19:24

Practice Test 1

1. Track 1 1 01:11

- W: This is a great Halloween party, Sam. I just love dressing up! I'm having a great time.
- M: Thank you for coming, Karen. I'm glad you're having fun. I love all the costumes! I'm wondering if you have seen Frank. He should be here by now.
- W: Don't you recognize him? He's standing next to the
- M: Oh, there he is-in the cape, talking to Craig.
- W: No, that's not him. That's Raymond. He's supposed to be Dracula. Frank's standing next to the witch. He's also dressed up like a pirate.
- M: But there are two people dressed like pirates, Karen. I can't figure out which one is Frank.
- W: He's holding a sword in his hand, and he is wearing a striped sweater.
- M: Does he have a mustache?
- W: No, but he is wearing shoes and jeans.
- M: Oh, right! I see him now! I never would've known it was him if you weren't here to point him out.

2. Track 2 / 00:34

- M: Hi, I think I'm lost. Can you tell me where I can find the sports stadium?
- W: I'd be happy to.
- M: I'm supposed to meet my friend there for the baseball game, and I don't know my way around.
- W: No problem. First, you go east on 8th Avenue. There's a church on your left.
- M: Is the church across from the gas station?
- W: No, It's on the corner, next to the newsstand.
- M: Oh, I see it now, across from the car wash?
- W: Yeah, exactly. Then, go south on Bell Street. You go straight until you see the gym on the southeast corner. The gym is at the intersection of Bell Street and 7th Avenue.
- M: Is the gym between the grocery store and the sports stadium?
- W: No, the gym is next to the nail salon. Next, go east on 7th Avenue. The sports stadium will be on the south corner across from the grocery store.
- M: Great! Thank you for the directions.
- W: Don't mention it. Have fun at the game!

3. Track 3 () 00:38

W: This movie is an animation. The main character in this movie believes he's the fastest in the hive. He lives amongst hundreds of others like him, and their daily duty is to produce as much honey as possible in order to keep the hive working efficiently. Rules and routine are an extremely important part of their lives. These two things allow

the bees to work effectively and in unison in order to have a successful hive. This particular bee is always trying to compete against his brothers and sisters. He thinks he is Superman and believes that if he works alone, he could get things done faster. The other workers begin to grow tired of his arrogant attitude. He is mean, rude, and selfish. His mother warns him of his terrible behavior and tries to make him understand that if he keeps treating his family and friends the way he does, he will lose everyone who is important to him. Things begin to fall apart in the bee hive when the main character refuses to work together with the other bees to save the hive. After being isolated from all he ever knew, he comes to realize the importance of family, friends, and teamwork.

4. Track 4 00:36

- W: Are you almost finished drinking your coffee, Paul? We have to get going if we are going to make it to the movie by six o'clock.
- M: But it's only one o'clock. We have plenty of time before the movie.
- W: Not really. We need to get to the theater at least an hour early so we can buy our tickets. I heard that the six o'clock showing is probably going to be sold out tonight.
- M: OK. Well, why don't we stop by the theater before we go to the mall?
- W: Well, the box office doesn't open until five o'clock, so we can't go there first.
- M: Oh, that's right. So, do you have a certain order for the errands we need to run?
- W: Yes, as a matter of fact. First, we have to drive over to Aunt Betty's house to pick up her mail. Then, I want to go to the mall and look for a new pair of sandals.
- M: Don't you need to go to the jewelry store to see if you can get the battery replaced on your watch, too?
- W: Yes, but the jewelry store is right next to the theater, and they stay open until nine o'clock. I'll drop my watch off there before the movie and then pick it up on our way home afterward.
- M: OK, let's get going. When you shop for shoes, it usually takes you at least three hours to find the
- W: Hey! Don't worry. We'll have plenty of time—if we leave right now!

5. Track 5 () 00:34

M: James is a very negative person. He always expects the worst to happen in any given situation. No matter what happens, he always has something bad to say. For example, his friend, Jenny, tried to congratulate him on his new job, which was a

great improvement from his last one. He thanked her, but then he went on and on about the cons of working for his new company. He complained about the commute to work and the view from his office window, even though at his last job, he didn't even have an office. Because of his attitude, James does not have many friends. He spends many nights by himself. If he were a little more positive about life, more people would hang out with him.

6. Track 6 () 00:32

- M: Joining me today is Ms. Taylor, the creator of mega-hit books such as Why Her and Not Me? and Is it Me You're Looking For? Good morning, Ms. Taylor. So, tell us a little bit about the book, Together Again?
- W: Good morning, Martin. Well, this book is very close to my heart, and it's based on a true story. It's one of the most romantic stories I have ever heard. It's about a man who is much older than his true love. Their love is just not enough to keep them together. He rejects the love of his soul mate and breaks her heart. They both move on to live separate lives. When the man's wife dies, he goes on a quest to find his true love from the past. Forty years later, they reunite, and they are together again.
- M: Wow, how sad and romantic.
- W: Indeed.
- M: When does the book come out?
- W: What's the date today?
- M: Today is Monday, February first.
- W: It comes out in a couple of weeks, on February fourteenth, Valentine's Day.
- M: Ms. Taylor, thank you for joining us today.
- W: It's my pleasure.

7. Track 7 00:33

- M: Hi. I'd really appreciate it if you could give me information about placing a classified ad in your magazine.
- W: OK, I'd be happy to help you. What do you want to
- M: Well, I'm advertising a bungalow on the tropical island of St. Vincent.
- W: OK. Well, if you want to place an ad that's under 100 words, it's twenty dollars per week, and ads over 100 words are thirty dollars per week.
- M: That price is better than I expected. My ad's going to be about 150 words all together.
- W: That's no problem, we can do that.
- M: Is there tax? If so, what will the total cost be?
- W: There is no tax, but there's a flat rate of ten dollars for classified ads placed in the weekend edition.

- When would you like to advertise?
- M: Monday through Friday.
- W: Great. How long would you like your classified ad to run?
- M: Two weeks.
- W: OK, very good. Just give me a moment to figure out your total.

8. Track 8 / 00:34

- W: Hey, Joe! You didn't mention you were leaving work early. Don't you feel well?
- M: I feel just fine, Martha. In fact, I've never felt better. But I'm leaving, and I don't think I'm ever coming
- W: What do you mean? I think you just need a break. This job can be quite exhausting.
- M: I don't need a break. I need a change. I am tired of this 9 to 5 job. I've decided to do something I've always dreamed of.
- W: What are you talking about?
- M: Well, I'm getting older, and it's now or never if I ever want to...
- W: If you ever want to what?
- M: Become a musician. I've been in a band for months. On the weekends, we play from dusk 'til dawn. What do you think of my new career?
- W: You'll never make it. The city is cruel, and there are too many bands out there that are also trying to make it.
- M: You are so pessimistic!

9. Track 9 00:38

- W: You should read this article. I think you would really enjoy it. It's really interesting.
- M: What's it about?
- W: It talks about how television isn't just entertainment. It actually makes people smarter.
- M: I disagree. Have you seen what's on lately? Nothing but situation comedies and reality shows. Television nowadays isn't exactly educational. It's complete junk.
- W: That's not true. It's just that when we watch television, we're having so much fun that we forget we're actually doing some pretty complicated thinking.
- M: I'm not convinced.
- W: You know that new show you always watch about the secret agent who's always trying to solve the crime? He always catches the suspect before the show is over. Well, just to understand the plot, you have to use a lot of brain power.
- M: Maybe you're right about the plot. Everything isn't explained right away.



- W: Exactly. Viewers have to be smart enough to make certain connections themselves.
- M: Wow, I never thought of it that way.
- W: Makes you think twice about television shows, huh?

10. Track 10 / 00:48

M: Many people fantasize about leaving the familiarity of their home country and starting a new life in a new exciting place. They feel bored and believe that a new adventure will satisfy the emptiness they feel. However, more often than not, the experience is not as romantic as some imagine it will be. On the one hand, the experience can be quite fulfilling, but most likely, the experience can leave them feeling like there's a barrier that's keeping them from feeling comfortable in their new home. This can be terrifying since everything they know from their home country is no longer familiar in their new country. For example, food, language, and cultural values are no longer what they know. A lot of people feel homesick after the initial excitement of a new place has worn off. One solution to feeling more at home is to introduce themselves to people in the neighborhood and visit the same coffee shop or grocery store everyday so that people will recognize them. It won't happen overnight, but eventually, they'll find themselves feeling more confident in their new surroundings.

11. Track 11 () 00:38

- M: Thank you for coming shopping with me, Sandy. So, what do you think I should get Corin as a birthday gift?
- W: When is her birthday?
- M: Her birthday is April fifteenth.
- W: Hmm, I don't know. She's a tough cookie to shop for. Is she a real party animal? You could get her a dress. Look at that party dress.
- M: No, not really. She's more of a couch potato. I was thinking of getting her something more personal, like a nice set of embroidered handkerchiefs. What do you think?
- W: Handkerchiefs? Who uses handkerchiefs anymore?
- M: Am I being too old-fashioned?
- W: Definitely. What about a sweater?
- M: Those sweaters do look nice. How about the one with the animal print?
- W: Animal print? No, I like the blue one better, and it's on sale!
- M: You know what? I'll just give her money. After all, she's a big shopper.

12. Track 12 () 00:34

W: Many people prefer to drink bottled water instead of water from the tap. People believe bottled water is more convenient due to its portability. People also believe that it is safer. They believe that bottled water does not have the harmful chemicals and bacteria left over from the preparation process of tap water. Although most bottled water companies claim that their product comes from the purest glaciers or most remote mountain streams, most bottled water comes from city sources. The water is later filtered and mixed with minerals. Tap water is often safer than bottled water because it is more strictly and routinely tested to prevent contamination. As for taste, studies show that the vast majority of people cannot tell the difference between bottled water and tap water. While consumers feel that bottled water is healthier for them, the environmental problems that have to do with its production are alarming.

13. Track 13 / 00:34

W: Throughout history, waving a white flag in the midst of a battle is a universal symbol for surrender that has persisted over hundreds of years. Historians believe that this tradition could have originated from the Eastern Han Dynasty of China. The color white was chosen for practical concerns. First, white cloth was more plentiful in the ancient world because artificial dyes were not yet available, and dying cloths was a time-consuming process. Historians also believe that one of the most obvious reasons the flag remained a popular symbol of surrender through the ages was because the color white would not be confused with the different types of colored banners national armies carried into battle. Although ancient soldiers in both the East and the West used the white flag to admit defeat, historians don't believe the coincidence was a product of cultural exchange. Rather, they think that the tradition developed independently in both parts of the world. To this day, lifting one's arm overhead with a white flag in hand admits defeat.

14. Track 14 () 00:34

- M: Last night, Hailey told me that she's moving from the city to the suburbs. I thought she liked her apartment downtown. It's so spacious.
- W: Well, she does like it. She wants to live somewhere with cheaper rent. I guess she didn't tell you.
- M: Tell me what?
- W: Hailey lost her job.

- M: Lost her job? But she loved being a tour guide for the city. It's too bad that she has to move. Her apartment is near all public transportation, the grocery store, and the shopping mall. The suburbs are so far away!
- W: I know. I told her that she would be in the middle of nowhere and completely isolated from all her friends. I think she is really struggling to pay her rent.
- M: Well, you know what they say, "Don't bite off more than you can chew." If she can't afford the lifestyle, she is better off moving to a cheaper place. When is she moving?
- W: I think she's moving the week after next.
- M: Wow! That's soon.
- W: Yeah, she's pretty upset about it, too.

15. Track 15 00:35

- M: Something's wrong with my computer again. I wish I could afford to buy a new one.
- W: You sound pretty annoyed. You've had that computer for only six months. What are you going to do?
- M: I haven't decided yet.
- W: Well, what seems to be the problem?
- M: This morning, I tried to open a paper I worked on last night, and I could not find it. I had to go back to square one.
- W: That's awful. Are you sure you didn't forget the name of the file?
- M: No, I knew the name of the file. It's just that for some reason, the computer won't save anything. I have no idea how to fix it.
- W: You should see if you can return it.
- M: I wish I could fix it myself.
- W: Why don't you send your document to your email? Then you can access it whenever you want.
- M: That's a good idea.

16. Track 16 00:35

- W: (a) In 1995, the percentage of the population aged 75-84 and 85 and over was the same.
 - (b) Almost six percent of the population was aged 65-74 in 2005.
 - © In 2006, the percentage of the population aged 65-74 was the same as it was in 2005.
 - Trom 1985-1995, the percentage of people aged 75-84 remained under 10 percent.
 - (e) The percentage of the population aged 85 and over will increase from 2015-2025.

17. Track 17 00:35

- (a) M: I can't find the television remote anywhere. I've been looking for hours. Do you know where it is?
 - W: Did you look under the couch?

- M: That movie was really awful. It may have been the worst movie that I've ever seen.
 - W: Yeah, I wasn't pleased with it either. Whatever you do, don't recommend this movie to anyone.
- © M: I think I'm going to buy that dress after all. It looked so nice on me. Also, I really need some new clothes.
 - W: It takes to long to get there.
- M: You should come with us to the concert. It's going to be like a big party. It will be a lot of fun.
 - W: No thanks. I don't care for his music. I think it's awful.
- (e) M: He won't be finished for at least an hour. That's way too long to wait. Why don't you come back later?
 - W: That's all right. We can wait for him. We'll just hang out in the lounge.

18. Track 18 / 00:36

- M: I think I'm going to have to cancel that presentation for the day after tomorrow. I'm going to Ontario, and I won't be back in time to give the talk.
- W: The faculty was really looking forward to it. They're going to be very disappointed. What are you going to Ontario for anyway?
- M: It's my parents' wedding anniversary, and we are planning a big surprise party.
- W: How many years have they been married?
- M: Well, they got married December 19th, 1977. So, thirty one years.
- W: Wow! That's great! When are you leaving?
- M: I'm leaving on Tuesday.
- W: That's in a couple of days.
- M: I know. Good thing winter break is coming up.
- W: Oh, yeah, I forgot about that. Are you driving there?
- M: No way! It takes way too long. Actually, I'm going to the travel agency to pick up my ticket. I'm flying there. By the way, can you give me a ride to the airport?
- W: Sure, I'd love to.

19. Track 19 () 00:38

- W: Hi, my name is Anna, and I'll be your waitress today. I see you already have menus. Can I take your order?
- M: Yeah, we were just looking at the menu, but we haven't decided yet. Do you have any specials tonight?
- W: Yes, tonight we mainly have two specials: the dill roasted fish or pork chops. These are both the chef's favorite entrées. Both meals come with your choice of steamed asparagus, green salad, or crab salad.
- M: They both sound delicious! I think I'll have the crab salad instead of the green salad or vegetable side dish, but I'm not sure which entrée to get. What do you recommend?
- W: I highly recommend the pork. It's really tender.



- M: Then I guess I'll have the pork chops with orange
- W: Sorry, we don't have orange juice, but we have herbal iced tea.
- M: Oh, no thanks! Well, what about fountain drinks?
- W: Yeah, we've got coke.
- M: Perfect, we'll take two cokes.
- W: Is there anything else I can get for you?
- M: Actually, can you bring me a clean fork? I accidentally knocked this one onto the floor when we sat down.

20. Track 20 () 00:52

- M: I am having a hard time finding a book for my book
- W: Well, what kinds of books do you like to read?
- M: I generally like horror, action, and adventure. But the book has to be new—something I haven't read before.
- W: I just finished a biography of a man who traveled around the world giving performances with puppets.
- M: That sounds interesting, but I want to read something fictional, like a fantasy novel.
- W: You mean you want to read about wizards and that sort of thing?
- M: I remember this one book about a magical city where everyone was able to see the future. It was really cool, but I can't remember what it was called.
- W: I don't usually read stuff like that.
- M: You're really missing out.
- W: You should just go to the bookstore and ask them about popular fantasy books.
- M: That's a good idea. Maybe I'll go and look today.

21. Track 21 00:35

- M: Could you please watch my dog next week? I'm going out of town for Thanksgiving weekend. My entire family will be there, and I can't take him
- W: I don't know. The last time I agreed to watch your dog, it was a disaster. He doesn't know how to behave properly in someone else's home.
- M: Please, I'm desperate. All of the kennels I've called
- W: I just don't know if I can. My neighbors are still giving me a hard time from last time.
- M: Your neighbors were just overreacting.
- W: Your dog chased cars, barked all night for two weeks, and almost bit my landlord.
- M: That's only because he was frightened about being in a new place.
- W: I just don't think I can agree to do this. My neighbors were furious.
- M: I understand. I don't know what I'm going to do.

- W: Maybe my friend Emily can watch him. She lives on a farm, and there's lots of space there, so your dog won't bother anyone.
- M: That would be perfect!

22. Track 22 () 00:40

M: Many people assume that in order to paint using the concepts of color and perspective, an artist must be able to see. There is a blind artist named Esref Armagan, who has challenged this assumption. Color and perspective are important technical characteristics that make two-dimensional images appear life-like. Esref Armagan has been blind since birth, and he cannot see what he paints, and yet he uses both concepts expertly. Neurologists have determined that the artist is able to "see" the scenes he paints using the same part of his brain sighted people do—the visual cortex. Although many people would expect blindness to render this part of the brain unused, while he was drawing, Esref Armagan's visual cortex showed intense activity during a brain scan. It seems that instead of staying idle due to his blindness, Esref Armagan's visual cortex simply adapted to his needs, allowing him to _____

23. Track 23 00:36

- M: I have my lunch break right now, so let's go out to
- W: Sure, that sounds like a great idea. I'm starving.
- M: Let's try that new restaurant on Forty-second Street.
- W: No, let's go to Martin's Pizzeria instead.
- M: But we eat there every day. Aren't you tired of eating the same thing?
- W: Well, I just don't want any surprises. We only have an hour for lunch, and if we don't like the food, we won't have enough time to get something else.
- M: Well, I've heard a lot of good things about the new restaurant. It's not expensive, and it's not as far as Martin's Pizzeria.
- W: Hmm, I don't know. I haven't really heard anything about it.
- M: Oh, come on! Martin's Pizzeria is always overcrowded at this time of day, and the waiters are rude. Let's just try something new today. If we don't like it, at least we'll know for sure.
- W: Oh, all right. But tomorrow we eat at the pizzeria, OK?

