

IELTS Mock Test 2025 March

Listening Practice Test 1

HOW TO USE

You have 2 ways to access the listening audio

1. Open this URL <https://link.intergreat.com/BIDKe> on your computer
2. Use your mobile device to scan the QR code attached



Questions 1-7

Complete the form below.

Write **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

Details of Order

Party Host	Example: Customer's <u>oldest daughter</u>
Occasion	18th birthday
Number of Guests Invited	1 <input type="text"/>
Customer Budget	2 <input type="text"/> £800
Marquee Size	3 <input type="text"/> X 9 metres
4 <input type="text"/> Cost	£450
5 <input type="text"/>	£150
Lighting Cost	approximately £ 6 <input type="text"/>
Number of Guests	seated 30 / standing 50
Furniture Cost	per table £4.00 / per chair £3.00
Dates Marquee Required	Set-up date 7 <input type="text"/> To be taken down on June 7th

Questions 8-10

Complete the form below.

Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

Customer Details

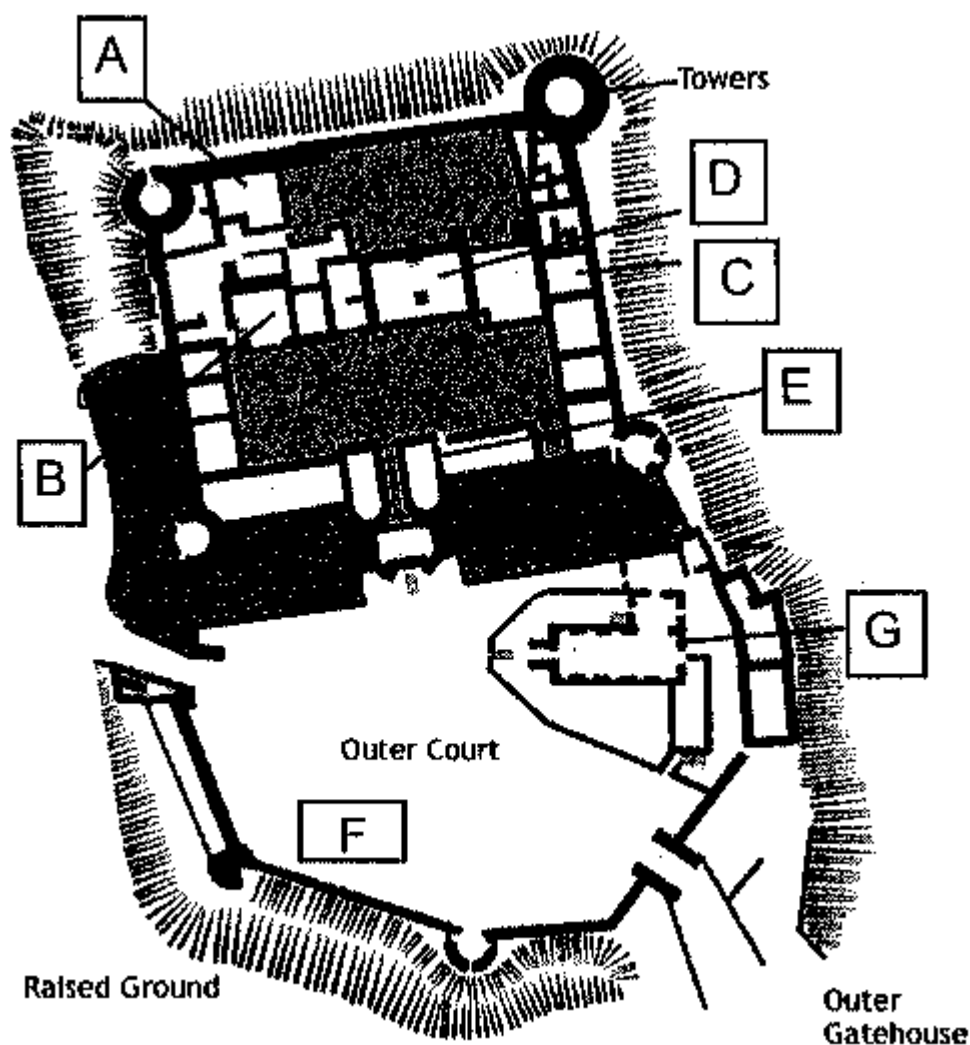
Name	8 <input type="text"/>
------	------------------------

Postcode	9 <input type="text"/>
Contact Number	10 <input type="text"/>

Questions 11-15

Label the map below of a typical medieval castle.

