

LISTENING POWER

Language Focus • Comprehension Focus • Listening for Pleasure



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Introduction to *Listening Power 1*

To the Teacher

Helping students develop strong listening skills is an important part of any language program. Good listening skills are a necessity in the classroom and the workplace, as well as in social interactions. In addition, standard English-language tests, such as TOEFL[®], TOEIC[®], and IELTS[®], also require solid skills in listening. Listening was once considered a passive skill, but research has shown that successful listening requires the listener's active engagement. Listening is also considered by many learners to be the most challenging language skill.

The *Listening Power* series is designed to help learners meet the challenges of listening in English and provide students with the effective listening strategies that they need. It also provides a wealth of practice materials designed to facilitate listening fluency.

Listening Power 1 has three separate parts, each related to one of three important elements of effective listening. Unlike other listening skills programs, *Listening Power* does not require classes to begin with the first unit and work their way page by page to the end. Teachers and students are encouraged to skip from part to part and unit to unit.

Part 1: Language Focus—The units in this section target specific language skill areas that are often challenging for learners when they listen. These include understanding various types of questions, understanding numbers and time expressions, and understanding contractions. After each **Skill Presentation**, there is a set of practice activities, followed by the **Put It Together** section, which provides consolidated practice with longer, more challenging listenings centered on an interesting topic or theme. Teachers may choose to have students complete Put It Together exercises immediately after completing the skill sections or use them for later review.

Part 2: Comprehension Focus—This part of the text includes two sub-sections. The units in the **Building Skills** section present skills required to comprehend longer conversations and lectures, such as understanding main ideas, supporting ideas, and details; making inferences; and separating opinions from facts. Each Building Skills unit includes integrated practice activities. The **Applying Skills** units offer high-interest, theme-based listening texts and additional practice activities designed to help students put their new skills to practical use.

Part 3: Listening For Pleasure—This part of the book is just for fun! Lessons are designed to build students' confidence in listening by presenting enjoyable motivating topics and contexts, such as TV shows and stories. These lessons can be used at any time during the course to provide a change of pace and to show students that listening can be interesting and pleasurable.

Although the unit structure varies somewhat from part to part, most of the longer listenings follow this pattern:

Unit Warm Up: These activities activate students' prior knowledge of the topic.

Before You Listen: This section includes a **Vocabulary Preview** which targets high-frequency, useful words from the listening text. In addition, students have an opportunity to predict the listening content.

While You Listen: Students listen and complete one or more tasks which practice what they learned in the Skill Presentation.

After You Listen: These activities integrate speaking to reinforce the target listening skills. Tasks are designed to stimulate discussion and critical thinking about issues raised in the listening.

A wide variety of topics are discussed in *Listening Power*. All were chosen to be engaging and of high interest to as many learners as possible.

The authors of the *Listening Power* series hope that both you and your students find this series useful and enjoyable.

To the Student

Welcome to Listening Power!

Listening is a very important language skill. Most people spend more time listening than they do speaking, reading or writing. Listening is important in the classroom, at work, and in social situations. However, learning to listen in another language can be difficult. When you listen to a TV show, movie, lecture, or conversation in English, you may feel overwhelmed and “tune out” (stop listening).

Listening Power will help you improve your listening skills. You’ll practice listening to sentences, short conversations, longer dialogs, mini-lectures, and parts of radio and TV shows. As you listen, you’ll complete different types of activities to help you build useful vocabulary and understand and respond to what you hear in English.

In class, you will work on your own, in pairs or groups, and as a whole class. To get the most out of this course, you need to relax and focus on just listening. Don’t worry if you don’t understand everything that you hear or if you cannot complete an activity. If you have problems, ask your teacher to repeat a listening or help you with the activity.

Listening Power 1 has three parts, so it is like three books in one. However, you do not have to complete the parts in order. You and your teacher are encouraged to work on more than one listening skill at one time, and to practice the skills that you and your classmates need most.

Part 1: Language Focus—The units in this part of the book focus on challenging language skill areas. For example, you’ll listen to different types of questions, statements involving numbers and letters, and time expressions.

Part 2: Comprehension Focus—In this part, you will listen to longer conversations and mini-lectures, and practice important listening skills, such as understanding main ideas and details and making inferences. The **Applying Skills** units at the end of Part 2 offer interesting listening texts and additional practice activities to help you use your new listening skills.



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Part 3: Listening For Pleasure—These lessons will allow you to enjoy listening to folk stories and parts of TV shows in English as you build your listening skills.

