



IELTS General Training Volume 6

Listening Practice Test 2

HOW TO USE

You have 2 ways to access the listening audio

1. Open this URL <https://link.intergreat.com/1sNQf> on your computer
2. Use your mobile device to scan the QR code attached



Questions 1-5

Complete the Travel agent's notes below.

Write **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

SUN TOURS TRAVEL AGENTS

Example	Answer
Number of people	4

Customer's Name	Mr. George Collins
Other travellers (+ ages of children)	Mrs. Jane Collins 1 _____ 7 years old Jennifer 2 _____ years old
Require	4 star quality hotel + breakfast; safe, warm, quietish, beach; pref. pool; lots of restaurants near hotel no creche 3 _____ needed
Dates of Holiday	Friday July 8th to 4 _____, Sunday
Pref. Flight Time	Less than 5 _____

Questions 6-10

Complete George's notes below

Write **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** for each answer

Possible Holiday Ideas

Top End Prices Italy and France

Bottom End Prices 6 _____, Greece and Turkey (Turkey + Cyprus too far)

Crete

Hotel Tropicana

1 mile safe walk on 7 _____ to beach.

Nice pool; only a few beach bars and restaurants.

Really quiet; not near other tourist destinations.

Palm Hotel

2 miles from beach but has 8 _____ service.

Hotel in quite a busy tourist town: lots of bars, restaurants and discos.

Rhodes

Ocean Hotel

Right on beach; less than 9 _____ from the rooms.

4 star hotel quite far from main town; eat in hotel; good meals.

Hotel Spiros

10 _____ hotel quite close to beach (5/10 mins walk) in small village with small swimming pool.

A few restaurants in small, quiet village; not much to do.

Questions 11-15

Complete the food options information sheet below.

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

Solaris Hotel and Holiday Village – Food Options

Meal Times

Breakfast: 6.30am and 9.30am every day (Only in Harvest restaurant; English, American and

11 _____ breakfasts on offer

Lunch: 12.00 noon to 2.30pm

Dinner: 7.00pm to 10.30pm

Menus same for lunch + dinner: see 12 _____ for specials

Food Styles

The Harvest Restaurant: Traditional English + popular UK foreign dishes (eg: curry and spaghetti)

The Dene Restaurant: 13 _____

The Mekong Restaurant: Far Eastern Cuisine

Payment

All restaurants free; 14 _____ needed for some specials

All soft drinks free; pay for alcoholic drinks

Pay any bill at end of meals or put on main bill – pay at end of holiday

Extras

Bar menu available in 15 _____ for pub food

Fast Food available until 2.30am at take away

Questions 16-20

Complete the activities information sheet below.

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

Solaris Hotel and Holiday Village – Activities

Beaches:

main beach

adult beach (17s or over)

16 _____ on duty from 9.00am to 6.00pm on main beach (none on adult beach)

* Decked area with sun loungers in front of Harvest Restaurant with our 25 metre swimming pool

* Steps from pool area to beach – wash feet in foot pool to remove sand

* 17 _____ on beach + in pool area.

Sports

8 tennis courts + 3 squash courts

Fully equipped gym (No under 18s)

6 full sized snooker tables + 5 pool tables in games room adjoining the bar.

(only charge for hiring any equipment)

Water Sports

water skiing + jet skis available (extra charge)

snorkelling, inflatable and pedalos (free)

(details from 18 _____)

Library & Cinemas

Library contains books, magazines + newspapers. See 19 _____ for terms + conditions

2 cinemas show 3 different films each every day.

Shows at 2.00pm, 5.30pm + 8.30pm (First 2 shows always have a film for kids)

Children under 16 years are not allowed to attend 8.30 20 _____

Questions 21-26

Complete the three tables below.

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

World's Most Spoken Languages By Number of Individual Speakers

Rank	No. of Speakers	Language
1	836 million	Mandarin Chinese

2	333 million	21 _____
3	332 million	Spanish
4	22 _____	English

World's Most Spoken Languages By Number of User Countries

Rank	No. of Countries	Language
1	115	English
2	35	French
3	24	23 _____
4	24 _____	Spanish

World's Most Influential Languages – 6 weighing factors

1	Number of primary speakers
2	Number of 25 _____
3	Number and population of countries where languages are used
4	Number of major fields using the language internationally
5	26 _____ of countries using the language
6	Socio-literary prestige of the language

Questions 27-30

Complete the notes below of the second half of Jamie and Rebecca's presentation.

