

TOEFL Listening Practice Paper 12
Listening Practice Set 1

Amir: Hi, er, can yo
Sure,
what's the
problem?
I've got to
write an
essay on
electrical
distribution
and
transmissio
n systems,
but I can't
find any
suitable
books in
the
engineering
section on
level three.
u help me?

Librarian:
Amir:

Librarian: Have you used the library search engine?

Amir: You mean where you type the keywords into the computer? Yes, I've done that. A couple of books come up but they're not on the shelves, someone's taken them out.

Librarian: Well, I can put a reserve on them so that when the person brings them back to the library, we can put them on one side for you. Do you want to do that?

Amir: Mmm, I don't know. I suppose so, but ideally, I'd like to get started on my essay sooner rather than later.

Librarian: Well, there are some other options. Have you used the journal database?

Amir: No, what's that?

Librarian: Didn't you go on a library induction tour in the first week of term? They were running five days a week, morning and afternoon.

Amir: No, I was, er, I was ill that week.

Librarian: Well, we still do two library inductions a week on Wednesdays, and I recommend you go on one of them. You'll learn a lot of useful things. You can sign up at the desk on level two.

Amir: Yes, I probably should do that then.

Librarian: Well, I'll just quickly show you how you can use the journal database. If you go onto the library homepage on the computer, look, and click on databases, here in the top right hand corner, it takes you to all the e-journals that we have access to here at the university library. You can use the search engine to find journals that are related to your keywords. See, if I type in electrical transmission, you get over five thousand articles.

Amir: Wow.

Librarian: So, that's a good place to start. Meanwhile, you can always go and talk to your subject librarian. The person for Electrical Engineering is Mark Taylor. His office is on level four.

Amir: Will he be there now?

Librarian: Let me see. What's the time? Twelve fifteen. He'll probably be on lunch, or if not, he'll be going at twelve-thirty. You'd be best to wait and come back at two-ish. Then you'll be more likely to catch him.

Amir: Okay, thank you.

1. Which of the following has Amir done already?

- A Used the library search engine
- B Reserved some books
- C Used the e-journals
- D Been on a library induction tour

2. On how many days per week are library inductions currently available?

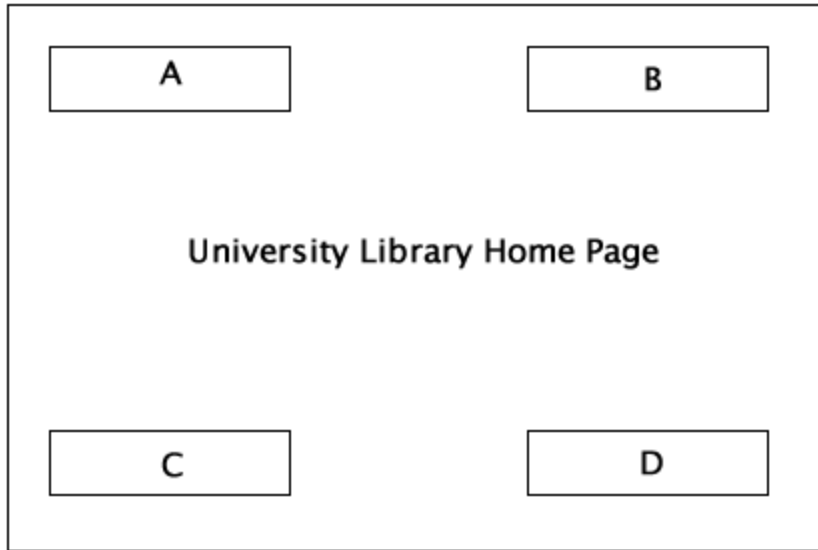
- A 7 days per week
- B 5 days per week
- C 2 days per week
- D 1 day per week

3. What can Amir do on level two?

- a) Use the computers
- b) Sign up for a library tour
- c) Find the electrical engineering books
- d) Meet Mark Taylor

4. Where on the library homepage is the link to the database of journals?

- A
- B
- C
- D



5. What time does the librarian recommend that Amir returns to meet the subject librarian?
- a) At around 12.15
 - b) At around 12.30
 - c) At around 1.00
 - d) At around 2.00

Listening Practice Set 2

Accommodation Officer:

Sorry to keep you waiting. What can I do for you?

Student:

Erm, well, I need some help finding accommodation for this semester.

You've left it a bit late haven't you? You'll be lucky to find anything.

Yeah, well I had a room lined up with someone in town, but I rang her yesterday and it turns out she's given the room to someone else.

Didn't you pay a deposit?

No. I didn't think I needed to. We had a sort of... informal agreement.

Hm. Very informal by the sounds of it. Well, that'll teach you for next time won't it? Well, we don't have a lot available, I have to say. We definitely don't have any rooms available in the student dorms. I mean, there are always a few no-shows, but we won't know about that for another couple of weeks, and presumably you'll need a place to stay in the meantime?

Yeah. I mean, my parents are here now. We're staying in a motel just out of town, but they'll be leaving in a couple of days.

Well, you could always stay on there for a couple more weeks and then take up any free spaces in the dorms when we know about them.

That might be a problem. I mean, I don't have my own transport so it'll be hard for me to get on and off campus.

Well, that's likely to be an issue whatever you do. You won't find anywhere on campus now.

I suppose I could sleep on a friend's floor for a couple of weeks.

Now now, you know that's against college rules, don't you?

Yes, I guess.

Well, it seems to me you have two options. You can either find a motel or a guest house somewhere closer to the campus where you can stay a couple of weeks until we know about any students who don't show up this term. Mind you, they're going to be pretty full now, what with all the students arriving. And there are a lot of people on the waiting list, so we can't guarantee you a dorm. You may be better off looking for some private accommodation in town, you know renting a room in a private house, or sharing a flat with other students.

