

PTE General Skills Practice Level 1 · Audioscript

Track 1

Unit 1, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercise 5

When I came into the cafe I saw a man and two women. The man was tall and handsome. He had a black moustache. The younger woman was of medium height. She had long, straight, blond hair and an intelligent face. She was wearing a blue sweater. I don't remember much about the older woman. Her clothes weren't very fashionable, but she was wearing a lot of jewellery. I remember her very large earrings. She was very quiet. I thought she looked frightened.

Track 2

Unit 1, Language skills, Exercises 4 and 5

- A** Oh, hi Sophie. Hey, did you watch that documentary last night? The one about body language? It was really interesting.
- B** Oh, right. Yes, I saw it was on, but I was too busy with my Maths homework. What did you learn?
- A** OK, let's see if I can remember ... Right, here's one ... If you cross your arms in front of your chest, it means you're not very friendly.
- B** Really? Is that really true?
- A** Well, it could also mean you're cold, I suppose.
- B** What else?
- A** Biting your nails means you're stressed. Well, we knew that already ... Oh yes ... If someone blinks a lot, they could be lying.
- B** Or there's something in their eye of course.
- A** True.
- B** OK, give me one to guess.
- A** Right. What does it mean if I tap my fingers like this?
- B** It means you're getting impatient. My dad does it quite a lot ... That's how I know!
- A** Exactly right. My dad does it too!

Track 3

Unit 2, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercise 7

We live in a block of flats in the city centre. I like that because we are close to art galleries, cinemas, theatres and cafes. There is also a big shopping centre nearby. Our apartment is rather small so I have to share a bedroom with my sister. Our bedroom is not big but it is light and nicely decorated. We both like art and old-fashioned furniture. Our grandma gave us her old, wooden desk. It's really huge and takes a lot of space in our

tiny room but we love it! We can both do our homework at the same time! We've got a lot of posters on the walls, and lots of bookshelves because we like reading. The only thing I don't like is that the room is often messy!

Track 4

Unit 2, Language skills, Exercise 4

1 Charles Dickens was born in Portsmouth, England, in 1812, but his family later moved to London where he spent most of his life. He wrote 15 novels, including his famous books: *Oliver Twist*, *David Copperfield*, *A Christmas Carol* and *Great Expectations*. He became famous early – when he was in his twenties. He died rich and internationally famous in 1870. Many films are based on his novels – for example there are about 45 films based on *A Christmas Carol* and 12 films based on *Great Expectations*!

2 Beatrix Potter was born in London in 1866. She wrote and illustrated 28 children's books. Her most famous books include *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, which she published in 1902 and which quickly brought her success and fame. She loved nature and she was a keen natural scientist. She died rich and famous in 1943, leaving 15 Lake District farms and 4,000 acres of land to the National Trust. Her children's stories have been filmed, and as a character she is known to people all over the world from the film *Miss Potter* (she is played by Renée Zellweger).

Track 5

Unit 2, Language skills, Exercise 5

- 1**
- Kate** OK, Ben, we've got one more day. What shall we do?
- Ben** Hmm ... I don't know, Kate. There are so many things to do in London. I quite fancy doing a tour of Buckingham Palace – what do you think? Too boring?
- Kate** No, I don't think so. I'd like to see where the royal family live. But you know there might be lots of tourists and long queues. I'm not sure...
- Ben** Hmm ... yes, I suppose you're right. What about another museum? Or we could go back to the British Museum, I thought it was great. And it's free, not like Buckingham Palace.
- Kate** We could, but how about something different... I tell you what, there's a museum just

round the corner from here, I saw it yesterday. It looks interesting.

Ben Oh, do you mean Charles Dickens's house? I saw that too. Yes, I wouldn't mind going there. In fact we're studying Dickens at school next term so it would be perfect.

Kate OK, well, I don't know if you have to book in advance. But it's very close so we could just call in, we don't need to phone them or anything. Let's give it a try.

2

Charles Dickens, the famous novelist, lived at 48 Doughty Street from March 1837 to December 1839. He lived here with his wife and children, and his sister-in-law too, his wife's sister, until she died tragically young, at the age of 17. Dickens did not own the house – he rented it for £80 a year. As he became more famous he also became richer, and he was soon able to rent a larger house for his growing family. However, this is his only London house that remains. The house is tall, with four floors, including the basement, in a row of terraced houses in this quiet London street. These days it's a museum where visitors can see various rooms with furniture from the past. They can see the study where Dickens wrote some of his most famous books. It is exactly as it was in his day, even his writing desk is original. Visitors can also drink a cup of tea in a small but excellent café situated in the basement.

Track 6

Unit 3, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercise 2

What do we mean by success? Think about the careers of two people. Paul is a businessman like his father. He runs his father's company and makes a million dollars a year. He spends sixteen hours a day in his office. His employees don't like him very much, because working for him is stressful. Peter started as an electrician like his father. He worked all week and studied at weekends to become an engineer. Now he designs machines. His work is satisfying, he earns a good salary, and his colleagues like him. Who do you think has been more successful?

Track 7

Unit 3, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercises 3 and 4

1 I drive around eight villages and deliver letters and parcels. I only dislike two things in my job – rainy weather and dogs.

2 When I was at school I loved drawing, and now I design buildings – small houses, huge skyscrapers, everything. I love my job. It's so interesting and so satisfying.

3 My job is hard and dangerous, but I think it's important. We save people when there's a fire or a flood.

4 When something gets broken in the bathroom, people call me and I repair it for them. They're always very happy when I come!

