

IELTS Listening Lesson 7

Setting:

Two university students, Maria and Daniel, are meeting in the library to plan their group presentation for a communications course.

Questions 1–6: Complete the sentences below.

Write NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS for each answer.

1. Maria and Daniel agree that the library is a better place to meet because it is more ____.
 2. Their presentation must relate to the topic of ____.
 3. Maria suggests exploring how social media impacts ____.
 4. Daniel plans to research real-world ____ to support their topic.
 5. They want to alternate speaking to make the presentation feel more ____.
 6. Maria plans to create a shared ____ for organizing their visual materials.
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Questions 7–10: Choose the correct letter, A, B, or C.

7. Why does Maria suggest including a quote from an online forum or interview?
 - A. Because primary sources are required
 - B. To strengthen the presentation with an original perspective
 - C. So they can replace some of the academic sources
8. What citation format are they required to use for the project?

- A. MLA
- B. Chicago
- C. APA

9. What deadline do they agree on for finishing their first full draft?

- A. Monday
- B. Wednesday
- C. Friday

10. What will Daniel do during the conclusion of the presentation?

- A. Ask the audience a question
 - B. Summarize their main points
 - C. Read a quote aloud
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Script

Maria:

Hey Daniel! Thanks for meeting up. I figured the library would be quieter than the student lounge for planning this.

Daniel:

No problem, Maria. Good call. So, we're supposed to choose our topic for the group presentation by the end of the week, right?

Maria:

Exactly. It has to relate to communication in the digital age. I jotted down a few ideas last night. What did you think about exploring how social media influences political awareness?

Daniel:

Oh, I actually really like that. I was considering something similar—like digital activism or how online platforms are used for social movements. They overlap a lot.

Maria:

Right, and I think there's a lot of material we could work with—case studies, statistics, even interviews. Plus, it's super relevant, which might keep the audience more engaged.

Daniel:

Agreed. So maybe we can narrow it down to something like "The Role of Social Media in Promoting Political Participation among Young Adults"?

Maria:

That sounds focused enough. It gives us a specific demographic and a clear purpose. Let's go with that, then.

Daniel:

Cool. Now, how do you want to divide the tasks? I know you said you're comfortable doing research.

Maria:

Yeah, I can start digging into scholarly articles and recent surveys. Maybe focus on the psychological effects—like how algorithms shape what users see and how that affects their willingness to engage politically.

Daniel:

That would be great. Meanwhile, I could look into real-world examples—like the Black Lives Matter movement or climate change protests. I'll gather data and maybe some media coverage that shows how platforms like Instagram or TikTok played a role.

Maria:

Perfect. And for structure, we should probably start with a brief introduction explaining what digital political participation means, followed by the theoretical context, and then get into case studies.

Daniel:

Makes sense. Maybe we can each take a section when we present, too? Like you do the theory and data analysis, and I walk through the real-world examples?

Maria:

Yeah, although I was wondering if we should alternate speaking a bit more. It might look more collaborative that way. Like after you present an example, I can jump in with a related statistic or commentary.

Daniel:

Good point. That'll help keep the audience engaged, too. Should we use visuals? Like slides with images and bullet points?

Maria:

Definitely. Maybe one visual per key idea. We can keep the text minimal so people focus on what we're saying. I can start a shared slide deck and put in the outline.

Daniel:

Nice. Oh, about the research—do we need to include primary sources, or is secondary analysis enough?

Maria:

I asked the professor about that, and she said secondary sources were fine, but if we could include even one original interview or a quote from a forum, it would strengthen our argument.

Daniel:

Hmm, I have a friend who's really into online activism. I could ask her a few questions and maybe include a quote. Even if it's informal, it shows initiative.

Maria:

That'd be awesome. Just make sure to ask her for permission to use anything she says. We'll have to cite it properly.

Daniel:

For sure. Speaking of citations, should we use APA or MLA?

Maria:

Our course guide says APA. I'll set up a reference page in the slide deck so we don't forget to log our sources as we go.

Daniel:

Thanks. Oh, one thing—I have a midterm next Friday, so if we can aim to have the first draft of everything by next Wednesday, I'll have more flexibility to rehearse.

Maria:

That works for me. I've got an essay due Tuesday, so I'll need a bit of time to balance things anyway. How about we set small deadlines? Like research findings by Monday, draft slides by Wednesday, and then rehearse together Thursday?

Daniel:

That's perfect. I'll book a study room for Thursday afternoon. We can run through it out loud and check the timing.

Maria:

Yeah, we've got a 10-minute limit, so we should time each section. Also, let's build in a short conclusion that ties everything together. Maybe one of us can summarize and the other can pose a discussion question for the class?

Daniel:

I like that. Keeps it interactive. Do you want to summarize and I'll ask the question?

Maria:

Sure. And if we think of a good visual or quote to end on, that might leave a lasting impression.

Daniel:

Absolutely. Should we include handouts?

Maria:

Maybe just a one-page summary of our main points with our references listed. That way people don't have to take notes the whole time.

Daniel:

Alright, I'll start outlining my section tonight and add it to the shared slides. Do you want to meet again on Monday to check in?

Maria:

Yes, Monday afternoon works. Let's meet at 3? Same spot?

Daniel:

Perfect. I'll bring my laptop so we can compare notes.

Maria:

Great. Oh, one more thing—do you want to run it by the professor before our final rehearsal?

Daniel:

Good idea. Maybe just email her our outline and get quick feedback?

Maria:

I'll do that over the weekend. Better to catch any issues early. This is shaping up to be a solid presentation!

Daniel:

I think so too. Thanks for being so organized—it really helps.

Maria:

No worries. See you Monday!

2. communication in the digital age
3. political awareness
4. examples
5. collaborative
6. slide deck
7. B
8. C
9. B
10. A