

ENGLISH EXAM: Part 3 - Listening Comprehension

Timing: Minimum 10 minutes, maximum 15 minutes

EXAMINER BRIEF:

The examiner reads out the text below at normal speed and without pauses. The candidate may make notes, but will not see the text, and should not interrupt the examiner while the text is being read. When the examiner has finished, the candidate may ask for sections to be repeated, or ask for clarification. The candidate then paraphrases the text in English. The examiner will ask at least two questions on the text and on the candidate's paraphrasing of it.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

Text:

After celebrating victory following the first world war Britain entered an unforgettable decade coined the "roaring twenties". For many business owners, it was a prosperous time and the country seemed to be booming. This led to a change in architecture and interior design with famous hotels undergoing expansion and refurbishment in the opulent Art Deco style.

This trend translated to many of the factories along major arterial roads in West London whose prestigious facades showcased the importance of these corporations. There was no expense spared when it came to American corporations setting up in London in the 1920's and 30's. The large factories set up along London's arterial highways, which became known as the "Golden Mile".

In 1931 the Hoover Company built their factory in Perivale as a manufacturing base for the company's British vacuum cleaner division. The design took on a grand, palatial facade of huge columns and recessed glass bay windows, but the most iconic feature was the central entrance which was decorated above with a dramatic, geometric sunburst pattern, which sat beneath the huge "Hoover Limited" lettering.

Hoover would go on to open its door in 1933. The building was included in the statutory list of historic buildings in October 1980 at Grade II*.

Source of text: <https://www.idmproperties.com/property/the-hoover-building/>

2 – 3 Questions which may be asked by the Examiner:

1. What is the meaning of the expression Roaring Twenties?
2. What is the Golden Mile?
3. What is the most iconic feature of the Hoover Building?