

Listening C2

Six more practice tests for the Cambridge C2 Proficiency



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Introduction

Welcome to this edition of sample tests for the Cambridge C2 Proficiency Listening, which has been written to replicate the Cambridge exam experience and has undergone rigorous expert and peer review. It comprises six C2 Proficiency Listening tests, 180 individual assessments with answer keys and audio transcripts, providing a large bank of high-quality, test-practice material for candidates.

The accompanying audio files to this resource are available to download from the Prosperity Education website:

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You or your students, if you are a teacher, will hopefully enjoy the wide range of recordings and benefit from the repetitive practice, something that is key to preparing for this part of the C2 Proficiency (CPE) examination.

We hope that you will find this resource a useful study aid, and we wish you all the best in preparing for the exam.

Fiona Aish and Jo Tomlinson

Fiona Aish and Jo Tomlinson are directors of Target English, a consultancy that provides tailor-made solutions in content creation, course provision, training and testing. They have co-written several leading titles in English exam preparation, and create materials and assessment resources for a range of educational providers. They are DELTA-qualified and hold MAs in ELT and Applied Linguistics and Language Testing, respectively.

About the C2 Proficiency Listening

The Cambridge English C2 Proficiency (CPE) examination is a timed assessment, with approximately 40 minutes assigned to the Listening section, which is worth 20% of the available grade and comprises 30 individual assessments.

The Listening section of the examination tests candidates' abilities to follow a diverse range of spoken English, and to understand the speakers' personal opinions and attitudes, specific information being conveyed and also general meaning of lengthier monologues. It is broken down into four parts with one mark awarded to each correct answer:

- Part 1 contains three recordings of people speaking in different situations. Each recording is followed by two multiple-choice questions.
- Part 2 is a longer recording of an individual speaking about a specific topic. In each of the eight sentences that follow, a word or short phrase has been removed.
- Part 3 is a longer recording of people speaking about a specific topic. There follows six multiple-choice questions.
- Part 4 contains five short recordings of individuals speaking about a common subject. Each recording is followed by two questions tasks.

In the exam, candidates will hear each recording twice and will be given time to read the questions before the recording is played. In this resource, the recordings play only once.

For more information, visit the [Cambridge Assessment English website](https://www.cambridgeenglish.org/).

Cambridge C2 Proficiency Listening

Test 1

Part 1

Test 1

Audio track: C2_Listening_2_1_1.mp3

You will hear three different extracts. For questions 1–6, select the best answer A, B or C. There are two questions for each extract. Read the questions carefully before playing the audio. In the exam, you will have the opportunity to listen to each recording twice.

Extract One

- 1** You hear two friends talking about a play they saw at the theatre recently. What is the woman's view of the performance?
- A** It relied heavily on the principal actor.
 - B** It did not do justice to the original.
 - C** It adapted the ending imaginatively.
- 2** According to the man, when watching a play people should be able to
- A** suspend their disbelief when required.
 - B** keep up with multiple threads in the story.
 - C** appreciate the artistic interpretation.

Extract Two

- 3** You hear a gardener talking about plant allergies on a radio programme. How does he feel about the allergy season?
- A** Wary of its negative effects
 - B** Jealous of people not affected
 - C** Disappointed by the lack of treatment

- 4 According to the speaker, the most effective step for gardeners to reduce the impact of allergies is to
- A seek medical assistance.
 - B establish their root cause.
 - C take adequate precautions.

Extract Three

- 5 You hear a manager in a company giving a talk about getting a marketing strategy right. According to the woman, who is the target market for the product?
- A Consumers driven by innovation.
 - B Environmentally conscious consumers.
 - C Consumers looking for a good deal.
- 6 What is the reason for choosing digital advertising channels over print channels?
- A They are more competitively priced.
 - B They are likely to reach the target market.
 - C They have a proven track record of success.

Part 2

Test 1

Audio track: C2_Listening_2_1_2.mp3

You will hear a historian talking about the Channel Tunnel. For questions 7–15, complete the sentence with a word or short phrase (a maximum of three words). Read the questions carefully before playing the audio. In the exam, you will have the opportunity to listen to each recording twice.

The Channel Tunnel

The idea of connecting France and the UK came from the difficulties that arose from **(7)**_____.

The first tunnel proposal suggested using **(8)**_____ to help riders travel through the tunnels.

The UK was reluctant to create a potential **(9)**_____ by developing a cross-channel connection.

Planners were divided as some preferred the idea of a **(10)**_____ for the crossing.

The discovery of a **(11)**_____ determined the type of crossing to construct.

Extra material in the tunnel was extracted from the tunnels via **(12)**_____.

Initial tunnel boring on the **(13)**_____ was the most problematic.

Engineers could work out precise positioning by satellites and the examination of **(14)**_____.

Some of the boring machines had to be **(15)**_____ after the project.

You will hear an interview in which a life coach and a journalist are talking about distraction. For questions 16–20, select the best answer A, B, C or D. Read the questions carefully before playing the audio. In the exam, you will have the opportunity to listen to each recording twice.

- 16** What does Max recommend people do to regain control of their time?
- A** Establish a personal routine.
 - B** Exploit the tools available online.
 - C** Make more of a conscious effort.
 - D** Implement the easiest option.
- 17** Why does Anna advocate immersing ourselves in activities?
- A** To encourage a state of flow.
 - B** To speed up productivity.
 - C** To develop self-confidence.
 - D** To increase our expertise.
- 18** With regard to addressing distraction, Max states that
- A** the best solutions are context-bound.
 - B** some distractions are more powerful.
 - C** it is difficult to ignore many distractions.
 - D** professionals should diagnose solutions.

- 19** What suggestion is given for managing unexpected interruptions?
- A** Address one question per interruption.
 - B** Schedule disruption time in advance.
 - C** Decide on a time limit for interruptions.
 - D** Say when interruptions are inappropriate.
- 20** According to Anna, why do people struggle to overcome distractions?
- A** They give up too easily.
 - B** They don't seek expert advice.
 - C** They use the wrong approach.
 - D** They misunderstand the issue.