



Unit 1

Listening & Speaking Practice

Listening Practice

◀ Understanding Short Conversations ▶▶▶

In this task, you'll hear ten short conversations. Each conversation is followed by one question. After hearing the question, you should read the four choices and decide which one is the best answer.

- A.** Calming.
B. Encouraging.
C. Criticizing.
D. Complaining.
- A.** He lost a finger in the accident.
B. He broke a car window.
C. He was lucky to be away from an accident.
D. He was hurt by the glass of a window.
- A.** To receive cards with pictures only.
B. To receive a card written specially for her.
C. To get friends' greetings on the phone.
D. To make some cards all by herself.
- A.** Start talking loudly.
B. Start writing clearly.
C. Speak slowly.
D. Read quietly.
- A.** The man doesn't know the value of the vase.
B. The man is always forgetful.
C. The woman is pretty wealthy.
D. The woman attaches more importance to friendship.
- A.** Failure in the job interview.
B. Being fired by the woman.
C. Not being well-prepared.
D. Losing the opportunity.
- A.** Information technology.
B. Education reform.
C. Necessities for daily life.
D. Lifelong education.
- A.** Experienced.
B. Not so responsible.
C. Lacking teaching experience.
D. Well-known.

9. A. She wishes the teacher would talk less.
 B. She finds it hard to follow the teacher.
 C. She wishes to have more courses like it.
 D. She doesn't like the teacher's appearance.
10. A. The first two pages of the book are missing.
 B. The woman has read only three pages.
 C. The book is too difficult for the woman.
 D. The woman has read two chapters.

◀ Compound Dictation ▶▶▶

In this section, you will hear a short passage. The passage will be read three times. When the passage is read for the first time, listen for the general idea. During the second reading, fill in the missing information. The third reading is for you to check your answers.

The biggest problem most people face in learning a 1) _____ language is their own fear. They worry that they won't say things 2) _____ or that they will look stupid. Don't let a little fear stop you from getting what you 3) _____. Using as many different sources, methods and tools as possible will 4) _____ your learning efficiency. The Internet is a 5) _____ resource for virtually anything, but for the language learner it's perfect. The 6) _____ best way to learn English is to surround yourself with it. Take notes in English, put English books around your room, listen to English radio 7) _____, watch English movies and television. The more English material that you have around you, the faster you will learn and 8) _____. By watching English films, especially those with English subtitles, 9) _____. Record your own voice on tape and compare it from time to time. You may be 10) _____ that you may not mind the sound of your voice as much.

◀ Dialogues ▶▶▶

Dialogue 1 Reading Time

Listen to the dialogue and choose the best answer to complete each of the following sentences.

1. The father is reading _____ at the beginning of the conversation.
 A. a novel
 B. a magazine
 C. a newspaper
 D. a textbook
2. The girl wants his father to read _____ to her.
 A. a book about animals
 B. a book on dolls
 C. a book about candy and cookies
 D. Bible stories
3. The girl's teacher says that _____.
 A. the girl can check out books from the library
 B. the girl should read books every day

- C. the girl ought to read at least five books a night
D. the father should read to his daughter every night
4. The girl wants to eat _____.
A. popcorn and cookies
B. ice cream
C. bananas
D. sandwich
5. The conversation takes place _____.
A. in the late morning
B. in the early afternoon
C. in the early evening
D. at the bedtime

Dialogue 2 Two Freshmen

Listen to the dialogue and fill in the blanks with no more than three words.

- The conversation takes place on a _____.
- The two lectures that Joanna has been to are _____.
- There are about _____ students in English class.
- Joanna takes many required courses, like English, _____, _____ and science.
- Peter and Joanna are both _____-year students in the university.

◀ Passages ▶▶▶

Passage 1 One-room Schools

Listen to the passage and choose the best choice to complete each of the following sentences.

