

IELTS LISTENING PRACTICE PAPER

QUESTION: 1

IELTS Listening Section 1

Receptionist: Good morning. Welcome to the Early Learning Childcare Centre. How may I help you?

Caller: Hi. I spoke to you last week about enrolling my daughter for next year.

R: Oh, yes. I'll just get some details from you. So, you're her mother?

C: That's right.

R: And, can I have your name?

C: It's Carol, Carol Smith.

R: And your daughter's name?

C: It's Kate.

R: Now, we have several groups at the centre and we cater for children from three to five years old. How old is your daughter?

C: She's three now but she turns four next month.

R: I'll put four down because that's how old she'll be when she starts. [1]

C: Fine, she's so excited about her birthday and coming to the centre.

R: That's good to hear. And what's your address?

C: It's 46 Wombat Road, that's W-O-M-B-A-T [2], Woodside 4032.

R: And what's the phone number?

C: Oh... it's... 3345 9865.

R: So, have you decided on the days you'd like to bring your daughter here?

C: I'd prefer Monday and Wednesday if possible.

R: Hmm. I'll check, Monday's fine, but I think the centre is already full for Wednesday. Uhm. Yes. Sorry. It seems to be a very popular day. We can offer you a Thursday or a Friday as well.

C: Oh dear. I suppose Thursday would be all right [3] because she has swimming on Friday.

R: OK, got that. Because a lot of parents work, we do offer flexible start and finish times. We are open from 7:30 in the morning until 6 o'clock at night.

What time would you like your daughter to start?

C: I need to get to work in the city by 9:00 so I'll drop her off at 8:30 [4]. You're pretty close to the city here so that should give me plenty of time to get there.

R: That's fine. Now, we also need to decide which group she'll be in. We have two different groups and they're divided up according to age. There's the green group, which is for three to four-year-olds. And then there's the red group which is for four- to five-year-olds.

C: She's quite mature for her age and she can already write her name and read a little.

R: Well, I'll put her in the red group [5] and we can always change her to the green one if there are any problems.

C: That sounds fine.

R: OK. Let's move on to meals. We can provide breakfast, lunch and dinner. As she's finishing pretty early, she won't need dinner, will you give her breakfast before she comes?

C: Yes, she'll only need lunch. [6]

R: Now, does she have any medical conditions we need to know about? Does she have asthma or any hearing problems for example?

C: No. But she does need to wear glasses. [7]
R: Oh, I'll make a note of that.
C: Yes, she's pretty good about wearing them, she can't see much without them.
R: Right. OK. Now, I also need emergency contact details.
C: So what sort of information do you need?
R: Just the name and number of a friend or family member we can contact in case we can't get hold of you at any time.
C: That'd better be my sister... Jenny Ball . That's B-A-double L [8]. Her phone number is 3346 7523.
R: Great. So she is the child's aunt?
C: Yes, that's right. [9]
R: I'll make a note of that as well. Now, is there anything you'd like to ask?
C: What about payment? How much are the fees each term?
R: Well, for two days and the hours you've chosen, that will be \$450 altogether.
C: OK, and do I have to pay that now?
R: No, we send out invoices once the children start at the centre. You can choose to pay at the end of each term or we do offer a slightly discounted rate if you pay every month.
C: Oh. I'll do that then . I find it easier to budget that way and I'm not used to the term dates just yet. [10]
R: Good, it makes it a lot simpler for us as well. Well, that's everything.

Questions 1-10

Complete the form below.

*Write **ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.*

Early Learning Childcare Centre

Enrolment Form

Example

Parent or guardian: Carol **0** *Smith*

Personal Details

Child's name: Kate

Age: **1** _____

Address: **2** _____ Road, Woodside, 4032

Phone: 3345 9865

Childcare Information

Days enrolled for: Monday and **3** _____

Start time: **4** _____ am

Childcare group: the **5** _____ group

Which meals are required each day? **6** _____

Medical conditions: needs **7** _____

Emergency contact: Jenny **8** _____

Relationship to child: **9** _____

Phone: 3346 7523

Fees

Will pay each **10** _____

QUESTION: 2

IELTS Listening Section 2

Interviewer: Today we're pleased to have on the show Alice Bussell from the Dolphin Conservation Trust. Tell us about the Trust, Alice.

