

## A

**Strategy:** Be familiar with different ways of answering direct questions  
Be aware of similar sounding words

In this part of the test, you will often hear direct questions. The correct answer will not usually be an answer with *yes*, *no* or *don't know*, and will often be in a different tense.

**Test tip**

Often direct questions will not be answered with *yes*, *no* or *don't know*. Look for options that use different words to express these meanings.

**Test tip**

Often the question and answer choice will be different verb tenses

Do not expect the grammar of the question to match the answer.

Example

*Are you going tonight?* → *I've made plans.*

**Test tip**


Distractors using the same (or similar-sounding) words are common in Part 2

Be careful of choosing responses that use the same or similar-sounding words.

**1 Language building: Choosing the correct answer**

Choose two correct answers for each question.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| a. Is Mr. Clemens coming to the presentation?     | 1. She thinks she'll be free later today. |
| b. Did she say when she would be available?       | 2. No. Everyone has been invited.         |
| c. Could you help Laura to prepare the documents? | 3. Unfortunately, he's on holiday then.   |
| d. Do you think they would mind if I came along?  | 4. Sure. Where is she?                    |
|   | 5. You should probably call them first.   |
|   | 6. No, I forgot to ask her.               |
|   | 7. Sorry, I have to help Michael.         |
|   | 8. Yes, but he'll be a few minutes late.  |

 *Follow up:* Now listen to four more responses and match each one to questions a–d above.

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. a. b. c. d. | 3. a. b. c. d. |
| 2. a. b. c. d. | 4. a. b. c. d. |

**2 Test tactic: Look out for same or similar-sounding words**

**A** Look at the following questions and responses. Tick the correct response and circle any SAME or SIMILAR-SOUNDING words used in the distractors.


- Are you going to the party tonight?  
(A) Yes, it's tonight.  
(B) No, he's departing tomorrow.  
✓ (C) I haven't decided yet.
- Have you handed in the report yet?  
(A) I've already reported it.  
(B) I put it on her desk yesterday.  
(C) I thought it was very handy.
- Could you rearrange the venue for me?  
(A) Yes, it's new.  
(B) Sure. Is the meeting room better?  
(C) No, I didn't arrange it.
- You called Simon back, didn't you?  
(A) No, I don't have his number.  
(B) Yes, he'll be back tomorrow.  
(C) No, he's called David.

**B** Now compare your answers with your partner.

## Test tip

Short-term memory is important

Repeat each response in your head and check if it answers the question or has same word/similar sound distractors.

 **Follow up:** Now listen to five more questions. Repeat each response as you hear it, and tick whether it is correct, or wrong with a same word or similar word distractor. Then compare your answer with your partner's.

1. Is this the last stop? (A)  Correct  X – Same word  X – Similar sound  
(B)  Correct  X – Same word  X – Similar sound  
(C)  Correct  X – Same word  X – Similar sound
2. Did you call the customer back? (A)  Correct  X – Same word  X – Similar sound  
(B)  Correct  X – Same word  X – Similar sound  
(C)  Correct  X – Same word  X – Similar sound
3. You're working tomorrow, aren't you? (A)  Correct  X – Same word  X – Similar sound  
(B)  Correct  X – Same word  X – Similar sound  
(C)  Correct  X – Same word  X – Similar sound
4. Can you remember the details? (A)  Correct  X – Same word  X – Similar sound  
(B)  Correct  X – Same word  X – Similar sound  
(C)  Correct  X – Same word  X – Similar sound
5. You read through the notes, didn't you? (A)  Correct  X – Same word  X – Similar sound  
(B)  Correct  X – Same word  X – Similar sound  
(C)  Correct  X – Same word  X – Similar sound

## Tactics checklist

- Don't always expect Yes/No responses.
- Be careful of same/similar-sounding words.
- Verb tenses may be different.

## 3 Tactic practice

You will hear six question-response questions. After each question, stop the audio and repeat the response to your partner. Then mark your answer choice. Then compare your answers with your partner.

1	(A) (B) (C)	4	(A) (B) (C)
2	(A) (B) (C)	5	(A) (B) (C)
3	(A) (B) (C)	6	(A) (B) (C)



### Understanding natural English

In natural spoken English, sounds are changed, combined and dropped. Listen to these sentences spoken naturally and write in the missing words.

I'm ..... go after work.

Are you ..... wait for Mark?

## B

## Mini-test

Now apply the *Test tactics* at the actual test speed with questions 1–12.



You will have 5 seconds at the end of each item to make your choice. You must then be ready to listen to the next question.

1	(A) (B) (C)	7	(A) (B) (C)
2	(A) (B) (C)	8	(A) (B) (C)
3	(A) (B) (C)	9	(A) (B) (C)
4	(A) (B) (C)	10	(A) (B) (C)
5	(A) (B) (C)	11	(A) (B) (C)
6	(A) (B) (C)	12	(A) (B) (C)