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

Jamie and Rebecca's Presentation

Large countries currently shifting world economic balance of power:

China

Russia

India

27 _____

Reasons for shift size of the populations

cheap labour

prices of 28 _____

Big growing demand for people knowing languages of above countries + for teachers and English language training

China could be less important than possibly India or 29 _____ due to their population increase. English will probably remain important though

Number of spoken languages between approx. 2500 and 7000. Hardly any of these studied by 30 _____

English taught in most countries with structured education program. This trend is getting stronger.

Questions 31-35

Complete the sentences below.

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

Mad cow disease attacks the 31 _____ of the affected cows' brains.

BSE is thought to be caused by infectious forms of 32 _____ known as prions.

Abnormal prions in BSE infected cattle are found in the small intestines, 33 _____ and the central nervous tissues.

Humans can take in the abnormal prions when they eat infected beef as the prions are resistant to the usual 34 _____ such as heat.

The one American case of CJD was a woman who caught it in 35 _____ before going to the US.

Questions 36-40

Complete the summary below of the second half of the humanities lecture on BSE.

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

SUMMARY

CJD causes gradual loss of mental function and movement due to brain damage from abnormal prions or it can be possibly 36 _____ CJD usually affects younger people (between ages 20 to 70) usually showing symptoms in patients' 37 _____ Symptoms include personality changes and problems with 38 _____ Once symptoms appear, the disorder progresses quickly to disability and death.

The exact causes of BSE are unknown but the first UK cases have indicated that it could come from a prion disease in 39 _____ called scrapie that was fed to cattle. Dead cattle with scrapie were then fed to 40 _____ making them cannibals. So, we are in turn infected by the disease that we created when we eat infected beef.



Solution:

Part 1: Question 1 - 10

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 1 Mike | 2 four/4 |
| 3 facilities | 4 24th |
| 5 4 hours | 6 Spain |
| 7 (a) path (through fields) | 8 minibus |
| 9 5 minutes | 10 family run |

Part 2: Question 11 - 20

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 11 continental (style) | 12 blackboards |
| 13 Fish and seafood/fish, seafood | 14 extra supplement |
| 15 main bar | 16 (two) lifeguards |
| 17 freshwater showers | 18 water sports office |
| 19 noticeboard | 20 presentations |

Part 3: Question 21 - 30

- | | |
|-----------|----------------|
| 21 Hindi | 22 322 million |
| 23 Arabic | 24 20 |

25 secondary speakers

27 Brazil

29 Bangladesh

Part 4: Question 31 - 40

31 nervous functions

33 tonsils

35 the UK

37 late 50s

39 sheep

26 economic power

28 raw material

30 non-native speakers

32 protein

34 (food) disinfection treatments

36 genetically inherited

38 coordination

40 young cattle

Section 1

You will hear a conversation between a travel agent and a customer discussing a holiday.

Travel Agent (TA): Good morning sir. Can I help you?

Customer: Yes. I'm thinking of going away on holiday but I'm not sure where to go.

TA: Well sir. We have a range of destinations that we offer. Are you going alone sir or with a friend?

Cust: With my family actually.

TA: So, how many people is that sir?

Cust: My wife and I and my young son and daughter . So, **Example four**.

TA: Fine. Now with a young family can I assume that you'd like to go somewhere warm?

Cust: Oh yes. A beach holiday. That's what we are looking for.

TA: Right, I'll just take some personal details sir. First of all, what's your name?

Cust: George collins .

TA: Collins? Is that C-O-L-L-I-N-S?

Cust: Yes, that's right.

TA: Thank you. And what about your wife and children?

Cust: My wife's name is Jane, my boy's name is **Q1 Mike** and my little girl is Jennifer .

TA: How old are the children?

Cust: Mike's 7 and **Q2 Jennifer's 4**.

TA: Ah, they're quite small then.

Cust: Oh yes, We just need a safe, little place. A warm climate, a quiet ish , safe beach, a pool preferably and lots of small restaurants and bars near the hotel.

TA: Would you want any creche **Q3 facilities** in the hotel so you and your wife can get away when you want?

Cust: No. I work quite hard and I don't see the kids as often as I want at home so I'm looking forward to spending all my time with them.

TA: And what eating arrangements do you want?

Cust: Just half board please. We'll have breakfast at the hotel but we'll eat lunch and dinner at a beach café. We'd want about four star quality for the hotel by the way.

TA: Right. And what time in the summer are you thinking of taking the holiday?

Cust: I finish work on Friday night on July the 8th and I'm off for two weeks. So, I'll need to be back at work on the 25th . **Q4 I'll need to finish the holiday then on the 24th.**

TA: And how long would you want to spend travelling?

Cust: Oh, as little as possible of course with the little ones. Not more than a couple of hours in the car to get to an airport and then not more that 4 hours on a plane.

