

Audioscripts for Listening Comprehension Exercises

LISTENING COMPREHENSION EXERCISES

Target 1

Part 1

- (A) The pharmacist serves his customers.
- (B) The technicians are conducting experiments.
- (C) The laboratory animals are in a cage.
- (D) The shelves are empty.

Target 2

Part 1

- (A) Four people are looking at a map.
- (B) The men are wearing suits.
- (C) Both women are taller than the men.
- (D) The man with glasses is pointing to a chart.

Target 3

Part 1

- (A) The children are playing on the floor.
- (B) The television is off.
- (C) The father is playing the piano.
- (D) The curtains are open.

Target 4

Part 1

- (A) The men are smoking pipes.
- (B) The earth is planted with crops.
- (C) The trench is being dug.
- (D) The workers are laying pipeline.

Target 5

Part 1

- (A) Some shoppers want to buy new luggage.
- (B) Passengers are passing through airport security.
- (C) The police guard the bank.
- (D) The flight attendant seats the passengers.

Target 6

Part 1

- (A) The waiters are beside the table.
- (B) The man with glasses is next to the woman.
- (C) A bottle is under the table.
- (D) There are four people in front of the first table.

Target 7

Part 1

- (A) The fair operates all night.
- (B) The freight train is in the station.
- (C) The car door is open.
- (D) The men are loading cargo onto the plane.

Part 2

Was the letter delivered today?

- (A) Yes, it came this morning.
- (B) The ladder was on the delivery truck.
- (C) He was late on Tuesday.

Part 3

Man: How new is your boat?

Woman: It's almost brand new—just one month old. I'm really having fun with it.

Man: I hope you'll take me for a ride on it someday. Are you free Tuesday? Can we get together then and go sailing?

Woman: Maybe, if the weather clears up. I wouldn't want to take the boat out on a rainy day like this.

1. What does the woman enjoy?
2. When does the man want to get together with the woman?
3. How is the weather today?

Part 4

Attention shoppers. It is now 5:45. The market will be closing in fifteen minutes. If you wish to make purchases, please proceed to the checkout counters immediately. You are reminded that the store will be closed tomorrow because of the holiday. We will reopen on Monday. Thank you for shopping at Maguire's Market.

1. What does the woman want people to do?
2. When does she want people to do this?
3. What will happen tomorrow?

Target 8

Part 1

- (A) The man is shoveling snow.
- (B) The skiers are on the mountain.
- (C) The iceberg is very cold.
- (D) The voters went to the polls.

Part 2

How long have you been married?

- (A) Almost ten years.
- (B) About five feet.
- (C) The bride is my cousin.

Part 3

Man: Please return to your seat and fasten your seat belt.

Woman: Are we getting ready to land?

Man: No, but there's some turbulence in the air.

Woman: I'll sit down right away. I don't want to lose my balance and fall in the aisle.

1. Where are the speakers?
2. What does the man want the woman to do?
3. What is the woman worried about?

Part 4

The weather this weekend will be perfect for those who want to play golf or do outside chores such as gardening. The temperature will be in the low 70s and the humidity will also be low. The skies will remain sunny all weekend, so enjoy it while you can. It won't last for long. Heavy rains will roll in early Monday morning and you can expect heavy traffic during your morning commute. Rain is expected during most of next week, so get outdoors while you can.

1. What does this announcement concern?
2. What should people do this weekend?
3. What will happen on Monday?

Target 9

Part 1

- (A) They're rushing down the stairs.
- (B) They're being trained.
- (C) They're boarding the windows.
- (D) They're staring at the train.

Part 2

He leaves next week, doesn't he?

- (A) No, he's going tomorrow.
- (B) Yes, he's very weak.
- (C) The leaves are turning yellow.

Part 3

Woman: My jacket has a small hole on the sleeve and it's missing a button. Can you sew it up for me so I can wear it tonight?

Man: I can't help you with it right now. I don't have time.

Woman: I'll be glad to wait.

Man: You'll have to wait until tomorrow when I get home from work. I just don't have time to get the sewing machine running today.

1. Why can't the man help?
2. What is the matter with the woman's jacket?
3. When can the man help her?

Part 4

The sun will shine this morning, but rain is likely this afternoon. There may be some strong winds, too. Spring weather is very unpredictable. In fact, it will get very cold overnight, and we may see some snow tomorrow in the morning. So don't plant your spring flower garden yet. But don't despair. We'll have more fair weather later in the week. Tune in at 1:00 for the next update. This is Chris Jones, your local weather reporter. Thank you for listening to WXY radio.

1. What is the man taking about?
2. What will happen tomorrow?
3. When will the speaker make the next announcement?

Target 10

Part 1

- (A) Math is the first class of the day.
- (B) The attendant works in first class.
- (C) This is a middle-class neighborhood.
- (D) The documents are classified.

