
Unit 1 Life is a learning curve

Listening to the world

Sharing

Scripts

H = Hina; W1 = Woman 1, etc.; M1 = Man 1, etc.

Part 1

H: I have a full-time job but I like learning new things in my spare time. At the moment, I'm studying Spanish. I'm enjoying it but I'm finding it quite difficult. Today we're asking people about learning new things.

Part 2

W1: I'm learning to speak another language, actually. I'm learning French. I'm also learning, er, to drive.

W2: I'm learning to play golf at the moment. Um, my husband and my son play golf, and when we go on holiday, I feel that I want to be able to play with them.

W3: I'm learning to speak Spanish.

W4: I am learning Arabic.

M1: Well, I've been learning to play the guitar for about 50 years now. And it's a constant process, so still learning bits, yes.

W5: I'm learning yoga at the moment, and I'm finding it quite hard.

M2: The courses I'm taking are, are training courses for leadership, er, negotiation, (and) evaluation.

M3: I'm learning Swahili.

W6: At the moment, I'm learning to paint and draw in evening classes for adults.

W7: I'm studying part-time after work.

M4: I've er, just learned how to er, do a lot of kayaking.

W8: I am learning how to design a website at the moment.

W9: I'm in a choir so singing, I guess, is pretty much the only thing I'm doing at the moment.

M5: At the moment, I'm taking up a new instrument. It's a traditional instrument from Zimbabwe, and it's called the mbira. Er, let me show you.

Part 3

H: What's the most difficult thing you've ever learned?

M5: Patience, I think.

W4: Arabic.

M2: Courage.

W3: Learning a language is particularly difficult for myself (me), so probably learning the Spanish.

W6: The most difficult thing I have ever learned is Mandarin Chinese. I did it in evening classes a few years ago and I found it really, really difficult.

W5: Probably capoeira, which is a Brazilian dance, martial art, fight thing. It's a combination of all of these things. And yes, that was very difficult because there were lots of unusual body

movements to learn.

W1: Learning to drive was the most difficult thing.

M3: Well, I learned some Sanskrit, and that's got um, nine cases, two more than Latin. It's quite difficult by most standards.

M4: I think I found French very hard at school.

W2: Um, I learned to play the trumpet at school. That was pretty difficult. Er ... and maybe learning to drive. I hated learning to drive.

Listening

Scripts

P = presenter; S = Sally

P: Hi. You're listening to *Ask the Expert* and in today's program we're talking about languages and how to learn a language. Our expert today is Sally Parker, who is a teacher. Hi Sally.

S: Hello.

P: Sally, our first question today is from Andy. He says, "I've just started learning English. My problem is that I'm too frightened to speak. My grammar is not very good, so I'm worried about saying the wrong thing." Have you got any advice for Andy?

S: OK. Well, the first thing is I think Andy should practice speaking to himself.

P: Speaking to himself? I'm not sure that's a good idea.

S: I know it sounds silly, but talking to yourself in a foreign language is a really good way to practice. You don't have to feel embarrassed, because nobody can hear you. You can talk to yourself about anything you like – what you had for breakfast, where you're going for the weekend – anything. And the more you do it, the more you will get used to hearing your own voice and your pronunciation, so you won't feel so frightened in the classroom. Andy should try it.

P: Hm, I suppose so. Anything else? What about his grammar?

S: He has only just started learning English, so he is going to make lots of mistakes, but that's not a problem. That's how he'll learn. Andy shouldn't worry about making mistakes.

P: You're right. So Andy, try talking to yourself, and don't worry about making mistakes. Our next problem comes from Olivia in Brazil. She is worried about pronunciation. She says, "The problem is I can't understand native speakers. They speak so fast and I can't understand their pronunciation." So Sally, any ideas for Olivia?

S: Well, first of all it's a good idea for her to practice her listening skills. She should listen to English as much as possible to get used to how it sounds. Listen to the news, listen to podcasts, (and) watch English television.

P: OK – that's a good idea.

S: And another thing she should do is to focus on listening and reading at the same time. If you listen to something on the Internet, you can often read the transcript. If you listen and read at the same time, it'll help you see what the words sound like and how the words sound when a native speaker is talking.

P: Great. Thank you, Sally. Well, huh, I'm afraid that's all we have time for today, but next week we'll be ...

Viewing

Scripts

N = Narrator; I = Ian Deary; W1 = Woman 1, etc.; M1 = Man 1, etc.

N: Recent research into the history of IQ tests in Scotland suggests your IQ score might predict, to an extent at least, your health and even your life expectancy.

W1: You have 45 minutes to do the test, OK?

M1: OK.

N: Bill and Davina are 79 years old. This is the second time they've done this test. The first time was in 1932, when every 11-year-old in Scotland was put through an intelligence test. It's the only time this kind of mass testing has ever been done in the UK. The results were rediscovered recently in an Edinburgh basement. If you want to know how our intelligence changes as we get older, these results are a potential goldmine.

I: We brought hundreds of people back and we got them to sit the exact same test that they had sat when they were aged 11. Now, these people are now 79 or 80 years old. We gave the same instructions. We gave the same test. And we gave the same time limit.

M2: It was a little stickier than I thought it would be.

M3: I walked through it quite happily, quite honestly.

W2: I felt I must have been very bright at 11 if I sat that exam and passed.

N: There were some intriguing results. Almost everyone had a better score at 80 than they did at 11. But some had gone from being just averagely intelligent to a much higher level.

I: Now, that's what really drives our research. We're interested in: Why have those people who've gone (people gone) from IQ 100, at age 11, up to 110 or 120? What have they done right? What can be the recipe for successful aging? We're finding that the person with more education, even though they had the same IQ in childhood, is doing slightly better in old age, on average. The person who had a more professional job, in old age, is doing slightly better on average than the person who had a manual job, despite the fact that they started at the same level. The people who smoked have got slightly less good mental ability than you would expect.

N: What's even more remarkable is that the kids who had higher IQ scores at 11 are the very ones still alive today. So it seems high IQ in childhood is good for survival.

Speaking for communication

Role-play

Scripts

A: Ah, OK, so we need to think of the best ideas for taking tests.

B: Yep.

A: Er, well, how about this one? It's a good idea to study with friends at the same time each day.

B: Mm, in my opinion, this is a really good idea. You can make it a regular part of your daily life.

A: You mean like having breakfast at the same time, lunch at the same time, studying at the same time.

B: Yes. And also I think it helps when you study with friends.

A: Yeah, I, I think it's more motivating.

B: And you can actually talk to someone, not just look at books. I find that if I'm only reading my notes it's easy to lose concentration. I start thinking about other things. But when you are talking to someone, it really helps you concentrate. So, yes, I agree with this one.

A: OK. Another idea is not to eat too much before the exam.

B: Oh, really?

A: Mm, when I eat a lot, I get sleepy.

B: Oh, I see. I think it depends. Because if you don't eat enough, you start to feel hungry in the middle of the exam.

A: Mm, that's true.

B: And then you can't concentrate.

A: Yeah, that's true.

B: So, I'm not sure about this advice, for me. As I said, I think it depends. I always try to eat a good meal before an exam. I'm so nervous that I never get sleepy.

A: Hm. OK. What other ideas do you have?

B: Well, there's one thing I always do before an exam.

A: What's that?

B: I go to bed early the night before.

A: Right.

B: I always try to sleep for eight hours the night before the exam.

Further practice in listening

Short conversations

Scripts

Conversation 1

W: It is the third time my paper has been rejected by journals because of language problems.

M: You know, there is a writing center on campus. I had never got a grade better than C for any of my term papers before they helped me out.

Q: What can we learn from the conversation?

Conversation 2

M: You said you would choose Spanish as your second foreign language. Why did you finally choose French instead?

W: My grandfather speaks fluent French and he says that French is a language that any truly cultured person must know.

Q: Why does the woman choose to learn French?

Conversation 3

W: You seem to have no problem understanding native speakers now. How about Dr. Brown's speech last night?

M: Excellent. But it was still too fast for me to follow, especially when Dr. Brown talked about those abstract theories.

Q: What did the man do last night?

Conversation 4

M: It seems to me that Melissa is in a bad mood today. What's wrong with her?

W: Melissa forgot to bring her identification card yesterday and she was not allowed to enter the contest. You know she had prepared for the contest for months.

Q: What made Melissa unhappy?

Conversation 5

W: I think my time at school is wasted because it is just studying books and doing tests.

M: But you also learn new ideas and new ways of thinking. And more importantly you meet people and develop your understanding of people at school.

Q: What does the man think of the woman's opinion?

Long conversation

Scripts

M: Miranda, let's speak about your performance in class. You're not participating; you're careless with your assignments and often hand them in late. You don't want to be here, do you?

W: I'm sorry Dr. Smith. It's just ... I've got lots of things to do. I'm studying Web design and I'm a first-class player on our golf team. It's hard to see why I need to take a Spanish language class!

M: Well, I'm sorry you feel that way, but learning another language can improve your performance in all of your efforts. And it can be very useful sometimes, for instance, when you visit your father in Mexico.

W: Gosh! What do you mean, professor? Just because my father does business in Mexico I'm supposed to learn Spanish – on top of everything else I have to learn? It's just too much! And if I don't spend enough time on the golf course, I won't remain a first-class player on the golf team. I still don't see why I should learn a language that's so hard for me. There are no verb tenses on the golf course or in Web design!

M: Listen Miranda, I've known your father since we were students at university 20 years ago – and have known you since you were a little girl. Of course, there are no verb tenses in golf or Web design. But I am giving you good advice. Please listen.

W: Yes, of course, you're like my favorite uncle.

M: Your brain isn't like a cup that has water flowing over its edge when it is full. Instead, it's like a muscle. Learning Spanish exercises your brain in new ways, making it stronger. It will strengthen your critical thinking skills and creativity.

W: Really?! Then I guess I can give it a try.

Passage 1

Scripts

I began learning Spanish when I was in high school, using a traditional academic method of studying verbs, sentence structures, and grammar by using textbooks and not much else. I found it very easy to learn, but was frustrated with the slow pace and repetitive nature of all my Spanish classes. So I worked extra hard in my spare time and asked my teacher if I could skip a level by the end of the semester.

This was unsuccessful, however, because the school was not willing to test me or otherwise prove that I could be successful in the top level after skipping a level. This made things even more frustrating, as then I was stuck in a class where I already knew the material!

Then I went on to college where I then used the language extensively both in and out of the classroom. I studied Spanish literature, culture, and linguistics and very much enjoyed the cultural and linguistic elements, but found the in-depth study of literature a very unbalanced way to study Spanish.

I got a lot out of using my Spanish outside of the classroom, including a trip to Mexico with a church group, where I found myself acting as an interpreter. It was certainly challenging, but it was also a lot of fun.

I then also volunteered to be an interpreter in the community schools and also used my Spanish to teach English to some Spanish speakers. This is probably where I learned the most!

Q1: What do we know about the speaker's Spanish learning experience in high school?

Q2: What made the speaker feel frustrated while learning Spanish in high school?

Q3: What did the speaker say about her study of Spanish literature in college?

Q4: Which experience benefited the speaker most in terms of her use of Spanish?

Passage 2

Scripts and answers

Have you ever heard of homeschooling? It is a legal choice for parents in most countries to provide their children with a learning environment as an 1) alternative to public or private schools outside the home. Parents cite 2) numerous reasons for homeschooling their children. The three reasons that are selected by the majority of parents in the United States are the concern about the 3) traditional school environment, the lack of religious or moral instruction, and the dissatisfaction with the 4) academic instruction at public and private schools. Homeschooling may also be a factor in the choice of parenting style. Homeschooling can be a choice for families living in isolated 5) countryside or living briefly abroad. Also many young 6) athletes and actors are taught at home.

Homeschoolers often 7) take advantage of educational opportunities at museums, libraries, community centers, athletic clubs, after-school programs, churches, parks, and other community resources. 8) Secondary school level students may take classes at community colleges, which typically have open admission policies.

Groups of homeschooling families often join up together to create homeschool co-ops. These groups typically meet once a week and provide a classroom environment. These are family-centered support groups whose members seek to pool their talents and resources 9) in a collective effort to broaden the scope of their children's education. They provide a classroom environment where students can do hands-on and group learning such as performing, science experiments, art

projects, foreign language study, spelling contests, discussions, etc. Parents whose children take the classes 10) serve as volunteers to keep costs low and make the program a success.

Unit 2 Journey into the unknown

Listening to the world

Sharing

Scripts

F = Finn; W1 = Woman 1, etc.; M1 = Man 1, etc.

Part 1

F: I've spent a lot of time living in different countries so there isn't one place I think of as home. I've lived in Scotland and Poland and China. I love going to new places and learning about new cultures. Today, I'm asking people about travel.

Part 2

W1: I love travel. It's one of my passions.

M1: Well, I enjoy it a lot. I have traveled to India several times. I lived there, and I've lived here, and I've been to Istanbul once and I enjoyed that very much.

W2: I've done quite a bit of traveling on holidays and stuff. I think it's good, good experience.

W3: You get to meet different people coming from different backgrounds, and that's really important to get an understanding.

M2: It's always just nice to get out and experience a different culture and different lifestyle.

W4: I get very excited about the thought of going to most countries, any country.

W5: I love to travel to different countries.

M3: Absolutely love traveling. I've been traveling for about two and a half years solid now.

W6: I've been to Turkey. I've been to Egypt. I've been to Malta.

M4: I work as an expedition leader and so I actually operate in different countries around the world, many places outside the United Kingdom.

Part 3

F: What do you like about traveling?

M3: I think you mature a lot when you travel. You, er, you learn ... oh, just completely different experiences to what you're used to at home.

W6: I like the airport experience. I love that.

M5: I like the arrival more than the traveling.

W5: To see art especially. We love to see theater in other countries.

M4: You see some, some of the most beautiful scenery around the world which you wouldn't experience in other countries.

M2: I just really like getting out there and experiencing a different culture, getting far away from, you know, what we're used to in Australia, and meeting new people.

W4: The anticipation of being in a new place, of seeing very different things, er, of hearing a different language, (and) of eating different food. Everything that travel has to offer.

