

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. What would you like to drink?
2. What shall we do this evening?
3. What do you enjoy most about where you live?
4. Where is the football stadium?
5. How long have you been learning to cook?
6. Is this t-shirt included in the sale?
7. Would you like to play hockey with us?
8. Do you know a good place to go running?
9. Which meal would you recommend?
10. Can I book two tickets for the concert please?

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

Sophie: Hey Jess! You won't believe the amazing time I had on that nature weekend.
Jess: Oh really Sophie? Where did you go?
Sophie: It was in the mountains. The hotel was surrounded by trees and had a stunning lake. It felt so peaceful being far away from the city traffic.
Jess: Sounds delightful. What did you do there?
Sophie: We did lots of things. There were yoga sessions every morning by the lake, which was perfect for getting in touch with nature.
Jess: That sounds incredible. Did you go hiking too?
Sophie: Yes. We hiked along a beautiful path around a waterfall. The view was incredible, and we even had a picnic there.
Jess: Wow, I can picture it. Did you meet anyone interesting?
Sophie: Yes. I met a lovely woman named Maria. We talked about hiking and shared travel stories over dinner one night. It was raining, which made it feel cosy.
Jess: Sounds charming. What about the food?
Sophie: All the meals they served were lovely. I tried an amazing tuna salad and enjoyed fresh fruit and yoghurt. It was a delightful break from the fast food I usually eat.
Jess: Sounds like a perfect getaway. How did you feel when you got back?
Sophie: I thought I might feel tired, but I returned feeling relaxed and inspired. It was a great escape from daily life.
Jess: I might need to join you next time.
Sophie: You should. It's the perfect opportunity to reconnect with nature and enjoy the beauty of our countryside. I will send you the link to the website. Have a look and we can book it!

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.

- Peter:** Hello, I'm Peter from the National Trust. Today, I'm interviewing a truly remarkable woman. She has just climbed Scafell Pike, the tallest mountain in England, for the first time at 78 years old. Kathleen, how was the experience?
- Kathleen:** The climb was both tough and exhausting, yet worthwhile.
- Peter:** What made you want to do the challenge?
- Kathleen:** I've had both of my knees replaced. So, I wanted to see what my body was capable of. At first it felt crazy to attempt such a climb at my age, but the emotional reward was superb.
- Peter:** Amazing. Were there any moments when you wanted to turn back?
- Kathleen:** Oh yes, many times! The path up had lots of rocks, which added an extra layer of challenge to the climb. The unpredictable weather was tough, too. It became stormy and that tested my determination.
- Peter:** What kept you going?
- Kathleen:** My walking group. They are a wonderful bunch of women, who encouraged me every step of the way. They never needed to help me physically, but there were moments when I felt hopeless, so they sang songs to keep me going. The support of these friends made all the difference.
- Peter:** How was it when you got to the top?
- Kathleen:** At the summit, I was filled with a feeling of joy, which made the tough journey worthwhile. It was a reminder that age should not limit our ambitions.
- Peter:** Have you learned anything from this challenge?
- Kathleen:** Yes, absolutely. For me, the experience served as a great reminder of what we can achieve. Climbing Scafell Pike was not just a physical challenge; it was a celebration of life and the beauty that surrounds us. I would encourage everyone to plan their own adventures, no matter what age you are.
- Peter:** Thank you, Kathleen. Enjoy a well-earned rest.
- Kathleen:** I will.

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.

Attention all enthusiastic and confident young witches and wizards!

We're searching for the next Harry, Ron and Hermione for a new Harry Potter TV series and you could be a part of this exciting project. If you'll be aged between 9 and 11 by April and live in the UK or Ireland, we'd love for you to audition.

To enter, send us two videos by Halloween. In the first video, perform a short 30-second poem or story. Make it fun, bold and full of energy. Speak clearly and confidently. In the second video, talk about yourself. Wear whatever you like, but make sure the video shows your head and shoulders clearly against a plain background.

Remember, a great audition will show off your unique personality and enthusiasm.

For more details, visit www.WarnerBrothers.com. Good luck, future Hogwarts stars!

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.

A teenage pop fan named Davina has been making hundreds of friendship bracelets for people in care homes in London. After her 92-year-old great-grandmother, Maisie, loved the bracelet she made for her, Davina was inspired to spread this trend to pop fans of all ages.

Pop fans around the world have been trading bracelets at concerts for a long time, as a way to make new friends. Davina has now created 600 bracelets, spending over 200 hours on this skilful project. She even plans to include her friends from her school in Manchester so that they can make even more.

Davina is especially excited about her upcoming trip to Liverpool, where she plans to attend a local pop concert and share her passion with other pop fans. She also plans to visit care homes in the city to hand out bracelets to the people and staff there. Davina said that many older people don't have family making things for them. She wanted to ensure they feel part of the excitement.

With her unique project, Davina is bringing people together through friendship and music, making this concert season unforgettable!

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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