Alice: Well, obviously its purpose is to protect dolphins in seas all around the world. It tries to raise people's awareness of the problems these marine creatures are suffering because of pollution and other threats. It started ten years ago and it's one of the fastest growing animal charities in the country — although it's still fairly small compared with the big players in animal protection. We are particularly proud of the work we do in education — last year we visited a huge number of schools in different parts of the country, going round to talk to children and young people aged from five to eighteen. In fact, about thirty-five per cent of our members are children. The charity uses its money to support campaigns — for example, for changes in fishing policy and so forth. [11/12]

It hopes soon to be able to employ its first full-time biologist — with dolphin expertise — to monitor populations. Of course, many people give their services on a voluntary basis and we now have volunteers working in observation, office work and other things. [11/12] I should also tell you about the award we won from the Charity Commission last year — for our work in education. Although it's not meant an enormous amount of money for us, it has made our activities even more widely publicised and understood. [13] In the long term it may not bring in extra members but we're hoping it'll have this effect.

Interviewer: Is it possible to see dolphins in UK waters?

Alice: Yes. In several locations. And we have a big project in the east part of Scotland. This has long been a haven for dolphins because it has very little shipping. However, that may be about to change soon because oil companies want to increase exploration there. We're campaigning against this because, although there'll be little pollution from oil, exploration creates a lot of underwater noise [14]. It means the dolphins can't rest and socialise. This is how I became interested in dolphin conservation in the first place.

I had never seen one and I hadn't been particularly interested in them at school. Then I came across this story about a family of dolphins who had to leave their home in the Moray Firth because of the oil companies and about a child who campaigned to save them. I couldn't put the book down – I was hooked. [15]

Interviewer: I'm sure our listeners will want to find out what they can do to help. You mentioned the 'Adopt a Dolphin' scheme. Can you tell us about that?

Alice: Of course! People can choose one of our dolphins to sponsor. They receive a picture of it and news updates. I'd like to tell you about four which are currently being adopted by our members: Moondancer, Echo, Kiwi and Samson. Unfortunately, Echo is being rather elusive this year and hasn't yet been sighted by our observers [16], but we remain optimistic that he'll be out there soon. All the others have been out in force – Samson and Moondancer are often photographed together but it is Kiwi who's our real 'character' as she seems to love coming up close for the cameras and we've captured her on film hundreds of times [17].

They all have their own personalities – Moondancer is very elegant and curves out and into the water very smoothly, whereas Samson has a lot of energy – he's always leaping out of the water with great vigour [18]. You'd probably expect him to be the youngest – he's not quite – that's Kiwi – but Samson's the latest of our dolphins to be chosen for the scheme [19].

Kiwi makes a lot of noise so we can often pick her out straightaway. Echo and Moondancer are noisy too, but Moondancer's easy to find because she has a particularly large fin on her back [20], which makes her easy to identify. So, yes, they're all very different.

Questions 11-20

Questions **11** and **12**

Choose **TWO** letters, **A-E**.

Which **TWO** things does Alice say about the Dolphin Conservation Trust?

- A** Children make up most of the membership
- B** It's the country's largest conservation organisation
- C** It helps finance campaigns for changes in fishing practices
- D** It employs several dolphin experts full-time
- E** Volunteers help in various ways

Questions **13-15**

Choose the correct letter, **A, B, or C**

13 Why is Alice so pleased the Trust has won the Charity Commission award?

- A** It has brought in extra money
- B** It made the work of the trust better known
- C** It has attracted more members

14 Alice says oil exploration causes problems to dolphins because of ...

- A** noise
- B** oil leaks
- C** movement of ships

15 Alice became interested in dolphins when

- A** she saw one swimming near her home
- B** she heard a speaker at her school
- C** she read a book about them

Questions **16-20**

Which dolphin does Alice make each of the following comments about?

Write the correct letter, **A, B, C** or **D**, next to questions **16-20**.

Dolphins

- A** Moon dancer
- B** Echo
- C** Kiwi
- D** Samson

Comments

- 16** It has not been seen this year
- 17** It is photographed more than the others
- 18** It is always very energetic
- 19** It is the newest one in the scheme
- 20** It has an unusual shape

QUESTION: 3

IELTS Listening Section 3

Mia: Hi, Rob. How's the course going?

Rob: Oh, hi, Mia. Yeah, great. I can't believe the first term's nearly over.

Mia: I saw your group's performance last night at the student theatre. It was good.

Rob: Really? Yeah... but now we have to write a report on the whole thing, an in-depth analysis. I don't know where to start. Like, I have to write about the role I played, the doctor, how I developed the character.

