

Listening practice activities


1. The Phonemic Alphabet

Unit 1 [Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 1 2.mp3](#)


[Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 1 3.mp3](#)

1 Passions

LISTENING

1  1.2 Listen to a boy and girl talking and answer the questions.

- 1 What do you think is the relationship between them?
- 2 What are they deciding?
- 3 What is the boy's concern?
- 4 What is their final decision?

2  1.3 Listen to three short extracts. Choose the answer (A, B or C) which fits best according to what you hear.

Extract 1

You hear a brother and sister talking about their first gymnastics club meeting.

- 1 What do they agree on about the training session?
 - A It made poor use of the facilities.
 - B It seemed worth the money they paid.
 - C It appeared to be taught by good instructors.
- 2 What is the girl doing?
 - A suggesting an alternative course of action
 - B explaining how the boy can improve
 - C praising the boy's ability

Extract 2

You hear a teacher advising a student to take part in a school play.

- 3 What does the teacher say about being in the play?
 - A It will help the girl with her studies.
 - B It will allow her to develop a useful skill.
 - C It will provide an opportunity to show her talent.
- 4 How does the girl feel about applying for a role in the play?
 - A She is keen to give the experience a go.
 - B She is convinced that the competition will be tough.
 - C She is sorry that she has left it late to practise the role.

Extract 3

You hear two friends reviewing a book.

- 5 What is the girl doing?
 - A identifying her favourite character
 - B explaining why the book is important
 - C describing a particularly strong aspect of the storyline
- 6 What do they agree about the book?
 - A It was easy to follow.
 - B It had a moral message.
 - C It should be read in school.

3. Difficult sounds

Unit 2 [Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 2 4.mp3](#)

[Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 2 5.mp3](#)

LISTENING

2.4 Listen to five people talking about places they have visited. Match the speakers (1–5) with the places they visited (A–E).

- A a museum with optical illusions
- B a place with information about performing tricks
- C a large water tank for relaxation
- D a place for learning scientific information about the senses
- E a museum to do with the sense of taste

- Speaker 1
- Speaker 2
- Speaker 3
- Speaker 4
- Speaker 5

2.5 Listen again and complete both tasks.

Task 1

For questions 1–5, choose from the list (A–H) the reason each speaker gives for choosing to visit a particular place.

- | | | | |
|--|-----------|---|--------------------------|
| A because of an advert | Speaker 1 | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| B to learn a new skill | Speaker 2 | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| C to celebrate a special occasion | Speaker 3 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D as a result of receiving personal advice | Speaker 4 | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| E to get some memorable photos | Speaker 5 | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| F to keep a friend company | | | |
| G to avoid bad weather | | | |
| H to entertain work colleagues | | | |

Task 2

For questions 6–10, choose from the list (A–H) how each speaker felt after their visit.

- | | | | |
|--|-----------|----|--------------------------|
| A amused by the reactions of others | Speaker 1 | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| B relieved it was over | Speaker 2 | 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| C annoyed by others | Speaker 3 | 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D grateful for someone's help | Speaker 4 | 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| E determined to influence others | Speaker 5 | 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| F disappointed at not learning more | | | |
| G inspired to do something new | | | |
| H pleased to have affected another person's attitude | | | |

4. Inflectional endings: Little Red Riding Hood

Unit 8

[Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 8 3.mp3](#)

[Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 8 4.mp3](#)

[Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 8 5.mp3](#)

LISTENING

1 **8.3** Listen to four short extracts. Choose the best ending for one, to replace the beep.

- 1 A last forever
B make change happen
- 2 A how we take on different personalities
B people's true character appear
- 3 A tone of voice
B the way that it's heard
- 4 A significant differences
B the similarities between us

2 **8.4** Listen again and check your answers.

3 **8.5** Listen to three short conversations about art and literature. Choose the answer (A, B or C) which fits best according to what

Extract 1

You hear two friends talking about autobiographies.

