

WORKBOOK LISTENING SCRIPTS

UNIT 1

Page 9, Exercise 2

Interviewer: Sam, do you enjoy school?

Sam: Yes I do, but there's a lot to do these final years. I spend hours on classwork. And then there are exams, which are really hard now, and it's so important to do well.

Interviewer: What's the hardest part of studying for exams?

Sam: Well, I'm always struggling to catch up with my school work, especially when exams come along. And I generally find it hard to concentrate while I'm at school studying. But in the end, I manage and I don't do too badly in my exams.

Interviewer: And what was the most useful thing you learned at school?

Sam: That would have to be computer programming. Not all schools teach it, but I was lucky and the school I was at had a coding course. I studied it for about three years.

Interviewer: Did you also study computer programming, Tina?

Tina: No, but my friends and I sometimes play computer games together!

Interviewer: Sam, have you got time for your friends?

Sam: Yeah. I generally meet up with them at least once a week. We hang out at pizza places or cafés a lot. But if there's a good film on, we go to see it.

Interviewer: What kind of films do you enjoy?

Sam: I'm a big fan of comedies – particularly British ones. What I really like about them is the British sense of humour.

Interviewer: Tina, do you go to the cinema much?

Tina: Not really. I prefer to watch the latest series on TV... my favourites are the Scandinavian ones. There have been quite a few of them on TV recently.

Interviewer: Would you be interested in visiting Scandinavia?

Tina: Absolutely. When I finish school, I plan to take a gap year and spend it living in Denmark. Maybe I'll even learn some Danish. I think it'd be cool to learn another foreign language.

Interviewer: Sam, where do you think you'll be in ten years' time?

Sam: My dream is to improve my English, move to London and run my own business. But I don't know if it will ever happen.

Interviewer: It might! Just keep up with your English! Well, thank you. It's been lovely talking to both of you.

UNIT 2

Page 17, Exercises 2 and 4

Interviewer: Joanna, here are your photographs showing people doing different sporting activities. I'd like you to compare two of the photos, and say what you think the people get out of these activities and what problems there might be with each sport.

Joanna: I'm sorry. I wonder if you could say that again.

Interviewer: Certainly. What do you think the people get out of these activities and what problems might each have?

Joanna: Thank you. Hmm. Looking at picture A, it's easy to see what these people get out of their sport. It looks like these girls are in a school basketball team together. I imagine playing together like that encourages them to enjoy friendly competition and probably gives them a real sense of team spirit. Naturally, playing basketball regularly will mean they're all in good physical shape. On the other hand, basketball has got its negative side. Playing in a team can make you feel really stressed and very anxious about winning the game. Also, because they probably play very often, they are likely to suffer from sports-related injuries. In addition, children might be pushed by their parents or coaches to play and compete from a very young age and if this is the case here, then these girls could suffer from burnout and lose their love and enjoyment of the game. The sport in picture A is a team sport, whereas the sport in picture C is one that people do alone. Paragliding doesn't look like it involves regular exercise. It clearly involves taking risks. It's a kind of personal challenge just to master the specialised skills involved, and I'd say there's a real sense of accomplishment when they succeed.

UNIT 3

 Page 25, Exercise 2

Alice: Jason, shall we start with learning a foreign language? I think that's something that might help me be more employable in a global market.

Jason: I understand what you mean. Today, a lot of companies are international and they're always looking for people who can speak more than one language. Talking of international – what do you think about working abroad? That's certainly one way to learn a foreign language, and moving away from home can teach you to be more independent. That's something a lot of employers look for.

Alice: I think you're absolutely right. I think working abroad can also teach you to deal with unfamiliar situations because you're in a different culture. That can be an important advantage in any job, because it shows you're able to deal with things that are unknown and new.

Jason: How about volunteering? A lot of employers are looking for people skills, and you certainly learn to be sensitive to others when you're volunteering.

Alice: Yes, but don't you think that that's a skill you can acquire in lots of situations? Even if you go for a university degree, you're always around people and have to get along with them. Also, a university degree is a basic requirement for many jobs.

