

LISTENING 1

Script 1

- Hello Mr. Smith, how can I be of assistance today?
- Good morning. I would like to book a tour to Sydney.
- I can help you with that. What would you like to see?
- As much of Sydney as possible. What are my choices?
- There are a number of choices. What type of tour would you like? A pedestrian tour or a bus tour?
- I think I'll choose the bus tour.
- There's a hop-on hop-off bus tour. That takes you around to the Harbor Bridge, the Auburn House and the Queen Victoria Building.
- I think it's a good option. Is there a set timetable for the tour?
- No. The buses run in a loop around the city all day.
- And what hours do the buses operate?
- They run from 7 a.m. in the morning until 9 p.m. each night.
- That sounds nice.
- Yes.
- The closest stop is just 20 meters out from here at the front of the hotel.
- What ticket types do you have?
- We have three ticket types. The first one is called minimal and it is the cheapest tariff. It costs only \$15 and you can use such ticket during two hours.
- Oh, I want to see as much of Sydney as possible. Do you have full day tickets?
- Yes. Sure. The next ticket type we have is standard. It's the most popular time. This pass costs \$30 and lasts all day.
- This sounds nice.
- We also have a premium ticket. You can buy it for \$55. This pass lasts all day and includes free drinks and snacks during your trip. And you will be provided with an audio-guide.
- I think I'll buy the premium ticket.
- Great.

Answer Key to Listening 1.

Questions 1-5. Listen to the recording and complete the information below. Write NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS OR A NUMBER for each answer. A spelling mistake makes the answer incorrect and brings 0 points. 5 points.

Tour information	
Destination	Sydney

Tour type	(1) <u>bus tour</u>
Tourist attractions	The Harbour Bridge The Opera House The Queen Victoria (2) <u>Building</u>
Timetable	From 7 a.m. to (3) <u>9</u> p.m.
Closest stop	(4) <u>20</u> metres out from here, at the front of the (5) <u>2</u> .

Questions 6-10. Complete the booklet of ticket types below. Write **ONE WORD OR A NUMBER** for each answer. A spelling mistake makes the answer incorrect and brings 0 points. 5 points.

TICKET TYPES		
minimal	(6) <u>15</u> \$	Valid during (7) <u>2</u> hours
1. (8) <u>standard</u>	30\$	Lasts all day
premium	(9) <u>55</u> \$	Lasts all day free drinks and snacks (10) <u>audioguide / audio-guide / audio guide</u>

LISTENING 2

Script 2

Today I'd like to tell you about how UK architects are playing their part to address the issue of global warming. You have seen many of these iconic buildings while going about your everyday life, but you may not know how they are affecting your tomorrow.

In 2003, construction was completed on the famous Swiss rebuilding or more informally called the Gherkin, a true masterpiece commissioned by the law offices of Foster and Partners. This is not the first ambitious endeavor of the Firm. They are renowned for their various philanthropic environmental efforts.

The Gherkin, with its cut and edge green initiative and sharp design, is gaining recognition as an icon in modern architecture. You can pick it out of the London skyline by its unorthodox cigar shape. While its appearance is the obvious attribute

at which to marvel, there is far more to this building than meets the eye. And let's face it, there's a lot about this building that meets the eye.

The building helps reduce the city's carbon footprint in a number of ways. Just a quick note, in case you're not familiar with the term carbon footprint, get used to it. It's a buzz word you'll hear relentlessly to talk about reducing emissions. Think of it as the amount of harmful greenhouse gases that are given off into the environment by a single person, organization or product.

So, going back to the Gherkin building, perhaps the most obvious, as well as the most significant eco-friendly features, the glass windows, which allow light to pass through the building, both reducing heating cuts and brightening up the workspace.

The ingenuity behind the various eco-friendly aspects of the Gherkin, as seeing its fair share of publicity, both from serious and silly sources, in a recent April Fools Day edition.

One e-publication printed a story, detailing plans to replace 50% of the current exterior with grass, which would not only make large steps in the name of sustainability, but also give the building the green hue that would truly earn it the nickname of the Gherkin.

The only drawback is, as you may have guessed, that this story was an April Fools Day joke and completely made up.

In all seriousness though, the building is setting a new standard of design that other architects and city planners just cannot ignore.

The building's bold and cost-efficient design has won a number of architecture awards, including the Sterling Prize, the London Region Award, and the Empress Skyscraper Award, among others.

The design comfortably accommodates a large number of offices, while keeping maintenance and operation costs down, striking a superb balance between nature and the workplace.

Nature is well and good, as long as the weather is nice outside. Given London's notoriously bad weather, the architects knew they must devise the quality, temperature, regulation system, and that they did.

A special system designed to reduce the building's reliance on air conditioning was devised that cuts consumption in half compared to standard office buildings. There are atria that link each floor vertically to one another, forming spiraling spaces of the entire building. They serve not just as social-common spaces, but also act as the building's lungs, distributing clean air from the opening panels in the vacate through the entire building.

The building isn't all business though. It has its fair share of fun as well. At the very top, a clubroom offers a picturesque entertainment spot for company functions, private parties, etc., with a breathtaking panoramic view of the city.

The creation of such an innovative structure has many wonderings what the future of urban planning and architecture may be.

Well, if the other projects currently commissioned by Foster and Partners are any indication, the entire city constructed with similarly eco-friendly buildings is not

far in the distance. The Mazda city development aims to create a desert city that produces zero waste and removes as much carbon dioxide from the atmosphere as it puts in a huge feat in protecting our earth.

The Gherkin is a truly impressive feat, yet it is not the only one worth noting. Now to move on to another Green Initiative, I'll tell you about the Eden Foundation building, Founding Cornwall.

Answer Key to Listening 2.

Questions 11-20. Complete the notes below. Write ONE WORD ONLY for each answer. A spelling mistake makes the answer incorrect and brings 0 points. 10 points.

The Gherkin Building

Commissioned by: **11** *Law* firm called Foster and Partners.

The features of its appearance:

- ❖ Its shape is like a **12** *cigar*.
- ❖ It can reduce the carbon **13** *footprint*.
- ❖ It lets **14** *light* pass through the building, both reducing heating costs and brightening up the workspace.
- ❖ One false story claims that the exterior of the building is partly made of **15** *grass*.

Architectural concept:

- ❖ links **16** *nature* with the workplace.
- ❖ relies less on **17** *air-conditioning / air conditioning* for temperature control than other similar buildings.

The features of its interior:

- ❖ The atria that let fresh air pass through the interior are known as **18** *lungs*.
- ❖ There is a place for entertainment called the **19** *clubroom* at the top of the building.

The future of urban planning and architecture:

- ❖ It is likely that the entire **20** *city* will be designed with more similarly eco-friendly buildings in future.