Part 4

F: What don't you like?

W6: I don't like long flights.

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- W3: I suppose plane journeys aren't always the most exciting of things.
- W1: Flying. I don't particularly like flying, but it's a necessity when you live in Ireland, you know.
- M2: I suppose the biggest problem I have with traveling is living out of a suitcase.
- W4: In all honesty, I actually see the whole travel as an adventure in itself. So, er, when, when I was backpacking, and we all ... we ran out of money, or we were in dangerous situations, I actually quite enjoyed that.
- M4: You spend a lot of time outside the United Kingdom, and the disadvantage of that is, that you, you tend to miss families and friends. I miss out on normal things in life, so ... I've been outside the United Kingdom for two thirds of the year. I'd say that's the main disadvantage.
- W5: The hardest thing for me is that I am handicapped. And so sometimes getting around, especially very old cities, is very difficult.
- M5: My wife's usually late for ... getting to the airport. It wasn't until I, I got married I actually started missing flights.

Listening

Scripts

One place that I think everyone should have the chance to see is Venice. But the problem is that this beautiful and charming city is slowly sinking. Ever since the 14th century engineers have tried to work out a way to stop the floods in Venice, but so far nobody has managed. Sometimes there are as many as 40 floods per year between March and September, and Venice is actually sinking at a rate of two and a half inches every decade. It's very possible that your grandchildren, and their grandchildren will never have the chance to see this fragile city. Everyone should have the chance to enjoy the city, to walk across its famous bridges, through its ancient squares. There are no cars in Venice, and many people think it helps this to be one of the most romantic cities in the world. So, can it be saved?

Well, they are trying. Barriers are being put in to try and stop the water getting too high. This is viewed as a temporary measure, although they should last 100 years, so the problem is finding a permanent solution. If you want my advice, go there while you still can, and then together we can put pressure on the government to spend the money it needs to find a permanent way to keep this beautiful and historic city for future generations. We have an opportunity now to save this city, and we must, before it's too late.

Viewing

Scripts

V = Voice-over; M1 = Man 1, etc.; JL = Joanna Lumley; W1 = Woman 1, etc.;

EH = Eamonn Holmes; JJE = Jocelyn Jee Esien; AF = Alex Fraser;

JP = John Palmer; MJ = Melanie Jones; LS = Lucy Sassoon; Vs = Voices

V: There are so many amazing places to see around the world. Here are some of your favorites. Welcome to Bangkok! With over six million people, it's big, it's busy and you love it! It's very good for shopping and the nightlife is great, too.

M1: It's got lots of clubs, bars, shops, food ... Everything you need, really.

V: There are 400 temples in Bangkok, so Bangkok is an important place for Buddhists around the world, and tourists love to visit the temples, too.

V: You also love the Masai Mara in Kenya. It's a fantastic place to watch animals: zebras, elephants, antelope, hippos, and lions. You can see them all. So, why is it so special?

JL: Huge open spaces, fantastic animals, just wide open freedom, warmth, friendliness, and all underneath the great African skies.

V: Now a popular, romantic city ... the city of lights, Paris.

W1: To me, Paris is elegant, romantic and expensive.

W2: Go in the spring and enjoy the art galleries.

V: And enjoy the views of the city from the top of the Eiffel Tower.

V: Back to Africa now, South Africa. Yes, it's Cape Town. And behind Cape Town is the 1,000-meter-high Table Mountain, with its fantastic views.

EH: Cape Town is one of my top three places on earth.

JJE: Friendly people, loads of beaches, and the food is unbelievably cheap.

M2: We went there um, over New Year and it was lovely. I mean, just a lovely, lovely place.

EH: Great place, Cape Town.

V: You love the mountains and beaches that make Cape Town so special. And these little guys – the penguins.

V: This is the big moment: the number one place to see before you die. Your favorite is ... the Grand Canyon! The Grand Canyon is an amazing place. You can read about the Grand Canyon and you can look at photographs and videos, but nothing can prepare you for the real thing.

AF: There is so much to see that you never stop seeing something new.

JP: The colors are just so ... amazing.

MJ: With every changing inch of the sunset, the colors in the canyon change.

LS: I remember actually sitting there ... and I just cried.

V: But there's only one word that everyone says when they talk about the Grand Canyon:

Vs: It really is awesome ... Just completely awesome ... Awesome ... "Awesome" is the word ... It was awesome ... Awesome ... Awesome ... "Awesome" is the only word ... Truly awesome.

Speaking for communication

Role-play

Scripts

Conversation 1

Man: Excuse me. We're trying to get to the carnival. Is this the right bus stop?

Woman: Yes, but you don't need the bus. It's very close.

Man: Oh! Can we walk?

Woman: Yes, it takes about 10 minutes from here. Just go straight on. You'll hear the music!

Man: OK. Thank you very much.

Conversation 2

Woman: Excuse me, can you help me? I'm looking for the Plaza Hotel. Is this the right way?

Man: Um ... Plaza Hotel, er, Plaza Hotel. Oh, yes, keep going, past the cinema and take the first left.

Woman: OK.

Man: Then keep going for about 15 minutes until you reach the end of the road. And you'll see the sign for the hotel. You can't miss it.

Woman: OK. Um, can you show me on the map?

Man: Sure.

Conversation 3

Man 1: Excuse me, we want to get to The Grand Motel. Is it far?

Woman: Um ... sorry, I've no idea. Jim, do you know?

Man 2: What?

Woman: The Grand Motel?

Man 2: The Grand Motel? Yeah, it's just over there. Er, just go to the end of this street. Go left and go past the ... um ... there's a restaurant. Go past the restaurant and it's on the left.

Man 1: On the left. So I need to go to the end of the street, turn left, go past the restaurant and it's on the left.

Man 2: Yeah, that's it.

Man 1: Thanks a lot.

Group discussion

Scripts

OK, well, we would like to go to Easter Island. It is very isolated, very far from other places. Er, we are going to travel there by plane and stay with different families and the trip is going to take three months. We want to experience the local culture, their music, food, and way of life. So our plan is to speak to the local people about these things and to film them. We hope to find out about their traditions and to see what they think of their history. Well, um, finally, my husband and I always wanted to go to Easter Island. I read about it when I was a child and I saw pictures of these amazing stone heads on the island. So for us this is the journey of our dreams.

Further practice in listening

Short conversations

Scripts

Conversation 1

M: I still can't decide whether we should have a whole package tour or a self-drive tour.

W: A whole package tour means having to spend time in the confined quarters of a coach, bus or train with people you are not familiar with, but considering our budget, perhaps we have to sacrifice comfort and privacy.

Q: What does the woman say about a whole package tour?

Conversation 2

W: I was so shocked when I saw the tiny, dirty houses where the children grew up.

M: So was I. I'm afraid that they don't have enough food, let alone go to school. Next time we should have our daughter come with us. She always takes things for granted.

Q: What are the two speakers planning to do?

Conversation 3

M: I will say it again: India is not a safe place for a woman to travel alone.

W: But if I wear the proper clothes, and learn the cultural dos and don'ts, it should be fine. Please don't be so alarmed.

Q: What will the woman do?

Conversation 4

W: I'm going to travel with my five-year-old this summer. But I feel kind of uncertain whether things will work out.

M: You know Jane? She and her husband spend every holiday traveling in a jeep with their son and dog. Probably you should go to her before you go.

Q: What does the woman feel uncertain about?

Conversation 5

M: Many people love a good story about somebody traveling in time – either to repair the future, or to observe the past. Why are time travel stories so popular?

W: I think it's human nature to dream of what-ifs. What if I could see an alien?

Q: What are the two speakers talking about?

Long conversation

Scripts

M: It's good to have you back at work Emily. How was your trip to the Amazon rainforest?

W: It was like a spectacular dream; I saw so many more things than I ever could have imagined. The plants are so thick that you couldn't even see the sun or the sky above, and there are more shades of green than I've seen before in my life!

M: Wow, with so many plants, how did you get around?

W: We rode a tour boat down the Amazon River – it connects the whole jungle, and the local people use it to travel, too. It's amazing being somewhere so far away from technology, without any electricity for miles and miles. The local people don't even see the world outside of the jungle, never traveling more than 15 minutes up or down the river their whole lives!

M: What an entirely different lifestyle! It must be completely different there. Did you get to meet any of the villagers?

W: Oh yes! Here's the story: I finished a small blue bottle of wine and was about to throw it away. The tour guide told me to save it. Later, when we arrived at one of the villages, he introduced me to an old woman there who greeted our boat. I gave her the wine bottle as a gift. She looked at it like a great treasure, and she said that it would be an honored prize for her hut. I was shocked that something so small and common for me – could mean so much!

M: Emily, I suppose we really take modern life for granted.

Q1: What does the woman say about the plants in the Amazon rainforest?

Q2: What does the woman say about the local people?

Q3: Why was the old woman in the village so excited?

Q4: What has the woman learned from her traveling experience?

Passage 1

Scripts

I believe watching nature programs on television is not going to give us and our children a real experience of nature. On the contrary, they may distance us from nature – actual nature – even further.

Because real nature experiences mean contact with nature. It means being with and within nature, to experience it with all five senses.

True, TV programs give us joy but they will never be able to help us form a relationship with nature. We watch our small screens come alive with the vivid colors and we all let out “aahhhh ...” and “woooooow”. But, never once will we feel the pleasure of being close to nature.

Worse still – the programs such as those on the Discovery Channel make nature seem so strange, and so far away, in the forests of the Amazon or in the wilds of Africa. Children may grow up without even realizing that the flowers, plants or a couple of trees in their backyard are nature and they are equally precious. The truth is – nature is so close to us. We don’t need to go anywhere far to enjoy such experiences. It is right there in our backyards. Or, in parks, gardens, forests, or national parks.

All we need to do is make an effort to get closer to nature – know it, appreciate it, and explore it. Feeling the soil under our feet and the wind in our hair; listening to the sound of the fallen leaves and taking in the smell of the wet soil – all these are pure joy to the senses that we must experience.

Q1: What may happen to children after watching nature programs on TV?

Q2: How should children get close to nature according to the speaker?

Q3: What impression might the Discovery Channel leave on children?

Q4: What is the main idea of this passage?

Passage 2

Scripts and answers

I have never been able to understand people who don’t see the point in traveling. The common reason is that traveling is a waste of time and money. I’ve heard some are 1) scared to travel too far away. I can’t help but feel sorry particularly for those who 2) perceive the experience of seeing a new place as a 100 percent 3) negative one. Telling them stories about unusual encounters doesn’t 4) result in the expected curiosity but a “Why would you wanna go there!?” It makes me 5) lose faith in humanity. Experience is the best teacher and knowledge is power. The things traveling can teach you are beautiful because you learn to trust in what you see rather than

what you are told.

It was Mark Twain who said, “Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow-mindedness,” which in my mind 6) goes down as the closest to the truth about traveling. Too bad there aren’t enough people with the means to travel actually doing it. If you have the means to go abroad, you should do it despite going out of your comfort zone. You might realize why you loved it once you’re back home.

I think traveling is also the best thing you could do if you feel 7) depressed at home, don’t know what to do with your future, your life, your partner – anything. Once you are away, 8) preferably somewhere very new and unknown, you are forced to 9) adapt and meet people. This works especially if you travel alone. A new life and especially the new relationships you build, even if only for a short period of time, 10) reveal opportunities and views you never would have thought of and had otherwise.

Unit 3 Time out

Listening to the world

Sharing

Scripts

F = Finn; M1 = Man 1, etc.; W1 = Woman 1, etc.

Part 1

F: I like playing music and going to concerts in my free time. This weekend I'm going to a bar in North London to see my friend's band. What do you like doing in your free time?

Part 2

M1: I like to keep fit. I like to be very active. I like to do a lot of sport. I also like to see a lot of friends. I like to go to the theater. I like to go and see plays.

W1: I like to read er, books about ... crime novels, for example. And I like to go running. And ... cos obviously I can't run when I am at work, so in my free time, I like to do some exercise.

M2: Well, I have two small children so I don't have much free time. But seeing friends is er, is one of my great pleasures.

M3: I like er, coming up here to London to see galleries and theater, and things like that. Um, I like eating and drinking a lot. Sometimes in restaurants, and sometimes, either having friends around ... uh for that, or going to other people's houses.

W2: I enjoy jazz so I quite like having friends around to listen to the ... listen to some jazz or go out to a jazz club.

W3: I like to do many things in my free time. I love to read. I love to study different things. I'm studying oil painting and different languages now.

M4: I enjoy reading. Um, I enjoy playing the guitar. Um, I also enjoy er, creative writing, um, and watching films.

Part 3

F: What are you going to do this weekend?

M2: This weekend, there is a large camping trip of, of all my son's school friends. And we're all going off camping, which is going to be very interesting.

W1: This weekend I'm going to run a half marathon in um, Nottingham for the Robin Hood Festival and raising money for a charity.

M4: I'm going to relax as much as possible after quite a hard week, and quite a stressful week. So I'm gonna possibly watch a film and do very little.

W3: This weekend I am going to try to relax a little. I just completed a long trip.

W2: This weekend I'm going to take my son to football. He plays in a local football team.

M3: This weekend I am going to er, see some friends on Saturday night, and have dinner at their house. And then er, I'm gonna be er, welcoming some friends at our house on Sunday night.

M1: I have a friend, who ... It's her birthday. And I'm going to go to the birthday party on Saturday. And then on Sunday I'm going to go to a barbecue.

Listening

Scripts

P = Presenter; D = Dominique; R = Rob

P: Let's see what we've got on this week's £15 challenge. We're going to send two people out for a night in London, and their challenge is to have a good night out, but not spend more than £15. So, is it possible? Well, we're going to find out. We've asked Dominique and Rob to spend an evening in London, and not spend more than £15. So, let's speak to Dominique first. Hi, Dominique.

D: Hi, George.

P: Tell us, Dominique, what are your plans?

