



ENGLISH ASTIR
STEPPINGSTONE TO 7.0

Get ready for IELTS Listening



Introduction

The Listening test has 40 questions and lasts approximately 30 minutes. There are four sections each with ten questions.

The first two sections are of a social nature. Section 1 is a conversation between two people and Section 2 is usually a monologue. However, Section 2 can also be a conversation between two people. Sections 3 and 4 are connected with education and training. Section 3 is a conversation involving up to four people and Section 4 is usually a monologue.

You hear each section once only and answer the questions in the question booklet as you listen. A brief description is given at the beginning of each section. At the beginning of Section 1, an example is always given. You are given time to check your answers at the end of each section. At the end of the test, you have ten minutes to transfer your answers to the answer sheet. The question types used are:

classification

matching

note/form/summary/table/flow-chart completion

sentence completion

labeling a diagram/plan/map

multiple choice

selecting items from a list

short-answer questions

Section 1

Section 1 is a conversation between two speakers in a social setting (for example, enrolling in a club or buying something), which involves the exchange of information like personal details.

The section has two parts. You will be given time to look at the questions before each part. Not a range of question types is used in Section 1, not just form completion.



1 Track 04 Listen and follow the instructions

SECTION 1 Questions 1–10



Questions 1–6

Complete the form below.

Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** for each answer.

Health Centre Registration

Example

Reason for visit: Registration and appointment

Registration for the entire 1
Name: Clara 2
Date of birth: 3 1990
Old address: 72 Crocket Street
Current address: 4
Post code: 5
Acceptable documents: Tenancy 6

Questions 7 and 8

Complete the sentences below.

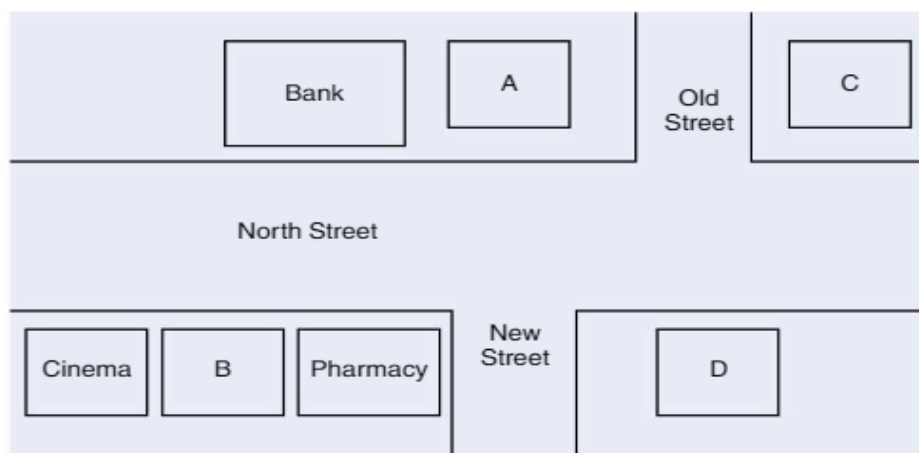
Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** for each answer.

7 Clara has to her daughter from school.

8 Clara's appointment is at 4 pm on

Questions 9 and 10

Label the map below.



9 Health centre

10 Small park



2 Work with your teacher. Look at the listening script below and check your answers. Underline the words in the questions which show the answer is about to be given. Match these words with the underlined answers in the script.

(R = receptionist; C = Clara)

R: Good morning. How can I help you?

C: Hi. Mmm ... I'm not registered as a patient here at the moment as I moved to the north of the city, and I was wondering if it was possible to register again now and make an appointment as well.

R: Yes, I can register you today, but all the appointments for today are taken, unless it's an emergency.

C: No, I can't say it's an emergency.

R: OK, so I can register you. Is it just for yourself?

C: No it's for the whole family, myself, my husband and my daughter as well.

R: I can check on the system to see if your details are still on here.

C: I moved to another doctor about four and a half years ago, so ...

R: Well I can have a look.

C: OK.

R: Can you tell me your name and date of birth? And I can check using both.

C: My name's Clara Wight.

R: Is that W-H-I-T-E?

C: No. It's W-I-G-H-T.

R: Right. Mmm and your date of birth?

C: 23rd October 1990.

R: OK ... let's see. ... Was your address before 72 Crocket Street?

C: Yes. That's it! That was my old address.

