

English P3: Listening Comprehension

Components of the Examination:

1. Questions 1 to 6: 3 Informative/Narrative texts, two factual/inferential questions each
2. Questions 7 to 12: Six short recordings, choice of statements which summarise the recordings
3. Question 13: One recording, choice of four pieces of information that were stated or implied in the text
4. Questions 14 to 21: One recording, task to fill up a graphic organiser
5. Question 22: Task to complete notes, recording will only be played once
 - You will be given 45 minutes in total for the examination, with no additional time if you need to use the bathroom
 - Do clear your bowels before the examination. Your previous night's egg-and-onion gorges will not be to the other candidates' nasal pleasure
 - A minute or so will be given at the end for you to check your answers

Component 1: Factual/Inferential Questions

- ★ 3 extracts, 2 questions each, 1m/qn

Just as the examination begins, use the time given when the music is playing to examine the questions

- Create “**triggers**”: Highlight important phrases or sketch pictures which summarise each option

As the text is read for the first time, listen carefully for explicit information and verbal cues. Pay special attention to portions which hint at the question and remember these portions so that you may reassess them as you check your answer during the second reading.

- Factual: *Which of the following statements is false?*
 - This question requires you to compare the choices provided with the facts presented by the text
 - Triggers are especially helpful, pick out the main highlights of the choices provided and pay special attention when the text states or implies the said key phrases
 - Compare the choices based on what the text states, not on your contextual knowledge
 - Eliminate options that **oppose the factual information given** and the **general message or tone** of the text
- Inferential: *The main speaker feels....., We can infer that the female speaker....., What can be implied about.....*
 - For such questions, close attention must be paid to the **tone** of the speaker, the **main message** and the **general trend** of the information presented
 - For questions about the speaker's feelings, the question will usually be given in the format: adjective + reason. Note these in your triggers, but do remember the preceding reason for the emotion.

- If you have no time to make these triggers, **copy down whatever information you find relevant in the text, based on the question**

As the text is read for the second time, listen carefully for the portions which suggest each option and reassess your answer.

- When the text is read to a portion whereby it is completely and definitely **inapplicable** to the answer, as inferred from the first reading, **move on to examine the next question**

Component 2: Short recordings oriented to a specified topic

★ 6 questions, 1m/qn

Before the recordings are played, remember your triggers for each option.

- Triggers are imperative for this portion of the examination.
- More emphasis should be placed on **what makes the option in question different from the other options**
- Bold claims and opposing statements

Do not use any letter more than once, one of the letters will not be used

During the first reading, note the points which are stressed in the recording and link them to your triggers

- The option will usually be stated explicitly
- When you believe you have found the correct option, **write your option next to the blank.**
- This will allow you to change your answer if the situation demands

During the second reading, listen carefully for the portions which suggest each option and reassess your answer. Pay very careful attention to prevent careless mistakes

Component 3: Stated/Implied Questions

★ Identify four pieces of evidence which are stated / implied

Before the recording is played, analyse the given information and identify triggers

As the recording is played, analyse the information presented and look out for portions which seem to point towards the options

- If facts presented in the text **directly oppose** an option, immediately eliminate the option
- When you believe you have found the correct option, put a **dot next to the blank.**
- This will allow you to change your answer if the situation demands
- Do not tick more than four pieces of information
- If you do marks will not be awarded

During the second reading, listen carefully for the portions which suggest each option and reassess your answer. Pay very careful attention to prevent careless mistakes

Component 4: Graphic Organiser

- ★ Likely to have 8 questions, 1m/qn

Before the recording is played, note the headings of the graphic organiser:

- These **headings are important** as visual cues as you answer your question
- Be particularly attentive when the subject of the text steers towards the topics stated by the headings

As the recording is played, note the headings, as stated above

- If you find an answer which you believe is right
- Jot it down in pencil for ease of correction later
- **Do not use synonyms/rephrase** the information presented
- Check your spelling: marks may be deducted for spelling mistakes
- The information will usually be played in the order of the note's format

During the second reading, listen carefully for the portions from which you derived your information and reassess your answer. Pay very careful attention to prevent careless mistakes

Component 5: Single-Play Graphic Organiser

- ★ Likely to have 6 questions, 1m/qn

Before the recording is played, note the headings of the note-taking graphic organiser:

- These **headings are important** as visual cues as you answer your question
- Be particularly attentive when the subject of the text steers towards the topics stated by the headings

As the recording is played, note the headings, as stated above

- Listen very carefully. You only have one chance to take in all the information
- If you find an answer which you believe is right
- Do not use synonyms/rephrase the information presented
- Check your spelling: marks may be deducted for spelling mistakes
- If a **factual adjective** is used, be sure to include it in to your answer
- If you miss out a fact, use logic and contextual clues to guess the answer
- The information will usually be played in the order of the note's format

John 16:33

33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."