24. Track 24 () 00:38

- M: I can't believe the final examination is this Thursday.
- W: Me neither. I feel really stressed about it. It's worth so much of our grade.

- M: I know. I've been studying from the time I wake up until the time I have to make dinner!
- W: I'm sure you'll do fine. Have you looked through all of your notes?
- M: Yeah, but I had a fever the day before yesterday, and I'm afraid I might have missed something really important.
- W: Let me think... I think we went over Chapter 17 that day. We talked about the causes and effects of earthquakes, volcano eruptions, and avalanches.
- M: I don't have any notes on Chapter 17. I'm going to have to read that tonight.
- W: Well, I can give you my notes from that day if you want. I think he told us a few things that weren't in the book
- M: Thanks. That's very nice of you.
- W: No problem.

25. Track 25 () 00:00

M: Unlike most other animals, snakes shed their skin on a regular basis, and the frequency of this shedding depends on factors such as activity level, diet, and environmental temperature. Shedding is also related to hormonal control, and it's associated with growth. Many snakes discard the outer layer of their skin about once a month, but younger snakes shed more often than older snakes because they grow faster in their first year of life. Just as humans outgrow clothing, snakes outgrow their skin as their bodies increase in size. Stress and sickness are associated with difficulty of shedding in an unbroken layer and, in turn, delay shedding. Shedding is also a way for these reptiles to get rid of any parasites. During this important period, a snake may become unpredictable due to its impaired vision. Humans, too, shed skin but lose only individual cells. Snakes on the other hand, shed their skin as one unbroken layer, unless the snake has injuries to its skin or scales, resulting in scarring. Imagine if humans shed their skin as one unbroken layer every month! That would make life very interesting.

26. Track 26 () 00:34

W: Looking at the weather forecast, you will notice that today will be another chilly day, so be sure to put on your turtleneck sweater, earmuffs, scarf, and boots. The weather will be overcast with a 90 percent chance of precipitation. That's a high chance for a rainy day, but don't worry because there is no chance of a flood occurring any time soon. Be aware that due to low temperatures, there is also a chance of hail, and there's definitely some lightning on the way. The temperature will reach a high of 30 degrees and a low of 7 degrees. However, it looks like there is some good news for those of you traveling during this marvelous holiday weekend; the wet, icy conditions which have made commuting around the city difficult and dangerous are predicted to subside. Saturday will be clear and sunny with a high of 45 degrees and a low of 10 degrees, and Sunday will be windy but slightly warmer with a high of 50 and a low of 12 degrees.

27. Track 27 () 00:00

M: Many people in the world hope to become famous in their lifetime. They believe that if they achieve celebrity status, their lives will suddenly become exciting and perfect. People imagine what it would be like to be admired by thousands of adoring fans and to have wealth that affords them any luxury. Still, anyone who watches television or reads gossip magazines knows that there are many problems that come with fame. For example, the personal lives of the rich and famous are not always happy. Celebrity couples often endure heartache and humiliation in front of millions of viewers as their names and personal business get dragged across the pages of trendy magazines and gossip shows. Many celebrities complain that they would like to live normal, private lives away from the eyes of the public. They feel that they, too, are normal and need to mourn, laugh, cry, or celebrate in private. Fame has its own difficulties, and the lives of celebrities are far from perfect.

28. Track 28 / 00:00

- M: (a) "Is everyone all right?" Aban inquired after the elevator suddenly stopped. "Are we safe?" Rebecca asked, pressing the button that was supposed to open the doors. Unexpectedly, nothing happened. "Maybe one of my intelligent colleagues will realize that the elevator's broken and seek some assistance," said Rebecca, who stayed optimistic.
 - (b) Joe and Aban, who were currently employed on the tenth floor, scrambled into the tiny elevator before it closed. At the same time, Elizabeth, Yanamura, and Rebecca, who all worked on the twenty-third floor, talked quietly amongst themselves. They ascended until a horrible clanging sent them free falling.
 - © Yanamura, aiming to keep everyone's spirits lifted while they patiently waited for assistance, told several stories making everyone chuckle despite the frightening situation. Even Yanamura's easy-going demeanor became doubtful as hours passed without any sign that they would ever be rescued. "We've been here for hours. We've got to figure

out a plan!" she finally shouted. "Let's give it until 5 p.m.," Joe said, putting his cellular phone back into his pocket. Rebecca glared at him ferociously while the remainder of the group shook their heads in disbelief. "He is completely unbelievable!" exclaimed Rebecca.

29. Track 29 / 00:55

- (a) W: If the government restricts the information that is broadcast through television, radio, and print, people won't always be fully informed about the daily events of society. A large amount of news is dramatically unpleasant, yet being informed helps us understand the world around us. We need all available information so that we can make educated decisions and have reasonable opinions based on facts, not assumptions.
- (b) M: Freedom of expression is a right that all people should have. People must be able to regard all sides of a situation, even if it's incredibly offensive to some, so that no one's ever silenced. The choice to avoid hearing or seeing something should be left up to the individual. What's greatly distasteful to one person is often artistic or interesting to the next, and the government can't police the tastes of a nation.
- © W: The word "censorship" is often affiliated with a negative connotation. Censorship is used by the government to protect its citizens. Some information is important, and if too many people know about it, it can be dangerous. Some information must remain secret until the government has decided to confirm a plan of action to keep everyone safe from whatever the threat is.
- d M: Government censorship of the media is something that is necessary for homeland security. The media try to report as much information to the public as they can, but sometimes, that information can be harmful in the long run. For example, if the news reports on the types of bombs that terrorists are using and how those bombs are made, they are essentially telling everyone how to make those bombs. Thus, more people could potentially create the bombs and use them to harm innocent people.

30. Track 30 00:38

W: Two brothers, John and Jeremy, decided to go on a road trip through the desert. Their goal was to reach their final destination: the city in which they were born, Madrid. Although the men were related, they couldn't have been more different. For example, John was twice as old as Jeremy, was horrible with organization, and had zero patience. John believed the journey would be quick and efficient, so he didn't pack many supplies. Neither did he pay attention to his essential belongings, allowing his canteen of water to spill onto the ground while they walked. Jeremy's perspective of his older brother was masked by Jeremy's natural regard for responsibility, and the two siblings would often argue and become annoyed with each other. In an effort to rebuild their relationship, they chose to participate in this joint venture. On their journey, John delved into his sandwich, chips, and donuts almost immediately. Jeremy rationed only what he needed and was diligent with his water supply. As the men traveled, John found himself in an uncomfortable situation without any essential supplies. Jeremy sensed his sibling's discomfort, yet disregarded it. After all, it was his fault for being so careless with his supplies.



Practice Test 2

1. Track 31 00:41

- W: I have to admit, I'm really nervous about this. I've never been on a blind date.
- M: That's why we're just going to hang out with a big group at the game.
- W: I wish you'd shown me what Jake looked like so I'd at least have an idea of who to look for.
- M: It's more fun this way. He's one of the guys standing over near the T-shirt booth. Guess which one he is.
- W: Oh, all right. Is he the guy by the cash register with the cowboy hat?
- M: No. He's in that area of the store, though.
- W: OK. Is he the one with the trench coat, who looks like he wants to get out of here?
- M: Good guess, but no. I'll give you a hint: he doesn't have a beard.
- W: Is it the fellow with shorts on?
- M: No, and you've only got a few choices left. There aren't that many guys over there.
- W: Please tell me it's the muscular guy in the suit. He's pretty cute!
- M: You're exactly right! I knew you'd find him attractive. Let's go meet him.

2. Track 32 00:38

- W: I'm so glad you came out for our scavenger hunt today! In order to win the prize, you'll have to gather clues from three different places.
- M: That seems easy enough. Where do we go first?
- W: All the clues are in the same neighborhood. This is the starting point. You'll take a left onto Copper, and then take the first right you come to.

- M: That'll be Silver, right?
- W: Yeah. You'll see a pet groomer's store and a coffee shop across the street from each other on the corner of Gold and Silver.
- M: So there's a clue in the pet groomer's and a clue in the coffee shop?
- W: Exactly. Start at the pet groomer's, which will be on your left. Then, head to the coffee shop across the street. After you've gotten those clues, head east on Gold until you come to a car wash on your left. It's the building in the middle of the block.
- M: So the last clue is somewhere inside that car wash?
- W: Yes. The first person to make it back to the starting point with all three clues will win today's prize. If there are no other questions, let's get started!
- M: No questions... let's go!

3. Track 33 () 00:37

M: This is an exciting story of a conflict between man and alien. The main character in the movie is inspiring and brave and is a rescuer that does what he can to rid the world of super powerful aliens. His task is not an easy one, and the agents of evil try to keep him from succeeding. These aliens are difficult to differentiate between good and evil because they can change from an ordinary shape into a shooting, speeding enemy in the blink of an eye. Even against these odds, the main character is likely to succeed because he has the power and strength of an army, and in the midst of the chaos from trying to save the world from destruction, he struggles to show a beautiful girl the way he feels about her. In this tale of a battle that began many years ago in a region of space we've not yet explored, his courage and strength will be put to the test.

4. Track 34 () 00:34

- W: We really need to be going if we are going to get to your dentist appointment on time.
- M: Relax, Mom. We've got plenty of time.
- W: Actually, we are going to be late if we don't leave in the next few minutes.
- M: I thought my appointment wasn't until 2:45.
- W: I changed it to 2:00. We have a thirty-five minute drive in this foggy weather, and we still need to pick up those plants at the nursery.
- M: Even with all of that, I have another fifteen minutes before I have to be ready. I still need to change out of this old T-shirt.
- W: You look fine. We need to leave now. I told you last night that we also had to stop by the amusement park to meet your dad.

- M: You really think stopping at an amusement park is only going to take fifteen minutes?
- W: Yes. Your dad just wants to quickly introduce us to
- M: I guess you have a point.
- W: Thanks for recognizing that. Now, grab your flip flops, and put them on in the car.

5. Track 35 00:33

M: Alex's parents aren't sure what to do with him. Ever since he started high school, his attitude has been terrible. He just doesn't care about anything. He doesn't show any emotion, whether happy or sad. His parents have been trying to get him interested in activities at school, but he always says that he doesn't care. Last month was the homecoming dance. All of his classmates went to it, but Alex stayed home and watched TV. His parents thought that he just might need a fun vacation to help change his attitude. So, they planned a trip to Hawaii. When they told him about the trip, he just shrugged his shoulders and said, "Whatever." He was not excited at all! His parents were shocked that he did not show any sign of interest or emotion about going to Hawaii.

6. Track 36 () 00:33

- W: I'm very pleased to see you here today. The way things went last week, I didn't know if you'd come back.
- M: It was a rough time, but I don't guit that easily.
- W: That's a good, honest attitude to have.
- M: If I want to continue to be a firefighter, I have to keep working hard.
- W: You're exactly right. I tell everyone else that the first few sessions are the hardest.
- M: I tried doing some of the exercises at home, like you suggested.
- W: Did they get easier to do after a few repetitions?
- M: Yes, though my knee is still really stiff.
- W: That's pretty normal, especially after an injury like yours. You should be thankful you didn't need surgery.
- M: I never dreamed that one wrong turn in soccer could land me on the injured list for the rest of the year. Before this happened, I never realized how lucky I was to be healthy.
- W: Well, I'm confident you'll be fighting fires, and we'll have you back out on the field with a strong knee in no time!

7. Track 37 () 00:34

W: Welcome to Gentle Jewelry. Can I help you?



- M: I need something for my sister. She turns sixteen the week after next.
- W: OK. Did you have something in mind?
- M: She likes silver, and I want to have some words engraved on it.
- W: Let me show you these necklaces. They're new this year and very popular, and they're on sale.
- M: Nice. What is the sale price?
- W: Well, the ones with the pendants are \$45 without the chain, \$60 with the chain. We also have these nice earrings on sale for \$50. If you buy the matching rings, I can give you the discounted price of \$70.
- M: Ooh, that's more than I'm able to spend. What about this silver bracelet with the heart charm? I think she'd really like it. Can I get it engraved?
- W: That's a great pick. It's \$25, and it will be no problem to have it engraved. Engraving does cost extra,
- M: I'd like the engraving to say, "To my favorite little sister." How much will it cost to have that engraved
- W: It will be an additional five dollars.

8. Track 38 00:41

- M: Do you have lunch plans for today?
- W: I haven't really thought about it. I haven't even had breakfast yet.
- M: Well, forget about breakfast now! It's noon. How about you come with me to that new sushi bar downtown?
- W: I've heard it's good, but I'm not sure I'm in the mood for sushi.
- M: What? You're the one who got me hooked on sushi in the first place.
- W: I know. But I got sick the day before yesterday. I think I've been eating too much fish.
- M: Did you eat something that made you sick?
- W: I think so. We bought it from the market, but I also had some fried pork on Saturday.
- M: Yuck. Now, I don't feel like having sushi either.
- W: I'm sorry to ruin your plan. What about a burger? I'll buy.
- M: A burger sounds great, but you don't have to buy. Let's each pay for ourselves.
- W: Sounds good to me!

9. Track 39 () 00:33

- M: If you could be any animal in the world, what would it be?
- W: A white tiger. I think they're beautiful.
- M: I guess so, but I'd rather be the king predator of the jungle: a lion.
- W: I like the idea of being rare and a little mystical. You can see lions at any zoo.

- M: That's true. I've never seen a white tiger, except on TV and in movies.
- W: I saw an exhibit that had two. They were awesome. I learned that they're usually bigger than regular orange tigers. The ones I saw were both very relaxed.
- M: I didn't know that.
- W: One of the first white tigers in captivity was given the name Mohan, which means "enchanter." Many people used to think these tigers had great power.
- M: That's interesting.
- W: The last time a white tiger was seen in the wild was in 1958. Less than one in ten thousand tigers is white. Because they're so unique, they've been kept in captivity and bred to keep their bloodlines pure.
- M: That's a sad fact.
- W: I agree. But without those efforts, they would likely become extinct. They're much too beautiful for that to happen.

10. Track 40 00:55

W: I'm somewhat disappointed by the way that people excuse wrong behavior. From children in preschool all the way up to selfish grown-ups who get caught doing something they shouldn't, it's uncommon to discover someone with the integrity to take responsibility for his or her actions. For example, I heard a troubling news story today about a man who was pulled over for speeding. The problem, he explained to the police officer, was that he dropped a cookie as he was dunking it in milk and sped up without meaning to because he was looking for the lost snack. Not surprisingly, the officer felt the need to reward the man's careless driving with a ticket. The surprising thing is the driver decided to protest the ticket in court! During the court proceedings, it was discovered that he was driving illegally because his license had been suspended. Even with this information, the driver continued to maintain his innocence despite his ridiculous reasoning and his obvious guilt for driving illegally. Hopefully, the judge will declare him guilty and enforce appropriate punishment. While this is a humorous example, holding people accountable for their actions is something to be taken very seriously.

11. Track 41 () 00:36

- W: Hey, Travis! Where are you headed in such a hurry?
- M: Right now, I'm going to the cafeteria for a guick lunch. Then, I'm going to the park to play Frisbee with some friends. What are you up to?
- W: I was hoping you and I could go cycling this afternoon. It's a beautiful day for it.
- M: That's tempting. We've been trying to get together for a month.

- W: I know. That's why I was glad to catch you. I don't want to interrupt your plans with your other friends, though.
- M: Several of them are cyclists. Can I bring them with
- W: I'd be happy to have them come along! That's a great idea. The more the merrier, I say.
- M: Let's swing by the park and see who's interested.
- W: But will they be able to go in the next couple of hours? I've got to be back for my night class tonight.
- M: I bet they will. Most of them live in those apartments across the street from the park.
- W: OK. I'll go by my house to grab my bike, and then I'll meet you at the park in half an hour.
- M: Sounds good. See you in a little while!

12. Track42 / 00:33

M: Environmentalists believe that poisonous gas emissions are destroying the ozone layer and leading the world to inevitable destruction, like what happened 251 million years ago. At that time in history, the end of the Permian era, 90 percent of the ocean's species and 70 percent of land species neared extinction. For many years, it has been believed that high levels of methane gases and hydrogen sulfide in the atmosphere caused damage to the ozone and killed many creatures. Until recently, scientists believed that the warm climate caused by these gases lead to the mass extinction. Studies being conducted in England show that this theory may not be very accurate. In a computer model of the Earth at the time, scientists found that it is unlikely these cloudy gases brought about such a tragic change to life on the Earth. While hydrogen sulfide and methane may have contributed to the conditions that caused the "Great Dying," scientists believe it would've taken other chemicals to bring about such devastating change. They are currently testing a theory that states that ultraviolet, or UV, light exposure may have caused the deaths of so many species.

13. Track 43 00:39

M: We've all heard the phrase, "You get what you pay for." Scientists believe price tags often influence a consumer's satisfaction, or lack thereof, with specific products. Two groups of people were given identical lemonade drinks in a study to examine this hypothesis. One group was told their drinks were purchased at full price, and the other group was told theirs had been purchased at a large discount. Both groups then completed a series of word games and puzzles. Across the board, those who thought they were drinking the full-priced beverage completed more puzzles than the group who believed they were drinking a regular-priced version. The test was repeated twice, with different people, and the results were the same. This price-driven behavior has already had an effect on the medication industry, and similar tests were conducted with people who'd been prescribed pain medication. As a result, those who thought they'd paid full price for the drug reported much better results than those who were told they'd been given a discount. Behavior is shaped by what we believe. Many people think that paying more for something means that it's of higher quality, though it's not necessarily the truth.

