## **CEFR Illustrative tasks: listening**

Level: B2



## Audio transcript

A1. You hear part of a radio program.

The speaker says that in his business he has to

- 1. be careful about revealing his real feelings.
- 2. always worry about investing his money.
- 3. beware of dishonest commercial offers.

Being involved in the music industry I have learned to be careful, very careful! This industry is not for the faint-hearted. If you become too friendly with everyone, you get stepped on. You always need to be one step ahead. If someone comes to you saying that they will make you rich and famous, don't be too wide-eyed! Many of these people are the ones wanting to make money off you, and sometimes they can make your career suffer. There is a lot of money to be made in this industry, and there is a lot to gain, but a lot to lose as well.

Now listen again

A2. Michael fails to contact his colleague, Jason, because

- 1. he is bad at keeping his notes in order.
- 2. his wife hasn't written down Jason's number.
- 3. he is not on good terms with Jason's secretary.

**Michael**: Alice, darling, I need your help! Do you know what Jason's home phone number is? I need to call him urgently!

Alice: I can't think of it off the top of my head. What if you look it up in your phone book, dear?

Michael: I've checked it already, but it seems that his phone number is UNLISTED.

Alice: Oh, Mike! The same old story! Why should I always worry about YOUR BUSINESS! I am not your secretary! And I remember Jason gave you the number, didn't he?

Michael: I guess so, it might be somewhere on a scrap of paper ... maybe in this pile...

**Alice**: What if you call his office and ask his secretary?

Michael: I've already tried. She won't tell me. She said it's private and cut off before I could explain

the situation to her. The stubborn old lady!

Alice: Oh, that's right. They usually don't release private information over the phone. So, what are

you going to do?

A3. You overhear a conversation between a husband and wife. What is the woman trying to do?

- 1. to convince the man to give up some of his bad habits
- 2. to make the man understand how serious his health problems are
- 3. to persuade the man to hire a personal fitness instructor

Man: Hey, honey, you know, they're organizing a company basketball team, and I'm thinking about

joining. What do you think? I was the star player in high school.

Woman: Yeah, twenty-five years ago. Look, I just don't want you to pull your muscles running up and

down the court.

Man: So, what are you suggesting? Should I just abandon the idea? I'm not that out of shape.

**Woman**: You need to think about adequate nutrition and cut back on fatty foods. And you should try

to eat organic food.

Man: Yeah, you're probably right.

**Woman**: And you should take up a little weight training to strengthen your muscles or perhaps try cycling to build up your body's blood circulation system. And then, who knows, you may become your company's new basketball star.

Man: Hey, you're starting to sound like my personal fitness instructor! Do you think I need one?

- A4. You hear a part of a radio program about culture shock. How does the speaker describe culture shock?
  - 1. as a reaction against the influence of foreign values
  - 2. as a succession of different emotions
  - 3. as a process of losing one's cultural identity

Well, generally speaking, we could say that there are several stages to culture shock: the "honeymoon" stage when everything seems new and quaint producing a feeling of euphoria: a desire to look around and to explore. Then the "horror" stage, where the newness wears off, and the visitor sees the country in a different light, and often begins to criticize the life and the values of the people. In the "humour" stage people begin to reflect back, feel a bit confused and laugh at their mistakes. Moving to the "home" stage people begin to feel at home and enjoy living in that foreign country.

A5. You hear part of a public speech. What is the main message of the man's speech?

- 1. The film nominated for the Crystal Globe festival has become very popular in Kenya.
- 2. The success of the film can influence the economic development of the country.
- 3. The film touches upon some important issues of the Kenyan tourist business.

Thank you ladies and gentlemen. I am just thrilled for Kenya because we need this for our fledgling film industry and tourist business. I think this movie will definitely bring benefits to Kenya. Kenyans are delighted that a film shot in Kenya won the Crystal Globe in two nominations – Grand prix for a film shot overseas and Special Jury Prize at this year's ceremony. Kenya's film and tourist industries are both hoping to benefit from the publicity surrounding the event. I'd also like to thank everybody in my team for working so hard. It was a challenging job....

- A6. The speaker thinks that the feeling of success comes to a person who has
  - 1. found the right balance between money and fame.
  - 2. produced a song that pleases both himself and his audience.
  - 3. created his own special style in the musical world.

The feeling of success... Let me think... You know, I have been writing songs for 12 years. I have written more than a thousand songs in my life and I write new ones everyday. And my definition of success is to be able to create something that you are proud of. It is also about knowing that you can make a difference in someone's life by creating something special for them to listen to when they feel lost, alone or joyful. I think money and fame or, say, being top of the hit parades in this case is a bit overrated. I know a lot of artists who are well known and most of them are in debt and can't even afford to buy a meal at McDonalds. Others are very rich, but they are caught up in their own dysfunctional world. They just watch themselves feeling miserable while living in comfort.

- A7. You hear part of a thank-you speech of a woman who has just been promoted to the position of Head of Department. Why do her colleagues think she is the right person for this position?
  - 1. She has a well-deserved reputation for working with customers.
  - 2. She is good at developing business strategies for the department.
  - 3. She has been a loyal employee for many years.

I've been working for this company for the past three years, and things have gone extremely well. First,

I've helped increase sales steadily by advertising and promoting our products at trade shows, in the newspaper, and on TV, and customers have really enjoyed our products. In addition to increased sales, I've established good working and personal relationships with all of my colleagues. We recognize each person's strengths and respect each others' opinions. My coworkers feel I can lead the department in the right direction by implementing the plans I've put forward. I will try to do my best for our company and our customers in the future. Therefore, I recently humbly accepted the promotion to department manager.

- A8. You hear an advertisement on the radio. What is so special about the AdSense program on the Internet?
  - 1. AdSense is run by one of the most popular search engines, Google.
  - 2. It gives more business opportunities than any other program of the same type.
  - 3. Using AdSense the website owners do not need to look for advertisers.

Welcome to today's news segment, highlighting business opportunities on the Internet. One such opportunity is a program called AdSense from the search engine, Google. Basically, AdSense is a simple and easy way for Website owners to sell advertising space without wasting time and effort hunting customers. You insert certain lines of code and then receive a certain percentage of the resulting income. The AdSense program allows advertisers to spread the word about their products and services, while Websites can earn money to support their own businesses or interests. Visit us online at Google and read the Terms of Service to learn more about this program and see if Adsense is right for you.

You have 10 seconds to check your answers. This is the end of the task.