TA: That's fine. You can get to all of the nice resorts on the mediterranean easily in **Q5 less than 4 hours**. Right then. Let's show you some brochures before the conversation continues you have some time to look at questions 6:00 to 10:00 now listen carefully and answer questions six to ten .

TA: As I said sir, most Mediterranean destinations are easily within your preferred flight time.

You can choose really between Spain, France, Italy, the old Yugoslavia, greece or Turkey as well as the Mediterranean island's .

Cust: Wow, what a great choice. What are the different costs involved?

TA: With you wanting a 4 star hotel and pool some countries will be definitely cheaper than others. Price wise, Italy and France will be at the top end, **Q6 Spain, Greece and Turkey** will be at the lower end.

Cust: Greece and Turkey sound great actually. I've always wanted to go there and I've seen some beautiful photos.

TA: I think that Greece would suit you better as the flight to Turkey is actually quite long. You're getting towards five hours there.

Cust: OK, well Greece is fine.

TA: Of course with Greece you have the choice between the islands and the mainland . It's the islands that are famous of course but you'll have to get there by boat or take a short connecting flight . Some of the bigger islands are served directly though from UK airports.

Cust: Well, one of the larger islands sounds best then. What about Cyprus? I've heard that a lot of British people go there.

TA: Yes, it's very popular. The trouble for you with Cyprus though is that it's down in the eastern Mediterranean near Turkey and the flight is quite long to get there. I was thinking more of Rhodes and Crete.

Cust: Let's have a look at those 2 then.

TA: Here are some brochures. This is the Hotel tropicana and this is the Palm Hotel. Both of them are in Crete. In Rhodes we have the Ocean Hotel and Hotel spirits .

Cust: Can you tell me a bit about them?

TA: Of course. The Hotel Tropicana is about 1 mile from the beach and it's a safe walk along a **Q7 path through some fields** to get there. They have a nice pool which you can see in the photo. There are only a few beach bars and restaurants though. It's really quiet, away from all the bustle of other tourist destinations . The Palm Hotel is further from the beach, about two miles , but it has a **Q8 minibus** service that goes to and from the beach all day. The hotel itself is in quite a busy tourist town that has lots of bars, restaurants and discos. It's great for going out.

Cust: I don't know if either of those suits us. We don't want noisy and we don't want a long way to the beach.

TA: Let's have a look at the Rhodes hotels then. The Ocean Hotel is right on the beach. It's less than **Q9 five minutes** usually to get to the beach area from the rooms. The hotel is quite a long

way from the main town and people usually take all their meals in the hotel. The hotel is 4 star though and we know the food is quite good as we've been told so by previous holidaymakers .

Hotel Spiros is a **Q10 family run** hotel also quite close to the beach – about five or ten minutes walk. It's in a small village and has a small swimming pool as well. There are a few restaurants scattered around the village but again, it's not a big tourist village so there's not much to do.

Cust: To be honest, both of those sound fine. We don't want a night life as we won't be able to leave the kids. Something close to the beach, somewhere to eat and sit in the evening is all we need. I've made some notes. Let me take the brochure with the details of these two hotels and I'll take them back and show my wife and see what she thinks. They both seem just what we want though.

TA: OK sir. Come in again when you've decided or if you want to see some other places.

Cust: I will. Thanks very much then. Goodbye.

TA: Goodbye.

Section 2

You will hear a man giving an orientation talk to new holidaymakers at the Solaris Hotel and Holiday Village.

Good morning everyone and welcome to your first morning here at the solaris Hotel and Holiday Village. This little orientation talk this morning will just give you an idea of what to find and expect around the grounds.

Let's begin by looking at meals. We have three different restaurants and you are at liberty to eat at any of them. They are the Harvest Restaurant, the Dene Restaurant and the Mekong Restaurant. Let's begin with breakfast . Breakfast is only served in the Harvest Restaurant. The other two restaurants are only open for lunch and dinner . Breakfast is served between 6:30 a.m. and 9.30am 7 days a week. There are English, American and **Q11 continental style** breakfasts on offer.

For lunch and dinner all the restaurants have the same opening hours to make things easier for you. Lunch is served from 12:00 noon to 2.30pm and dinner is served from 7.00pm to 10.30pm. The menus are the same for lunch and dinner though look at the **Q12 blackboards** displayed in the restaurants for any specials that they are serving for any

particular meal. The style of food is different in each of the restaurants. The Harvest serves traditional English food though with plenty of the foreign dishes which are popular in the UK such as curry and spaghetti . The Dene specialises in **Q13 fish and seafood** and the Mekong offers you a selection of dishes from the Far East; not just from Vietnam as the name suggests but Chinese, Thai, Malay and others.