5 My work is quite hard and not very well paid, but it's not bad. I like talking to customers. That's what I do, I serve customers in a shop.

6 I chose this job because I like children. They're so nice and so interesting. I take care of children and teach them, and I'm never bored.

Track 8

Unit 3, Language skills, Exercise 1

1

Lucy Hi, Joe.

Joe Hi, Lucy. What are you looking at?

Lucy The cinema programme, I fancy going to see this film. Emma Watson's in it. You know, she's in the Harry Potter films.

Joe Oh, yes. Wow. She's so lucky! She's been a film star most of her life!

Lucy Hmmm, I'm not sure I'd like to be a child star. It can't be easy.

Joe You're kidding! Just think, all that money. It must be brilliant to be rich!

Lucy Yes, I know, but she didn't have a normal childhood. She was working all the time, so were the other kids in those films. They had lessons at the film studio, with private teachers. I bet they were lonely. I think it's better to go to an ordinary school and do ordinary things, like us.

Joe I don't agree. I think they were really lucky. And being famous hasn't damaged them, has it? I mean, they aren't drug addicts or alcoholics, they all have successful careers, don't they?

Lucy I guess. But a lot of child stars do have problems. They have too much money, and it ruins them for life. And it's not just actors. I mean, pop stars quite often have problems too, don't they? With drugs and things.

Joe Hmmm, maybe you're right. Anyway, when do you want to see the film? Shall we get tickets?

2

Sue Hey Rob, what are you doing this afternoon?

Rob Oh, hey Sue. I'm going into town, I think. I'm going to buy some new trainers if they aren't too expensive.

Sue Oh, right. Hmm. Did you see that programme about trainers? It was on TV a few days ago.

Rob No, what was it? A new design or a new make or something?

Sue No, it was about the factories where they make them, and the children who work there.

Rob Oh, right, you're talking about child labour. But little kids don't make trainers any more, do they? I thought they'd stopped all that. Where were these factories?

Sue China. That's why I watched it.

Rob Oh, right. You're doing a project about China, aren't you?

Sue No, I'm not, I changed my mind. But I'm really interested in going there one day. It would be amazing.

Rob Didn't the programme change your mind?

Sue No, but it made me think about trainers. The next time I buy some I'll check where they were made, and who made them.

Rob Right. Well, thanks for telling me. I'll do the same this afternoon.

Track 9

Exam practice 1, Section 2

As you can see, the house is in a very quiet street but it isn't too quiet. There are always people going to work, walking to the shops or the park.

Track 10

Exam practice 1, Section 3

Good morning. Please, sit down. I'm glad you could come in this morning. I've got a flat that I think will be perfect for you. It's in a quiet location but there are shops nearby and good public transport links to the town centre. It's in a low block with just four floors. The flat is on the third floor. I'm afraid there isn't a lift but the staircase is bright and cleaned every day. Each flat has its own underground parking space with a twenty-four hour guard on duty. Inside the flat, there are two bedrooms, a large living room with kitchen and a bathroom. There's a balcony and a glorious view of the forest in the distance. The other residents are all young professionals like yourselves. There aren't many families with children so it's very quiet. The rent is cheap because of the distance to the centre of town but, as I say, there a lot of buses. I'm sure a lot of people will be interested in this flat so I would recommend we go there this morning before someone else takes it. What do you think?

Track 11

Exam practice 1, Section 3

Attention please. This is a special announcement. A little girl is missing. She was separated from her parents about ten minutes ago near the ice cream stand by the Dragon Castle. Her name is Peggy Wood. She's got curly black hair and is wearing a spotted dress and sandals. She was carrying a large model car. If you see Peggy, please bring her to the information centre, where her parents are waiting for her, or contact one of our staff.

Track 12

Unit 4, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercise 3

Mr and Mrs Johnson's daughter Lucy is getting married next month. She and her boyfriend Harvey got engaged a year ago and they've spent this year preparing the wedding. Right now Lucy and Mrs Johnson are arguing about the reception. They're still not sure about the number of guests. Should they invite Aunt Jennifer, who's actually a friend, not a relative? Should Harvey's nephew sit next to Lucy's cousin?

Track 13

Unit 4, Language skills, Exercise 1

1

I really hate it when I see someone I know coming towards me in the street, and they're listening to music on their MP3 players. It's not that it's loud because they listen on headphones. It's just that either they're so busy listening that they don't notice me, or, if they do see me, they don't stop and talk, they just wave or smile or something because they're so busy listening to their music. They probably don't mean to be rude but it certainly seems rude. I mean, I've got an MP3 player and of course I listen to music on it, but when I see people coming towards me I pull the earphones out of my ears, I stop listening, I say hello and chat for a bit. I just think that some people should be more sensitive and friendly, that's all.

2

Presenter Today we are talking about the effects that social networking sites are having on young people. Some experts say that these sites cause all kinds of health problems, physical and mental. Others say quite the opposite. Here to discuss it we have Emma Jenkins, whose book 'The Lonely Surfer' has just been published, and nineteen-year-old Ted Harrison, who is a student and a keen user

of social networking sites. Let's start with you, Ted. Why are you so keen on these sites?

Ted Well, social networks can have different uses. A lot of my friends use them to discuss work, you know, exchange ideas, help each other, that kind of thing, so they help us study. You can also share photos, hobbies or music, of course, but to me they are mainly a fantastic way to keep in touch with friends. I've left school now and I've moved away from home but I can still chat to my old school friends and exchange news with them.

Presenter Emma? What do you say to that?

