

Worked examples 211-212

IC feature(s) in focus	
Concise checklist	2. Keep the discussion going over several turns g) Listen Feedback: Show that you are listening through mini-responses, body language, and developing partner's ideas
Full checklist	6. Interactive listening • Demonstrate understanding through developing partner's ideas • Focus on own ideas rather than listening to partner's ideas

Example 211: P09

Task: A friend is given some money to spend before going on holiday. Discuss 1) the different ways to spend the money and 2) decide which way is the best.

1. N: Yeah. Maybe he has to buy some luggages for the travel,
2. ((pause)) ((K looks at N and nods))
3. aaand maybe he has also to buy some books
4. to read uh [during the travel
5. K: [during the travel.
6. ((pause))
7. K: Ok I think uh if he go for a long time,
8. why not uh cut his hair before?
9. N: Mm!
10. K: But if heeee he just go, you know, days or one or two week,
11. ((N looks at K and nods))
12. he needn't cut his hair.
13. N: Yeah
14. ((pause)) ((N looks at booklet))
15. Maybeee he will also buy some new clothes or shoes if he needs

Guiding questions

- If you were the examiner, do you think that N and K listen to each other and understand each other's ideas?
 - *(Some non-verbal cues and backchanneling suggest that they do demonstrate some level of interactive listening. However, as some examiners have commented, they focus on introducing their own ideas, and N in particular does not appear to be paying attention to and have understood K's ideas.)*
- If yes, what evidence do we have for this?
 - *(K: line 2 – he looks at N and nods half way through her turn; line 5: he supplies the words 'during the travel' to help N complete her utterance, which demonstrates that K is following N's idea)*
 - *(N uses minimal responses to acknowledge K's talk and ideas: line 9 – an emphatic 'mm', line 13 – 'yeah'. She also looks at K half way through K turn at lines 10-12.)*
- If no, what do you think is missing – such that we are not sure if they listen to and understand each other?

- *(While they show some basic level of interactive listening with minimal responses e.g. ‘mm’, ‘yeah’ and non-verbal actions e.g. nodding and making eye contact, they do not develop each other’s (partner’s) ideas at all – e.g. agreeing/disagreeing and explaining why, giving more details. Each time, they acknowledge each other’s talk, then go on to introduce their own new idea (lines 7-8, line 15). This makes it uncertain whether they have understood and are interested in each other’s talk, and the discussion looks like ‘parallel monologues’, as an examiner has commented.)*

#ShowYouAreListening
#FocusOnOwnIdeas
#ParallelMonologue

Example 212: P01

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-tqeI9t4x9E> (07:00)

Task: Imagine that a town wants more tourists to visit. Talk to each other about why these ideas (in the pictures) would attract more tourists to the town.

1. M: But, maybe, providing parks is much better?
2. F: Mm why do you think that, actually?
3. M: Mm because I think to spend time in parks are good,
4. with the family
5. F: Mm. Yeah I think you have- can have a lot of fun in parks
6. though. Do something like picnics with- picnic with your
7. friends or stuff? Yeah that’d be nice.
8. But uhm more shops, yeah I think it would be nice
9. cos I think

Guiding questions

- When responding to M’s talk (line 2, lines 5-9), in what ways do you think F shows that she has been listening and has understood M’s talk?
 - *(At line 2, F asks a follow-up question, asking M to say more and explain her opinion. In doing so, F displays interest in her partner’s talk and ideas and shows herself as a supportive listener.)*
 - *(At lines 5-7, F chooses to stay on the partner’s topic of ‘parks’. She builds on M’s idea of spending time with family in the park (lines 3-4), and adds that people can have a lot of fun having a picnic with friends in the park (lines 5-7). Only after developing her partner’s ideas does she introduce her own idea of more shops (lines 8-9).*
- Having looked at the two examples, what different ways have you learned to show that you are listening to the partner?

#ShowInterestInPartnersTalk
#DevelopPartnersIdeas
#ShowYouUnderstand

Lesson learned

There are several different ways to show that you are listening to your partner and understand what they say. (1) While they are talking, you can look at your partner, nod, and give mini responses such as 'mm', 'uh huh', or 'yeah'. (2) Supplying words/phrases, or helping your partner complete their sentence (when they need it!), also shows that you follow what they are talking about. (3) To let them know you understand and are interested in their ideas, you can comment on and develop their ideas, or ask them follow-up questions and encourage them to say more.