



BRAYS

FCE Listening

How to pass the Cambridge FCE Listening Paper



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Introduction

To learn a language the most important skills you need to improve are listening and reading. This ebook explains the format of the FCE Listening exam and provides you with lots of practice for the specific parts.

Who is this book for?

This book is for students who want good marks in the listening section of the Cambridge First Certificate Exam (FCE). It is also useful for any Intermediate student who would like to improve his or her listening.

It is also for teachers. Use it exactly as you like. Forward it to students. Print it out. Use it in class. It's completely up to you.

I hope you find it useful.

Enjoy your English and every success with exams.

Alan Bray

Santander, August 2016.

P.S. You can find other ebooks and free materials to help you prepare for the B2 First Certificate Exam at the following website, brays.es. These cover the other sections i.e. Writing, Speaking and Reading and Use of English.

To buy a Complete FCE or FCE for Schools Online Course with 100 – 150 hours of Listening, Reading, and Use of English practise (including over 50 Exam Practice Papers) [click here](#). Simply practise and take the mock exams until you are sure of exam success.

Spanish speakers can [access this page](#).

What's in the FCE listening exam?

Summary

Time allowed: About 40 minutes

Number of parts: 4

Number of questions: 30

Marks: 20%

Recordings may be from: Monologues: answer phone messages, radio broadcasts and features, news, public announcements, stories and anecdotes, lectures and talks; or interacting speakers: conversations, interviews, discussions, radio plays.

Part 1 (Multiple Choice)

What's in Part 1? Eight short extracts from monologues or conversations between interacting speakers. There is one multiple-choice question for each extract, and you have to choose A, B or C.

What do I have to practise? Listening for feeling, attitude, opinion, purpose, function, agreement, gist and detail.

How many questions are there? 8

How many marks are there? 1 mark for each correct answer.

Part 2 (Sentence completion)

What's in Part 2? A monologue (which may be introduced by a presenter) lasting approximately 3 minutes. You have to complete the sentences on the question paper with the missing information which you hear on the recording.

What do I have to practise? Listening for specific information, stated opinion.

How many questions are there? 10

How many marks are there? 1 mark for each correct answer.

Part 3 (Multiple matching)

What's in Part 3? A series of five themed monologues of approximately 30 seconds each. On the question paper, you have to select five correct options from a list of eight possible answers.

What do I have to practise? Listening for gist, attitude, opinion, purpose, feeling, main points and detail.

How many questions are there? 5

How many marks are there? 1 mark for each correct answer.

Part 4 (Multiple choice)

What's in Part 4? A conversation between two or more speakers of approximately 3–4 minutes. You have to answer some multiple-choice questions by choosing the correct answer from three options (A, B or C).

What do I have to practise? Listening for attitude, opinion, detail, gist, main idea and specific information.

How many questions are there? 7

How many marks are there? 1 mark for each correct answer.

Practice for the FCE listening exam

Click the links below to practice listening for all parts of the Cambridge First Certificate (FCE) Listening Exam.

Part 1

[Test 1 from Exam English](#), [Test 2 from Exam English](#),

[Test 3 from English Aula](#), [Test 4 from English Aula](#), [Test 5 from English Aula](#)

[Test 6 from Virtuale](#), [Test 7 from Virtuale](#), [Test 8 from Virtuale](#),

[Test 9 from Virtuale](#), [Test 10 from Virtuale](#), [Test 11 from Virtuale](#)

Part 2

[Test 1 from Exam English](#), [Test 2 from Exam English](#),

[Test 3 from English Aula](#), [Test 4 from English Aula](#), [Test 5 from English Aula](#)

[Test 6 from Virtuale](#), [Test 7 from Virtuale](#), [Test 8 from Virtuale](#),

[Test 9 from Virtuale](#), [Test 10 from Virtuale](#), [Test 11 from Virtuale](#)

Part 3

[Test 1 from Exam English](#), [Test 2 from Exam English](#)

[Test 3 from English Aula](#), [Test 4 from English Aula](#), [Test 5 from English Aula](#)

[Test 6 from Virtuale](#), [Test 7 from Virtuale](#), [Test 8 from Virtuale](#),
[Test 9 from Virtuale](#), [Test 10 from Virtuale](#), [Test 11 from Virtuale](#)

Part 4

[Test 1 from Exam English](#), [Test 2 from Exam English](#)
[Test 3 from English Aula](#), [Test 4 from English Aula](#), [Test 5 from English Aula](#)
[Test 6 from Virtuale](#), [Test 7 from Virtuale](#), [Test 8 from Virtuale](#),
[Test 9 from Virtuale](#), [Test 10 from Virtuale](#), [Test 11 from Virtuale](#)

Further Listening Practice

The practice above is specifically for the First Certificate exam but there are lots of excellent podcasts and videos to help with your listening and English in general.

6 Minute English from the BBC provides 100s of podcasts on a large variety of topics. They all include transcripts and can be [accessed here](#).

The BBC have also introduced another excellent series of podcasts using very short authentic *Radio News Reports* with transcripts. They can be [accessed here](#).

The *English We Speak*, again from the BBC, is a series of 3 minute podcasts introducing up-to-date authentic phrases that natives speak. These can be found on [this page](#).

Lingohack uses authentic BBC World News bulletins, about 3 minutes in length. This is another excellent resource [available here](#).

[This is a great resource](#) with *Dramas from BBC Learning English*. The latest drama, *The White Elephant*, follows the story of a brand new restaurant and the people who work there. There's a new episode every Friday.

You can also listen to versions of *Gulliver's Travels*, by Jonathan Swift, *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde, *Jamaica Inn* by Daphne du Maurier, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll, and *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens. Again this is highly recommended.

The Sounds of English, [found here](#), gives practice in pronunciation. It provides a guide to the symbols for writing the sounds of English and also videos to show how to pronounce each of the sounds.

Randall's Cyber Listening Lab provides podcasts in American English at different levels. They can [be accessed here](#).

Our web site contains other ebooks at B2 level [accessible here](#) including one entitled Videoteca B2 (1 a 200). This contains 200 videos at B2 level on a wide range of subjects. It is well worth a look.

Finally

To your success

We at Brays hope that the information you have read helps you pass the Cambridge First Certificate Exam (FCE).

There are many websites that will help you and our ebooks give you access to some of the best materials from these sites. By now you have probably realized that best way to acquire a language is by listening and reading so this pdf is particularly useful.

We intend to constantly add to our pdf collection. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Youtube](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) or [Google+](#) to receive notice of new publications.

If you live in Santander, Cantabria or Getafe, Madrid you are very welcome to attend our small B2 First Certificate or APTIS classes where we mainly concentrate on speaking and correction of writings but also give you free online courses to practice whichever exam you might take..

If you are unable to attend an academy, then online tutoring with Sarah is another possibility.

Online tutoring



Sarah is a Management graduate from Warwick University, England, with a Masters from Cranfield University. She also has an 'A' grade Cambridge CELTA certificate and is very highly rated in the English teaching field. [This](#)

[link](#) will take you to her Linked In profile. She can be contacted by phone (00 34) 916 823977 or by email sarah@brays.es

Online Course

If you intend taking the FCE exam you can find an excellent online course, with 100-150 hours of practice covering all sections of the exam, and including over 50 exam papers, [on this page](#). The course is a collaboration between Macmillan publishers and Brays Online and is completely free for students of Brays.

The Spanish version of the page [can be accessed here](#).

Every success with your exams and in life,

Enjoy your English,

Alan Bray

August, 2016