14. Track 44 () 00:36

- M: Hey, Sarah! I was hoping I'd see you today, but I'm so busy with school.
- W: I know. Life is pretty crazy. I've got my senior art portfolio and several major projects due the week after next.
- M: Are you going to find time to come to Bill's party on Saturday? He's planning the party for those of us who are graduating.
- W: I heard, and it sounds fun. I just don't know if I can spare the time.
- M: I think you definitely could use a break. You know what they say, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."
- W: I know. That's what everyone is telling me, but I just want to make sure I get everything done on time. I can't wait for graduation.
- M: I know what you mean, but everyone has to come up for air sooner or later. I think this party at Bill's is the perfect time for you to give yourself a breather.
- W: You're pretty convincing. Maybe I can stop by, even if it's just for a little while.
- M: Sounds like a great idea.
- W: See you there, then.

15. Track 45 () 00:39

- W: Hey, Todd, you're a business person and a sales person. Would you mind helping me with a project for my economy class?
- M: I don't see why not, little sister. I've got some extra time. What is it you need?
- W: First, I have to interview someone who owns their own business. So, I need to find a good candidate who has been a business owner for at least ten
- M: You can interview me. What questions do you have?
- W: Our teacher gave us a list of questions to use. Nothing hard--just typical questions like What are the challenges of someone who owns their own business? Do you enjoy your job? etc...
- M: That doesn't sound too painful.



- W: It shouldn't be. I appreciate your willingness to help. If you had said no, I'm not sure who I would've asked.
- M: No problem. Is there anything else I can do?
- W: I also have to come up with a tentative budget for a video arcade business.
- M: That should be easy since I have to do that for my store on a monthly basis. In fact, I've got last month's budget in my briefcase.

16. Track 46 () 00:37

- M: (a) The majority of kids would rather confide in their mother than anyone else.
 - (b) More kids would rather talk to a sister than a brother.
 - © Most kids usually confide in someone other than their grandparent, according to the graph.
 - d More kids confide in their grandparents than in their siblings.
 - (e) Next to their mother, kids prefer to confide in their dads.

17. Track 47 00:35

- (a) W: I've got to go so I can get to the art gallery before they close today, or I won't have a present for the party tomorrow.
 - M: Good luck. I hear they're tough to deal with.
- **ⓑ** W: I'm so glad I ran into you! I'd been hoping to get that suit from you.
 - M: The timing couldn't have been more perfect. I just finished with it.
- © W: Thanks for coming to my game. I'm so tired, that was a tough game, but I am glad you came.
 - M: I was proud of the way you played with honor even though the team lost.
- (d) W: That movie made a really big impression on me and has opened eyes to a whole new realization.
 - M: It was very motivating and seemed true to life.
- (e) W: I think I may upgrade to a new computer. Mine's been really slow.
 - M: Before you buy a new one, let's see if we can improve what you have, so we don't go above our budget projections.

18. Track48 / 00:36

- M: I really enjoy the serene atmosphere out here.
- W: Me, too. It makes me want to curl up in a big oval chair with this cappuccino and spend the day reading.
- M: So, how do you choose what to read?
- W: I find a couple of books that look interesting and iust chill for an hour or two.
- M: But not today! We have lots of birthday shopping to do. So, hurry up and finish your cappuccino.
- W: I know. I hope I can find that gourmet chef's biography. My mom thinks he's the best.

- M: What are you getting your aunt?
- W: I haven't decided what to get her. I thought about a subscription to her favorite magazine.
- M: That's a good gift idea. I bet it's something she wouldn't get for herself.
- W: Speaking of birthdays, yours is only a couple of months away. How are we going to celebrate?
- M: I was thinking you could take me to my favorite restaurant and then to an amusement park.
- W: Not a bad idea. What about a gift certificate to spend here?

19. Track 49 00:39

- M: Thanks for calling Silver Spoon Pizza Parlor. Can I take your order today?
- W: Hello. Do you have any specials today? I'm looking for some sort of combo-deal.
- M: Yes, we do have some specials today. You can get a large, square, two-topping pizza with breadsticks and a 3-liter bottle of soda for \$18.
- W: That's a good deal. I'll have a large with pepperoni and mushrooms. How much would it cost to add a medium pepperoni pizza to that deal?
- M: Five dollars. Do you want breadsticks as well?
- W: Twist my arm: we'll take them. Actually, can we have cheese sticks instead?
- M: Sure, it's the same price. What type of soda would you like to drink?
- W: Actually, we'd just like some bottled water. Also, how much is the dipping sauce for the cheese sticks?
- M: Sauces are \$1.50 each. How many would you like?
- W: At that price, I don't think we need any after all. Can we get our pizza with thin crust, please? And is there an extra fee for delivery? If it's not too expensive, we'd like to have it delivered.
- M: We can make it on thin crust for you, and delivery is free for orders over \$20. We'll have your order ready and delivered to your house in thirty minutes. Thanks for calling Silver Spoon Pizza Parlor.

20. Track 50 00:46

- W: I'm upset about the grade I got on my research paper. I felt it deserved a better grade.
- M: Have you talked to Ms. Moore about it?
- W: I can't decide if I should or not. I'm nervous. She can be grumpy, and I think she thinks I am lazy.
- M: Why not try anyway? If you tell her why you think it should've been higher, maybe she'll listen. You never know unless you try.
- W: I know. I just hate confrontation.
- M: Tell me the reasons why you think it deserved a higher grade. It'll be good practice for when you talk to her.
- W: I felt like I followed the outline exactly as she told us to. And I had my mom check for grammar

- errors. I don't think there were any mistakes. I cited fifteen sources, and she only asked for ten. I felt it went above and beyond the requirements.
- M: That's a good point. What else do you think she should know?
- W: Not only did I research my topic very thoroughly, but I also included charts and pictures to enhance the information.
- M: See, you have a good argument with some strong points. I think you should go talk to her.

W:

21. Track 51 () 00:35

- W: I saw you at the gym yesterday. You were working out pretty hard.
- M: I'm sorry I didn't see you. I must've been in the
- W: Are you training for something specific?
- M: My dad, a friend of mine, and I are training to compete in a 24-hour triathlon for a sunscreen company.
- W: What is included in the competition?
- M: We have to run, swim, and ride a bike as many miles as we can within a 24-hour period.
- W: Wow. That sounds intense.
- M: Yeah, I start out running, my dad swims, and my friend will bike. We'll go as far as we can and then switch it up.
- W: I have to witness this. Have you guys done a practice run to see how well you do? I hope you don't get
- M: We did one this weekend, and we ran twenty-eight miles, swam eighteen miles, and biked sixty miles. That should put us in the top three or four teams. We will have to run and swim a few more miles to win. We were so tired afterward, though!
- W: What is the prize? It would have to be really good for me to consider competing!

M:

22. Track 52 () 00:37

W: Many families are at a loss when they contemplate how they are going to afford college for their children. The worst thing to do is to not cross this bridge until you come to it and wait until your children are ready to go to college before you begin to think about it. Tuition charges continue to climb until many simply don't have the means to send their children to college. Yet, at the same time, it is essential to not put the cart before the horse and assume that your children are going to want to attend college. How refreshing to know, then, that with a little research, the burden of tuition could be lifted for some students. Perhaps you should

consider that there are a number of universities in America that are termed "tuition-free"; that is, students have to have money for their living arrangements but not for tuition. Granted, these schools are often specialized and have strict admission criteria, such as a specific area of study or an all-male or all-female campus. But to those who meet the stringent criteria, a college education

23. Track 53 () 00:37

- W: Hey, Matthew! Are you ready yet?
- M: I'm having a rough morning. I'm running a little late, but I'll be ready in five minutes.
- W: You're seldom late. Is something wrong?
- M: Well, I got a call from my grandmother. They put my grandfather in the hospital the day before yesterday.
- W: I'm so sorry. Has he been ill?
- M: No, he just woke up in the morning feeling really weak.
- W: I hate to hear that. He's always so active and curious about life.
- M: I know. I was gathering up some things so I could stay at the hospital with him tonight. That's the reason I'm late.
- W: Do we need to go there first?
- M: No. They'll be running tests until this afternoon. We can go ahead and go to the photographer's office first. Don't forget we also need to see the realtor.
- W: Do you just want me to drop you off at the hospital when we're done?
- M: That's very nice of you. I can't thank you enough for driving me around today.

24. Track 54 () 00:38

- M: Are you serious about this?
- W: Yes. I don't want to sound silly, but it really is the opportunity of a lifetime.
- M: You're sure you want to spend your senior year overseas?
- W: Yes, Dad. I'll have the chance to learn a new language, finish my degree, and also see part of the world.
- M: What made you want to do this?
- W: I spoke to a friend who did it last year, and she loved it. She said she learned much more than she ever would've in a classroom here.
- M: It would definitely open your eyes to things you've never seen.
- W: Yes, and I'll be staying with a host family, so I can really experience life and the culture of Spain, not just the tourist stuff you see when you go to visit.
- M: You said it won't cost very much?

- W: I won a Reward Scholarship for the overseas program. All I have to pay for is food and spending money.
- M: To be honest, I'm very proud of you for wanting to expand your horizons. I'll hate not having you coming home on weekends, but I agree. It's an opportunity you shouldn't miss!
- W: Oh, thank you so much, Dad! I'm so excited!

25. Track 55 () 00:42

W: One of the reasons we pay taxes is to ensure that the services the city is responsible for providing get distributed in a timely and systematic way. An example of an important city service is trash pickup. The city must have an organized way to make sure that the garbage truck regularly visits every neighborhood. Every city has its own way of determining whose trash gets picked up at a certain time. In our neighborhood, trash pickup days are determined by your street address. For instance, those who have even-numbered addresses have their trash picked up on Mondays and Thursdays. Tuesdays and Fridays are the pickup days for homes that have odd-numbered addresses. Materials like soda cans and cardboard that need to be recycled are only picked up once every two weeks, on Wednesdays. This is an organized way for the city to do a very big job.

26. Track 56 () 00:36

M: We are pleased to announce that Jenny's Neighborhood Market has the opportunity to expand its current location to better suit our customers' needs. For years, Jenny's has been committed to providing our customers with the best prices and service in town. We thank you for your loyal patronage and look forward to serving you in our new, updated, and much bigger market beginning next month. We will have to close Jenny's until the week after next to accommodate the construction process, but we plan to be open by the first of next month. So, stop by Jenny's this week, and stock up on everything that you need because we begin construction on Monday, the sixth. There will be plenty of our usual deals on the foods you love as well as some special savings to thank our understanding customers. Again, we appreciate your business and the pleasure we get from being your neighborhood store!

27. Track 57 () 00:34

W: The other girls and I always dreaded our teacher's absence because Miss Blankenship would inevitably get assigned to our classroom. Now, she was a friendly and hard-working substitute teacher, but she could never make those lively boys behave. Times were especially difficult in junior high because those fellows seemed to become increasingly more mischievous with adolescence. Their favorite prank was to place ketchup and mayonnaise packets underneath the legs of her chair before she arrived. She would take her seat, expecting to introduce the day's assignments, and instead, she would squirt ketchup and mayonnaise in all directions! Although they weren't innocent angels when our regular teacher was present, their naughtiness seemed to increase by 110 percent when the substitute walked through the door. Thankfully, we made it through school without too many serious mishaps, though I'm confident Miss Blankenship breathed a sigh of relief when she saw us walk across the stage at graduation.

28. Track 58 () 00:35

- W: (a) The gym was completely soundless as the team absorbed the weight of the coach's announcement. Besides being a remarkable coach, Mr. Jackson was a generous, dependable, respectable role model for his players. The players preferred to give him a final season he'd remember instead of one he'd rather forget. So, they decided immediately that they would be victorious in every remaining game this season.
 - (b) The basketball team was enthusiastic, confident, and passionate but felt discouraged because they simply didn't possess the size and talent with which their opponents had been blessed. They were ranked among the worst in their conference. As a result, the biggest of all worries came true when they heard Coach Jackson utter the words they never dreamed they'd hear—"I will be retiring after this season."
 - © Although they where constantly struggling throughout the season, the Bold Blizzards thoroughly defeated their opponent in the first of eight wins to conclude the season. After seven more convincing victories, Coach Jackson commended them for playing at such an excellent level and declared it an honor to have coached such a determined group of players. He finished his speech by saying, "It was the best season I've shared with y'all."

29. Track 59 () 00:46

(a) M: The age of accountability is one that has been debated many times over the years. In America, an eighteen year old can vote and be charged as an adult for any crimes committed. I support the idea of an eighteen year old being considered an adult. And as such, shouldn't he or she be responsible enough

- to determine an appropriate curfew for himself or herself?
- (b) W: There are many problems with this issue, simply because I know some eighteen year olds who can handle themselves responsibly. On the other hand, far more tend to get themselves into trouble if they stay out late. That being said, how is a person supposed to learn acceptable behavior if they aren't allowed to test boundaries and find things out for themselves?
- © W: Speaking as someone who spent their first two years in a university dorm with a curfew, I understand this issue. I was glad to know that the resident assistants cared where we were and if we made it in safely at night. The curfew they enforced was very reasonable. What is going on after 1:00 a.m. that is positive or conducive to one's studies, anyway?
- (d) M: If you choose to live on campus, you must obey the rules set forth by the administration. Campus policy states that the curfew for residents living in the dorms is 1:00a.m. The curfew is designed as a safety policy for students. Therefore, I fully support it. Requiring students to be home by a certain hour ensures their safety and limits the amount of trouble that students get into at night.

30. Track 60 () 00:39

M: During a period when farmers dreadfully needed a crop that would produce money, Eli Whitney set about to manufacture the first cotton gin. Cotton wasn't considered a money-making venture unless you farmed along the coastline. Most inland farmers looked to tobacco farming as their livelihood. However, tobacco brought about nutrient depletion in the soil and a market that didn't justify all the tobacco that had been produced. As a result of this, many farmers were left wondering how to provide for their families. Cotton was easily grown on the land but was tedious and time-consuming to harvest, which made it useless for farmers as a way to make big profits. Mr. Whitney developed a machine that could strip the cotton from the seeds, accomplishing the same results as several men working by hand. Whitney's machine made it worthwhile for farmers to invest in cotton, which is still farmed on over thrity-five thousand farms today.

19:17

Practice Test 3

1. Track 61 00:39

- M: Thank you for coming shopping with me. I think my sister will love the dress I bought her for her birthday. I would never have picked it out without your help, though.
- W: It's my pleasure. I love shopping, and I know your sister will be so excited to wear that dress. Aren't you supposed to be meeting her right now for lunch?
- M: Yes, she said she would meet me by the fountain, but I don't see her.
- W: Is that her over there, wearing a strapless dress?
- M: No, that's not her. I don't think she owns any strapless dresses.
- W: Is she the woman in the pink sweater? That's a really cute sweater.
- M: No, my sister doesn't like anything pink. Especially a pink sweater.
- W: OK, that woman sitting on the steps by the fountain must be your sister. She has dark hair, and she's wearing a dress with a plaid pattern.
- M: Actually, that's not her either. She doesn't have short hair, and she absolutely hates the way green looks on her. Oh, wait, there she is. I should have known she would be wearing her favorite black dress with her hair pulled back.
- W: Oh, yeah. That dress is so classy. She has really great taste in clothes!
- M: Thanks. I think so, too.

2. Track 62 00:35

- M: I've got to run some errands, but my car broke down. Can you give me a ride around town? I really need to get these things done today.
- W: No problem. Where do you need to go?
- M: It shouldn't take long. All of my stops are in this area of town. The first place is the florist's on the corner of Fourth Street and Main Street.
- W: Oh, that's across from the bowling alley, right? In fact, I've got to pick up some flowers, too.
- M: Well, after that, I need to go west on Broadway. I left my clothes drying in one of the dryers at the laundromat, and I'm sure they're ready by now.
- W: Is it safe to leave your clothes drying unattended?
- M: Yeah, I've never had a problem.
- W: Is the laundromat on the same street as the airport?
- M: Yeah, but on the opposite side of the street. After that, all I need to do is stop at the baker's to pick up a baquette for dinner. To get there from the laundromat, you go east on Broadway and pass Fourth Street. It's on the northeast side.

- W: I think I've seen it. It's beside the dentist's office, right?
- M: That's right.

3. Track 63 () 00:36

M: This inspirational movie is a hit for the whole family! It reveals a tale of a magnificent animal that risks everything in order to follow his dream. His family tries to persuade him to stay home and take over the family business, but after careful contemplation of his options, the little animal packs a small bag, grabs his favorite driving gloves, and decides to run away from home. His passion for racing cars is too strong to keep him from following his destiny. He knows he's an amazing race-car driver. His techniques, strategies, and natural ability create an animal driver with machine precision. He battles through huge challenges as he travels the country seeking the best race track that provides the ultimate in perfection for racing cars. On his own, he makes it to Talladega and qualifies to enter the big race. Without support from his family, he trains hard to succeed at his dream. Along the way, he makes new friends, finds new support, and ends up making his family very proud. He teaches all to pursue your dreams if it's what you believe in.

4. Track 64 00:39

- M: I called ahead and moved my dentist appointment to 3:30 p.m.
- W: That's was a good idea.
- M: I was nervous about asking them to move it, but the way things are going, it looks like we are going to spend the afternoon here. I never dreamed this lecture would last so long.
- W: I know, but I do think it'll be over soon.
- M: You're probably right.
- W: How long is the drive into the city?
- M: It's about an hour if traffic is heavy. I don't want to have to rush.
- W: Hey, it looks like we can go now.
- M: Good. Now that I changed my appointment, I can grab something to eat before I go. How about we go for sushi?
- W: Sure, if we take 45 minutes to eat lunch, and the drive takes an hour, you should get there on time,
- M: I'm pretty sure I will. I just can't arrive late. Last time, I was late, and the dentist was really angry because he had lots of other appointments waiting.
- W: Well, that's reasonable. You should really be on time.