- 1 In the girl's opinion, bloggers who write an autobiography
 - A are motivated by the potential earnings.
 - B are seeking attention.
 - C have little else to do in their lives.
- 2 The boy believes that autobiographies
 - A are often full of fake stories.
 - B can sometimes help those who read them.
 - C should only be written by successful people.

Extract 2

You hear two students talking about poems and words to songs.

- 3 What does the girl think is the main difference between poems and lyrics?
 - A Lyrics tend to be taken less seriously by educators.
 - B Lyrics are more able to explore difficult topics.
 - C Lyrics express ideas less well than poetry.
- 4 What do they both think about song lyrics?
 - A Lyrics are able to produce stronger emotional reactions than poems.
 - B The meaning of lyrics can change with different tunes.
 - C Lyrics are affected by the quality of the singer.

Extract 3

You hear two friends discussing a painting of a woman in a shop.

- 5 The boy thinks the woman in the painting is
 - A being treated poorly by the shop-keeper.
 - B could be trying to sell someone else's work.
 - C has impressed one of the people in the shop.
- 6 They agree that the painting shows
 - A how important it is to portray everyday life.
 - B how hard it was for women to become painters in the past.
 - C how much things have changed since the events in the picture.

5. Weak forms: Boys will be boys Colour and gender

[072FormB2CB47.mp3](#), [074FormB2CB49.mp3](#) [076FormB2CB410.mp3](#)

2 **4.7** Listen to a radio interview with professor Vanessa Strong talking about gender and colour associations. Answer the questions.

- 1 What is Vanessa concerned about?
A Packaging results in children having too many toys.
B Packaging determines what toys children choose.
C Packaging influences boys more than girls.
- 2 What does Vanessa think is the effect of this issue?
A Parents lose control over their children's choices.
B Children tend to play together in gender groups.
C Toy packaging determines a child's preferences.

5 **4.10** You will hear an interview with a historian called Arjun Anand about the history of colour associations. For questions 1-7, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- 1 Arjun developed an interest in colour associations because they
A impact on our perception of the world.
B affect both our physical and mental health.
C provide important information about traditions.
- 2 Arjun first started researching colour associations
A when he was studying for his degree.
B while he was working for a charity.
C after he'd started his first job.
- 3 Arjun was surprised to find that
A blue and pink were both used differently in the past.
B a fact he'd believed turned out to be only half true.
C the link between colour and learning has changed.
- 4 Arjun tells the story of a friend's party in order to
A criticise an ongoing trend.
B suggest a course of action.
C support a prediction.
- 5 What does Arjun hope will happen in the future?
A Babies will wear neutral colours.
B Pink and blue will become less popular.
C People will wear whatever colours they want.
- 6 Arjun mentions a survey in order to demonstrate that
A pink was not preferred in any place.
B people have mixed feelings about pink.
C women continue to like pink into adulthood.
- 7 Arjun says that his future research will focus on how
A the human mind processes colour.
B designers exploit colour to sell products.
C people use colour to express ideas.

4 **4.9** Listen to further extracts from the radio interview. Identify Vanessa's main point (A or B).

- 1 A Toys can determine the skills that a child acquires.
B Children who want to develop certain skills should play with certain toys.
- 2 A Toys help children to learn about different careers.
B Toy packaging can shape a child's future.
- 3 A The toys we purchase affect equality in the workplace.
B What we buy for children can influence industries.
- 4 A It is important to question the effect of toy colour on cognitive development.
B Children are interested in toys which push them to think harder.