D: Well, first of all I'm going to see a free art exhibition at the Tate Modern. I don't normally like modern art, so I hope it's OK. Um, then I'm meeting some friends and we're going to a concert at a pub called The King's Head. There's a free band playing and so I only need to pay for my drinks. Afterwards we're having dinner in Brick Lane where there are lots of Indian restaurants. They've told me that if you go to one of the restaurants there at 10 p.m., you can get a free meal. I don't know if that's true, but I'm going to try anyway. Then I'm getting the bus home. A taxi is too expensive.

P: That sounds great. Have a good evening, and you can tell us all about it tomorrow.

D: I will.

P: Our second volunteer is Rob. Rob, can you tell us about your evening?

R: Yes. I'm starting the evening with a visit to a museum, too. I'm going to the National Gallery to see the paintings there. They stay open one night a week, and it's free. Then I'm going to Covent Garden to watch the street entertainers. Um, that's free, too. And after that, I'm going to watch some comedy. There's a really good comedy club just near Covent Garden. It's £8 to get in. I'm not having dinner. There isn't enough time.

P: Thanks, Rob. Enjoy your evening, and don't forget to call us ...

Viewing

Scripts

Part 1

Holiday 10 Best takes a journey to the coolest, the hippest, the biggest and the most exciting cities around the world. We've got shopping, socializing, sightseeing, history, culture, and of course the odd beach or two.

So, what is it that makes a city truly great? Let's face it: We spend most of our time trying to get away from them. They're busy; they're crowded; they aren't exactly relaxing. So, how does Barcelona manage to get it so right?

I love Barcelona. I've been here about a dozen times, and what keeps bringing me back? Well, it's the art, the great buildings, fantastic shopping, and just the general laid-back attitude to life. It's my favorite city and I'm gonna show you my recipe for the perfect day here.

Part 2

Now, you don't want to start your day too early because it's going to be a long one. But when

you do manage to drag yourself out of bed, the only way to kick things off here is with a nice, big, fat, creamy cup of hot chocolate, with some lovely sugary churros.

First stop on my sightseeing tour: La Sagrada Familia. Barcelona likes to think of itself as such an individual city and for me the Sagrada Familia really sums that up.

People always think that a siesta is about sleeping. Not true. In Barcelona, it means a nice, long lunch, and that means it's time for tapas. What I love about tapas is the way you can just try a little bit of this, a little bit of that, and if you really want to find out what it's all about, get Juan Carlos, who's the owner of the oldest tapas bar in Barcelona, just to serve you up a selection.

No city break is complete without a spot of serious shopping. Most first-timers will end up on the Ramblas, famous for its silly statues and being ridiculously crowded. What can I say? I'm a northern girl and I love my markets, and this is the best one I've found anywhere in the world. Now, there's probably more tourists here than there are locals, but that's because of two reasons: this fantastic bar – Pinocchio's Bar, and the amazing array of things that you can buy here. Well worth a visit.

Now, one thing that will probably surprise you about Barcelona is that it's got beaches. Five of them. Now, they're not the best you're gonna find on the Med, but it's one of the things that makes this place so special.

There are two things to remember when you're heading out for the night here. One: Don't even think about coming out early. Nobody has dinner before nine. And two: Pace yourself. It's going to be a long night. The way to approach a night out in Barcelona is to take a drink here, a nibble of tapas there, and then repeat until you get tired, or the sun comes up. And that's exactly what I'm going to do.

Speaking for communication

Role-play

Scripts

Conversation 1

A = Restaurant manager; B = Customer

A: King's Restaurant.

B: Hello, er, I'd like to book a table for four on Friday night. Around eight thirty, if possible.

A: Let me just have a look. Er, sorry, we're completely full on Friday. There's nothing at all.

B: Ah, what about Saturday?

A: Saturday, Saturday. Um ... the best I can do is a table at ten o'clock.

B: Ten o'clock? You haven't got anything earlier?

A: Nothing at all, I'm afraid.

B: OK, let's go ahead. Ten o'clock.

A: Can I take your name, please?

B: The table is for Rodney Collins.

A: Rodney ... Oh! Can you repeat that, please? Did you say Rodney Collins?

B: Yes.

A: OK, that's all booked. Table for four, ten o'clock, Saturday.

B: Great. Thank you.

A: Thank you.

Conversation 2

C = Box office worker; D = Customer

C: High Tower Productions. Paul speaking. How can I help you?

D: Hello, I was wondering if you could help me. I've booked a ticket for the show on the fifth of June, but I'd like to change the date.

C: OK, one moment. Can I just check? What's the name please?

D: The tickets are booked in the name of Judy Starr.

C: Sorry, I didn't catch that. Did you say Starr?

D: Judy Starr. S-t-a-double r.

C: OK, yes. Two tickets for June the fifth. What date would you like to change to?

D: What dates do you still have seats for?

C: There's nothing on the sixth or seventh. Er, there are two seats for the eighth but they're separate. We have ...

D: Sorry, can you slow down, please? Two seats for?

C: Sorry, two seats for the eighth, but they aren't together. Er, we can do you two seats together on the ninth of June.

D: Ninth of June. That's fine.

C: OK. I'll just go ahead and book that.

Conversation 3

E: Hello?

F: Hello, it's Wendy here.

E: Oh hi, Wendy. How are you?

F: Very well, thanks. And you?

E: Yeah, fine.

F: Are you doing anything on Saturday? Because a few of us are going out for dinner.

E: Sorry, Wendy, can you speak up, please? I'm on Oxford Street and I can't hear a thing.

F: Do you want to go for dinner on Saturday?

E: Oh, that sounds nice.

F: There's going to be a few of us, Tom and Zoe, and Steve.

E: That sounds like fun.

F: Are you free?

E: I think so.

F: Alright. Eight thirty, Saturday. Zanzibar's.

E: OK. Zanzibar's on Saturday at eight thirty.

F: That's right. Brilliant. See you soon.

E: OK. Thanks for calling.

Conversation 4

G = Receptionist; H = Caller

G: Thomson and Co. Who's calling?
H: Hello, this is Andy. Andy Jones. Can I speak to Sarah Hobbs, please?
G: I'm afraid she's not here at the moment.
H: Ah, do you know when she'll be back? I've tried her mobile three or four times and left messages, but she hasn't called back.
G: She's visiting a customer. She should be back this evening. Can I take a message?
H: It's about dinner tonight. I've had to cancel because of work.
G: OK. I'll ask her to call you back.
H: Thanks.
G: Does she have your number?
H: It's 0988 45673.
G: Can you repeat that, please?
H: 0988 45673.

Group discussion

Scripts

I'm going to tell you about my perfect day in Prague. Um, first of all, we're starting the day in the main square. It's a beautiful place to have breakfast in one of the cafés. It's a little bit expensive, but we're going to sit outside so we can watch the clock tower.

After breakfast, we're going to walk through the old city, and go to Charles Bridge. There are some interesting statues on the bridge, and there's a market where you can buy some souvenirs. From the bridge, we're walking up to the Castle. And we're going to have lunch in a restaurant near there.

In the afternoon, we're taking a tram around the city. It's a good way to see the sights because it's cheap and easy. And afterwards, we're going to relax in the park at Petrin Hill. Er, there is a tall tower here, where you can see wonderful views of the city, too. We're going to a coffee shop in the afternoon, in the Municipal House, where they do wonderful coffees.

And then, in the evening, we're planning to go to a classical music concert in St. Nicholas Church. You can come here to listen to Bach, Mozart or Vivaldi, and the atmosphere is very special. When it's finished, we're having dinner at Kolkovna, in the old town, which serves traditional Czech food, and then we're going to spend the rest of the evening trying different bars in the old town, which serve very cheap, local beers. It's going to be fantastic!

Further practice in listening

Short conversations

Scripts

Conversation 1

W: I'm going to relax a little after such a hard week. How about a long walk this weekend?
M: Sounds good, but no high-heeled boots this time. I still remember last time you were dog-tired after a long walk in the woods.
Q: What can we infer from this conversation about the woman?

Conversation 2

M: One of the things I do on the weekends is cookout. It is fun to have a barbecue party with friends in the backyard.

W: Have you tried cooking with Coke? The sweetness of Coke adds a nice touch to the barbecue sauce.

Q: What does the woman suggest the man do?

Conversation 3

M: The entry fee is \$2 per person. The price for sweet cherry is \$10 per kilogram. But you can have a 10 percent discount for the cherries if you pick more than 3 kilograms.

W: Five of us picked 5 kilograms.

Q: How much should the woman pay?

Conversation 4

W: I was advised to take a weight-loss class. But I find it intimidating to exercise in front of others since I'm out of shape.

M: Exercising at home is also a great way to start and it helps build up your confidence.

Q: What do we know from the conversation about the woman?

Conversation 5

M: How about going on a camping trip with us? We are planning on canoeing this weekend.

W: That sounds good. But I've never been in a canoe before and I am not much of a swimmer either.

Q: What does the woman mean?

Long conversation

Scripts

W: Hello?

M: Hi Amy, it's Ryan. I'm calling because I want to invite you and your sister Ashley to a dinner party this Saturday. My roommate Erick and I are hosting a 1960s theme party with a few other friends.

W: A theme party? Is that like a dress-up party?

M: Sort of ... You're certainly encouraged to dress in 1960s fashions! Short skirts, bright colors, and bell-bottom jeans! Or go to the beginning of the 1960s and come as one of your favorite actresses ... But it's not just cool clothes; we'll have food, games, and entertainment inspired by the 1960s. In fact, we'll start our meal with alien noodles in honor of all those space and alien TV shows.

W: Wait! Wait! What are "alien noodles"? Why not have regular noodles in honor of the movie *The Godfather*?

M: No way! *The Godfather* is from the 1970s. Anyway, alien noodles are bright green noodles with purple sauce!

W: What?! That's crazy!

M: Yeah! Anyway, there'll be lots of other things. I don't want to spoil the surprises. But just for

you, we'll end with light desserts and coffee from one of your favorite 1960s movies.

W: I can't wait! Ooooooh, I have an idea. We can have a special bar and make fancy mixed drinks. They're always drinking in old TV shows!

M: Perfect! And start reviewing 1960s music! We're having a dance contest and a singing contest.

W: This sounds like a lot of fun. Can I invite my roommate? She loves all of the classic movies from that time!

M: Of course – the more, the merrier! Anyway, it starts at 7:00 p.m. – my apartment.

- Q1: What do we know about those people who are invited to the party?
- Q2: What is particular about alien noodles?
- Q3: Why won't they have regular noodles at the party?
- Q4: What other arrangements do they have for the party?

Passage 1

Scripts

Since I'm a student, I go to school on weekdays and so I don't have too much free time. I usually spend six or seven hours at school. After that I either go downtown for some shopping or go home and study. If I have some free time during the week I might read a book or watch TV. Lately my evenings have been spent preparing for my graduation examination, which takes up a lot of time.

Even though I have a lot to do, I still have some free time for leisure activities. On weekends I like to go with my family to our cottage. I like taking long walks around the countryside and I like watching the seasons change. I have the most free time during the summer months. One of my favorite activities is to go canoeing with my friends. We borrow a couple of canoes and choose a nice spot on the river to begin. We spend the day floating down the river. Sometimes if it gets hot we jump in the water and go swimming. Of course we take breaks during the day; we stop along the river to prepare some food or to visit a local pub. In the evening we set up our tents and make a campfire. We spend the evening talking, singing songs, and enjoying nature. We often cook some sausages over the campfire. And one of my favorite things to do is wrap potatoes in foil and then cook them in the hot ashes. These wonderful trips, just like summer, always end too soon.

- Q1: What do we know from this passage about the speaker?
- Q2: What does the speaker like doing on weekends?
- Q3: How do the speaker and his friends spend the day when they go canoeing?
- Q4: What does the speaker most like doing when camping in the evening?

Passage 2

Scripts

Rock climbing is an activity in which participants climb up, down or across natural rock formations or artificial rock walls. The goal of rock climbing is to reach the top of a formation or the endpoint of a predefined route without falling. Rock climbing competitions have 1) objectives of completing the route in the quickest possible time or reaching the 2) farthest point along an ever

increasingly harder route. While not an Olympic event, rock climbing is 3) recognized by the International Olympic Committee as a sport.

Rock climbing has been 4) separated into several different styles and subdisciplines. At its most basic, rock climbing 5) involves climbing a route with one's own hands and feet and little more than a cushioned bouldering pad for protection. This style of climbing 6) is referred to as bouldering, since the relevant routes are usually found on boulders no more than 10 to 15 feet tall. As routes get higher off the ground, the increased risk of 7) life-threatening injuries makes additional safety measures necessary. Climbers will usually work in pairs and use a system of ropes and anchors 8) designed to catch fallers.

Rock climbing is a physically and mentally demanding sport that tests a climber's strength, 9) endurance, and balance along with their mental control. It can be a dangerous sport and climbers are 10) putting themselves at risk when they go climbing. However, the risk can be reduced by having the knowledge of proper climbing techniques and using specialized climbing equipment.

Unit 4 Life under the spotlight

Listening to the world

Sharing

Scripts

H = Hina; W1 = Woman 1, etc.; M1 = Man 1, etc.

Part 1

H: I like reading about famous people and finding out about their lives. But I wouldn't want to be famous myself. I'm happy being a normal person, doing a normal job. How do you feel about fame? Would you like to be famous?

Part 2

W1: Oh, I would love to be famous.

M1: Not particularly. I like to keep to myself. I'm a fairly private person.

W2: No, I wouldn't like to be famous.

W3: No, I don't think I'd like to be famous.

W4: I think I would, but not too famous.

W5: No.

M2: No.

W6: No, I wouldn't like to be famous. Um, I think that people are too obsessed with fame, too interested in fame these days.

M3: It's not something I'd actively look for, no.

W7: Um, I'm not sure about that. I would like, like to be a bit famous but I wouldn't like to be like, really really famous, because you just don't have time on your own anymore.

W8: I'm not sure. I think it's very easy to get obsessed with the good things that fame can bring, like the free gifts, and the doors opening for you, and all that kind of side of things.

M4: When I was younger, I used to want to be an actor. And thought, yeah, being famous would be great, but er, but now I'm not so bothered.