Emma Hmm, I suppose that's a good point. But you know they cause an awful lot of unhappiness too. You know, lots of young people look at other people's happy photos and read about their perfect lives and they get depressed.

Ted Oh, come on! I don't think that's true at all. I ...

Emma And, well, when you're sitting at your computer you aren't out socialising with friends, you're sitting alone instead of being with actual real people. It isn't good for you.

Ted You could say the same about reading a book! Actually, we use social networking to arrange our social lives. It makes it easier for us to meet up. I mean, have you actually ever used a social networking site?

Track 14

Unit 5, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercise 2

I'm trying to lose weight. For breakfast I have a bowl of cereal with milk; after that I eat mostly fruit and vegetables. Last Saturday my family grilled sausages in the garden, but I had grilled peppers and mushrooms. They had cheesecake for dessert and I had some strawberries. On Sunday we went to a restaurant. Everyone had soup and a main course, but I just ordered a big salad. When my friends buy sweets or biscuits at break, I eat an apple or a pear. You may think it's very hard, but actually my diet is delicious!

Track 15

Unit 5, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercise 5

A Can I have more of this delicious salad?

B Of course. Help yourself.

A Thank you. It's delicious. It's so nice to have a proper home-made meal.

B Glad you like it. Could you pass the bread, please?

A Here you are.

B Thank you. The tea will be ready in a moment. Do you take sugar?

A No, thank you. I'm trying to lose weight.

Track 16

Unit 5, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercise 8

Tom How much ham do we need?

Sarah Just a little. A small packet.

Tom And how many cucumbers?

Sarah Maybe two. Have we got any red peppers at home?

Tom I don't think so. Let's get one or two. And we've got no milk either.

Sarah Right, so we need a bottle of milk.

Tom OK. Anything else?

Sarah There's very little bread left. Let's get a few rolls.

Tom And what about sweets?

Sarah We aren't buying any sweets, Tom. We've decided to eat only healthy food, remember? But we'll get a lot of fruit.

Track 17

Unit 5, Language skills, Exercise 3

1 It was when we went on holiday and we saw the baby lambs playing in the fields, my brother said 'Yum, dinner!' and I felt really sick. Anyway, since then I've been a vegetarian! I really couldn't eat meat now, not for anything. Apart from that, I eat everything!

2 Mm, those biscuits look nice. I might buy some. I'll just check the packet, though. The thing is, I can't eat peanuts. I love them but I'm allergic to them. They make me ill. It's a problem, but what can you do? Hmm, these look fine, let's get them.

3 My mum's got a new recipe, it was in a magazine and she tried it out last week. It's vegetable curry. Well, I thought it would be horrible, you know, much too hot, with all those spices ... But you know what? It was fantastic! I'm going to learn how to make it.

4 It's weird, I love the smell of coffee but when I actually try it I can't stand it. I mean, I like coffee cake and coffee ice cream, but not the drink itself. It's so bitter, I don't understand why it's so popular. I like other hot drinks, like tea, but coffee, no, I just don't like it.

Track 18

Unit 6, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercise 2

My trip to London.

The journey was quite long. First I had to get to the airport, which is a long way from where I live. Then

my flight was delayed and I had to wait three hours. And the passenger next to me had a baby that cried all the way to London! My accommodation was not very comfortable – just a cheap youth hostel – but I didn't spend very much time there. Most of the day I was out sightseeing. I saw so many tourist attractions that I can't remember them all. I nearly had an accident in a theme park. I almost fell off a ride. On the last day I bought postcards and souvenirs for my family. And on the way back, the airline lost my suitcase! But they found it within twenty-four hours.

Track 19

Unit 6, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercises 5 and 6

A Excuse me, how can I get to ... ?

B It's not far from here. Go down this street, Bertram Road, straight on for about 200 metres ... Go past the tourist information office, then turn right into Linnet Lane. It's the second turning on the right and there's a big white house on the corner. Go straight on for another 100 metres and the youth hostel is on your left, opposite a travel agent's. You have to cross the street to get to it.

Track 20

Unit 6, Language skills, Exercise 2

1

It was a disaster from start to finish. First of all we had to wait half an hour on a platform because there was a delay, and it was freezing cold. Then there weren't any empty seats. I walked up and down the carriages, there was nowhere to sit. I thought of sitting on my luggage but there wasn't enough room, so I just had to stand. And then of course it broke down. We all had to get off, nobody helped me with my bags. We were told to wait for a bus but I'd had enough by then. I gave up and walked. It took me an hour and I was terribly late. So I'd like my money back please. I've got my ticket right here, look, here it is.

2

A Have you got any plans for the summer holidays yet, Jackie?

B Yes, actually. My mum and dad want to go to France again, like last year.

A Oh, lucky you. I'd love to go to France, and practise my French! Are you going to Paris?

B I think the idea is we spend a few days in Paris this time, 'cause we've never been there, and then go down to the south coast, to the place we went to last year.

A Wow. That's a long drive.

B Actually I don't think we're going by car. I know that's what we did last time, but ...

A Yeah, you took the car across on the ferry, didn't you?

B Yes we did. But this time they're talking about going by train.

A Oh, but you can still take your car, can't you, on the train? Through the tunnel, I mean.

B Yes, you can but mum and dad don't want to drive. They say it's too tiring. But we'll still go through the tunnel. It's quicker than the ferry. You can get to Paris really fast.

A It sounds like fun.

Track 21

Exam practice 2, Section 1

Example

Hi Jamie. How's the football training going? What's it like now you're in the team?