Jason: I'm afraid I don't agree with you, Alice. Today, not all employers are interested in whether or not you have a degree. But most do think first-hand work experience is important.

Alice: Yes, I see your point. An internship can also give you time to decide if the job is suitable for you. But I'd want to get a degree and then do an internship.

 Page 25, Exercise 4

A: OK, so now we have to decide which two of these we should consider to increase our chances of getting a job. I'd say an internship is one of the most essential things. Because all employers today seem to insist on some work experience. Don't you agree?

B: Yes, I do. And an internship is a good place to learn other work-related skills – like how to work in a team and how to develop an ability to deal with unfamiliar situations. Then, I'd go for a university degree. What do you think?

A: I'd say they aren't always necessary, but people with degrees are still more employable than people without.

B: I agree. So, what have we decided?

A: I think we've said that a university degree and an internship are probably the two most important things to do if you want to improve your chances of getting a good job.

UNIT 4

 Page 33, Exercise 2

Student A: Shall we start with the idea of dining out? I went to a restaurant yesterday where the menu had nutritional information. I think it's a great way to help people understand what each item on the menu offers them in terms of nutrition before they make their choice.

Student B: Yes, you're absolutely right. Menus with that kind of information can be a real advantage if you want to make healthy choices, but I'm not sure this is useful in the long run, because we don't necessarily go for healthy choices when we dine out – we want to treat ourselves to something special! Do you see what I mean?

Student A: Oh, I hadn't thought of that. OK, then, let's move along. What about involving children in preparing meals at home? I think it's a pretty good idea. The reason for this is, it's a great way for children to learn about using fresh ingredients to prepare their meals, and young children are more likely to eat food if they've helped make it – so it's a good way to get them to try new vegetables and other healthy foods.

Student B: But on the other hand, in many homes today, there's an over-reliance on convenience foods which are pre-prepared and there may not be any fresh ingredients. Still – you've got a point. I think when the whole family is involved in cooking, the children will be more likely to grow up appreciative of the value of healthy food.

 Page 33, Exercise 3

Student A: Well, now that we've discussed all the methods, which two do you think would be the most effective in teaching people about nutrition?

Student B: So, going back to your idea about restaurants, I still don't think we should use menus with nutritional information because they wouldn't be very helpful as people don't go to restaurants to eat healthy food – that's something they do more at home.

Student A: I agree with you. And we both think that a family preparing a meal together is better than phone apps, since not many people can be bothered to open an app to find out about every item they eat.

Student B: Absolutely. And labelling food products with nutritional information is really important. To begin with, as you mentioned, it gives essential nutritional information. Secondly, with this information, they can make better informed and healthier choices.

Student A: Great. So, we've chosen the two methods we think will be the most effective.

UNIT 5 **Page 41, Exercise 2****Student 1**

In Picture B, it looks as if they're on a tour. What I mean is that they're on one of those city bus tours of all the famous landmarks and city highlights. I'd think that it must be an ideal way to travel for people with a limited amount of time, because on a bus tour you get a quick overview of the main attractions and that can help you decide which places are worth a second visit. In Picture A, it seems as if they're friends and they appear to be travelling on their own. I'd say that it's probable that it's very satisfying to travel this way. Trekking with a friend, you can set your own schedule because you're making all the decisions. What I'm getting at is that trekking with a friend can probably give you a real sense of accomplishment. I would also imagine that travelling like this gives you the time and opportunity to get to know other travellers along the way. I would assume that the downside of a bus tour is that the route has been set, so there's no flexibility. Also, you probably never see anywhere that's off the beaten track. A disadvantage of trekking with a friend might be that it demands planning ahead in great detail. In other words, it involves a huge amount of work and organisation on your part. Not everyone wants that kind of responsibility.

 Page 41, Exercise 5**Student 2**

If I were to travel to a new place, what I mean is somewhere I'd never been before, I guess that I'd choose to hire a local guide. You see, wherever I go, the first thing I want to know about is local culture and customs and I'd imagine that a local guide could tell me all about that. Also, I'd say that it's likely that someone local could take me to places that are off the beaten track. In other words, my choice would be to hire someone local who really knows the area.