Part 3

H: What would you like to be famous for?

W8: I'd like to be famous for doing something new and exciting.

M4: Um, these days, I'd like to be famous for doing something worthwhile, I think. Ah, for the, sort of charitable work.

W7: Maybe being a model.

W2: I'd like to be well-known as a graphic designer, but that's not real fame.

W6: If I were to be famous, ah, I would like to be famous for an amazing invention, I think, or for perhaps, a medical cure, something to cure cancer.

M3: I suppose directing films. If I was gonna be famous for anything, that would probably be what I'd like to be famous for.

W5: I prefer to be anonymous. I like anonymity when I'm in the street.

Part 4

H: Which famous person would you most like to meet?

W3: I'd love to meet Barack Obama.

M3: At the moment, I'd probably like to meet the President of the United States, Barack Obama.

W7: Maybe Mischa Barton. Because she does loads of different things, and I think she's really pretty, and I like her style.

W6: Um, I'd like to meet Bob Dylan. I really like his music. Um, I don't know what I'd say to him, but I think I'd like to meet him.

W2: Famous person I would most like to meet? Probably – quite vacuous – it would probably be Johnny Depp, or somebody like that, 'cause he's really good-looking.

W5: I would like to meet Johnny Depp, because I enjoy his movies a good deal.

M4: I think I'd like to meet er, Ranulph Fiennes – ah, just generally because of ... of what he's done, his sort of Arctic exploration, and the fact that he's been able to go where other people haven't.

W8: I'd love to meet a famous explorer. If he was still alive I would really like to meet Edmund Hillary.

Listening

Scripts

P = Presenter; A = Anita Jacobs; J = Jasmin Wells

P: Have you ever felt stuck in a rut? Well, this morning we talk to two women who have made big life changes and they are here to tell us about it. Anita Jacobs used to work in advertising. But she sold her house, gave up her job, and decided to travel around the world. Jasmin Wells used to work as a doctor in York. In her 30s she gave up her job and became a professional musician. Anita first, what made you decide to change?

A: Well, I was nearly 40. I was in a job that I wasn't really interested in. I used to work long hours and I didn't enjoy the job much anymore. So I decided to follow an ambition I've had for a long time. I always wanted to travel, but I never had the chance.

P: Your ambition was to travel around the world?

A: That's right. The idea was to take a year off. I started work when I was 18 and I never had a break in all that time. I never had time to travel or see the world. So I decided to take a year off and go traveling. The time was right, so I left my job and went.

P: And you earned some money while you were traveling, didn't you?

A: Well, a little. I worked on a farm for a while in Australia. They didn't pay me very much, but I stayed on the farm and ate for free, so I was happy.

P: I see. Now, Jasmin, doctor to musician is quite a big change. What happened?

J: Well, it is a big change. And it happened quite suddenly. I was working in a hospital doing more than 100 hours a week, looking after elderly patients. I didn't use to have time for anything else. It was just work, work, work. And one morning when I left the hospital, I saw a piano in the corner of the room. I sat down and started to play. I remembered that I really enjoyed making music.

P: So, did you use to play the piano before, as a child?

J: Yes, I used to play, but I wasn't very good! Luckily, I'm a bit better now. Anyway, I decided I

wanted to learn the piano, so I started piano lessons, and learned about writing songs. It became a passion for me, and I realized that it was something I really wanted to do. So, I decided to make more time for it, and eventually I gave up medicine altogether, and started playing my own music.

P: Fascinating, now tell me about ...

Viewing

Scripts

V = Voice-over; M1 = Man 1, etc.; W1 = Woman 1; DL = Denise Lewis;

P = Presenter; LH = Lewis Hamilton; N = Newsreader

Part 1

V: This is Lewis Hamilton, Formula One driver, model, celebrity, winner.

M1: He has a face, an attitude, a style and a talent that the sponsors love.

M2: Everybody's talking about Lewis Hamilton. Everyone wants to talk to me about Lewis Hamilton. I want to talk to them about Lewis Hamilton.

W1: He's my new hero. He really is. He's ... he's a hero for, for loads of people.

DL: I feel so passionate about his story, his progression and the impact he's made on Formula One.

V: This is the story of how Lewis Hamilton went from this ... to this. Formula One is all about speed. In this world, only the fastest survive. The season lasts from March to October, and it takes place in some of the world's richest locations. It's the sport of millionaires ... and heroes. Speed on the track, money in the bank, fame and glory. And nobody does it better than Lewis Hamilton, the billion dollar man. A hero today. But where did it all start?

Part 2

P: Cars like these are getting ready to compete in the World Championships. Somebody who's preparing for those very same championships is Lewis Hamilton, who is only seven years old. So how long have you been racing cars for already, Lewis?

LH: About a year.

P: So you must be pretty good at it. Is it easy to do?

LH: No.

P: What do you have to do then?

LH: This is the brake.

P: That's the brake. Oh, you need the brake.

LH: And these are the turns for steering.

P: That's your steering wheel, right and left. OK, now ... um ... do you think I'd be able to have a go?

LH: Yes.

P: You sure? They're under starter's orders for the Blue Peter mini-Grand Prix. Three, two, one. Go! ... And I'm last already. I hope you're allowed to do that. Put it back on the track. I'm going to be lapped. It's been brought back on. And cars are over me all the time. And we have a winner! Who won the race?!

LH: Me!

P: Lewis! Well done! Congratulations!

LH: The reason I wanna be a Formula One driver is because it's got a lot of speed in it. Um, when I saw the actual speed that they were doing, it was amazing because you don't actually think about it when you're watching TV. And my kart feels really powerful when I'm in it but imagine being in a Formula One car. It must be very powerful.

N: Lewis Hamilton has won four British go-karting championships. Now he says he wants to be world Formula One champion by the time he's 20.

LH: My ambition is to get to Formula One. Definitely. Um ... I enjoy the speed. Um ... I like to be with all the ... the big guys, and I like to be making lots of money.

V: After go-karting, Lewis moved on to Formula Three, which is two levels below Formula One. Formula Three is fast, dangerous, and full of young, ambitious drivers. The best of the drivers are seen by Formula One managers. And Lewis, of course, was the best. After two years of winning everything, he moved up to the next level, and then to Formula One.

LH: It's so different to what I, I'm used to. Before I was, I was just a driver, but now it seems to change absolutely everything, and it's just an unreal feeling. It's my dream come true basically.

Speaking for communication

Role-play

Scripts

Conversation 1

A: Hello, Mr. Petersen. What can I do for you?

B: Hello, Tom. Um, I'd like to go on a private tour of the White House.

A: The White House? In Washington?

B: Yes.

A: OK.

B: And I'd like to go maybe tomorrow afternoon.

A: Tomorrow afternoon in the White House. OK.

B: Yes. If it's OK with the President.

A: Right, let me see if I have a number ... hang on ... ah, here it is. OK, I'll call the President's office and I'll get back to you later.

B: OK.

Conversation 2

A: Hello, Clara. What can I do for you today?

C: Hello, Tom. Would it be possible to book a ticket for that space flight?

A: What space flight is that?

C: I just saw it on TV. They're sending a flight into space next week and I would really like to go.

A: OK. I know the one you're talking about. Would you like me to get a ticket for your husband, too?

C: Yes, please.

A: OK. Just a moment. I'll call Mr. Branson.

Conversation 3

A: Hi there, David.

D: Hi, Tom. We'd like to rent a boat and take it down the River Thames for about three or four days. And it needs to be a big boat for about 80 people.

A: Eighty?

D: Yes, we're inviting a few friends along.

A: And when would you like it?

D: We told our friends this weekend. Would you be able to organize it for us?

A: Yes, of course. Can you give me a moment? I'll make a few calls. Do you want me to get a boat with a cook and restaurant service?

D: That would be wonderful.

Conversation 4

A: Hi, Maggie. How can I help?

E: Hi, Tom. We're in London and we're going out for lunch and we were wondering ... well, could you recommend somewhere in Paris?

A: In Paris?

E: Yes, we're going to take the helicopter.

A: What type of food?

E: Any type really. Well, French.

A: French. OK. Um, there's a very good restaurant near the Eiffel Tower.

E: Oh good. That's perfect.

A: Shall I book it?

E: Yes, please. And can you give us directions?

A: Have you got your laptop with you?

E: Yes.

A: Hold on. I'll email you a map.

Group discussion

Scripts

I'm 28 and I live in South Wales. I've grown up here. My dream began from an early age. As a child I always used to listen to my dad's records on a Sunday afternoon. And the music really excited me. I knew I wanted to be a rock star. As a teenager, I had music idols: Jimi Hendrix, Keith Moon, Jim Morrison, Nick Drake. Many of them died before they were 27. It made me think that I had to do something about my dream, before it was too late. When I was 15 I bought myself a second-hand drum kit. I joined bands, and we played concerts. And then I started to write songs. I played all the time. I played for pleasure; I played for money; I played when I was angry. It was like everything I ever wanted. But although we had songs on the radio, we never got famous. I don't know when my dream started to change. But at 28 it was like I woke up and I realized there was something else. I was watching my son grow up, to have his own dreams and ambitions. I woke up to my family, and my friends. I still play, but it's just for fun because I'm 28 now and it's time to live.

Further practice in listening

Short conversations

Scripts

Conversation 1

M: Why do you declare the news that you're pregnant on your blog directly?

W: I'm so excited that I want to share this good news with the people who love me, but I also hope all my fans can respect my privacy at this special time.

Q: How did the woman react to the fact that she got pregnant?

Conversation 2

W: Miley was voted the worst actress this year by the teenagers who used to admire her so much.

M: Yeah, but no reasons were given. Maybe we can get some hints from what Miley did last year. Remember that time she slapped a 20-year-old female model?

Q: What do we learn from the conversation about Miley?

Conversation 3

M: The Chinese couple won gold in pairs skating. It's the first Olympic gold in figure skating for China.

W: I just can't imagine they've broken Russia's 46-year hold on pairs figure skating gold. One minute on the stage and 10 years of practice off the stage. They deserve it.

Q: Why does the woman admire the couple?

Conversation 4

W: Some people are fascinated with the lives of public figures, so there are some media devoted exclusively to their privacy.

M: But what they do often makes these public figures embarrassed and annoyed. I believe that the privacy of every individual, including public figures should be respected.

Q: What's the man's attitude toward these media?

Conversation 5

M: You know? This American swimmer has apologized for his actions after a picture was published in a newspaper showing him taking drugs.

W: This is not the first time he has been compelled under public pressure to issue a public apology for his behavior.

Q: What does the woman imply about the American swimmer?

Long conversation

Scripts

M: Michelle? Why are you dressed up like this? Are you studying acting or something?

W: Yeah Josh, I'm looking forward to a future of fame and glory.

M: Yuck! Why would you want fame? I thought you were better than all that fake nonsense! Do you want to be another dumb girl running around Hollywood, trying to look fashionable?

W: There's no fake nonsense in my plans! You're thinking of spoiled rich kids who are only famous for being rich. I'm going to earn my fame by being a great actress. Then, once I have my famous husband and a beautiful house, I'm going to use my fame to help others across the world. I'll do charity work with starving children in Africa!

M: Oh please, if you really cared about helping people you'd sign up for charity organizations that help feed the hungry. You just want to be famous! You want to have your picture on the front cover of magazines every time you go out to get a coffee in your silk sleeping gowns!

W: Not true! I don't care about those stuff – though I certainly wouldn't mind being famous for my excellent fashion sense. And don't make fun of me! As a volunteer right now, I could work for weeks and only help a few people at a time. But once I'm famous, I'll be able to make such a big difference! You'll see, one day I'll be famous AND doing good AND I'll send you a postcard saying: "I told you so!"

Q1: What did the man think of those famous actresses in Hollywood?

Q2: Why did the woman want to be famous?

Q3: How did the man react to the woman's reasons for wanting to be famous?

Q4: What can we infer about the woman?

Passage 1

Scripts

Bill Gates was born on October 28, 1955 in a family having a rich business, political and community service background. From childhood Bill was intelligent and competitive. In school, he had excellent records in mathematics and science. Still he was getting very bored in school and his parents knew it, so they always tried to feed him with more information to keep him busy. Bill's parents came to know about their son's intelligence and decided to send him to a private school, known for its serious academic environment. It was a very important decision in Bill's life, and it was there that he was introduced to a computer. Bill Gates and his friends were very much interested in the world of programming and formed the "Programmers Group" in late 1968. In the next year, they got their first opportunity in Information Sciences Inc. in which they were selected as programmers. Bill and his close friend Allen developed a small computer to measure traffic flow and they earned around \$20,000 from this project. In 1973, he left home for Harvard University. He did well there, but he didn't find it interesting. He spent many long nights in front of the school's computer and the next day was asleep in class. Bill and his friend Allen remained in close contact even though Allen was away in Washington State University. They would often discuss new ideas for future projects and the possibility of starting a business one day. At the end of Bill's first year, Allen moved closer to him so that they could follow some of their ideas. Within a year, Bill Gates dropped out of Harvard, and then formed Microsoft with Allen.

Q1: How did Bill Gates perform in school?

Q2: Why was studying in a private school a very important decision in Bill's life?

Q3: How did Bill like Harvard University?

Q4: What did Bill Gates do at Harvard University?

Passage 2

Scripts and answers

Florence Nightingale was a celebrated English social reformer and the founder of modern nursing. She became famous while serving as a nurse during the Crimean War, where she tended to wounded soldiers. Early 21st century 1) commentators have asserted that Nightingale's achievements in the Crimean War had been 2) exaggerated by the media to satisfy the public's need for a hero. But later on her achievements remain widely accepted and she has generally been well regarded by historians.

Nightingale was born to a wealthy upper-class family, at a time when women of her class were expected to 3) focus on marriage and child bearing. Her father had progressive social views, providing his daughter with a well-rounded education that included math, and supported her desire to 4) lead an active life. Nightingale rejected proposals of marriage so as to be free to pursue her calling. In 1860, Nightingale 5) laid the foundation of professional nursing with the establishment of her nursing school in London. It was the first nursing school in the world. The Nightingale Pledge taken by new nurses was named in her honor, and the 6) annual International Nurses Day is celebrated around the world on her birthday. She made 7) a series of social reforms including improving health care for all sections of British society; improving health care and 8) advocating for better hunger relief in India; helping to 9) abolish laws that were overly harsh to women; and expanding the acceptable forms of female participation in the workforce. Nightingale's ability to effect reform rested on her extraordinary skills, her good reputation, and her network of 10) influential friends.