1

Right, let's have a look. You're lucky, we have a sale on at the moment. Well, let's start here. These are all from last year, but the style is still very popular. Hmm, I think this dark green one would suit you, what a lovely colour!

2

We always go on holiday to the same place. It's a cottage on the east coast, miles away from the nearest town. It isn't even on a bus route!

3

B Good morning. How are you feeling?

A Much better this morning. It isn't so windy and the sea is nice and flat.

B Yes, it's a perfect day. We should arrive in Cyprus by lunchtime.

4

It's very close to the beach so it's easy to get to. You can exchange money there and you can check in or out 24 hours a day, which is perfect if you have a flight in the middle of the night.

Track 22

Exam practice 2, Section 3

Attention all passengers travelling to Budapest, passengers travelling to Budapest. We are sorry to announce the European Airways flight to Budapest will be delayed by thirteen hours due to extreme weather and will leave from Terminal 3, Terminal 3 instead of 2. Passengers are kindly requested to come to gate 17 now to board a bus which will take them to Terminal 3. Lunch vouchers for all

passengers are available from the European Airways airline desk in Terminal 3. You can use them to obtain a free lunch from any cafeteria in that terminal. EA would like to apologise for the delay, which was caused by circumstances beyond our control. Attention all passengers travelling to Budapest...

Track 23

Exam practice 2, Section 3

OK, can I have your attention please ... Before we get on the bus, I'd just like to tell you our plan for today. We're leaving in ten minutes, that's 9.15, and it'll take us about an hour to get to Windsor, so we'll be there just after ten o'clock. In Windsor there'll be about two and a half hours of sightseeing. We're going to see the castle and the gardens... After that we'll have lunch. And then we're going to get back on the bus and drive to Legoland. That's the plan for the afternoon. You'll have about two hours in the theme park, and then we're going to go home. We should be back about six.

Now I just want to remind you, if anyone gets lost or gets into trouble, I hope you all have my phone number, but I'll repeat it now just in case: 7700 900 988, that's 7700 900 988. OK? Has anyone got any questions?

Track 24

Unit 7, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercise 5

A new film.

Last night I went to the premiere of a new film, *The Stuntman*. It was a very well organised event. It took place in the largest cinema in our city. In the hall there was an exhibition of photographs showing the making of the film. There was a small orchestra playing live music. And the film itself was really thrilling. At the end the audience stood up and applauded. There were lots of journalists there, so I think tomorrow you'll be able to read the reviews in all the newspapers. I certainly recommend it.

Track 25

Unit 7, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercise 6

1 You know *Star Wars* of course, don't you? But did you know that even before the first *Star Wars* George Lucas made a film called *THX 1138*? It's set in the future, and this future is quite terrible. People live in a society where love and relationships are forbidden, everyone must take special drugs to block all emotions, and there are

robot police who arrest everyone who doesn't. And of course there's this one couple ... But I won't tell you what happens to them. The special effects are not as good as in new films, but it's still interesting.

2 It's really old, but you'll find it in any list of 'the greatest films ever made.' It's a comedy about people who are trying to make a film. Their film is supposed to be a silent movie at first, but then film sound is invented and they try to change it into a 'talking picture' with music. They have lots of problems and so there are a lot of funny scenes, but the best thing is the music, the songs and the absolutely amazing dancing. It's called *Singing in the Rain*.

3 It's quite long, over 90 minutes, and very beautiful. It was shot in Antarctica, but it's not all about penguins. It's mostly about people. The director, Werner Herzog, talked to different people who live and work in the polar stations to find out why they are there and what their life is like. That's why it's called *Encounters at the End of the World*. But there are also amazing shots of the landscape, and fascinating underwater shots.

4 You could say films of this kind are all the same, really ... You've seen one, you've seen them all. There's always a man and a woman, they meet, they fall in love, then there are some funny problems, but you know in the end they'll be together. No surprises. Well, in this one there's not one couple but ten! And it all happens around Christmas. It's a bit silly, but there are lots of funny scenes and very amusing dialogues. The title was *Love Actually*.

5 The plot goes like this: an American doctor, played by Harrison Ford, goes on a short visit to Paris with his wife, and his wife disappears. He thinks she's been kidnapped, but no one believes him. So he tries to find her on his own, and then – well, it gets very, very dangerous. He has to deal with gangsters, drug dealers and spies. It's really exciting, the acting is very good, and there are some interesting shots of Paris. The title is *Frantic*.

6 It's set in a hotel which is completely empty in winter, nobody goes to stay there and there are no people for miles around, just snow. A writer comes with his wife and little son because he wants peace and quiet to work on a book. And then strange things start happening. They see strange people in the hotel and we never quite know whether those people are ghosts or maybe the family are going crazy... and then it gets worse... it's the most frightening film I've ever seen. It's called *The*

Shining and it was directed by Stanley Kubrick. Oh, and it was based on a novel by Stephen King.

Track 26

Unit 7, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercise 7

- 1 The special effects are not as good as in new films, but it's still interesting.
- 2 Their film is supposed to be a silent movie at first, but then film sound is invented and they try to change it into a 'talking picture' with music.
- 3 It was shot in Antarctica, but it's not all about penguins.
- 4 It's a bit silly, but there are lots of funny scenes and very amusing dialogues.
- 5 It's really exciting, the acting is very good, and there are some interesting shots of Paris.
- 6 It's called *The Shining* and it was directed by Stanley Kubrick. Oh, and it was based on a novel by Stephen King.