UNIT 6 **Page 49, Exercises 3 and 4**

If I've understood the question correctly, teenagers have replaced traditional sources of current events information with various Internet services. There are a lot of reasons for this. Generally, I think that newspapers and other media, like radio and TV, don't focus enough on what really interests teenagers. Editors make the choices of what is or isn't newsworthy. And typically, editorial decisions are influenced by a wide variety of factors, with teenagers not usually high on their list of priorities. Although, it's true that from time to time there are topics that everyone wants to learn more about – things like, say, natural disasters or national elections. On the other hand, through the Internet we can actually personalise what news gets reported to us. For example, on some smartphones there are newspaper apps where you are asked to highlight the topics you're interested in – say finance, sport and technology – and this determines what news will be featured in your newspaper. Also, on reflection, I'd say that teens today have grown up with the Internet and the speed with which it spreads information. This means that as a rule, teens expect to learn about events pretty much as they happen. Social media like Twitter and Facebook get the news out there much more quickly than newspapers or TV and radio news broadcasts. And there's another reason. Teens get more involved in the news on social media because they follow news topics they're interested in and will often post their own comments. Actually, that's something I've never really thought about before, but I think it's true.

UNIT 7

Page 57, Exercise 3

Student A

Both pictures show street scenes in what without doubt is an urban environment. In Picture A, which is not particularly clear, it looks like these women are working. It's a little hard to tell, but I'd say they're selling flowers. It's quite likely this picture is from the beginning of the last century. I'm not sure, but I get the impression that life is harsh for the people in this photo. You can see they're poor and I can't imagine they feel particularly optimistic about their chances of improving their living conditions.

Now Picture C – this definitely shows a morning rush hour because the streets are really crowded. It's very likely that a lot of these people are on their way to work. This photo gives the impression that life in cities is fast-paced, but also culturally diverse. What I'm absolutely convinced about is that living in this kind of fast-paced environment is stressful.

Page 57, Exercise 4

Student B

Without doubt, you can tell most about city life from the photo of the modern city. The details aren't very clear, but if you look closely, you can see that some people are with briefcases, so they're going to work. There are people holding shopping bags too, so it's obvious that people have the time and money to shop in modern cities. Also, there's an underground station and a bus in the background, so we can see that there's a good public transportation system. In the other picture, apart from the flower sellers, who look quite poor, and some kind of carriage with a sign "Lipton's Teas" on it, we really don't get many details with information about life at the time it was taken.

UNIT 8

Page 65, Exercise 2

Student A: Let's start with food courts. I think they're a real advantage to a city mall, which is usually surrounded by office buildings. One advantage of food courts is that they offer a wide variety of restaurants to choose from and the prices are reasonable, so they benefit people working in the area who want to eat lunch out of the office. Also, food-court restaurants usually prepare and serve meals quickly.

Student B: That may be so, but I'm not sure if that will increase retail sales in the mall. Office lunch breaks are usually relatively short, so workers haven't really got time to both eat and shop. On the other hand, I think it's important to have venues in the mall like cinemas. For one thing, cinemas attract a wide demographic – adults and teenagers, as well as families with small children – and all of them are potential customers.

Student A: Yeah – and for another – cinemas keep the mall open till late and, as a result, lots of shops stay open later too. It's fairly clear that's a real advantage to people who can't make it to the mall during working hours. What about free parking? I think free parking facilities are a basic necessity because most people come to the mall by car. And look at the way mall car parks are always packed – clearly lots of people use them!

Student B: That's true, but I read somewhere that a lot of the time most of the parking spaces are filled by cars of office workers who take advantage of the free parking. They come at 9 am and leave at 5 pm. And the parking isn't really free – I mean think about it. Retail stores have to pay more rent if there's free parking, so they just bump up their prices!

Student A: You've got a point. Plus the fact that city malls are pretty accessible – people can get to them by public transport, on foot or on bikes. So maybe parking facilities aren't as useful as I thought when it comes to increasing retail sales.