6. Strong forms: Therapist

[RfB2First_SB_Track 6.2.mp3](#)



Listening Part 1 Multiple choice

6.2 You will hear people talking in eight different situations. For questions 1–8, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- 1 You hear a woman on the radio talking about her father.
What does she say about him?
A He was not very talkative.
B He was very similar to her.
C He was very sure of himself.
- 2 You overhear a man talking about a former teacher.
What does the man say about the teacher?
A His teaching style was boring.
B His behaviour was distracting.
C His enthusiasm was contagious.
- 3 You hear a woman complaining about one of her employees.
What is she complaining about?
A his untidy appearance
B his poor punctuality
C his impolite behaviour
- 4 you hear part of a radio programme in which a man is giving advice.
Who is he giving advice to?
A parents
B teachers
C teenagers
- 5 You hear two people talking about a friend.
What do they agree about her?
A She is impatient.
B She is indecisive.
C She is bad-tempered.
- 6 You hear a girl talking about her tennis coach.
How does she feel about his coaching methods?
A pleased with the importance he gives to fitness
B impressed by the encouragement he gives to players
C grateful for the individual attention he gives to her
- 7 You hear a man and a woman talking about a person in a photograph.
Who is the person in the photograph?
A the man's sister
B the man's mother
C the man's daughter
- 8 You hear an elderly woman talking to a man about her new neighbours.
What does she like about them?
A They are often away at weekends.
B They have been very friendly.
C They look after their garden.

7. Linking: The Last brownie Friendships


[160FormB2CB86.mp3](#)

[161FormB2CB87.mp3](#)

- 4** **8.6** You will hear part of a radio interview with a woman called Cristina Milenta, who is talking about the importance of friendships.

- 1 What does she say is the most important factor?
- 2 What phrase does she use to say this?

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5  **8.7** You will hear a radio interview with a woman called **Cristina Milenta**, who is talking about the importance of friendships. For questions 1-7, choose the best answer (A, B or C).


- 1 According to Cristina, what is the most important factor in a friendship?
 - A the friends appreciate each other equally
 - B the friends enjoy each other's company
 - C the friends get together regularly
- 2 In Cristina's opinion, we choose friends who are similar to us because
 - A it's easy to talk to people we understand.
 - B they appear to be more approachable.
 - C we want to avoid conflict in our lives.
- 3 How does Cristina feel about the idea that diverse friends make us cleverer?
 - A pleased by the discovery
 - B puzzled by the science
 - C worried about the concept
- 4 How does Cristina feel about different scientific ideas regarding the size of the human brain?
 - A happy that her idea is popular among her peers
 - B frustrated by the reasons behind a new idea
 - C disappointed that she has had to change her mind
- 5 How does Cristina feel about the effect of friendships on our health?
 - A surprised our chance of catching a disease is reduced
 - B concerned it can raise our feelings of anxiety
 - C fascinated by the increase in life expectancy they bring
- 6 Cristina believes that as children, friends
 - A teach each other how to play.
 - B give useful feedback to each other.
 - C learn to be spontaneous with each other.
- 7 Why does Cristina tell a story about her friendship with Maria?
 - A to persuade listeners to spend time with new acquaintances
 - B to encourage listeners to reconnect with long lost friends
 - C to stress the importance of sharing secrets with new friends

9. Vowels: Stranger than fiction


[Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 7 2.mp3](#)

[Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 7 3.mp3](#)

LISTENING

1  **7.2** You are going to listen to a fitness instructor, **Abi**, talking about the **Icaros** virtual reality machine. Listen to the first part of her talk, look at the photo and choose the best slogan for the machine.

- 1 A perfect way to relax at home!
- 2 Exercise and play at the same time!
- 3 Visit the world from your living room!

2  7.3 Listen to the whole talk and complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

Abi thinks most people will probably use the Icaros machine in ¹.....

Abi uses the word ²..... to describe her feeling when she first got onto the machine.

Abi thought the ³..... on the machine were not fit for purpose.


Abi thinks that the machine will be best for working the muscles in the ⁴.....

The manufacturers say users will benefit from spending ⁵..... minutes on the machine every day.

Abi believes that the machine will be ⁶..... for a lot of people, which is its greatest advantage.

Abi enjoyed the ⁷..... game the most.


Abi was surprised how ⁸..... she felt after spending time on the machine.



10. Integration Little Red

Unit 3 [Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 3 3.mp3](#)

LISTENING



1  3.3 Match the phrases in bold in the sentences (1–6) with their definitions (A–F). Listen and check your answers.

