

LISTENING

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THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND:

Before the Test

1. Know the test format:

- 4 sections, 40 questions.
- Each section becomes progressively harder.
- You'll hear the recording **only once**.
- Types of questions: multiple choice, form/table completion, map/labelling, short answers, etc.

2. Familiarize yourself with different accents:

- You might hear **British, Australian, American, or Canadian** accents.
- Practice listening to all types (BBC, TED Talks, Australian news).

3. Improve spelling & numbers:

- Spelling mistakes = wrong answer.
 - Practice listening to dates, addresses, prices, phone numbers, etc.
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During the Test

1. Read questions before the audio starts.

- Use the **time given before each section** to quickly scan the questions.
- Underline **keywords** to know what information to listen for.

2. Focus and follow the flow.

- The answers come **in order**.
- Stay alert — if you miss one, **don't panic**, quickly move on.

3. Use prediction skills.

- Guess what kind of word fits the blank (noun, number, adjective, etc.).
- This helps you catch the correct answer faster.

4. Watch for paraphrasing.

- The speaker often uses **different words** from the question.
- Example: “cost” = “price,” “begin” = “start,” “book” = “reserve.”

5. Be careful with traps.

- The speaker may **correct themselves** (“The meeting is on Friday... sorry, I mean Thursday”).
- Write only the **final correct information**.

6. Write answers as you listen.

- Don’t wait until the end of the recording.
- Use **abbreviations** or **short notes** quickly.

After the Recording

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1. Check spelling and grammar.

- Make sure capitalization, articles, and plural forms are correct.
- Example: “children” not “child,” “a car” not “car.”

2. Transfer answers carefully (Paper-based test).

- You’ll get **10 minutes** to transfer answers to the answer sheet.
- For **computer-based**, you get only **2 minutes** — so type neatly during the test.

3. Don’t leave blanks.

- Guess if unsure. There’s **no negative marking**.
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Extra Tips

- Practice **cambridge IELTS listening tests (1–18)** — they are closest to real test level.
- Use **headphones** while practicing for better concentration.
- After each test, **analyze your mistakes** — find out if they were due to spelling, speed, or distraction.
- Build concentration — practice listening for **30–40 minutes non-stop** to train your focus.

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