

TACTICS FOR TOEIC

Unit 18

Listening Test Part 4 – Talks

Tactics for TOEIC – Talks

Listening Test
Part 4

Talks

Unit 18

FOCUS: Becoming familiar with re-statements.

Being aware of questions involving numbers and quantities

Numbers and quantities are a commonly tested feature in the TOEIC test. The tactics in this section will help you to pick out the correct answers when dealing with Part 4 and other listening parts of the test.

Test Tip

The correct answer choice often uses different words from what you will hear.

Be aware of this and listen for meaning not just the key word.

1 Language building: Re-statements of key vocabulary

- A. Look at the three questions with just the correct answer choice. Circle the words in the typescript which repeat the same or a similar meaning to the words in the answer choice
1. Where is the announcement made?
(A) **At an annual convention**
 2. Which of the following is NOT true about Dr. Abrahams?
(B) **He has fewer than three qualifications.**
 3. What will Dr. Abrahams do tomorrow?
(C) **Take part in a seminar.**

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Test Tip

Specific information questions sometimes appear in the same order they appear in the listening

Focus on the questions in order. When you hear the answer, mark it and move on immediately.

Test Tip

Be careful of questions involving number and quantity

Read the question and carefully note what it is asking, then quickly read the answer choices. When you hear one of the numbers in the listening decide whether it answers the questions or not.

Typescript

Our final speaker today was also our guest presenter at last year's conference. Dr. Harel Abrahams is perhaps best known for his best-selling work "Meeting Business Challenges", but his area of expertise extends far beyond the topics dealt with in that book. A graduate of Yale University, with three graduate degrees to his name, he is the current chair of Economics at McGuire University, and we are delighted that he has agreed to speak to us once more. As well as today's lecture, Dr. Abrahams has kindly agreed to join tomorrow's round-table discussion, which I am sure you will all be keen to attend. So, without further ado, to speak on "Small Companies and Macro Economics", let me present Dr. Harel Abrahams.



Listening 1.53

B. Now listen to three sets of sentences and mark the answer choices that is closest in meaning.

1. Part of the shipment was damaged.
2. They started the job a month ago.
3. Mr. Holmes has been a huge to the team.

<input type="checkbox"/>	A	<input type="checkbox"/>	B	<input type="checkbox"/>	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	A	<input type="checkbox"/>	B	<input type="checkbox"/>	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	A	<input type="checkbox"/>	B	<input type="checkbox"/>	C

Follow up: Compare your answers with a partner.

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Test Tip

Be careful of sound
distractors in
numbers ending in
–teen or -ty

Example: 13 sounds like
30.

2 Test Tactic: Choosing the correct number / quantity answer

A. Underline the key words in the question below, then quickly read the answer choices.

1. How many boats will join the event?

(A) 14

(B) 17

(C) 35

(D) 70

B. Scan the following typescript for the numbers in 1 A-D above. When you find one, decide if it answers the question or not. Remember, the words in the question and the typescript may be different even if the meaning is the same.

Typescript

The Jamestown boat race starts Saturday afternoon at 14 hundred hours, that's 2 P.M., of course. With 70 racing boats competing this year for 3500 dollars in prizes, this is sure to be one of the sailing events of the season.

Spectators should try ...



C. Underline the key words in the question below. Now listen to the rest of the typescript and choose the best answer. **Listening 1.54**

1. How many salvaged items are on display?

(A) 19

(B) 90

(C) 150

(D) 200

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Tactics Checklist

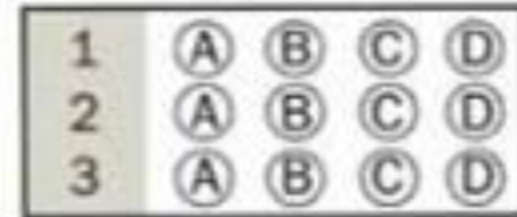
- ✓ Listen for words with the same meaning as the answer choices.
- ✓ Listen for numbers noted in the answer choices and decide if these answer the question or not.
- ✓ Be careful of similar sounding number sound distractors, e.g 13/30
- ✓ Expect information questions to come in the same order they appear in the answer choices.

3 Tactic Practice *Listening 1.55*

Use the tactics you have practiced for the next three questions. Before the start of each question a) predict the content and b) where possible, think of other ways to say the key words or phrases.

1. How many people are requested to attend the conference?
(A) One
(B) Two
(C) Three
(D) Four
3. How much time off can volunteers expect?
(A) About an hour
(B) About four hours
(C) A day
(D) Two days

2. How long does the conference last?
(A) A couple of hours
(B) One afternoon
(C) All day Saturday
(D) Two days



Understanding natural English *Listening 1.56*

Understanding

Natural English

In natural spoken English, sounds are sometimes changed, combined and dropped. Listen to these sentences spoken naturally and write in the missing words.

