

CHUYÊN ĐỀ THÁNG 11

Authentic listening for Gifted Students

Giáo viên thực hiện: Nguyễn Ngọc An

In recent years, unlike other parts, part 3 listening of the exams for Gifted students has remained unchanged. This part always draws its source from the Part 3 Multiple-choice Listening in the CAE or CPE test, although the level of difficulty varies each year. For example, part 3 in the exams for Gifted students 2017 is pretty easy, yet that of the 2018 is not a simple task. This part requires you to comprehend the long extract as a whole so it is not necessary to catch all the words. You will often be asked about the opinions and points the speakers make. Sometimes, especially with tough questions, inference is necessary to deduce the right answer. Here are some tips for this part.

TIPS FOR MULTIPLE CHOICE LISTENING

1. Underline the key words in the questions prior to listening. While listening, look for synonyms and antonyms in the extracts that match those in the questions since they can give you a strong hint.
2. Look for signposts while listening to these kinds of extract. The answers will not appear out of the blue. After giving a lot of background information to confuse you, the speakers may drop some hints implying that they are going to address the questions we need to answer before they actually do it. Make sure you are able to catch this and prepare to listen carefully to the next part.
3. Some answers may seem obvious, but you should be careful and re-read the answers because misleading words like “always”, “really” can be used to trick you.
4. If you are not sure about all 4 choices, infer yourself. Find a logical connection between the answer choices and what you can hear.

5. Try to grasp the gist of the questions and answer choices before listening as the test designers sometimes paraphrase the exercise by phasing in a lot of difficult words or idioms to blur the overall meaning.

Part 2 gap-filling in CAE/CPE also appears the test but the frequency is lower. However, we will still cover that part in this course to leave nothing to chance. The part is not so hard but occasionally, even good listeners can miss some words or choose the wrong words to fill in. The tips for this part are similar to those of IELTS gap-filling, but with some additional advice.

TIPS FOR GAP-FILLING LISTENING

You must maintain concentration all the time since the answers, unlike those of part 2, can come at any time. Before listening, try to figure out what word form you are required to fill in (noun, verb, adjective,...). After you have filled in, read the sentences again to see whether it has a proper meaning or not. Sometimes you may accidentally leave out words and this may cost you points. For instance, if the answer key is “foregone conclusion” and you only write “conclusion”, you will lose all the points

What are the benefits of using authentic listening material?

The speed, clarity, accent and language used in EFL coursebook listening materials means that, more often than not, students are underprepared to engage in “real-life” conversations with English speakers from different countries.

By helping learners to understand authentic language with different accents and dialect, you are giving them a huge advantage both in the real world and also when they are preparing for the listening section of the PTE General exam. This, though, is no easy task! There are a number of factors to take into consideration – and the first of which is where to find suitable authentic listening material for your students.

Where can teachers and students find authentic listening material?

Nowadays, authentic listening material can be easily found online. News websites including BBC, CNN, and ABC (Australian Broadcasting Corporation) all contain video clips with subtitles in English, which are perfect for reading-while-listening activities with your students. YouTube is also a treasure trove of authentic listening, including material like Ted Talks and Vox Pops, which are authentic interviews with members of the public.

When it comes to audio, there are a number of podcasts on a wide variety of topics to exploit for listening comprehension with your students, as well as radio programs from the BBC and NPR, which can also easily be found online.

However, to find authentic listening material that is more suitable for international audiences, BBC World Service and Voice of America (VOA) both provide a large amount of audio and visual material that can be used with your learners. VOA offers material for non-native English speakers that is deliberately easier to understand.

There are many kinds of exercises for authentic listening part.

Multiple choice

Section 1 consists of a 3-option multiple choice exercise, which tests a learner's ability to understand the main details of ten short monologues or dialogues.

To help students prepare for this exercise, you can create your own multiple choice quizzes using online learning platforms such as [Kahoot!](#) And [Edpuzzle](#). For example, you can crop Vox Pop videos from Youtube using an online tool like [ytCropper](#), and design multiple choice questions focusing on the main detail of each dialogue or monologue.

