

Test 2 Key

Listening (approximately 40 minutes)

Part 1

1 A 2 B 3 A 4 B 5 A 6 C

Part 2

7 (playing) tennis 8 schools / a school 9 (an) emerging (field)
10 cooking / cookery workshops 11 journalism 12 scientific papers
13 hardware 14 hospitality tickets

Part 3

15 B 16 B 17 A 18 C 19 A 20 D

Part 4

21 H 22 G 23 F 24 B 25 A 26 G 27 H 28 C 29 B 30 E

Transcript

This is the Cambridge English Advanced Listening Test. Test Two.

I'm going to give you the instructions for this test.

I'll introduce each part of the test and give you time to look at the questions.

At the start of each piece you'll hear this sound:

tone

You'll hear each piece twice.

Remember, while you're listening, write your answers on the question paper. You'll have five minutes at the end of the test to copy your answers onto the separate answer sheet.

There'll now be a pause. Please ask any questions now because you must not speak during the test.

[pause]

Now open your question paper and look at Part One.

[pause]

PART 1

You'll hear three different extracts. For questions 1–6, choose the answer (A, B, or C) which fits best according to what you hear. There are two questions for each extract.

Extract One

You hear two friends talking about people who were once famous but who are now relatively unknown.

Now look at questions one and two.

[pause]

tone

Man: Have you read this magazine article? It's about people that were once internationally famous, like astronauts and sports people, but who now live in relative obscurity, having retired or just given up doing whatever made them famous.

Woman: I imagine that can be really tough – having to recreate a completely new existence away from the spotlight.

Man: Well, in people's minds, they had their metaphorical 15 minutes of fame but after that they sort of cease to exist. I mean, we have this odd approach, we reduce famous people to being identified only through the most pivotal thing they ever did. But that may have occurred very early in their life. But when they're recognised much later on, and that happens all the time, it means they can't forget that thing – and settle into a 'normal life' and that's hard.

Woman: Mmm, I read about one dancer who suffered a profound sense of anti-climax after her career was over, but amazingly set about channelling her energies into other activities, refusing to accept that her life would be defined only by her work – which I guess is a lesson we could all take on board.

Man: Absolutely.

[pause]

tone

[The recording is repeated.]

[pause]

Extract Two You hear two friends talking about swimming in rivers and lakes, a practice known as wild swimming.

Now look at questions three and four.

[pause]

tone

Man: Hey, Sarah – how've you found your first year in our wild swimming group? What got you started, anyway?

Woman: Well, I've been into water sports since I was a kid, but when I first heard about your group, it struck me as mad, if I'm honest – just too daring. I reckoned it'd push my boundaries too far. The thought of untried environments was irresistible, though – all those rivers and lakes out there, just waiting to be discovered. And the unexpected bonus is the fresh dimension it brings to the activity itself – swimming feels much more exciting, and I love doing it with others.

Man: Yeah – it's great for morale, swimming as a group. You positively feel others urging you on. And I also love the fact that it attracts people who wouldn't normally get together – we're a real mix, aren't we? The power of a joint passion, I guess.

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Woman: And you build up a sort of collective memory bank, swimming regularly together, despite different interests away from the water. I mean, witnessing the sunrise on dawn swims wouldn't be half as good alone. And you look out for one other, too – you can't overestimate the importance of that. I've made lasting friendships as well.

[pause]

tone

[The recording is repeated.]

[pause]

Extract Three You hear two friends talking about installing solar electricity systems in private houses.

Now look at questions five and six.

[pause]

tone

Man: I noticed you've had solar electricity panels fitted on the roof of your house. How's that going?

Woman: Good. It's lucky really. The government's just ended subsidies for solar electricity in private homes, but we just squeezed in and got 30% off the cost of installation. Scrapping subsidies is such a short-sighted idea. Now they expect people to cover the full cost! I tell you, it's no way to get people thinking green. And the press don't help, do they? All those scare stories about what a waste of money renewable energy is.

Man: No, they don't. But is it really a good idea for the state to get mixed up in it? It kills off competition I reckon, and that's what's keeping costs so high. Perhaps now, the market will open up.

Woman: Well, we'll soon find out. Either way, we'll all have to accept things like solar power at some point.

Man: Because oil's going to run out you mean? We've been hearing that for years now – everyone's going to have to stop driving and flying, live in eco houses, all that – but it's still with us and technology seems to be helping us keep things the way they are. Don't hold your breath, in other words.

[pause]

tone

[The recording is repeated.]

[pause]

That's the end of Part One.

Now turn to Part Two.

[pause]

PART 2

You'll hear a sports nutritionist called Emily Anderson talking to a group of students about how she helps young athletes with their diet. For questions 7–14, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

You now have 45 seconds to look at Part Two.

