

Listening L2LLO5

Understanding conversations

Learning Outcome 5: Follow discussions concerning routines and habits, future arrangements and past activities, necessity, and obligation

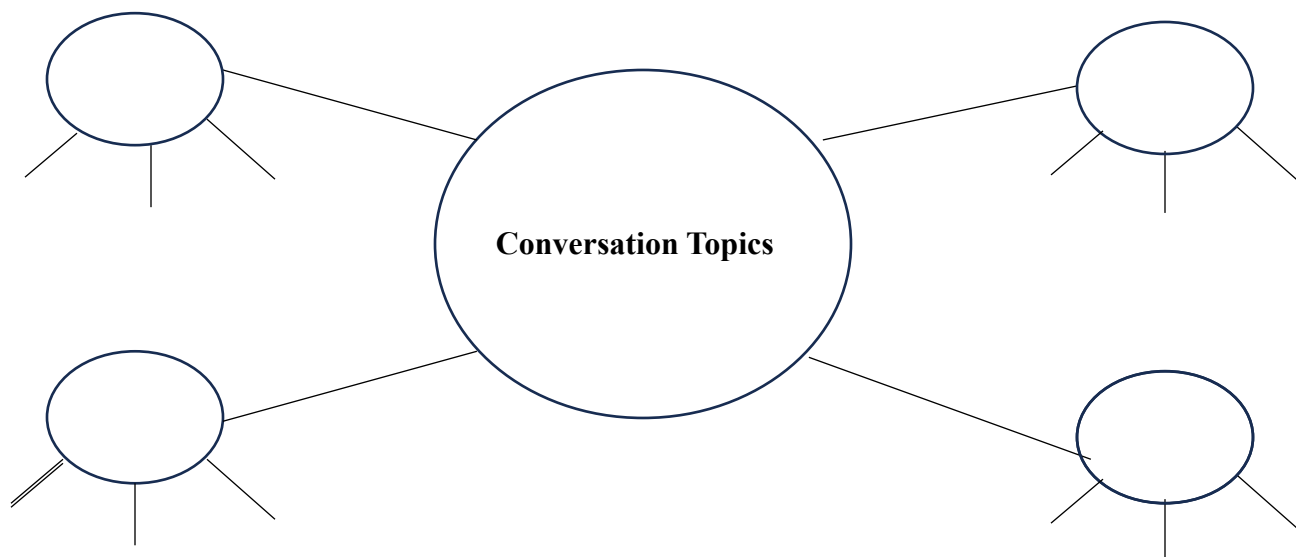
BEFORE LISTENING

PREVIEWING A Read the example sentences you can say in a conversation. What do you use the sentences to talk about? Write the numbers of the sentences in the box.

1. I usually wake up early.
2. We have to study for a test.
3. My brother is going to the beach tomorrow.
4. I went to an interesting museum yesterday.
5. I must repair my bike.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| a. Talk about future plans | _____ |
| b. Talk about things you need to do | _____ |
| c. Talk about past activities | _____ |
| d. Talk about daily activities | _____ |

CRITICAL THINKING: USING MIND MAPS B Brainstorm ideas for topics you can talk about in conversations. Put similar topics together in the mind map.



WHILE LISTENING

CHECKING PREDICTIONS

▶ 2.4 **C** You're going to listen to a conversation between friends at the weekend. Do you think the speakers will talk about ...

1. ... what they did this week?
2. ... their plans for the weekend?
3. ... what they're doing right now?
4. ... what they have to do at university next week?

Now listen and check.

LISTENING FOR MAIN IDEAS

▶ 2.5 **D** Read the statements. Then listen again and complete each statement with the information you hear.

1. This week Mariam _____ a lot.
2. The girls both have to study for a _____ soon.
3. They want to have some _____ this weekend.
4. They decide to first _____ and then _____.

LISTENING FOR DETAILS

▶ 2.6 **E** Listen again. Choose the correct answer to complete each sentence.

1. This week, Mariam got up early ...
a. every day. b. most days.
2. Nadia usually gets up at ...
a. 6.30. b. 9.00
3. Nadia and Mariam have an English test ...
a. next week. b. two weeks from now.
4. Nadia and Mariam decide to cook a meal that's ...
a. spicy. b. not spicy.

LISTENING SKILL Listening for gist

Listening for gist is listening to understand the 'story' that someone tells when they speak, and not trying to understand every word the speaker says. To listen for gist, you need to identify the content words you hear. These are words, usually words for things or people, that give the most important information that the speaker wants to say. To understand the gist, listen for these content words and notice the order the speaker uses them in. This tells you the 'story.'

F Read the content words from a conversation (a–c). Match the words to the 'gist' of the conversations they are from (1–3).

- a. friends, fun, Saturday, park, sunny
- b. mum, chicken, cake, table, grandpa
- c. start, nervous, pen, writing, time, finish

- 1. A meal with family
- 2. What someone did at the weekend
- 3. What happened during an exam

AFTER LISTENING

G Work in pairs. Discuss your answers to the questions.

- What conversation topics do you usually talk about with your family?
- What conversation topics do you usually talk about with your friends?
- What conversation topics do you usually talk about with people when you meet them for the first time?