As students become more confident with this activity, you can design questions that focus on more perceptually difficult aspects of the audio, or even encourage your students to create their own multiple-choice quizzes for their classmates to use, based on authentic listening material that they have discovered themselves.

Dictation

Section 2 consists of a dictation activity that assesses a learner's ability to understand an extended audio and transcribe what is heard.

To help students prepare for this exercise, you can have your learners use the first play of the audio to adjust to the speakers' voices, without the need to focus on transcription. Then have them transcribe short sections of the audio during the second play.

For lower levels, begin by having them transcribe short audio clips that are easier to understand, before slowly building it up so that they are able to transcribe longer clips that are slightly more difficult to comprehend.

Note completion

Section 3 comprises a note completion activity, which assesses learner's ability to extract specific information from extended audio.

To help students prepare for this exercise, use the audio's transcript to create simple gap-fill activities for your learners, with the gaps focusing on more difficult elements of the audio.

For lower levels, you can begin by first encouraging them to read-while-listening, before removing single words or simple phrases to listen for from sections of the audio that are easier for your students to understand.

What are you waiting for?

In short, authentic materials are an invaluable resource for you to use in the classroom as you prepare your students for the PTE General Exam and are a fantastic alternative to the listening material found in coursebooks. They will not just challenge your learners to

further improve their listening comprehension skills, but will also introduce them to a number of different genres, topics and cultures. As a result, your students will be inspired to take greater ownership of their learning and preparation for the listening exam.

Exam preparation does not need to be boring. Start using authentic materials in your classroom now and see how far your students' motivation and listening comprehension grow in time for their General Exam!

AUTHENTIC LISTENING EXERCISES

Exercise 1:

Since the 2008 global financial crisis, while some regions have seen 1)_____, others have been 2)_____

The slowest developing cities are 3)_____ found in North America and Western Europe

The fifth fastest growing economy was Dubai, in the 4)_____

Dubai has gained incredible growth as 5)_____

Nearly 75 percent of Dubai's GDP comes from 6)_____

Dubai is also known for man - made ski – slopes, artificial islands, five-star hotels and 7)_____

One of the reasons for Turkey's booming economy is its geographical 8)_____, especially as China seeks to bridge the gap with the 9)_____

Investments can 10)_____ for better trade efficiency in the future

Macau is often referred to as the 11)_____

Macau's economy is declining rapidly, mainly due to 12)_____ in recent years

VIP officials were ostensibly the 13)_____, and without them, the industry 14)_____

Housing shortages and 15)_____ are major problems caused by population growth in developing cities.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYeMnQQgANA>

KEY

1. unprecedented growth	8. location between Europe and Asia
2. stagnating	9. New Silk Road
3. predominantly	10. lay the groundwork

4. United Arab Emirates	11. Monte Carlo of the Orient
5. international transit hub	12. China's crackdown on corruption
6. the surrounding service industry	13. lifeblood of Macau's gambling growth
7. high – rise condos	14. took a big hit
	15. gentrification

Exercise 2:

Both sides have said they're prepared to 1) _____, hiking tariffs even more if the other country does not back down.

The United States has imposed heavy tariffs on 2) _____, which may result in the soaring price of a lot of consumer goods.

China, on the other hand, has targeted things mainly for 3) _____.

China warned it may resort to 4) _____, which can make it really difficult for American companies that want to do business there.

According to Monica de Bolle, we're really in 5) _____.

As China is not quite a 6) _____, it has a lot of leverage that the United States doesn't really have.

7) _____ is exemplified as one of the businesses that would be heavily hurt by the fierce fight between the two economic superpowers.

<https://www.npr.org/templates/transcript/transcript.php?storyId=626664184>

KEY

1. raise the stakes	5. uncharted territory
2. machinery	6. market-driven economy
3. maximum political effect	7. General Motors
4. qualitative measures	

Exercise 3:

Higher quality care, with higher life expectancy and lower rates of disease are often 1) _____ by citizens in the rest of the world.

