

Trap Alert Checklist

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Use this checklist before, during, and after listening tasks to help your learners identify and neutralize common listening traps.

Before Listening

- Predict possible content and context of the listening task.
- Remind learners of common traps (sound similarity, corrections, distractors).
- Encourage note-taking with abbreviations and keywords.

While Listening

- Focus on meaning, not just individual words.
- Pay attention to self-corrections or changes in speaker's opinion.
- Highlight numbers, dates, and names carefully.
- Ignore irrelevant but detailed information.

After Listening

- Compare chosen answers with initial predictions.
- Reflect on why incorrect options were attractive.
- Discuss which traps were present in the task.
- Practice strategies for avoiding similar traps next time.

Pro Tip for Teachers

Always ask learners to explain their reasoning for wrong answers. This reveals exactly which trap they fell into and builds stronger awareness for future tasks.