Write the correct letter, **A-G**, next to **questions 11-15**.



11 Chapel

12 Great Hall

13 Great Chambers

14 Bakehouse

15 Stables

Questions 16-20

Choose the correct letter, **A**, **B** or **C**.

16 Medieval castles

- A** ☐ shared a common design.
- B** ☐ were each unique.
- C** ☐ had the same methods of fortification in common.

17 The early medieval Keep served as

- A** ☐ a prison and fortified tower.
- B** ☐ a fortified tower and living area.
- C** ☐ a fortified entrance to the inner castle area.

18 In later medieval castles, the Keep

- A** ☐ evolved into a set of different buildings.
- B** ☐ was used purely for accommodation.
- C** ☐ played a less significant role in the castle's domestic life.

19 Underground dungeons were built in response to

- A** ☐ a shift in the medieval belief system.
- B** ☐ the Keep being no longer used for prisoners.
- C** ☐ a call for harsher treatment of prisoners.

20 The least effective line of defence was

- A** ☐ the portcullis.
- B** ☐ the drawbridge.

- C** ☐ the barbican.

Questions 21-25

Choose the correct letter, **A**, **B** or **C**.

21 Julie and Dave thought the lecture

- A** ☐ gave a new insight into Shakespeare's style.
- B** ☐ offered a thought-provoking view on Shakespeare and his work.
- C** ☐ explained Shakespeare's belief in ghosts.

22 Hamlet was a play

- A** ☐ which reflected popular belief in the supernatural.
- B** ☐ that recorded historical events.
- C** ☐ seemingly in conflict with accepted beliefs.

23 In the time of James I

- A** ☐ a belief in ghosts was not tolerated.
- B** ☐ more people believed in ghosts.
- C** ☐ certain religious beliefs were not acceptable.

24 Shakespeare introduced ghosts into plays

- A** ☐ because he believed in a spirit world.
- B** ☐ as a theatrical device.
- C** ☐ to provoke religious debate.

25 Shakespeare's audience would probably have

- A** ☐ secretly approved of a supernatural content in plays.
- B** ☐ shown approval for plays with a supernatural content.
- C** ☐ disapproved of the inclusion of ghosts in plays.

Questions 26-30

What does Julie say about the following subjects?

Write the correct letter, **A**, **B** or **C**, next to **questions 26-30**.

A	cornful, dismissive
B	open-minded
C	believing

26  witches / astrology

27  ghosts

28  UFOs/alien

29  premonitions

30  telepathy

Questions 31-35

Complete the notes below.

Write **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** for each answer.

Darwin is credited with having 31 _____ popular beliefs about Man's creation. However, Alfred Russell Wallace simultaneously came up with an 32 _____ to Darwin. Unfortunately for Wallace, Darwin seems to have been given the 33 _____ for the theory of evolution. Darwin's theory 34 _____, upsetting the religious authorities of his time. Today, it is often accepted that Man is a product 35 _____ and not spontaneous creation.

Questions 36-40

Complete the sentences below.

Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** for each answer.

The absence of a 36 _____ might be seen by some to discredit Darwin's theory.

Finding an evolutionary bridge between Man and ape would provide

undeniable 37 _____ the theory of evolution.

When 38 _____ of the Piltdown Man was first unearthed in 1908, it seemed Darwin's theory was no longer in doubt.

In fact, the hoax proved 39 _____ that scientists and the Press alike believed in its validity.

After 40 years, Piltdown Man 40 _____ as being no more than a fake.



