# B1 Preliminary · Listening Parts 1–2: detail and short-extract meaning

B1 Preliminary strategy notes; invented examples, not official Cambridge items.

# The photo and the review

> Part 1 is the photo — one detail, exactly. Part 2 is the review — what the speaker really meant.

- Seven **short extracts**, each with three pictures to choose from.
- Six short conversations asking for feeling, opinion, purpose or agreement.

# The B1 Listening paper

about 30 minutes, 25 questions, every recording played twice

| Part 1 | Part 2 | Part 3 | Part 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7 extracts, 3 pictures | 6 conversations: feeling, opinion | talk: 6 note gaps | interview: 6 questions |

the last 6 minutes: copy answers onto the answer sheet

An interview with six questions

# The correction is the answer

1. **Preview** Name the difference between the options before the recording starts.
2. **Hear all three** "I'd normally go on the evening train. This time I wanted the morning one, but I missed it, so I'm on the afternoon one."
3. **Take the correction** The afternoon one. The first version is bait.

## Decision

The extract corrects itself; the correction is the answer.

# Your turn: the rewording

## Your turn

"I cycled to school today." — which picture?

A. a bus
B. a bicycle
C. a car
D. a person walking

# The cushion trap

| what they say | what they mean |
| --- | --- |
| "The film was… well, the music was nice." | The opinion is negative; the compliment was a cushion. |
| "The food was interesting." | English criticism arrives wrapped in a compliment; unwrap it. |

# Your turn: unwrap the cushion

## Your turn

"The concert? Well, the singer was amazing. The seats were a bit far, honestly." — he feels…

A. completely positive
B. positive, with a complaint
C. negative
D. nothing

# A cushioned opinion

the cushion: *"well, the music was nice"*

the opinion:
**the film was disappointing**

*I expected more* → disappointed

*not bad* → fairly good, no more

*it exceeded my expectations* → impressed

unwrap the cushion; answer with what is inside

> "I expected more" means disappointed

# A trap wearing your face

## The speaker's opinion, not yours

The question asks what the speaker thinks.

The option you agree with is a trap wearing your face.

# Try it

1. **No recording** Teacher-read rehearsal: your teacher reads the extract aloud twice, like the exam.
2. **The extract** "The concert? Well, the singer was amazing. The seats were a bit far from the stage, honestly."
3. **The question** How does he feel about the concert?
4. **The answer** Positive, with a complaint — amazing, plus the cushioned seats.

## Decision

The compliment and the cushion both count.

# Check yourself

- All three options get mentioned — the correction is the answer.
- The music was nice — a cushion; the opinion is negative.
- I expected more — disappointed; the expectation verb carries the **attitude**.
- The option you agree with — a trap wearing your face.