

## Listening Skills

IGCSE English ▪ Topic 9

IGCSE English



Listening Skills

### What we will cover

- 1 Predict before you listen
- 2 Catch the detail
- 3 Use both playings
- 4 Opinions & connections
- 5 Distractors



# 1 Facts

Listening Skills

└ Facts

### Predict before you listen

- read the question
- **predict** 预测 the answer type
- listen & confirm

You hear each **recording** 录音 **twice**.  
Predict: a place? a name? a number?



*Listen for facts, attitudes, and what is implied*

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### Catch the detail, use both playings

#### catch the detail

listen for **specific** 具体的 facts –  
names, times, **directions** 方向;  
same order as the questions

#### two playings

answer on the 1st, **check** on the  
2nd; don't change a right answer



*Listening tasks reward careful attention*

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### Opinions and connections

#### opinions 观点

notice word choice – strong  
words show strong **feelings** 感受

#### connections 连接

“but”, “because”, “so”  
show how ideas link

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Listening for attitude, not just information

the harder questionsask how a speaker *thinks or feels*, not just what they say

listen forthe words *around* the fact – *unfortunately, luckily, to be honest*

listen for tonehesitation, emphasis and speed all carry attitude the transcript would not show

ideas connect 连接in a longer talk, follow how *one point leads to the next*

why it mattersthe answer is often in the link between two ideas, not in either one alone

A speaker who says “the food was fine” after praising everything else is signalling a complaint. Attitude questions test exactly that reading.

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Distractors

A ~~cinema~~

B park

C ~~museum~~

Wrong options are **distractors** 干扰项.  
A speaker may mention an option, then change their mind. Listen to the **whole** idea before you choose.

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Watch the distractors

Q: When is the football match?

“Let’s meet before the match on **Saturday** – oh wait, they moved it to **Sunday**.”

mentioned first - then corrected: a **distractor**

the correction is the **answer**

A Friday   ~~B Saturday~~   C Sunday ✓

listen to the **whole** idea before you choose

A distractor is mentioned first, then corrected - the correction is the answer

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The small words that point to the answer

the key pointthe main thing is.../ what matters is.../ above all...

a feeling or attitude 态度to be honest.../ the trouble is.../ I’m delighted that...

order of stepsfirst...next...finally... – these help you follow a sequence

a change of mindactually.../ on second thoughts.../ but then again...

contrasthowever.../ although.../ whereas... – often the moment the real answer arrives

Trained ears listen for these rather than for the content words. They tell you **where in the recording** the answer is about to be said.

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Use both playings

before it starts  
read the questions;  
predict the answer:  
a place?  
a name?  
a number?  
a time?

first playing  
choose your answers  
Q1→Q2→Q3

second playing  
check and fill gaps;  
don’t change a right answer  
without reason

the answers usually come in the same order as the questions

Use the two playings differently: answer first, then check

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Exam tips

- Read the questions before the audio starts and underline the key words in each one.
- You hear everything twice: answer what you can in round one, check and fill gaps in round two.
- Speakers often correct themselves with numbers, days and spellings. The last version is the answer.
- Missed one? Let it go and follow the next question; return to the gap in the second play.
- Write something for every question. There is no penalty for a wrong guess.

## 2 Recap

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↳ Recap

### Worked example – a listening distractor

You hear: "The trip was going to be on Friday, but now it's Saturday." The question asks which day. What is the answer?

- The answer is **Saturday**.
- "Friday" is a **distractor** 干扰项 – deliberately said **first** to catch you.
- The signal is "**but now**": it **cancels** what came before.
- Listen for **correction words**: *but, actually, in fact, no wait, instead of*.

The **first** number or name you hear is often the wrong one. Wait for the **whole** sentence – correction words tell you which answer really counts.

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↳ Recap

### Implied meaning

- Sometimes a speaker **suggests** 暗示 something without saying it openly.
- Think about what they really mean, not only the exact words.

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### Hearing what is not said

#### Attitude

Questions often ask for a **feeling or attitude** 一种感受或态度 – pleased, disappointed, surprised, unconvinced – and the word itself is never spoken.

#### What gives it away

Tone of voice, hesitation, an exaggeration, and the words around the fact: "well, I *suppose* it was fine".

#### The trap

Distractors repeat words you heard. The right answer usually paraphrases what was meant.

Ask what the speaker *would* have said if they simply agreed – the gap between that and what they said is the attitude.

Listening Skills  
↳ Recap

### Topic 9 – key takeaways

#### 1 Predict

read the question & expect the answer type

#### 2 Both playings

answer first, check second

#### 3 Opinions

word choice shows feelings

#### 4 Distractors

hear the whole idea before choosing

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### Check yourself

- 1 How many times do you hear each recording?
- 2 What should you do before listening?
- 3 What shows a speaker's strong feeling?
- 4 What are the wrong multiple-choice options called?



**Answers** 1. twice 2. read the question & predict 3. a strong word choice 4. distractors