5. Track 65 00:36

W: Sally is a real go-getter. She knows what she wants in life, and she goes after it. Her family, teachers, and peers are always impressed by her focus and determination. When she was a freshman in high school, she wanted to run for Student Body President. Everyone thought she was too young and didn't have enough experience for that position, but she was determined to win the election. She worked very hard to prove that she was a remarkable candidate for the job. Because of her positive attitude, confidence, and her desire to succeed, Sally ended up winning the election. Now, she wants to attend college and medical school to become a brain surgeon. There is no doubt that she will achieve whatever she puts her mind to!

6. Track 66 00:36

- W: I'm impressed with the way you used light in your painting.
- W2: Thank you. This originally began as a black and white sketch, but it evolved into an oil painting.
- W: What made you change it?
- W2: Well, it's just that my vision couldn't be captured correctly in black and white.
- W: I see that you experimented with many shading techniques. I especially like the way you divided the square canvas into different triangles.
- W2: Thank you for that compliment, but I think I could have used more shapes to convey my vision.
- W: This painting will do well at the auction.
- W2: Are you going to be donating it after all?
- W: Yeah, I decided it's a good cause.
- W2: Great! I'm honored to get my work out there. The bidding starts at one hundred dollars right?
- W: That's correct. So, how much do I owe you for your masterpiece?
- W2: Hmm... How about fifty dollars? That way, you can make money for your charity.

7. Track 67 00:36

- M: I need to place a catering order for Saturday.
- W: Sure. How many people are you expecting?
- M: Between 125-150 people.
- W: All right. What type of food would you like to have served at your party?
- M: I attended a party last year where you served appetizers, cheese, and wine. You also had salad and sandwich trays. I need something similar.
- W: OK, we have a special called "Birthday Bash" for only forty dollars a tray.
- M: Does that mean the order can only be for a birthday party?

- W: No, not at all. That's just the name of our special. We have a more expensive option that serves gourmet appetizers called "Cater Christmas." That option is sixty dollars for each tray.
- M: Well, I really just want to have something basic for my Halloween party.
- W: In that case, I strongly recommend you order the "Haunted House" tray that comes with sandwiches, two types of salads, and an appetizer of your choice. Each tray is fifty dollars.
- M: That sounds perfect. How many people can one trav feed?
- W: One "Haunted House" tray will feed about fifty
- M: Great! I'll take three of those.

8. Track 68 00:36

- M: Hi, Katie, how are you?
- W: I'm good. I'm sorry to bother you at home, but I needed to ask you a favor for work.
- M: No problem. What do you need?
- W: I have to go to the dentist, but the only available appointment this week is on Thursday, when I'm scheduled to work.
- M: I'm sorry you're having dental trouble.
- W: Well, I know Thursdays are normally your day off, but I wondered if you could work for me this Thursday, just from 3:00 to 5:00.
- M: I volunteer on Thursdays at the city youth center.
- W: I'm sorry to ask it of you, but I've already called everybody else, and none of them are able to help.
- M: I didn't realize you'd already called them. OK, I'll cover for you for those two hours. I think I can leave a little early. That's what friends are for. In fact, I'm in need of a favor, too. Would it be possible for you to work my shift in a couple of weeks when my brother's in town?
- W: Sure. Just let me know when.

9. Track 69 () 00:37

- M: I've been thinking about doing some traveling this
- W: I thought you were going to work at your uncle's coffee shop, like you did last year.
- M: I thought about it, but I want to have more time on mv own.
- W: But you made a lot of money that allowed you to not have to work during the school year.
- M: Yeah, but I really want to see some other parts of the world. I'm going to the travel agency to see if they have any flight specials.
- W: So, where will you travel if you don't work this summer?

- M: I would love to see Australia and New Zealand. I'm in the process of getting my passport.
- W: Doesn't traveling require money?
- M: Yes, but I think I can do it pretty cheaply.
- W: It makes more sense to work this summer and maybe during the year, so that you can fund some trips next summer and not have to borrow from your parents.

10. Track 70 00:58

M: Mahatma Gandhi advocated peaceful protests and "civil disobedience" as a way to change things in society. He encouraged people to be creative and nonviolent in their methods when trying to voice their disagreement. Gandhi would be pleased with the recent protest of many independent truck drivers in America. The cost of fuel has skyrocketed over the past few years, and as a result, the industry has taken a big hit. Many truck drivers own small businesses that cannot afford the increasing cost of fuel. These drivers are seeking help from the federal government, asking for federal assistance to help alleviate the cost of fuel. To show unity, many truck drivers decided to protest fuel costs in a peaceful way that would attract attention. The drivers purposely drove under the posted speed limit on some of the busiest highways in America, causing delays and traffic congestion that affected thousands of people. The protest did what the drivers hoped it would; the group received national attention. Spokesmen for the truckers say they simply wanted to raise awareness of the desperate situation facing the trucking industry today. They are hopeful that changes can be made to ease the industry's financial burden.

11. Track 71 00:40

- W: Where've you been? I've been trying to find you. I looked in the book store and also the lecture hall.
- M: I was in the math building because I had to take that make-up test for algebra.
- W: Oh, yeah, I forgot. How do you think you did on the test?
- M: I don't know. Mr. Johnson isn't going to grade them until this weekend.
- W: Well, what are you planning to do tonight?
- M: I'm going to order pizza from the new pizzeria and just hang out. I'm still tired from the ski trip last weekend.
- W: Would you like to go to the concert at the park tonight?
- M: Oh, I'd love to go, but the tickets are sold out.
- W: They are indeed. But guess who bought the last two?

- M: No way! Then, what are we waiting for? We need to get there early to get good seats.
- W: All the seats are reserved, so there's no rush. Ours are close to the front, too.
- M: Well, if we've got a couple of hours, why don't we go to the coffee shop and pick up a hot chocolate before we go?

12. Track 72 () 00:34

W: Over six billion people worldwide utilize the Internet for some reason or another, according to recent statistics. With such a large number of us plugged in online, we are discovering innovative ways to do old things. For example, communication, shopping, and even work can all be conducted via the Internet. But are there some situations that need person-to-person contact? One funeral home in Britain doesn't think so. The English funeral directors are taking part in the first webcast funerals and believe it is the future of funerals for many countries. For a relatively small fee, mourners receive a password and can tune into the funeral of a friend or loved one if they are unable to attend the event in person. People who are opposed to the concept feel this is another way that people are becoming more and more disconnected. However, supporters of the idea claim that families are spread all over the globe, and this allows them to connect for the funeral of someone they love even if they are kilometers away. Although this may be a controversial way to use the Internet, it is just one example of how people are uniting with family and friends over the Internet.

13. Track 73 00:34

M: The Mexican axolotl is a rare breed of salamander. The Mexican axolotl has a condition called neoteny, which means it does not experience metamorphosis. As a result, it retains many of the characteristics of its larvae state such as its body-length dorsal fin and a set of external gills. Salamanders are amphibians, which means their larvae breathe through gills, but most develop air-breathing lungs as they grow. The Mexican axolotl is unique because its larvae features require that it live permanently under water, unlike other salamanders who can survive on land. This is the only breed of salamanders with this condition, and they are endangered due to their limited habitat and relatively small numbers. If left to themselves, the Mexican axolotl can survive for up to fifteen years, feeding on mollusks and fish on the floor of the lake. Unfortunately, the axolotl is a popular aguarium attraction and is also considered a delicacy in Mexico. There are many problems with their popularity since many have been captured to serve these purposes.

14. Track 74 () 00:34

- M: I just finished my final exam in chemistry.
- W: How did you do?
- M: Professor Johnson said it was going to be difficult, and he was right! I'm really glad to be done with it.
- W: I wish I could say the same about my exam in literature. I take it the day after tomorrow.
- M: Do you think it will be hard?
- W: I think so. It's a rather large portion of our grade for the semester, and we've read ten different novels that we'll be tested on. I'm going to spend all night studvina.
- M: I'm sure you'll do fine. I hate to hear you're planning to study all night. Some of us are going into the city to listen to Ethan's band.
- W: If it were any other time, I would love to go. But I've got to do better than last time. That's why I'll be up all night studying!
- M: Just make sure you don't get too tired, or you won't remember a thing.
- W: I appreciate your advice. I hope you guys have a really good time. Maybe we could go out the week after next when finals are over.

15. Track 75 00:38

- W: I can't seem to get any homework done in this cafeteria. I may have to go the library or the coffee
- M: I apologize. I thought it would be a good change of pace.
- W: It's not your fault. I thought it would be, too, but it's really too loud in here for me to concentrate.
- M: There are a lot of students from my biology and history classes in here today. I guess a lot of people had the same idea we did. Everyone seems to be scrambling to get last-minute projects done before the end of the semester.
- W: I wish I could be productive here. Let's just go to the coffee shop.
- M: OK. It's usually really relaxed and guiet in there.
- W: It's a good place to people-watch, that's for sure. Some of the most interesting people go there.
- M: You're always observing people, anywhere we go.
- W: I think that's why I'm struggling here. The people keep distracting me from my homework!
- M: Well, we gave it a shot. Maybe I should go to my house instead. Would you like to come?
- W: Sure.

16. Track 76 () 00:36

W: (a) The majority of children in the southeast believe censorship doesn't protect them from unsuitable information.

- (b) Overall, children in the midwest of the United States believe that censorship does keep them from exposure to inappropriate information.
- © In the western part of the US there are more children who feel censorship is helpful than children who don't.
- d Most children in the northeast surveyed believe censorship is not beneficial to protecting children.
- (e) Approximately the same number of children in the northeast and the southeast believe censorship is a good thing for kids.

17. Track 77 00:34

- (a) W: I've got a horrible stomachache. Do you mind taking me home early?
 - M: Not at all. I feel a sore throat coming on anyway.
- (b) M: It is much warmer today than I expected.
 - W: I know. I'm glad I'm wearing my boots and scarf, or else I'd be freezing.
- © W: I'm in the market for a new treadmill. My old one never works.
 - M: I heard there is a sale at the mall where you can get a new one for under three hundred dollars.
- d M: I'm tired today because I stayed up watching the football game last night.
 - W: I fell asleep and didn't get to see who won.
- (e) W: That guiz had fewer guestions on it than I anticipated.
 - M: Really? I thought it had more questions than last time.

18. Track 78 00:40

- W: That's very nice of you to come over and help me purchase a laptop computer today. I have never purchased anything online before.
- M: No problem; I enjoy this kind of thing. You know, the prices on laptop computers have really come down.
- W: So, how much memory do I need?
- M: It all depends on what you'll be using it for.
- W: I'll be taking several classes online, as well as writing papers. I'm sick of trying to do it in the library or coffee shop.
- M: Can't you do that on your old one?
- W: I don't have a printer, and I can't print somewhere else because the programs on my computer are old.
- M: Hey, look at this. They have a special on right now that includes a printer with your purchase.
- W: That would be wonderful.
- M: These laptops are pretty compact, so I bet you'd be surprised at how convenient they are.
- W: I appreciate your help. I'd be lost without it!
- M: It really isn't a big deal. You can buy me some ice cream to make it up to me!

19. Track 79 00:39

- M: Welcome to Chicken Champion. Would you like to try our special today?
- W: That depends on the special. What is it today?
- M: A grilled chicken sandwich, a side of chips, a large drink, and a cookie, all for \$6.50.
- W: OK. Can I substitute a different side for the same price?
- M: It depends on which side you choose. Chips aren't extra, but a Greek salad is \$1.00 extra.
- W: I think I can afford that. I'll take the Greek salad. What about drinks? Do you have something other than soda?
- M: We have lemonade as well for the same price as soda. Bottled water or juice will be an additional \$1.00.
- W: Is there a charge for ice water? That's really what I want.
- M: No, there's no charge. And I can subtract the drink cost out of the combo deal, so even with a side that costs more, it will still be only \$6.50.
- W: That's great. Oh, and what kind of cookie comes with the meal?
- M: You have a choice between chocolate chip and peanut butter.
- W: I'll take the chocolate chip, please. Thank you for your help.

20. Track 80 00:45

- M: I'm furious that I didn't get a better grade on that test. I really thought I would do better than the last
- W: I'm sorry. I know you spent a lot of time studying
- M: I know, but I'm having a hard time understanding the material.
- W: Don't be so hard on yourself; physics isn't an easy subject for anyone.
- M: I just don't want it to bring down my average. I've worked really hard the past four years to have an A average.
- W: Have you talked to Mr. Thompson? Maybe you could ask for some extra-credit work.
- M: That's not a bad idea, but I feel shy asking. Part of the problem is that I don't know what I'm doing, and I feel embarrassed.
- W: Would it help you if we formed a study group?
- M: I hate to ask you guys for help. You're busy with all your other activities.
- W: I've heard the school offers free tutoring for those who need it
- M: That would be great. Where do I find out more

W:

21. Track 81 () 00:36

- W: I can't wait for summer to get here. I love warm weather! I plan to work on a really good tan this summer.
- M: Isn't too much sun bad for you?
- W: It is if you get burned, but I'm planning on wearing
- M: I've heard it's healthier to stay out of the sun from 11:00 to 3:00 because it's more damaging during that time.
- W: I have heard that, but I always get a better tan if I can be in the sun from about 1:00 to 3:00.
- M: I bet you could get a good tan later in the afternoon. You don't want to get skin cancer, do you?
- W: Absolutely not!
- M: I didn't mean to upset you. It's just that skin cancer has been in the news a lot lately.
- W: I know, and it's a really scary thought. But surely, I'm too young to have to worry about it.
- M: I don't think so. I believe everyone who spends a lot of time in the sun is at risk. I strongly recommend you wear sunscreen.
- W: Or maybe I could try some of that self-tanning lotion

M:

22. Track 82 () 00:41

M: The great financial debate among parents with teenagers today is whether or not their teen should have a credit card. Credit card companies have created a "secure" credit card that is being marketed to teenagers with the promise that teens will learn how to manage their money better than ever. Many are unsure as to why using traditional cash or a checking account is now becoming unpopular. The card actually belongs to the parents and has to be pre-loaded prior to making any purchases, but critics warn that allowing teens to use credit cards regularly only perpetuates the increasing amount of credit card debt worldwide. Proponents for the adolescent cards advertise this as a practical way to teach teenagers budgeting and financial responsibility. Teenagers are interested in it because it is the newest and hottest thing on the market. But most people reject this idea and are afraid this will

23. Track 83 () 00:34

- W: Hi, Keith. You're just the person I wanted to see.
- M: I hope it's for something good.
- W: Oh, it is. My parents just got a new grill, so I'm having some friends over on Saturday for a cookout. Would you like to come? We're going to grill burgers.
- M: That sounds fun. Is there anything I can bring?

- W: Actually, some of those coming requested that you bring chips and salsa. They say you make the best salsa.
- M: Well, thanks. I'll definitely bring some, and I think I'll bring some lollipops just for fun. Anything
- W: I think we'll have everything else that we need. We're going to have donuts for dessert. I'll be doing the cooking, so you can't be too critical of how it tastes. You're much better in the kitchen than I am.
- M: Well, thank you for that compliment. Of course, I wouldn't be critical—I wouldn't criticize free food!
- W: Oh, I almost forgot, would it be possible for you to bring your tent? Then some people can camp in the yard.
- M: What a great idea. Sure, no problem.

24. Track 84 () 00:40

- M: Why don't we try the new restaurant? I've heard good things about it.
- W: Me, too. My brother took his girlfriend there the day before yesterday. They always eat out, and they both loved it.
- M: What kind of food do they serve?
- W: My brother said there were gourmet dishes.
- M: Wow, gourmet? No thanks.
- W: Seriously? But they have a tasty grilled salmon and a delicious shrimp stir-fry. I think it sounds delicious.
- M: I guess I'm just picky, and I only like what I am familiar with. If this new place had a juicy burger and a side of fries, I'd be okay with it.
- W: But where's the fun in that? There are already a dozen burger places here. We needed a place like this. I bet it has a little something for everyone.
- M: I don't know. I'm not very adventurous when it comes to food. I guess I'm a creature of habit.
- W: Oh, just come with me. I'm sure you can find something you like.
- M: I guess I'll come since I already promised. Just don't be surprised if this is my only visit.

25. Track 85 () 00:42

W: The city in which I live randomly selects city residents to serve on a jury. Due to the fact that our town is guite large, there are many potential jurors to choose from, so it may be months between jury services for many people. I'm one of those unique individuals that would like to have the privilege of serving on a jury, so I'm grateful anytime my name is selected. The courtroom provides an element of intrigue for me that I find fascinating. I was unable to participate in a case where a defendant was charged with drinking and driving, and I was extremely

disappointed. On each jury, there needs to be fourteen people--twelve jurors and two alternates. The alternates participate just as the regular jurors do, but they don't get to cast a vote in the jury's decision unless they're needed to fill in for a juror who can't be there. Each of the two legislative judicial systems, criminal court and civil court, needs its own jury. Juries are chosen once a month, except for the months of June and December.

26. Track 86 () 00:32

M: A Norwegian thief likely has his hands full tonight. Authorities have yet to figure out why he would have stolen a partially-grown crocodile from the local aquarium, yet that is exactly what happened. The man somehow managed to capture the crocodile and make his way out of the aquarium without being noticed, and aquarium employees and law enforcement officers are trying to find out how he did it. The crocodile is actually an endangered species called a dwarf caiman and can grow to 2.5 meters, making it one of the world's smallest crocodile species. The aquarium is concerned for the caiman's safety and is offering a reward to anyone with information that would help to apprehend this man. So far, the police have searched the local water park and other areas nearby. Aquarium officials say not only is the man facing criminal charges, but they are also worried as there is a good chance he could lose a hand or even a limb if the caiman is not handled properly.

27. Track 87 00:32

W: The young, shy woman sat forlornly on the side of the road, worried that no one would pass by this way to help. She knew now she shouldn't have tried to make this trip without putting more gasoline in her car, but hindsight gained her nothing and definitely didn't help her situation any. Now she was stranded with an empty tank and no gas station for at least twenty kilometers in either direction. A car stopped about an hour ago, but the rude driver merely rolled down the window and said he hoped she'd get some help soon. As she pondered what she should do next, she spotted the distant glow of headlights and was optimistic someone would be considerate enough to stop and help. Thankfully, the driver not only stopped but grabbed a gas can out of the back of his pickup truck and began filling her tank, hardly saying anything. When he'd completed the task, he quietly continued on his journey, and she was able to return safely home.

