



IELTS Mock Test 2020 February Listening Practice Test 1

HOW TO USE

You have 2 ways to access the listening audio

1. Open this URL <https://link.intergreat.com/VDW1A> on your computer
2. Use your mobile device to scan the QR code attached



Questions 1-2

Choose the correct letter A–C.

Example:

The customer went to South Africa

A. last month

B. last week

C. last year.

1 The travel agent:

- A thinks Europe is a good destination
- B can personally recommend Vancouver
- C does not think America is a good choice.

2 The customer:

- A is going to Europe next year
- B knows people living in Canada
- C wants to go to the warmest place.

Questions 3-6

Complete the form using **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS OR A NUMBER.**

The Travel Depot flight reservations

Customer's name:	Jim 3 <input type="text"/>
Address	10 Allen Road, Oldham
Destination	Vancouver, Canada
Contact number:	0151 4 <input type="text"/> (home number)
Flight number	5 <input type="text"/>
Length of stay (nights):	6 <input type="text"/>

Questions 7-10

Access <https://ieltsionlinetests.com> for more practices

Complete the sentences below **USING NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS OR A NUMBER**

The travel agent recommends some form of 7 cover for peace of mind.

There are two types of cover, but the best cover is offered with the 8 Star policy.

The client can see a play at the theatre for \$ 9

The flight and the insurance together cost £ 10

Questions 11-15

Select the correct answers A-D.

11 Who is the speaker addressing?

- A Property agents
- B People selling houses
- C People in the countryside
- D People buying second homes

12 Rental property in the city...

- A is very easy to find
- B is becoming more difficult to find
- C is an investment opportunity
- D is often the only option

13 Lisa Brown believes...

- A most people will own their own home at some time
- B there is a psychological factor involved in owning your own home
- C fewer people are interested in owning a house
- D most young people need a deposit before they can buy a house.

14 Property in the countryside is becoming more popular because...

- A people want to get away from the city
- B some parts of the city are becoming overcrowded
- C the concept of the home office means that some people don't need to go into work
- D public transport is beginning to serve outlying areas.

15 What kind of properties does the speaker specialise in?

- A Commercial
- B Investment
- C First homes
- D Rural

Questions 16-20

Answer the following questions **USING NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS OR A NUMBER**

What end of the market are the properties?

16 _____

What does the speaker compare buying houses with?

17 _____

What kind of equity can be the result of buying a property when the market is high?

18 _____

How does she describe the feeling of successful property investment?

19 _____

How can you ask the speaker a question?

20 _____

Questions 21-24

Answer the following questions **USING NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND / OR A NUMBER**

How long is the radio show?

21 _____

What is the general focus of the programme?

22 _____

Where is Professor Ripley from?

23 _____

According to Professor Ripley, what animals do people most associate with the African bush?

24 _____

Questions 25-28

Complete the table below using **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS OR A NUMBER.**

	Threats	Natural habitat	Population
African lions		bush	Estimated to be 25 _____
Tigers	26 _____	forests and plains	fewer than 27 _____
Snow leopards	Expansion of 28 _____	high-altitude pastures	

Questions 29-30

Circle the appropriate letter A–D.

29 Where is the WWF currently funding projects to help the snow leopard?

- A Nepal, Pakistan and Bhutan
- B Nepal and Pakistan
- C Bhutan and Nepal
- D Pakistan and Bhutan

30 Listeners should telephone

- A immediately if they want to put forward an opinion

- B during the commercial break
- C in 10 minutes if they have anything they want to ask the professor
- D if they have any information regarding pumas or jaguars.

Question 31

Circle the correct answer A–C.

31 The students are expecting

- A to hear a lecture on overpopulation
- B Mr Mackenzie
- C a guest speaker

Questions 32-36

Complete the table below using **TWO WORDS OR A NUMBER**.

42 million adults 32 _____			
50 million adults have the reading ability of a 33 _____ year-old.			
Increasing by around 34 _____ and a quarter million per year. Illiteracy costs			
	Unemployment	Unrealised earnings	Literacy programmes
cost (in billions of US dollars)	\$ 35 _____	237	\$ 36 _____

Question 37

Circle the appropriate letter A–D.

