

7 Great Places to Look for ESL Listening Material

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ESL Cyber Listening Lab

ESL teacher Randall Davis put together a very impressive site, filled with listening quizzes. One of the things you'll notice about the ESL [Cyber Listening Lab](#) at first glance is that the quizzes are divided into Easy, Medium and Difficult. Each quiz comes with a pre-listening activity, a multiple-choice quiz based on the listening and post-listening activities that include [vocabulary](#) exercises. These are wonderful ready-to-use listening activities for any level.

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Newsy

Newsy features short news segments across a variety of topics from business to entertainment, international to US news. One of the best things about Newsy is that each video is posted with a transcript of the [news](#) report, giving ESL students the choice of just listening, or listening **and** reading. It's a great site for students who need something a bit more challenging. The added bonus? The site offers an app for iPhone, iPad, Android and Blackberry – perfect for students on the go!

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Voice of America

Voice of America is a multimedia platform that delivers news to English learners across the globe. The site features MP3 audio and

video that are public domain, which means you may not only use the files in the classroom but also **download** them through [VOA Direct](#). Each video is less than three minutes long and comes with subtitles. They may be downloaded in video format or as MP3 files students can listen to anywhere. VOA also has a handy little app for iPhone and Android, a Mobile Wordbook that teaches students how to say and use a word in a sentence.

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Talk English

Talk English has listening lessons for Basic, Intermediate and Advanced students. Students have the possibility to listen to a conversation, complete a multiple choice quiz and read a script of the audio. Teachers and students can use the website online free of charge or pay a small one-time fee for unlimited downloads – we’re talking hundreds of dialogues in different levels. Additionally, there is an app for [iPhone](#) and [Android](#).

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ESL Fast

ESL Fast offers 365 short stories with audio and text for intermediate students. The best thing about this site is the sheer number of stories available. At the bottom of the page, you’ll see a vocabulary list for each [listening](#), plus a variety of exercises, including dictations. The site also offers [easy conversations](#) for beginner ESL students who have the unique opportunity to listen to short conversations on a variety of topics **and** speak to Mike, a “robot” that replies to questions and

statements students type in a dialogue box, thus creating an actual, virtual “dialogue”.

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Easy Listening for Kids

This [website](#) has short and easy listening audio tracks that are tailored to [young learners](#). Each audio track comes with the text for reading, a vocabulary list, and exercises your young learners won't have any trouble completing. There's a [second website](#) with additional listening exercises for children.

Special Note: While the listening exercises are great, the sites are filled with ads, so be sure to monitor browsing for content that may be inappropriate for children.

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Ello.org

[Ello](#) provides a wealth of listening exercises in video or audio format. You can sort search results by level, topic, country or media; the last option allows you choose from games, audio or video. All of the exercises come with vocabulary lists, additional exercises or quizzes, as well as download links. Unlike the other websites, this one includes audio with English speakers of different [nationalities](#), thus effectively exposing students to a variety of English accents like Australian, Scottish, South African, and others.
