



ESOL International

English Listening Examination

Level B2 Independent User

Texts to be used with the examination.

These will be recorded and sent to the centre on a disk prior to the examination.

Instructions are written in underlined italics and should not be recorded.

The recording must be played to learners in full from start to finish.



This is the NOCN ESOL International Independent User Level B2 Listening examination.

Please check that your name and other details are on your mark sheet.

The invigilator will have explained how to fill in the mark sheet.

Do not write on your examination paper.

Put your answers on the mark sheet.

The Listening examination will now begin.

Part 1

You will hear ten sentences.

Read the replies on your examination paper.

You have two minutes to read the replies on your examination paper.

Pause for two minutes

Listen to the sentences. You will hear the sentences in full twice. Choose the best reply for the situation. You will then have two minutes to check your answers.

Play the sentences

1. Have you passed your English exam?
2. What will the weather be like tomorrow?
3. I have a new dog.
4. Do you like strong coffee?
5. I have just come back from my holiday.
6. Where is the bus stop?
7. What time do you finish college?
8. Which shop can I buy sun tan lotion from?
9. I have lost my phone. Who should I tell?
10. Would you like to come to the cinema tonight?

Pause for five seconds after the first reading.

Now listen to the sentences again.

Play the sentences again.

Now check your answers. You have two minutes to check your answers.

Pause for two minutes after the second reading.

Part 2 – Conversations

You will hear two conversations. Read the questions and answers on your examination paper for both conversations. You have two minutes to read them.

Pause for two minutes

Listen to **Conversation 1**. You will hear the conversation twice. Answer the questions.

You will then have two minutes to check your answers.

Play the conversation

Agent:	Hello Mrs Elkin. Are you ready to view the property?
Customer:	Hi Angie. Yes, I'm looking forward to seeing it.
Agent:	Well, it has nearly everything on your wish list. It's a modern bungalow, which has been updated with quality finishes in all the rooms. And I know how much you want a stunning kitchen. Come on, let's get the key in the door.
Customer:	I like the front door, it's a lovely shade of grey, and the stained glass has a modern feel. I like it.
Agent:	Here is the hallway, which is very wide, with a window, giving it a light feeling. There are four bedrooms, a lounge and a study off the hallway.
Customer:	I love it. It does have the WOW factor. And the colours are very me. Would you say it was light green or blue?
Agent:	I think it's called teal, a bit like the colour of ducks' feathers. It has a coastal feel to it, don't you think?
Customer:	Yes, it does. It reminds me of my last holiday, down on the Spanish coast.
Agent:	Lovely. Well through this door we have the kitchen; the hub of the house.
Customer:	Oh my word...it is stunning! Look at those marble work tops and the breakfast bar. The windows stretch all along the back wall, giving a feeling of being part of the garden. I love it! You could just live in this room, it is huge. It's certainly big enough for my family of six, and the two dogs, and the three cats.
Agent:	I am guessing you like it then?
Customer:	Yes! How much was it again...245,000...I'll transfer the money today (laughs).
Agent:	Fabulous! But let me show you the rest of the house first, before you decide.
Customer:	Of course. I'm letting my heart rule my head. Let's go.

Pause for five seconds after the first reading.

Now listen to the conversation again.

Play the conversation again.

Now check your answers. You have two minutes to check your answers.

Pause for two minutes after the second reading.

Part 2 – Conversations

Listen to **Conversation 2**. You will hear the conversation twice. Answer the questions.

You will then have two minutes to check your answers.

Play the conversation.