Spain was one of the top 2) _____ in the world with \$ 3) _____ roughly spent on each person. In its 4) _____ system, most citizens see no out-of-pocket expenses when they visit public hospitals.

Unlike Spain, only 1,6 % of 5) _____ goes towards healthcare costs. In addition, there is Medisave system – a 6) _____, where 9% of employee salaries are required to

7) _____ for personal or family care.

Both 8) _____ are used in the autonomous territory of Hong Kong. However, private hospitals are reportedly speedy but very expensive.

While these three countries get the most 9) _____, applying worldwide is difficult. By comparison, that the United States is enormous, with a population of over 320 million makes 10) _____ harder to implement without serious complications.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UmL1jxQDuFk>

KEY

1. received	6. medical savings account
2. three (ranking) countries	7. deducted (and set aside)
3. 2600/ twenty-six hundred	8. private and public care
4. single-payer	9. bang for their buck
5. Singapore's GDP	10. centralized healthcare/ single-payer health care

Exercise 4:

Education is so important because it is supposed to help us get prepared for the challenges in our life. That's why in most of schools of all kinds 1) _____ with challenges in life is widely studied. However, things such as talent, energy, goodwill, and 2) _____ seem to disappear. In order to improve education it is claimed that what we need is not money but that we must pay more attention to the real purpose of education, which is aimed to help us with: working and 3) _____. To address these needs two crucial subjects must be included in the curriculum. The first one is 4) _____ since we don't fully understand how the economy works. To help to study this subject, maths is taught to help students how to deal with money. It is hoped that students can get more understanding the global economy together with other terms such as leadership, marketing and competition, cash flow, and 5) _____. Secondly students really need to study themselves since we usually misunderstand ourselves. They should be taught a number of concepts and helped towards their personality maps so that they can understand, among with other issues, what type of people they are 6) _____ to go out with.

It is essential that they should also be taught 7) _____ so that they can understand which job they are fit for. Regarding the study of relationships, there must be lessons on techniques such as 8) _____ and on kindness and forgiveness as well.

Education must not be restricted to classrooms or schools. Other forms or fields such as media and arts are also used to help students learn what they really need to. However, the real problem is that we fail to identify the 9) _____ of the problems that we are now facing in education that is we have got the 10) _____.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HndV87XpkWg>

KEY

1. trouble dealing	6. best suited
2. human ingenuity	7. career self - knowledge
3. sustaining good relationships	8. anxiety reduction
4. capitalism	9. real source
5. HR	10. wrong curriculum

Exercise 5:

Google's been the leader in getting the world 1)_____ with virtual reality.

The company's going 2)_____ now and partnering with HTC and Lenovo on a standalone headset made of tougher stuff than Cardboard.

Google is the first major company to release a 3)_____ VR headset. Facebook's Oculus Rift and Sony VR have to be 4)_____ to expensive computers or gaming consoles.

Google's also 5)_____ its augmented reality technology. It announced what it's calling visual positioning service, or VPS.

Bavor says the company actually sees a continuum between its VR and AR technology. It's all part of a future where the virtual and real worlds blur. Google is calling it 6)_____ computing.

There's a lot of competition among the big tech companies to advance these immersive technologies. Facebook, Microsoft and Sony are competitors, and Apple is likely to jump into the fray. But Google has some advantages, like its dominance in search.

Google has a massive 7)_____ and brand, and it's got all this data and 8)_____. And really, none of the other players have all those pieces.