- Many educators today feel that one-room schools _____.
A. need to be shut down
B. are too small and too far apart
C. put pressure on teachers
D. provide a good education
- One-room schools have almost disappeared because _____.
A. their quality of education is not satisfactory
B. they skip too many children ahead
C. there is a trend towards centralisation
D. they have to work in conjunction with urban schools
- The major characteristic of one-room schools is that _____.
A. some children have to be left back
B. teachers are always kept busy
C. pupils have much more freedom
D. learning is not limited to one grade level at a time
- The author's attitude towards one-room schools is _____.
A. positive
B. negative
C. critical
D. doubtful

5. The author mainly talks about _____ in this passage.
- A. the present-day elementary education
B. some advantages of one-room schools
C. the disadvantages of one-room schools
D. the history of rural education

Passage 2 Distance Education

Listen to the passage and answer the following questions using as few words as possible.

1. What is the main characteristic of distance education?

The main characteristic is that the teachers and the learners are _____.

2. When was the University of South Africa founded?

It was founded in _____.

3. What is the largest distance education university in the United Kingdom?

It is _____.

4. What is the advantage of distance education for poor students?

They can learn _____.

5. What is its disadvantage of distance education for students who feel uncomfortable with the technology?

They may feel they can't _____.

◀ An English Poem ▶▶▶

Listen and appreciate the poem.

Pippa's Song

The year's at the spring;
And day's at the morn;
Morning's at seven;
The hillside's dew-pearled;
The lark's on the wing;
The snail's on the thorn;
God's in his heaven—
All's right with the world!

琵琶之歌

一年之计在于春；
一日之计在于晨；
一晨之计在七时；
坡上露珠闪光辉；
云雀展翅在翱翔；
蜗牛爬在荆棘上；
上帝天堂司宇宙——
万物世间皆和谐！

注：Pippa Passes, 城市名，也是作品集的名称，《琵琶之歌》是作品集集中的一首诗。

Speaking Practice

◀ Guided Conversation ▶▶▶

Read the following conversation and pay attention to the underlined parts. Then practise the conversation with your partner.

A: Jerry, I was happy with your presentation yesterday.

B: Thank you, sir.

A: Well, you did a good job. You had some excellent ideas. I'd like you to do another presentation next week.

B: I enjoyed working on it. But I'm afraid my pronunciation isn't good enough.

A: You've made much progress on it. I'm sure you'll succeed.

B: Thank you for your encouragement.

◀ Bank of Useful Expressions ▶▶▶

Calming People	Encouraging People
1. Take it easy.	1. Cheer up.
2. Don't worry/be afraid.	2. Never give up./Keep it up!
3. It'll be OK.	3. Go for it!
4. That's all right./Never mind.	4. That's great!/Terrific!
5. Let it be.	5. Well done./Good job.
6. Forget (about) it!	6. (I'm sure) you can do it!
7. It could have been worse.	7. That's better.
8. Calm (Cool) down!	8. One more time and you'll have it!

◀ Task ▶▶▶

Complete the short dialogue following the useful expressions and conversation above.

A: I can't remember all these English words. They are too long!

B: 1) _____.

A: I've spent much more time on English this semester, but I'm making little progress.

B: Oh. 2) _____.

A: What do you think of my homework of this week?

B: That's much better. 3) _____.

A: What about my English composition?

B: 4) _____.

A: But I'm still afraid I can't pass the English exam.

B: Don't worry. 5) _____.

◀ Proverbs ▶▶▶

Read aloud and remember the following proverbs.

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Like father, like son. | 有其父必有其子。 |
| 2. Make hay while the sun shines. | 良机勿失。 |
| 3. The leopard cannot change its spots. | 本性难移。 |
| 4. The tongue is not steel, yet it cuts. | 人言可畏。 |
| 5. To save time is to lengthen life. | 节约时间就是延长生命。 |

Text-based Practice

Vocabulary & Structure

I *Complete the following sentences using some of the words from Texts A and B with the help of the first few letters given.*