37 Illiteracy is increasing because many young learners are

- A not being taught how to break words into sounds
- B given word lists which are too long
- C not challenged enough in the classroom.

Questions 38-40

Complete the summary below **USING NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS**.

English is made up of 26 letters, with 44 38 _____ and 70 ways of 39 _____ .
Unsuccessful teaching practices persist, however, because reading is 40 _____ .



Solution:

Part 1: Question 1 - 10

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 B | 2 B |
| 3 Jackson | 4 433 398 |
| 5 VN217 | 6 20 |
| 7 Travel insurance/Insurance | 8 Gold |
| 9 54 | 10 433 |

Part 2: Question 11 - 20

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 11 D | 12 B |
| 13 B | 14 C |
| 15 B | 16 (the) cheaper (end) |
| 17 (having a) pension(s) | 18 Negative |
| 19 (Enormously) satisfying | 20 Raise (your / a) hand |

Part 3: Question 21 - 30

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| 21 1 hour | 22 Conservation (issues) |
| 23 (The) USA | 24 (Prides of) lions |

25 50,000

27 6000

29 B

Part 4: Question 31 - 40

31 C

33 10

35 6

37 A

39 Spelling/spelling sounds

26 Hunters/ Hunting

28 Agriculture

30 C

32 Cannot read

34 2

36 10

38 Sounds

40 big business

Part 1

You will hear a customer talking to a travel agent. First, you will have some time to look at questions 1 to 6. You will see there is an example which has been done for you. On this occasion only, the conversation relating to this will be played first.

Woman: Hello! Welcome to the travel depot! How can I help you?

Man: Well, I'm looking for a reasonably priced holiday. I went to South Africa for **Example a month last year** and I'd like to see North America this time maybe Canada.

The customer says he went to South Africa last year so the correct answer is C. Now we shall begin, you should answer the questions as you listen because you will not hear the recording a second time. Listen carefully and answer questions 1 to 6.

Woman: Hello! Welcome to the travel Depot! How can I help you?

Man: Well I'm looking for a reasonably priced holiday. I went to South Africa for a month last year and I'd like to see North America, this time maybe Canada but I'm also interested in Europe if the prices to Canada are too expensive. I'm on quite a tight budget, you see.

Woman: Well, you could go to Europe but I'll get some prices for Canada first. **Q1 I've been to Vancouver, it's lovely at this time of year.** And we have some special offers on at the moment.

Man: **Q2 Ok, well I have some relatives over in Vancouver so that would be good.** I can always travel around Europe next year. Besides, it may be a bit too hot for me at this time.

Woman: Right! Let's have a look at some prices then. When would you like to go?

Man: Sometime at the end of next month if possible but I'm quite flexible any time between the 24th and the 31st. I'd like to go for 3 weeks.

Woman: Well, there's lots of availability for those dates. Now if you're concerned about the cost, it's cheaper if you don't mind not flying direct.

Man: Sorry, what do you mean?

Woman: Well, if you don't mind changing planes then it's cheaper.

Man: Oh, well I don't mind changing things.

Woman: In that case, the cheapest flight I have leaves on the 25th and changes in New York. It's only a short stop. You'll be in the airport for two and a half hours. How does that sound?

Man: Sounds good! But what's the price?

Woman: That's four hundred and twelve pounds for a return flight but that doesn't include

airport tax. Would you like to arrange any accommodation?

Man: No, I have a cousin I can stay with. All I need is the flight so think I'll take that one.

Woman: Right, I'll just check availability for your return. Three weeks did you say?

Man: Yes, that's right!

Woman: Okay, well there are seats available on the 14th or the 15th. Which one would you prefer?

Man: The 14th sounds good. Yes, from the 25th to the 14th sounds fine.

Woman: Our reserve that for you then. Can you tell me your name, please?

Man: Jim **Q3** Jackson.

Woman: Is that J A C K S O N?

Man: That's right!

Woman: And can I take an address and contact number?