R: We have basic details, but no records. They were all transferred to the other health centre you registered at when you moved. Mmm ... and your present address?

C: It's 88 Palace Avenue.

R: And the postcode?

C: It's ZE24 2TP.

R: If you fill in this form for yourself and your family, then we can input the details.

C: OK. But do I need to bring any proof of identity?

R: I need proof of your address from a utility bill, etc.

C: I've not got any bills, but I've got letters saying we're connected for the gas and electricity and of course I've got a letter showing the tenancy agreement with our name and the address on it.

R: That should be OK.

R: The first available appointment I have is on Thursday at three o'clock with Dr Jackson.

C: Mmm that's a bit awkward as I've got to pick up my daughter from school. Have you got anything later?

R: I've got an appointment with Dr Barker at 4 pm on Friday ...

C: Yeah that's OK.

R: But it's at our other health centre.

C: Where's that?

R: It's not that far. It's less than 10 minutes' walk from here on North Street. Do you know where the cinema is on North Street?

C: Yes.

R: Well it's on the same side of the road between the cinema and the pharmacy on the opposite side of the road from the bank.

C: Yes I know it. There's a small park just further along on the same side of the road on the other side of New Street, where the bus stops.

R: Yes. That's it. We will send you a text to confirm – can I just confirm your mobile number's 07700 900807?

C: Yes, that's correct. Thanks for your help.

R: Bye.



3 With your teacher, discuss the type of questions you have problems with, for example, writing down numbers, words with plural endings, or answers which are close together or far apart, or completing diagrams. Keep a record of the problem areas and think about them while you are studying by yourself and before you do a test.

Notes:

Section 2

In section 2 you will usually hear a monologue of a social nature like a radio broadcast or a talk about a place, but be aware that you may also hear a conversation between two people.



There may be two or three types of questions. The recording is divided into two parts, but you will be given time to look at the question before each part.

1 In Questions **11-16** below, decide which you think you should listen for first; items **A-G** or the parts of the theatre **11-16**.

2 Work with your teacher. Decide what synonyms you might hear for the words in **A-G**.

A

F

B

G

C

D

E

3 For Questions **17-20**, underline the word or words which show the answer is about to be given.

17

18

19

20



4 Track 05 Listen and follow the instructions.

SECTION 2 Questions 11–20

Questions 11–16

Which change has been made to each part of the theatre?

Choose **SIX** answers from the box and write the correct letter, **A–G**, next to Questions 11–16.

Theatre changes

- A enlarged
- B replaced
- C access added
- D thoroughly cleaned
- E modernised
- F totally rebuilt
- G moved

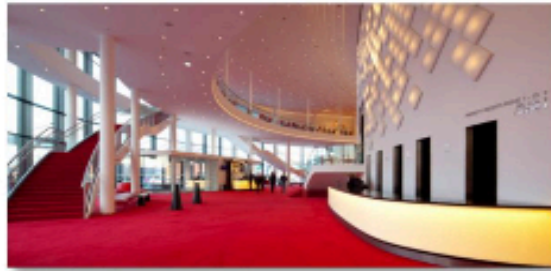
Part of the theatre

- 11 façade
- 12 auditorium
- 13 foyer
- 14 coffee machine
- 15 roof terrace
- 16 shop

Questions 17–20

Choose the correct letter **A**, **B** or **C**.

- 17 The information pack contains,
- A a programme for the evening.
 - B details about events over the summer.
 - C a list of the event organisers.
- 18 How many free tickets will those below 16 years of age be allocated for the matinee performance?
- A 100.
 - B 200.
 - C 300.
- 19 On Wednesdays, the reduction on ticket prices for theatre members will be
- A 25%.
 - B 50%.
 - C 33%.
- 20 A new development at the theatre is the
- A regular lectures and cinematography classes.
 - B weekly workshops and master classes.
 - C regular lectures and master classes.



Section 3



In section 3 you will hear a conversation between two to four people on a topic connected with education or training, such as preparing for a tutorial or receiving feedback on an assignment.

There may be only one type of question or up to three. The recording is divided into two parts, but you will be given time to look at the questions before each part.

1 Work with your teacher. For Question **21**, decide which word(s) in the stem help prepare you for the answer. Decide what synonym(s) you might hear for each.

talk:

2 For Questions **22-24**, decide which aspects of research you think are most likely to be still undecided at the beginning of a research project. Then think of paraphrases for the words in **A-G**.