- It is hard to imagine that it all began 30 years ago with the purchase of two small paintings at a neighbourhood art gall _____.
- All these groups are similar in that they try to create a supp _____ atmosphere for the disabled.
- There are comp _____ courses and optional courses for students to take at college.
- Hunger may mot _____ not only eating but also restlessness before mealtime.
- The singer noticed this unfav _____ attitude of the audience and was confused by it.
- Most of the leaders in our school viewed the exh _____ and gave high praise of them.
- This was an infor _____ meeting between the leaders, their first meeting since the prime minister was elected last month.
- Those small factories were closed because they caused a lot of envi _____ pollution with all their noise and smoke.
- All Harvard freshmen are supposed to take a semester of elem _____ expository writing.
- Students are encouraged to part _____ in various social activities in their spare time.

II *Translate the expressions in Column A into Chinese and those in Column B into English.*

Column A

- engage the adult's interest

- be applied to novel situations and challenges

- participate in creative writing sessions

Column B

- 吸引游客的好奇心

- 运用于科学研究

- 参加一个网上在线调查

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 4. drive up the number of adults in learning
_____ | 4. 让越来越多的学生出国留学
_____ |
| 5. obtain one's degree in engineering
_____ | 5. 获得生物学学位
_____ |
| 6. provide people with knowledge
_____ | 6. 给地震受害者提供食物
_____ |
| 7. weigh the costs against the returns
_____ | 7. 权衡利弊
_____ |
| 8. acquire in-depth knowledge
_____ | 8. 得到深刻的理解
_____ |
| 9. see museum as the first point
_____ | 9. 将学习成就看成是一个里程碑
_____ |
| 10. lag behind our academic achievements
_____ | 10. 落后于经济发展
_____ |

III *Fill in the blanks with the words given in the brackets together with the prepositions or adverbs that go with them. Change the form where necessary.*

Model: Isn't it time you (get) got down to some serious work?

- The principle of diligence and frugality (节约) (apply) _____ all undertakings.
- The other element that (drive) _____ the cost of living has something to do with population.
- The ice will (break) _____ when warm weather comes.
- Mary considered herself highly privileged (享有权利) in being allowed to (participate) _____ the research.
- The elder people and children always (lag) _____ when we go for a walk.
- I found it unfair to (blame) _____ the failure of the business _____ George.
- We would like to see the day when China (see) _____ an economic power in the world.
- The success of promotion (depend) _____ much more _____ luck and human skills than on intelligence.
- The local government tries every means to (provide) _____ food and shelter _____ the earthquake victims.
- Statistics show a 20% reduction in burglary _____ (compare) last year.

IV *Complete each of the following sentences with the proper form of the word given in the brackets.*

- (*motivate*) The stronger _____ one has, the more quickly a person will learn a foreign language.
- (*environment*) People all over the world are increasingly concerned about the _____ issues.
- (*lack*) The more knowledge I have acquired, the more I have found myself _____ in knowledge.
- (*pursue*) After graduation, David dreamed to come to China, _____ a PhD degree in Chinese culture.

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5. (*deprive*) If the brain _____ oxygen, people will die.
6. (*witness*) The last half of the 19th century _____ the steady improvement in the means of travel.
7. (*offend*) I apologize if I _____ you, but I assure you that it was unintentional.
8. (*pick*) People in London manage by getting the vegetables _____ fresh and rushed in carts to the markets without any delay.
9. (*predict*) Usually academic achievements are more controllable and _____ than promotion in career.
10. (*accomplish*) With the _____ of the bridge, they have built another three bridges this year.

V Translate the following sentences into English.

1. 他的注意力被商店橱窗内展览的新玩具吸引了。(engage one's attention)

2. 在一定的条件下, 失败可以转化为动力。(under certain conditions)

3. 你若能终身学习, 将会受益匪浅。(keep doing sth. through one's life)

4. 警察到来时, 聚会散了。(break up)

5. 大学毕业后, 他打算继续攻读经济学硕士学位。(pursue a master's degree in)

6. 如果我们一心想学好一门外语, 就会产生内在的动力。(long to; internal motivation)

7. 我们不应该把实验失败只归咎于落后的设备。(blame...on)

8. 我感觉难以将实情告诉她, 担心她受不了。(find)

Grammatical Exercises

I Complete the following sentences with appropriate words in their correct forms.