- 1 I don't think **white lies** hurt anyone.
- 2 I think only very little children can get away with telling **a big fat fib**.
- 3 He said he was a rock star and I just thought he was **kidding!**
- 4 I **suspect** he's not being completely honest.
- 5 I can't believe I **fell for** such a terrible trick!
- 6 He doesn't know I broke his phone and I'll never **own up to it**.

- A a clear and obvious lie
- B saying something that is not true
- C think something is true, especially something bad
- D admit that you have done something wrong
- E believed something that is not true
- F lies you tell to avoid upsetting someone

- 3 Why does Andrea think that lying might be beneficial?
 - A It helps spare others' embarrassment.
 - B It will conceal negative behaviour from others.
 - C It can let people hide socially unpopular behaviours.
 - D It may be in someone's interest to damage some relationships.
- 4 Paul and Andrea agree that being honest
 - A is extremely unlikely to be achieved by everyone.
 - B should be attempted at all times.
 - C can only be done with external pressure.
 - D will become easier with practice.
- 5 Paul thinks people can tell when they are not facing up to the truth by
 - A considering the consequences they are avoiding.
 - B contemplating their actions in the past.
 - C addressing their most basic fears.
 - D looking at the things they hide.
- 6 Andrea gives the example of a bad performance review in order to
 - A warn listeners of the risks of complete honesty at work.
 - B illustrate how lies that are not stopped can get out of control.
 - C advise people to avoid sharing information that could harm them.
 - D recommend using the truth to determine if a relationship is worth pursuing.

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2   3.4 You are going to listen to an interview with two psychologists about how lying affects relationships. For questions 1–6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

- 1** Paul says that people felt better after telling fewer white lies because
- A** they no longer focused on pleasing others.
 - B** they gave up trying to hide their problems.
 - C** they discovered that behaving naturally was accepted.
 - D** they found it easier to be honest about serious issues.
- 2** What led Andrea to study the psychology of dishonesty?
- A** She realised that telling the truth is a daily challenge.
 - B** She understood that the truth can determine someone's future.
 - C** She felt that the role of truth in life was unclear.
 - D** She wanted to know why she herself had been lied to.

EXTRA

[Unit 4 Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 4 4.mp3](#)
[Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 4 3.mp3](#)

LISTENING

- 1**  4.3 Listen to Katie talking about slow travel. Who is Katie?
- 1** a college student studying travel and tourism
 - 2** a lecturer, teaching students about travel and tourism
 - 3** a travel consultant giving a talk to students on travel and tourism
- 2**  4.4 Listen again and complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

A 'slow trip' to Paris

Katie first learned about the idea of slow travel from a ¹.....

Katie explains that experiencing ²..... is the key aspect of slow travel.

Katie found her choice of travel much more ³..... than she'd expected.

Katie felt ⁴..... before she set out.

Katie was surprised at how ⁵..... the people were.

Katie and her friends were disappointed by the ⁶..... on their trip.

Katie suggests that people concerned about ⁷..... are the most likely to be attracted to slow travel.

Katie uses the word ⁸..... to describe how she will remember Paris.

Unit 5 [Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 5 2.mp3](#)
[Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 5 3.mp3](#)

LISTENING

1 **5.2** Listen to five people talking about how they chose to celebrate the end of their exams. Match each speaker (1–5) with the event they chose (A–E).

- | | | |
|--|-----------|--------------------------|
| A an evening at home with friends | Speaker 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| B a family barbecue | Speaker 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| C a meal out with a large group | Speaker 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D a weekend away | Speaker 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| E a big party at home | Speaker 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2 **5.3** Listen again and complete both tasks.

Task 1

For questions 1–5, choose from the list (A–H) the reason each speaker gives for choosing this kind of celebration.