A

F

B

G

C

D

E

3 For Questions **25-30**, decide which answers are numbers and which could be plural.

Numbers:

Plurals:



SECTION 3 Questions 21–30



Question 21

Choose the correct letter **A**, **B** or **C**.

21 Zahra's talk is about how

- A** smartphone technology makes young people's lives easier.
- B** certain new discoveries led to smartphone technology.
- C** the technology of smartphones affects people's lives.

Questions 22–24

Choose **THREE** letters, **A–G**.

Which **THREE** of the following elements of conducting Zahra's research are mentioned as not yet decided?

- A** length of the questionnaire
- B** images to use
- C** volume of statistics
- D** duration of interviews
- E** period of research
- F** age of interviewees
- G** exact aims

Questions 25–30

Complete the table below.

Write **ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

Questionnaire on gadgets

Thomas's smartphone	Use	Score
Communication	Excluding phoning • for almost 25 • less for texts	8
Studying	Preparing assignments and recording 26	27
Entertainment	For listening to music, etc and for TV 28	7
Other	Eventually for organising his whole domestic 29	30



5 Work with your teacher. Look at the listening script below to check if any of the words or phrases you chose from exercise 2 were used.

(Z = Zahra; T = Thomas)

Z: Hi Thomas.

T: Zahra, hi. So, have you decided yet what you're going to do your seminar paper on?

Z: Yes, I have. Mmm ... it's all at an early stage so far, but it's on the impact of smartphone technology on our lives, but I'll probably restrict it to just the field of studying at university.

T: Well, that sounds very topical. If you think of it, smartphones only started to become popular around 2008 and look how quickly they've changed everything.

Z: Yes, of course. Things're happening so fast, ... I love new technology, but it's all too much at times. It'll be interesting to research. At least, I think it will.

T: Yes, I do too. And how're you going to do the research for your seminar paper?

Z: Well, mmm, I thought of interviewing people in the student body and members of the public – I want a wide range of ages and backgrounds, but I haven't narrowed it down yet.

T: Any minimum age?

Z: 16/17 minimum perhaps, but as for an upper age limit, not really.

T: Mmm ... and what're you setting out to show?

Z: I'm not sure at this stage either, but something along the lines of ... mmm ... the idea that we are allowing smartphone technology to control the way we do things too much, but I haven't made up my mind yet. I'm just thinking on my feet here. I haven't really thought it right through to the end, to be honest.

T: What about your questionnaire?

Z: Mmm ... , yes that's another thing. What I'm not really decided about is the length the questionnaire should be.

T: The best thing is to keep it short.

Z: Maybe. But I'll finalise the length when I sit down to type it up.

.....

Section 4



In section 4 you will hear a talk or a lecture of an educational/academic nature. You do not need any specialist knowledge to understand the talk.

There may be only one type of question or up to three. There is no break in the middle as in Sections 1 to 3, but there is a pause of a few seconds. You will be given time to look at all the questions before you begin.

1 Work with your teacher. For Questions 31-35, decide which words in the stem indicate the answer is about to be given. Then think of paraphrases for the alternatives A-C.

31 boreholes/provide

A

B

C

34 not support

A

B

C

32 in the past/induce rain

A

B

C

35 agriculture/weather control

A

B

C

33 proof/increase rainfall

A

B

C

2 For Questions 36-40, study the diagram carefully and make sure you know the sequence the information is given in.



SECTION 4 Questions 31–40



Questions 31–35

Choose the correct letter A, B or C.

Cloud-seeding to provide rain

- 31 Boreholes provide water for
- A industrial use.
 - B agricultural purposes.
 - C domestic consumption.
- 32 According to the speaker, in the past people have tried to induce rain by
- A supernatural means.
 - B using fires.
 - C special dances.

