











## Improve your listening skills

Listening is the most difficult skill to improve quickly, so it needs **lots of practice**. Using listening test sites provides **a purpose for listening** and **aids motivation**. Listening tests improve your listening skills as they help you **check your understanding**, **identify main ideas** and **recognise key supporting details**.

1		<p><b>Breaking News English</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2-minute listening</li> <li>• Multi-level A2- C1</li> <li>• General news topics</li> <li>• Choice of different speeds</li> <li>• Gap fill, multiple-choice and comprehension questions</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com">www.breakingnewsenglish.com</a></li> </ul>
2		<p><b>Cambridge IELTS Exam Listening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30-minute listening / 4 sections</li> <li>• Multi-level A2 – C2</li> <li>• Sections 1 &amp; 3: conversations</li> <li>• Sections 2 &amp; 4: monologues</li> <li>• Gap fill, table completion, multiple choice, etc...</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.engexam.info/ielts-listening-practice-tests/">www.engexam.info/ielts-listening-practice-tests/</a></li> </ul>
3		<p><b>Cambridge B2 First Exam Listening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40-minute listening / 4 sections</li> <li>• B1 – B2 level</li> <li>• Section 1 &amp; 4: conversations</li> <li>• Section 2 &amp; 3: monologues</li> <li>• Multiple-choice, complete missing information, tables, etc...</li> <li>• <a href="https://engexam.info/tag/fce-listening-practice-test/">https://engexam.info/tag/fce-listening-practice-test/</a></li> </ul>
4		<p><b>Reading University Lectures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40-minute listening</li> <li>• B2 – C1 level</li> <li>• Introductory, general interest, &amp; subject specific lectures</li> <li>• Listen, take notes, and answer the comprehension questions</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.reading.ac.uk/global-study-lounge/university-of-reading-lectures">https://www.reading.ac.uk/global-study-lounge/university-of-reading-lectures</a></li> </ul>
5		<p><b>Academic English UK</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10-minute academic lectures</li> <li>• B1 – C2 level</li> <li>• Academic topics</li> <li>• Multiple-choice, gap fill, T F NG, table completion, etc...</li> <li>• Membership site</li> <li>• <a href="https://academic-englishuk.com/free/">https://academic-englishuk.com/free/</a></li> </ul>
6		<p><b>Ello</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1-minute listening</li> <li>• All levels</li> <li>• Natural English, grammar based English and academic English</li> <li>• A variety of accents</li> <li>• Recording, script and short quiz</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.ello.org">http://www.ello.org</a></li> </ul>

**Some other good listening sites:**

1		<p><b>TED Talks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18-minutes or less listening</li> <li>• Multi-level A2- C2 (videos not graded)</li> <li>• Influential videos from expert speakers on education, business, science, technology and creativity</li> <li>• A summary of the talk, transcript and subtitles</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.ted.com">https://www.ted.com</a></li> </ul>
2		<p><b>BBC 6 Minute English*</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6-minute listening</li> <li>• Multi-level A2- B2</li> <li>• Topical discussion / current affairs</li> <li>• Radio show with two presenters</li> <li>• 1 multiple choice quiz question and vocabulary development</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/6-minute-english">https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/6-minute-english</a></li> </ul>
3		<p><b>YouTube*</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lots of academic lectures:</li> <li>• Yale University: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/yale/videos">https://www.youtube.com/yale/videos</a></li> <li>• Stanford: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/c/stanford/videos">https://www.youtube.com/c/stanford/videos</a></li> <li>• Harvard: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/c/harvard/videos">https://www.youtube.com/c/harvard/videos</a></li> <li>• Oxford Academic: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/c/OUPAcademic/videos">https://www.youtube.com/c/OUPAcademic/videos</a></li> <li>• Absolutely anything!</li> </ul>
4		<p><b>Future Learn**</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A British digital education platform</li> <li>• 100's of short online courses (from business to programming)</li> <li>• Courses ranges from 2 weeks – 12 weeks</li> <li>• Sign up. It's free!</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.futurelearn.com">https://www.futurelearn.com</a></li> </ul>

**Other listening platforms to try**

**Common TV Channels in the UK (free)\*\***

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer>

<https://www.itv.com>

<https://www.channel4.com>

<https://www.channel5.com>

**Films and TV (subscription)**

<https://www.netflix.com>

<https://www.amazon.co.uk>

**News Channels\***

<https://www.bbc.com/news>

<https://www.reuters.com/video/>

<https://www.euronews.com>

\* Not available in China

\*\*Not available outside UK