Solution:

Part 1: Question 1 - 10

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 80 | 2 maximum limit |
| 3 4.5 (metres) | 4 Hire and installation |
| 5 (Cost of) carpeting | 6 55 |
| 7 June 5th | 8 Jenny Lakewell |
| 9 CV6TL3 | 10 07944 325883 |

Part 2: Question 11 - 20

- | | |
|------|------|
| 11 G | 12 D |
| 13 C | 14 A |
| 15 F | 16 B |
| 17 B | 18 C |
| 19 A | 20 C |

Part 3: Question 21 - 30

- | | |
|------|------|
| 21 B | 22 C |
|------|------|

23 C

24 B

25 A

26 A

27 B

28 C

29 B

30 C

Part 4: Question 31 - 40

31 (single-handedly) revolutionised

32 Identical theory

33 sole credit

34 proved extremely controversial

35 of evolution

36 missing link

37 proof of

38 the skull

39 so convincing

40 was declared

Part 1

You will hear a telephone conversation between a caller and a representative of a company hiring marquees. First you have some time to look at questions 1-7. [Pause 30 seconds]

You will see that there is an example that has been done for you. On this occasion only, the conversation relating to this will be played first.

Representative: Good afternoon! Magnificent Marquees, how can I help you?

Caller: Oh hello, I would like to hire a marquee. You see, it's for special occasion. My **Example eldest daughter's** celebrating her 18th birthday and her coming of age. There was no question of her waiting until her 21st, although I'm sure we'll be having a big celebration then, too!

Representative: So, you're celebrating in style! Well, of course, I'd be happy to help. First, could you give me some details about guest numbers?

Narrator: The customer wants to hire a marquee for her oldest daughter's 18th birthday, so you write 'oldest daughter' in the space provided. You should answer the questions as you listen because you will not hear the recording a second time. Listen carefully and answer questions 1-7.

Representative: Good afternoon! Magnificent Marquees, how can I help you?

Caller: Oh hello, I would like to hire a marquee. You see, it's for special occasion. My eldest daughter's celebrating her 18th birthday and her coming of age. There was no question of her waiting until her 21st, although I'm sure well be having a big celebration then, too!

Representative: So, you're celebrating in style! Well, of course, I'd be happy to help. First, could you give me some details about guest numbers?

Caller: Right, yes...Well, I was anticipating just a small 'do' but my daughter seems to have other ideas!

Representative: Well, you can't blame her; It's a special day! Caller: I guess...I told her to limit numbers to around 50 guests but the guest list seems to be growing daily. She would like to invite double that number but we decided to split the difference and settle on **Q1 80** rather than 100!

Representative: If you don't mind some of the guests standing, then our marquee sizes always allow standing space for almost double as many as those seated. For

instance, one of our smaller marquees seats 30 guests but accommodates 50 standing. Caller: That sounds interesting. How big is that marquee? As not only am I working to a budget but also we're limited by our garden size.

Representative: Can you give me an idea of both your budget and the size we're looking at?

Caller: Yes, I'm thinking of spending between £400-£600. I can stretch to another hundred or two but that's the **Q2 maximum limit**. As for size, well, our garden's 15 metres by 30 metres.

Representative: OK... Well, our **Q3 4.5** by 9 metres marquee would fit in nicely. The **Q4 hire and installation** comes to £450 but that allows you to have the marquee for 2 days.

Caller: The marquee size you mentioned sounds fine and will accommodate the guests that we are expecting. Yes, I think that's the size I'll go for.

Representative: So, now as to the cost of lighting and fittings... Caller: Oh, will that be very expensive?

Representative: It depends on what you want but the **Q5 cost of carpeting** the marquee will add on another £150. With regard to the lighting, prices vary quite a bit. If you opt for chandelier

lighting, then it's another £90. But that's the most expensive option. Otherwise, the average pricing is around £ **Q6 55**.

Caller: I think I'll go for the more economic lighting then.

Representative: Then there's the furniture: tables and chairs and so on. You decided on seating for 30 guests... Well, at £3 per chair, that will work out at £90 in total. You will then probably need 5 tables at least and so with each table costing £4, that brings us to a total of £20 for the tables.

Caller: OK, so I'm still just within my budget. Great! I'll go ahead with the booking then.

Representative: Wonderful. So there's only one more important detail that I need. When would you like us to set up the marquee?

Caller: Well, my daughter's birthday is **Q7** on June 6th, so ideally a day **beforehand**. Then we could have it taken down the day after her birthday.

Representative: Yes, no problem.

Caller: Great. Well, I'll go ahead with the order then.

Representative: Wonderful!

Narrator: Before listening to the rest of the conversation you have some time to look at questions 8-10. [Pause 30 seconds] Now listen and answer questions 8-10.