1. emphasise, emphasis, emphatic
- 1) Intensive reading _____ real understanding.
- 2) He answered the question with an _____ "No".
- 3) It is unadvisable for all schools to lay _____ on the study of foreign languages.
2. constant, constancy, constantly
- 1) Keeping learning throughout your life is essential in a _____ changing world.

2) A happy family is partially dependent on the _____ between husband and wife.

3) You are a _____ friend to me and always encourage me whenever I am in trouble.

3. achieve, achievable, achievement

1) It gives you a sense of _____ if you actually make it to the end of a very long book.

2) The government's training policy, he claimed, was _____ its objectives.

3) Before you set your targets, make sure that they are _____.

4. acquire, acquisition

1) She _____ a knowledge of English by careful study.

2) Aid education provides a good opportunity of the _____ and application of knowledge.

II Fill in the blanks with the correct forms of the words in the brackets.

Passage 1

In some lands certain kinds of insurance are compulsory. In others, most kinds are 1 (practical) unknown. In addition, the cost of insurance and the type coverage 2 (provide) vary 3 (wide) from country to country. But the 4 (fundament) principal of insurance—sharing risk—remains the same.

5 (nature), the more property a person owns, the more he has to lose. 6 (similar), the more family 7 (responsible) a person has, the greater the impact if he or she dies or becomes physically 8 (disable).

Yet, is it wise to spend money on insurance even though a claim may never be made? Is keeping a spare tire in the car a wasted 9 (invest), even if the tire is never needed? The sense of 10 (secure) to the car driver may make the expense of the extra tire worthwhile.

Passage 2

1 (tradition), universities have carried out two main 2 (act): research and teaching. Many 3 (academy) would argue that both activities play a critical role in 4 (serve) the community. The fundamental question, however, is: How does the community want or need to be served?

In recent years, universities have been coming under increasing 5 (press) from both governments and the public to 6 (sure) that they do not remain "ivory towers" of study separated from the 7 (real) of life. University teachers have been encouraged, and in some cases constrained to provide more courses which produce graduates with the 8 (technique) skills required for the 9 (commerce) use. If Aristotle wanted to work in a common institution in the UK today, he would have a good chance of teaching computer science but would not be so readily 10 (employ) as a philosopher.

III Choose the best answer to complete each of the following sentences.

1. Although we have reasons to believe otherwise, the editor believes they can write _____.

A. as well as we do

B. well as we do

C. as well we do

D. as well than we do

assist the millions of people visiting the Gallery each year. We also offer employment opportunities in library science, accounting, facilities management, administration, information systems, and other technical areas.

A complete listing of vacancy (空缺) announcements for which we are currently recruiting can be found on the website of the Office of Personnel Management. We usually issue vacancy announcements on Fridays, so please check back regularly for new opportunities. Our automated jobline is accessible 24 hours per day, 7 days per week at (202) 842-6298.

You may apply for most jobs with a résumé or the Optional Application for Federal Employment (OF-612). Please submit the Applicant Background Survey (MS Word 36K) with your application materials. This is an optional form that you are encouraged to include. You will not be disqualified for failure to submit it, and such information will be utilized only for EEO (Equal Employment Opportunity) reporting purposes.

You may submit your application materials by:

Mail: National Gallery of Art
Personnel Office
2000B South Club Drive
Landover, MD 20785

Phone: (202) 842-6282

Fax: (202) 789-3011

Email: staffing@nga.gov

Hours:

The Gallery's personnel office is open to the general public Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:30 pm.

Location:

National Gallery of Art
601 South Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Public Transportation:

The nearest Metro stops are Judiciary Square on the Red Line and Archives on the Yellow/Green Lines. See also the area map on this website.

Jobline: (202) 842-6298, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

The above passage is an advertisement on employment opportunities at the National Gallery of Art.