Mia: Well, what was your starting point?

Rob: Er... my grandfather was a doctor before he retired, and I just based it on him.

Mia: OK, but how? Did you talk to him about it?

Rob: He must have all sorts of stories, but he never says much about his work, even now. He has a sort of authority though.

Mia: So how did you manage to capture that?

Rob: I'd... I'd visualise what he must have been like in the past, when he was sitting in his consulting room listening to his patients. [21] **Mia:** OK, so that's what you explain in your report.

Rob: Right.

Mia: Then there's the issue of atmosphere – so in the first scene we needed to know how boring life was in the doctor's village in the 1950s, so when the curtain went up on the first scene in the waiting room, there was that long silence before anyone spoke. And then people kept saying the same thing over and over, like 'Cold, isn't it?' [22] **Rob:** Yes, and everyone wore grey and brown, and just sat in a row.

Mia: Yes, all those details of the production.

Rob: And I have to analyse how I functioned in the group — what I found out about myself. I know I was so frustrated at times, when we couldn't agree.

Mia: Yes. So did one person emerge as the leader?

Rob: Sophia did. That was OK — she helped us work out exactly what to do for the production. And that made me feel better [23]. I suppose.

Mia: When you understood what needed doing?

Rob: Yes. And Sophia did some research, too. That was useful in developing our approach.

Mia: Like what?

Rob: Well, she found these articles from the 1950s about how relationships between children and their parents, or between the public and people like bank managers or the police were shifting [24].

Mia: Interesting. And did you have any practical problems to overcome?

Rob: Well, in the final rehearsal everything was going fine until the last scene — that's where the doctor's first patient appears on stage on his own.

Mia: The one in the wheelchair?

Rob: Yes, and he had this really long speech, with the stage all dark except for one spotlight — and then that stuck somehow so it was shining on the wrong side of the stage [25]... but anyway we got that fixed, thank goodness.

Mia: Yes, it was fine on the night.

Rob: But while you're here, Mia, I wanted to ask you about the year abroad option. Would you recommend doing that?

Mia: Yes, definitely: It's a fantastic chance to study in another country for a year.

Rob: I think I'd like to do it, but it looks very competitive – there's only a limited number of places.

Mia: Yes, so next year when you are in the second year of the course, you need to work really hard in all your theatre studies modules. Only students with good marks get places [26] — you have to prove that you know your subject really well.

Rob: Right. So how did you choose where to go?

Mia: Well. I decided I wanted a programme that would fit in with what I wanted to do after I graduate, so I looked for a university with emphasis on acting rather than directing for example [27]. It depends on you.

Then about six months before you go, you have to email the scheme coordinator with your top three choices. I had a friend who missed the deadline and didn't get her first choice, so you do need to get a move on at that stage [28]. You'll find that certain places are very popular with everyone.

Rob: And don't you have to write a personal statement at that stage?

Mia: Yes.

Rob: Right. I'll get some of the final year students to give me some tips... maybe see if I can read what they wrote [29].

Mia: I think that's a very good idea. I don't mind showing you what I did. And while you're abroad don't make the mistake I made. I got so involved I forgot all about making arrangements for when I came back here for the final year. Make sure you stay in touch so they know your choices for the optional modules [30].

Complete the notes below:

*Write **ONE WORD ONLY** for each answer*

'Self-regulatory focus theory' and leadership

Self-regulatory focus theory

People's focus is to approach pleasure or avoid pain

Promotion goals focus on **31** _____

Prevention goals emphasise avoiding punishment

Factors that affect people's focus

The Chronic Factor

• comes from one's **32** _____

The **33** _____ Factor

• we are more likely to focus on promotion goals when with a **34** _____

• we are more likely to focus on prevention goals with our boss

How people's focus affects them

Promotion Focus: People think about an ideal version of themselves, their **35** _____ and their gains.

Prevention Focus: People think about their 'ought' self and their obligations

Leaders

Leadership behaviour and **36** _____ affects people's focus

Transformational Leaders:

• pay special attention to the **37** _____ of their followers

- passionately communicate a clear **38** _____
- inspire promotion focus in followers

Transactional Leaders:

- create **39** _____ to make expectations clear
- emphasise the results of a mistake
- inspire prevention focus in followers

Conclusion

Promotion Focus is good for jobs requiring **40** _____

Prevention Focus is good for work such as a surgeon

Leaders' actions affect which focus people use