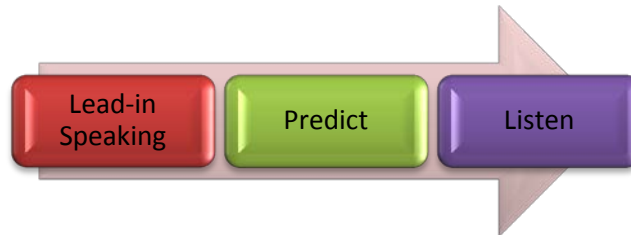


# Listen up!

## Cambridge B1 Preliminary for Schools listening task: MULTIPLE CHOICE

Focus strategy: combine gist and detail understanding to eliminate distractors

Main lesson steps:



### **Lead-in:**

Ask students various questions, e.g.

Would you be keen on keeping a diary – why (not)?

Many people dream of becoming writers. Why is this such a popular dream? Would you like to write a book?

What books do you enjoy reading? What's your favourite book / author?. Have a brief class discussion.

### **Predict:**

Tell students that they are going to hear part of an interview with a young girl called Sally Myers, who has just published a book. What kind of book do they think it is? Why did she write? How does she feel?

### **Listen:**

Put students in pairs. Hand out Worksheet 1 to student A and Worksheet 2 to student B in each pair. Play the recording once, while the students take short notes on their questions.

At the end, students share with each other what information they have got.

Hand out Worksheets 3 and 4, which have the same questions for each student, but now also the choices A-C. Give them 30 seconds to check quickly if they can match their notes to one of the answers.

Play the recording again. You may wish to stop after each question is answered, collect answers and discuss any mistakes. Alternatively, you play the whole recording and give feedback at the end. Key: 8C, 9C, 10C, 11B, 12C, 13C.

Wrap up by asking about difficulties they have had with the task. Feed back with the whole class and establish that the questions come in the order of the text, and that what they have heard in the recording is a paraphrase of the correct option.

## Worksheet 1

You will hear part of an interview with a girl called Sally Myers, whose first book has recently been published. Listen, and find out the answer to these questions. If you like, you can make very short notes.

*Why did Sally decide to write her first book?*

*Sally sent her book to a company which....*

*Sally says that, as a result of her book, ...*

## Worksheet 2

You will hear part of an interview with a girl called Sally Myers, whose first book has recently been published. Listen, and find out the answer to these questions. If you like, you can make very short notes.

*Why didn't Sally's Dad want her to send her book to a publisher?*

*How did Sally feel when the company phoned her Mum?*

*What does Sally say about her next book?*

## Worksheet 3

Here are the same questions about Sally, but now you have some options for the answers. Can you find the one that matches the notes you made before?

- 8** Why did Sally decide to write her first book?
- A** people said her stories were good
  - B** her family bought her a diary
  - C** her penfriend suggested it
- 
- 10** Sally sent her book to a company which
- A** published books only on the internet.
  - B** published her favourite stories.
  - C** published books of a similar type.
- 
- 12** Sally says that, as a result of her book,
- A** she now has more money.
  - B** she has lost some of her friends.
  - C** she is in contact with new people.

## Worksheet 4

Here are the same questions about Sally, but now you have some options for the answers. Can you find the one that matches the notes you made before?

- 9** Why didn't Sally's Dad want her to send her book to a publisher?
- A** He didn't like it very much.
  - B** He had given her help to write it.
  - C** He was worried that they wouldn't be interested.
- 
- 11** How did Sally feel when the company phoned her Mum?
- A** very excited
  - B** extremely surprised
  - C** anxious about the future
- 
- 13** What does Sally say about her next book?
- A** It will be quite different from her first one.
  - B** It will be written for older readers.
  - C** It will be about something all children experience.

## Tapescript (you can also find it, together with the task, in the Preliminary for Schools Handbook for Teachers)

Interviewer: Sally Myers is a 13-year-old writer whose first book was published last year. Sally, tell us about that book.

Sally: Well, I loved writing. I'd had a diary for a couple of years. I wrote about my day, poems, stories, stuff like that. But I never showed people what I wrote. Then, because my penfriend was moving to a new city with her family – just like I'd done the year before – I wrote down some advice for her – things which had helped me. She thought it was great and said I should write a little book about it for other kids. So I did.

Interviewer: Did anybody help you?

Sally: Not with the writing. I only showed it to my Dad after it was finished. He thought it was good, but he tried to stop me sending it to any publishers. He thought I'd feel disappointed if they didn't like it. So, I sent it to just one company to see what they'd say.

Interviewer: How did you know which company to choose?

Sally: I did a search on the internet and found that some publishers only did like stories about animals, so I didn't bother with them. I just emailed the one that already published that sort of book. The next morning my parents got a phone call from them. They wanted to publish mine.

Interviewer: That must have been amazing!

Sally: Yeah. Mum was really calm and businesslike on the phone but as soon as she put it down she was, like, jumping up and down with excitement. She'd told me that this kind of thing just never happened, and I'd believed her, so I was too shocked to feel anything at first. Then my Dad started worrying about what would happen next. But everything was OK in the end.

Interviewer: Has being an author changed you?

Sally: I don't really think so. I just go to school, hang out with the same friends, take care of my pets, do regular things.

People think I make lots of money, but it's not true. But I do get letters from kids who've read my book and that's cool.

Interviewer: Tell us what your next book's going to be about.

Sally: It's about moving from primary school to secondary school, which most kids in this country do when they're 11. It's such a big change. The last year at primary school, lots of kids start to get nervous about the move. My book will help them realise that everybody goes through this: there's no need to feel frightened.