Man: Yes, it's 10 Allen Road, Oldham. Do you want a home number or my mobile?

Woman: Either's fine.

Man: Well, my home number is 051 **Q4** 433 398.

Woman: Okay, so you booked on flight number **Q5** VN217 to Vancouver, leaving London Heathrow at 11:35 in the morning on the 25th, and returning on the 14th. So that's **Q6** 20 nights. Now one more thing.

You now have some time to read questions 7 to 10. You now listen carefully and answer questions 7 to 10.

Woman: Now one more thing, do you have any **Q7** travel insurance? We recommend all our clients take out some kind of cover even though most people don't end up needing it. Most people have it just for peace of mind.

Man: Well, what type of cover do you have?

Woman: There are two choices, the gold star and the silver star. Our most comprehensive cover is the **Q8** gold star which will cost twenty-one pounds for the period you are away. It's a good policy because it covers almost all eventualities even extreme sports such as snowboarding and skydiving.

Man: Mm-hmm. What about the silver star?

Woman: That's 18 pounds but it doesn't cover you for any dangerous sports

Man: Well, for three pounds I think I'll take the first one, the gold cover please.

Woman: Right, and is there anything else I can help you with?

Man: Well, do you have any information about what to do in Vancouver?

Woman: Yes, I'm sure there's something on the computer that can help. Ah yes, there's a Shakespeare play at the theater but at \$ **Q9** 54. It's quite expensive. That starts at 8:00 p.m. The City Museum is really popular too, if you like that kind of thing. They have a special exhibition of Japanese armor next month. The entrance is free and the museum is open from 9 to 4:30 Monday to Saturday. Would you be interested in either of those?

Man: Oh well, maybe.

Woman: Well, I'm sure you can arrange that when you get there anyway. So, it's the flight and the gold star insurance, that's **Q10** 433 pounds in total.

Man: Can I pay by Visa?

Woman: Yes, of course! If you start....

That is the end of Part 1. You now have half a minute to check your answers. Now turn to Part 2.

Part 2

You will hear a speaker talking about property. First, you have some time to look at questions 11 to 15. Now listen carefully to the first part of the talk and answer questions 11 to 15.

Woman: Thank you very much for inviting me here today. **Q11** I understand that you all own your own home and some of you may be interested in buy an additional property here in the city so I hope you will find the information I am going to share with you useful and informative.

I'm going to talk about the situation with property here in the city. **Q12** The city center of any area is obviously going to have the highest prices and as more and more people are competing for houses in this area, both renting and buying are becoming increasingly difficult. It is most people's dream to one day own their own house. House ownership gives us a feeling of having achieved something and we can see clearly what we have worked so hard for all our lives.

Q13 It can give us a sense of security for our old age and a knowledge that we will hopefully have something to pass on to our children. However, buying a house, particularly for first-time buyers is becoming more and more difficult. Not only due to increasing prices but also because of the need for a substantial deposit. For younger people, buying their first home is very difficult and often impossible. Young couples who cannot get the deposit together, need to rent for a long time and sometimes forever. While traditionally, homes near the center of the city have been the most desirable people are now looking further a field. This has happened for a number of reasons, the main one being that our style of work is changing along with that of other countries such as the USA. In certain professions, for example sales and computing, it is no longer necessary for people to be based in an office full-time. **Q14** More and more people

are beginning to work from home which means they can avoid the hustle and bustle of rush-hour traffic jams and to work and have more freedom to choose to live in a more rural and peaceful location. My company deals with finding property for both purchasers and renters in the city area. One of my main roles within the company is to find **Q15 investment** properties for people who wish to ahead for their future.

You now have some time to read questions 16 to 20. Now listen carefully and answer questions 16 to 20.