Unit 5 Urban pulse

Listening to the world

Sharing

Scripts

H = Hina; M1 = Man 1, etc.; W1 = Woman 1, etc.

Part 1

H: I've always enjoyed living in cities. I like the mix of people and all the different things that you can do. Not everyone feels like me, though. Some people prefer the peace and quiet of the country. How about you? Do you enjoy city life?

Part 2

M1: No, absolutely hate London. Much prefer the country.

W1: Yes, I love city life. Um, I mean, London's such a vibrant, um, active city. Um, there's (there're) always lots of things to do.

W2: Where I live is very, very central and it's inner city. So it's what I'm used to and I enjoy that I can get everywhere really easily.

W3: I enjoy it. It's um – it suits me. I think it suits my personality.

W4: I really enjoy living in London. Um, it's a great place to be. There's (there're) lots of people around, lots of things happening. Where I live, there's (there're) lots of art shows, and ... and photographers.

M2: I do like city life. I think er, London especially is very vibrant, and there's always something going on.

Part 3

H: What are the good things about living in a city?

W1: London is such a large city. Um, you know, you can never tire of it, really.

W4: I think there's always something to do. Um, always something to go and see. And lots of events and culture, and um, you can never be bored.

M1: Obviously culture. I mean ... I live right next door to the Globe Theater, the Tate Modern so um, theater is terrific. Er, huge choice of restaurants, of course.

W3: The good things about living in the city is er, the tube, which is ... is really amazing. It's cheap and it's really frequent.

M2: Um, I think transport is one of the best things. The fact that you can live, probably miles away from your friends – and you can all sort of, get to the same place fairly easily, and fairly quickly.

W2: You're so central. Everywhere's close at hand, um, there's (there're) always lots of people around so, you feel quite safe.

Part 4

H: What are the main problems in cities?

M1: Traffic is horribly congested.

W1: Sometimes it can be difficult to get round the city quickly, um, and that can be frustrating.

-
- W4: I think there's ... there's always a very much of a go-go kind of attitude – that you have to be on the go the whole time. And there isn't the time just to chill out or take time out. And if you're not doing something, you're missing out.
- W3: The main problems I'd say, are probably crime, and just not feeling safe.
- W2: I think the crime. I think that the crime's a huge problem in city life.
- M2: I think we should be trying to encourage um, more sort of green transport so, cycling, um, and encouraging people to walk, and use their cars less.
- W3: I think there's not much that you really can do about crime. Because I think it's a social issue. So if people are – you have to, kind of, address why people are committing crimes before you can do anything about it.
- W4: I think a city's a city. You either wanna live in a city or you wanna live in the countryside, or by the sea. And I think it's your choice.

Listening

Scripts

Conversation 1

I = Interviewer; R = Rick

- I: Rick, you've lived in Dubai for ... what, four years, right?
- R: Yeah, four years.
- I: So what's it like, living in Dubai?
- R: Well, I read that Dubai is one of the world's fastest growing cities, so there are a lot of people, and it's very crowded. It's a great city for shopping, and going out. And it has a really good nightlife, with lots of bars and clubs.
- I: Is it a safe city?
- R: Yes, there isn't a lot of crime. The streets are very safe. But one of the biggest problems is the traffic. Everyone drives a car here – petrol is still cheap, so the traffic's terrible. One good thing is the taxis though. There are lots of them, and they're cheap, so you don't have to drive.

Conversation 2

I = Interviewer; S = Sasha

- I: Sasha, you live in Tokyo, don't you?
- S: That's right.
- I: And, do you ... do you like it? Do you like living in Tokyo?
- S: Yeah, Tokyo is a great city to live in. People think it's very expensive, but actually you can buy Japanese food in the supermarkets quite cheaply, and eating out in Japanese restaurants isn't expensive either.
- I: How about getting around? What's the public transport like?
- S: There's a really good public transport system here. The metro system is fantastic. It's very fast, and it's cheap, so lots of people use it. That's the only problem. It gets very crowded.
- I: And what do you like best about living in Tokyo?
- S: Ah, the food, definitely. I love Japanese food! And the green spaces. There are lots of parks

and green spaces, so it's less polluted than you think.

Conversation 3

I = Interviewer; C = Charlie

I: What about Sydney? What's Sydney like, Charlie?

C: Sydney is one of the best cities in the world. There are lots of young, friendly people living here, so there's a really good atmosphere. The streets are clean and safe and there are lots of things to see and do. There are beautiful buildings, like the Opera House. You can sit and watch the boats on the harbor. And it has one of the most beautiful coastlines in the world.

I: What's the weather like? Is it really hot?

C: The weather is perfect. It's never too hot and never too cold. You can eat outside all year round, so there's a great café culture with lots of places on the streets selling really good coffee.

I: So, are there any problems?

C: Problems? Not really. Traffic, I suppose. Too much traffic and a terrible public transport system.

Viewing

Scripts

P&F = Phillip Scholfield and Fern Britton; JL = Jay Leno; GN = Graham Norton;

TS = Tim Samuels; G = George Clooney; J = Joan; W = Winnie; A = Alf

P&F: The Zimmers! Hurray!

JL: The Zimmers!

GN: The Zimmers!

TS: Who'd have thought it would come to this? When 40 isolated old people formed a rock band. This is the story of how The Zimmers, with a combined age of nearly 3,000 took the rock world by storm. And even took their message all the way to Hollywood.

G: Congratulations, you guys. Hello. Hi, I'm George. How are you? I hear you're all over the charts.

TS: Four months ago, we set about making a film about what it's like being old in Britain today. We found many who were lonely and forgotten, cast aside by society.

J: Hello.

TS: Hello, Joan. I'm Tim. Eighty-two-year-old Joan had been stuck indoors since a bad fall three years ago.

J: When I have left the flat, it's only ever for something like that, the doctor's, the dentist ... you know, not ... I haven't been for pleasure.

TS: Ninety-nine-year-old Winnie was a serial care-home mover. She just couldn't find one that felt right. Over the last decade, she'd moved care homes 16 times. Boredom drove Winnie from her last home. How do you feel about leaving this place?

W: Nothing but joy.

TS: And 90-year-old Alf was facing the closure of his local bingo club, which meant there would be nowhere to meet his friends.

-
- A: I'm gonna lose these people, when that closes, it's because I've gotta, I've gotta find new friends. And at our ages, it's so difficult.
- TS: So, we thought we would try and get these cast-aside old people heard again. And what better way than record a charity single, and try and storm the charts. All we had to do was convince them we were serious. Eventually, 40 pensioners took a leap of faith and came together at the world-famous Abbey Road Studios, to record a cover version of The Who's "My Generation". The name of their band, The Zimmers.
- TS: It was a day when people made friends, and came alive again.
- W: I've never kissed a 101-year-old yet.
- TS: What's more, it looked like we might even have a decent single on our hands. And when we made the video available online, it proved a sensation. Two million people watched it in the first few days.

Speaking for communication

Role-play

Scripts

Conversation 1

G = Guest; R = Receptionist

- G: Oh hello. Er, could you help me? There's a problem with the air conditioning.
- R: Oh yes?
- G: I've just tried to switch it on, but it doesn't work.
- R: Is it completely dead?
- G: Completely. Absolutely nothing.
- R: OK, we'll look into it right away. I'll send someone up. It'll be about five minutes, OK?
- G: Thanks.
- R: You're welcome. And sorry about that.

Conversation 2

W = Waitress; D = Diner; M = Manager

- D: I'm afraid I have a complaint. Could I speak to the manager, please?
- W: Oh, yes, of course.
- M: Good evening, sir. I understand there's a problem.
- D: Yes. I'm afraid I have a complaint.
- M: Oh?
- D: Well, we got here at eight. And then we waited about 20 minutes for a table.
- M: Right.
- D: This is for a table we'd booked for eight, OK? Then we waited another hour for our meal.
- M: Right.
- D: One hour. Then when the bill arrived they put this extra charge on it.
- M: An extra charge? That's probably the service charge.
- D: Well, could you check this for me, please?

M: Yes, that's service.

D: Well, to be honest, I don't want to pay this.

M: Of course not. Well, sir, I am really sorry about that. It's a very busy time of year.

Conversation 3

(The Eight Thirty-two to Cambridge has been delayed. We apologize for any inconvenience caused.)

W = Woman; M = Man

W: Excuse me. Do you work here?

M: Yes.

W: Do you know when the next train will be arriving? I mean, I've been here for over an hour.

M: I'm sorry but there's nothing we can do at the moment. Everything is delayed.

W: And you don't know when the next train is coming?

M: No.

W: Or why there's a delay?

M: Snow.

W: What?

M: Snow on the track. It was the wrong type of snow.

W: What do you mean "the wrong type of snow"? You're kidding, right?

Further practice in listening

Short conversation

Scripts

Conversation 1

W: I love the modern conveniences and efficient public transportation the big city offers, and above all, much greater access to a variety of entertainment.

M: The greatest advantage of living in a large city is that I can eat a huge variety of food from different cultures.

Q: What attracts the woman most in a big city?

Conversation 2

M: There seems to be nowhere to park outdoors. Shall we try underground parking?

W: Underground parking is always a nightmare for inexperienced drivers like me. More than once my car has been scratched on the side when driving down the narrow slopes.

Q: What do we know from what the woman said?

Conversation 3

M: Many people think that big cities such as London and New York would be wonderful places to live in.

W: The problem is that as too many individuals think that way and move into these cities, the resulting crowdedness and high house prices undermine their attractions.

Q: What does the woman imply?

Conversation 4

W: The number of citizens above the age of 60 will increase from the current 147 million to 174 million this year, representing about one-eighth of the total population.

M: The aging problem has not only come earlier than anticipated but also come about rapidly.

Q: What does the man say about the aging problem?

Conversation 5

M: I live in New York, and for me, there's nothing that compares to its culture, energy and convenience.

W: But I also know that people living in big cities tend to be under greater pressure and have a greater risk of mental disorders.

Q: What does the woman think about the people living in big cities?

Long conversation

Scripts

M: Hi Emily! Something troubling you?

W: Not sleeping well. My husband's got a new job in Santa Fe, New Mexico! I'm a girl born and raised in big cities. I'm a little worried ...

M: What about?

W: Well, my hometown has about 4.5 million people! You know how many people live in Santa Fe?

M: Not exactly, but, listen!

W: Well, I looked up the population and it's like 70,000! Tiny! It really is a great job for John – my husband, but in a small town! I'm sure there will be no good restaurants, or nice places to walk, no nightlife ...

M: Whoa! Wait a minute Emily! Did you do anything besides looking at the population of Santa Fe?

W: Uh, no ...

M: You're jumping to conclusions – and they're all wrong! I'm from Santa Fe! It does have a small population – but it's an amazing place! The history and architecture are unique. The city center was built in the 1600s by the Spanish. It's full of beautiful shops, restaurants, coffee shops, and art galleries. It has amazing nightlife – full of wonderful people. That's why famous writers and movie stars love Santa Fe, too!

W: Wow, sounds great ... What about outdoor life?

M: It's wonderful! The colors of the sky and mountains are so beautiful that artists come from around the world to paint! And the sky at night is so full of stars that you feel like you can reach out and touch them. It's a magical place, Emily. Soon you'll realize how lucky you are. You'll have a long line of family and friends waiting to come and visit you in Santa Fe!

Passage 1

Scripts

Living in the city is hard enough for a single person, but if you have kids life can get more

complex. Finding ways to keep the little ones occupied can be a full-time job. So it should be no surprise that parents will go to great lengths to get a little peace and quiet.

However, when I first got to know that some parents bought their young children – not teenagers – iPads, I was shocked. Who spends \$500 on an iPad for a young child when so many adults in the United States go without or have limited access to computers and the Internet? Whatever happened to Lego, building blocks and colored pencils? And for those slightly older kids how about a good, old-fashioned book instead of an iPad for the car journey to the beach?

Recently, I was at dinner with a couple and I brought up the subject of parents buying iPads for their young children. I was curious to see how they responded since I knew they had three young kids. It turned out they are a part of this growing trend. The iPad can download or stream cartoons, so it makes for excellent entertainment when they're trying to get to the grocery store or head out of the city for the annual family vacation. But the best thing about iPads is that there are games and educational applications for nearly every age level.

It got me thinking that maybe my first reaction was a little too "reactionary". Now I can understand the parents a little better. If I had three kids and was living in the city they would probably have an iPad, too.

Q1: What shocked the speaker?

Q2: What is appropriate for slightly older kids according to the speaker?

Q3: What is the best thing about iPads according to the couple?

Q4: What does the speaker think of buying iPads for kids after talking with the couple?

Passage 2

Scripts and answers

Around the world smart cities are being built while those we have lived in for centuries are being upgraded for the future. A smart city may mean one that uses data on traffic to ease congestion or one that aims to 1) join up services to provide better information for citizens. For many it is about making cities greener and more efficient. It is partly a 2) reaction to overcrowding and pollution and partly because in an ever-connected world it 3) makes increasing sense to hook entire cities up to the network.

Masdar is a city that stands in the middle of the desert of Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates. It is designed to be one of the most 4) sustainable cities on the planet. With a solar power station at its heart and wind farms providing energy for it, it 5) aims to be carbon free. Everything in the city, from water to rubbish, is measured and 6) monitored, becoming a source of information. The city is built on a raised platform to allow its "digital plumbers" easy 7) access to the system of advanced technologies that run it. It is pedestrian-friendly and entirely car free. The city is 8) experimenting with a network of electric driverless podcars. The PRT – personal rapid transit – will run six meters under street level across the city. The buildings in the city have been designed by Norman Foster's architecture firm, which designed a number of 9) eye-catching buildings including The City Hall in London.

