

B2 First Listening Part 1

Teacher's notes

Aims of the lesson	to familiarise students with a B2 First Listening Part 1 activity and the strategies needed to tackle this type of task
Time needed	20–25 minutes (plus 10 minutes' preparation if recording; 10–15 minutes for the optional task)
Materials required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • copies of audio script • <i>There is no audio for this task, but there is a script below for the teacher to read out in class, or to record in advance.</i> • any sample Part 1 task (optional)

Procedure

1. It might be a good idea to record yourself reading the script below. This will give your students a better feel for the format of Part 1. If you are unable to record the script, you can read it out in class. You will need to read each item twice before moving on.
2. Tell your students that you are going to look at Part 1 of the Listening paper.
3. Hand out the worksheet **face down**. In the exam, candidates will not hear the questions read aloud. Explain to your students that they will now do a practice Part 1 task, and must listen to the recording/their teacher for instruction.
4. Play the recording or read the script. Students work alone to answer the questions.
5. Get students to compare their answers in pairs/small groups.
6. Check answers with the whole class. For each question, ask students to explain why they chose the answer they did. Deal with any queries and questions. Also give students a copy of the script.

Suggested follow-up activity

Students read through the script and highlight, and then discuss as a class what they have found out.

Additional information

Candidates may be tested on a number of skills needed to identify the general idea or the main points of each extract. They may also need to identify the following aspects of the text expressed in the extract:

function/purpose
location/situation
relationships topic
attitude/opinion
genre agreement.

Script

I'm going to give you the instructions for this activity.

You'll hear each piece twice.

Remember, while you're listening, write your answers down. You'll have some time to discuss your answers with another student at the end.

Now turn over your paper. In the exam, the listening script will tell you when to open your paper. (Pause 5 seconds)

You'll hear your teacher talking about Part 1 of the Listening paper. For questions 1–5, choose the best answer, A, B or C.

Question 1

(Pause 2 seconds)

Although there are only five questions in this example text, in the exam there are eight questions in this part of the paper. Candidates will read about what they are going to listen to on the question paper and they will also hear this on the recording. They will only see the questions written on the paper, so they should look at the questions quickly.

(Pause 2 seconds)

(Repeat extract 1)

(Pause 2 seconds)

Question 2

(Pause 2 seconds)

Candidates hear short extracts of monologues or texts with interacting speakers. Each text lasts for about half a minute and the extracts are unrelated.

(Pause 2 seconds)

(Repeat extract 2)

(Pause 2 seconds)

Question 3

(Pause 2 seconds)

It's a good idea for candidates not to write anything down the first time they listen to the text so they don't get distracted. Candidates should wait until the second time they hear the texts before writing down their answers. After the second listening, the recording moves on to the next extract.

(Pause 2 seconds)

(Repeat extract 3)

(Pause 2 seconds)

Question 4

(Pause 2 seconds)

Candidates must answer one question about each extract, selecting their answer from one of three options for each question. They will only see the questions written down – they will not be read aloud by the speaker.

(Pause 2 seconds)

(Repeat extract 4)

(Pause 2 seconds)

Question 5

(Pause 2 seconds)

The information candidates need to listen to is spelled out in each question, for example, *what* is her job, *where* is he going...? It can be useful for students to underline these question words on their question paper, or to make notes before they listen so that they can try to predict the vocabulary they'll hear. This is useful as candidates can be distracted by hearing words or phrases in the text which appear in one of the incorrect options. They need to practise spotting these mismatches, and understanding why they are wrong.

(Pause 2 seconds)

(Repeat extract 5)

(Pause 2 seconds)

That's the end of the activity. Now compare your answers with another student.

B2 First (FCE) Listening Part 1 activity – answer keys**Key to Student's worksheet**

1. C
2. A
3. B
4. C
5. C

B2 First (FCE) Listening Part 1 activity –Student’s worksheet

How much do you know about Part 1 of the Listening paper? You will hear your teacher talking about Part 1. For questions **1–5**, choose the best answer, **A**, **B** or **C**.

- 1** How many questions are there in Part 1?
A five
B seven
C eight

- 2** How long are the extracts that the candidates listen to?
A 30 seconds
B 45 seconds
C one minute

- 3** How many times do candidates hear each extract?
A once
B twice
C as many times as they like

- 4** What do the candidates have to do?
A answer all the questions for each extract
B choose more than one option for each question
C answer one question per extract by choosing just one of the options

- 5** Which of these listening skills are tested?
A the ability to spell correctly
B the ability to listen and make notes
C the ability to recognise distracting words and phrases