Woman: An investment property is usually at **Q16 the cheaper end** of the market. People buy investment properties not to live in but in addition to their own home in order to rent it out to other people. The advantage of putting your savings into property for the future is that you can be pretty certain that as a long-term investment. Your money will safely increase in value in line with inflation. Many people are turning to property investment instead of **Q17 pension** schemes as we hear the horror stories of countries such as the UK where people have invested all their lives into their pension schemes to find that now their money is relatively worthless. Houses automatically earn what is known as capital gains. That is for every year you owned the property it becomes more valuable and often gives a better rate of interest on your money than most banks do. However, that is not to say there are no risks. There are people who buy property when the market is high and prices are inflated beyond their true value, only to find that when the housing market slows down, they are in a state of **Q18 negative** equity. Negative equity is a situation that arises when you owe more for the house than the house itself is worth. In short, the best devices to be aware of the ups and downs of the housing market. property investment if handled correctly can be **Q19 enormously satisfying**. I hope that this has given you an insight into the basics of the property market. Thank you for listening! Please **Q20 raise your hand** if you have any questions and I will try to be of assistance.

That is the end of Part 2 you will now have half a minute to check your answers. Now turn to Part three.

Part 3

You will hear two people talking on a radio show. First, you have some time to look at questions 21 to 24. Now listen carefully to the first part of the conversation and answer questions 21 to 24.

Woman: Thank you very much for tuning in today to listen to our **Q21 weekly hour** on **Q22 conservation issues**. Last week, we spoke about the impact of environmental changes on primates and this week to continue the theme. We have invited Ana specialists by the name of Professor Andrew Ripley all the way from **Q23 USA** to tell us more about the problems faced by the cat family. Professor Ripley thank you very much for joining us today.

Man: It's my pleasure, thank you very much for inviting me.

Woman: So, I understand that you spent a great proportion of your time traveling the globe and monitoring changes in population levels of the cat family.

Man: Yes, that's correct. Of course, we're not talking about the domestic cat here but there man just a cousin such as the lion tiger and Jaguar to name but a few.

Woman: Which member of the cat family do you yourself find to be the most fascinating?

Man: Well, I've spent a lot of time recently studying Jaguars but the lion is still my personal favorite. It is the world's most social cat and unusual in the way in which it chooses to group together with others of its species. **Q24 Pride of lions** basking in the sunshine probably one of people's most vivid perceptions of the African bush.

Woman: Yes, certainly. I totally agree with you.

You now have some time to read questions 25 to 30. Now listen carefully and answer questions 25 to 30.

Woman: Can you tell me the current lion population in Africa these days.

Man: Well, it's very difficult to measure it accurately. The figures range from 100,000 to as few as 30,000 but it's generally estimated that there are **Q25 50,000**. In order to maintain the population and protect the species from poachers, many move to protected areas.

Woman: Which member of the cat family do you feel is most at risk?

Man: For different reasons, a number of species of the cat family are endangered sometimes due to natural predators or environmental changes but mainly because of the threat of **Q26 hunters**. For example, I'm sure you're aware the bones and body parts of tigers have been and still are traditionally used in medicines in the Far East. Because of this and the demand for medicine made from tiger parts, their numbers have been falling for some time. And to date there are fewer than **Q27 6,000** tigers living in their natural habitat of the forests and plains of Asia.

Woman: What is being done to curb the population decrease?

Man: Well, specialists such as myself work closely with conservationists groups such as the World Wildlife Federation or WWF to protect tigers from illegal hunting. WWF considers the drop in tiger numbers to be catastrophic and they're working hard to conserve the populations in China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam and Russia.

Woman: I understand that the poaching is not the only problem faced by the leopard. Let me get this right! Is it the Snow Leopard which lives in the mountains in Asia?

Man: Yes, it is. The poaching has been a problem but not the most important. Its natural prey the animals at hunts is declining too. Its natural habitat in high-altitude area specifically the pastures as threatened by the growth of **Q28 agriculture**. It is the main problem for the Snow Leopard. It's going to be extremely difficult for numbers to recover, but again the WWF has

been working hard to continue to fund projects to aid the snow leopard in **Q29** Nepal and **Pakistan** and hopefully Bhutan very soon.

Woman: **Q30** Well, this is fascinating information you are giving us, Professor. We are just going into a short commercial break when we come back, I have a few questions for you about the Puma and the Jaguar. Remember lessness there will be an opportunity to phone in and voice any opinions or questions you may have for the Professor in ten minutes.