It is hoped that 40,000 people will eventually live in the city, with up to 50,000 10) commuting there each day.

Unit 6 Climbing the career ladder

Listening to the world

Sharing

Scripts

H = Hina; W1 = Woman 1, etc.; M1 = Man 1, etc.

Part 1

H: Hi, I'm Hina. I work for the BBC in London as a researcher. I've learned a lot of skills in my job and I've made some good friends at work. Sometimes my job gets too busy and I don't get enough time to relax, or even to tidy my flat. What do you do?

Part 2

W1: I'm an administrator in an economics department of a university.

M1: I'm an accountant.

M2: I work in advertising.

M3: I'm a filmmaker.

M4: I'm a mechanical engineer for an energy company in Australia.

W2: I work in an office.

W3: I'm a singing teacher. I teach singing lessons.

M5: I'm a private investigator. I run a private investigation company in Germany.

M6: I am a charity worker, so I travel to different places in the world.

M7: Well, I'm semi-retired now, but I worked for many years for a publishing company. Book publishing.

W4: I am the Director of Sales for a software company called B-line.

W5: I'm a college professor. I teach communication and journalism at Jackson University.

M8: I work as an expedition leader.

W6: I'm a fashion photographer and I work for a fashion agency.

W7: I work part-time in a music store.

H: Where do you work?

M2: I work in London.

W1: It's University College London. Also known as UCL.

M3: I work from home in central London.

M4: I work about eight hours' drive from where I live in Brisbane.

W2: I work in London.

M5: I mostly work in Berlin.

M7: The head office is in London, so although I work mostly from home now, I travel down to London maybe two or three times a month.

W4: I work here in the City of London.

W3: I work from home and then I also work in schools.

Part 3

H: What are the best things about your job?

M2: The best things about my job are the different people er ... that I meet from all around the

world.

W6: I get to travel and um ... lots of different people every day and every day is different.

W1: The flexibility.

M1: The variety of work that I have. Meeting people throughout the day.

M3: The best thing is that no day is ever really the same.

M4: I get to be hands-on with everything.

W2: Working with my colleagues and friends.

M8: I've made some really good friends over the years, from the locals and natives, and the, the local crews I work with.

M6: Seeing people's faces when you do something for them and seeing little kids um ... being very happy and laughing and ... I really love that.

Part 4

H: And the worst things?

W2: The worst thing about my job is that it can get very stressful.

W1: As much as I love my job, there are times when I need to take work home to meet deadlines. I'd say that's, that's probably the only bad thing I can think of right now.

M6: When you see people who are very poor and very sad and don't have much opportunity. And there is not much that they can do about it, then that hurts you a lot.

M2: The worst thing about my job is the hours we work – we can be there until 10, 11 o'clock.

W6: Long hours. Um, it's tiring and you're "on call" quite a lot of the time.

M3: You never know what you're gonna be doing from one day to the next, so sometimes it's hard to make plans.

M4: Er, just the distance ... being away from my family.

M8: You miss family, you miss friends. So I think er ... spending a lot of time outside of the UK can have its disadvantages.

Listening

Scripts

M = Man; W = Woman

M: These days many companies motivate their staff in new and different ways. Internet companies are a good example. At Yahoo there's a free bus ride to work for the employees. There's also a dentist and a hairdresser at the office. And one day a month the staff watch films together. These are all great ideas for motivating your workers.

W: Well, er, Google also has some interesting ways to motivate staff. Lunch is free. And after sitting at your desk for hours, you can have a cheap massage in the office.

M: Wow.

W: Another nice little bonus – you can take your dog to work.

M: Yahoo and Google are quite famous for this type of thing. But what benefits do other companies give their employees? Well, we found one company that takes its employees on a surprise holiday every year. The staff go to the airport but they don't know where they are flying to. In the past these trips included Amsterdam, Iceland and even the Caribbean.

W: At Starbucks employees get free coffee, of course, but they can also bring their children to

work.

M: And there's a phone company that has a party for the staff on the last Friday of every month – with free drinks.

W: Finally, a very interesting idea: An insurance company keeps fish in a little river next to the office. The employees go fishing after work and they take home all the fish that they catch.

M: Fantastic.

W: Isn't that a great idea?

Viewing

Scripts

P = Presenter; JS = Justin Saunders; W1 = Woman 1, etc.; RS = Rebecca Saunders

P: Tonight on *The Money Program*. Are you fed up of traveling to work on packed commuter trains? Are you tired of being sat in endless traffic queues? Well, now there's an alternative. More and more people are choosing to live abroad and commute to their jobs in Britain like this. It's cheap houses in Europe and budget flights that are changing the way we live. We're following some of the lucky people who've moved across the channel but still earn their living here. They're Britain's dream commuters.

It's the end of the working week and Justin Saunders is heading home.

JS: Bye everybody. See you next week then.

W1: See ya.

P: He runs an online map company near Reading.

JS: I get fed up with the traffic. There's (There're) just so many cars on the road. It ... it's been a tiring, tiring week, ah ... but I'm, I'm glad to be going home.

P: But his home is a little further away than most. Justin's part of Britain's new breed of Euro commuters.

W2: Boarding starts at six o'clock and the gate number will be on the screens in Departures.

P: He flies from Gatwick to his house in southwest France. And Justin's not alone. He's one of a group of commuters who take the same flight to Toulouse every week.

P: There's a hotel operator, an IT worker, a charity manager, and a BT consultant. Only this week they've got one more: me. It's straight off. No time for shopping with these guys.

P: So why did you decide to make this move in the first place?

JS: Er, we basically decided to move to France for the better quality of life. We thought ... we looked on the Internet, uh, we saw properties available much cheaper than in Britain. We were fed up with the commuting and the traffic.

P: But what's the cost of the commute?

JS: When I book the flights early enough, I'm paying something like 38 pounds return.

P: Justin's life is in a village in southwest France, an hour's drive from Toulouse Airport and over 700 miles from his Hampshire office.

JS: Honey.

RS: Daddy's home.

JS: Where's Georgie?

RS: She's asleep.

JS: She's asleep.

RS: So, how was the flight?

JS: Oh, not too bad. Nice to be back home, though.

P: It's morning in the French village of Albas, beside the River Lot, and Justin Saunders seems pretty happy.

RS: That's the house down there. With the terrace. With the ...

P: The one just here with the river view.

RS: The river view, yeah.

JS: We're still pinching ourselves. Is this really real?

P: Yeah.

JS: We've just transformed our lifestyle.

P: Well, wouldn't you commute by plane for this?

Speaking for communication

Role-play

Scripts

I'm a marine biologist. I work mainly in the sea and also in the lab. The good things about my job are ... um ... I like working outside. In fact, I can't stand sitting at a desk all day, so this job is perfect for me. What else? I absolutely love traveling and I travel a lot, particularly in South America and Australia. Also I don't like working in a team. I prefer working alone. And most of my time is spent alone or just me and nature. Um, what else? One thing that's very important: I don't mind getting my hands dirty. That's important in my work because it's a very practical job. You're working with animals and plant life the whole time. Also I'm keen on learning new things – and you do learn all the time in this job. So overall, it's the perfect job for me. I couldn't do an office job because I hate working under pressure. And I'm not very keen on working for a company. I want to be my own boss.

Group discussion

Scripts

Our business is called The Very Special Cake Company. Our idea is to make delicious birthday cakes for children. We want to make interesting cakes shaped like animals or trains or faces. In fact, you can choose any shape you want and we'll make it for you. We'll also make the cake personal, by writing your name or a special message on it. We hope to make money by selling the cakes at local markets, in shops and on the Internet. We don't need very much to start our business, because we can make the cakes at home. To be successful, we need to advertise in schools and have a beautiful website with lots of colorful photos. And we plan to go to markets and give people a free taste of the cakes, so they can try them, and then they'll definitely want to buy them!

Further practice in listening

Short conversations

Scripts

Conversation 1

M: Addison's quite a job-hopper. You know what his new job is?

W: Addison told me three weeks ago that he was going to quit his job in the cotton firm and go to work in a store selling beer, but he ended up working in a supermarket.

Q: What do we know from the conversation about Addison?

Conversation 2

W: Bill, do you like your job?

M: Well, I wonder who'd have fun working on an assembly line eight hours a day. If I were not the breadwinner of a big family, I would work in an office even if I could only get half of my current pay.

Q: What does the man say about his job?

Conversation 3

M: What's your future plan?

W: No idea. My father's ruined all my dreams. He says I have too little sense of economy to be in business, too little imagination to be an artist, I'm too fat to be an athlete, and I'm too ambitious to be an ordinary white-collar worker.

Q: What does the woman think about her future?

Conversation 4

W: I hear you're working for an advertising company. Do you get a good salary for this job?

M: Yes, a pretty good salary for a beginner. But I have to work very hard for what I get. And there's quite a lot of overtime.

Q: What does the man say about his job?

Conversation 5

M: Why hesitate to take that position? Not everyone can have the opportunity to get promoted.

W: The promotion might make me more money, and bring me short-term growth, but it will take me to the top of the wrong ladder.

Q: Why doesn't the woman take the position?

Long conversation

Scripts

M: Only two more semesters Margaret, looking forward to the working world?

W: Oh! Don't remind me. It's a few short months away. I don't really know what I'm going to do after I graduate.

M: You mean you haven't been thinking about jobs yet?

W: No, not really. I know I should, I just don't know where to start. I've had part-time jobs in fast food – you know, my job at McDonald's – but this real-job stuff scares me to death!

M: Hold on. It's not that bad. You need to take control. First go over to the Career Center; it's on the second floor of the Student Union. Make an appointment with Monica Green. She's really smart, helpful and nice.

W: Gosh. Thanks Juan. This is helpful. Career Center, second floor of the Student Union, Monica Green – right?

M: Yep! That's right! Take your resume to get it reviewed. Remind me – what are you studying?

W: International Business.

M: OK, pretty easy then. Check the Internet for international companies here in Seattle. That's how I found my internship at Microsoft last summer. In fact, they've even offered me a job after I graduate.

W: You're lucky! I wish I had an internship now – and a job waiting for me after graduation.

M: Don't worry! You just need a plan. Try for an internship now, search hard for jobs and, always have another plan: You can always move back home with your parents in San Francisco if you need to.

W: That is a good plan. My parents would be glad to have me back home in San Francisco for a while!

Q1: How does the woman prepare for the working world?

Q2: How did the man find his internship?

Q3: What advice does the man give to the woman?

Q4: What does the man think the woman needs most right now?

Passage 1

Scripts

In 1964, 19 million women were employed in the United States. Today they total 65 million, working in a wide variety of industries and increasingly pursuing higher education. The number of working women who have attended college has increased 200 percent since 1970, and the undergraduate class of 2011 was 57 percent female. Yet as far as women have come, they still earn on average only 81.2 percent as much as men and remain in lower-end jobs. What are the best-paying jobs for women? Using data on the weekly earnings of full-time workers in 2010 collected by BLS, we discovered that tech and health care is where the money's at.

Female physicians and surgeons topped the list. These women earned a median of \$1,618 per week, or about \$84,000 a year, more than any other profession tracked by the BLS. Male doctors continue to earn more than female doctors, but the pay gap has narrowed each year; it's now at 29 percent versus 41 percent two years ago.

Interestingly, the second best-paying job for women is a pharmacist. Female pharmacists make a median of \$1,605 per week or about \$83,500 annually, nearly as much as physicians and surgeons and more than chief executives, which came in at No. 3 on our list. Women account for 48 percent of the pharmacy profession and earn 83 percent as much as male pharmacists. Meanwhile, only 26 percent of CEOs are women, and they earn just 72 percent as much as their male peers.

Now women have been moving into relatively higher-paying jobs that were traditionally male-dominated. It's been a very positive development. Overall, the gender pay gap is narrowing.

Q1: How has the number of working women with college degrees in the United States changed?

Q2: What is the current situation of working women in the United States?

Q3: What is the best-paying job for women?

Q4: What does the speaker think of the job prospects for women in the United States?

Passage 2

Scripts and answers

When you receive a job offer, it's important to take the time to carefully 1) evaluate the offer so you are making a sensible decision to accept or to reject it.

Consider the entire 2) compensation package – salary, benefits, working environment – not just your paycheck. Money isn't the only factor to consider, but, it is an important one. Is the offer what you expected? If not, is it a salary you can accept without feeling insulted? If it isn't what you expected, consider 3) negotiating salary with your future employer.

Before accepting a job, be sure that you are clear on the hours you need to work. Also, 4) confirm what, if any, travel is involved. If the position requires 45 or 50 hours of work a week and you're used to working 35 hours, consider whether you will have difficulty committing to the 5) schedule.

The bottom line in accepting a job offer is that there really isn't one. Everyone has a different set of personal 6) circumstances. What might be the perfect job for you could be an awful job for someone else.

It's much easier to 7) turn down an offer than to leave a job that you have already started. The same is true for your potential employer. The employer would prefer that you decline, rather than having to 8) start over the hiring process a couple of weeks down the road if you don't 9) work out. So, do take the time to thoroughly consider the offer. Ask questions, if you have them. Take your time to make an educated, 10) informed decision so you feel sure that you and the company make an excellent match.

Unit 7 Time of technology: A blessing or a curse?

Listening to the world

Sharing

Scripts

H = Hina; W1 = Woman 1, etc.; M1 = Man 1, etc.

Part 1

H: I love technology. I enjoy reading about new gadgets and I spend a lot of money on technology. I couldn't live without my mobile phone because I plan my life with it, or without my MP3 player because I love listening to music. How about you? How do you feel about technology?

Part 2

W1: I love technology.

W2: For what I do, I'm probably quite a technophobe. Um ... because I'm a designer, so I have to use a computer every day. And I only learned how to use a computer when I was 19.

W3: Oh, I love technology. I love computers, and I love Twitter. And I love mobile phones ... I love, I love technology.

M1: I've got lots of gadgets. Er ... I wouldn't be ... I wouldn't, wouldn't know what to do without my laptop.

M2: I hate technology. I ... I find it frightening and disturbing.

W4: I use technology because I have to.