[pause]

tone

Emily: My name is Emily Anderson and I'm the founder of Move Nutrition and Fitness. I've been giving advice on sports nutrition for around 15 years now. And I can tell you exactly how I got into this career. It all started because my family really liked eating meals together and, because I loved playing tennis, I gradually developed a keen personal interest in the way I'd perform differently if I ate differently, not just physiologically speaking but also psychologically, the mental gain you might say.

So, I did my degree and I started by volunteering as a nutritionist for a local football team while doing other jobs to pay the bills. Although a few professional teams employed them, schools – which is where I hoped to be working – just didn't take on sports nutritionists back then. But after a few years building up experience, I finally landed my dream job.

However, my specialisation, youth athletics, is still an emerging field rather than an established discipline because historically, there wasn't much thought given to nutrition in young athletes. Nowadays, though, the pressure's on to perform well and young athletes increasingly need nutritional advice as they advance.

As part of my work I regularly run cooking workshops – I get a real kick out of that. And a small but growing part of what I do involves providing personal consultations.

In many countries, becoming a sports nutritionist requires little more than a diploma in basic nutrition, but if you want more professional scope, my advice would be to take an option in journalism as part of your degree, for instance – there are always plenty of chances to do media work when it comes to sports. After all, a sports nutritionist is required to be an excellent communicator and have good people skills. Other skills which are advantageous include marketing know-how, time management and other such business skills. You also need to be aware of the latest trends and while loads of people find blogs interesting, it's scientific papers that'll give you what you really need. I sometimes contribute to discussion forums which can be great fun.

If you're thinking of becoming a sports nutritionist, there are a couple of things to be aware of. If you're self-employed as a consultant, you charge an hourly rate. This can vary from \$60 to \$150 per hour depending on the client, however, remember that when you set up you'll need to spend a lot on what I refer to as the hardware – all the stuff you need to get your business off the ground. If you work in-house for an organisation though, you don't need to worry about overheads like lighting or heating. If financial rewards are what you're interested in, you could be disappointed. But there are a lot of perks

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that make it worthwhile – although it's awesome working with athletes, what I hadn't reckoned on is the hospitality tickets I get. And of course, you'll be in fantastic shape too.

[pause]

Now you'll hear Part Two again.

tone

[The recording is repeated.]

[pause]

That's the end of Part Two.

Now turn to Part Three.

[pause]

PART 3

You'll hear part of an interview with two environmentalists, Carol Jones and James Wilson, who are talking about an approach to conservation called rewilding, and damaged environments.

For questions 15–20, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

You now have 70 seconds to look at Part Three.

[pause]

tone

Interviewer: I'm talking to Carol Jones and James Wilson, environmentalists working with damaged environments. Carol, you're in favour of rewilding to deal with damaged ecosystems. For our listeners, rewilding is a large-scale approach to conservation which aims to restore and protect natural processes in wilderness areas. Tell us why you're in favour of this.

Carol: Rewilding involves both the re-introduction of key species that may have been lost due to eco-damage, and also the eradication of species that are not naturally found in an area. I often explain it to non-specialists as returning an environment to its natural state. Rewilding allows the original types of animals and plants to find food and flourish.

Interviewer: James, you have a different view.

James: Rewilding has its place, but I'd rather support alien species than get rid of them – by alien, I mean species not native to the area they're living in. On the whole, alien species are good for the environment; they usually increase biodiversity and don't often cause extinctions, because they're to do with the environment's own response to the damage people have done. They tend to be more resilient than native species, so prosper more easily, whether it's in soils that have been made salty or forests that have been cut down.

Interviewer: You've produced a report identifying places where native species once lived. Why was that, Carol?

- Carol: People think they know about species that lived in Britain, like beavers and wolves, but imagine this was thousands of years ago – whereas actually the last wolf was killed in the seventeenth century. It seems unbelievable that elephants, hippo – even lions – once lived here – but bones found in London prove it. Armed with this information, we could bring some back – maybe not elephants but other wildlife. The idea appeals not only because it could reverse destruction caused by humans, but also because it seems rather magical.
- Interviewer: In terms of conservation work, do you think we should look to the past?
- Carol: Yes, it's essential to study the past to understand today's ecosystems. I don't see rewilding as backward-looking. The ecosystems that would emerge on rewilded land wouldn't be identical to those that were there before – partly because we've irredeemably lost a lot of species, and of course most scientists think the physical environment has changed through things like climate change, whatever its cause. We've learned that there can't be a fixed ecosystem or group of species.
- James: There really isn't a 'native' ecosystem anywhere, and if there is, it's been messed up by humans. But I think it's the wrong way to look at ecosystems. They're constantly evolving, species are moving in and out all the time. So the whole idea of a stable, natural ecosystem is a misunderstanding of nature. It's not as fragile as we often think.
- Interviewer: Does rewilding have to be an organised large-scale response to damaged ecosystems?
- Carol: I don't think there's one right way of rewilding – there are many, like introducing wildlife corridors – you know – pathways that connect wildlife areas. You see, the biggest problem many species face is what scientists call 'habitat fragmentation' – we've built over areas where previously animals moved around looking for food. Everyone can help with this. I'd like to see people who have individual gardens joining them up to create these wildlife corridors, which could mean planting native trees to create a continuous run from one garden to another, linking them up with existing patches of forest. Species which otherwise wouldn't be able to enter that area could then pass through, and use that as their habitat.
- Interviewer: People have different attitudes to environmental problems – how do you feel about that?
- James: There are undoubtedly occasions where alien species cause a short-term problem for nature and humans – like weeds on farms. On the whole, though, such things are only inconvenient for people economically, but sadly, people can't see beyond that. Where alien species have caused actual harm, it's usually because humans have already messed up the environment – like the water hyacinth, which is clogging up ponds and rivers in some countries, but the plants only do that because the water's already been polluted by sewage and other things.
- Interviewer: So how do you both feel about ...