Track 27

Unit 7, Language skills, Exercise 2

1
Today in the programme we focus on films that don't get prizes and aren't shown at film festivals. These films are not recommended by serious critics. They are pure entertainment. The first film is *Tread Softly*. It's light, it's amusing, it's romantic. Although the acting isn't excellent, the characters are very likeable. It is actually a very silly story but the kind of thing you could happily watch by yourself and still laugh out loud. It's not all romantic or funny, mind. There's a fantastic car chase towards the end of the film, I couldn't breathe! I won't spoil the ending for you – I do recommend you go and see it, it's fun.

2
Sarah Hi Andy.

Andy Oh, hi Sarah. How's it going?

Sarah Oh, you know ... I'm a bit bored. What's on TV tonight?

Andy Um, oh, it's Wednesday, that means the next episode of *Slowly Slowly*. Yay!

Sarah What, that TV drama? Are you actually watching that? I saw the first episode, or most of it, but it was so violent. I mean, it was horrible. I switched it off, to tell the truth.

Andy Well, yes, there are some violent scenes, but it's such a good story, and the acting is so good. I can't wait to see it tonight, it's really exciting.

Sarah Yes, but don't you think the violence is unnecessary? Why is everything on TV so miserable and frightening these days? I don't want to be entertained like that.

Andy Hmm, I know what you mean, but I don't think things used to be so very different. I think great stories, great dramas, have often had really violent parts. Look at Shakespeare's plays, they're horrific, some of them. Bodies all over the stage! The thing is, great drama has everything, it makes you feel happy, sad, frightened, excited ... Everything.

Sarah I guess you've got a point. But anyway, I'm not going to watch *Slowly Slowly* tonight. I'm going to watch something more relaxing.

Track 28

Unit 8, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercise 3

Peter's sporting life.

Our school football team played a game against Wootton School last Saturday. Our parents and schoolmates came to support us. (My Dad cycled all the way from home to the stadium!) The first half of the match went badly. My friend Alfie argued with the referee and got a yellow card. At half-time our coach talked to us. 'Wake up and fight!' he said. In the second half we tried harder. I scored a goal and so did Bobby and Tim. In the end we won 3:2. Now I'm preparing for the long distance race next weekend. Somebody asked me yesterday if I'm planning to become a professional athlete!

Track 29

Unit 8, Language skills, Exercises 3 and 4

1 I watched someone doing a bungee jump once. It was years ago. We were in New Zealand, visiting some relatives. Anyway, we saw this sign, it said 'the highest bungee jump in the world'. We thought we'd check it out. We climbed up to a really high platform, it looked out over a river. Honestly I felt sick just looking down, I tell you it was a really really long way down. Anyway while we were up there a girl actually did a jump. She paid – it was quite a lot of money, I remember – then some men strapped her in, they tested the ropes, she went to the edge and ... jumped. I couldn't watch.

2 Oh, yes, I've been abseiling in some amazing places. I like it best near the sea, when you go down cliffs, down to the beach, or rocks, you know. It isn't really so dangerous, although you do need to be careful. Always check your rope, and the rest of your equipment, especially your helmet.

A rock fell on my head once and even though I was wearing a helmet they had to send an air ambulance, you know, a helicopter, to rescue me, I was unconscious. Oh and I've hurt my ankles a few times, landing badly, but nothing serious. None of my friends are very keen on it, but I love it, and I go as often as I can.

3 I used to watch people hang gliding when I was little. We live near some hills, and in the summer, on warm days, you'd see them all climbing up to the top with their great big packs on their backs. I used to watch them unpacking it all and then getting strapped in and, whoosh, they'd just jump off the edge of the hill and ... fly! So, I always wanted to try it. It's ever so expensive, you know, but my uncle paid for some lessons for me, it was a birthday present – he's quite rich! I must say it was fantastic, I loved it. It's just the best thing, such a fantastic feeling. I hope I get the chance to do it again!

4 OK, I know sky diving looks dangerous. But honestly, if you're properly trained it isn't really. It's definitely scary, though. The first time I did it I was terrified. But there's nothing like it, it's a fantastic feeling, when you step out of the plane and then... well ... you're diving down, free as a bird, it's brilliant. Then your parachute opens and before you know it you're down. The worst part is landing, you can hurt yourself if you're not careful. It's a very expensive hobby but I love it!

Track 30

Unit 9, Language skills, Exercise 1

1
Hello everybody. Today we are talking about two extremely interesting alternative therapies, acupuncture and reflexology. Both are increasingly popular here in the UK. First, acupuncture. As you may know, it's been practised in China for more than two thousand years. The doctor, or therapist, puts needles into the patient's skin. It sounds painful but actually it doesn't usually hurt. Some extra sensitive people do feel the needles, however, and dislike this kind of treatment. On the other hand, a lot of people say that acupuncture helps with pain, for example headache or backache, and stress. They also say it helps them relax. Reflexology is said to be relaxing, too. It's a kind of massage for the feet or hands. Experts think that it was used in China and Egypt as far back as six thousand years ago. However, modern reflexology is a recent development, which began in the USA in the early twentieth century. The theory is that every part of our feet and hands reflects every part of our bodies. For example, the

tops of your toes reflect your head and neck. Now it's time for some music, and then we'll be taking your calls, so if you'd like to tell us what you think about these therapies, here's the number to call...

2

Rob Hey Cathy what's that pill? Have you got a headache or something?

Cathy No. It's homeopathic. You know I'm allergic to grass? It's for that.

Rob Oh, do you still suffer from that? Hard luck.

