

**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. I have started playing tennis.
2. Did you see the tornado?
3. Which book are you reading?
4. How tall is that sunflower?
5. Can I have a dozen apples?
6. I have a new job.
7. Can you let the dog out?
8. What do I need for the beach?
9. The buses are always late.
10. Did Millie pass her piano exam?

**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>Jan:</b>	Hi Ronnie. What have you have been doing during the holidays?
<b>Ronnie:</b>	Well Jan, I've built a wildlife pond in my garden to attract more nature and to help with the environment.
<b>Jan:</b>	A pond, wow! How did you do that?
<b>Ronnie:</b>	There are so many plastic pond containers on the market, but I thought I would be kinder to the environment and make my own, so, I dug a hole in the garden.
<b>Jan:</b>	Ok. How did you know what size to make it?
<b>Ronnie:</b>	I just googled it and watched YouTube videos. It had to be at least one metre at the deepest part to give the fish a good hiding place in the winter and also to protect them from when we have a frost and the water freezes.
<b>Jan:</b>	That's deep! So how big is the actual pond?
<b>Ronnie:</b>	It's about 120cm. by 90cm. I dug out a circle shape first, then I realised frogs would need a place to climb out, so I made it into a keyhole shape, with a shallow shelf for them to sit on.
<b>Jan:</b>	Are you hoping to get frogs in your pond?
<b>Ronnie:</b>	Oh yes! I have two already, with five goldfish and some pond snails, quite a family! And then in the afternoon, when I'm having a cup of tea on the terrace, the birds swoop down to have their bath. It's amazing how nature found the pond so quickly; it only took two weeks for the frogs to make it their home.
<b>Jan:</b>	Have you put any plants in there?
<b>Ronnie:</b>	Yes, aquatic plants to help with the oxygen in the water, as this will keep the fish alive. I am so proud of what I have given back to the environment...my pond oasis.
<b>Jan:</b>	I'm so impressed; I can hear your enthusiasm. Can I pop around to see it?
<b>Ronnie:</b>	Sure you can. I'm in all week. I'll make sure there's water in the kettle too.

**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.**

**Interviewer:** I'm here today, in Toronto, Canada, at the Rogers Centre Stadium, to interview the great baseball manager of the Blue Jays baseball team, Charlie Montoyo. Welcome Charlie.

**Charlie:** Hey Josh. Glad to be here and to talk about my fantastic team, who are riding high at the moment.

**Interviewer:** You certainly are! And there is one man who can be credited for that success and that is...Vladimir Guerrero Junior.

**Charlie:** Yeah, and he's only 22 years old. He's one of 10, of the youngest in Major League Baseball history to achieve 40 homers. To those of you who are not great baseball fans, that's when a batter hits the ball in the air and over the outside fence...a great achievement.

**Interviewer:** No kidding. I think he'll be following his father into the baseball Hall of Fame. Nobody has achieved this since the Atlanta Braves' star, Ronald Acuna Jr, in 2019.

**Charlie:** Aren't I the lucky one, as I have front row seats to watch the whole season, so let's hope there are many more moments like this. Although, I think my heart can't take much more excitement.

**Interviewer:** What he's done is not easy to do. But it's also fun to watch someone so young, be so good. He did say in an interview after the match, that he felt his fitness and timing were sound, so he felt more confident and could see the ball better.

**Charlie:** I will be quite happy with his confidence and performance, if we can beat our rivals, the New York Yankees, 8 – 0 every time.

**Interviewer:** I am sure you will be, although I think they will want revenge at the next game, in their home ground of the Yankee Stadium, in the Bronx.

**Charlie:** We'll be prepared, I can assure you Josh.

**Interviewer:** I look forward to watching that return game. Thank you Charlie...keep hitting those homers!

**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.**

Good afternoon my fashion lovers. If you're feeling a bit miserable at the end of the summer, fear not, because, here on Fashionista FM, September is full of autumn fashion gossip.

So what can you expect? Well, the world's fashion month kicks off, starting with New York on 8<sup>th</sup> September, with high extravaganza, followed by London on 17<sup>th</sup> September.

The designers will be showing their spring/summer collections, such as Michael Kors, Tom Ford, Jason Wu and Oscar de la Renta. There is also a huge buzz in the fashion world, as Thom Browne is returning to New York after settling in Paris for a few seasons. His shows are famous for being theatrical and buzzworthy. Unfortunately, Marc Jacobs and Ralph Lauren will be missing from the 91 designers that will be there.

The grand finale will be held in Paris, on 30<sup>th</sup> September and pop star, Rita Ora will be closing the show, by performing her latest hits at the Eiffel Tower, wearing clothes from big names, such as her favourites, Miu Miu and Lanvin.

So hold onto your excitement, as it's only a few weeks away, and today, we're offering two free tickets, all expenses paid, for the closing ceremony in Paris. Text PFW to 87356 for a chance to enter.

**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.**

The county of Northumberland is the most northerly county in England and food and drink plays an important part in the modern economy, with global brands like Coca-Cola and Fentimans' drinks companies. The county is leading the way in high quality products being exported all over the world, such as locally sourced fish, Craster Kippers and Lindisfarne Oysters.

But, it is also home to the unique Plant Based Valley, which offers companies, offices, warehouse space and storage, to support production of vegan products from local agricultural suppliers, helping with rural growth within the county.

The 135sqkm site is located 15km north east of the city of Newcastle, south of the village of Seaton Delaval. There are small units of 2,500sqm to larger units of 150,000sqm and plenty of office space and conference facilities. These are all ready to help companies, large and small, to produce food, drink, clothes, cosmetics and other vegan products. No animal products are allowed on the site.

There are also very good road links, allowing access to the main motorways to the rest of the country, as it is only 3km from the A19 and 5Km to the main motorway. And also good sea links from the Port of Blyth, which is about 7km away.

**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 2022  
Examination Recordings**



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