

## Listening – techniques to develop listening comprehension.

### A) Exercise based material:

- 1) Follow a listening exercise step-by-step
- 2) Use the text – but NOT for first or last listening
- 3) See below. Many of the techniques below can also be included here.



### A-Z of listening methods

#### B) Non exercise-based material (Choose your techniques – not all! )

- a) Choose material for your level or your level +1
- b) Read the heading. To consider context - think of 5 words you expect to hear (Listening bingo!)
- c) Listen + see if you hear the words you thought of. (Helps to focus)
- d) Decide – how many people are involved in the listening. Where is/ are they?
- e) Is the listening - a report, a presentation, a conversation, story-telling, giving instructions, expressing an opinion, explaining a process, describing an event...?
- f) Listen and go 'collocation hunting'. How many do you hear? Note them down.
- g) Listen again. Pause & repeat for sections difficult to understand
- h) Listen & read text. Underline or highlight phrases/ words you don't understand
- i) Check your collocations list with the text. Did you miss any?
- j) Use dictionary to find meanings of the words in text you don't understand
- k) Write out the new phrases. Decide where you think stress (word or syllable) should be.
- l) Underline the 'unstressed words.
- m) Note the contractions and liaisons in linking the unstressed words. Listen & repeat.
- n) Listen to the rhythm & copy. Remember, English is a stress-based language. This gives rhythm.
- o) Mark on the phrases the intonation you think there is.
- p) Listen again to those difficult sections and check g) & h)
- q) Speak those phrases/ sections and copy the pronunciation/ stress/ intonation
- r) Listen again
- s) Listen & read aloud at same time (with partner if a dialogue)

- t) Listen again and make notes of key points – especially relevant if a ‘talk’.
- u) Create a mind map of key points of the talk. Include key words, collocations & expressions.
- v) Add a box to the mind map to include your impression of the speaker(s) –  
e.g. fast, strong accent, articulate, interesting, boring, easy to follow?
- w) Add a box to the mind map to include your opinion about the subject of the talk. (Just notes)
- x) Prepare to explain the listening.
- Y) Play the listening to a colleague & prepare questions to test your colleague’s comprehension.
- Z) Listen again in one week, one month, 3 months.

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### Pronunciation:

Some words are not easy to hear correctly – because of ‘pronunciation’.  
In this case – you need to isolate those words and practice ‘minimal pairs’.

#### For example:

/i:/	/ɪ/	/ɔ:/	/ɜ:/	/ɜ:/	/eə/
leave	live	walk	work	were	where
sheep	ship	Gaul	girl	stir	stair
cheap	chip	fall	furl	hurl	hair

Practice and perfect your pronunciation. This will help your listening comprehension!

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## Listen up!

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/6-minute-english>

<http://www.elllo.org/>

<https://www.podcastsinenglish.com/pages1/levelbusiness.shtml?fbclid=IwAR1chGv55KuE1lwKg8apO0xLUjF-F2zf5WZq3j3G5HXMCjKdwrBwXwHfv8>

<https://www.simpleenglishvideos.com/videos/>