Representative: OK, so that I can process your order, I need to take down some details. May I start by taking down your name and postcode?

Caller: Yes. It's **Q8 Jenny Lakewell**, and the postcode's **Q9 CV6 TL3**. Representative: Is that Jenny with a double 'N'?

Caller: Yes, that's correct.

Representative: And is that Jenny with a 'Y' or an 'IE' at the end?

Caller: Yes, it confuses everyone. I use the first spelling.

Representative: And, I'm sorry, I didn't quite catch the postcode, was that 'CB6'?

Caller: No, It's with a 'V', not a 'B'. So it's CV6.

Representative: Right you are. Can I have a contact number also, please?

Caller: My mobile number is 0-7-9-0-0 4-5-6. Oh, hold on a minute!

I forgot I've got a different number now. So it's **Q10 0-7-9-then double 4, not double 0, followed by 3-2-5-8-8-3**.

Representative: Great! That's everything for the moment. We'll be sending you details and an invoice through the post in the next few days.

Caller: OK. And thank you for your help. Goodbye!

Narrator: That's the end of Part 1. You have half a minute to check your answers. [Pause 30 seconds]

Now turn to Part 2.

Part 2

You will hear a history teacher talking to students in a class. First you will have time to look at questions 11-15.

[Pause 30 seconds]

Now listen carefully and answer questions 11-15.

Today we are going to study the typical layout of a medieval English castle. Highly fortified and with difficult access, medieval castles were impressive strongholds, designed to keep the castle's inhabitants safe and the invaders at bay.

Q11 The main entrance would have been the Outer Gatehouse, located at the bottom right-hand corner of the diagram, just by the chapel buildings. However,

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even If you had entered via the Outer Gatehouse into the castle grounds, you would still have been outside the main part of the castle. The buildings in the Outer Court were not the main residential areas of the castle. These latter buildings belonged to the inner castle area and were heavily protected both by a water-filled channel known as a 'moat' which extended around a third of the inner part of the castle as well as the fortified walls around the castle exterior.

To enter the Innermost area you had to enter a long, narrow tunnel known as a barbican, over, and directly above which, the Gatehouse was located. The barbican, being the only access point to the inner castle, was narrow and heavily guarded to prevent large enemy forces storming the inner castle area, The inner castle area held the main buildings around which dally life revolved. Here the Great Hall, along, with the Great Chambers and Kitchens were lo-cated, as well as the castle Bakehouse. **Q12** The Great Hall was the only building with a courtyard view to the back and front. **Q13** Whilst the Great Hall enjoyed a central location in the inner castle area, the Great Chambers and Kitchen were less prominently positioned. Both of the latter buildings were located off to either side of the Great Hall. **Q14** The Great Chambers, unlike the Bakehouse. which is next to one of the towers, did not enjoy a courtyard view. **Q15** Part of the exterior castle wall formed the back wall of the Great Chambers as it did with the Stables, located in the Outer Court.

Narrator: Before you hear the rest of the discussion you have some time to look at questions 16-20. [Pause 30 seconds]

Now listen and answer questions 16-20.

The layout I have just described will give you a better idea as to the design of a medieval castle. There was no blueprint for castles though and the design and **Q16** layout of each castle was determined greatly by local demands, function and purpose for which the fortification was intended. What we see in the castle design here is an advance on earlier medieval designs. Those medieval castles that predated this one had very basic residential and living areas.

In such castles, the main focal point was the Keep rather than the Great Hall and Great Chambers, as In later years. Little more than a fortified tower, **Q17** the Keep doubled up as basic accommodation for the castle's residents. **Q18** As the years passed, the living areas became more luxurious, evolving into separate buildings. Confusingly, the Keep was known as a 'don jon', meaning fortified tower in French. The term 'dungeon' was only used in later years to refer to underground prisons. In fact, at the time when the Keep dominated castle affairs, **Q19** the use of latter-day dungeons for imprisonment was an unknown and alien concept, the judicial systems favouring more physical forms of punishment instead. Another

dissimilarity between earlier and later medieval castles was in their fortification. A moat, fortified walls and a barbican were typical features of most castles. However, **Q20** it was recognised with the passage of time that the narrow, fortified entrance of the barbican was insufficient defence against an enemy intent on invading the castle. As a result, extra, more reliable fortifications were added in the form of a portcullis and a drawbridge. The portcullis was a spiked metal gate that could be dropped vertically down from under the gatehouse, thereby sealing off the inner castle entrance from the outside world. To protect the main castle entrance further, a drawbridge was placed in front of the portcullis. This was a retractable bridge between the gatehouse and the outside area of the castle. However, the portcullis always remained the last line of defence against the enemy.