W5: I am definitely not a technophobe. Er ... I have learned to love technology very much though in my job.

M3: I love technology – a lot. Um, you know, everything about it like new gadgets, you know, computers, things like that.

W6: I have a mobile phone, and I do have an iPod. But um, I'm probably the only person I know that doesn't own my own computer.

M4: Oh no, I sort of have every latest gadget as it comes out.

Part 3

H: What items of technology do you have with you at the moment?

M1: Um ... I've got my mobile phone in my pocket. Um, and my laptop's just in my filing cabinet in the office over there.

W3: I have my mobile phone with me. And my mobile phone is connected to Twitter.

W2: I have an iPod, but it's not charged. So that's why I'm not using it.

W6: On me at the moment, I just have my mobile – that's all.

M3: At the moment, I have er, my mobile phone on me, (and) an MP3 player.

W5: My laptop.

W1: Just my mobile – but I have two.

M4: An e-book reader, um, and a laptop, and an iPod, and so ... lots and lots of gadgets.

Part 4

H: Are there any items of technology you couldn't live without?

W1: I couldn't live without my computer. Um, why not? Because I'm on it all the time. It broke down once for three weeks and I felt like my husband had left me – I'm not even married. But um, I was devastated, so no, I couldn't live without my computer.

M1: Um ... I couldn't live without my laptop. I could probably live without my phone. I quite like leaving it turned off for a while. But er, the laptop's essential.

M3: I really couldn't live without my iPod, um, my mobile phone of course and computer, yeah, er, everyone needs a computer nowadays.

W6: My phone. I think beyond that, I don't need anything else.

W4: My mobile phone. That would be the only one. And maybe the TV.

W3: I don't think I could live without my mobile phone. And I couldn't live without the computer, and I couldn't live without the Internet – because I depend on them.

Listening

Scripts

M1 = Man1, etc; W = Woman

M1: I use the Internet all day at work. I "wilf" and I get my work done.

M2: Yeah, me, too.

M1: I'm sorry, but I really don't see what the problem is.

W: I think the problem is that lots of workers spend all day on the Internet instead of doing their work.

M1: Hmm.

W: And students at university are failing their degrees because they spend all their time checking Facebook and watching the videos that friends send them.

M2: Yes, that's true, but ... um ... I don't think, you know, I don't think that the problem is the Internet. You know, I think the problem is with the websites like Facebook.

M1: Yeah, Myspace ...

M2: Some companies stop you from using certain websites. And I think that's OK.

W: But it's such a waste of time. I don't think people should use the Internet at work, unless you need it for your work.

M1: I'm not sure about that. Using the Internet helps to give you a break. It's like having a cup of coffee or talking to someone in the office. People should use the Internet as much as they like.

M2: Yes, that's right. I think it's good to use the Internet. I run a small business and all my staff use the Internet as much as they want to. I don't check what they are doing. They do all their work and they are happy. I don't think it's a waste of time at all. It's the same as going to a bookshop ...

W: No, but ...

M2: ... or looking through a pile of magazines.

W: I'm afraid I totally disagree. The problem is that people are addicts. People aren't addicted to reading books, but the Internet is different. People spend too much time in front of the computer. They choose the Internet over sports and going out. They forget how to live in the

real world, and “wilfing” is a part of that.

Viewing

Scripts

JV = Jeremy Vine; D1 = Dad 1, etc.; K = Kids; J = James;

B1 = Boy 1, etc.; W1 = Woman 1, etc.; M1 = Man1, etc.

JV: Hello, I’m Jeremy Vine, and this is *Panorama*. Is it time to admit that TV is damaging our children, doing the job we should be doing ourselves,

D1: Are you gonna miss TV?

JV: and making family life without TV seem like just too much hard work? It makes our kids fat, teaches them to be violent, and rots their brains. If, as some argue, TV, computer games are guilty of all of that, then surely they should be banned, or at least severely rationed. But hang on, if the kids were unglued from the screen, could we, the parents, cope? Many of us depend on the TV far more than we’d ever admit.

Mom 1: Hello James.

JV: Eighty-four percent of children over five have a telly in their bedroom. In the year before he turns nine, the average child will watch 32 whole days of television.

This is Park Road Primary School, on the outskirts of Manchester. A very friendly place, as we are about to see. This is Year Three in here. Hi there!

K: Hello.

JV: Seven and eight years old. James, what are you studying?

J: Numeracy.

JV: Numeracy. Well, they have agreed to take part in our experiment to see what happens when televisions and computers are removed from their lives. And just over here on the wall, we’ve got cameras to record the impact of what goes on. Stand by for the short, sharp shock.

M1: You can’t have that. I’ll have to take that with me. Thank you. Say goodbye.

JV: We’ll be going to their homes and removing the screens, the telly, the PC, the games, everything but the microwave. In exchange, they get one new piece of electrical equipment, a camera, to film what happens.

D2: Station number one is warm-up.

JV: Without the TV, it’s clear the parents will have to work a lot harder.

B1: Go!

D2: A burger? Hotdog? Sandwich?

B1: A burger. Hotdog. Sandwich.

B2: Yeah!

D2: So one, two, three. Arms straight out. One, two ...

B3: I wonder what to do.

Mom 2: Just look at all those games!

B3: Buckaroo!!

Mom 2: It’s only been four hours, and I think I will crack very soon without my TV.

B1: I win!

Mom 3: Yay! Finally, he wins.

JV: Come in. Come in. Ten weeks on, I met some of the parents to see if they are making any

long-term changes at home. You've come back to a different kind of viewing, have you?

W1: Yes, we, we've, we changed it so that they can only watch telly once they've done homework. And they can only watch the telly up until Bernie comes home from ... from work.

JV: Has anyone else got, got rules here, as a result of this? The Ropers, you got any rules now?

W2: What's our rule?

B4: Um ... there's not really any TV in the morning, apart from the news.

W2: Yeah.

B4: On a school day.

JV: OK.

W2: Yes, on the school days. Yes.

M2: I think most people have done that, haven't we? We definitely don't have any TV ... Yeah.

W2: We started that beforehand.

JV: You know, we were looking for results in the classroom, and we found them in the home, and that was the big thing for us. Does that ...? Mr. Breen ... Is your ...?

M2: Um ... I think we definitely found it very positive.

W1: Well it was ... it's, it's just there was a lot more laughter in the house. We're ... we were having a good laugh, um ... and we kind of, yeah, we're more of, of a family.

Speaking for communication

Role-play

Scripts

S1 = Speaker 1, etc.

S1: OK – mobile phone? Um ... that's essential. I love it. I use it all the time. I love talking to people, and texting. I couldn't live without my mobile. MP3 player? Hmm, I suppose it's not essential, although I do like listening to music. Television? Not essential. I don't watch much television. Digital camera? Not essential. I'm terrible at taking photos anyway. So, what's left? Er ... laptop? That's essential really. I use my laptop for work, so yes, I need that.

S2: Which are essential? All of them! Hmm, goodness. Right. Er ... mobile phone? Essential. I don't go anywhere without my phone. I need it in case there's an emergency and I have to call someone. Or if there's a problem with one of the children. Yes, I definitely need my phone. TV? Hmm ... that's essential really. I couldn't live without my television and DVD player. Umm. Laptop? Well, I need a computer to go on the Internet and keep in touch with people. So, that's essential. Digital camera? Hmm, I suppose I don't need that. Someone else can take the photos! What else? MP3 player. No. I can live without that.

Group discussion

Scripts

The Sims is the best-selling computer game in history, so when my editor asked me to find out how it works, I decided to try it out. I think, "It's cheap; it's close. If I go there, I'll meet new people and experience a new culture." I'm quite excited.

Day 1

I choose two characters, Sadie and Troy, and go to Blazing Falls. The brochure says it has

miles of beaches and tropical islands. We build a house near the sea. It's a dream come true. You can walk out of the door straight onto the beach, and when I've finished I sit back with a feeling of real achievement. It's been a good day.

Day 2

After breakfast we go for a walk and look at the different houses. If I visit a house with other players, I'll make some new friends. I walk into a house with 12 people. I've never talked online to strangers before and I feel nervous. Some people are playing chess or computer games and others are running around in their swimsuits. I'm not sure what to say, so I type "hello", and it appears in a big bubble above Sadie's head. No one answers. I feel uncomfortable and lonely, but if I leave, I won't have a story for my editor. I type "I'm confused. How do I play?" "What is there to do in this house?" I feel like a new girl at school who nobody wants to talk to. I soon get bored. I leave the computer and go to talk with my real friends.

Day 3

I'm worried about Sadie. Bad things will happen if she doesn't make friends. So this morning I start with Troy. I send him into a club. He's good-looking, so I hope that when he walks in, people will start talking to him. I'm right. "What are you looking for?" "Do you want to dance?" This is much better. There are so many questions, I can't type the answers fast enough. Before I know what's happened, I'm on the dance floor with my new friends. In real life, I haven't been dancing for ages and I'm amazed by the good feeling I get.

Further practice in listening

Short conversations

Scripts

Conversation 1

M: Oh, my God. I feel dizzy after spending a whole day in the library searching and reading books for my term paper.

W: There is no doubt that the Internet can simplify tasks that would take an enormous amount of time otherwise.

Q: What does the woman suggest the man do?

Conversation 2

W: Mr. Johnson, I'm sorry to tell you your son has been caught sending text messages in class twice this week. We can't turn a blind eye to it.

M: I'm sorry to hear that. Maybe taking a mobile phone to school is out of place for kids of his age.

Q: What do you think Mr. Johnson will most probably do?

Conversation 3

M: I've always felt that online dating would be most popular among people who are 50 to 65.

W: Serious? That can't be true. As far as I know they have been reluctant to dip their toes into the online dating waters.

Q: What does the woman say about people aged 50 to 65?

Conversation 4

W: Jennifer looks disheartened, but I know she just started her online business last month.

M: Jennifer wants to have an online presence to promote her business, but she has no idea what platform is best for her needs.

Q: What does Jennifer want to know?

Conversation 5

M: Can you believe that I received a dozen calls from various companies this morning? I'm so puzzled about who let the cat out of the bag? It's so odd.

W: Have you ever registered on some kind of online social networking website?

Q: What does the woman imply?

Long conversation

Scripts

M: Oh! Another call from my grandmother!

W: What's wrong? I love talking to my grandmother! She's an artist and tells really funny stories!

M: Oh, I love talking to my grandmother, too, usually! She just moved from New York City down here to Washington D.C. And I'm happy to have her here in Washington D.C. I love my grandmother! She's a wonderful person. My problem is I spent six hours on Saturday and five hours on Sunday at her apartment trying to teach her how to use her new electronic gadgets. I set up her telephone, Internet, TV, and DVD player. But she refuses to try and learn and she gets really confused. She just has no idea how to make any of them work.

W: Oh, I see. My Aunt Patricia was the same. She didn't really want to learn – so it took six lessons plus nine phone calls to learn basic email! – how to open and close an email, how to attach a document!

M: Yes, my grandmother is like that, too. She refuses to learn. My grandfather always took care of all the electronic items – and since he passed away two years ago, she has to handle them by herself.

W: OK, I have an idea! You need to get her liking electronic gadgets. Why not get her one of those video games made for families and kids. I bought my grandfather a Wii. He loves it. I got it all set up. The games are easy and fun! These days, he spends hours playing Wii golf.

M: My grandmother used to love tennis. Wii tennis. Um ... Great idea!

Q1: What did the man do for his grandmother?

Q2: What problem does the man's grandmother have?

Q3: What do the man's grandmother and the woman's aunt have in common?

Q4: What will the man do to help his grandmother?

Passage 1

Scripts

“Wilfing”, or surfing the Web without any real purpose, has become a new national pastime. It is the virtual equivalent of window shopping, and a lot of us seem to be spending a lot of time

doing it.

Although a newly-identified habit, more than two-thirds of the 33.7 million Internet users in the UK admit to at least occasional “wilfing”, while browsing the Internet.

The attraction of pop-up sites and flashing online advertisements is too appealing to resist for many Internet users. Almost a quarter of those surveyed said they spent 30 percent or more of their Internet time wilfing – the equivalent of spending an entire working day every fortnight pointlessly jumping between random pages.

The YouGov survey of more than 2,400 Web users found that shopping websites are the most likely destinations for wilfers. Other popular pulls include news, music and travel websites.

The poll found the tendency to wilf is more widespread among men than women. Gazing at a series of pointless web pages also appeared to be the preserve of the young, with people aged 55 or over being three times less likely to browse absent-mindedly than those under 25.

The time-consuming practice appears to have destructive effects, too: A third of males admitted that wilfing has a damaging effect on the relationship with their partners.

One in five confessed to being “distracted” from work or study by adult entertainment websites, which often use pop-up mechanisms and bulk emails to trap users into transferring to their pages.

Q1: What does the writer compare “wilfing” to?

Q2: What websites are the most popular among wilfers?

Q3: What did the poll find out about wilfing?

Q4: How do adult entertainment websites attract users?

Passage 2

Scripts and answers

The New York Police Department (NYPD) announced it will form a new unit to search social media as part of the combined efforts against criminals. This is an official 1) response to criminals’ growing use of some websites to plan and celebrate 2) illegal achievements.

A police chief, Kevin O’Connor, is 3) in charge of an NYPD unit created specifically to comb social media sites like Facebook, Twitter and BlackBerry Messenger for information on planned crimes and their offenders.

The efforts against criminals have linked social media to increasing incidents of robberies in the United States and the recent rioting in London. Public safety agencies are 4) consequently looking to step up their efforts in order to better protect citizens against these trends.

In the London riots in particular, the police suspect the rioters 5) relied heavily on BlackBerry Messenger to coordinate and plan their riots. Police there are working with BlackBerry Messenger to identify those messages that are 6) linked to burning and robbing London stores.

BlackBerry Messenger and other smartphone messaging services make it hard for the police to 7) anticipate criminal activity, especially if they aren’t as 8) familiar with the technology as the offenders are. The NYPD unit intends to educate officers about such technology to 9) remedy this defect.

