

# Verb Pairs Worksheet

## Explanation

Listen

To pay attention to sounds deliberately (an active action).

Hear

To perceive sounds without trying (a passive action).

## Example Sentences

### Listen (Intentional)

- I **listen** to music when I study.
- Please **listen** carefully to the safety instructions.
- He refused to **listen** to my advice.

### Hear (Unintentional)

- I can **hear** a baby crying next door.
- Did you **hear** that strange noise just now?
- She couldn't **hear** the announcement over the crowd.

## Key Differences

Feature	Listen	Hear
Intentional?	Yes – you choose to listen	No – happens naturally
Action type	Active	Passive
Control	You control it	You don't always control it

## Common Exceptions

- "Did you hear the news?" – a fixed phrase used even when someone listened carefully.
- "Can you hear me now?" – often used during phone or video calls, even if you are actively trying to listen.

## Discussion Prompts

1. Do you prefer to listen to music, podcasts, or silence while working? Why?
2. Have you ever heard something surprising in public?
3. How do you show someone you're listening to them?
4. Have you ever had trouble hearing someone in a crowded or noisy place? What did you do?
5. What happens when people don't listen carefully?

## Exercises

Complete the sentences with the correct verb form: **listen** or **hear**.

1. I can't \_\_\_\_\_ you – can you speak louder?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. She always \_\_\_\_\_ to podcasts on her commute.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. We \_\_\_\_\_ a strange noise outside last night.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Please \_\_\_\_\_ carefully to the instructions.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Did you \_\_\_\_\_ what he said about the meeting?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. I love to \_\_\_\_\_ to the birds in the morning.  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Sorry, I didn't \_\_\_\_\_ my phone ring.  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. The students didn't \_\_\_\_\_ to the teacher and failed the test.  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. He was surprised to \_\_\_\_\_ his name on the radio.  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. I \_\_\_\_\_ to relaxing music before bed every night.

## Make Your Own Sentences

Write three sentences using "**listen**" and three using "**hear**" in context. Try to use different tenses and situations.

**Listen Sentences:**

**Hear Sentences:**

## Answer Key

1. hear   2. listens   3. heard   4. listen   5. hear   6. listen   7. hear   8. listen   9. hear   10. listen