Narrator: That's the end of Part 2. You have half a minute to check your answers. [Pause 30 seconds]

Now turn to Part 3.

Part 3

You will hear a discussion between two literature students and their lecturer. First you have some time to look at questions 21-25. [Pause 30 seconds]

Now listen carefully and answer questions 21-25.

Julie: That was an interesting lecture.

Lecturer: I'm glad you thought so.

Dave: Yes, it made a break from the usual lectures on literary style, **Q21** It certainly made me look at some of Shakespeare's plays, like Hamlet, and the playwright himself in a new light

Julie: Me too! I always thought Shakespeare believed in the supernatural and that was the reason why so many of his plays, like Hamlet and Macbeth, featured a ghost.

L: What you thought is a common misconception. However, when you think about it, it was unlikely that Shakespeare would have been sympathetic to a belief in ghosts.

Dave: Why?

L: Well, he was Protestant, as was his audience, and the Protestant religion did not subscribe to a belief in ghosts as spirits returning from another world. Also, Hamlet was set in Denmark and, although fictional, **Q22** the play „would have reflected the Protestant beliefs of the Danes, too.

Julie: So, the main religion in England at the time was Protestantism?

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L: Very much so. Any other religions, like Catholicism, **Q23** were not tolerated by the religious authorities or James I, who was head of the Church of England at the time.

Julie: What did the Catholics believe about ghosts?

L: Their religion was compatible with a belief in the spirit world as it were. Ghosts were seen as lost souls that were in Purgatory, that is to say, a state between Heaven and Hell.

Julie: So It was obvious, really, that Shakespeare incorporated ghosts into his play for other reasons, right?

L: Absolutely. It's certainly odd to write about something you really don't believe in and then ask the audience to believe in it.

So, yes, there was clearly another motive.

Julie: I guess when you think about it, it's quite apparent. **Q24** As you mentioned in the lecture, ghosts appear in Macbeth and Hamlet really to show what the characters are thinking and as a catalyst for certain events.

L: Quite right. ,

Dave: And I think it's quite plain that Shakespeare had no belief in the supernatural. The fact that the ghosts seen by Macbeth and Hamlet are only often either visible to themselves or speak only to them suggests that the ghosts are only as real as the Imagination of those who see them.

Julie: So, would you say that the audience was as sceptical as Shakespeare with regard to ghosts?

L: Well, as you know, the official line would have been that they didn't believe in ghosts, as it was not in line with Protestant beliefs prevalent at the time.

Q25 Nevertheless, contrary to expectations, they do seem to have been a superstitious lot. Belief in witches and astrology were common back then, but how they justified their beliefs in religious terms is quite a mystery.

Narrator: Before you hear the rest of the discussion you have some time to look at questions 26-30. [Pause 30 seconds]

Now listen and answer questions 26-30.

Julie: People, I think, today are a lot less gullible than in that period though, don't you agree? **Q26** I mean honestly! Believing in witches and astrology and all that...

L: Well, judging by the popularity of TV programmes today like 'Most Haunted' I would say there's a fair amount of interest in the supernatural still.

Julie: **Q27** I guess most people are like me - curious, but not entirely convinced when it comes to the spirit world.

Dave: Well, I think ghosts are just the product of certain people's Imaginations!

Julie: You can't overlook the fact that many supernatural events cannot be explained.

Dave: Personally, I think ghosts are just as likely to exist as UFOs and aliens.

L: Well, I Think at least the latter do exist,

Julie: I agree; **Q28** it's absurd to think we are alone in the universe.

Dave: Hmmm...

L: You certainly seem to be quite a sceptic, Dave.

Dave: Actually I do believe in some aspects of the paranormal... Julie: Like?

Dave: Well, not ghosts and aliens, obviously, but things like telepathy and premonition.