After reading it, you are required to complete the outline below.

1. The institutional property of the National Gallery of Art: _____
2. Two kinds of differently funded positions:
_____ funded positions and _____ funded positions
3. The issue of job vacancy announcements:
Time: _____
Place: _____



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4. The way to submit one's application materials: by _____, _____, _____ or _____
5. Time available for job consultation on the phone: _____, _____

Passage 2

Initial Similarities and Differences Between Museums and Libraries

It was pointed out that some types of museums were more similar to libraries than others, for example, some have their own reading corners. One of the key factors separating libraries and museums is that most museums place a greater emphasis on conserving their collections. While some libraries have special collections they would want to preserve, for the majority, the focus is on providing an up-to-date range of resources which meets the current needs of users. This leads to obvious differences such as the fact that museums do not generally lend objects from their collections in the way that libraries do as a matter of course.

Some interviewees felt that museums tended to offer more learning opportunities for children than adults and were especially strong at primary level. This indicated a difference between the museums and lifelong learning officers in libraries who, due to the remit (职权范围) of their posts, tended to place more emphasis on adults. However, it does suggest that more areas of commonality (共性) might exist between museum education staff and children's or school library service librarians in public library authorities.

Several interviewees felt that the strength of museums lay in their original artefacts (人工制品) which offered immense learning opportunities. However, it was acknowledged that the museum's collection might limit its general appeal to learners to some extent. Being based on book collections, libraries had more opportunity to "go out in any direction" and, possibly, attract a wider audience.

Many of the learning activities offered by libraries and museums are similar in nature, for example, storytellers and summer activities. Another similarity is that many libraries organise small-scale exhibitions. It was felt that libraries could learn from the experience of museums in this respect and, with their help, design displays in a way which would attract learners.

Another difference between museums and libraries is that a visit to a museum is often seen as more of an "event". Although this can help to highlight its significance for learning, there are disadvantages if the visit is seen as an isolated event which does not often impact in the longer term on the subject being studied. This can mean that experiences may not be utilised to the full, mainly due to time constraints in schools.

In short, there are many similarities between the way that museums and libraries support learning but the focus is different.

The above passage talks about the initial similarities and differences between museums and libraries. After reading it, you are required to give brief answers to the five questions below.

1. In what way are some museums said to be more like libraries?

2. What do most libraries place a greater emphasis on?

They place a greater emphasis on _____.

3. What makes libraries place more emphasis on adults?

4. Compared with book collections in libraries, what are museums' learning opportunities based on?

They are based on their _____.

5. What does it possibly mean if the visit to museums is considered as an isolated event?

Passage 3

The Education of Benjamin Franklin

History has given Benjamin Franklin a place of enduring fame. He was a writer, an inventor, a scientist, and a statesman. His life history has enjoyed popular success for more than 200 years.

Franklin's education at school stopped when he was ten years old. But he never stopped learning. For him, books held the key to living happily and successfully. They were precious gifts.

In his early youth, he had a friend who worked for a bookseller. Sometimes his friend would lend him books, which he was careful to return quickly. Often he sat up in his room reading most of the night in order to return a book before his friend's employer noticed its absence.

But Franklin was not a lonely scholar. For him, learning was a social experience. In his autobiography, he tells about organising a club called the "Junto", which met every Friday night to improve its members' minds.

"The rules I made required every member, in turn, to produce one or more questions on any point of Morals, Politics, or Natural Philosophy. The question would then be discussed by the whole group." Also, once in three months, each member was required to read an article he had written on any subject he pleased.

"Our discussions were directed by a president and conducted as an honest search for truth. We were to avoid unpleasant arguments or a desire for victory. Any member who did not obey these rules had to pay a fine."

The Junto which Franklin organised continued for many years. It was the best group for the discussion then. The questions were given to the members during the week before they were to be discussed. This encouraged the members to read carefully about each subject so that they might speak with more understanding.