You don't have to pay in any of the restaurants unless an **Q14 extra supplement** is needed for some of the specials . All soft drinks are also free though we charge for alcoholic drinks. You can choose to pay any bill that you may incur at the end of the meal itself or you can put it on your main bill which you can pay when you leave at the end of your holiday.

There is also a bar menu in the **Q15 main bar** which serves pretty good pub food and if you have any late night munchies , there is a take away open until 2.30am which sells fast food. Good for those of you who are returning in the early hours from a disco or club!

Now let's look at some of things that you can do here during your stay with us. Of course we have our main beach which is popular with everyone. There is also an adult beach which is prohibited to anyone less than 17 years of age. This allows those of you without children to get some peace and quiet on the beach. The main beach has two **Q16 lifeguards** on duty from 9.00am to 6.00pm. The adult beach has no lifeguards . If you don't like sand and salt we have a decked area in front of the Harvest Restaurant with our 25 meter swimming pool. You can lie here on a sun lounger and swim in the pool with no sand to bother you. There are steps from the pool area to the beach so you can go between the two but, if you're coming up from the beach, please walk through the foot pool so that the sand gets washed off and doesn't lie around the pool area. There are also **Q17 freshwater showers available on the beach** and in the pool area.

As for sports we have 8 tennis courts and 3 squash courts which can be booked at any time.

There is a fully equipped gym with staff on duty to help you. No-one under 18 years of age may use the gym though. We also have 6 full sized snooker tables and 5 pool tables in the games room adjoining the bar. There is no charge for use of any of these facilities though there is a small charge if you need to hire any sports gear. Again you can pay immediately or put the charges on your main bill. There are also water skiing and jet skis available but there are charges for these.

Q18 Go to the water sports office for details. All the water sports such as snorkeling inflatables , cinemas and pedallos are free. Ask for all details again at the water sports office.

There is a library in the hotel which supplies books, magazines and newspapers. It has certain terms and conditions of use which you will be able to find on the **Q19 notice board** in the

library.

We also have 2 kids which show 3 different films every day. The showings are in the afternoons at 2.00pm, the early evening at 5.30pm and at night at 8.30pm. The afternoon and early evening showings always have a film for permitted . Children under the age of 16 are not allowed to attend the 8.30 **Q20** presentations.

Well, that's all for now. Are there any questions?

Section 3

You will hear 2 students giving a presentation to a seminar group at their university.

Dr. Reece: Good morning all. Glad to see you're all on time today. This morning we're going to hear Jamie and Rebecca give their presentation on some aspect of demographics . They've talked to me about it a bit before while researching it but I don't want to give the game away so I'll hand straight over to them

Jamie: Hi everyone. As Dr. Reece said Rebecca and I are going to give our demographics presentation . Both Rebecca and I also study languages so we decided to look at the world's different languages and the ones that are the most important , both now and in the future. Rebecca's going to start off.

Rebecca: OK everyone. Who knows what the world's most spoken language is?

Phil: I thought it was English. Isn't it?

Rebecca: Well, it's an ambiguous question. If you just look at how many individual speakers there are around the world then the answer is Mandarin Chinese with 836 million speakers.

English was second until a few years ago but it has since been overtaken by **Q21** Hindi with 333 million speakers and Spanish with 332 millionspeakers. Now English is after Spanish with **Q22** 322 million speakers.

Phil: Oh yes, South America. I didn't think of that.

Jamie: Yes, it's easy to forget. You can look at Rebecca's question though in a different way if you look at the number of countries that use English. English is a massive 115, ahead of French, **Q23** Arabic and Spanish with 35 24 and **Q24** 20 countries respectively .

Rebecca: English has different statuses around the world. Core countries are where English has a full official status like England, the US and Australia. In outer core countries English has some official status as in India and then there are fringe countries such as Japan and the UAE where it's used a lot in business and tourism .

Jamie: A more important list is the world's most influential languages. This was compiled by weighing six factors which were the number of primary speakers, the number of **Q25 secondary speakers**, the number and population of the countries where the languages are used, the number of major fields using the language internationally , the **Q26 economic power** of countries using the languages and socio literary prestige.

Rebecca: And the list shows the following in order of most influential: English, French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, Chinese, German, Japanese, portuguese and Hindi.

Dr. Reece: How up to date are these figures?

Jamie: Fairly. They came out just last year. But the picture is changing very rapidly in terms of influential languages. There are certain large countries which are about to emerge on the world stage and their economies are starting to influence the world balance of power.