To really improve your listening skills, the authors recommend that you try to listen to English as much as possible and use your English whenever you can. Listen to the radio, and watch television shows and movies in English. Take part in conversations in English, and visit Internet sites that provide practice listening to English.

We hope that you find this series useful and enjoyable.

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PAR

1

Language Focus

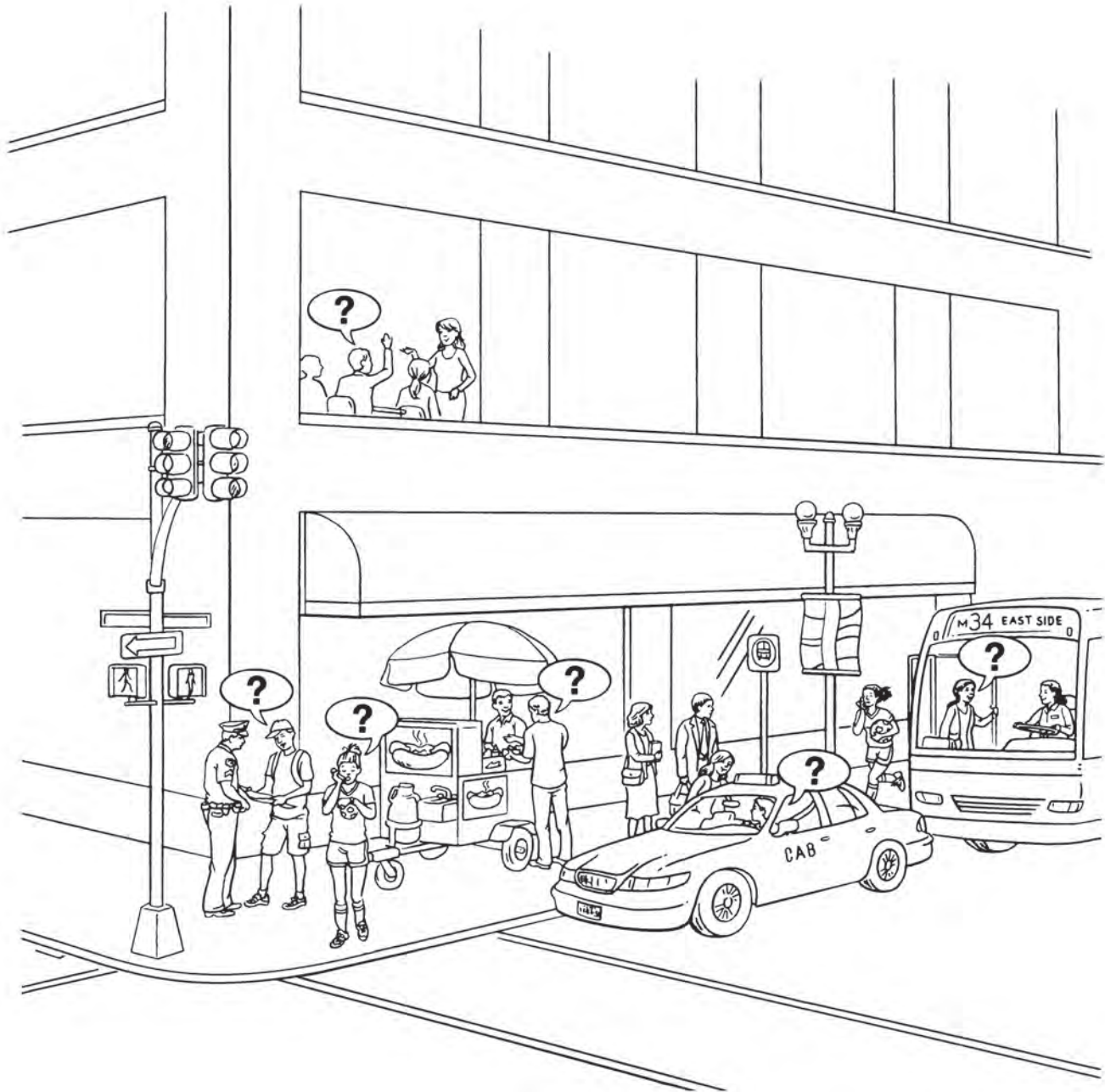
UNIT 1

Understanding *Wh*- Questions

Unit Warm Up

Work with a partner. Look at the picture. What are the people doing? What questions do you think they are asking? Use the words below to help you.

Who...? What...? Where...? When...? Why...? How...? Which...?