I won't be able to make bothconference.

She'stop designers.

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B Mini Test *Listening 1.57*

Now practice what you have learnt at the actual test speed with questions 1-12.



Use any time available to skim the questions and answer choices before the first listening starts. When you finish answering the questions about one talk, immediately start previewing the questions for the next talk.

1. What type of movie is *Indigo Heart*?

- (A) A romance
- (B) A comedy
- (C) A mystery
- (D) A drama

2. Which movie features Deborah Legg?

- (A) *Monterrey*
- (B) *Long Vacation*
- (C) *Phantom Knight*
- (D) *Indigo Heart*

3. According to the announcement, how can someone reserve a ticket?

- (A) By using an online service
- (B) By calling the ticket office
- (C) By stopping by the theater in advance
- (D) By sending an email

4. What does Elvira Kaur do??

- (A) She is a fashion designer
- (B) She decorates houses
- (C) She is a student
- (D) She writes books

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5. What happened to Ms. Kaur in September?

- (A) She graduated from collage
- (B) She joined the company
- (C) She was promoted
- (D) She won an award

6. What is the topic of Ms. Kaur's talk?

- (A) Her fashion designs
 - (B) Next year's sales target
 - (C) Her academic background
 - (D) Plans for her group
-

7. Where is this announcement most likely taking place?

- (A) In a university library
- (B) At a department store counter
- (C) In a company meeting room
- (D) In a restaurant dining room

8. What comes in six colors?

- (A) The spring catalog
- (B) The Clam Case
- (C) The Mini-Streamer
- (D) The Kitchen Friend

9. What is stated about the Mini-Streamer?

- (A) It is intended for travelers.
 - (B) It is waterproof.
 - (C) It s popular with students.
 - (D) It is useful in the kitchen.
-

10. What is being sold?

- (A) Exercise equipment
- (B) A training video
- (C) A fitness club
- (D) An exercise book

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11. What is special about this product?

- (A) It adjusts easily.
- (B) It is expensive.
- (C) It can be moved quickly.
- (D) It fits in a small space.

12. What are customers offered if they place an order now?

- (A) An instruction manual
- (B) Free delivery
- (C) A video
- (D) A discount

1	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	7	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
2	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	8	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
3	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	9	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
4	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	10	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
5	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	11	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
6	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	12	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)

Tactics for TOEIC – Part 4



Learn by doing: Introducing People

A. Look at the speech below describing Bill Gates. With a partner write down the questions you would need to ask to get information that is underlined in the text.

Examples:

Bill Gates – *May I have your name, please?*

famous for being the head of the computer company Microsoft – *What are you famous for?*

Today I would like to give you some background on Bill Gates. Although he is quite famous for being the head of the computer company Microsoft, that is not what I am going to talk about today.

Born on Oct. 28, 1955. Bill grew up in Seattle, Washington with his two sisters. His father, William H. Gates II, was a Seattle attorney while his late mother, Mary Gates, was a schoolteacher.

In 1973, Gates entered Harvard University, where he developed a computer operating system. This interest in computers continues to this day.

Apart from computers Bill enjoys reading, and playing golf and bridge.

B. Interview your partner using the questions you wrote. Note their answers and make a similar speech, then write two or three questions about it.

Follow up: test another group of students with your speech and questions

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D Further study.

Write a similar short biography about someone in your family or a famous person.

Write two questions and answer choices to test your classmates in the next lesson.

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Quiz 18

1. Find six words in the puzzle.
Match them to their definition.



1. a person watching an event
2. a timetable
3. very happy
4. to recover something that is badly damaged
5. to understand
6. to be included in a film

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2. Complete the sentences with the following words.

adjust	ambitions	apprentice	background	support
target	Condition	imaginative	latecomers	waterproof

1. I'm training every day to try and improve my overall
2. He joined the company as anbut was quickly promoted.
3. We had reached our salesfor this quarter.
4. They are trained to be: they all want top jobs.
5. Once the concert has begun,cannot enter the auditorium until the interval.
6. The engineering department provides technicaland maintains all the machinery.
7. The film's storyline is very
8. If you want tothe volume.
9. Raincoatsare made out ofmaterial.
10. Is there anyinformation on this company? We're thinking of buying some shares.

Next:

Tactics for TOEIC

**Reading Test
Part 5**

Incomplete Sentences

Unit 19