

ESOL International

English Listening Examination

Level B1 Intermediate

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 Intermediate Level B1 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. Shall we go to the cinema tomorrow?
2. What time does the party begin?
3. Where is the nearest supermarket?
4. Are you interested in tennis?
5. Do you feel cold?
6. How much does this jumper cost?
7. Why didn't you come to college yesterday?
8. How do I get to the fourth floor office?
9. Can I pay by card?
10. Are you ready to order?

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

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| Marina: | Hello Carole, I'm calling to check if you're still coming to visit me this weekend. I know you've not been very well this week. I'm really looking forward to seeing you. |
| Carole: | Hello Marina. I'm much better now. It was just toothache, nothing serious. I went to the dentist on Tuesday, so I'm fine now. And yes, of course I'm coming to see you. In fact, I've already booked the train. |
| Marina: | Oh, that's great. What time will you be arriving? I'll come to the station to meet you. |
| Carole: | The train is the 5.30 pm from Doncaster. It gets in to King's Cross station at 7 pm on Friday. I hope that's not too late for you. |
| Marina: | No, that's okay. I'll meet you there and then we can go somewhere to eat, if you like. There's a good restaurant near the station. |
| Carole: | Great idea and what about Saturday? |
| Marina: | Well, we could have a quiet morning in my flat and then go out later. We could walk to Kenwood and have lunch in the café there and then go to a museum in the afternoon. What do you think? |
| Carole: | Yes, that sounds fine to me. I always like going to the V & A Museum, though we could go to an art gallery or a different museum if you prefer. You live in London so I suppose you've visited them all! |
| Marina: | No, not yet! Anyway, I like the V & A Museum too, so let's go there. There's so much to see. And in the evening, I'll cook us a meal so we can stay in and catch up on all our news. |
| Carole: | Sounds good to me. |

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

Mrs Gray:	Good morning, Matthew. I'm Mrs Gray.
Matthew:	Hello, Mrs Gray. Pleased to meet you.
Mrs Gray:	So, you've applied to do a teaching course at this college. First of all, can you tell me why you want to be a teacher?
Matthew:	Well, I've always enjoyed explaining things and trying to help people. I know teaching isn't an easy job, but I'd really like to work with young people.
Mrs Gray:	Why have you decided to become a sports teacher?
Matthew:	I love all sports. I enjoy playing football and I'm very good at athletics, especially running. I also believe it's important for students to do sport at school.
Mrs Gray:	Yes, I agree. Why do you think it's important?
Matthew:	Well, it's important for our health to keep physically fit and active, but exercise is good for our bodies and mental health too. Playing sport also teaches students about teamwork.
Mrs Gray:	Thank you. So, how did you become interested in sport?
Matthew:	It's difficult to pick one reason, but I remember sport was always important in our house when I was a child. My mum was a really good athlete, actually. We used to go and watch her running marathon races and because of that, I joined a running club when I was a teenager.
Mrs Gray:	Thank you, Matthew. How do you think teachers can encourage their students to enjoy sport?
Matthew:	That's a good question. I think many students like taking part in sport. They want to be the best. However, some students are not so confident. Teachers should praise them for taking part and trying their best. Sport isn't just about winning.
Mrs Gray:	Thank you, Matthew. You made some interesting points. Now I'm going to show you around the college.

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

Ninety-year-old John Thompson started a challenge to walk ninety miles over nine days to raise money for a local charity. He spent several months training nearly every day for the challenge.

John set off from his home town, in the south-east of the UK. He set off on his birthday. A large crowd of supporters, including family and friends, were at the start of the walk to wish John good luck.

On arriving at the first stop after five hours of walking, John said it went very well and he was looking forward to a hot bath and a good meal. He explained that he wanted to do something different for his birthday this year. Instead of having a normal party, with his family and friends, he thought it would be a better idea to do something to help other people.

John has been supporting his local charity for over twenty-five years. The charity said that it was amazing for someone of his age to try to complete such a difficult challenge.

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 – Broadcast 2

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

Simon used to look after the tallest tree in the Royal Botanical Garden in Edinburgh. He is very upset, because the tree has fallen down during a recent storm. It was planted 166 years ago by Queen Victoria's eldest son, Albert. It was a Himalayan cedar tree and was over 30 metres tall.

The Himalayan cedar trees can live for up to 600 years, so this one was still quite young. It was one of the favourite trees for visitors to see in the garden.

The storm destroyed or damaged many other trees in the garden and many windows were broken in the garden's hot houses. Fortunately, the garden was closed during the storm, so nobody was injured by the falling trees.

Workers in the hot houses have wrapped the tropical plants in material to protect them from Scotland's winter weather until the windows are fixed. The Royal Botanical Garden still has one of the largest plant collections in the world.

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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