

# IELTS Practice Tests Plus Volume 3

## Listening Practice Test 3

### HOW TO USE

You have 2 ways to access the listening audio

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



## Questions 1-10

You will hear a woman talking on the telephone to a man about a car he is selling.

Complete the notes below.

Write **NO MORE THAN ONE WORD OR A NUMBER** for each answer

Car for sale (Mini)	
<b>Example</b>	
Age of car: just under <b>13</b> years old	
<b>Colour:</b> 1	<input type="text"/>
<b>Mileage:</b> 2	<input type="text"/>
Previous owner was a 3	<input type="text"/>
Current owner has used car mainly for 4	<input type="text"/>
<b>Price:</b> may accept offers from 5 £ 5	<input type="text"/>
(Note: 6 <input type="text"/> not due for 5 months)	
<b>Condition:</b> good (recently serviced)	
Will need a new 7	<input type="text"/> soon
Minor problem with a 8	<input type="text"/>
<b>Viewing</b>	
Agreed to view the car on 9	<input type="text"/>
<b>Address:</b> 238, 10	<input type="text"/> Road.

## Questions 11-14

You will hear part of a podcast for visitors to the popular holiday region called the Treloar Valley.

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

11 The Treloar Valley passenger ferry

- A** usually starts services in April.
- B** departs at the same time each day.

**C**  is the main means of transport for local villagers.

12 What does the speaker say about the river cruise?

- A**  It can be combined with a train journey.
- B**  It's unsuitable for people who have walking difficulties.
- C**  The return journey takes up to four hours.

13 What information is given about train services in the area?

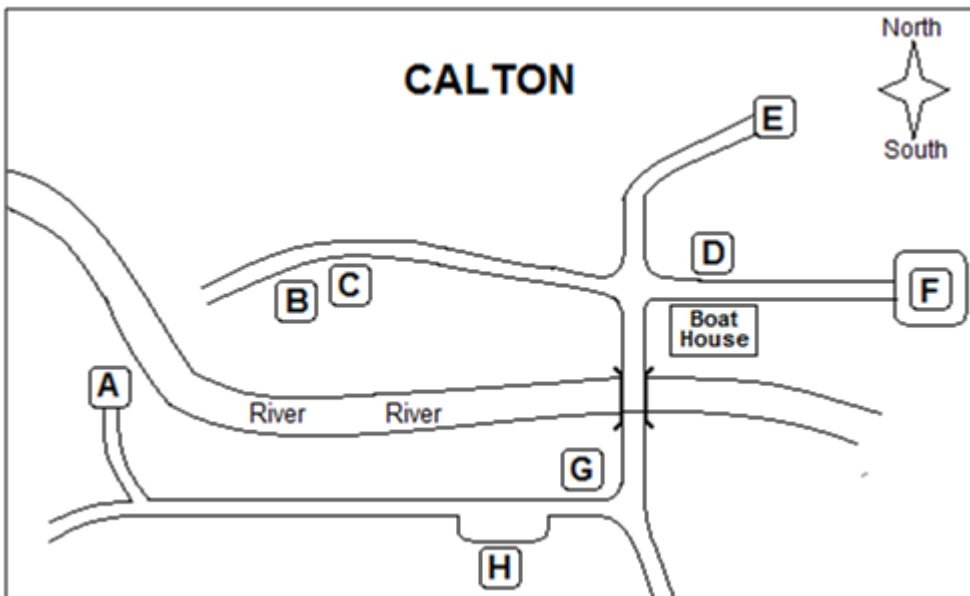
- A**  Trains run non-stop between Calton and Plymouth.
- B**  One section of the rail track is raised.
- C**  Bookings can be made by telephone or the Internet.

14 The 'Rover' bus ticket

- A**  can be used for up to five journeys a day.
- B**  is valid for weekend travel only.
- C**  has recently gone down in price.

## Questions 15-20

Label the map below.



Write the correct letter, A-H, next to questions 15-20.

15   Bus stop

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16  Car park

17  Museum

18  Mill

19  Potter's studio

20  Cafe

## Questions 21-24

You will hear two Geography students talking. An older student, called Howard, is giving advice to a younger student, called Joanne, on writing her dissertation. Choose the correct letter, A, B or C.

## Advice on writing a dissertation

21 What does Howard say about the experience of writing his dissertation?

- A It was difficult in unexpected ways.
- B It was more enjoyable than he'd anticipated.
- C It helped him understand previous course work.