Page 65, Exercise 4

Student A: I read an article once that said that women do most of the shopping in malls, so let's look at things that will make their shopping experience more enjoyable, like play areas for children.

Student B: That may be so, but surely we should not be focusing on one specific type of shopper. I believe the smaller shops will benefit from a venue that brings in shoppers of all kinds. Take international chains and departments stores, for example. They cater to a wide range of potential customers.

Student A: I agree. Plus, there's the fact that anchor stores increase the traffic in the mall. So, more people will pass by the smaller speciality shops and may be tempted in by their window displays.

Student B: So really the anchor stores benefit all the retailers in the mall.

UNIT 9

Page 73, Exercise 2

Part 1

Boy: Well, it's hard to know where to start. What about health-care technology? Compared with other fields in which technology is sometimes about luxury, lots of the tech advances in medicine are actually life-saving.

Girl: I agree. Take the machine in the picture – it looks like some kind of MRI or X-ray machine – and the ability to see into our bodies with machines has helped doctors save countless lives.

Boy: And I think the most important thing is that this technology has improved the quality of life for so many people – that's not something we should take for granted.

Girl: True, it has clearly improved our quality of life tremendously, but besides that we should remember the disadvantages, like how these advances have affected the cost of health care. It's become prohibitively expensive. Many people can't afford it.

Boy: What about transport? Technology has had a huge impact there, too – look how aeroplanes have made the world smaller by reducing travel time.

Girl: While it's true that air travel has made the world more accessible, we shouldn't forget there is a downside – aeroplanes use fossil fuels and that has a really negative impact on the environment.

Boy: Speaking of downsides, another is that unlike other methods where the trip is slower and you can see where you are, on aeroplanes, when you go so fast, no one really enjoys the journey. It's all about getting to your destination quickly.

Page 73, Exercise 4

Part 2

Boy: So now we have to decide on where technology has made the most valuable contribution to our lives.

Girl: Well, we've already decided against fitness technology, haven't we? It really isn't essential to our lives. And I think we can agree not to choose educational technology, too. Its contribution is valuable, but limited to countries and people who can afford it.

Boy: I agree. And I think home entertainment might be enjoyable – but it's hardly something that's made a valuable contribution to our lives. On the contrary, we're probably lazier because of it!

Girl: So that leaves us with technology in the medical field and transport technology. We'd better decide on one of them. How about air travel – the fact that people and products can get around so quickly has transformed our lives.

Boy: You're right, but I don't think you can compare transport technology to the value of medical advances. That's why I'd opt for medical technology. I don't think anything can be more valuable than something that saves lives and improves the quality of life for so many people, despite the expense.

Girl: I think you're right. So our choice is medical technology. We'll just have to find ways of making it more accessible to everyone.

UNIT 10

Page 81, Exercise 2

Student A:

I'd like to compare pictures A and B. Firstly, as to what is being communicated, the pictures differ significantly. In picture A, I get the impression that these two elderly men have had a lifelong friendship and their body language shows they are interested in each other. My best guess would be that they're sitting there, sharing anecdotes and exchanging ideas. Chances are they meet in this spot regularly, perhaps once a week, and have been doing so for a long time. On the other hand, in picture B, it looks to me like these young people have not known each other for long. It looks as if they're completely disinterested in each other as there seems to be a complete lack of communication between them. There seems little doubt that they're more involved with whoever or whatever is on their smartphones than the people they're sitting with. It looks to me like they're simply a group of people who work together and are taking a lunch break. I know what that's like because if I sit with people I'm not particularly close to, I focus more on my phone than on them. Our phones have really taken the place of a lot of face-to-face communication between people, and I'm not sure if that's a good thing!

Page 81, Exercise 4

Student B:

I'm not sure how to answer that, because I make a point of not using my phone when I'm with other people, so although I'm closer in age to the people in photograph B, it's not a situation I experience a lot. On the other hand, clearly I haven't got friendships that have lasted decades, but I think the situation with the two elderly men on the park bench is much nearer to my life experience because I value face-to-face communication and the feeling of closeness it gives.