

B1 Preliminary · Listening Parts 1–2: detail and short-extract meaning

B1 Preliminary strategy notes; invented examples, not official Cambridge items.

The photo and the review

Part 1 is the photo — one detail, exactly. Part 2 is the review — what the speaker really meant.

The correction is the answer

- 1 **Preview** Name the difference between the options before the recording starts.
- 2 **Hear all three** "I wanted the morning train, but I missed it, so I'm on the afternoon one."
- 3 **Take the correction** The afternoon one. The first version is bait.

Decision

The extract corrects itself; the correction is the answer.

Your turn: the rewording

Your turn

"I cycled to school today." — which picture?

- A. a bus
- B. a bicycle
- C. a car
- D. a person walking

The cushion trap

what they say

"The film was... well, the music was nice."

"The food was interesting."

what they mean

The opinion is negative; the compliment was a cushion.

English criticism arrives wrapped in a compliment; unwrap it.

Your turn: unwrap the cushion

Your turn

"The concert? Well, the singer was amazing. The seats were a bit far, honestly." — he feels...

- A. completely positive
- B. positive, with a complaint
- C. negative
- D. nothing

A trap wearing your face

The speaker's opinion, not yours

The question asks what the speaker thinks.

The option you agree with is a trap wearing your face.

Try it

- 1 **No recording** Teacher-read rehearsal: your teacher reads the extract aloud twice, like the exam.
- 2 **The extract** "The concert? Well, the singer was amazing. The seats were a bit far from the stage, honestly."
- 3 **The question** How does he feel about the concert?
- 4 **The answer** Positive, with a complaint — amazing, plus the cushioned seats.

Decision

The compliment and the cushion both count.

Check yourself

- All three options get mentioned — the correction is the answer.
- The music was nice — a cushion; the opinion is negative.
- I expected more — disappointed; the expectation verb carries the attitude.
- The option you agree with — a trap wearing your face.