

A2 Key · Listening Parts 1–3: pictures, notes and conversations

A2 Key strategy notes; invented examples, not official Cambridge items.

A movie played twice

Listening is a movie played twice: the first watch is for the story; the second is for the answers.

All three are mentioned

- 1 Name the difference** Three clocks: eight, half past, nine — before the recording starts.
- 2 Hear all three** "I wanted the eight o'clock train, but I missed it, so I took the nine one."
- 3 Take the decision** The answer is nine — the one he took.

Decision

The recording is a rumour; the question is the truth.

Your turn: the bait

Your turn

"I wanted the eight o'clock train, but I missed it, so I took the nine one." — which train did he take?

- A. the eight o'clock train
- B. the nine o'clock train
- C. he walked
- D. half past eight

The note gaps are predictable

Gap type	What to listen for	Trap
name	spelled aloud: M-A-R-I-A	write the letters as they come
number / price	the corrected figure	thirteen vs thirty; the first number is bait
time / date	the final agreement	8:15 vs 8:50
place	the chosen one	one or two words per gap

Use the evidence

The notes tell you what to listen for before the voice says a word.

Your turn: the correction

Your turn

"The museum opens at nine, but on Sundays it's half past nine." — Sunday opening time?

- A. 9:00
- B. 9:30
- C. 6:00
- D. closed

Changed minds

the suggestion

"Shall we meet at six?"

The first offer, not the answer.

the agreement

"Six is too early. Seven?" — "Fine, seven."

The answer is what they decide.

Your turn: the decision

Your turn

"Shall we meet at six?" — "Six is too early. Seven?" — "Fine, seven." — They meet at...

- A. six
- B. seven
- C. six thirty
- D. they never meet

Hold it in English

The reflexes

Don't translate while listening — the recording doesn't wait.

Numbers, days and months are the free marks: drill thirteen/thirty until they are reflexes.

Try it

- 1 **No recording** Teacher-read rehearsal: your teacher reads the text aloud twice, like the exam.
- 2 **The voice** "The museum opens at nine, but on Sundays it's half past nine. Tickets are five pounds, or three for students."
- 3 **The notes** Museum — Sunday opening time: ____ · student ticket: £____
- 4 **The answers** 9.30 · 3 — the corrections, not the bait.

Decision

First numbers are bait; corrections are answers.

Check yourself

- Every recording plays twice — story first, check second.
- Name the picture difference before listening.
- The first number is bait; wait for the correction.
- A guess costs nothing; an empty gap costs a mark.