That is the end of Part 3 you now have half a minute to check your answers. Now turn to Part four.

Part 4

You will hear a talk on the subject of overpopulation first you have some time to look at questions 31 to 40. You now listen carefully and answer questions 31 to 40.

Woman: Good afternoon, I'm pleased to see so many of you here today as I told you all on Monday the lecture on overpopulation has been postponed until next week as we have **Q31** a **guest speaker** today. I'd like to introduce you all to Donald Mackenzie who has recently returned from a 12-month research project in America. He is here to share with us some of the results of his studies into the problem of illiteracy

Man: Hello, now as sociology students I have no doubt that you are aware that it is commonly believed that one indicator of a developed country, the level of education of its citizens. Now most of these nations have free compulsory education for all and strict teacher certification requirements, so it would logically follow that people from countries such as America would be highly educated. Yet, this isn't always so. In America alone, 42 million adults **Q32** cannot read and 50 million can recognize so few printed words. They each have the reading ability of a **Q33** ten-year-old frightening statistics indeed, but not as frightening as the trend suggested by current estimates, the number of illiterate adults is increasing by approximately **Q34** two and a quarter million people each year and although global statistics have not been compiled as it suggests an extremely disturbing figure. Inevitably, this is having an impact on employment. In America the annual cost and welfare programs and unemployment compensation due to a literacy stands at **Q35** six billion US dollars and an additional 237 billion a year in unrealized earnings is forfeited by people who let basic reading skills. There is also the cost of post school literacy programs which have been put in place in order to counter this increasing figure. A conservative estimate places the cost of these programs at **Q36** 10 billion dollars each year and growing steadily.

Moving on, I'd like to talk about some of the causes of this increasing illiteracy. **Q37** Children were taught to read by first learning the alphabet then the sounds of each letter, how they blended into syllables and how those syllables made up words. They were taught that English spelling is logical and systematic, and that to become a fluent reader it was necessary to master

the alphabetic code in which English words are written. To the point where the code is used automatically with little conscious thought given to it. And to make myself to you, I mean readers could sound out the letters, spelling them phonetically. Once a child learned this ability, attention could be turned to more advanced content. It seldom if I ever occurred to teachers to give children word lists to read or to make beginner level readers memorize whole words before learning the components of those words or to memorize whole stories as today's proponents of the whole language approach recommend.

Several recent studies have found that 90% of remedial reading students and developed countries are not able to decode fluently, accurately and at an automatic level of response. The currently used whole language method was originally conceived then used in the early 1800s to teach the deaf how to read, a method which is long since being discarded by the teachers of the deaf themselves as inadequate and out murdered. English is an alphabetic language that when written uses letters to represent speech sounds when students were taught to read, they consciously identified the speech sounds and learned to recognize the letters used to represent them. They were then trained to apply this information to decode the names of unwritten words, understand their meaning and comprehend the information presented as a complete thought. The English language contains approximately half a million words. On these words, about 300 compose about three-quarters of the words that we use regularly. As I said in schools where the whole language method is taught, children are constantly memorizing sight words during the first three or four grades of school but I never taught how to unlock the meaning of the other 499 thousand seven hundred or more words. Whole language learning causes frustration, poor spelling and hostility towards reading. Very bright children who can't memorize long lists of words and retain their meaning are placed in special education. When all they need is to be taught that 26 letters of the alphabet, the 44 **Q38** sounds they make, and the seventy common ways to **Q39** spell those sounds.

Some researchers believe dyslexia and the symptoms of attention deficit disorder actually caused by this reversal of the normal learning sequence. So, why do faulty reading methods continue to be used? Well, in short, it's **Q40** big business. The sale of instructional reading programs is big business today. Each year publishing companies compete for the adoption of reading programs and workbooks which have to be replaced annually concentrating on phonics would seriously reduce the cost of education.

That is the end of the listening test. In the real IELTS test, you would now have 10 minutes to transfer your answers to the listening answer sheet.