There is a question part in today IELTS Listening Practice Test considered as an exciting one. In that part, a professor and his students are discussing a nocturnal animal presentation and reaching their agreement in what to present next. The question is completing a diagram of Jaguar's body part.

27. Flexible spine for taking _______
28. Yellow fur with black _____ spots  
30. Sharp, _____ claws

A zoologist, normally, can guess what is the word(s) in the blank. But, in the IELTS test, we are not allowed to activate our prior knowledge to answer the questions. I answered no 27 with 'long stride' as soon as I heard the conversation. Then, I repeat the conversation and I heard 'long slide'. Oh my God, even a biologist, I, heard different-but-same-words in two trials! My ear, an animal organ designed to perceive sounds, should be trained more and more for better hearing. In the end, the answer for no 27 is 'long stride'. I felt that my ear picks up and interpret the frequency of words differently in two times attempts.

The answer for no 28 is 'doughnut-shaped'. Almost all my classmates mistakenly answer this number. We need to put '-ed' and Grammarly suggests to use dash '-'. We were confused in what the speaker said or hesitated in using 'donat' or 'donats' or as in Dunkin' Donats.

The doughnut is a word for the ring-shaped cake made of dough and fried in fat and donut is the shortened version of it popularized in the late 20th century. Today, writers outside the U.S. still favor doughnut and said appears about a third of the time in published American writing. So, decided yourself as #TeamDonut or #TeamDoughnut.

'retractable' is the word that appropriate to fill the no 30 blanks. It is often described as unfamiliar vocabulary and indeed difficult in hearing the word in Listening Practice. Jaguar and his family Felidae members have retractable claws sheathed in a relaxed position and extended in hunting or self-defense. If you have a cat in home, it is normal when she suddenly appeared from nowhere silently because of no claws extend.

Why do the British drink so much tea? A simple sentence opened a text in my Reading Class. According to the text entitled Coffe Rust, the British started to drink
tea when their coffee supply from plantations in Sri Lanka stopped because of
*Hemileia valstawtix*, a fungus, attack. BBC said that the key person who popularizes
the beverage was Catherine, daughter of Portugal’s King John IV and married
Britain’s King Charles II in 1662. She mediated Britain to obtain tea leaves directly
from its origin, China. The text provided is a combination of biological parasitism
phenomenon and coffee plantation history. Again, we are not suggested to using
our previous knowledge to deal with the text.

Be an empty cup if you are doing your IELST and let us drink a cup of tea. *Bon
Appétit!*

http://time.com/2837756/donut-or-doughnut/
http://grammarist.com/spelling/doughnut-donut/