

IELTS LISTENING – Corporate Crime S26T4



IELTS listening Corporate Crime listening practice test has 10 questions belongs to the Leisure & Entertainment subject.

lecturer 1: So far in these lectures, we’ve been looking at crimes like robbery and murder, both from a historical viewpoint and also in contemporary society. On we’ve seen that the preoccupation in Western society, with crime and with lawlessness is part of a long and continuous tradition rather than something which is new and unique to modern society.



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31 Corporate crime is generally committed

☐ **A** against individuals.

☐ **B** by groups.

☐ **C** for companies.

32 Corporate crime does **NOT** include

☐ **A** employees stealing from their company.

☐ **B** unintentional crime by employees.

☐ **C** fraud resulting from company policy.

Questions 33 - 38

Complete the notes below.

Type **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** for each answer in the boxes below:

Corporate crime has been ignored by:

a) the **33** E.g. films

b) **34**

Reasons:

a) often more complex, and needing **35**

b) Less human interest than conventional crime

c) Victims often **36**

But over the past 70 years or so, there has been a massive increase in one type of crime, which is what’s known as corporate crime. Corporate crime is a crime, which, as the name suggests, **q31 is connected with companies with business organizations.**

It includes illegal acts of either individuals or a group within the company. But what is important is that these acts are normally in accordance with the goals of the company there for the good of the company rather than the individual.

It’s been defined as a quote crime, which is committed for the corporate organization, the company, not against it, unquote so crimes like theft by employees. **q32 Things like embezzlement or fraud against one’s actual employer are excluded.** According to this definition, the employees may be involved, but they’re acting in the first place for the company.

They may not even realize they’re committing a crime, or they may realize, but they feel it’s excusable because it’s policy or because otherwise, they may lose their jobs. So here, really, we’re talking about the links between power and crime.

Now, this is one area that much less is generally known about than conventional or traditional crime. It has been relatively ignored by the **q33 mass media.** For example, it tends to be underreported in comparison with conventional crime and news broadcasts and in crime serials and films, and so on.

They very rarely deal with corporate crime, and it also tends to be ignored in **q34 academic circles** has been far more research on conventional crime, and far more data is available. There are several reasons for this lack of interest in corporate crime. Compared with other types of crime, it’s often very complex, whereas with conventional crime it’s usually possible to follow what’s going on without **q35 specialist knowledge** as well as this, whereas conventional crime usually has a lot of human interest. Corporate crime often has much less. The third reason, and possibly the most significant one, is that very often the victims are **q36 unaware.** They think their misfortune is an accident or that it’s the fault of no one in particular. They’re unaware that they’ve been victims of a crime. So when we look at the effects of corporate crime, we may find it’s very difficult to assess the costs. But these costs can be very considerable in both their economic and social aspect.

a) Economic costs

- May appear unimportant to **37**
- Can make large **38**
- Cause more losses to individuals than conventional crimes

b) Social costs

- Make people lose trust in business world
- Affect poorer people most

Questions 39 - 40

Choose **TWO** letters from **A - F** for your answer.

The oil tanker explosion was an example of a crime which

☐ **A** was no-one’s fault

☐ **B** was not a corporate crime

☐ **C** was intentional

☐ **D** was caused by indifference

☐ **E** had tragic results

☐ **F** made a large profit for the company

Let’s look at the economic cost first. For example, if a company is producing fruit juice and it deludes its products so that it’s just a little below the concentration it should be, many millions of people may be paying a small amount extra for their carton of orange juice. Now, small amounts like this may seem insignificant for **q37 individual customers** too small to worry about. But for the company, this deception might result in massive **q38 illegal profit.** However, all studies of corporate crime agree that the individuals are in fact deprived of far more money by such crime than they are by conventional crime, like robbery and theft.

In addition to this, we have to consider the social costs of corporate crime, and these are again very difficult to assess. But they are considerable. They’re important because they can undermine the faith of the public in the business world and also more importantly because the main group of people the effect are in fact not the richer sections of society but the poorer. So here, cos they’re robbing the poor to benefit the rich.

There are two more points to do with corporate crime that I’d like to illustrate with reference to a specific event which occurred several years ago. This was an explosion of a large oil tanker, which caused the loss of more than 50 lives of the crew. It was an explosion which never should have happened, and a subsequent inquiry laid the blame, not on anyone who would actually been on the tanker at the time.

But on the owners of the tanker. They had deliberately decided not to carry out necessary repair work on the tanker as it was due to be sold. And it was this lack of repair work which was directly responsible for the explosion. Now, this illustrates two points to do with corporate crime.

First of all, that it does not have to be intentional. The owners of the tanker certainly did not intend it to explode, but very serious consequences can result from people or organizations not considering the possible results of their actions seriously enough. **q39 The main crime here was indifference to the human results** rather than actual intention to harm anyone. **q40 But that didn’t make the results any less tragic.** And this leads me to my second point that corporate crime can have very severe consequences.

It’s not just a matter of companies making bigger profits than they should do, but of events which may affect the lives of innocent people. And yet very often companies, because they say they didn’t intend to harm anyone, can avoid taking responsibility for the results of their actions. And that has been a very dangerous loophole in the law. Further example of corporate crime was that

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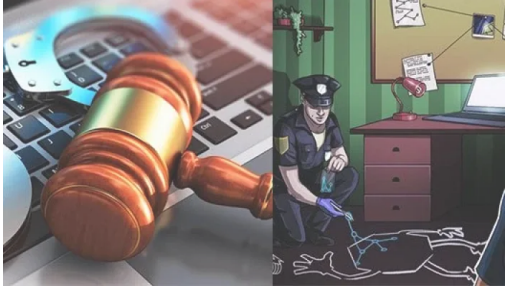


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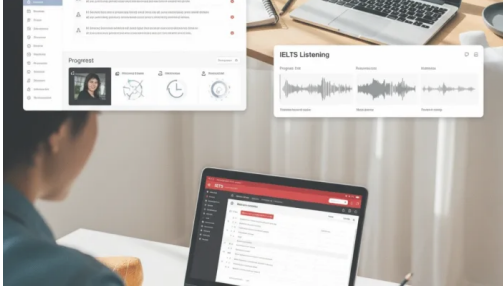
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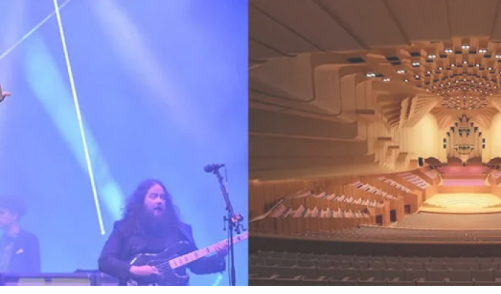
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