- | | | | |
|---|-----------|----------|--------------------------|
| A a desire to re-establish relationships from the past | Speaker 1 | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| B a wish to include people of different ages | Speaker 2 | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| C a need to forget about past stresses | Speaker 3 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D a wish to show appreciation to others | Speaker 4 | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| E a need to avoid spending too much | Speaker 5 | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| F pressure to go along with the wishes of others | | | |
| G in response to a suggestion from a friend | | | |
| H in an attempt to avoid problems for another person | | | |

Task 2

For questions 6–10, choose from the list (A–H) what each speaker enjoyed most about the celebration.

- | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
| A the quantity of the food | Speaker 1 | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| B the reaction of others | Speaker 2 | 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| C some good news | Speaker 3 | 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D the support of other people | Speaker 4 | 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| E the number of gifts | Speaker 5 | 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| F a new friendship | | | |
| G some shared memories | | | |
| H some unexpected entertainment | | | |

Unit 6 [Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 6 2.mp3](#)

LISTENING


1 **6.2** You are going to listen to an interview with Aiden O’Brown, a clothing manufacturer, and Samantha Downey, a fashion designer, talking about cheap jeans. For questions 1–6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Aiden says that recently the jeans industry has</p> <p>A gone in two distinct directions.
 B fulfilled its earlier promise.
 C made several mistakes.
 D become harder to manage.</p> <p>2 What does Aiden say is the main reason five-dollar jeans are possible?</p> <p>A The pressures of a highly competitive market.
 B The high numbers of jeans sold after advertising.
 C The impact of a different customer expectations on price.
 D The lack of necessity to make a profit on jeans in some sectors.</p> <p>3 What do Samantha and Aiden agree about the cotton used in more expensive jeans?</p> <p>A It often allows factories to limit leftover material.
 B Its benefits include being grown on more natural farms.
 C It frequently causes health problems for growers.
 D It needs special treatment to look appealing.</p> | <p>4 Samantha thinks the way the jeans are designed and made is important because</p> <p>A certain styles hide problems.
 B some features can be added cheaply.
 C many well-made products last longer.
 D most people recognise a cheap product immediately.</p> <p>5 Both Samantha and Aiden are concerned about</p> <p>A the addictive nature of buying cheap clothing.
 B the way people buy clothes they cannot afford.
 C the amount of clothing that is no longer used.
 D the treatment of the people making the clothes.</p> <p>6 Samantha’s main advice for buying jeans is to</p> <p>A wait until more expensive items are in the sales.
 B choose your budget for each piece of clothing.
 C use your age as a guide to how much to spend.
 D consider how the jeans go with other clothing.</p> |
|---|---|



Unit 9 [Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 9 2.mp3](#)

[Gold Exp B2 Plus WkBk 9 3.mp3](#)

LISTENING

1  9.2 Listen to five people talking about encounters with wild animals. Match the speakers (1–5) with the animals they saw (A–E).

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| A snakes | Speaker 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| B gorillas | Speaker 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| C lions | Speaker 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D dolphins | Speaker 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| E buffalo | Speaker 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2   9.3 Listen again and complete both tasks.

Task 1

For questions 1–5, choose from the list (A–H) why each speaker decided to go and see each type of animal.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|---|--------------------------|
| A to fulfil a childhood ambition | Speaker 1 | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| B to develop a friendship | Speaker 2 | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| C to satisfy a scientific curiosity | Speaker 3 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D to impress others | Speaker 4 | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| E to celebrate a special event | Speaker 5 | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| F to overcome a fear | | | |
| G to avoid spending time with people | | | |
| H to learn a new skill | | | |

Task 2

For questions 6–10, choose from the list (A–H) how each person felt after their encounter with the animal.

- | | | | |
|--|-----------|----|--------------------------|
| A proud of their own achievement | Speaker 1 | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| B determined to learn more about the animals | Speaker 2 | 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| C worried about the condition of the animals | Speaker 3 | 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D disappointed at the animals' behaviour | Speaker 4 | 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| E annoyed at the actions of others | Speaker 5 | 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| F motivated to help a good cause | | | |
| G grateful for the support of others | | | |
| H surprised at their own reaction | | | |

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