22 What is Joanne most worried about?

- A Finding enough material.
- B Missing deadlines.
- C Writing too much.

23 What does Howard say was his main worry a year previously?

- A Forgetting what he'd read about.
- B Not understanding what he'd read.
- C Taking such a long time to read each book

24 What motivated Howard to start writing his dissertation?

- A Talking to his tutor about his problems.
- B Seeing an inspirational TV show.
- C Reading a controversial journal article.

## Questions 25-26

Choose **TWO** letters, A-E.

What **TWO** things does Howard advise Joanne to do in the first month of tutorials?

- A See her tutor every week.
- B Review all the module booklists.
- C Buy all the key books.
- D Write full references for everything she reads.
- E Write a draft of the first chapter

## Questions 27-28

Choose **TWO** letters, A-E.

What **TWO** things does Howard say about library provision?

- A Staff are particularly helpful to undergraduates.
- B Inter-library loans are very reliable.
- C Students can borrow extra books when writing a dissertation.
- D Staff recommend relevant old dissertations.
- E It's difficult to access electronic resources.

## Questions 29-30

Choose **TWO** letters, A-E.

What **TWO** things does Joanne agree to discuss with her tutor?

- A The best ways to collaborate with other students.
- B Who to get help from during college vacations.
- C The best way to present the research.

**D**  Whether she can use web sources.

**E**  How to manage her study time.

## Questions 31-40

You will hear a psychology undergraduate describing the research she is currently doing on expertise in creative writing.

Complete the flow chart below.

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

### Expertise in creative writing

Background - researcher had previously studied 31 \_\_\_\_\_



Had initial idea for research - inspired by a book (the 32 \_\_\_\_\_ of a famous novelist).



Posed initial question - why do some people become experts whilst others don't?



Read expertise research in different fields.

Avoided studies conducted in a 33 \_\_\_\_\_ because too controlled.

Most helpful studies-research into 34 \_\_\_\_\_ e.g. waiting tables.



Found participants: four true 35 \_\_\_\_\_ in creative writing (easy to find) and four with extensive experience.



Using 'think aloud' techniques, gathered 36 \_\_\_\_\_ data from inexperienced writer.

(During session - assistant made 37 \_\_\_\_\_ recordings).



Gathered similar data from experienced writers.



Compared two data sets and generated a 38 \_\_\_\_\_ for analysis

(Identified five major stages in writing will be refined later).



Got an expert 39 \_\_\_\_\_ to evaluate the quality of the different products.



Identified the most effective 40 \_\_\_\_\_ of stages in producing text.



## Solution:

### Part 1: Question 1 - 10

- |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1 grey/gray | 2 62,000    |
| 3 teacher   | 4 shopping  |
| 5 1,100     | 6 tax       |
| 7 tyre/tire | 8 headlight |
| 9 Thursday  | 10 London   |

### Part 2: Question 11 - 20

- |      |      |
|------|------|
| 11 A | 12 A |
| 13 B | 14 C |
| 15 H | 16 F |
| 17 E | 18 A |
| 19 B | 20 D |

### Part 3: Question 21 - 29

- |      |      |
|------|------|
| 21 C | 22 C |
| 23 A | 24 B |



$\frac{25}{26}$  B,E

$\frac{29}{30}$  B,D

$\frac{27}{28}$  C,D

#### Part 4: Question 31 - 40

31 English literature

33 lab(oratory)

35 novices/beginners

37 video

39 editor

32 autobiography

34 practical skills

36 experimental

38 framework

40 sequence/order

## Section 1

Hello, Brian Parks speaking.

Oh hello, I'm calling about the advert in the paper ...

For the car?

Er, yes, the Mini you've got advertised for sale.

Oh yes?

I just wanted to find out a bit more information.

Of course, what would you like to know?

It's my brother who's interested actually ... but he's not in today so he asked me to call you.

Fine ...

Great, thanks. So it's a Mini ...

Yep.

... and how old is it?

Just coming up to **Example** thirteen years old.

And I seem to remember from the ad that it's **Q1** grey?

That's it ... doesn't show the dirt!

Absolutely ... anyway the colour shouldn't be a problem for Jeff, you know, the important thing is the quality ...

Yes, of course.

And what about mileage ... with it being pretty old it's probably over a hundred thousand?