Yeah, that might be best. Do you have a list of places here?

Well, we've got a folder over there of people in town with rooms available. You can look through it and jot down some numbers. Bear in mind though that we've had about fifty students a day for the past week coming in and taking a look at it, and we can't keep track of what's available and what's taken. You'll have to do some ringing around.

Yeah, okay.

Of course, you can always look on the student body website. There's an accommodation page there too, isn't there?

Is there?

Yeah, but again, this time of year, things are getting snapped up all the time. It's hard to keep tabs on what's still out there.

Okay, well, thanks for your help. Can I put my name on that waiting list anyway, in case I don't find anywhere else?

Sure. Write your details on this form and we'll get in touch if anything comes up.

Thanks.



1.

Why is the student looking for accommodation now? ✘ Incorrect

- A. The accommodation she booked is no longer available.
- B. She forgot to book accommodation earlier.
- C. She signed up for the course at the last minute.
- D. She dislikes her present accommodation and wants to change.

2. What does the man imply when he says 'Well, that'll teach you for next time won't it?'

Student: No. I didn't think I needed to. We had a sort of... informal agreement.

Accommodation Officer: Hm. Very informal by the sounds of it. Well, that'll teach you for next time won't it?

- A. He thinks the student was foolish.
- B. He feels sorry for the student.
- C. He wants to give the student some advice.
- D. He expects the same thing to happen again.

3. Why doesn't the student want to remain where she is staying now?

- A. It is too far from the college campus.
- B. She doesn't want to stay with her parents.
- C. The rooms are too expensive.
- D. She is currently sleeping on the floor.

4. What sort of accommodation may the man be able to offer her in a couple of weeks?

- A. a room in a student dorm
- B. a room in a motel
- C. a room in a shared student flat
- D. a room in a private house

5. What is the problem with the accommodation listed in the folder and on the website?

- A. It goes out of date very quickly.

- B. There aren't many addresses listed there.
- C. Most accommodation was booked up long ago.
- D. There is a waiting list for the accommodation listed there.

Listening Practice Set 3

Amy: Hey, Jim, do you mind if I ask you about something?

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Jim: Sure, Amy, what's up?

Amy: I'm thinking about leaving the history course.

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Jim: You're not going to drop out of college are you?

Amy: No, I mean, I don't think so, but I'm considering transferring to another major. I'm just not sure if history is the right thing.

Jim: Why not? It's not like you've been doing badly in your assignments or anything is it? I thought your grades were okay.

Amy: Yeah, it's not that.

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Jim: Don't you like the course?

Amy: Yeah, of course I do. It's just that, I'm worried that I won't have learnt anything useful by the end of it. It's not like there are many jobs to be had as a historian, are there?

So, when I get to the end of the course, I'm only going to have to train as something else in order to get a decent job. Well, as far as I see it, I might as well be doing that training now, instead of learning about the... Romans.

Jim: But don't you find it fascinating? I do. There's nothing in the world I'd rather be learning about!

Amy: Yeah, of course. I do, Jim. The course is great and the professors are all really

enthusiased, and that's really inspiring. But I just can't see the point of it all. It's a lot of hard work, after all. And I'm not sure I'm going to come away with anything useful at the end of it.

Jim: Well, what are you thinking of doing instead?

Amy: Maybe something like business or management.

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Jim: I can't think of anything duller.

Amy: Yeah, I know it's not riveting, but that's not the point.

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Jim: Well, it is, actually. The way I see it, college isn't for making you employable. It's for really getting to grips with something you find fascinating, meeting like-minded people and debating the world's issues. It's a golden opportunity to do the things you love for four years without being burdened by the outside world. The employability aspect is just an added bonus.

Amy: Mmm... So what do you intend to do after?

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Jim: I'm thinking of training as a teacher. That way I can use what I've learnt.

Amy: You'd be really good at that. You're really keen and you really get people excited about what they're doing. I couldn't do that though. It's not really my thing.

Jim: Yeah, but there are a lot of other employers out there who really appreciate the skills that we history geeks learn as part of our course.

Amy: Stuff like what?

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Jim: Like sourcing information, gleaning what's relevant and what's not, critical analysis, and writing skills of course. And all those presentations we do. All those things are transferable to other jobs. That sort of things makes them really enthusiastic.

Amy: It's a bit of a waste, though, if you never use what you've learnt.

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Jim: What I think you should do is go to the careers office and talk to them. They'll be able to tell you what sort of careers you can get with a background in history. They should be able to convince you that it's worthwhile to stay on.

Amy: I talked to Professor Jacques already.

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Jim: Oh Professor Jacques doesn't know anything about that sort of thing. I doubt if she'd ever left the college since she entered it and that must have been fifty years ago. See someone in the careers office. They'll know what they're talking about. Hopefully they'll give you some suggestions of things you can do with a history degree and convince you that business isn't the way to go.

Amy: Okay, I'll try that.

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Jim: Great.

What is the main point of the discussion?

Job prospects for students doing their course

Grades for a recent assignment

The advantages and disadvantages of going to college

The quality of the teaching on their course

2. Why is the woman concerned?

She feels she is not learning anything useful.

She has been receiving poor grades.

She is not enjoying her course.

She is finding the course very difficult.

3. What does the man appreciate most about studying at university?

Studying a subject in depth

Getting involved in discussions

Meeting people with diverse interests

Teaching others about what he has learnt

4. The man says that employers will appreciate the woman's ____.

A. transferable skills

B. ability to train others

C. enthusiasm

D. knowledge of history

E.

5. What is implied about Professor Jacques?

She has never worked outside the university.
She is a good person to ask about careers.
She is more approachable than the other professors.
She teaches on both the history and the business course.