as XXL by the World Surf League. There is no XXXL.

Maya started surfing at the age of fourteen, in Rio, Brazil, and she was the first woman to become a full time professional riding the big waves. At seventeen, she moved to Hawaii, where the big waves community would compete in competitions. But she believes now, at the age of thirty-three, that the Portuguese village of Nazaré is the home to the most incredible big waves in the world, with amazing speeds.

In 2013, she nearly lost her life in Nazaré surfing. Many experts said she would not be able to take part in competitive surfing anymore. But let's hope she has many more years to surprise us.

**Pause for five seconds after the first reading.**

Now listen to the broadcast again.

**Play the broadcast again.**

Now check your answers. You have two minutes to check your answers.

**Pause for two minutes after the second reading.**

**Part 3 – Broadcasts**

Listen to Broadcast 2. You will hear the broadcast twice. Answer the questions.

You will then have two minutes to check your answers.

**Play the broadcast.**

I recently began exploring Caribbean cooking, as I had enjoyed a holiday on the island of Barbados a few years ago. I decided to look at a few different Caribbean islands for inspiration, and I will share my findings to hopefully inspire you, dear listeners.

One of my favourite dishes is from Jamaica, Jerk chicken, but you can use any meat that you want. It is chicken that is coated with a hot spice mixture and cooked slowly over a fire or grill. Delicious!

The island of Martinique, which is in the French corner of the Caribbean, has influences from Africa, France and Asia. A lot of their dishes are seafood based, such as grilled sea bream, stewed octopus and sea snail. These are usually flavoured with the island's famous spice blend, called Columbo, after the explorer Christopher Columbus.

The national dish of Barbados is flying fish, which is coated with breadcrumbs and fried in a little oil then served with a slice of lemon and rice and peas. You can eat it hot or cold.

Because of the discovery of the West Indies in the 1490s, by Christopher Columbus, the islands have enjoyed ideas from many European countries, such as Spain, Britain, France and Holland.

Time for you to explore these delicious delights.

**Pause for five seconds after the first reading.**

Now listen to the broadcast again.

**Play the broadcast again.**

Now check your answers. You have two minutes to check your answers.

**Pause for two minutes after the second reading.**

That is the end of the Listening examination. Please check your mark sheet is completed correctly. Put your pens down.

**End of Examination**

**NOCN ESOL International Listening  
Level B2 Independent User – LIVE Summer 2021  
Examination Recordings – SET 1**



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