Rebecca: The largest countries that for various reasons are beginning to shift world economic power are China, Russia, India and **Q27 Brazil**. The sizes of the populations along with the cheap labour and **Q28 raw material prices** which are available in these countries are causing this shift. As a result, every year the demand for people knowing the languages of these countries is growing enormous lee .

Jamie: In addition the demand for teachers and English language training is also enormous lee increasing. Western teachers are going to the countries and their nationals are coming over here. As well as business, the education sector is getting a huge boost from the opening up of these economies .

Dr. Reece: So, will China be the major powerhouse as everyone says?

Rebecca: Definitely but maybe not the biggest. Many eaxperts predict that India's population will soon surpass China's. **Q29 Bangladesh's population** could too. It all points to world economic power being held in Asia though.

Jamie: English will probably remain important though. Chinese is difficult to learn and English also has some official status in India. English is easy to learn and has the advantage , for better or worse, of being the language that everyone wants to learn. That won't change in a hurry .

Dr. Reece: How many people learn English then?

Rebecca: The number of spoken languages nowadays is estimated between 2500 and 7000. Out of all these languages, the numbers of those actually studied by **Q30 non-native speakers** is tiny. There are no official records of numbers studying English worldwide but today you can safely say that there are not many countries with a structured program of education where English is not taught. It will take a long time for this habit to be broken. At the moment it's getting stronger .

Section 4

You will hear part of a humanities lecture on Mad Cow Disease.

Good morning ladies and gentlemen and welcome to this humanities lecture. Today we are going to continue our look at the modern diseases that afflict society. Today we are looking at quite a famous but rare disease. The popular name for this disease is mad cow disease. It has been so named because it is most often found in the brains of cattle. It attacks the **Q31 nervous functions** of the brain and leads to unusual behaviour by the cattle. Thus we familiarly say that the cow is therefore mad and hence , mad cow disease. Mad cow disease is the commonly used name but its medical title is Bovine spongiform Encephalopathy or BSE. It is a slowly progressive, degenerative , fatal disease affecting the nervous system of adult cattle . The exact form of BSE is not known but it is generally accepted by the scientific community that the likely cause is an infectious form of a **Q32 type of protein known as a prion**. This protein develops abnormalities and apparently seems to encourage other proteins to become similarly misshapen , affecting their ability to function. In cattle with BSE, these abnormal prions initially occur in the small intestines, **Q33 tonsils**, and central nervous tissues .

There is a similar disease to BSE called Creutzfeldt Jacob Disease or CJD that is found in people.

A variant form of CJD is believed to be caused by eating contaminated beef products from BSE affected cattle. The abnormal prions in infected cattle products are consumed by humans as they are resistant to common **Q34 food disinfection treatments** such as heat. The disorder is rare occurring in about 1 out of 1 million people. To date there have been 155 confirmed and probable cases of CJD worldwide among the hundreds and thousands of people that may have consumed BSE contaminated beef products. Most of the cases have occurred in the UK. The one US case was in a young woman who contracted the disease while **Q35 residing in the UK** and developed symptoms after moving to the US.

CJD is a disorder involving rapid decrease of mental function and movement . As with BSE in cattle, these abnormalities are believed to be caused by damage done to the brain by prions , though it is has been proved that in rare cases it can be **Q36 genetically inherited** . CJD tends to affect younger people, beginning between the ages of 20 and 70, with average age at onset of symptoms in the **Q37 late 50s**. Early symptoms include personality changes and difficulty with **Q38 coordination** . Once symptoms appear, the disorder progresses rapidly and may be confused with other types of dementia such as Alzheimer's Disease. CJD though is distinguished by extremely rapid progression from onset to symptoms to disability and death.

So, how did BSE and CJD come about? We've not read about them in the history books. These appear to be new diseases. BSE was first reported in the United Kingdom. The exact origins of BSE remain uncertain , but it is thought that cattle initially may have become infected when given feed contaminated with scrapie infected sheep meat and bone meal. Scrapie is a sheep prion disease similar to BSE in cattle. The scientific evidence suggests that the UK BSE outbreak in cattle was then spread by feeding BSE contaminated cattle protein to calves. Thus, we have created the disease ourselves. Cattle naturally are grazers , feeding on grass.

Q39 We have given cattle feed derived from sheep, an unnatural food for cattle. We have compounded our mistake by also **Q40 feeding young cattle** with feed derived from older cattle making them cannibals . There is a kind of horror associated with it when we look at it like this. There is also a kind of poetic justice that the disease is passed down to us as we consume the animals that we have infected.

Moving on now, are there any questions with what I have said so far?