Cathy Yes, it's a pain. It got worse a while ago, in the summer. The doctor tried all kinds of different things and then after about a month she suggested homeopathy.

Rob Well, it's always good to try something new.

Cathy Yes... At first I only took them because my mum said I should do what the doctor suggested, but I've been taking them for about three weeks now and I actually think they're helping... Or at least they aren't making things worse...

Rob Um, I don't really know what homeopathy is... All I know is, it's a bit weird!

Cathy True!

Rob So – it's for allergies, right?

Cathy No, not only allergies. It's for lots of other things too. It isn't like normal medicine. The first difference is, the doctor chooses a treatment just for you – to suit the kind of person you are and your exact symptoms.

Rob Sounds interesting.

Cathy And the other big difference is, when homeopathic medicine is made, it's mixed with lots and lots of water, so that there is almost no medicine left at all. Nobody really knows how it works.

Rob Well, I guess that's not important if it works!

Cathy Yes, of course. IF it works! Other people say it does work, but only because the patients trust the doctor and believe it will work. You know – the power of the mind. My problem is that even if my allergy is a bit better I don't know if it's because of the pills or something different.

Track 31

Exam practice 3, Section 1

Example

Sam Ben, Ben, did you see that? United have just missed an open goal! That was terrible!

Ben Yeah, it was. What's wrong with them, Sam?

1 From the opening sentence: 'The sun came up early in El Paso and, for some, it would be the last sunrise they ever saw' all the way to the last page, it is sure to keep your attention.

2 Today, I'm talking to Dr Helen Sharp about something many of you may be worried about. Internet Addiction Disorder, or IAD. Welcome Dr Sharp.

3 I had been training for the marathon for a few months and, the day before, I was hopeful of beating my best time of three hours forty-eight minutes.

4 I'm here today to talk to you about your future. You will all soon graduate with a degree in history, and many of you are still unsure about what you will do. Well, teaching isn't your only option.

Track 32

Exam practice 3, Section 2

This animal is a symbol of the United States of America. It is a fast hunter and it catches mostly fish but it also eats small birds which live near water.

Track 33

Unit 10, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercise 1

- A** Pythagoras was a mathematician.
- B** Edmond Halley was an astronomer.
- C** Henry Cavendish was a chemist.
- D** Howard Carter was an archaeologist.
- E** Albert Einstein was a physicist.
- F** Tim Berners-Lee is a computer scientist.
- G** Jane Goodall is a biologist.

Track 34

Unit 10, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercises 2 and 3

- 1** We've all learned what he discovered about the three sides of a triangle.
- 2** He did research on various gases. He managed to produce water by burning hydrogen.
- 3** He created the theory of relativity. His work changed the way all physicists think about space, time, and matter.
- 4** He invented the Internet.
- 5** She studied the behaviour of chimpanzees in their natural environment.
- 6** Four hundred years ago he described the orbit of the comet which is named after him.

Track 35

Unit 10, Language skills, Exercise 3

1

Lucy Hey, Josh, who are you texting?

Josh Hi Lucy. I'm not texting anyone. I'm playing a game.

Lucy Oh, right. I don't like playing games on my phone. I don't know how you do it. The screen's too small.

Josh Yeah, it can be a problem, but I'm used to it. It's the only way I play really. I can carry it around in my pocket, not like my tablet – that's too big.

Lucy Oh, right. What sort of game is it? I mean, is it one of those action ones where you have to kill people?

Josh No, I don't play those, they're stupid. It's a new one, I just got it. You have to survive on a desert island, you know, you have to find food, build a house, that kind of thing.

Lucy Cool. I've got a new one too. I play it on the PC at home. You have to work out sequences, you know, numbers, shapes, patterns. It's quite hard.

Josh That sounds clever.

2

These days millions of young people use social media sites every day. We all know it's important to be careful when you're online, but, even so, let's go over a few basics.

First, privacy. Do you really want strangers, people you don't know, reading all about you and looking at your photos? So check your settings. Make sure only your friends, people you trust, can see what you post. And while we're talking about privacy, what about your parents? Of course you don't have to tell them everything you do and say, you have a right to privacy. On the other hand, perhaps you shouldn't block them completely. They are responsible for you, and they care about you. If they can see what you put on social media, they won't be so worried about you. Listen to their advice, they might not know as much about computers as you do, but they know more about life!

Next, security. That means protecting your computer from viruses and hackers. Of course you know not to click on spam emails, or to open strange attachments, but are you careful with games? Not all games are safe to download. You might get a horrible message on your screen, and it's quite common for games to carry viruses that might damage computers. Always check the website before you download.

Track 36

Unit 11, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercises 1, 2 and 3

Tom Hi Lucy, did you have a good weekend?

Lucy Not really. We went to the Grampian Mountains and the weather was terrible.

Tom Really?

Lucy Yeah, it was cloudy all the time, and quite chilly too, because of cold winds. On Saturday we wanted to climb Ben Nevis, but when we were halfway up it started raining and then snowing.

Tom What? But it's April!

Lucy I know... the snow didn't stay on the ground, it melted quickly. But where did you go?

Tom We went to Cornwall. It was perfect. There was a clear blue sky, the sun shone almost all the time. It was quite windy, but very warm. Sunday morning was a bit foggy, but it cleared later.

Track 37

Unit 11, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercise 4

Some people like to complain about the weather. When it rains, they say 'What a horrible day!' They're unhappy, when the days get short in autumn. Personally, I like the climate of my country. Thanks to the rain we've got green fields and forests with lots of wildlife. And the changing seasons are beautiful. I love it when the leaves turn yellow in October. Would those people prefer to live in a desert? Or somewhere with an active volcano and earthquakes? The only serious problem we've got here are the floods in spring.