Part 2

Is this bed too hard?

- (A) Yes, it's very difficult.
- (B) Not for me. I like it firm.
- (C) The flower bed needs water.

Part 3

Man: Why didn't you call this summer?

Woman: I was working hard at my job all summer, and also taking classes for my bachelor's degree. I didn't have a moment to rest.

Man: Well, now that fall is here, I'll give you a ring next week. We can talk about going out on a dinner date.

Woman: That sounds nice, but you'd better make it the week after. I'll be busy with my family all next week.

1. What will the man do?
2. Why does the man want to talk to the woman?
3. Why doesn't the woman want the man to call next week?

Part 4

Tennis fans will not want to miss the final match at the Valley Springs Tennis Club next Sunday. This is your chance to watch world-class players compete on the world's finest clay courts. In the evening, tournament prizes will be awarded during a special ceremony. There may still be a few tickets left, so call the club today to reserve yours. This championship match will be sponsored by Sporting Goods Company, the maker of Big Blue Racquets, a racquet without equal. This is the final match of the International World Tournament. The Juniors Tournament begins next month.

1. What does the speaker suggest people do?
2. What will happen in the next evening?
3. When will the next tournament take place?

Target 11

Part 1

- (A) After the firefighters arrived, they extinguished the fire with water.
- (B) Before the fire started, the firefighters arrived.
- (C) Prior to extinguishing the fire, the firefighters put away their hoses.
- (D) While the fire blazed, the firefighters rested.

Part 2

It's quarter after ten already.

- (A) How did it get so late?
- (B) That's very expensive.
- (C) I already timed it.

Part 3

Man: I'm glad we're finally done writing this project proposal. We'll have to show it to Mr. Kim, though, before we can submit it to the director.

Woman: I know, but we'd better proofread it before we do that.

Man: Of course. Let's go over the proposal now before lunch.

Woman: No, I'm hungry and tired. Let's eat first, then we'll go over it afterwards.

1. What will the speaker do first with the proposal?
2. When does the woman want to eat lunch?
3. What will the speakers do last?

Part 4

Mr. Ahmed Saleh, Chairman and CEO, will retire at the end of the next quarter. He has been with the company for over twenty years and has been the Chairman since the company merged with Rotel International, five years ago. When asked about his retirement plans, Mr. Saleh explained that following a vacation in the Caribbean, he plans to open a part-time consulting business. He says that starting his own small business has long been a plan of his, since even before he started working with us here at the Mercury Corporation. All company employees who wish to honor Mr. Saleh's long years of service to this company are invited to attend his retirement party at the end of this month.

1. How long has Mr. Saleh been Chairman?
2. What will Mr. Saleh do first?
3. Which of the following did Mr. Saleh do first?

Target 12

Part 1

- (A) None of the seats is occupied.
- (B) No one is sitting down.
- (C) Not one of the men is wearing a tie.
- (D) No one is wearing glasses.

Part 2

He hasn't done anything illegal, has he?

- (A) No, of course not. He's a law-abiding citizen.
- (B) He's a legal secretary, I think.
- (C) There is something illegible in this letter.

Part 3

Man: Do you have everything you need for your trip?

Woman: I even have what I don't need.

Man: You can never take too much, I always say.

Woman: I can't say that I disagree with you. I seldom travel with fewer than three suitcases.

1. What does the man advise the woman?
2. What does the woman think of the man's advice?
3. How many suitcases does the woman usually travel with?

Part 4

At no time in the history of our company have we had such sales. Our profit margins are unprecedented. Our total revenues, unimaginable. This unparalleled success is due to the selfless dedication of our employees. Never have we been so pleased with the hard work of all our staff members as we are now. In recognition of this, we will do what has never been done before at this company, but which is long overdue. We will host an employee recognition banquet at the end of this month. I can't tell you how pleased I am about this. All staff members are invited, and I hope no one will be unable to attend. I can't think of anyone who deserves this honor more than the employees of this company.

1. What word or phrase describes this report?
2. What describes the employees mentioned in this report?
3. What does the speaker say about the banquet?

Target 13

Part 1

- (A) What a lot of brochures there are!
- (B) How many restaurants are there?
- (C) How delicious the food looks!
- (D) There is no food left.

Part 2

Nobody does as much as you.

- (A) No one does it better.
- (B) I won't do it again.
- (C) I like to stay busy.

Part 3

Man: I'm going to Europe this summer.

Woman: Isn't that great! How I envy you! There's so much to see there.

Man: I'm trying not to think about it more than twenty hours a day.

Woman: Who would ever think you would be so lucky! How beautiful Europe is this time of year! Are you leaving soon?

