



National
Qualifications
2024

2024 ESOL

Listening

Higher

Question Paper Finalised Marking Instructions

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2024

These marking instructions have been prepared by examination teams for use by SQA appointed markers when marking external course assessments.

The information in this document may be reproduced in support of SQA qualifications only on a non-commercial basis. If it is reproduced, SQA must be clearly acknowledged as the source. If it is to be reproduced for any other purpose, written permission must be obtained from permissions@sqa.org.uk.



General marking principles for Higher ESOL Listening

Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.

- (a) Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.
- (b) If a candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.
- (c) Use your professional judgement, subject knowledge and experience, and understanding to award marks to candidate responses.
- (d) The marking instructions indicate the essential idea that a candidate should provide for each answer and there may be variation in candidate responses. Award marks according to the accuracy and relevance of a candidate's answers.
- (e) The answers for each question must come from the original recording. Award marks where the candidate's answer is accurate and expressed in their own words.
- (f) Where questions require a response of, for example 'no more than three words', do not penalise candidates if they use an additional word, provided that the essential idea required by the question is correct.
- (g) Do not penalise candidates for spelling mistakes where they have clearly understood the meaning of the word.
- (h) Where there is a multiple choice question and the candidate ticks more boxes than required: award **0 marks** where a candidate ticks all boxes. If two answers are required and the candidate ticks three boxes with two correct answers, award **1 mark**. If two answers are required and a candidate ticks three boxes with one correct answer, award **0 marks**.
- (i) For overall purpose questions, candidates must draw meaning from their overall understanding of the recording.

Marking instructions for each question

Recording 1

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
1.			past/last decade	1	DO NOT ACCEPT 'decades'
2.			spam (emails)	1	ACCEPT scam emails/fraudulent calls/scam calls
3.			be/get scammed	1	DO NOT ACCEPT 'be scam' ACCEPT 'be hacked'
4.			C	1	
5.			D	1	
6.			D	1	
7.			C	1	
8.			A	1	

Recording 2

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
9.			managing partner/manager/manager of Ultrafresh Smoothies	1	DO NOT ACCEPT employee activist
10.			equality and diversity	1	Both required DO NOT ACCEPT conditions DO NOT ACCEPT quality and diversity
11.			(written) rules	1	DO NOT ACCEPT 'roles'
12.			lying on the road/holding up traffic/protesting	1	DO NOT ACCEPT 'ruining everyone's day'
13.			B	1	
14.			C	1	
15.			B	1	
16.			A	1	
17.			C	1	

Recording 3

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
18.			(multi-storey) buildings	1	ACCEPT concrete DO NOT ACCEPT urban environment
19.			prospects	1	ACCEPT potential/countryside/opportunities DO NOT ACCEPT surroundings/green space/environment
20.			alternative perspective/ different perspective	1	Both words required
21.			immerse themselves in (needs 'in')	1	ACCEPT (actively) experience
22.			C	1	
23.			D, F, H	3	

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]