



**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 play any sport?
2. When shall we meet again?
3. Where will the concert take place?
4. Can you recommend something from the menu?
5. Have you ever been to England?
6. Where can I buy a loaf of bread?
7. Did you enjoy the party?
8. How long have you been learning to drive?
9. Which way is it to the Town Hall?
10. Would you like another cup of coffee?

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.

Jimmy: Hello, I'm Jimmy Black. I'm starting my new job here today. I hope I'm not too early.
Amber: Good morning, Jimmy. I was expecting you. I'm Amber Smith, the Office Manager. You may remember meeting me at your interview.
Jimmy: Yes, of course. Pleased to meet you again, Amber.
Amber: Okay, Jimmy. This is your desk and your computer. Put your bag down there and I'll give you a tour of the office and introduce you to some of the other people who work here.
Jimmy: That would be great. Thank you.
Amber: First, let me show you the kitchen. You can make yourself a cup of tea or coffee in here, and there's a fridge and a microwave if you want to eat your lunch here.
Jimmy: Okay, good. I've brought some sandwiches with me for my lunch today, so I'll put them in the fridge later.
Amber: Over here we have the photocopying machine and printer. Just ask someone in the office to show you how it works if you're not sure. We try not to print too much because we don't want to use a lot of paper. We are an environmentally-friendly office!
Jimmy: Is there a place where I can put my books, files and other paperwork?
Amber: Yes, you have a small cupboard with your name on it at the back of the office. You can also keep things in your desk drawers. My office is just over there, so please come and ask me if there's anything else you need to know.
Jimmy: Thank you. I have a meeting at ten o'clock and I don't want to be late. It's for people like me who are starting work here today. There are five of us. Could you show me where to go?
Amber: Yes, of course. I'll introduce you to the others in the office this afternoon. Good luck with your first meeting.

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.

- Javier:** Hi, Maria. I'm calling to talk about the arrangements for the party. We really need to plan a few things. I'm feeling worried because we don't have much time. The party will be taking place in July and we only have one month to organise everything!
- Maria:** Hello Javier. Don't panic. I've been thinking about it too, and I've made a list of some of the things we needed to arrange. The number of people, for example. I think we should invite fifty people to the party.
- Javier:** Fifty! That's a lot, but it's probably ok. The room is quite big. Did you remember to book the room at the community centre?
- Maria:** Yes, I did. I've made a booking for Saturday the 8th of July at the Community Centre. The room is available from one o'clock in the afternoon until six pm.
- Javier:** Oh good! And what about the food? Do you think we should prepare it ourselves? We will be very busy if we decide to prepare the food for fifty people.
- Maria:** I've already organised the food. The local Italian restaurant is going to make some sandwiches, salads, pizza and cakes for us. They will provide the drinks too, so we don't have to do anything. And it's not going to cost too much money.
- Javier:** That's great! And what about the music? Have you organised that too?
- Maria:** Yes, I have. My brother will come and play the music for us. He works in a club so he will choose music that he knows will be good for dancing.
- Javier:** Well, you have thought of everything. There's nothing that I need to do.
- Maria:** Oh yes, there is something you can do. You can write all the invitations and post them to the fifty people who will be coming to the party!

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.

A dog walked for more than sixty kilometres, all alone, to go back to its old home at an animal charity shelter in Ireland. The dog, called Cooper, had just started living with a new owner but didn't seem happy. His new owner, Nigel McQuade, was taking Cooper for a walk for the first time, when the dog ran away.

Cooper walked for twenty-seven days, through an area of the country he did not know, to get back to the animal shelter where he used to live. He crossed busy main roads, walked through forests and fields and had almost managed to find his way back to the shelter.

A woman saw him, only a mile from the animal shelter and, thinking the dog was lost, took him there. The staff at the animal charity realised the dog was Cooper and contacted Nigel McQuade. They returned Cooper shortly afterwards to his new owner.

Nigel McQuade was delighted to have Cooper back. He already has one other dog, called Molly, so he hopes that Cooper will learn to like his new home and that the two dogs will become friends. When staff from the animal charity visited Nigel recently, they found Cooper lying comfortably by the fire with Molly.

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 Eurovision Song Contest is famous for its amazing costumes, incredible special effects and entertaining performances.

The contest has been held almost every year since it first started in 1956. The first Eurovision took place in Switzerland and was broadcast live on radio and television. There were only seven singers, who performed two songs each, and that year the winner was Switzerland.

Nowadays, many more countries take part in the contest and people around the world can watch the shows on TV. When the contest first began, the singers had to sing their songs in their home language, but now singers can choose to sing in English if they wish.

The contest starts with two semi-finals, and voting takes place until only twenty singers or groups are left. They go on to compete in the Grand Final for the Eurovision trophy. When each singer or group has performed their song, all the countries that have been taking part in the contest take turns to vote for their favourite song.

When the voting has finished, the judges count the points and then they announce the winner and present them with the Eurovision trophy. Usually, the winning country will be the host of the Eurovision Song Contest the following year.

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



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