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[pause]

Now you'll hear Part Three again.

tone

[The recording is repeated.]

[pause]

That's the end of Part Three.

Now turn to Part Four.

[pause]

PART 4

Part Four consists of two tasks.

You'll hear five short extracts in which people are talking about leaving their previous jobs to work freelance from home.

Look at Task One. For questions 21–25, choose from the list (A–H) the reason why each speaker decided to work freelance from home.

Now look at Task Two. For questions 26–30, choose from the list (A–H) the aspect of working freelance from home which each speaker has found challenging.

While you listen, you must complete both tasks.

You now have 45 seconds to look at Part Four.

[pause]

tone

Speaker One: I enjoyed my last job in a small manufacturing firm. The managers took everyone's opinion into account and trusted people to use their own ideas wherever possible. That helped prepare me for going freelance and being in sole charge of all decisions concerning the work I do for various electronics businesses. What I'd give, though, to get a 'well done' now from those same people – or even just a bit of constructive criticism. I guess the flexibility helps to compensate, though. That's what finally did it for me previously – my requests for leave never got a look-in as the bosses always took priority on the rota. I love looking online for cheap deals now – there are some real low-season bargains.

[pause]

Speaker Two: I went freelance three months ago and love it! I've had loads of emotional support from friends and family, which has been great – though I'm going to have to ask them to stop coming round to help out with what they wrongly reckon is too heavy a burden for me alone. They end up making coffees and conversation, which'd be lovely if I had time for it! I need 100% focus just now if I'm to make a success of things. Mind you, being selective about what I do is what lay behind my move towards independence. In my last place, my bosses were constantly giving me more and more to do, which finally got overwhelming.

[pause]

Speaker Three: I used to work as a technical writer in a multinational company where things were quite pressured at times, though, I must admit, anything but dull. I was on pretty decent pay but the daily commute started to get to me – all those cancelled trains and delays – and it struck me I could make better use of the hours I was losing either side of a long working day. Six months on, I've no regrets. There's no problem motivating myself – in fact, I have trouble switching off. I'm relieved, to be honest, when friends call round unexpectedly in the evening – it forces me to disconnect mentally, which isn't a bad thing.

[pause]

Speaker Four: In my last job, I always wondered about going freelance. One of my mates did it a few years ago, and reckoned it was brilliant, though the hours he was working put me off a bit. But I eventually reached the stage when I could no longer stand my manager constantly breathing down my neck. It was the same old story on every project I was involved in – suffocating. Being self-reliant now is liberating – even the fact that I've got no-one to blame but myself if anything goes wrong! I really miss the break-time natters with my team-mates though, but I'm gradually learning to adapt, and realise I've actually accomplished a great deal on my own.

[pause]

Speaker Five: Initially, my last job was exciting – despite an overwhelming amount of work – I never knew what each day would hold. After company restructuring, though, my range of duties narrowed right down and I longed for how things had been. It dawned on me that by setting up independently, I could recapture that initial feeling. So, I struck out on my own and I haven't looked back – and my earnings have increased. It's all too easy to fall behind in my specialism though, and I struggle a bit with staying on top of changes in my field. But I'm proud to say my home's my business base now, even if stuff tends to spill over into every room – it's great.

[pause]

Now you'll hear Part Four again.

tone

[The recording is repeated.]

[pause]

That's the end of Part Four.

There'll now be a pause of five minutes for you to copy your answers onto the separate answer sheet. Be sure to follow the numbering of all the questions. I'll remind you when there's one minute left, so that you're sure to finish in time.

[Teacher, pause the recording here for five minutes. Remind students when they have one minute left.]

That's the end of the test. Please stop now. Your supervisor will now collect all the question papers and answer sheets.