

Personal Relationships



PART 1

Word tips

Richards 理查兹 (人名)
 turn down 调低音量
 absolutely 绝对地
 deafening 震耳欲聋的

Listening, Understanding and Speaking

Listening I

1 Listen to a telephone conversation between two neighbors and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 The man is calling the woman.
- 2 The woman found it impossible to go to sleep that night.
- 3 The woman had friends with her that evening.
- 4 The man has been polite to the woman.
- 5 The telephone conversation took place very late at night.

2 Listen to the conversation again and complete the following sentences with the information you get.

- 1 The man's phone number is _____.
- 2 The woman lives in Number _____.
- 3 The woman went to bed before _____ o'clock.
- 4 The woman says the noise from the man's house is too _____.
- 5 The woman hopes that the man's friends will be a little _____.

3 Work in pairs to role-play the conversation with your partner. You may practice it twice by changing roles.

Listening II

1 Listen to a story about a boy and a woman and choose the best answer to each of the following questions.

- 1 When did the story take place?
 - A On a cold evening.
 - B On a weekend.
 - C On a cold morning.
 - D On New Year's Day.
- 2 What was the relationship between the woman and the little boy?
 - A Teacher and pupil.
 - B Strangers.
 - C Mother and son.
 - D Friends.
- 3 Which of the following was definitely true of the boy?
 - A He was almost six years old.
 - B He was standing outside a store.
 - C He was homeless.
 - D He was looking out of a window.
- 4 What did the woman buy for the boy?
 - A Something to play with.
 - B Something to eat.
 - C Something to read.
 - D Something to wear.
- 5 Why did the little boy say the woman was a relative of God?
 - A Because he thought she was kind-hearted.
 - B Because he thought she was powerful.
 - C Because he thought she was forgiving (宽容的).
 - D Because he thought she was mysterious (神秘的).

2 Listen to the story again and complete the following sentences with the information you get.

- 1 The little boy's clothes were _____ and _____.
- 2 The boy had pale _____ eyes.
- 3 The woman took the boy _____ and led him into the store.
- 4 With what the woman bought for him the boy would be able to enjoy the _____.
- 5 The woman told the little boy that she was one of God's _____.

Word tips

the holiday season 假期
季节 (从感恩节到新年的时间)

pass by 路过

longing 渴望

pale 浅色的

ma'am 夫人 (对妇女的
礼貌称呼)

3 Work in groups to do the following activities.

Step ONE

Read the following lines from the story.

The little boy looked up at her and asked, "Are you God, ma'am?"
 She smiled down at him and replied, "No, son, I'm just one of his children."
 The little boy then said, "I knew you had to be a relative of God."

Step TWO

Discuss the following questions.

- 1 What did the boy think about the woman when he asked that question?
- 2 Why did the woman answer that way?
- 3 What can you infer from the story?

Word tips

groceries 食品杂货
 take hold of 抓住, 握住
 raise 养育
 reluctant 不情愿的

Listening III

1 Listen to a story about an old woman and a younger woman and complete the following sentences with the information you get.

- 1 The two women lived on _____ Street.
- 2 The younger woman helped the old woman because the old woman looked _____.
- 3 Then the old woman _____ the younger woman's arm and they walked together slowly.
- 4 The old woman wanted to give the younger woman a dollar _____.
- 5 In the end the old woman was afraid they might _____ see each other _____.

2 Listen to the story again and complete the following table with the information you get.

| | The old woman | The younger woman |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| What was their relationship? | They were _____ but they _____. | |
| Whom did they live with? | She lived _____. | She lived _____. |
| What did they talk about on the way? | She talked about _____. | She talked about _____. |

3 Work in groups to discuss the following questions.



- 1 What do you know about the two women from the story?
- 2 What can be inferred from the story about their neighborhood relationship?
- 3 What do you think of the neighborhood relationship in your hometown?

Listening IV

1 Listen to a conversation between Ed and Rocky on their views of “ideal woman”, and choose the best answer to each of the following questions.

- 1 Where were Ed and Rocky that night?
 - A In Rocky’s house.
 - B In Ed’s house.
 - C At a dance.
 - D In a classroom.
- 2 What was Rocky doing at the beginning of the conversation?
 - A Dancing with a beautiful lady.
 - B Drinking alone.
 - C Chatting with a friend.
 - D Standing alone at the dance.
- 3 Which of the following is true about Rocky’s view on women?
 - A It is shaped by his own family experience.
 - B It reflects the view of the older generation.
 - C It is the product of the present time.
 - D It reflects the view of the women’s movement.
- 4 Which of the following housework would Rocky be willing to do?
 - A Babysitting.
 - B Cooking.
 - C Repairing.
 - D Throwing out the trash.
- 5 What will Rocky most likely do after the conversation?
 - A Change his view on women.
 - B Keep staying at the dance alone.
 - C Date with some ideal woman.
 - D Visit Ed’s home.

