

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> February-2025

## THE EFFECTIVE WAYS OF LISTENING SKILLS

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**Abstract.** The article gives several handy tips to master students' listening skills in an effective way.

**Key words:** listening, attention, practice, pronunciation.

Listening is one of the most significant parts of any language and can be gained only by practicing. Teaching this skill can be fun during classes if it is organized effectively. To achieve this a skilled teacher should find different listening activities which are based on real life situations like shopping, at hairdresser's or meal at a restaurant. Considering the internet possibilities today make it easier to obtain these materials in no time. While choosing any kind of listening there are various matters which should be taken into consideration. English in our country is not popular as Russian or other neighboring languages. So listening is the only way to improve the pronunciation and other communicative skills. It is true that teachers can conduct lessons in English but is not enough. And materials should be picked out carefully regarding the learners' age, number and level.

Why teach students tips and tricks that lead to active listening? The answer may seem obvious, but helping students learn to listen can give them advantages you might not expect. For example, students with strong listening skills don't just retain more information, but they are also less likely to feel unprepared and frustrated in class. Additionally, improved listening skills can lead to improved self-efficacy, or a student's belief that they can succeed in class. This means that students who develop better listening skills are more likely to feel confident, comfortable, and prepared to succeed in school.

Learning how to listen can also teach students how to communicate their ideas. This is because students who listen pick up more knowledge to reflect on and think critically about before they respond. Plus, for dual language learners in your class, learning how to listen can help students pick up their second language faster

The importance of active listening also branches into social-emotional development. Active listening promotes mindful thinking, which can reduce anxiety and depression in students. It can also help students build relationships because as they engage themselves in conversation, their peers are more likely to view them as open and interested.[8] And finally, practicing active listening can promote empathy—a skill that can enrich a student's life both in and outside of the classroom.

On average, people listen at about 25% of their potential. And in the classroom, teachers often understand that listening is an important skill to have but rarely teach it. Clearly, teaching students how to be active listener should be a part of your class curriculum.



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Active listening is easiest when there are fewer distractions. Try to limit the number of distracting decorations in your classroom, such as too many posters or large, very bright items. This will not only be helpful for your classroom as a whole but also students with disorders that act as a barrier to active listening and focus.

If you have students who struggle to listen in class, multisensory curriculum can be helpful. Multisensory learning involves any activity that engages two or more of the senses (such as sight, hearing, or smell). You could, for example, sing a song to teach students the names of the solar system planets or have students draw a scene from a book as you read it in class. As you engage several of your students' senses, they will be better able to listen and comprehend class materials.

Besides these, video materials also can be beneficial. For example short conversations between native learners or some real life situations enhance their skills. Another possible solution is online radio programs which are broadcast by English speaking countries as many government schools today have access to free Wifi nowadays.

#### **10 tips for active listening**

- Face the speaker and have eye contact. ...
- "Listen" to non-verbal cues too. ...
- Don't interrupt. ...
- Listen without judging, or jumping to conclusions. ...
- Don't start planning what to say next. ...
- Show that you're listening. ...
- Don't impose your opinions or solutions. ...

Stay focused

#### **Ways to improve your listening skills**

- Maintain eye contact with the speaker. ...
- Visualize what the speaker is saying. ...
- Don't interrupt. ...
- Wait for a pause to ask questions. ...
- Pay attention to nonverbal cues. ...
- Provide the speaker with feedback. ...
- Practice listening.

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