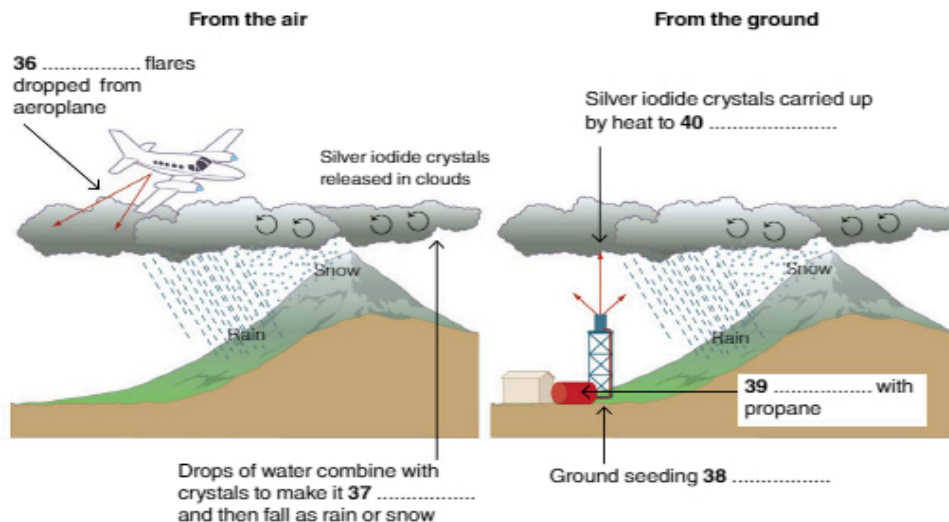
- 33 There is some proof that seeding clouds increases rainfall by
- A 15%.
 - B 55%.
 - C 25%.
- 34 According to the speaker, why do some people not support cloud seeding?
- A The benefits of the practice are limited.
 - B The costs of the equipment are too great.
 - C The effects of playing with nature are unknown.
- 35 With the amounts of money involved in agriculture, weather control
- A deserves more investment.
 - B is worthy of attention.
 - C is a surprising success story.

Questions 36–40

Label the diagram below.

Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** for each answer.

How cloud seeding works



4 Check your answers in the listening script below.

Good morning everyone. The topic of my talk this week is a rather unusual method of bringing water to drought-ridden regions of the world. The methods people most think of, or read about in newspapers and/or see on TV, er ... are preventing deforestation and encouraging reforestation to prevent water run-off from barren land, and hence to stop flooding. Another method is ... er ... drilling bore holes to bring water from aquifers deep in the ground to irrigate the land.

But the method I'd like to talk about today is the production of rain through seeding clouds. For those of you who are not familiar with this practice, it is basically a process where nature is coaxed, as it were, to produce rain. In many places in the world, attempts have been made throughout history to produce rain in times of drought through magic, but from the latter part of the last century scientists've been endeavouring to come to the rescue by chemical means.

And at times they've been trying not just to produce rain, but also to divert it so that it does not rain on special days, such as national or international ceremonies. Cloud seeding has been carried out since the middle of the last century, but no scientist can confirm that the practice is actually responsible for rain, and not nature itself. Because who can confirm that the clouds would not let loose a deluge anyway?

Having said that, I am aware there is some evidence that seeding clouds to produce rain can lead to a 15% increase in rainfall. But what would happen, for example, if the actions of cloud seeding in one place led to a disastrous deluge in another? It would also be tricky to prove that any damage was the responsibility of cloud seeders. Some people are understandably against the practice of cloud seeding, as we don't really know the consequences of interfering with nature.

Cloud seeding has apparently been used by Californian officials to

replenish reservoirs. In other parts of the US, electricity utility companies are especially fond of seeding to bring more water to hydroelectric plants.

With national budgets devoted to agriculture running into the tens of millions, if not billions of dollars in some cases, the interest in attempts to control the weather is not surprising and deserves attention.

Last year the agricultural and meteorology departments at the university were given a 20 million dollar grant, funded in part by the government and various companies in the food and agricultural industry, to conduct research into cloud seeding to increase precipitation. While the research is aimed primarily at the US, it is hoped that the benefits accrued will have far-reaching consequences for other drought-ridden regions of the planet.

Now ... let's see, mmm ... if we look at this diagram here, we can see how cloud seeding works. There are two basic methods: from the air and from the ground. Looking first at seeding from the air, we can see that an aeroplane flies above the clouds from where it fires silver iodide into clouds by dropping chemical flares in order to increase precipitation. Silver iodide crystals then attach themselves to water droplets, which makes the water freeze and fall as rain or snow over high ground. If we now look at the diagram showing cloud seeding from the ground, we can see that there is a ground seeding generator here on the right, which has a tall chimney, and er ... next to this on the left is, mmm ... a fuel tank containing propane. Heat generated from the burning of the propane lifts the silver iodide crystals up to cloud level again leading to precipitation.

So let's now ...