2 Listen to the conversation again and complete the following table with the information you get.

|  Rocky’s ideal woman |  Ed’s ideal woman |
|--|---|
| I want a woman that _____ _____. I prefer women that _____ _____. | I like women who are _____ and have _____ _____. |

3 Work in groups to comment on Rocky’s and Ed’s views about women.

Word tips

Ed 埃德 (人名)

Rocky 洛奇 (人名)

fulfill 满足

mug (有柄) 大玻璃杯

household 家庭的

trash 垃圾

mold 类型

point of view 观点

open-minded 愿意考虑

他人观点的

Topic

My Ideal Roommate

Characters

Julia (girl)

Mike (boy)

Carlos (boy)

Jane (girl)

Setting

In a tea house



(Four students are talking about their ideal roommates while drinking tea.)

Word tips

guys 大家, 各位

mess 凌乱, 脏乱

thoughtful 关心的, 体贴的

intelligent 有才智的, 聪颖的

expectation 期望, 期待

sense of humor 幽默感

realistic 现实的, 实际的

- 1 Watch a video about four students talking about their ideal roommates and pay attention to how they describe their ideal roommates. Check (√) the words they use in their descriptions.

An ideal roommate is:

- A neat
- B quiet
- C intelligent
- D interesting
- E honest
- F generous
- G humorous
- H healthy
- I thoughtful
- J helpful

- 2 Watch the video again and complete the following sentences with the information you get.

- 1 I don't like to see our rooms _____.
- 2 If I were sick and it was _____ to clean the living room, my roommate would do it for me.
- 3 He can always give you _____ when you are in trouble.
- 4 It's a natural closeness, not something we have to _____.
- 5 If you have such high _____ him, you might be disappointed.
- 6 Then _____ a good sense of humor?
- 7 We should never demand _____ of our roommates.
- 8 OK, let's be realistic and try to appreciate _____ now.



3 Repeat a few important lines and try to imitate the speakers' pronunciation and intonation.

- 1 What do you think makes an ideal roommate?
- 2 Well, I want my roommate to be a neat person, as I want everything to be in order.
- 3 You like a neat person. I'd like my roommate to be very thoughtful.
- 4 And I would not hesitate to ask him to do a favor for me.
- 5 In fact, I'm lucky. I've a roommate like that right now.
- 6 If you ask me, I would like someone who is interesting.
- 7 I mean he is really intelligent and interested in learning new things.
- 8 This roommate and I, we would immediately tell each other everything, and in this way become closer.
- 9 If you want to look for a friend, he doesn't have to be your roommate.
- 10 So far, no one has mentioned honesty and I think that honesty is really important.
- 11 Wouldn't it be wonderful to live with someone who sees the humor in everything?
- 12 You'd have so much fun together, and you'd never be bored.
- 13 I agree with you, but it's impossible for a roommate to be perfect.
- 14 Or we'll ruin our relationship, and we need to remember that.

4 Work in groups to discuss the following questions.

- 1 What is your ideal roommate like?
- 2 Can you make a list of the qualities of an ideal roommate?
- 3 Do you think you are an ideal roommate? Why / Why not?

Video Appreciation



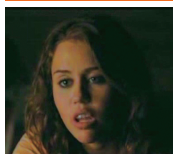
■ About the movie:

Ronnie is the leading character of the movie *The Last Song*. When her parents divorced, Ronnie was 17 and she felt her life was completely changed. Three years later she remains angry with her parents and ignores them, especially her father, Steve. For three years, she has not touched the piano and has had no contact with her father. She refuses to attend Juilliard School (茱莉亚音乐学院) even though the school has been interested in her because of her talent. Her mother decides to send her and Jonah, her younger brother, to Tybee Island to spend the summer with their father. Steve had been a concert pianist and teacher, and is now living a quiet life in a beach town on Tybee Island.

Early in the summer, Ronnie is unhappy with her father, and is defensive to all those around her. Later, she finds a turtle nest on the beach near her house. While learning to protect the turtle eggs, she falls in love with Will Blakelee and manages to improve the relationship with her father. As their relationship improves, her father falls down with a coughing fit. Ronnie takes him to the hospital immediately and discovers that he had been diagnosed with cancer long before her summer visit. She feels she should stay longer with her father to help take care of him.