When the Junto was organised, before the middle of the 18th century, there were no public

libraries. There was not even a good bookstore south of Boston, Franklin decided to improve this situation.

Each member of the Junto owned a few books. A room had been rented in which the members held the meetings. Franklin suggested that all the members should bring their books to the room. In this way the books would be a help to all during the weekly discussion. Also, each member would be allowed to take and read at home any book he chose.

Throughout his life, Benjamin Franklin continued his education, learning from human contacts as well as from books.

Choose the best answer to each of the following questions according to the above passage.

- From the passage we know that Benjamin Franklin was _____.
 - a man of many talents and with great reputation
 - a scholar with much school education
 - the founder of the first public library in the United States
 - a man who contributed a lot of money to a club called the “Junto”
- Any member of the “Junto” who did not obey the rules would _____.
 - be required to read an article
 - be dismissed from the club
 - lose some money due to punishment
 - be questioned by other members
- Benjamin Franklin believed that books _____.
 - provided a means to achieve success in one’s life
 - were so valuable as to be presented often as gifts to others
 - could improve people’s thinking and understanding each other
 - were not to be read unless shared with others
- In order to encourage people to read more books, Benjamin Franklin _____.
 - rented a large number of books from each member of the “Junto”
 - suggested that the members of the “Junto” share books among themselves
 - asked each member of the “Junto” to read books during the weekly discussions
 - managed to open a bookstore south of Boston
- We can come to the following conclusions EXCEPT that _____.
 - learning is a lifelong activity
 - education does not merely mean learning from books
 - learning is an experience shared with others
 - enough school education is absolutely necessary for all children

Translation

Translate the following sentences chosen from the above three passages into Chinese.

1. While many positions require a background in art history, there are also numerous positions for employees involved with aspects of the museum's daily operations.
2. A complete listing of vacancy announcements for which we are currently recruiting can be found on the website of the Office of Personnel Management.
3. One of the key factors separating libraries and museums is that most museums place a greater emphasis on conserving their collections.
4. Some interviewees felt that museums tended to offer more learning opportunities for children than adults and were especially strong at primary level.
5. Often he sat up in his room reading most of the night in order to return a book before his friend's employer noticed its absence.
6. Throughout his life, Benjamin Franklin continued his education, learning from human contacts as well as from books.

Writing Practice

Sales Letter

Sample

Bright Mobile Communication Co., Ltd.
52 Changjiang Road
Nanjing, 210000
China
Sep. 23rd, 2006

Dear Sirs,

Our company is a medium-sized company specialising in cell phones. Six months ago, in order to meet users' increasing demand for a multi-function cell phone, a group of company experts began a new research project. Now, the new product is right before your eyes. It will be put into the market early next week. With its multi-functions, it can be used as a calculator, a computer, an alarm clock, a game player, a message sender, etc. All this will make it easier for you to communicate with your business partners. It is featured in its pleasing design, excellent quality and portable size.

In addition to a trade discount stated, we would allow you a first order discount of 5%. You will find enclosed leaflets of our latest products.



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We look forward to your early reply.

Sincerely yours,
Hank White

Simulation Writing

Write a Sales Letter according to the information given below.

南京兄弟电脑有限公司的王星给美国Dick进出口公司去函，推销公司的产品。具体内容如下：

1. 本公司专门生产个人电脑；
2. 为了满足用户对袖珍个人电脑日益增长的需要，本公司的专家们早在两年前就开始了一项新的研发项目；
3. 现在研究出来的产品已呈现在顾客面前，下月初将投放市场；
4. 我们的产品功能多，会使人们的生活和工作更方便；
5. 除了贸易折扣外，再给贵方的第一笔订单5%的折扣。

Words for reference:

投放市场：put into the market

多功能：multi-functions

给予5%的折扣：allow a 5% discount

Brothers Computer Company, Ltd.
68 Shining Road
Gulou District
Nanjing, 210008
China
Jan. 16th, 2007

Dick Import & Export Co., Ltd.
112 Broadway
New York, 112100
USA
Dear Sirs,