1. What does the woman think about the trip?
2. What does the woman say about Europe?
3. What does the woman want to know?

Part 4

How the weather changes! Yesterday morning, it was hot and sunny. By noon, the temperature was falling. Never has it rained as hard as it did last night. There was hail, too. And this morning, it never has been so windy. Never have I seen stranger weather. Usually, it's so beautiful this time of year, and everyone enjoys the outdoors. But now I never know what clothes to wear. What a confusing week!

1. What is the weather this morning?
2. When did it rain?
3. What does the speaker think of the weather?

Target 14

Part 1

- (A) The man on the right is dressed more warmly.
- (B) Both men are wearing the same glasses.
- (C) Neither man has a beard.
- (D) Their pants are the same color.

Part 2

What is the fastest way to your home?

- (A) At rush hour, a train is the fastest.
- (B) Take a plane to Rome.
- (C) My home is farther than yours.

Part 3

Man: It seems like this meeting will never end!

Woman: It's even longer than yesterday's meeting, and I thought that was long.

Man: I think this meeting holds the record for being the longest and most boring meeting ever.

Woman: The more boring the meeting, the more tired I get. Wake me up when the meeting is over.

1. What do they think about the meeting?
2. What is true about yesterday's meeting?
3. Why is the woman tired?

Part 4

There never used to be as many cars on the road as there are today. It seems that as we improve the roads, more people want to drive. The more roads there are, the more cars there are on them. In addition, people are driving bigger and bigger cars. This also contributes to more crowded roads. However, this trend will probably change as soon as gasoline prices increase. The higher the price of gasoline, the smaller cars get. One thing we probably won't be seeing any time soon is faster cars. If you want to get somewhere quickly, you still have to go by plane. Fortunately, plane tickets are a lot cheaper than they used to be.

1. What is said about roads and cars?
2. Why will more people start driving smaller cars?
3. According to the speaker, what is the advantage of a plane over a car?

Target 15

Part 1

- (A) They had better wait in line.
- (B) They have checked their bags.
- (C) The plane should be on time.
- (D) The passengers will check in.

Part 2

I'd rather go first class than economy.

- (A) I would too, but I can't afford it.
- (B) This is my first time here.
- (C) You'll save some money.

Part 3

Man: Did you attend the reception last night?

Woman: I would have gone if I had been free.

Man: You didn't miss anything. I wish I had been somewhere else more interesting.

Woman: That's too bad. I'm not sure about tomorrow's party, either. I planned to go, but now I might not be able to. It depends on whether I can get this report finished on time.

1. Did the woman go to the reception?
2. Did the man go to the reception?
3. Will the woman go to the party tomorrow?

Part 4

The presentation could have been more interesting if the speakers had used some visuals. Colorful visuals projected on a screen would have made it easier for the audience to follow the main points. Without this support, most of us felt lost. The presenter should also speak more loudly. Most of us, particularly those sitting in the back of the room, could not hear him very well and were not able to follow his main points. The way a presentation is made is just as important as the content. However good the content may be, it is lost if it is not clearly presented. Before giving this presentation again, this presenter should develop some visual aids to use with it and practice speaking more loudly.

1. How does this critique describe the presentation?
2. What does the speaker say about the presentation?
3. What advice does the speaker give for the presenter?

Target 16

Part 1

- (A) The chefs are used to the heat.
- (B) I used to cook on Sunday.
- (C) The pans are used to mix paint.
- (D) The food used to be better.

Part 2

I'm used to working all night.

- (A) Me, too. I don't need much sleep.
- (B) When did you stop working at night?
- (C) I used all my sick days.

Part 3

Man: I used to be a frequent speaker at conferences.

Woman: On what subject?

Man: Anything that people wanted to hear. I got used to speaking about all kinds of things—politics, economics, education—you name it.

Woman: I'm impressed. I don't think I could ever get used to speaking in public.

1. What does the man say about himself?
2. What can the man talk about?
3. What does the woman say about herself?

Part 4

Before the photocopier, people used to type multiple copies of their letters using carbon paper inserted between white pages. These copies would be called "cc's," which stands for "carbon copies." We are now used to making many copies of our correspondence, whereas before we were satisfied with just one. In fact, since it is so easy to make copies with a photocopier, people have gotten used to making more copies than they may really need. It costs little time or effort to do this. However, it generates a great deal of waste. Unused copies are thrown in the trash, contributing to problems of waste disposal. So, while photocopiers have made our lives easier in some ways, they have contributed to another problem. The need to dispose of tons of office paper did not used to be a problem in the days of carbon copies.

1. What changes did the photocopier bring about?
2. What are people used to doing now?
3. What is the problem now?