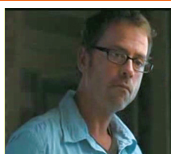
Steve has been working on a piece of music, titled “For Ronnie”, for quite a while. To make up for the three years of ignoring her father, Ronnie continues working on the piece of music, finishing what her father can’t complete due to his poor health. As she plays the last chord of the music, her father dies while listening to her play. Heartbroken, at his funeral Ronnie plays the piece of music. Then she decides to attend Juilliard School as her father had wanted. Her boyfriend, Will, plans to transfer to Columbia in order to be with her in New York.

Main characters



Ronnie Miller

an angry, rebellious 17-year-old girl



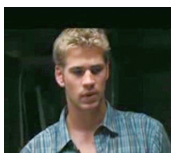
Steve Miller

Ronnie and Jonah’s father, a former Juilliard School professor and concert pianist



Jonah Miller

Ronnie’s younger brother



Will Blakelee

a popular and skilled beach volleyball player, Ronnie’s boyfriend

About the video clip:

This video clip shows us how Jonah cares about his father. He tries to improve the relationship between his father and sister, and wishes that his father and mother could get back together.

- 1 Watch a video clip about the relationship between Jonah, Ronnie and their father and complete the following passage with the words from the box according to the information you get.

married excited mad promises nicer first lasted
 enough kids changes loves help
 cared about get better boyfriend

After Ronnie gets into the room, Jonah says to her, “Don’t get mad, OK?” Then he continues, “Can you just be a little 1) _____ to Dad? I just really don’t want to lose him again.” “Jonah, you never lost Dad,” Ronnie replies. She also tells him that Dad was 2) _____ when he saw Jonah (when they arrived). “You never lost him, and you never will,” she 3) _____.

One day when Jonah is working with his father, he asks, “Do you and Mom ever talk about getting back together?” “Jonah, your mom is about to get 4) _____,” answers the father. “So? You have dibs. You married her 5) _____”

Word tips

gonna (意为 going to, 用于口语非正式场合) 即将, 打算

gross sb. out 冒犯某人, 令某人讨厌

get mad 生气

lose sb. 无法与某人保持关系

dibs 拥有权

dang (dang 是 damn 的委婉说法) 该死, 讨厌

turtle 海龟

the son replies. The father agrees, "Yes, I did. And it was a good marriage... It 6) _____ a long, long time. We have two great 7) _____ out of it. ... You know, love's not always... That's not always 8) _____. It is probably... hard to understand." Then Jonah 9) _____ the subject by quoting a French riddle: What has one eye, speaks French, and really 10) _____ cookies? Then the father goes to get cookies for him.

After the father is sent to hospital, Jonah wants to finish the work he and his father have been doing. However, he can't reach things by himself. He's so sad and at the same time he is 11) _____ with Ronnie. He says to Ronnie angrily, "Me and Dad have been working on this all summer! Me and Dad. Not you. All you 12) _____ was the stupid turtles... and your stupid 13) _____! I was with him every day! And now... Dang it! Now... I can't reach things, and I need to finish this so Dad will 14) _____!" Then Ronnie and Will offer to 15) _____ him.

2 Watch the video clip again and work in groups to discuss the following questions.

- 1 What do you know about Jonah and Ronnie, and their relationship with their father? Base your discussion on the information you get from the video clip.
- 2 What sorts of problems will parents' divorce bring to their children? Please give examples to support your ideas.

Singing for Fun

■ About the song:



The song "When I Look at You" is written by Hillary Lindsey and John Shanks, performed by Miley Cyrus. It was used to promote the 2010 movie *The Last Song*, in which Cyrus stars as Ronnie Miller. It was included in the movie because it fit the film's concept well. According to Cyrus, when she sings "When I Look at You", she thinks of family and love. "It's kind of what this movie is all about", she said. The song is entitled "For Ronnie" in the movie, as a song Ronnie's father has been working on for her.

Listen to the song "When I Look at You" and learn to sing it.

PART 4

Further Speaking and Listening

Further Speaking

Work in groups to do the following activities.

Choose a kind of relationship from the following list.

strangers neighbors friends classmates roommates
colleagues boyfriend and girlfriend brother and sister
husband and wife parents and children
grandparents and grandchildren teacher and student
employer and employee

Step
ONE

Discuss how to develop and keep the relationship you have chosen.