28. Track 88 / 00:34

- M: (a) From the moment I received my class schedule, I took my school work very seriously, maybe too seriously. I never took time to get acquainted with the people around me. I stayed in my dorm room all the time and never attempted to hang out with friends, eat out, or even work out. I thought social activities that weren't directly related to my studies were an unnecessary waste of my time.
 - **(b)** Now I realize that I missed out on many wonderful opportunities to develop friendships and gain support from those around me who were struggling to get through, just as I was. Learning to get along with a roommate and the people around you, as well as just growing to understand people in general, is a large part of maturing into adulthood.
 - © As I look back on the time I spent in college, I notice so many things that I could've done differently. Upon graduating from high school, I was awarded a full scholarship to the university of my choice, so I chose one away from home. When I finally left for college, I was determined to be an excellent student during the important years ahead of me.

29. Track 89 () 00:53

- (a) M: Being a parent of a teenager, I wonder, while it's true that in today's technologically advanced world students with laptops might become more computer savvy, who is going to pay for new laptops for their child? Certainly it shouldn't be the parents' responsibility if the school requires it.
- (b) W: I tend to believe it's a step in the right direction to prepare today's adolescents for the technological society of tomorrow. Already, hospitals and businesses have transitioned to computer-operated systems. Regardless of whether students are in the inner city or rural schools, laptops for every student in the classroom give teenagers a head start.
- © M: A classroom of thirty students would need electrical outlets and wireless Internet access for thirty computers. This will put a strain on school budgets. Also, there are too many chances for students to email their friends when they should be taking notes. Schools everywhere have already invested millions of dollars to set up computer labs. Why should students buy laptops?
- d W: Most classrooms are only equipped with a few computers that all of the students must share. I think it would be more beneficial for the students if they each had their own computer. Because it involves the academic success of students, parents should be willing to pay the price of a new laptop for their teenagers. It is a small price to pay to improve their sons' and daughters' education.



30. Track 90 00:37

M: Jeremiah had a difficult time when it came to dealing with situations that didn't go his way. He was grumpy and discouraged for months when he was awarded second place in the school science fair for his experiment that demonstrated volcano eruptions. He didn't even consider the fact that his project placed better than fifty others; he simply grumbled that he'd been beat by one. He allowed his frustration with not winning to affect his attitude about everything. His friends kept trying to cheer him, encouraging him to focus on the positive and put his energy into a winning project at next year's competition. They couldn't get him to understand that no amount of disappointment or regret could change the outcome. He continued to be aggravated by the situation until his teacher told him his grades in science were beginning to suffer, something she attributed to his poor attitude. He finally decided he should concentrate on things he could change, instead of something that had already happened in the past.

19:17

Practice Test 4

1. Track 91 00:42

- M: I'm really nervous about competing in this. I haven't raced in years.
- W: You'll be fine. You run several days a week and work out regularly. It's just for a good cause.
- M: That's true. I'll do anything that encourages people to get out and stay in shape. Did that young guy over there with the mustache win it all last year? He looks like a runner.
- W: He does look like a runner, but that's a police officer! My friend Keith won last year. He was thrilled to win as he was very diligent in his training. He really kept to a strict workout schedule. He's standing over there by the registration booth.
- M: Is he the short man, with the beard and a salmon T-shirt?
- W: No. Keith is taller than that.
- M: The tall guy with the short hair that has his dog?
- W: I don't think Keith has a dog.
- M: So, the fellow in the wool hat with that really big dog isn't him either, I guess.
- W: No. Keith has his number already pinned on the front of his shirt.
- M: Oh, I see him now! He's got on sunglasses and running shorts.
- W: That's him. Come with me, and I'll introduce you to him.

2. Track 92 00:36

- W: Dad, I really appreciate you coming shopping in the city with me.
- M: My pleasure, I have to buy a gift as well.
- W: I hope Mom likes what I'm getting her for Mother's Day.
- M: She loves gift certificates.
- W: OK, good. So, I thought we could stop at the jewelry store on the northwest corner of Hill Drive and First Avenue. She has found several bracelets there she likes, but she won't buy them for herself.
- M: She will once she has her gift card. That jewelry place is right across the street from an expensive shoe store, isn't it?
- W: Yes, that's right. After we finish there, we'll head south on Hill Drive. The other stores are on Second Avenue. We'll go to the pizzeria shop on the southeast corner of Second and Hill Drive, then onto our final stop.
- M: I thought the ice cream place was on the southwest
- W: No, that's the coffee shop. Once we finish at the pizzeria, we'll stop at the ice cream shop that's in the same shopping center, just two shops east.
- M: You're sure it isn't one door down?
- W: Yes, I'm sure the ice cream shop is the third shop east of the intersection of Second and Hill.

3. Track 93 () 00:34

M: This fantasy movie is a wonder that will melt the hearts of people of all ages. The story is set in rural England during the Middle Ages when knights defended the castle and the royal family from any perpetrators. Our hero in the movie, Ben Cooper, is introduced to us as the uncertain, friendly, eighteen year old working on his father's farm, and when it comes to sword fighting, Ben is in his element. He holds great interest in the art of sword fighting and trains everyday alone in the barn. During a delivery trip to a neighboring village, Ben is confronted by a group of five men, and our hero bravely defends himself and his belongings. Unbeknownst to him, a knight from the royal castle witnesses his bravery and swordsmanship and invites him to become an understudy to become a knight. He puts one foot forward, and after years of training and perfecting his skills, he is betrayed by the very knight that recruited him all those years ago. He is driven out of town by the townsfolk. He goes on an adventure of a lifetime trying to prove his innocence. In the end, the movie is better than I expected.

4. Track 94 / 00:32

- M: Hey, there! Where are you headed in such a hurry?
- W: My alarm didn't go off, so I just woke up. I'm already an hour behind schedule. My class starts in less than an hour. I'd really appreciate it if you could drive me to school.
- M: I'm happy to do it. A friend in need is a friend indeed. Besides, I'm going that way already. Is there anything I can do to help you get ready?
- W: No. But it would be great if we could stop by the library on the way to the university. If I don't return these books today, I'll have to pay a late fee.
- M: Sure, that's not going to be a problem. Do you need to stop anywhere else before your class?
- W: I do need to stop at the bank and withdraw some money from the ATM. Will we have time for that?
- M: Sure. Do you need me to pick you up after your class?
- W: Oh, that would be great! I'll take you out to lunch as a way to thank you for your help today.
- M: That sounds like a fair trade. What time should I meet you?
- W: My class gets out at noon, so I'll meet you in front of the Student Union Building at 12:15.
- M: OK. I'll see you then.

5. Track 95 () 00:33

M: When her sister, Sarah, won the Mediterranean cruise for two, Janice was so excited. She knew Sarah would take her on the trip. After all, they were best friends and the only sibling each other had. So, when Sarah announced that she was taking her cousin, Janice was very upset. She was shocked, but most of all, her feelings were deeply hurt. However, she did not say anything to her sister about it. Instead, she acted out against Sarah. She ignored Sarah's phone calls and spoke rudely to her when they did talk. She often murmured snide remarks under her breath in Sarah's company about not being chosen to go on the trip. Sometimes she disguised her jealousy and anger by making jokes about the ship sinking. She would say, "It's a good thing I'm not going on the cruise because it's probably going to sink anyway." Or she would remark, "Who wants to be trapped on a boat for two weeks with a bunch of American tourists? I'd rather be on land, shopping and experiencing a different culture." Of course, deep down, Janice really wanted to go on the trip. She was just masking her disappointment and anger by saying those things.

6. Track 96 () 00:32

- W: I was hoping I'd get a chance to talk to you.
- M: Oh yeah? What's on your mind?

- W: Well, I overheard the secretary at the office telling someone where to submit his application today so that it would be received the fastest.
- M: Really? I didn't know there were any openings right
- W: Me either. Do you think someone's guitting, and we just don't know about it yet?
- M: It's possible. I don't really pay attention to that sort of thing. There are too many rumors.
- W: I know. It seems every week there's a new one circulating.
- M: Exactly. One of the most important things I do is focus on my job and not worry about the rest.
- W: So, you aren't even a little curious about who might be interviewing people for a new position?
- M: Only a little. I guess I feel like I'll know when I need to know.
- W: That's probably true, but I just wonder who it is.
- M: Well, whether we worry about it or not, I don't think we have much say in who gets hired around here.

7. Track 97 () 00:31

- W: I've got some questions about gym memberships. My sister and I are looking to join a gym, but we may want to do different activities.
- M: No problem. What would you like to know about our state-of-the-art facilities?
- W: How much is it for an aerobic membership and for a tennis membership per month?
- M: It is \$40 for an aerobic membership and \$60 for
- W: I see. How much for a swimming and aerobic membership per month?
- M: A combination membership can save you money; swimming and aerobics membership is \$50 all together.
- W: I see. How much is it for a combination of swimming and tennis?
- M: That would be \$70 per month for both of those
- W: It is great that you provide a discounted price for combination packages. I'll go with one aerobics membership for myself and a swimming and aerobics for my sister.
- M: Yes, we try and provide options for clients. I'm glad you and your sister will be signing up today. Please sit down; I'll sign you up right away.
- W: Thanks, I'm optimistic about exercising again.
- M: I'm sure you'll enjoy our facilities.

8. Track 98 00:34

- M: My parents are coming with me to go car shopping.
- W: Awesome. Do you have any idea what kind of car you want?



- M: My dream car would be a sports car, but I'll have to settle for something more practical.
- W: If you found a good sports car, would your parents buy it for you?
- M: I doubt it. My dad said we're looking for certain qualities in a car, like reliability and good gas mileage. He said a family car is more realistic.
- W: What about a pickup truck, van, or station wagon?
- M: Maybe. They have a lot of room and are versatile. I'll likely get some type of four-door car. The insurance won't cost as much.
- W: I'm jealous. My parents said I can get a car when I graduate and head off to college.
- M: That's generous and considerate of them. That's something to look forward to.
- W: I guess. They hope to save the money to buy me a car in a couple of years.
- M: I don't mind driving you around while we're in high school if you don't mind being in a family car.
- W: That's kind of you. I can't wait to ride in your new car!

9. Track 99 () 00:34

- W: Have you heard what they're saying on the news about fast food?
- M: I've heard that healthy people can eat a bit of fast food along with a balanced diet.
- W: Yeah, I read an article that said some fast-food items can be included in the diet of healthy and athletic people.
- M: I thought all fast food uses too much oil and fat in their cooking. Chefs would be ashamed to cook like that.
- W: The article compared diets for different people, and there's a big difference in calorie absorption between old and young people.
- M: I'm not sure I agree with that. Old or young, overweight people should not be eating fast food.
- W: Think about that inactive person who lost a lot of weight and was eating fast food. He did it by eating healthily and only eating small portions of fast food.
- M: I've never been convinced that that person has been completely truthful.
- W: You're so pessimistic. I think the key to healthy eating is smart choices, not cutting out everything that you like or that tastes good.
- M: Either way, I'm going to avoid fast food as much as I can.

10. Track 100 / 00:48

W: For eighty-one years, the national spelling bee has invited excellent spellers from all over the country to participate in a friendly competition that tests their memory and spelling skills. This year, though,

contest officials are finding some alarming trends in the adult contestants. A recent spelling study conducted on adults across the US found that many were perplexed when asked to spell such common words as "calendar," "questionnaire," "definitely," and "embarrass," though almost half of the adults tested in the study claimed that they are on top of their spelling and that their spelling skills are good. The results revealed basic words were often missed. When asked to give an opinion why they couldn't spell such fundamental words, many adults blamed the spell-check mechanism built into most document and email writing software. Some blamed mobile phones and the epidemic of "text speak" that has swept across the nation. Those who spend much time text-messaging will find a world of interesting abbreviations used in place of common words simply to save time. When the organizers suggested calling to cancel their gadgets and stop using spell-check and text messaging, they all said they wouldn't cancel anything.

11. Track 101 00:41

- M: Are you on your way to the service committee meeting?
- W: Did you not get the email? They had to cancel it until tomorrow.
- M: I didn't get that. Where are you headed, then?
- W: I still have to get some information from the museum for the meeting, so I'm glad I've got a little more
- M: Isn't the museum in the same part of town as the airport? I need to stop by there. We could go together.
- W: OK. I also need to stop by the nail salon to get a gift certificate. That's probably not on your list of errands, but it's in the same part of town as well.
- M: That's cool. I was going to stop by the student building and get something to drink before I start my errands. Want to come with me?
- W: Sure. But I need to take my car to the car wash first. Is that OK?
- M: That's fine.
- W: I'm glad we ran into each other. If we hadn't, we'd be by ourselves.
- M: It does work out well for both of us. Are you ready?
- W: Sure. Let's go.

12. Track 102 () 00:32

M: Many professional groups contribute in many positive ways to helping charitable organizations. These groups are made up of men and women who have a strong desire to bring positive experiences into the lives of those who're struggling. They

provide an invaluable service to our communities by helping those in the most need of assistance. The Architects Society is comprised of kind-hearted, loving individuals from all over the world who are dedicated to promoting safe and green buildings. They also encourage people to volunteer to help those who are less fortunate. They make appearances at fund raisers and similar events to support volunteer organizations. For instance, they frequent things like blood donation drives, benefit walks, children's hospitals, and other events coordinated by non-profit organizations. The Veterinarians Society also supports volunteering through the donation of money. Mechanics and plumbers often donate their time and skills to help those in need. Of all of the charitable groups, lawyers provide the least amount of volunteer service, but they provide invaluable support to women and children.

13. Track 103 () 00:32

W: Scientists are often looking for resourceful and innovative cures to medical problems that have been around a long time. Groundbreaking research has led scientists to look in interesting places for remedies for some common but serious ailments. Nature offers a vast array of substances that can treat, prevent, and sometimes even cure medical diseases. For example, for over twenty years, scientists have looked to the venom of jararaca vipers to treat patients who have heart disease. The venom keeps blood from clotting, and when used in small doses, it prevents people with heart disease from developing life-threatening blood clots. More recently, scientists have discovered that a scorpion's sting may mean death for its prey, but it means life for people who've been diagnosed with a certain type of brain tumor called a glioma. There is a 50 percent mortality rate in people who are diagnosed. In scientific experiments, the scorpion's venom is injected into the tumor cells and destroys them completely while causing no harm to healthy cells in the area. With this information, people who have been diagnosed with this type of tumor could potentially be cured with a substance a scorpion uses to defend and prolong its own life.

14. Track 104 00:34

- W: I may be having some people over to my uncle's house this weekend.
- M: So, this is the weekend you're going to house sit for them? Do they know you're planning on having some friends over?
- W: No, I haven't told them about my plans. Would you like to come?
- M: I don't think I can. Should you be having people over?

- W: They said I should make myself at home. I don't think they'll mind too much. Besides, we won't be in the house; we'll be hanging out by the pool. They'll never know.
- M: Still, they trust you with their house; otherwise, they wouldn't have asked you. I doubt they want a bunch of teenagers over without them there.
- W: I don't see why you're making such a big deal out of it. While the cat's away, the mice will play. It's no big deal.
- M: I think it could be a bad idea. Even if I wanted to come. I doubt my parents would let me since there won't be any adults there. You know their rule.
- W: You don't need to tell them that. Just tell them the basics; you're coming over to swim.
- M: I don't feel comfortable being less than honest with my parents.

15. Track 105 () 00:35

- M: I was worried you wouldn't be pleased with this checkup.
- W: Honestly, I was nervous, too. I never dreamed that falling during a hike could've caused such damage to my eye. My friends did the right thing by getting help quickly.
- M: Yes, they did.
- W: I was really nervous because I couldn't see out of that eve right afterward.
- M: There's a million-to-one chance that you could injure your eye like that. Thankfully we were able to get the thorn out before it caused too much damage.
- W: I seldom get anything in my eye and am hoping it will heal completely.
- M: It looks like you will be fine. I attribute that to the good care you've given it over the past few weeks.
- W: I was willing to do whatever it took to make sure I could see again.
- M: Many people have trouble remembering to put those drops in three times every day. They play a huge role in helping the tissue repair itself.
- W: I really appreciate your help, doctor. I don't want to think what might've happened had you not been able to see me at your office right away.

16. Track 106 () 00:33

- W: (a) Interestingly, a larger percentage of kids would rather watch music videos than shows or movies that are classified as horror.
 - (b) The highest percentage of kids watch comedy shows, showing that lighthearted laughs are still a favorite.
 - © More kids would rather watch drama than comedy.
 - (d) Dramatic shows were another favorite of the children surveyed, drawing almost as many viewers as music videos.

(e) The percentage of kids who watch both music videos and comedy almost equals half of the overall votes.

17. Track 107 00:34

- (a) W: It makes me angry Jesse was allowed to make up the work he missed. Everyone else has to complete the task assigned on time in the lecture hall.
 - M: Maybe we don't know what really happened. Maybe he needed to ask for help, and the teacher feels it's fair.
- (b) M: I'm excited because I have a really easy semester this fall. I can really use the extra time, too, because I will be working at my part-time job.
 - W: That will be a nice break from the hectic pace you kept last year.
- © W: I told you that there would be consequences if you came home late.
 - M: I know, but I wish you'd let me explain what caused me to miss curfew.
- d M: I bought that new CD the other day. I'm so excited because I loved their last release.
 - W: I've heard several songs from it on the radio. I like that group!
- (e) W: I wish we could study in groups for the final. I've never done that before.
 - M: I've chosen the people I want to work with.