For social media providers and smartphone makers, the criminals’ preference for their

products is putting them in the sticky position of determining how to assist police efforts without
10) betraying lawful customers' privacy.

Unit 8 Money matters

Listening to the world

Sharing

Scripts

P = Pasha; W1 = Woman 1, etc.; M1 = Man 1, etc.

Part 1

P: Hello. My name is Pasha. I work for the BBC and I do a lot of DJing in my spare time. Originally, I come from Moscow, but most of my family lives in New York now. Today I'm talking to people about their families. Tell me about your family.

Part 2

W1: I have a very large family. I live with my mother and my stepfather in Brighton in England. I have six brothers and sisters, of which I'm the eldest and I have a lot of responsibility ... to look after them.

W2: I live with my mom and my sister and my dad. My sister is 15 years old, and we're really close. We're a happy little family.

M1: I have quite a small family. Er ... I only have one sister. She's two years younger than me, er, and then there's (there're) my parents who live very close to me. All of my grandparents have died, sadly.

W3: I'm the middle child. I have an older brother and a younger brother er, and my parents are still together. Um, I get on with them brilliantly – they're a great family.

M2: My dad's Mexican and my mom is from London. Um and they, my mom met my dad in Mexico, they moved over to England 25 years ago. And I've got a sister who's two years older than me.

M3: Well, my family lives in Canada, in Toronto, Canada. I have a mother and (a) sister, er, my father passed away about 20 years ago, so it's just the three of us. Somewhat of a small family.

Part 3

P: In what ways are you like your parents or siblings?

W1: I look a lot like my mom. We have, like, the same height and build and face structure. And, I guess I have the same traits as her. We, sort of, have a very similar personality in the way we think about things, (and) the way we express ourselves.

M1: I don't think I'm very much like my sister; I think she's very different from me. I think I'm similar to my father: We both have a, a mathematical, "science type" mind, um ... and I like to think I'm conscientious like my mother.

W2: I look quite a lot like my sister. But she's like a younger version of me. And she's thinner. And then, my mom, she's a bit more er, reserved, so she's very organized and my dad is a lot louder, a lot more enthusiastic.

M2: Um, I'm quite calm like my dad, and, but can get quite, um, I think, maybe passionate like my mom.

W3: I'm not very like my brothers. Um, they are very similar to each other, but I'm quite different.

I'm ... they're more like my mom. I'm more like my dad.

Part 4

P: What do you know about your family history?

W2: Well, my name's Brogan, and it's supposed to be Scottish or Irish, but I have no idea where it's really from.

M1: My family history goes quite, goes quite a long way back on my father's side, um, certainly about four or five hundred years. He's Scottish – so he's from southwest Scotland – very close to Ireland. My mother was adopted. Um, she and her twin sister were adopted and we've only managed to go back one generation to the northwest of England.

M3: I actually er, started to retrace my family roots er, last year, so I went to Northern Ireland, to Belfast, and actually found some very interesting information about my grandparents. Found er, the house that my great-grandfather built and where my grandfather was er, was born.

W1: I don't know very much about my family history, but I'd like to look into it in the future.

Listening

Scripts

W = Woman; M = Man

W: So, do you know a lot about your family history?

M: I do actually. Yes, um, cos, one thing we have got is a family tree, so, um, I've put it all on the computer. So, er, I know quite a lot about them.

W: Did you ever meet your great-grandparents, for example?

M: No, I never met them. Um, in fact, I've only ever met one grandparent. Um ...

W: Oh?

M: Yeah, they all died rather young so I only had ... I met my granny. Um, that was from my mother's side. Mellows, they were from Yorkshire.

W: Oh, I was gonna say, where did your ancestors come from?

M: Well, yeah, no, um, my mother's side they all, they all came from Yorkshire, but my father's family, er, originally came from, from Holland. They came over with, er, with William, William of Orange in 1689.

W: Ah! That's fascinating!

M: And my ancestor was William of Orange's, um, closest advisor. And, er, so that was for the Glorious Revolution.

W: Wow! What happened to the other ancestors? Do you know anything about your other side?

M: What?

W: What might have happened to ...

M: What, my mother's side?

W: ... more recently perhaps?

M: Er, well, all of, most, most of my ancestors were either soldiers, um, or in the church, or sailors, um, and, very dull apparently. My father's side, incredibly dull lot until, er, my father's ah father married ah a woman whose ah surname was Knowle and they're all eccentrics and um ... barking mad, and lovely and great fun, and so I like to think that I'm descended from that lot, rather, rather more than the boring lot.

W: So on that note, which members of your family do you feel close to, would you say?
M: Well, I've only got, um, I don't have. Both my parents are dead now so, er, my immediate family is the answer to that question, my wife and my two sons who are 25 and 21 years old.
W: And who tells the best family stories?
M: Me!
W: I thought so!

Viewing

Scripts

V = Voice-over; GY = Ginsu Yoon; MM = Matt Martin

- V: Have you ever dreamt of reinventing yourself as a completely different person? Well, I've done it. This is me inside a virtual world called *Second Life*. It's a place full of strange islands and towns and buildings created by people who live here. And the rules are: There are no rules. Once you've created an account, which you do for free, you create an avatar, which is basically a digital version of yourself. The fun starts choosing your new body, or avatar. There's something for all tastes. You can be female, male, or even something called a "Furry" – half animal, half human.
- GY: You can edit your appearance to look however you want. You can look tall or short or ... or fat or skinny. Um, er, it turns out that there are not a lot of unattractive people in *Second Life*.
- V: You can easily alter your face and get a hairdo. I could look like Brad Pitt or even Les Dawson if I wanted. You could be whatever color you want, and can tweak your features – big ears, big nose, or anything else you feel like making bigger. Finally you pick an outfit. Not really me. In the end I just went for a spiky-haired, suit-wearing disco dancer. No change there. My avatar can explore *Second Life* by walking around. But it's more fun flying and with maps I can find almost anything I want.
- MM: *Second Life* is all about creating your own online personality and socializing: Whether that's with big groups, small groups, it's going to online concerts, and going into online stores and trying on shoes; it's dressing up.
- V: *Second Life* claims to have over three million individual residents from all over the world living there. You can go up to anyone and chat. This avatar's owner is in Germany, and these two are from India.

Speaking for communication

Role-play

Scripts

Conversation 1

T = Teacher; S = Student

- T: And what about your expectations of the course?
- S: Well, as I said, I've studied English for many years and spent time in Britain, but that was a few years ago. So for me the most important thing is to just refresh and try to remember my

English, practice speaking and listening.

T: OK. You've got a very good level of English so we'd put you in the advanced class. Is there anything else?

S: Could I ask a question?

T: Of course.

S: I can take the morning class from 9:00 to 12:00. Is that right?

T: Yes, that's right.

S: And in the afternoon there are options? Optional classes?

T: Yes, er, these are special classes with a special focus like English idioms, conversation, (and) pronunciation. We have the full list here.

S: I see. Thank you.

T: No problem. OK, well, thank you very much.

Conversation 2

I = Interviewer; A = Applicant

I: There are a couple of things I'd like to ask about, Jade. Your CV says you have some experience of looking after children?

A: Yes, I was a tutor on a summer camp last year.

I: Can I ask you about that? What type of things did you do?

A: Um, well, I organized games.

I: Games for?

A: The children.

I: OK. And what age were the children?

A: Um ... seven to 10.

I: OK. And you enjoyed it?

A: Yes.

I: What aspect, what part did you enjoy, would you say?

A: Er, I suppose I'd have to say I liked the games best.

I: And any problems?

A: Um, no.

I: What about the different ages? We often find that different ages together can be difficult.

A: It depends. In my opinion, you can usually get the older children to help the younger ones.

Conversation 3

I = Interviewer; S = Student

I: I think that's about it. Do you have any questions? Any queries?

S: Um, yes, actually I do have a query.

I: Yes, go ahead.

S: It's about online classes at the university.

I: Right.

S: If I'm accepted, I saw that there are ... um, that it's possible to take some courses online.

I: That's right.

S: So I wouldn't need to attend classes?

I: Not for the online courses. But, um ... well, one thing I'd like to say is that the online courses are, in many ways, more difficult than face-to-face courses. Certainly in terms of reading and writing, they're really quite demanding.

Group discussion

Scripts

I heard about *Second Life*, um, on BBC breakfast TV, and um I decided to sort of get on it because I wanted to see what it'd be like to interact in a, in a virtual world so, um, and also to see how it was presented on, on screen on our computers. So, um, I went on and you can create your own avatar which means to create a, a sort of different version of yourself, so um, I ... it ... I've ... I, I created a new image of myself, um I didn't change my appearance that much. You can choose different parts of, ah the body so you can change your face, I made myself, I made myself with dark hair rather than with blonde. I'm not sure why. Um, one thing I decided to alter was my job. I, um, decided to be a businesswoman rather than, um, an actress ... um, but one thing that hasn't changed is my personality. You get to talk to people online um as your avatar, so obviously my responses are um still as me. Um, but you can also set up, ah ... your own buildings, you can, you can, um, pay for and build your own buildings, so you can be your own businesswoman in your own shop and people can come in and actually buy things from your shop. So it's really interesting to sort of interact as this alternative being, different version, different version of me.

Further practice in listening

Short conversations

Scripts

Conversation 1

W: Hi David. You know what? I obtained a position as a project manager in a publishing company.

M: Oh, congratulations! I hope you can keep your feet on the ground this time. Maintaining a stable job is crucial for your career development.

Q: What does the man mean?

Conversation 2

M: Robert's mother got divorced and married a doctor.

W: Exactly. And I heard the new couple had their own child later, named Rose. I bet the little girl in the red dress sitting next to Robert must be Rose.

Q: What's the relationship between Robert and Rose?

Conversation 3

W: I don't understand why identity thieves are desperate to steal our personal information.

M: Once they get it, they can use your ID number and your good credit to apply for more credit cards in your name. Then, they use the credit cards and do not pay the bills.

Q: How will identity thieves use the stolen personal information?

Conversation 4

M: It's a surprise for me to know that your boss is a woman. They are usually too hard to work for and too disagreeable to get along with.

W: My boss is an exception. She always listens patiently when we talk about our dilemmas and problems.

Long conversation

Scripts

W: So Charlie, what brings you to my office today? How may I help you?

M: Well, Ms. Parker, as you know, this is my second year at Harvard, and I have to choose a major. I just have to. I'm stressing. My parents are stressing. It's not good. It's s-u-c-h a big decision. I mean, one subject one career for the whole rest of my life. And I'm always unclear about my career choice – I'm only 20 now! How can I make such a huge decision that will affect my whole life?

W: Well, the first step is to calm down and look at it in a proper way. I know it seems like this choice will decide your fate, but most students change their major at least once if not more at the university, so you're not "stuck" with your first choice. Let's take some time and see what kind of careers would be a good "fit" for you. Tell me, are you more quiet or outgoing?

M: That's easy! Not quiet! I'm definitely outgoing. I love people!

W: OK. Now, Charlie, are you more detail-focused or do you focus more on the big picture?

M: Not good with details ... really like strategy. Definitely a big picture kind of guy! I've won three awards for leadership for big events I've organized here at Harvard.

W: Wonderful! I see that you've got some courses in computer design, math and business, why not consider careers in marketing or management? You're great with people and big ideas. But remember, these are only just ideas to begin with!

M: Thanks, Ms. Parker!

Q1: Why did Charlie feel stressed?

Q2: What does Ms. Parker say about changing majors?

Q3: What kind of person is Charlie?

Q4: What major does Ms. Parker suggest that Charlie may choose?

Passage 1

Scripts

As a researcher on managerial behavior, I have read hundreds of studies that have compared women and men as managers. On average, when all of that research is summarized, some differences do show up.

As with all averages, there are many exceptions. But here's what we know from the research:

First, women are less "bossy", probably because people dislike bossy women even more than bossy men. As a result, female managers are more ready to work together with others and more democratic than male managers. Second, compared with men, women use a more positive approach by encouraging and urging others rather than a negative approach of criticizing and

blaming them. Third, women attend more to the individuals they work with, by guiding them and taking their particular situations into account.

Finally, there is the matter of getting the job done efficiently. Most managers, male and female, get their work done in a timely way, but some do not. When you find one of those barely functioning managers – that is, someone who avoids solving problems and just doesn't get the job done, that person is more likely to be a man than a woman. Why? Perhaps because a woman would be fired or demoted more quickly for poor management.

So, are women better managers than men? In terms of their day-to-day actions, women managers should have advantages. But the answer is really not so simple because managers do well only if people accept their authority.

In roles that have been held mainly by men, women's competence is often questioned. In these situations, women managers can face a double standard. They have to be extra-competent to be recognized as effective. Where women managers are more common, this type of bias is less likely to prevail.

Q1: How many differences between female and male managers are mentioned in the passage?

Q2: How do the female bosses treat the individuals they work with?

Q3: What is the possible reason that female managers are more likely to get their work done on time?

Q4: What can we learn from the passage about women managers?

Passage 2

Scripts and answers

My great-great-grandparents were the first in my family to arrive in the United States, immigrating to this country from Europe. However, I am the first in my bloodline to arrive in the States, as I was adopted from South Korea in my 1) infancy. I have for the most part 2) assumed the customs and practices of my adoptive parents because I was raised with their values and know nothing of my biological parents. I only 3) inherited their family name.

The significance of my race has been 4) rooted in my mind since my mother took my younger brother and me to Asian cultural 5) fairs before we had even started school. She did this in an effort to 6) compensate for the lack of cultural diversity in the area; my brother and I were the only Asian children at school and in the community. Thus, the realization that there are different "types" of people, as far as race is concerned, actually came to me in meeting other South Koreans.

Attending college has helped 7) cement the idea of my cultural identity, for that was the first time I ever came in contact with other peoples en masse. I was finally able to 8) witness various races of students and faculty from around the world. Most of my life I had only been 9) exposed to white people, so being able to experience how other people lived allowed me to see how I was racially different. This encouraged me to learn more about these differences and how they truly affect how I live. Also, taking college courses with a multicultural focus 10) contributed to my perceptions concerning these differences and influences.