SKILL PRESENTATION

Wh- Questions

Many questions in English begin with question words that start with *Wh-*: *Who*, *What*, *Where*, *When*, *Why* and *Which*. Sometimes these are called “information questions,” because the *Wh-* words ask for different kinds of information. We can also include the question word *How* with the other *Wh-* question words.

When you understand what kind of information the speaker is looking for, it’s easier to understand how to answer.

A. Listen to the questions and responses.

Questions	Responses
1. Who are you calling?	Steve. It’s his birthday today.
2. What do you call this in English?	A stapler.
3. What time does the movie start?	The late show starts at 9:30.
4. Where does the #18 bus go?	I think it goes to the mall.
5. When is your birthday?	It’s October 27th.
6. Why are you late?	Because I missed the train.
7. Which Chinese restaurant do you like best?	Jade Palace. It’s great.
8. How do you turn on the printer?	Press this button here.
9. How often do you go to the gym?	Three times a week.
10. How much does that phone cost?	It’s about \$100.
11. How about ordering a pizza?	That sounds great.

B. Listen and repeat the questions.

Check Yourself**A. Match the question words or phrases to the type of information they ask about.**

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| ___ 1. Who | a. a reason |
| ___ 2. What | b. a time or date |
| ___ 3. Where | c. a fact; the name of something |
| ___ 4. When | d. a person |
| ___ 5. Why | e. the way something happens |
| ___ 6. Which | f. a place |
| ___ 7. How | g. one thing/choice from a group of more than one |
| ___ 8. How often | h. an amount or a number |
| ___ 9. How much/many | i. the number of times something happens |

B. Complete the questions. Then ask and answer them with a partner. More than one answer may be possible for some items.

- _____ do you live?
- _____ is your last name?
- _____ brothers and sisters do you have?
- _____ does this class finish?
- _____ is your favorite sport to play?
- _____ is your favorite actor?
- _____ do you eat in restaurants?
- _____ is the nearest bus stop?
- _____ is your English teacher?
- _____ are you studying English?



Wh- Questions and Intonation

In English, both statements and *Wh-* questions end with falling intonation. In *Wh-* questions, the speaker's voice typically rises and then falls at the very end of the sentence. You need to listen carefully. The *Wh-* word at the beginning tells you the speaker has asked a question.

A. Listen to the questions and responses.

Questions	Responses
1. When is your birthday?	It's October 27 th .
2. Where does the number 18 bus go?	I think it goes to the mall.
3. Who are you calling?	Steve. It's his birthday today.
4. What time does the movie start?	The late show starts at 9:30.

B. Listen and repeat the questions.

Check Yourself

A. Listen. Do you hear a *Wh-* question or a statement? Check (✓) your answers in the boxes at the left.

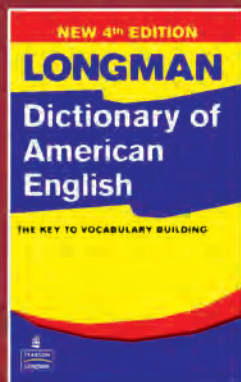
	<i>Wh-</i> question	Statement	<i>Wh-</i> question word or phrase
1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
5.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
6.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
7.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
8.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

B. Listen again. For each *Wh-* question in Exercise A, write the *Wh-* question word or phrase that you hear.

LISTENING POWER

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The perfect partner
for *Listening Power 1*

Listening Power is a new three-book series with a targeted approach to teaching the listening skills that students need inside and outside the classroom and on standardized tests such as the TOEFL and TOEIC.

Listening Power 1 features three distinct parts designed to be used concurrently.

- **Language Focus** teaches essential and sometimes difficult to understand language structures such as *Wh-* questions, *Yes/No* and alternative questions, contractions, numbers and letters, and time expressions.
- **Comprehension Focus** presents skills for understanding the topic, listening for main ideas and details, and making inferences. Activities to help students apply the skills follow the presentation.
- **Listening for Pleasure** uses interesting audio material from movies, TV, radio, and recorded storytelling to help students understand the more subtle meaning communicated through tone of voice, sentence stress, and reduced forms.

The *Listening Power* Series:

	ISBN-10	ISBN-13
<i>Listening Power 1</i> Student Book	0-13-611421-0	978-0-13-611421-5
<i>Listening Power 1</i> Classroom Audio Program	0-13-231541-6	978-0-13-231541-8
<i>Listening Power 1</i> Teacher's Pack	0-13-611422-9	978-0-13-611422-2
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<i>Listening Power 2</i> Classroom Audio Program	0-13-231543-2	978-0-13-231543-2
<i>Listening Power 2</i> Teacher's Pack	0-13-611426-1	978-0-13-611426-0
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