Actually it's forty thousand less than that ... **Q2** sixty-two thousand on the clock!

Great! I remember now ... I'm confusing it with another ad I was looking at.

Right ... pleasant surprise then.

Yeah. Have you been the only owner ... or was there a previous one ... ?

I'm the second one. Before it was owned by a **Q3** teacher ... who was a very careful driver - didn't have any accidents.

Woman: Very good. And what about you ... what do you tend to use it for?

Man: I haven't used it all that much ... mostly for **Q4 shopping** ... you know the sort of thing.

Woman: So not much wear and tear. I'll make a note of that. I know Jeff wanted me to check that.

Man: Right.

Woman: Now about the price, I see you've got it down as one thousand, two hundred and fifty pounds. I'm not sure Jeff'll be able to come up with that amount.

Man: In the ad I did say one thousand, two hundred and fifty or nearest offer ...

Woman: So would you be prepared to go down to one thousand?

Man: That's really too low, I'm afraid.

Woman: **Q5 One thousand, one hundred?**

Man: I might be able to go to that.

Woman: OK I'll make a note of that. What about **Q6 tax**? Is it due soon?

Man: Got another five months before it's due ...

Woman: Oh, that's a real plus, yes. I'll make a note of that ...

Man: OK.

Woman: Now, you say it's in good condition.

Man: For its age, I'd say yes, definitely. It's just been serviced and there were no major problems.

Woman: Major ... ?

Man: I'd be able to show you the service report. The only thing is you'd have to get a new **Q7 tyre** in the near future ... though it's still OK, you know, it's certainly absolutely safe, at the moment.

Woman: OK, fair enough. Yes, I understand.

Man: And the garage also mentioned that one **Q8 headlight** could probably do with replacing - they think there's a fault there, you know, intermittent ...

Woman: Well, we'd obviously look at all the documents ... but that sounds very straightforward.

Man: Of course. I've got all the service documents up-to-date and you can look at those.

Woman: Well, it all sounds pretty good and I know my brother will be interested. So, would it be possible for him to see the car ... he's back from his trip tomorrow ... and away tonight, so

how about tomorrow?

Man: ... tomorrow ... Wednesday? I'm afraid that's not possible. I'm out pretty much all day.

Woman: Well, **Q9** Thursday then?

Man: That'd be fine, yeah.

Woman: In the morning?

Man: Yes, that'd suit me perfectly.

Woman: Great.

Man: Now, you'll need my address.

Woman: Oh yes, of course! What is it?

Man: It's number two hundred and thirty-eight,

Woman: Two-three-eight ...

Man: **Q10** London Road.

Woman: Oh that's easy enough!

Man: Yes, very straightforward.

Woman: So I'll pass on these notes to Jeff and he'll see you in a couple ...

## Section 2

The valley and estuary of the River Treloar forms an unspoilt, beautiful landscape, rich in both wildlife and sites of historic interest. There are many ways to explore the area, and public

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transport links are good. It is possible to leave your car behind, and travel by boat, train or bus, with just short walks in-between stops.

The Treloar Valley Passenger Ferry runs between villages along the river estuary, and provides a link with the train station at Berry, which is about ten minutes' walk from the riverside village of Calton. In the past, the river was the main form of transport in the area, and as in the past, today's ferry service operates according to nature. The river estuary is tidal, and so the ferry timetable differs from day to day, according to the times and height of the tide. The ferry is also seasonal, normally running between **Q11** April and September, depending on the weather. A timetable for the whole year can be downloaded from the internet by visiting [www.treloarferry.co.uk](http://www.treloarferry.co.uk).

If you just want to sit and relax, and enjoy the lovely scenery, you can take a river cruise to Calton and back from the nearby city of Plymouth. In the past, steam ships brought early tourists along the same route - Queen Victoria and her family enjoyed such a trip in eighteen fifty six. The journey is quicker these days - the round trip takes between four and five hours, depending on tides and weather. **Q12** If you prefer, you can travel upriver by boat and return to Plymouth by train. All cruise boats and trains have wheelchair access. For more information, and for departure times, ring Plymouth Boat Cruises on zero one seven, five two eight, two three one zero four.