18. Track 108 () 00:39

- W: Oh, I'm so glad to be here!
- M: Is this your first visit to Missouri, the "Show Me" state?
- W: Yes. I'm driving across the country in a rental car.
- M: What made you want to take a trip like that?
- W: I've never been outside of Tennessee. I took a month off work. I'll drive and check in my rental car in California, and then I have to fly back for work.
- M: In a car by yourself? There are several good coachclass bus lines that run across the country.
- W: I know, but I wanted to be on my own schedule.
- M: Have you ever flown anywhere out of state, either?
- W: No, I've stayed in the same town since I was born. I hoped you could give me some maps and an idea of what to see while I'm in Missouri.
- M: I'm sure you'll enjoy the trip, then. You are going to fall in love with this state; there is so much to see. Well, here are the maps you need and some brochures about local attractions.
- W: Thank you for your kindness. My impression of Missouri is good so far!

19. Track 109 () 00:00

W: Welcome to Lin's Palace, sir. Can I take an order or would you like to see a menu first?

- M: A friend recommended the chicken and fried rice, but I wondered if I could get steamed rice instead of fried rice.
- W: Certainly, though you won't get the vegetables that are usually fried with the rice.
- M: Is there a way I could get a plate of vegetables on the side?
- W: Yes. We have a dinner plate of vegetables, but I'll have the chef make yours a side dish. Would you like to substitute that for the egg rolls that normally come on the fried rice plate?
- M: That sounds great. What do you have to drink?
- W: We have several kinds of tea as well as water and soft drinks. We also have milk and juice.
- M: I want tea; preferably hot tea rather than iced, if it's available.
- W: Absolutely, sir. Would you like to order anything
- M: I don't think so. Thank you for your help.

20. Track 110 / 00:51

- M: Can you tell me what your dog's been doing that makes you worried?
- W: Well, doctor, I can't get him to eat, and he hasn't wanted to go outside.
- M: How long has this been going on? Has he had all of his vaccinations?
- W: It started about three days ago. Now he doesn't even want to walk around the neighborhood. And yes, he's current on all of his shots.
- M: Did he eat anything odd that you know of?
- W: I had some spoiled meat in the trash, and he may've gotten into it.
- M: I'd be surprised if that was the cause. Dogs are usually able to handle that sort of thing.
- W: This actually happened once before, right after I first got him, but I attributed that to the stress of being in a new place.
- M: Has there been anything lately that you think might be stressing him out?
- W: Now that you mention it, I just got a new roommate. She has a big dog that she keeps in the backyard.
- M: I bet the new dog is what has affected his appetite and changed his behavior. There isn't anything to worry about. He should be back to himself in a few

21. Track 111 () 00:36

W:

- W: Have you gotten your ticket yet?
- M: No. I hope they aren't sold out. I really want to see Mia in her stage debut.
- W: I'm excited. I can't believe she got the leading role. She's only performed small roles up until now.

- M: I know. She's nervous about it.
- W: I bet, but she'll do a great job. She's one of those people who was born with a talent for performing.
- M: Yes. I'm the complete opposite. I get on stage or in front of people and freeze up.
- W: I didn't know that about you. Have you ever taken an acting or speech class to help you face your fears?
- M: No, I'm not an actor, but I have taken a speechwriting class. I don't think I'm brave enough to go on stage. I don't want to bite off more than I can
- W: I took a stage-design course and a cinema class in college. But presenting is a good skill to have.
- M: That's what my mom says, but I'm not interested. I'm content to watch people like Mia who have that
- W: Well, the world needs spectators, too. Would you like me to get your ticket for the play?

M:

22. Track 112 () 00:40

M: A new company has been formed that functions using the same ideas as a social networking site, but it provides information in real time to people who are on the road. It can be accessed from your cell phone and is meant to warn drivers of potential speed traps on the highways whether they are on rural or country roads. Speed traps are areas where police officers plan to catch drivers speeding, whether it's with a laser gun on the side of the road or an officer hiding in an area out of the driver's view. Interestingly, unlike radar detectors that are illegal in some areas, this new site has gained the support of at least a few law enforcement officers. They are glad to see drivers slow down, whatever the reason, be it a text message sent to your cell phone warning of a speed trap or an officer positioned in a high speed area. Ideally, both the new site and having law enforcement officers on site

23. Track 113 () 00:37

- M: I'm participating in a fitness challenge where I work.
- W: That's great! What is the goal? Weight loss? Being in better shape?
- M: Well, we're divided up into teams, and we have six weeks to train. At the end, the teams will run a 5K race. The team with the best combined time wins. They will have the road closed for the whole afternoon.
- W: How fun! I'd be glad to help you if you need some ideas for training and conditioning.
- M: Thank you. I was actually planning on asking you to advise me since this is what you are going to school for.

- W: Well, I'd be more than happy to help.
- M: That would be perfect!
- W: I can give you a few pointers, or I wouldn't mind meeting with your entire team for a couple of sessions if they're interested.
- M: We all happen to be members at the same gym. Why don't we try to get together this Thursday night at eight? That is, if you are not already booked up and it won't interfere with other training sessions you have scheduled.
- W: Sounds good to me. I'll bring several ideas to help you guys get into running shape guickly. You'll be exhausted, but it'll work!

24. Track 114 () 00:40

- M: I'm looking forward to the weekend.
- W: I'm excited to meet your parents.
- M: I can't wait for you to taste my mom's cooking. She's the best!
- W: That'll be nice. I've gotten really tired of the cafeteria.
- M: I told her to fix all of her specialties: chicken fried steak and mashed potatoes, lasagna with homemade bread sticks, and her coconut cream pie.
- W: Oh, yum. That sounds great! I'm a little worried about meeting your family.
- M: Don't be. They'll think you're great. I'm disappointed, though, because my younger brother won't be there to meet you.
- W: I thought everyone was going to be there. It's too bad that he won't be there. Doesn't he still live at home?
- M: Well, he is on a debate team with his high school, and they're on a school trip competing at the state competition in another city.
- W: That's great. Good for him.
- M: Yes. He's very excited. Besides, you'll have your hands full keeping up with the rest of the family. My twin sisters, my grandparents, and several cousins should all be there on Saturday night.
- W: Oh, my. This may be more than I bargained for!

25. Track 115 () 00:34

W: The part of the country where I live doesn't receive very much rainfall, and I can only water my lawn on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Because of this, the city has had to enforce a water conservation program which gives tips on how to save water around the house, from using "smart" toilets that use less water, to ensuring all faucets and showerheads don't drip or use too much water. The biggest of all parts of the conservation program is the water used to keep everyone's lawns green. This has been a big adjustment because each family can only water their yard on specific days of the week.

Those who live on streets that begin with A--H water on Mondays and Fridays while homes on streets I--Q can water their lawns on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Residents living on streets that begin with R--Z are allowed to water their yards on Wednesdays and Sundays. In months that have 31 days, everyone is allowed to water for an hour in the evening on the 31st day.

26. Track 116 00:36

M: While dieting fads can include a lot of different extreme demands, such as eating only one type of food, many of these diets have been linked to weight loss. But are they the only way to shed pounds? Eating a grapefruit at every meal or drinking special green lemonade has been successful for some people, while eliminating all animal products out of their diet has been successful in other people. For the past nine months, an Englishman has implemented a diet consisting of only canned baked beans. He'll digest two cans at breakfast and two for lunch and conclude the day with two cans of beans for dinner. Though this seems a highly unlikely way to sustain a weightloss plan, the English man's body weight steadily decreased by consistent increments, and he has lost 63.5 kilograms. Canned beans are loaded with fiber and even have protein that the body needs to function every day without including all the fat and sugar that many foods have. As with all single-food diets, this particular diet has never been studied and demands a lot of dedication

27. Track 117 () 00:39

W: My father is notorious for his strategic planning for everything in his life, from the way he packs for a trip to the way he approaches his work every day. Growing up, this sometimes made me a little annoyed, and I would complain because it took a lot of time for him to load all the "extra" things in the car. For a weekend trip to the lake, we took an extra tent, two spare tires, enough food to feed an army, and four flashlights. There were only four of us in my family, but you'd think we were a small legion of soldiers the way my father packed provisions. As I grew older, however, I began to realize how helpful it was to have extra in the event of an emergency. In fact, the weekend we got stranded on a long stretch of remote mountain highway, I was thankful for the extra food and blankets because we didn't see another person for two days, and there was six inches of snow on the ground.

28. Track 118 / 00:33

- W: (a) The race began, and I fell trying to jump the third hurdle which, in turn, led me to fall on every other hurdle in the 100-meter race, and it took failing in that race to realize I didn't have to be my brother. I didn't have to stand in his shadow anymore.
 - **(b)** My brother was the state-record holder in running hurdles in track, so I practiced hard and worked with the coach on getting my steps down and making sure I had the right stride between hurdles. I had lots of trouble in practice, and the coach suggested I try something new in order to avoid falling behind. The first track meet of the year came, and I desperately hoped I could do as well as my brother.
 - © Anything athletic that my brother attempted, he immediately succeeded in. For me, it was maddening that I, the second born, was only mediocre at best, and that was after having practiced. I was so embarrassed and annoyed, but my parents never compared us and tried to encourage me to pursue my own strengths, but I was determined to be as good as he was at athletics.

29. Track 119 () 00:51

- (a) M: I support the idea of the schools in my district having the necessary regulations in place to allow cell phone users to have access to their phones in certain areas and at certain times of day. Granted, texting and calling during class is inappropriate, but time spent on these activities before and after school or at lunch shouldn't be problematic.
- (b) W: Speaking as a parent of a child who has to drive twenty minutes to and from school every day, I'm comforted by the fact that cell phones are permitted on campus. My daughter can call to let me know when she arrives safely at school and when she is leaving in the afternoon, so perhaps we should consider these situations.
- © M: To compare with the past, schools and students survived for over a hundred years without the need for each student to carry a cell phone in their pocket or backpack. The office has a phone, and most classrooms have telephone access, so these phones provide plenty of accessibility, even for emergencies.
- d) W: As a teacher, I strongly oppose the use of cell phones at school. They are distracting, and they interfere with students' education. Administrators may try to limit where and when students can be on their phones, but students always find a way around the rules. They usually end up texting under their desks or excusing themselves to the bathroom to make phone calls during school.

30. Track 120 () 00:35

W: Diana was the type of lady who seemed to have it all: she was beautiful, she made a fortune as a model, and she had the best of everything the world had to offer. She was fortunate enough to enjoy a luxurious tropical exotic island on a regular basis. She would relax in a hammock on the beach, or she would spend time on a cruise touring around the Caribbean islands. Unlike many of her peers. Diana didn't let these shallow, material things affect her personality or her outlook. Diana attributed her physical attractiveness and her success to the simple fact that she truly believed her purpose in life was to be content with what she had, be it a little or a lot. She believed that the quality of a person's character on the inside was more important than his or her looks or success on the outside.

19:17

Practice Test 5

1. Track 121 / 00:42

- W: How does it feel to be back here in your old hometown attending Seeder High School?
- M: A little weird. I mean, we all started elementary school together, but I haven't seen you guys since I was eight.
- W: I wonder if you'll be able to recognize outgoing Marta. Remember when we used to ride the bus home every day together? She's standing across from the door, by the blackboard.
- M: I vaguely remember she had brown hair.
- W: She still does. But it's curly now, instead of straight. Have you spotted her yet?
- M: That's not her, is it? The girl wearing the plaid skirt?
- W: No, but she's in that area. She's standing taller than most of the girls up there.
- M: So, she's not the girl wearing shorts, I guess.
- W: No. I didn't realize how many brunettes we have in class. I'll give you one more hint: She's wearing a backpack.
- M: I wondered if that was her! Now that I look at her face, I can definitely tell that's Marta.
- W: Let's go over and say hi. She's excited that you've moved back and is looking forward to seeing you again.
- M: You lead the way.

2. Track 122 () 00:34

- W: Thank you for running these errands for me.
- M: No problem.
- W: I'm so sorry that I can't go with you, but my doctor said I better take it easy for a couple of days.

- M: I don't want you to miss Anna's surprise party, so take care of yourself.
- W: Thanks. First, you need to talk with the baker on the northwest corner at the intersection of Marshall Avenue and Thirty-fourth Street. They'll have her cake ready for you to pick up.
- M: OK.
- W: After that, continue south on Thirty-fourth Street and stop by the music store to pick up her new stereo.
- M: I know right where that is. We take the dogs to the pet groomer just east of there, right?
- W: Exactly. Your last stop is the clothing store that is just across the street from the music store. I have three shirts reserved there that we need to pick up. Anna mentioned that she liked them.
- M: Across the street in which direction? I thought that the burger place was across Nation Boulevard from the music store.
- W: No, the burger place is east across Thirty-fourth street. You should go south across Nation Boulevard.

3. Track 123 () 00:34

W: This animation is sure to be a favorite among movie-goers of all ages, featuring an assorted cast of funny, lovable, and guirky characters. This comedy is filled with highly amusing dialog and a storyline that keeps the audience guessing. This movie could also be described as an action and adventure! The story is about an investigation following an eventful day in the forest involving several of the forest's residents. No one is sure who's telling the real story and who's stretching the truth, and the audience discovers the answers along with the green-skinned investigator. When some friends in the forest discover a few of the animals trying to sell part of the forest, they know they need to do something to stop it from happening. The main characters need to cross the forest and get into the main camp where the bad guys are stationed. Once inside the camp, they can learn how to stop them. And the adventure begins! So, grab some popcorn, sit back in your chair, and enjoy this ageold and well-loved story told with several new and fascinating twists.

4. Track 124 () 00:35

- W: We've got to hurry, or we're going to miss the opening band. I've heard they're really good.
- M: I thought the concert didn't start until 7:30.
- W: It doesn't, but I need to stop at the gas station first. Do you think our seats will be taken?
- M: Our seats are reserved, so I'm sure we'll be fine. If anyone is sitting in them when we get there, we'll just



- show them our tickets or squeeze between them!
- W: Also, I wanted to drop some clothes at the dry cleaners; I doubt they'll be open on our way home.
- M: I bet they'll have police at the intersection directing traffic tonight in that area outside of the parking garage. Besides, it only takes thirty-five minutes to get there on a busy day.
- W: I know, but you know how I like to be early. Do you mind if we stop by the pizzeria?
- M: Actually, I do. I'm in such a hurry. Remind me again why we do things together?
- W: Because we balance each other out. Can we agree to leave in twenty minutes?
- M: I guess that will work for me.
- W: That gives us forty minutes of driving time and ten minutes before the show starts.
- M: That works.

5. Track 125 () 00:33

W: It was always very difficult for Ricky to be in the spotlight speaking to a group of his peers. He was very uncomfortable when all of the attention was focused on him. Speech class was like being sent to a torture chamber. It felt like everyone was looking right into his soul. It was even worse when he was forced to talk about himself. He was worried that his classmates would make fun of him or criticize his speech. He was also afraid that they might gossip amongst each other outside of class about the stuff he told them. It was easier for Ricky to be the captain of the football team getting beat up and yelled at on the field every week than to share personal information and talk about his feelings in front of an audience. Sharing his personal thoughts and showing emotion made him feel very defenseless against any potential attacks.

6. Track 126 () 00:32

- M: Well, what do you think after your first few weeks?
- W: It was tough, but I feel like I learned a lot. You know, after I met with you, I almost decided not to join.
- M: That's not good.
- W: It wasn't anything you said. I just wanted to make sure that it was the right decision for me.
- M: And, was it the right decision for you?
- W: Absolutely, Sergeant. I learned that I have much more strength than I thought I did.
- M: That's great. Are you going to take advantage of the scholarship programs so that you can learn a trade that will help you once you've served your duty?
- W: I haven't decided yet, but I think I will apply for the education training. I would like to be a professor once I'm able to finish school.

- M: That's great news. I'm glad to hear that your experiences have been positive so far.
- W: They really have. In fact, if you need military personnel to help you with your speeches at schools, I'd be glad to.
- M: That's kind of you to offer.
- W: I think a lot of people don't know the opportunities that are offered.

7. Track 127 00:34

- M: Hi there, I can't find your grills. Can you tell me where they are please?
- W: I'll be right there...did you want gas or electric?
- M: I'm not sure. We're getting our parents a grill for their anniversary, but we're on a limited budget.
- W: Well, our electric grills start out at \$275. We also have several gas grills, starting at \$150. When it comes to gas grills, we have the best selection in town.
- M: At those prices, I'll definitely go for the gas grill.
- W: One of our most popular models costs \$195. It has a big grilling surface but is a compact model.
- M: It's just what I want. That would be nice for them. They don't have much room on their patio.
- W: If you want a smaller grill, we have a more compact one for \$165, but some people say the grilling surface isn't big enough.
- M: I don't care for a smaller grilling surface. I'd rather stick with the first one you mentioned.
- W: OK. Are you going to take it home today, or would you rather have it delivered? Delivery is an additional
- M: That won't be necessary. I brought my truck today, so I'll just take it home right now.

8. Track 128 () 00:36

- W: Hi, Shawn. Would you like to come over and see my new cat?
- M: No thanks. I have a problem with my allergies and haven't been able to find a solution to it.
- W: I didn't know that. Has that been a problem all your life? What about dogs?
- M: I've had allergies for as long as I can remember, but dogs don't seem to affect me. Whenever I get around cat hair, I start sneezing uncontrollably.
- W: I don't mean to contradict you, but hair is not what causes an allergy to flare up.
- M: Apparently, you're not allergic because that's what happens to me.
- W: Actually, it's the cat's saliva that triggers the allergy. I think most people believe it's the hair from a cat, but I've read several articles that say it's really their saliva. Are you allergic to other animals, like horses, cows, or rabbits?
- M: None of those animals bother me. So, you think

- the hair shouldn't bother me at all?
- W: From what I know about it, it shouldn't. Now, if it gets in your face like dust or something, it might cause you to sneeze.
- M: How interesting. Now I'm curious to find out if that is true. I'm going to go home and look that up.

