

2014 HSC English (ESL) Listening Paper Marking Guidelines

Question 1

Criteria	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a definition of listening stated in the text 	1

Sample answer

Making meaning from sound.

Answers could include:

- A mental process
- A process of extraction
- The main way to experience the flow of time

Question 2

Criteria	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides reasons for why 'we are losing our listening' 	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a reason for why 'we are losing our listening' 	1

Sample answer

We are losing our listening because we have invented ways of recording. Another reason is the world is so noisy.

Answers could include:

- We are becoming impatient and we want sound bites
- Because we are not very good at listening
- We have become desensitised
- We use headphones and nobody is listening to anyone

Question 3

Criteria	Marks
• Provides a detailed explanation of what this means	2
• Provides an explanation of what this means	1

Sample answer

If you pay attention and know what you are listening for, the meaning will become clear.

Answers could include:

- Listening with intent leads to understanding
- If you don't listen carefully you won't understand
- Listening without purpose creates misunderstanding

Question 4

Criteria	Marks
• Provides an effective analysis of the use of sound effects within the presentation	3
• Provides some analysis of the use of sound effects within the presentation	2
• Identifies sound effect used within the presentation	1

Sample answer

The sound effects help to communicate his ideas. For example, the sound of a noisy room is used to show how we recognise one sound from a lot of noise. Also, the tumble dryer shows how listening to everyday sounds can be an interesting exercise.

Answers could include:

- They encourage the audience to listen more closely to the world
- The sound effects are used to encourage listeners to participate in the recommended exercises, eg tumble dryer, birds chirping, water flowing
- Sound effects help to visualise the different settings. For example, the birds chirping/outdoor noises
- The sound effects are used to show how hard it is to listen in a noisy room
- The pink noise and the crowd noise emphasise how we can extract information from a noisy environment
- The pink noise is used to illustrate differencing (ignoring sounds after a period of time)
- Audience response eg laughing or applause shows that the audience is listening and engaged in the talk

Question 5

Criteria	Marks
• Provides an effective explanation of the ways listening is improved by using RASA	3
• Provides an explanation of the ways listening is improved by using RASA	2
• Provides a description of RASA	1

Sample answer

The process of good listening is improved by remembering this acronym. We need to receive, appreciate, summarise and ask questions to understand what we are hearing. This will help us become active listeners who connect with and understand the world around us.

Answers could include:

- Improves listening because it illustrates the components required to be better listeners
- RASA is the ‘juice or essence’ of an effective listener because these are the essential strategies to improve your listening
- If you receive, appreciate, summarise and ask you will listen better and therefore ‘live fully’

Question 6

Criteria	Marks
• Provides an effective analysis of how the speaker conveys the importance of listening	4
• Provides an analysis of how the speaker conveys the importance of listening	3
• Attempts to explain how the speaker conveys the importance of listening	2
• Identifies techniques used by the speaker OR describes features of listening	1

Sample answer

The speaker conveys the importance of listening through his effective use of language. For example, he uses modality, 'this is a serious problem' to emphasise that a world without active listening is a 'scary place' where we lack understanding. Furthermore, his use of jargon and statistics, 'we retain 25% of what we hear' highlights his expertise about the importance of listening and thus persuades the audience to believe that listening is important.

Answers could include:

- Through the use of a clear logical argument
- Opens with a key statement, 'we are losing our listening'. Reiterated through the body of the talk
- He outlines reasons why we are losing our listening and offers exercises to encourage our listening
- His personal conviction of how we need to listen to communicate with each other
- Clear authoritative voice – confident, stresses words to emphasise his point, provides examples
- Technical language delivered with confidence and fluency. Provides examples
- Ideas are presented in a well-prepared fluent manner suggesting speaker is an expert. There are no fillers, hesitations, mispronunciations
- Irony used to emphasise that we are not listening to each other, 'many people take refuge in headphones ... in this scenario nobody is listening to anybody'

English (ESL) Listening Paper

2014 HSC Examination Mapping Grid

Listening Paper

Question	Marks	Content	Syllabus outcomes
1	1	Listening skills	H4
2	2	Listening skills	H1, H3, H4, H5, H6
3	2	Listening skills	H1, H3, H4
4	3	Listening skills	H1, H4, H5, H6, H7
5	3	Listening skills	H1, H4, H11
6	4	Listening skills	H1, H3, H4, H5, H6, H11