



Listening – Benchmark 9

III. Getting Things Done

- Understand complex and extended communication intended to influence, persuade or inform significant decisions (such as proposals, suggestions or recommendations for solving problems).
 - Identifies main intent, main idea, factual details, relevant words and expressions, and implied meanings.
 - Identifies discourse indicators signalling contrasting information, opposing views, illustrations/examples.
 - Interprets proposals, suggestions and recommendations.
 - Identifies cohesion links (such as phrasal links) across utterances.
 - Identifies and separates feelings, information and facts.
 - Analyzes and evaluates usefulness, appropriateness, relevance and validity of proposed solutions, in relation to the purpose and the audience.
 - Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Listening Benchmark 9, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

Sample Tasks

Listen to several proposals to solve a workplace problem (such as a high rate of absenteeism or low employee morale).

Listen to a conversation between several colleagues in which advice is given to summarize the nature of the advice.

Listen to and evaluate feedback and recommendations from an instructor on an academic project.

IV. Comprehending Information

- Understand complex, extended discussions between several speakers.
- Understand extensive lectures or presentations.

[Discussions, lectures and presentations are up to about 30 minutes.]

 - Identifies discourse format for different purposes.
 - Identifies detailed factual information and implied meanings.
 - Identifies main ideas that are not explicitly stated.
 - Identifies how details support and develop main ideas.
 - Identifies paraphrasing, restating of points, examples and transition indicators.
 - Identifies thematic organization of sub-parts of presentations and lectures (such as patterns for narrating, reporting, describing, arguing a point, expressing results and consequences).
 - Demonstrates critical comprehension by identifying biases and by separating facts from opinions.
 - Identifies, summarizes and critically evaluates the development of positions.
 - Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Listening Benchmark 9, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

Sample Tasks

Listen to a lecture on the findings of a research study, an environmental issue or a technical topic in one's own field to summarize the information for a report or essay.

Listen to a 30-minute panel discussion to obtain detailed information and perspectives relating to a topic in one's own field to critically evaluate the information.

Listen to a short podcast for academic or work-related information to decide whether to research the issue further.