Insurer:	Hello. I'm calling you today from Buddies Insurance, as I understand that you've recently purchased a puppy with a month's free insurance. It is Mr Thompson, isn't it?
Customer:	Yes, it is. Is there an issue with the insurance?
Insurer:	No, not at all. I would like to discuss if you are interested in continuing the insurance with us, making sure that your puppy, Jango, is covered for anything that could happen in the future.
Customer:	Well, I have never insured my dogs before, but he is a pedigree, so it would be worth looking into. Would you be able to give me some quotes on the different insurance plans that you have available?
Insurer:	Yes, no problem. How is the little guy doing?
Customer:	He is amazing, full of character. He has certainly livened the house up, not to mention those sharp little teeth, chewing everything, even the wooden furniture. Does the insurance cover that?
Insurer:	(laughs) Erm, unfortunately no. We have three pet plan policies, which include free consultations and vaccinations. The Cover for Life Plan is \$20 a month. We also have a 5 year plan at \$15 a month and then a 12 month plan that costs \$10 a month.
Customer:	Ok, that isn't too expensive, what does the 12 month plan cover and could you send me the details of all of the types of insurance cover, so I can make a decision?
Insurer:	Certainly, the 12 month cover plan covers all vet bills up to \$3,000 a year.
Customer:	Right. Well thank you for calling me, I will read through the different levels of cover when I receive them and call you before the free month insurance runs out.
Insurer:	No problem. Thank you for your time Mr Thompson.

Pause for five seconds after the first reading.

Now listen to the conversation again.

Play the conversation again.

Now check your answers. You have two minutes to check your answers.

Pause for two minutes after the second reading.

Part 3 – Broadcasts

You will hear two broadcasts. Read the questions and answers on your examination paper for both broadcasts. You have two minutes to read them.

Pause for two minutes.

Listen to Broadcast 1. You will hear the broadcast twice. Answer the questions.

You will then have two minutes to check your answers.

Play the broadcast.

Today, on Radio Classic FM, we are going to take you back to the 19th century, through the eyes of Thomas Hardy and his famous books.

If you like romantic stories and stories about history, take a road trip through Thomas Hardy's Wessex, in Dorset, the setting for his stories, *Far From the Madding Crowd* and *Jude the Obscure*. See them come to life, as you travel through the countryside.

Hardy always changed the names of the towns in his stories, so Dorchester, the start of the road trip, becomes Casterbridge; the main location of the book, *The Mayor of Casterbridge*, written in 1886.

After Dorchester, head west to a place called Bridport, changed to Port Bredy in Hardy's short story called, *Fellow Townsmen*. This place is now very popular with artists and tourists, as there are fantastic beaches, which are also famous for fossils. So not only will adults enjoy this road trip, but children too.

Before returning to Dorchester, stop at Cerne Abbas, featured in the book, *The Woodlanders*. Carved into the chalk hill, overlooking the village is a huge chalk man, a truly fantastic sight.

If you have not read any of Hardy's books, you will after taking this magical journey.

Pause for five seconds after the first reading.

Now listen to the broadcast again.

Play the broadcast again.

Now check your answers. You have two minutes to check your answers.

Pause for two minutes after the second reading.

Part 3 – Broadcasts

Listen to Broadcast 2. You will hear the broadcast twice. Answer the questions.

You will then have two minutes to check your answers.

Play the broadcast.

I recently visited a new teashop in my neighbouring village, called Number Five, and was quite surprised, as it was a tea room and gift shop all rolled into one.

It is a unique family business, owned and run by the Russo's, and I highly recommend that you visit it to see the pastry counter at its best.

It boasts an amazing display of traditional treats, with favourites, such as cupcakes, strawberry tarts and delicate apple pies. But before you sample those sweet treats, there is an extensive selection of mouth-watering, freshly prepared sandwiches, quiches and pies to enjoy.

Number Five also sells many jams, preserves, pickles and pâtés, which can be bought individually or as part of a gift box. The gift boxes can be gift-wrapped from a large selection of beautiful papers and ribbons, ready to give to the person you love.

The owners pride themselves on a friendly and personal service and try to make every visit an enjoyable experience leaving you happy and looking forward to your return.

I don't often advertise local businesses, but this one has made a great impression on me, it is special...give it a try if you ever visit Alnwick.

Pause for five seconds after the first reading.

Now listen to the broadcast again.

Play the broadcast again.

Now check your answers. You have two minutes to check your answers.

Pause for two minutes after the second reading.

That is the end of the Listening examination. Please check your mark sheet is completed correctly. Put your pens down.

End of Examination



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