Words and expressions you may use

share care about undergraduate willingness spoil
independent dependent open-minded considerate
pleased responsible look after thoughtful

Step
TWO

Present to the class what your group have discussed. Then the class vote for the best group.

Step
THREE

Further Listening

Listening I

1 Listen to a conversation between Jane and Sally about the kind of person they would choose as a husband. Check (✓) the good qualities mentioned in the conversation for an ideal husband.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A generous | <input type="checkbox"/> B respectable |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C reliable | <input type="checkbox"/> D ambitious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E humorous | <input type="checkbox"/> F good-natured |
| <input type="checkbox"/> G intelligent | <input type="checkbox"/> H handsome |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I healthy | <input type="checkbox"/> J considerate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> K hard-working | <input type="checkbox"/> L practical |

2 Listen to the conversation again and complete the following sentences with the information you get.

- 1 Sally would take into consideration _____ and _____ while choosing a husband.
- 2 Both Sally and Jane like men with a _____.
- 3 Sally has a _____ temper herself.

Word tips

down-to-earth 脚踏实地的

good-natured 善良的, 性情温和的

as far as I'm concerned 在我看来; 就我而言

- 4 According to Sally, people who are brought up in _____ think differently.
- 5 To Sally it matters the least whether he has good _____.

Listening II

1 Listen to a passage about a man's problem and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 The speaker began living in a place of his own a few days ago.
- 2 He likes it very much though it's not a big flat.
- 3 A friend lived with him because they had to do a job together.
- 4 The speaker thought his friend would stay only for a short time.
- 5 The flat has two rooms, a kitchen and a bathroom.

2 Listen to the passage again and complete the following sentences with the information you get.

- 1 More than a month has _____ since his friend came to live with him.
- 2 His friend shows _____ of moving out.
- 3 His friend has more or less _____ the front room.
- 4 Then the speaker decided that it was _____ and his friend would have to leave.
- 5 The speaker believes that there are _____, even to friendship.

Listening III

1 Listen to a conversation about Ralph, George and Gopal discussing what they will do with their parents when they get old. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 Most parents play an important role in the home in India.
- 2 Ralph would rather have his parents back living with him.
- 3 Gopal would surely live together with her parents.
- 4 George lives far away from his parents.
- 5 A "granny flat" is a flat next door to the owner's children.

2 Listen to the conversation again and complete the following sentences with the information you get.

- 1 Ralph's parents are almost in their _____.
- 2 Ralph thinks the idea of not having parents living with him sounds _____.
- 3 To Ralph it would be very _____ to suddenly have his parents living with him.
- 4 Gopal said her _____ is not Indian.

Word tips

despite 尽管
 more or less 或多或少
 take over 接管, 控制
 front room 起居室, 客厅

Word tips

Ralph 拉尔夫 (人名)
 Gopal 戈帕尔 (人名)
 unthinkable 不能接受的, 难以置信的
 weird 古怪的, 奇异的
 granny flat 老奶奶套房 (指在住宅内部或隔壁专供年老老人居住的居室)

- 5 The bad thing about retirement homes is that people there are _____ only by other old people.

Listening IV

1 Listen to an argument between a husband and wife and choose the best answer to each of the following questions.

- 1 Which of the following should the husband have done that day?
 - A Vacuuming the living room.
 - B Looking after the children.
 - C Cooking the evening meal.
 - D Washing the clothes.
- 2 Why didn't the husband do his housework?
 - A He came home later than his wife.
 - B He was very tired that day.
 - C His wife would do it for him.
 - D He didn't like his share of housework.
- 3 What is the agreement between the husband and wife?
 - A The husband does housework only on weekends.
 - B The husband does the housework as the wife assigns.
 - C The one who comes home earlier does the housework.
 - D Each of them does his or her share of housework.
- 4 What makes the wife sound like an old nag?
 - A Doing all the housework every day.
 - B Quarrelling with her husband every day.
 - C Reminding her husband what to do.
 - D Staying home with the children.
- 5 What makes the living room floor dirty?
 - A Some fruit juice.
 - B Some papers.
 - C Some cream.
 - D Some crumbs.

2 Listen to the argument again and complete the following table with the information you get.

| Conflict | Husband's opinion | Wife's opinion |
|---|---|--|
| The husband hasn't _____ and the wife wants him to do it. | Cleanliness isn't a _____ him. His wife should tell him when he should clean. | The husband should do his cleaning without being told. That's his _____. |

Word tips

Brian 布赖恩 (人名)
 vacuum 用吸尘器打扫
 nag 爱唠叨的人
 priority 重点
 crumb 面包屑, 糕饼屑