Self-study material to improve your

# LISTENING SKILLS

#### Video:

Ted Talks: A fantastic resource! "TED Talks are influential videos from expert speakers on education, business, science, tech and creativity, with subtitles in 100+ languages" (from the website). https://www.ted.com/talks

**PBS.org:** American news, TV shows, and special interest programs. You'll need a VPN. BBC.com: British news/videos on a wide range of subjects.

Your DVD's: Watch them in English!

**Amazon Prime Student:** Offers many free videos. Amazon sometimes offers a 12-month trial.

**Podcasts:** A wide selection for language students can be found at https://player.fm/featured/learning-english

BBC Learning English: Has short (6-10 minute) podcasts on classic dramas and news. http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/drama

Learning English Broadcasts – Voice of America: Podcasts/audio in 3 levels on a variety of news-magazine topics. https://learningenglish.voanews.com/z/1689

**Business English Pod:** Free podcast on a range of BE topics: https://www.businessenglishpod.com/category/businessenglish-360/

# Test Prep:

## **IELTS Practice Listening Tests:**

https://www.examenglish.com/IELTS/IELTS\_listening.html

http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/prepare-yourtest/free-ielts-practice-tests/listening-practice-test-1

http://www.ieltsbuddy.com/ielts-listening-test.html

### **TOEFL Practice Listening Tests:**

https://www.examenglish.com/TOEFL/toefl\_listening.html https://www.ets.org/toefl/ibt/prepare/quick\_prep/

#### Radio:

TUNEIN.com: "TuneIn brings together all the sports, music, news, podcasts, and audiobooks you love. Original, live, and on-demand internet radio all in one place" (from the website). There are a vast number of radio stations and books. Available in a basic and premium version (with a free trial). https://tunein.com

**NPR.org:** American National Public Radio. Live streaming radio and shorter news reports on subjects ranging from book and music reviews to politics, most which have transcripts.

BBC: Listen to adaptions of classic English literature performed by top-notch British actors. Some episodes require the download of BBC's Iplayer Radio App. www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qfz6/episodes/guide

ESL Radio & TV: Intermediate level radio and TV programs with excellent comprehension questions, and a "where is this part" button, which takes you directly to the relevant part of the video program so you can hear it again. http://eslradioandtv.com/

# Simplified Listening Exercises for A1-B1

www.elllo.org: Listening activities with and transcripts, quizzes, and vocabulary lists. Students may choose from a range of accents: British, American, South African, and Australian.

www.breakingnewsenglish.com/multi-speedlistening. html: This site offers written and spoken news articles at a variety of levels with gap-fill exercises and comprehension questions. Students may change the speed of the recording.

#### Other

Politics: Original recordings of some of the most important political & social speeches by famous Americans. Includes Martin Luther King's "I have a dream," JFK's Inaugural Address, Roosevelt's "Pearl Harbor Address to the Nation," and many others. All have transcripts and background information. A great resource! They run a similar site with speeches from American movies. http://www.americanrhetoric.com/top100speeches all.html

**Pronunciation:** http://soundsofspeech.uiowa.edu/index. html#english: American pronunciation with detailed "howto" videos.

**ITunes U:** A remarkable resource for ITunes users. Lectures from top universities (Harvard, Stanford, etc.) available for download. Interesting Apps too.