

Listening skills

IGCSE English

Listening for facts

In the listening exam you hear each **recording** 录音 twice. Use both chances well.

Predict before you listen

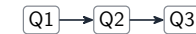
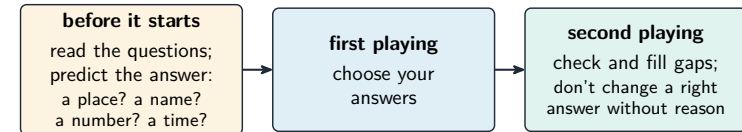
- Read the question before the recording starts.
- **Predict** 预测 what kind of answer you need: a place, a name, a number, a time?

Catch the detail

- Listen for **specific** 具体的 facts: places, names, dates, times and **directions** 方向.
- The answers usually come in the same order as the questions.

Use both playings

- On the first listening, choose your answer.
- On the second, check it. Do not change a right answer without a good reason.



the answers usually come in the same order as the questions

Use the two playings differently: answer first, then check



A radio studio: listening exams ask you to catch facts, attitudes and implied meaning across two playings



Listening carefully: catch facts, attitudes, and what is only implied

Hearing opinions and attitudes

Some questions ask how a speaker thinks or feels, not just what they say.

Opinions and feelings

- Listen for the speaker's **opinion** 观点和 **feelings** 感受.
- Notice the words they choose. Strong words show strong feelings.

Follow the connections

- In a longer talk, ideas **connect** 连接. Follow how one point leads to the next.
- Words like “but”, “because” and “so” show how ideas link.

Listening between the lines

Not every answer is said directly.

Implied meaning

- Sometimes a speaker **suggests** 暗示 something without saying it openly.
- Think about what they really mean, not only the exact words.

Watch the distractors

- In **multiple-choice** 选择题 questions, the wrong options are called **distractors** 干扰项.
- A speaker may mention an option, then change their mind. Listen to the whole idea before you choose.

Q: When is the football match?

“Let’s meet before the match on **Saturday** – oh wait, they moved it to **Sunday**.”

mentioned first –
then corrected: a **distractor**

the correction is
the **answer**

A Friday

~~B Saturday~~

C Sunday ✓

listen to the **whole**
idea before
you choose

A distractor is mentioned first, then corrected - the correction is the answer

Words that signal the answer

Trained ears listen for small words that point to the answer.

- **A correction is coming:** *actually...* / *sorry, I mean...* / *on second thought...* — the words **after** these usually hold the real answer, not the ones before.
- **The key point:** *the main thing is...* / *what matters is...* / *above all...*
- **A feeling or attitude** 态度: *to be honest...* / *the trouble is...* / *I’m delighted that...*
- **Order of steps:** *first...* *next...* *finally...* — these help you follow a sequence.

Catching one signal word can win you a mark. Note them down as you hear them.

Exam tips

- Read the questions before the audio starts and underline the key words in each one.
- You hear everything twice: answer what you can in round one, check and fill gaps in round two.
- Speakers often correct themselves with numbers, days and spellings. The last version is the answer.

- Missed one? Let it go and follow the next question; return to the gap in the second play.
- Write something for every question. There is no penalty for a wrong guess.