Trains run several times a day throughout the year between Calton and Plymouth, with various stops in-between. They are used by both local commuters and tourists who want to enjoy the beautiful scenery. **Q13** The highlight of the journey is crossing the river on the stunning viaduct, which was built at the beginning of the twentieth century, and towers one hundred and twenty feet over the water. It is unnecessary to book, and tickets can be bought on the train. For information about fares and timetables, contact National Rail Enquiries by phone or online.

The bus service in the Treloar Valley now connects all train stations and villages in the area. Specially for holiday makers, there's a 'Rover' ticket which can be used at weekends and on national holidays, and allows unlimited journeys on those days. **Q14** The Rover ticket provides great value for money, and is now even cheaper than it was last year. An adult ticket costs five pounds fifty a day, Senior Citizens can travel for four pounds fifty, and a family ticket for up to five people costs just twelve pounds. Tickets can be bought on the bus.

At the centre of the Treloar Estuary area is the historic riverside village of Calton. The main road comes into the village from the south, and **Q15** for those of you who are arriving by bus, it turns left just before the bridge and stops in the lay-by on the left hand side. From there it's just a short walk to Calton's various attractions. If you're arriving by car, you have to leave it in the **Q16** main car park. Go over the bridge and take the first turning on the right. Then go on until you come to the end of that road. It's the only place to park in Calton but there's no charge. If you're interested in local history, there's a **Q17** museum in Calton with farming, fishing and

household implements from the late nineteenth century. As you come in from the south, cross the river and go straight on the same road until you reach the end. Also on the subject of history, you can go and see the old **Q18** mill which has recently been **renovated** and put back into use. **Q18** Turn left before you come to the bridge. Then go straight on and then take the first turning on the right. This leads straight there. If you're interested in arts and crafts, there's a **Q19** potter's studio where you can watch the artist at work. **Q19** After crossing the bridge turn left and it's the second building on the left. Finally, when you feel in need of refreshments, there's a **Q20** cafe opposite the old boat house, and a picnic area near the mill.

## Section 3

Hi Howard ... I haven't seen you for a while.

Hi Joanne. Yeah, they're keeping us really busy on the postgraduate programme. But how are you? You'll be starting your dissertation soon, won't you?

Yeah ... tutorials start next week ... I've got Dr Peterson. You'll remember it all from last year, of course!

It's not something you forget easily. But seriously, although I didn't expect to enjoy writing my dissertation ... and in fact I didn't really find it much fun, I wouldn't have missed the experience ... **Q21** I found it really improved my understanding of the whole degree programme, you know, from the first year on ...

Right.

So what are you doing yours on?

Glaciated landscapes ... although I haven't decided exactly what aspect yet.

I did mine on climate systems, so I can't help you much I'm afraid. But you'll be fine once you start your tutorials ... Dr Peterson'll help you focus.

I know, and he'll set me deadlines for the different stages ... which is what I need. **Q22** My concern is that I've got tons of material on the topic, and I won't be able to stick to the word limit, you know.

Hmm. I remember I had different concerns when I was doing my dissertation.

Last year?

Yeah ... before my first tutorial I did a lot of fairly general reading 'cause I hadn't fixed on my topic at that stage. I actually enjoyed that quite a lot and really improved my reading speed, you know, so I was getting through a lot of material. **Q23** I was frightened I wouldn't remember it all though so I got into the habit of making very detailed notes.

So did you find your tutor helpful .in getting you started?

Yeah we certainly had some interesting discussions but it's funny ... **Q24** I saw a brilliant programme about climate change and it was that that really fired me up. It was talking about some recent research which seemed to contradict some of the articles I'd been reading. Hmmm.

So you say your tutorials start next week?

Yeah.

Well, the first month's crucial. You've got to meet your tutor and decide on your focus but don't become too dependent on him...you know, don't see him every week...only when you want to check something.

Right.

Once you've got the focus you've got to get reading - **Q25** it's helpful to look through the bibliographies for all the course modules relating to your topic. And get hold of any books you think you'll need.

I haven't got much money ...

I mean get the books from the library, far better.

And I suppose I should prepare a detailed outline of the chapters?

Yeah absolutely . but don't feel you have to follow it slavishly . it's meant to be flexible.

Now, I'm someone who likes to get writing quickly ... I can't just sit and read for a month.

Not like me then ... but if that's what suits you, you know, your natural approach, then **Q26** you really ought to start immediately and write the first chapter ...

Right.

Now Joanne, about the library ... it's worthwhile getting on good terms with the staff ... they [Access https://ieltonlinetests.com](https://ieltonlinetests.com) for more practices

aren't always helpful with undergraduates .

