

ISE I

Sample Independent listening task 1 – Burlington Arcade

Examiner rubric

You're going to hear a talk about a place in London called the Burlington Arcade. You will hear the talk twice. As you listen, write down some notes about what you hear, if you want to. Then, I will ask you six questions on some facts about the Burlington Arcade. Are you ready?

The task will play twice.

Now I will ask you some questions. You only need to answer in a few words.

Audio script

The oldest shopping centre in London is the Burlington Arcade. It's a narrow street with a roof and small shops on either side. The shops sell mainly expensive things such as handmade shoes and jewellery. A very rich man built it in 1819. He wanted to build a shopping street next to his large house because people were throwing rubbish into his garden. But this soon stopped them! It's very quiet and peaceful in the Arcade and this is because there are some very strange rules. For example, you can't carry large objects, play a musical instrument, run or sing. Also you can't open an umbrella. The Beadles, who are a kind of private police force, walk up and down the arcade. They have to wear long coats and tall black hats. If you break the rules, the Beadles can make you go outside. You need a lot of money to shop in the arcade. Four million visitors come to the Arcade every year but most of them don't buy anything. They just like to look around and have a quiet break.

Questions and answers

If the candidate asks, the examiner may repeat the questions once.

Question	Answer
1 What can you buy in the Burlington Arcade?	Expensive things/shoes/jewellery
2 When was the Burlington Arcade built?	1819
3 Why did the rich man build the Burlington Arcade?	People were throwing rubbish into his garden
4 What is one of the rules of the arcade?	Can't: carry large objects/play an instrument/run/sing/open umbrella (any are correct)
5 What happens if you break a rule in the Burlington Arcade?	You have to go outside
6 How many people visit the Burlington Arcade every year?	Four million