

ESOL International

English Listening Examination

Level C2 Proficient

Texts to be used with the examination

The texts 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 Proficient Level C2 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. Excuse me; you dropped your ticket. Here it is.
2. How much do I owe you for the shopping?
3. I can't open my fridge door, it's stuck!
4. I don't know whether to go out tonight.
5. Have you phoned Sky TV about the satellite dish yet?
6. Would you like to come round for dinner tomorrow?
7. There's a man outside, looking in the dustbin.
8. Excuse me; how do I get to the train station?
9. If I can't go to the party, will you still go?
10. Did you have a good time?

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

Friend 1: Hi, how are you? How was your camping holiday?

Friend 2: Really good! The campsite was pretty. It had a river running through it, so we pitched our tent near the river, but we didn't realise there were mosquitos there and during the night they flew into the tent and bit our legs and arms. Eventually, after two nights, we moved our tent away from the river, and pitched it under some trees. It was shady but at least we weren't bitten! Anyway, the weather was so hot, we were glad of the shade.

Friend 1: I hate mosquitoes! They have such nasty, horrible bites. I remember going camping in France and doing the same thing. I will never pitch a tent near a river again.

Friend 2: Nor me. Anyway, the actual camping experience was good after we moved the tent. The sound of the trees rustling and the birds singing, was very peaceful and we slept quite well. I really loved cooking our food outdoors and eating al-fresco.

Friend 1: Yes, eating outside is enjoyable. Food tastes much better in the fresh air. Did you visit any interesting places?

Friend 2: We went to the beach and took a boat ride to seal island. I didn't realise seals were so big! There was a monastery on the island, which had its own farm with chickens and pigs, and it sold us some homemade cheese and bread, and we picked our own fruit, so we spent an hour picking plums and strawberries. We could buy whatever we picked, so we had cheese, bread and fruit for lunch.

Friend 1: Did you manage to do much walking?

Friend 2: We walked along the clifftops. The views were spectacular so I took loads of photos. Would you like to come round tomorrow and look at them?

Friend 1: Yes I'd like that. Would seven be all right? I'll bring a takeaway.

Friend 2: Perfect. See you then, bye.

Friend 1: Bye.

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

Manager: Hello, can I help you?

Customer: I bought this CD player last week but it doesn't work. The CDs won't play properly. They keep skipping and now the eject button doesn't work either.

Manager: Sometimes CDs skip because they need cleaning. Have you tried cleaning your CDs before putting them in the player?

Customer: I always clean my CDs. In fact, I've even tried playing a brand new CD that won't play either. Anyway, the eject button doesn't work. One of my CDs is now stuck inside the machine. I've got the receipt so I'd like a refund please. I'd also like my CD back.

Manager: We don't give refunds, but we can give you a credit note. You'll have to leave the machine with us so that we can investigate what's actually wrong with it. We can't guarantee that we'll be able to retrieve your CD either.

Customer: No, I'm not happy with that. I don't want a credit note. I'm entitled to have my money back because I've returned it within 14 days of purchase. Also, it's faulty, and, I'm sure you can open the machine to get my CD out.

Manager: I'll do my best. Can you come back next week?

Customer: No, I'm going away tomorrow for two weeks. I'll wait now. The CD inside the machine is a special release and is quite expensive. I don't care how long it takes for you to remove the CD, I want it back today and I'll have my refund today as well please.

Manager: Usually, we have to send the machine away; it's shop policy. I'll try and look at it myself for you. If I can get the outer case off, it might be easy to get the CD out. I might be able to unscrew the outer case. If not, I'll have to send the machine back to the manufacturer.

Customer: That's fine. I'll wait. And my refund?

Manager: I'll do that for you now.

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 – Debate and Discussion

You will now hear a debate and a discussion. You will hear them twice. You have two minutes to look at the questions for both the debate and the discussion.

Pause for two minutes

Now listen to the **Debate**. You will hear it twice. Answer the questions.

You will then have two minutes to check your answers.

Play the Debate

- Host:** Welcome to Radio 4. Today we're debating the issue of cycling on public highways. Should it be banned?
- Guest:** Yes, it should be banned on roads that motorised vehicles use. Many cyclists don't understand the rules of the road, and many are involved in accidents. The worst culprits for causing accidents are couriers delivering pizzas and parcels, especially in cities.
- Host:** But banning cycling on roads means more people will have to travel by public transport, which means more petrol consumption and pollution. You can't deliver pizzas by bus.
- Guest:** No. I'm not saying cyclists shouldn't use their bicycles. I believe they should use cycle pathways. I know it means the government will have to spend money planning and building these, but in the longer term it would be safer for them and for car drivers.
- Host:** Pedestrians might not agree with you, especially mothers pushing prams and young children walking to school.
- Guest:** The cycle pathways would be separated from pedestrian walkways by barriers, to stop them from cycling into pedestrian paths.
- Host:** There are cycle lanes on the roads. If all cyclists used them and had to wear helmets by law, this would improve safety wouldn't it?
- Guest:** Only to a point. The cycle lanes are under-used because they're not wide enough and, anyway, cars drive across them. You know, cyclists are not required to pay road tax to use the roads, unlike car drivers, and they don't all have proper cycle lights or know how to indicate to other road users whether they are turning left or right. Cyclists should obey traffic light signals by law, but they don't always do that either. Cyclists need to be taken off public roads.
- Host:** In that case, then, the same should apply to electric mobility scooters and E-Scooters.
- Guest:** Absolutely, they're just as hazardous. Everyone should have a proficiency licence if they wish to use a vehicle on public roads and pathways, whatever that vehicle is.
- Host:** Thank you.

Pause for five seconds after the first reading

Now listen to the debate again.

Play the debate again

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

Pause for two minutes after the second reading

Part 3 – Debate and Discussion

Listen to the **Discussion**. You will hear it twice. Answer the questions.

You will then have two minutes to check your answers.

Play the discussion

Host: Good afternoon, today's guest is from the World Monument Trust. I understand the Trust has been asked to help save some gas lights in Berlin, Germany, is that right?

Head: Yes. There are 44,000 historically valuable and perfectly functioning gas street lights in Berlin that have been in the city for 200 years. They are at risk of being removed by the Senate of Berlin, who wants to replace them with electric lighting. Not only are we against it, but also the local community and tourists who visit Berlin.

Host: What action are you taking to ensure they are not destroyed?

Head: 20,000 people have signed a petition to present to the Senate in support of keeping the gas lights. This weekend, we're having a gas light evening, with historic lectures and a bus tour of the gas lights. This will provide an opportunity for local people to meet representatives from cultural heritage sites, and explore options for raising money to set up a Gas Light Trust. We can then apply for the gas lights to be protected under World Heritage status. The money will pay for legal and administrative costs. The gas lights have been in Berlin since 1826 and make up half of the world's 80,000 remaining gas lights, and it's a shame to see them go.

Host: Do you think you'll be successful in saving them?

Head: Maybe not all, but some of them. We've managed to secure agreement to save 3,300 gas lamps in historic parts of the city but, developers still want to have these replaced with electric lights.

Host: I know how difficult it is to preserve sites of historic value. I remember being involved in the preservation of the savanna woodlands in Tanzania, which were neglected due to lack of appropriate management. It took five years to re-establish the land for the conservation of wildlife and threatened animals. Now it is of global importance for biodiversity and breeding.

Pause for five seconds after the first reading

Now listen to the discussion again.

Play the discussion 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 for C2 Proficient Listening

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