9. Track 129 00:36

- W: I'm so annoyed and frustrated that I can't get my cell phone to work.
- M: I'm sorry. Is there any way that I could help?
- W: I don't know. I've been trying to make calls all morning, and it just keeps telling me the call failed. It was working fine yesterday.
- M: It could be caused by a problem with the whole network, not just your phone.
- W: How do I find that out? Is there somewhere we look online?
- M: You could go by the phone store in the mall.
- W: Will you come with me? You're so much more knowledgeable about technology than I am. I don't even know what to ask them.
- M: Sure. I'll come with you. If it's a bigger network problem, then my phone will be affected, too. But my phone needs to be charged, so I can't check to see if it's working or not.
- W: I'll drive us to the mall, if that's OK with you. I'd like to buy you ice cream for your trouble.
- M: Oh, it's not any trouble at all. Besides, I wanted to stop by the florist in the mall anyway.
- W: Well, now that it's on my mind, I want ice cream, so let's get going.
- M: Fine with me!

10. Track 130 00:50

W: Choosing and applying to the college of your choice is a daunting process for any student. For someone with a learning disability, such as dyslexia-a disorder that makes reading difficult-the process can be even more overwhelming. This is often because, for those with learning disabilities who are used to the accommodations provided for students in grades K-12, universities are not required by law to make any special adjustments for learning-disabled students. However, this doesn't mean that disabled students should be discouraged and become pessimistic about their options. There are plenty of ways students with disabilities can ensure that they will be able to handle the college world. First, find out if the college you're interested in has services for the learning disabled. Some colleges specifically serve this population while others don't have any type of assistance at all. Second, locate the disabilities services office on campus. There will likely be paperwork and documentation that they must have on file for you. Third, make sure you know the policies of alerting your professors to your disability. Sometimes colleges require that you submit a letter to each professor for each class every semester. Besides, it's better to be safe than sorry.

11. Track 131 00:37

- M: It's awesome that we have some time off and the whole afternoon to enjoy.
- W: I've heard the carnival's in town. Want to go?
- M: I've never been a big fan of those rickety rides. They make me nervous.
- W: Oh, I don't ride the rides. I go mainly to eat the yummy food and look at all the exhibits.
- M: I hoped I could play a little golf at the sports stadium today. It's the perfect day for it.
- W: It is good golfing weather, but the carnival is only here once a year. Think of those delicious fried potatoes and turkey legs. You can't get those in the grocery store. Doesn't that make you want to come with me?
- M: It's convincing. But I gave away my ticket to someone because I wasn't going to go.
- W: That's OK. We can stop by the ticket office on the way to get one. I think they have extra ones.
- M: I can't believe I'm letting you talk me into this. The carnival is noisy and crowded. The golf course is peaceful and quiet.
- W: You can golf any day.
- M: All right, all right. You've convinced me.
- W: Great! Let's stop by the ticket office to get your ticket.

12. Track 132 () 00:33

M: A record-breaking science experiment for Belgian students recently attracted international attention. Fifteen hundred students were lined up at the Ladeuzeplein square in Leuven, Belgium along tables set up across the square. The students, dressed in rain ponchos, gathered in hopes of breaking the world record for the most explosive fountain created by a carbonated beverage and sweet mint candy. Simultaneously, the students dropped the candy into bottles of soda in front of them and watched as the chemical reaction caused fizz to shoot several meters in the air. Some find it interesting that the mint candy and soda fountain is worthy of a world record, but there are many intriguing world records out there. Not only are there scientific-type world records, but there are also categories for the world's longest fingernails (over 7 meters long) and the world's most tattooed body. It seems that society as a whole enjoys witnessing who can be the most outrageous or the most unique at something. Many of the most interesting records are the ones that are about things naturally occurring, such as the world's largest monkey (50.8 cm tall) or the world's heaviest apple (1.849 kg). There are many interesting and outrageous records, but many people are unaware of how the categories are chosen.

13. Track 133 () 00:36

M: The subconscious mind works behind the scenesbreathing, blinking, swallowing, taking in our physical surroundings, and even problem-solving. Hypnosis is a way to deeply rest the conscious mind, which is in control of reasoning and logic, through relaxation techniques and reach into the depths of the subconscious mind. The subconscious mind is where memories are stored and is what regulates feelings and emotions, and it is for these reasons that hypnosis can be used to help people change bad habits or deal with bad experiences in their past. During hypnosis, the brain is in a state of relaxation and heightened imagination and is susceptible to suggestibility. This means that the brain is actually at a different level of activity than when we are fully awake. Interestingly, many psychologists believe there are several daily activities in which we experience a low level of hypnotism. Ever get lost in a book or movie? Experts say that is a type of hypnosis-like state. The same goes for driving, mowing the lawn, and other activities that don't require our full brain's attention. Hypnosis is a fascinating process through which your body can calm the conscious mind and allow the subconscious to take control.

14. Track 134 () 00:35

- M: I'm having a hard time with girls, and I don't know why.
- W: Plenty of girls like you, Jackson. You just never take the initiative to ask them out.
- M: I can't stand the thought of rejection. What if I ask a girl and she says no?
- W: Then you're back to square one, and you'll find another girl. It's not the end of the world. You're a fun guy, and I'm sure lots of girls would want to spend time with you.
- M: I don't know. I wish one of them would do the asking. That would save me from any embarrassment.
- W: Oh, get real! You're never going to have a date with that attitude. It's your job to do the asking, so you'll just have to be alone until you decide you're brave enough to ask someone out.
- M: That's harsh. I thought you and I were friends.

- W: I don't mean to be mean, but it's the truth.
- M: I guess I prefer the truth.
- W: If you sit around and wait for the girls to come calling, you'll be sitting there alone for a long time.

15. Track 135 () 00:31

- M: So, how did the interview go?
- W: It actually went really well. In fact, they asked me to start next week.
- M: That's great news! Congratulations.
- W: I never dreamed they'd give me a 9-to-5 job right away. It caught me a little off guard.
- M: I guess they know a good employee when they see
- W: Thank you. I'm a little nervous because I need to buy some nice clothes for work. I can't wear the clothes I wear to school to work in a bank.
- M: Can I help you pick some things out? The key is having a lot of clothes that can be mixed and matched with each other.
- W: I would really appreciate that. I don't have a lot of money to spend, but I'd like to get a few nice things to start.
- M: I know the perfect place in the city and a couple of places here in the suburbs, too. They've got namebrand dress clothes for less than brand-name prices. We'll be able to find all you need there.
- W: Oh, thank you! Since you've been working for a little while, I knew you'd know what I would need and where to find it.

16. Track 136 () 00:34

- (a) Not surprisingly, more teenagers would prefer to talk to a friend when they've got a problem.
- (b) Parents came in as the second most preferred people, winning more than half of the votes friends were awarded.
- © Teenagers chose to talk to their brothers over their teachers, likely because they are closer to them in age.
- **(d)** Students were least likely to talk to their teachers.
- (e) The largest number of kids chose to talk to their teachers.

17. Track 137 () 00:31

- (a) M: I have to go to my parents before we go out to dinner because I'm taking out the trash, vacuuming, and watering the plants for my parents tonight.
 - W: Well, aren't you a nice son! What's the occasion?
- (b) M: You can walk the dog first before you buy one for yourself.
 - W: Really, that sounds great. I really love bagels.
- © M: I'd hoped to do the laundry today, but the water is still off. I need to wash my clothes for tonight.

- W: It's too bad the water is off; I was hoping to wash my turtleneck sweater.
- (d) M: If I didn't know any better, I'd think you were the musician playing tonight.
 - W: I enjoy the piano, but my brother is the musician in the family and is the one playing tonight.
- (e) M: Did you know that Rhode Island is America's smallest state?
 - W: I've actually heard that before. You can drive across the state in an hour.

18. Track 138 00:34

- M: So, I guess you've visited a lot of places for your job.
- W: Yes. I'm so busy with work, but I love getting to see how people in different countries live. I like to stay in lesser known hotels, so I can see how people there really are.
- M: That's why I'm excited about the trip my parents are giving me after graduation.
- W: Where do you want to go on your trip?
- M: We've talked about Greece because my greatgrandparents were born there.
- W: Well, I've got a Mediterranean cruise special right
- M: Thank you, but we aren't interested in a cruise.
- W: OK. I've got a great package that includes international air fare and your lodging while you're
- M: Tell me how the prices of a trip to Greece compare with a trip to Spain.
- W: Right now, trips to Spain are less expensive.
- M: Why is that?
- W: This is Spain's off-season—when there aren't as many travelers.

19. Track 139 () 00:35

- W: Welcome to The Sandwich Shop at the shopping mall. Can I take your order?
- M: Yes, please. I would like your special: an apricot banana smoothie, a salsa taco with lettuce and cheese, and a bag of chips for \$4.50.
- W: I'm sorry, sir. But we are out of bananas. I can make you another kind of smoothie.
- M: I'm sorry to hear that, but that's OK. I've seen how busy you've been today. Do you make apricot smoothies?
- W: No, sir, but we do have peaches. In fact, our strawberry peach smoothie is very popular.
- M: It's actually one of my favorites, but I thought I'd try something new. Let me have a blueberry smoothie and a turkey sandwich instead of the salsa taco,
- W: I can do that, sir. Which type of bread do you prefer: white, wheat, or sourdough?

- M: I would like sourdough please. Also, I don't want mayonnaise or mustard, but I would like cheese.
- W: Thank you for being understanding, sir. Is there anything else you'd like?
- M: No, thank you.

20. Track 140 () 00:48

- M: I didn't see you in class this morning. Is everything
- W: Actually, I was having computer trouble, so I couldn't print out my paper. That's never happened before.
- M: I'm sorry. I don't think he'll let you turn it in late; maybe you can use a courier service and turn it in later today.
- W: That's what I hope. I still can't get my computer to pull up the file, but I know I saved it.
- M: I could help you if you'd like.
- W: That would be great. I want to go talk to Mr. Hill to let him know what's going on.
- M: Actually, he mentioned in class that he would be out of his office the rest of the day. Are you going to try and deliver it to his office?
- W: Well, I hope I can find an email address for him
- M: I've got a campus directory of email addresses for all of the professors.
- W: That's very nice of you. I'll send it to him that way so he knows I got it done on time.
- M: That's a good idea. That way, he'll be more likely to believe your absence from class this morning, too.
- W:

21. Track 141 () 00:35

- M: I've been having trouble sleeping lately. I don't know what's going on.
- W: I'm sorry to hear that. Do you have a lot on your
- M: I guess so. I think I'm more anxious about the tests and my project than I thought.
- W: That happens to me sometimes. But I've learned to clear my mind so I can get some rest.
- M: I try, but I seem to get more uptight when I think too much about it.
- W: I strongly recommend progressive relaxation. Do you want me to demonstrate?
- M: Yeah, sure.
- W: You kneel down or lie down and walk your mind through relaxing your entire body.
- M: That sounds a little weird.
- W: Actually, it's what has helped me to be more laid-back when I'm stressed out. I do it as I lie in bed, waiting to go to sleep. Usually, I don't get all the way through it before I doze off.
- M: That would be so nice. I find myself just staring at

the ceiling for a couple of hours most nights.

W: I've got a CD about progressive relaxation. It takes your mind into a peaceful state that relaxes your whole body.

M:

22. Track 142 / 00:42

M: An interesting bill was put before the Louisiana State Senate for a vote recently. Several senators wanted to pass a law that made it illegal to wear jeans that were too loose and baggy. The bill was the result of the work of a group that feels that clothing has become too immodest and should be more closely monitored. They oppose jeans that are baggy because they think people should present a neater appearance, so passing the law would mean that anyone wearing baggy, oversized jeans would receive a sizeable fine. There are many problems with this bill. The senate decided not to pass the bill in an almost unanimous and dramatic vote because they believed passing a law about how people wear their pants was a violation of the First Amendment, which allows for freedom of speech and expression. So, while some may find the baggy style unattractive or sloppy, the senators believe it's the wearer's choice, and _____

23. Track 143 () 00:34

W: Hey, Frank. I hoped I would catch you before you went home. Do you have a minute?

M: Sure, Mary, I have plenty of time. What can I do for you?

W: I want to talk to you about the vehicle you are selling. Do you still have it for sale?

M: Great. I sure do still have it for sale! Let's go have a look at it and take it for a test drive.

W: I appreciate that. I can't wait to drive a sports car.

M: I'm sorry, it's not a sports car. It's actually bigger than a sports car, but it does drive pretty quickly.

W: Oh, I thought it was a sports car. Is it a truck? I love trucks. It's great to be high up on the road.

M: Once I sell this vehicle, I will be getting a truck myself actually.

W: That's great for you. So, your vehicle is not an SUV either? SUVs are supposed to be quite safe.

M: I've heard that, too. Here we are; the station wagon is parked behind the family car. They are less attractive to people in the auto-theft business.

24. Track 144 () 00:36

M: What are your plans for Saturday night? Are you still coming to my party?

- W: Sadly, I don't think I can go.
- M: What seems to be the problem? I really thought you were definitely going to come.
- W: I did too, and I hate to miss it.
- M: What came up?
- W: I found out from my parents that they have tickets for our family to go to the theater that night.
- M: I guess you can't miss that. I know how much you and your family enjoy the theater.
- W: No, they would be really disappointed. The whole family is going to celebrate my mom's birthday. Her favorite musical, Johnny's Home, will be performed by a traveling theater group that night.
- M: So, there's no way you can switch the tickets to another night?
- W: No, it's impossible. I'm really sorry. I was looking forward to your party.
- M: Me, too. The games we have planned won't be as fun without you.
- W: Maybe I can try to come by after the musical if it's not too late?

25. Track 145 () 00:34

M: There was breaking news today of our city developing the narrow streets into wider, more spacious ones. They'll commence the construction with the oldest streets and smaller residential neighborhoods around town. This entails pulling up the asphalt that's already there, repairing any potholes or other damage to the streets, pouring new asphalt, and then smoothing the streets' surfaces. While this is something that is long overdue, it's going to be inconvenient for a large part of the population. It's a big project, and it will likely take guite a while. There are five neighborhoods that will require their streets to be repaired first, and the reporter said it should take about one week per street, and the neighborhoods where they're starting all have ten streets. So, when you see the construction workers and trucks in your neighborhood, please be patient as they go about their work. As a result, the "road closed" sign will be blocking part of the sidewalk. Remember it's important to remain cooperative during this period as it will benefit the entire neighborhood. So, when frustration occurs, just think how nice your street will look when it's completed!

26. Track 146 () 00:33

W: Finally tonight, a cookie's worth a million dollars! Though it seems a little far-fetched, it's exactly how it sounds. Recently, a cookie recipe garnered first place in a baking contest, and the grand prize was

one million dollars cash. The winner, an American woman who'd entered the contest the past fifteen years, earned the votes of the judges with a delicious peanut butter cookie recipe that includes creamy peanut butter in the middle. She works out of her house and raises a family. Whoever said you can't have your cake and eat it, too, is wrong in her eyes. When asked what she's going to do with the money, the woman grinned and said she guessed she'd need to share some of it with her husband. who is a financial planner, and find various creative ways to spend the rest of it! So, to all you aspiring bakers and chefs watching at home, continue with your marvelous work, and you might just become a millionaire!

27. Track 147 () 00:37

W: At the beginning of the season, the football team was favored to win the district competition, but as they battled through each game, it seemed they would be fortunate just to finish the season. They received criticism from sportscasters and fans, who wanted a more noteworthy season, and the coach's response was always, "We aren't quite done yet." The team possessed a fighting spirit and was determined to finish the season strong with their heads held high. Surprising most of their fans and all of their critics, the team was victorious throughout the rest of the season, winning the district championship as well as finishing runnerup to the state champion, a feat never before accomplished in the history of the school. When a shocked reporter asked the coach what caused the turnaround, he simply said, "I told you several months ago that we weren't done yet and that we needed to come together as a team. After all, united we stand, divided we fall."

28. Track 148 () 00:37

- W: (a) Our scheme was for two of the guys to discover a way into the house through the windows on the back porch, and then they'd let us in to explore. We were all quite worried as our friends approached the house, but we attempted to hide it from each other by pretending to be fearless. As soon as our friends crawled through the back window, we heard heart-stopping screams and a huge commotion from inside the house.
 - **(b)** Summers were unhurried in the small town of Peterstown, Maryland, and my friends and I often found ourselves getting into mischief to help pass the time. That sweltering and humid Tuesday afternoon was no exception. We found ourselves plotting a way

- to break into the abandoned and possibly haunted bungalow at the edge of town.
- © Those of us outside were so frightened and shocked, we immediately fled the scene, trying to get away as guickly as possible. As we ran, we heard shrieks of laughter coming from the abandoned house. We cautiously returned only to find that some of our mothers, having heard of our plan, decided to sneak in and frighten us to teach us a good-natured lesson.

29. Track 149 00:54

- (a) W: People can acquire an immense amount of knowledge about the universe and the rest of the world without having to be launched into outer space to do so. Consider the many species and parts of the world that have yet to be discovered. First, we should embark on educating ourselves all we can about our planet before biting off more than we can chew and attempting to visit other planets. Besides, curiosity killed the cat.
- (b) M: The idea that space travel is accessible to people who aren't astronauts is incredible. Yet until it's equally available to all members of society and not just those with immense sums in their bank accounts, I don't believe this opportunity should be permitted to the ordinary population.
- © W: I can't comprehend individuals who wouldn't soar at the opportunity to explore outer space, and I believe it's a marvelous idea for ordinary people to have the opportunity to travel in a space shuttle. Though funding is an obvious problem for many people, it shouldn't restrict those with the financial resources and desire from travelling to outer space if desired. If this is the case, we'd surely require a new and different type of travel agency!
- d M: Although I think it's dangerous to take untrained civilians into outer space on tours, I also think it is an amazing opportunity for those who can afford the risky trips. By allowing ordinary people to go on space tours, we can get a fresh perspective on the universe and space travel that is different from the scientific approach of trained astronauts.

30. Track 150 () 00:36

M: I read an interesting article the other day about a home-security company that employs specialists to assist in making the most effective home alarms on the market. The company is known for its original ideas and unconventional approaches to making sure its customers and their homes are protected. Once the company is hired by someone to make the person's home more secure, this team of specialists, with the permission of the homeowner, stages a burglary and breaks into their home. Nothing is really stolen during the staged break-in, and it's done at a time when the homeowner is out of the house. Actually breaking into the home allows the company to know where the home is vulnerable in regard to security. It also helps them to establish a safety plan to protect the valuables and family inside the home. Though some criticize their method, they have an excellent record in homes with their security systems. They do not offer refunds if your house still gets broken into, though.