I suppose they focus on post-grads more.

Maybe . but show them you're serious about wanting to do good work.

And what if I can't find what I need?

Well, there's inter-library loans ...

Borrowing books from other libraries ... but I've heard it isn't all that reliable.

You're right.. .but you probably won't need it anyway ... be positive, the library is likely to have most things you need ... and **Q27** during the dissertation writing period, you can take out fifteen instead of the usual ten books.

Should I look at previous years' dissertations?

You can do .

But I won't know which are the good ones.

**Q28** The library only keeps the best and the staff can advise you.

Are they willing to do that?

Oh yeah .

And I'm worried about getting journal articles ... from the electronic library.

Well, have you tried to find any yet?

No.

Well you should . it's really straightforward.

That's obviously something I'll have to look into.

Dr Peterson will help.

Yeah, I know I can go to him if I have any worries.

Except he will be away in the second month - it's the holidays. **Q29** You should ask him what to do while he's away.

Gosh, yeah ... but I suppose I can get a lot of support from coursemates ... I know a couple of people who are thinking of doing the same topic as me.

Take care, collaboration can become dependency. I think you'd better see how that works out what the people are like.

You're probably right ... About other reading, I suppose Dr Peterson'll recommend plenty of good articles to get me started.



One thing I'd find out is what his attitude is to **Q30** internet sources.

Surely not in this day and age? I'd better get that sorted out right at the beginning.

I would if I were you.

And I've also got some questions about the research sections - how much time I should spend explaining the process.

Well, I think that's up to you ... you can see how it develops as you're writing.

OK.

It's the same with things like time management . that's something a tutor can't really help you with .

I agree!

So is there anything else you need me to go over .

## Section 4

For my short presentation today, I'm going to summarise the work I've done so far on my research project: to explore expertise in creative writing. Essentially, I'll share with you the process I underwent to gather my interim findings.

First of all, I should give a little relevant background information about myself - before I started my current degree course in cognitive psychology, I studied **Q31** English literature and, as you can imagine, this meant I spent a great deal of time thinking about the notion of creativity and what makes people develop into successful writers. However, the idea for this research project came from a very specific source - I became fascinated with the idea of what makes an expert creative writer when I read a well-known twentieth century writer's **Q32** autobiography. I

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won't say which one, at this stage, because I think that might prejudice your interpretation! Anyway, this got me thinking about the different routes to expertise. Specifically I wondered why some people become experts at things whilst others fail to do so, in spite of the fact that they may be equally gifted and work equally hard.

I started to read about how other researchers had explored similar questions in other fields. I began to see a pattern - that those studies which involved research in a **Q33 lab** were too controlled for my purposes and I decided to avoid reading them. I was quite surprised to find that the clearest guidance for my topic came from investigations into what I call '**Q34 practical skills**' such as hairdressing or waiting tables. Most of these studies tended to use a similar set of procedures, which I eventually adopted for my own project.

Student: I'll now explain what these procedures were. I decided to compare what inexperienced

writers do with what experienced writers do. In order to investigate this, I looked for four people whom I regarded as real **Q35 novices** in this field - which proved easy ... perhaps unsurprisingly. It proved much harder to locate people with suitably extensive experience who were willing to take part in my study. I asked the first four to do a set writing task and as they wrote, to talk into a tape-recorder ... a technique known as 'think aloud' ... this was in order to get **Q36 experimental** data. Whilst they were doing this, a research assistant recorded them using **Q37 video** - I thought it might be helpful for me in my transcriptions later on. I then asked four experienced writers to do exactly the same task. After this, I made a comparison between the two sets of data and this helped me to produce a **Q38 framework** for analysis. In particular, I identified five major stages which all creative writers seem to go through when generating this genre of text. I think it was fairly effective but still needs some work ... so I intend to tighten this up later for use with subsequent data sets.

I then wanted to see whether experienced writers were actually producing the better pieces of writing. So I asked an **Q39 editor**, an expert in reviewing creative writing, to decide which were the best pieces of writing. This person put the eight pieces of work in order of quality - in rank order - and, using his evaluations, I was then able to work out which **Q40 sequence** of the five stages seemed to lead to the best quality writing.

Now my findings are by no means conclusive as this point ... I still have a long way to go but if any of you have any questions, I'd be happy to answer them and ...