An example of how this advantage works is that you could point your augmented reality-enabled phone at a restaurant, and a 9)_____ would just pop up on the screen from Google search.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/transcript/transcript.php?storyId=529081034>

KEY

1. Acquainted	6. Immersive Computing
2. Full throttle	7. Consumer Audience
3. Standalone	8. Software Expertise
4. Tethered	9. Review
5. Beefing up	

Exercise 6:

One of the main reasons why an increasing number of teachers in Western countries leave their job is the 1)_____ on standardized testing

Pisa is an international assessment of reading, mathematics and 2)_____

This year's ranking saw East Asian countries surpass 3)_____ to dominate the list

In these countries, succeeding in school is 4)_____ as a priority

Singapore is exemplified as one of the countries offering 5)_____ and _____
to teachers

At the other end of the scale, 6)_____ had the lowest PISA scores

It is believed that uneducated population equates to 7)_____

Some point to an emphasis on 8)_____, rather than actual education

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HN9P8uHEtUg>

KEY

1. overwhelming focus	5. bonuses – competitive salaries
2. science literacy	6. Ghana
3. Finland	7. lost economic output
4. culturally stressed	8. repetitive role learning

Exercise 7:

Trump pulled the U.S. out of a 1)_____ at the last minute

What we saw at the G-7 was actually stronger than that. That was, you know, kind of a 2)_____ to undermine relationships and tell these people that he does not really respect them as people

That was just kind of a throwaway line that was meant to 3)_____ and show that you're not going to be able to manage me

Some analysts have said this is 4)_____ the world order or ending the 20th century global power structure

And he's doing it by undermining the alliances that should really be close, especially in the context of a world order that is much more dangerous, much more 5)_____

And so a new president can rebuild the 6)_____ with American allies. But what you can't do is rebuild the global order

As founder and president of the Eurasia Group, you are what Trump supporters would 7)_____ call a globalist

But the fact is that in the developed world, in the United States and the U.K., continental Europe, even Canada, you see that a majority of the population does not feel like they benefited. That's why you saw 8)_____

<https://www.npr.org/templates/transcript/transcript.php?storyId=618975612>

KEY

1. joint communique	5. absent leadership
2. willful desire	6. traditional relations
3. antagonize	7. dismissively
4. reconfiguring	8. Brexit

Exercise 8:

Two industries that Trump slapped tariffs on as a form of protectionism: 1)_____.

This may result in a 2)_____. US trade protectionism affects other countries, which in turns leads to the retaliation of these countries, products being stuck in an endless 3)_____

The last time a trade war took place in the US was during the 4)_____ in the 1930s, with the Smoot – Haley 5)_____ being introduced to protect the US agriculture. The drop in American 6)_____ to Canada is given as an example of the effect of the policy The Trump administration asserts they are not protectionist, they only desire for a 7)_____

Harley-Davidson has responded to the 8) _____ to impose tariffs on motorcycles

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ekCKgUloBU>

KEY

1. steel and aluminium	5. Tariff Act
2. ripple effect	6. exports of eggs
3. tug of war	7. level playing field
4. Great Depression	8. EU threat

Exercise 9:

According to 1) _____, one of the countries with the highest GDP growth is Papua New Guinea

The majority of their GDP comes from 2) _____

The country's GDP annual growth rate is 8 percent, however the profits have not 3) _____ to most populations

Palau relies on tourism so much that it seriously struggled at times when major airlines 4) _____ to the archipelago

Things changed completely in 2014 when China introduced 5) _____ to the island

One of the main reasons for the boom in Ethiopia 's GDP is the 6) _____ of its largest companies

As growth rates are notoriously 7) _____, they are not a guarantee of future success

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bIJtBaKiHdY&t=97s>

1. CIA Factbook
2. mineral deposits
3. trickled down
4. suspended flights
5. direct charter services
6. ongoing privatization
7. unstable and volatile

Exercise 10:

1. What was the Silk Road modelled as?

.....

2. Name THREE things that spread out in parallel with silk.

.....

3. What is the potential of the new Silk Road?

.....

4. What is the new Silk Road described as?

.....

5. What does the new Silk Road seek to?

.....

6. The term the author used to describe the infrastructure plan mentioned in the video?

.....

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhdvLpL9Hg>

KEY

1. The ancient trade roads
2. Religions, philosophies and diseases
3. Change the face of Asia
4. The signature foreign policy initiative (or the largest economic undertaking)
5. Streamline global trade
6. One Belt, One Road