Julie: It's easier to understand or believe in telepathy and premonition as you hear of so many examples of these phenomena occurring In real life. Not just reported stories but from friends and acquaintances. **Q29** I'm inclined, though, to think premonitions are more coincidence than due to a paranormal event. But maybe I'm just saying that, as I've not had first-hand experience of premonitions.

Dave: So, you believe in telepathy then?

Julie: **Q30** I think that the evidence in favour of it is impossible to deny. What do you think, Miss?

L: Maybe I'm less sceptical than most but I'm inclined to keep a pretty open mind on most things. Anyway, it's been a very interesting discussion but I'm afraid I have to leave now as I'm due to give another lecture.

Julie: Well, thank you for your time, and also your wonderful lecture! Dave: Yes, thank you, we appreciated it!

L: My pleasure!

Narrator: That's the end of Part 3. You have half a minute to check your answers. [Pause 30 seconds]

Now turn to Part 4.

Part 4

You will hear part of a lecture about Darwin's theory of evolution and its impact on society. First you have some time to look at questions 31-40. [Pause 1 minute]

Now listen carefully and answer questions 31-40.

Today few people can be unaware of Darwin and his theory of evolution.

He **Q31 single-handedly revolutionised** the way we think about the natural world.

However, when I say 'single-handedly' that is not entirely correct. At precisely the same time as Darwin was formulating his theory of evolution, another scientist, Alfred Russell Wallace, was working on a virtually **Q32 identical theory**. In parallel to Darwin. However, whilst Darwin's name has been preserved for posterity, the name of Wallace is virtually unknown. Why one should have been celebrated in scientific circles whilst the other was relegated to obscurity is puzzling. Both decided to make their discoveries public in a joint announcement once they were made aware of one another's work. There is no question that Darwin acted dishonourably, therefore, falsely claiming the **Q33 sole credit** for a theory of evolution. However, the publication of Darwin's ground-breaking 'On the Origin of Species by Natural Selection' the following year almost certainly helped to secure him enduring fame.

The publication of Darwin's book proved to be a watershed in the history of science. It also **Q34 proved extremely controversial** in the eyes of the Church since Darwin claimed that Man was merely an animal, homo sapiens, and a product **Q35 of evolution** rather than of divine intervention. Such a theory was in direct opposition to religious dogmas of the day and threatened to undermine the very core of religious belief.

Today, however, many have successfully managed to reconcile Darwin's theory of evolution with religion. Only for some people, known as 'Creationists', is Darwin's theory seen as being incompatible with religion. For these individuals, Darwin's theory is seen as heretical since they believe in a literal interpretation of the Bible and a biblical reference to the world being created in seven days rather than as a slow evolutionary process spanning millions of years. In addition, Darwin's claim that Man is no more than a highly evolved ape is regarded as a blasphemy, since Creationists insist on the divine origin of Man.

Whilst not many would dispute Darwin's theory of evolution nowadays, curiously, an ape-man that bridges the gap between Man and ape has yet to be found. The search for the '**Q36 missing link**', as it has been called, has both occupied and perplexed scientists since the time of Darwin. Many hoaxers over the years have tried to exploit the desire of scientists to find conclusive **Q37 proof of** Darwin's theory in the form of a missing link. The most memorable and also convincing hoax was that of the 'Piltdown Man'. Named after the Sussex village where it was first

unearthed in 1908, **Q38 the skull** of the Piltdown Man represented a transition from an ape to a man. **Q39 So convincing** a hoax was it that it fooled the scientific establishment into believing for some 40 years that the 'missing link' had indeed been found. In fact, the Manchester Guardian newspaper went so far as to call the discovery of the ape-man skull 'by far the earliest trace of mankind that has yet been found in England'.

The find was credited to a local solicitor and fossil hunter, Charles Dawson. When Dawson died in 1916, Piltdown Man's place in history seemed secure. In 1950, a reconstruction of a head was made based on the skull. However, only 3 years later, the skull **Q40 was declared** a fake. People later questioned how such a hoax could have escaped detection without the compliance of an expert.

It is certainly an interesting footnote in the theory of evolution. However, the questions still remain today: where is the missing link and why hasn't it been found?

Narrator: That is the end of Part 4. You now have half a minute to check your answers. [Pause 30 seconds]

That is the end of the listening test. You now have ten minutes to transfer your answers to the Listening Answer Sheet.