Track 38

Unit 11, Language skills, Exercise 2

1 Oh, don't throw your plastic bottle in that bin. They don't recycle any of it. They should have separate bins for recycling here, I don't know why they don't. Do they expect people to come with their own bins, or what? But anyway, look out for a proper bin somewhere, or take it home with you.

2 Batteries, you know, should always be recycled. Please don't ever throw them into general rubbish bins. For one thing, they contain a mixture of valuable, important chemicals which can be reused. That's a good reason by itself, but there's another very important one as well. The thing is, these chemicals, if they end up in landfill sites, cause serious pollution. So, whatever you do, always recycle batteries.

3 There's a great stall in the market, they sell jewellery, you know, necklaces, bracelets ... rings

as well I think. They're all made of recycled materials. Some of the things are amazing. I go there quite often just to look, and get inspiration. I've just started to make my own jewellery in the same way and I'm really into it. My friend Jenny helps me to collect things, you know, bits of glass, buttons, all sorts of things. It's a great hobby.

4 It's amazing to think that these benches, the ones you can see here in this picture, are all made out of old plastic bags. Our old stuff can be turned into all kinds of wonderful things. So these benches are not only comfortable, hard-wearing and great to look at, they're also green! They come in a variety of sizes and colours and are particularly popular in school playgrounds and in parks. The price list is on the next page.

Track 39

Unit 12, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercise 2

1 The population of the USA is about 300 million.

2 Ottawa is the capital of Canada. Toronto is the largest city and Montreal is the largest French speaking city.

3 The national anthem of the United Kingdom is *God Save the Queen* (or *God Save the King* when there is a king). *The Star-Spangled Banner* is the national anthem of the USA.

4 The flag of Australia is dark blue with white stars and a small British flag in the corner. It is flag C. A is the flag of Ireland, B is that of India and D is Canada's.

5 At present the currency of Ireland is the euro. In the past, until 2002, it was the Irish pound.

6 Canada and Mexico have land borders with the USA.

7 The USA has the oldest constitution in the world.

8 The Republic of India is the largest democracy in the world. It has more than 1.2 billion citizens.

9 A and C. The green shamrock leaf and the yellow harp are symbols of Ireland. The red and white rose, B, is a symbol of England.

Track 40

Unit 12, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercise 4

A bad neighbourhood.

I live in an area where there's a lot of crime. Every day there's a new case of theft or vandalism. Even worse, there's also a lot of violence and aggression. One of the reasons is unemployment: many young people here can't find jobs. They have no money

and nothing to do. The government should do something about it, but politicians don't live in areas like this one, so they don't care. Recently a charity has organised training courses at our local community centre. Volunteers are teaching the unemployed young people new skills. Perhaps that will help!

Track 41

Unit 12, Vocabulary and Grammar, Exercises 5 and 6

1

I've just been at the supermarket down the road, and guess what? The security guards caught three young people stealing small electronic items. They were organised; they sort of worked as a team... Two distracted the guards and one stole the stuff.

2

A Just look what it says in the paper. Two men with guns robbed the jeweller's shop in Victoria Square yesterday evening! In our little town! It says they stole jewellery worth ten thousand pounds!

B Oh dear. Was anyone hurt?

3

You know what happened to me last Monday? I was travelling on the underground, it was quite crowded, and someone pushed against me... and when I got off the train, my wallet was gone! It had been stolen! I only had ten pounds in it, but it was quite a shock!

4

Have you heard? Someone broke into our neighbour's house last night. The alarm was switched off, they broke a window and stole the TV, a laptop, some other electronic items and some cash from a box. And Mr and Mrs Jones were sleeping upstairs and didn't notice anything!

Track 42

Unit 12, Language skills, Exercise 1

1

I was walking down the street with Becky. It was really busy, lots of people everywhere, you know, the pavement was really crowded. There was lots of traffic going past so we couldn't actually walk on the road, but we were right next to it. It was really noisy, with cars and motor bikes roaring past. Anyway, we were talking about where to go next, we were arguing actually, when suddenly somebody on the other side of the road screamed, and, well, then she sat down right there on the pavement. We crossed over and when we got closer I saw that she was shaking, and her face was

white as a sheet. What had happened, was, someone on a motorbike had snatched her bag, while she was walking along. She was carrying it over her shoulder. He just pulled it off her, he didn't stop, it was a really dangerous thing to do. The thing is, I hadn't seen it happen, and neither had Becky. It all happened so fast. I felt so sorry for the woman, it was such a shock. Anyway, someone called the police, and she had a friend with her, so there wasn't much we could do, so we carried on. I'll tell you what, though, I'm always really careful with my bag now, and you should be too!

2

Amy What are you doing on Sunday, Rob? Are you busy?

Rob Hi Amy, yes, I am. I'm doing a charity bike ride! Didn't I tell you?

Amy No, I don't think so. Is it the one that Katie's doing? For homeless people?

Rob Yes, that's right. It's a really good cause. Are you sponsoring Katie?

Amy Yes, I am. 50p a kilometre.

Rob Oh well I won't ask you to sponsor me, then.

Amy Thanks. I couldn't really afford it. I mean, if Katie does the whole thing it'll be £10, that's a lot.

Rob Yes, it is. It's really generous. Good for you. Why aren't you doing it, anyway?

