



How to listen

Warm-up

Do you listen to everything that happens around you? Or do you try to ignore sounds?

Ex.1 . Match the words to their definitions.

1. roughly a. a mixture of loud, unpleasant sounds
2. a cacophony b. approximately
3. a sound bite c. a short memorable extract from a recorded interview or speech
4. trivial d. a situation that could happen
5. conscious e. done on purpose
6. embedded f. fixed into
7. understated g. not trying to attract attention
8. a scenario h. unimportant

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cSohjlYQI2A>

Ex.2 . You are going to watch a sound expert talk about how to listen better. Before you watch, Put T (True) or F (False) next to the statements below, then watch the first part of the talk to confirm or correct your answers.

1. We spend about 40 percent of our communication time listening.
2. People are not usually aware that they filter different sounds.
3. The ways of recording things that we have invented mean we don't listen as carefully to things.
4. Silence will help you to listen better.
5. Paying attention to everyday sounds isn't a good way to enjoy listening to things.
6. To change the way that you listen, try listening from a different position.

Discuss any of the questions below.

1. What makes listening skills of people unique?
2. Why intention is important in listening?

3. What does the lack of listening lead to? What can happen without a conscious listening?

Ex.3 Before you listen to the second part of the talk, do the same as in the previous activity and put T (True) or F (False) next to each of the statements below.

1. The acronym to achieve better listening is an ancient word for conscious.
2. The word 'so' is very important when you are communicating with someone.
3. According to the speaker, listening is taught as a skill in some schools.

Discuss any of the questions below.


1. Do you think that people don't listen to each other anymore? Why/why not?
2. What sounds do you enjoy? What sounds don't you enjoy? Why?
3. Which of the techniques mentioned in the talk do you think are good ideas? Do you think you might try any of them?
4. Have you ever thought of listening as something that important? Do you agree with Julian Treasure that listening should be taken seriously?

Now you are going to listen some of the sounds and tell what feeling or thoughts you get while perception.

(Нужно сделать нарезку из звуков. Каждый звук может быть в формате аудио и отдельным файлом. Под ним нужно написать то, что на английском.)

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ICRsLjMeso> (первые 20 секунд)
This is the sound of nature
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AiS2N8HdRXw> (первые 20 секунд)
This is the sound of a thunderstorm during a shower
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EZzu30GTzRw> (с 0:14 до 0:34)
That's how Sun sounds
4. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P_S9I7Rl8Fg (до 0:30)
The sound of a plane
5. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JpQzMohD5yE> (с 0:10 до 0:26)
A celebrity walking towards the stage to achieve her award

Discuss the quote



“Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen.”

– Winston Churchill,
British wartime Prime Minister

1. Do you agree or disagree with the quote?
2. How is it relevant to our topic?
3. Does it take much struggle for you to listen to the close ones?