Amy I haven't got a bike! Well, I have, but it's falling to pieces.

Rob Oh, right. Well, maybe we could meet up afterwards. There's a good film on, I think.

Amy Oh, that new comedy? Great idea. Cool.

Track 43

Exam practice 4, Section 2

The area we live in is OK, quiet and green, with some good shops. And we've got really good next-door neighbours. They're always friendly and helpful and their daughters are the same age as me.

Track 44

Exam practice 4, Section 3

Ladies and gentlemen, today I want to talk about crime in our area and what can be done about it. We have just had the figures for April which show that there were thirty-eight crimes here that month. Of these, only seven people were caught and four of these were punished.

Although generally this is quite a safe area, if criminals think they won't get caught, they may commit more crimes or other criminals may move here. One of the biggest problems is the working

time of police officers. If the police catch someone, they have to spend about two and a half days in the office writing reports instead of going back on the streets. This is why we are making some changes in the way we work. From now on, all police officers will spend at least seven hours a day on the street. Any reports will be recorded onto tape and typed up by secretaries. This way we can spend our time, fighting crime.

Track 45

Exam practice 4, Section 3

And now let's see what the weather is going to be like tomorrow. In the north we're going to have more rain. Don't worry, this rainy weather will not stay long. As you can see, in the west the situation looks better, with no rain at all, just sun and clear sky. The temperature will reach 23 degrees centigrade. In central Poland it will be quite chilly at night but in the morning the sun will start shining and it will be nice and warm, with the temperatures reaching 20 degrees. Unfortunately, in the east after a stormy night, the morning is going to be foggy. Drive carefully, please. And finally, the south. There won't be any clouds or rain, but strong winds are going to blow all day. Walks in the mountains are definitely not a good idea. That's all from me. Please stay with us for sports news coming up next with Dougie Mayer...

Track 46

Sample exam paper, Section 1

Example

A So, are you ready for me to take your order?

B Hmm I'm not sure yet. What kind of soup do you have today?

1

Sophie Hi Marie, where are you going?

Marie Oh, hi Sophie. I'm going to the supermarket. I need some ingredients for a recipe I saw on that TV show, you know, Cookalong – did you see it last night?

2 He hates it when students behave badly! The other day, for example, he called a special assembly for the whole school and warned us that he would punish bullying severely. He means it, too! We're all quite scared of him actually.

3 Well, it's difficult isn't it? They're all so lovely. Let's try them all on, shall we? Come on then, let's go over to the changing rooms ...

4 JK Rowling apparently came up with the entire plot of Harry Potter while she was sitting on a

train. She wanted to be a writer. Ideas were already in her head, even if she didn't know it. Then, she got on a train, relaxed a bit, and whoosh it all came together.

5 Good morning, madam. May I see your driving licence and the car documents, please. Do you know what speed you were doing as you came round the corner just now?

6 David, I'd like to talk to you about your test result. I can see you'd revised well for it. You got maximum marks on the first question and nine out of ten on the second. That was really well done; it was a difficult question.

7 We left Lincoln and moved to Hull last month. - The city isn't so nice but the school is better. I just miss my old friends.

8 There are lots of great things about living here. There's always something going on, and it's easy to get around, although it can take a long time, and the underground is expensive – so are the buses, actually.

9 I hate asking for time off when I'm sick. Not because I'm worried about my workmates. They don't have to work any harder when I'm off so that's fine.

10 Dear listeners, our today's topic is violence in the streets. My next guest is Dr James Renderson, a psychologist. Can psychology help us deal with muggings?

Track 47

Sample exam paper, Section 2

As a careers advisor, I can tell you that a degree in history can open many doors for you. The options are very interesting and quite varied. An obvious choice is a career working in museums.

Track 48

Sample exam paper, Section 3

The new Edge Hill Shopping Centre is now open. With 120 shops, 6 restaurants, 5 cafés, a cinema and a children's play area, the Edge Hill Shopping Centre is the biggest shopping centre in this area and the third biggest in the country. All the cafés and restaurants have free wi-fi access. We also have a new idea for children and teenagers. A 'learning centre' where all school age children from 5 to 18 can read books, watch documentary films and use computers. You can't use the Internet here but we have a lot of special educational computer programmes. There are also quiet work rooms

where you can do homework or read. Children under 12 must have an adult with them at all times. The learning centre is free to use but you must join first. There is also free parking for over 2000 cars and 1200 of these places are in our underground car park.

The shopping centre is open from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. from Mondays to Saturdays and from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sundays. There is also a free shopper's bus which leaves the Edge Hill railway station every half hour. The new Edge Hill Shopping Centre. Where shopping is fun for all the family.

Track 49

Sample exam paper, Section 3

Here we are on the Champs Élysées in the centre of Paris standing right in front of the Eiffel Tower, one of the most famous monuments in the world. Almost seven million tourists visit this tower every year. It is named after the designer, Gustave Eiffel, and dates back to 1889. Today, it is over 125 years old! The tower is 320 metres tall – the tallest structure in the world until 1930. It is made of iron and there are 18,000 metallic parts. It weighs around 10,000 tonnes. The tower is painted every seven years – yes, that's right! And guess how much paint they use each time? Fifty tonnes of paint! OK, so let's start to go in. The entrance tickets cost fifteen euros. Who wants to climb to the top? There are 1,665 steps! OK, if you want a challenge, you can climb the stairs to the second level. It's 115 metres above the ground. From the second floor you can go up in the glass lift and travel 180 metres up to the third level. It's worth it – the views are fantastic!