19:17

Practice Test 6



- W: I'm really excited about working at the summer camp with so many fun people.
- M: Me, too. It's a great group. I had a chance to meet Marc, the guy you haven't met yet. He's here today for the counselor meeting.
- W: Is Marc the tall, dark-headed guy wearing the white, long-sleeved shirt?
- M: No. Marc does have dark hair, but he's not that tall.
- W: He must be the guy wearing the plaid shirt, standing near the food table.
- M: No. That guy has a goatee, and Marc doesn't have any facial hair.
- W: So, that shorter guy wearing the backpack and T-shirt can't be him, either.
- M: That's right. In fact, Marc is one of the only guys in here who doesn't have facial hair.
- W: Is he wearing a baseball cap like that guy in the doorway?
- M: No, he isn't.
- W: That has to be him by the water fountain—the guy with the striped shirt.
- M: Yeah! That's him, all right. I'll take you over to meet him.

2. Track 152 () 00:36

- W: Are you ready to run errands?
- M: I can do this by myself. I got my driver's license last week.
- W: I know, dear, but finding your way around the city can be hard. OK, I'll give you the directions while we're here at home, and then I'll just ride along quietly.
- M: OK, fine. Where do we start?
- W: We need to pick up the dry cleaning. It's in the building across from the performing arts center on Cook Boulevard.

- M: OK. That's on the corner of Cook Boulevard and Forty-fifth Street. Where do we go next?
- W: Then, you'll head south on Forty-fifth Street to the clothing store next to the hairdresser's. That's on Armor Avenue, west of Forty-fifth. Remember that Armor Avenue changes to Civic Drive at Forty-fifth Street. It's easy to get confused driving down there
- M: I know, Mom. You've told me all this before.
- W: Our last stop is at the nail salon east of the Snack Shack, across from the used book store on Civic.
- M: What do we need from there? I hate going to the nail salon.
- W: I have to get a gift certificate for your aunt's birthday, so you can wait in the car while I run in.

3. Track 153 () 00:36

M: This drama will have you tapping your toes and moving in your seat to the great music and different dance routines throughout. The movie chronicles the story of a young couple in high school as they maneuver through the social norms and beliefs of life in the 1960s. They challenge opinions that many people held during that time about what constituted normal and accepted behavior. The female character is a young lady who struggles with her weight but who has many talents to offer and won't let others' closedmindedness keep her from her dream. The male character is an young African-American man who doesn't have the opportunities that other teenagers have simply because of his race. These two join forces and refuse to be held down. They work hard to become the dance champions and show their school and their town that we're all really the same, regardless of looks or background. They dress up in fantastic outfits that complement each other. Using memorable lyrics, these two sing about something that people of all ages can relate to and enjoy, and they will dance their way into the audience's heart!

4. Track 154 00:40

- W: I'm worried I'm going to be late for the student council meeting at 1:30 this afternoon.
- M: You still have a while before you have to be there.
- W: I know, but I've got several things going on. Could you cover for me until I get there?
- M: Sure. But I bet you'll make it. What do you have to get done?
- W: I'm on my way right now to a meeting with Mr. James about extra credit.
- M: That won't take more than half an hour. He's pretty brief and to the point most of the time.

- W: Yes, but then I have to meet with the cheerleading squad for our weekly meeting. Our director said to expect to be there the full hour because we're discussing tryouts for next year.
- M: OK. Anything else?
- W: I need to put some signs around school about student council elections, which will take at least thirty minutes if I hang posters in every hall.
- M: OK.
- W: And I've got to find time for lunch sometime in there.
- M: Tell you what: I'll hang up the signs for you, so mark that off your list. That should leave you forty-five minutes to eat lunch and catch your breath before the meeting.

5. Track 155 00:35

M: Although Donna is a very kind and generous woman, it can be quite frustrating to be her friend. She often invites her friends to do things, but then she cancels their plans at the last minute. Sometimes she also volunteers or offers to do things for other people, but then she doesn't follow through with her commitments. And she usually has some lame excuse why she has to cancel. One time, she invited Judy and Karen to spend the weekend at her cabin by the lake. They were going to ride up to the cabin together in Donna's car at 3 o'clock on Friday afternoon and return home on Sunday. Karen bought a sleeping bag for the occasion, and Judy paid to keep her dog at the kennel for the weekend. On Friday, at 2:30 in the afternoon, Donna called to say she couldn't make it because she had decided to go shopping instead. Her friends have learned the hard way that they cannot depend on her. They still enjoy her company, but they do not believe her when she says she's going to do something.

6. Track 156 00:34

- M: This is a very interesting choice, ma'am. Do you mind if I ask you a few guestions?
- W: Not at all, sir. Please do.
- M: How did you choose the menu you used today?
- W: I wanted to present things that had special meaning for me.
- M: Can you elaborate a little?
- W: Well, the pecan-crusted turkey with cranberryjalapeno sauce reminds me of Thanksgiving dinners with my family.
- M: I see.
- W: And the roasted asparagus and red pepper salad takes me back to summers on my grandparents' farm, working in their garden.

- M: Very interesting.
- W: They're elderly now, but they ran a very successful bakery in our small town where I grew up. Toasted wheat bread is in honor of my father. And chocolate has always been my weakness; my mother and I share that. In brief, I took one of her recipes for chocolate pie and spiced it up a little.
- M: I'm captivated by your selections. I have to say that I'm very impressed with your excellent and varied flavors as well as with your overall presentation. I'm excited to see these delicious creations become a part of our permanent menu.
- W: Thank you, sir. I'm honored that you think so highly of my dishes.

7. Track 157 00:35

- W: Welcome to Health Plus. Can I help you find anything?
- M: My wrestling coach told me to take protein supplements while I am weightlifting over the summer to build muscle. He said I should be able to get them here.
- W: Absolutely, we have a powder that can be mixed in with milk in the third aisle on your left.
- M: OK. How much does the protein supplement cost?
- W: One can has thirty servings and costs \$15, and it is really smooth to drink.
- M: My coach said you also sold some type of protein pill that does the same thing as the powder?
- W: Yes we do, but they're more expensive. They are in the same aisle, on the top shelf.
- M: Just for cost comparison, how much are they?
- W: The pills come in a bottle of fifty, and they cost
- M: The powder is the better deal. He said something about me drinking three shakes each day for two
- W: OK, well I think you'll need four cans, by my count.
- M: I'll just take two cans right now, one for home and one for the gym.

8. Track 158 / 00:38

- M: Hi, Julie. How are things going? I don't see you much anymore.
- W: I know, Jason. I miss hanging out with you.
- M: How are your classes going?
- W: I'm so busy with my Spanish course that I'm really struggling to pass.
- M: I wouldn't mind helping you with your Spanish. My grandmother speaks nothing but Spanish, so I did really well when I took it.

- W: You'd be willing to help? That would be great. I don't want to take time away from your studies,
- M: No problem. I also realized when I saw you walking across campus that I told you last semester that I'd help you build some bookshelves for your apartment, and I never did it.
- W: Well, I'll take you up on it if the offer still stands. I haven't had time to get it done, and I really need
- M: Of course it still stands. After all the work you did helping me move last year, I think I at least owe you
- W: You don't owe me a thing, but that's very nice of you. I really appreciate your willingness to help.

9. Track 159 () 00:34

- W: I'm so excited that the Olympics will be on this summer. They're one of my favorite things to watch on television.
- M: I don't normally pay much attention to them.
- W: Are you kidding? I grew up watching the track, swimming, and gymnastics competitions.
- M: I guess it is due to the fact that my parents never really watched sports, and as a result of that, I don't have much interest either.
- W: Too bad. I equate supporting the Olympics to supporting our country.
- M: I'm not unpatriotic or anything. It just isn't something that I take much interest in.
- W: But there's such a rich tradition surrounding the Olympics. When I was a little girl, my dream was to represent my country in the Olympics. What an honor that would be!
- M: I didn't know you were an athlete.
- W: I was. We would take road trips so I could compete. I dreamed of being an Olympic gymnast or runner, anything that would get me to the Olympics on my country's team.
- M: Maybe I'll watch them with you this summer.

10. Track 160 00:54

W: Quick thinking and rapid text messaging kept a Columbus, Ohio home from being burglarized recently. The family's thirteen-year-old daughter had stayed home from school because she was ill that day. She was resting in her room when she heard two strangers break into the house through a back door. Thinking fast, she hid herself under the covers on her bed and used her cell phone to text her mother, who was at work, that their house was being broken into. The mother immediately called 911 and headed home. When she got there, she saw the burglars carrying her family's possessions to their car. She blocked their car in the driveway, and when law enforcement officers arrived at the crime scene, they caught the criminals red-handed and made an arrest. They were able to salvage the computer equipment, jewelry, a digital camera, and many hand tools that the thieves were hoping to take. The brave teenager, though shaken up over the incident, has been acknowledged as a hero and commended for her courage. Her mother is proud that she remained calm in a frightening situation by keeping herself safe and alerting an adult to the crime being committed.

11. Track 161 () 00:38

- M: Hello, Samantha. I didn't expect to see you here. What are you up to?
- W: I used to play tennis at my old school, though when I moved here, I decided to try other things. I still miss it sometimes, so I like to watch.
- M: I didn't realize you did that. I've actually played a little tennis myself. We should get together for a match sometime.
- W: I'm a little rusty, but that would be fun. You're on.
- M: What are you doing after today's match?
- W: I thought about going to the park. It's a beautiful day I hate to do anything indoors.
- M: It really is nice outside. That's why some of us are having a barbecue over at my friend's house. Would you like to come?
- W: I was to go to the shopping center after I went to the park, but I could do that later. I just need to buy my mom a gift before Mother's Day.
- M: I'm glad you reminded me! I still need to get my mom a gift, too. We should go shopping together tomorrow afternoon.
- W: It would be nice to have someone to shop with. I hate going alone.
- M: OK, we're on for tomorrow, and I'll see you after the match, too.

12. Track 162 00:40

M: Many people say that as we grow and mature, we ultimately become our parents, adopting their values and their work ethic. However, a recently released study shows there is an area where we are not similar to our parents. It's in the money we're given for the work we do. The study revealed that starting salaries for men and women who are just entering the workforce now are lower than the rates paid to people of our parents' generation. The numbers have been adjusted for inflation, but for example, a man starting his career in 1980 would've had a starting salary of \$43,767 while a young adult male starting his career these days earns \$37,680, a

difference of approximately 14 percent. The lower wages could be attributed to more competition in the job market with a larger number of women seeking entry-level positions along with their male counterparts. Whatever the reason, our parents' generation seemed to have better luck finding a job with a decent salary right out of college. This leads to another way that we differ from our parents: the age of marriage for young adults is much higher now than it was back then.

13. Track 163 () 00:33

W: Understandably, an inventor wants to take steps to make sure that no one takes credit for his or her work. This is why there is a copyright system in place to warn others that an idea is protected. It was created to give credit to the original mind behind an invention and protect the inventor's legal right to ownership of the idea. In today's wave of hackers, people who specialize in illegally breaking through computer security, we're seeing the act of copyrighting take on a whole new meaning. Hackers have the ability to create software that allows a computer to be more controlled using a virus. There are actually professional hacking companies that create this virus software. One of these companies recently developed a licensing agreement that they require potential users of their virus software to sign. Much of the agreement is basically a type of copyright on their product. This seems a little ridiculous considering that the software they created is completely illegal, but they feel they have a right to protect something that they created with their own intellectual abilities and computer skills.

14. Track 164 00:37

- M: Do you have a minute?
- W: No problem. What's up, Dad?
- M: I need to ask you a couple of questions about last weekend, Mary.
- W: I stayed with Jenna on Saturday night, but otherwise, I was home.
- M: Well, I was talking to a guy at work that was at a concert on Saturday with some of his buddies. He was telling me how he met a girl named Anna, who looked a lot like the picture of you that's on my desk. Do you know anything about that?
- W: Well...I don't...
- M: Has the cat got your tongue? What do you have to say for yourself?

- W: Well, I know you told me that you didn't want me going to that concert, but they're my favorite band. Jenna and I went to the concert and then went straight home to her house. We didn't do anything else, I promise.
- M: I warned you. You deliberately did what I asked you not to. This violates the trust your mom and I have in you. And to think you asked Jenna to be a part of your defiance...
- W: Dad, I apologize, but I wish you'd understand that I'm seventeen and can make some decisions for myself!

15. Track 165 () 00:35

- W: Have I told you that I've been thinking about getting a tattoo?
- M: Really? I figured your parents would definitely disagree with that.
- W: Not a real tattoo, silly. I am curious about a real one, but they would be furious at me. But I read online about henna tattoos. It might not be as good as a real one, but they look fun to try.
- M: I've never heard about those.
- W: Well, henna is a natural powder that is dark brown.
- M: That's interesting. And it wears off after a while?
- W: Yes. It lasts anywhere from a week to a month.
- M: That's cool. What type of tattoo do you want, and where would you get it?
- W: I think I want either a butterfly or the Chinese symbol for peace on the top of my foot. That way I could cover it up at school.
- M: That's true. I don't believe you can have body art showing at school.
- W: Yes. There's a policy against it, and I don't want to break the rules. I just think it would be really neat to have, even if it doesn't last forever.
- M: I think it's a really cool idea, and I'm excited to see it!

16. Track 166 () 00:34

- M: (a) About the same number of people believed the government was doing enough for the environment in 2000 and in 1985.
 - (b) The lowest point of public opinion on the issue of the government and what it was doing for the environment was during the year 1995.
 - © The government saw a decreased approval rating in the first few years of the new century than in the 1990s.
 - d People believe the government has made the greatest strides toward helping the environment in the years after 2000.

- The government had the support of a little over half of the population in 1990.
- 17. Track 167 () 00:36
- (a) W: I would like to request to speak to the manager,
 - M: Certainly. Is there a problem with your order?
- (b) M: I think I may try to stop by the department store on my way home.
 - W: I'll go with you if that's OK. I've got some shopping to do, too.
- © M: My parents are going to the ticket office for me. Would it be possible for you to come with me to the concert?
 - W: I'd be a lot more excited about it if I could go to the concert.
- (d) M: I'm not exactly thrilled that I got a C in sociology.
 - W: Did you try to talk to the professor about it?
- (e) W: I try to drink at least two cups of green tea every
 - M: I've heard that it has many health benefits.

18. Track 168 00:38

- M: Can we help you?
- W: Yes. I've got a few questions.
- M: Certainly, I'm here to help students.
- W: I signed up for a study hall before lunch, but I'm in a second chemistry class instead.
- M: Let me see what I can do to change that.
- W: Thank you. Also, I have a part-time job at the huge book store in town, and I was told that I would get out of school early two days a week to work.
- M: So, you're a part of our occupations program?
- W: Yes. They scheduled me as the library aid during the last class period. I like it, but I can't do it every day.
- M: So, you'd like to stay the library aid if you could do it three days a week?
- W: Yes. Would you have a problem with me working on Thursday and Friday afternoons?
- M: I don't see why we couldn't arrange things that way. Have you talked to the head receptionist?
- W: No, not yet. Is she available now?

19. Track 169 00:36

- M: Hi there, it's been a while since we've seen you first thing in the morning in here.
- W: Well, the early bird always catches the worm. Besides, the lightning has stopped, and it's sunny out now, so I thought I'd get out for a bit.
- M: A bagel with cream cheese and hazelnut coffee,
- W: My normal order does sound good, but I think I might want to try something new. I think I'd like banana bread.

- M: We've got some delicious breads and muffins for breakfast. We bake all of them fresh every morning. Do you want butter or jelly on it?
- W: OK, I'll take a muffin, too, and I'd like them both with butter, please. Also, which one is better, a latte or a cappuccino?
- M: It depends on what you're in the mood for. I prefer a cappuccino with no flavoring, but the French vanilla latte and the caramel latte are two of our best sellers.
- W: Can I add flavoring to the cappuccino? If not, I'll take a black coffee.
- M: We can't add flavor to our cappuccinos. If that's all, please go ahead to the cash register.
- W: I think that's it. Thanks for your help!

20. Track 170 00:48

- W: Guess what? They announced in my art class that there will be a show for local artists at the museum next month at noon.
- M: Midday? That's great! But I haven't heard anything about it.
- W: Well, I think they just made the public announcement today. Mr. Jackson encouraged everyone to enter something in it.
- M: Is there a limit to how many pieces an artist can enter?
- W: No. They just want to show off a variety of artists and art forms. Do you think you'll enter anything in
- M: I don't know. I've got some photography that I would like to exhibit, but I don't know if it's good
- W: Are you kidding? You're really talented.
- M: What are you going to enter?
- W: I am going to enter several pieces of pottery that I'm proud of. I made them when I studied under that famous potter in New Mexico.
- M: That would be great. What about any of your paintings? They're too good not to exhibit.
- W: I hate to enter too many things. I'd like to give other artists a chance as well.
- M:

21. Track 171 00:36

- M: Hey! It's good to see you. I don't think I've seen you in a couple of years. How are you?
- W: It's good to see you, too. I'm really good. I'm just studying biology at the university.
- M: That's great.
- W: Are you still attending Scottstown University?
- M: I've gone there for three semesters, but I'm taking some time off from my studies.
- W: Really? What will you do?

- M: I've decided to join a volunteer organization that helps Third World countries. I leave for South America next month. I've always dreamed of doing something like this.
- W: Wow. How did you get involved in something like that?
- M: Well, my major is public health, and I took a class that talked about how so many parts of the world don't have a clean water supply. I joined a group that helps villages build clean water systems.
- W: That's great. How long will you be gone?
- M: Right now, we plan to spend nine months there. That way, we can help the villagers with their water system and then teach them how to maintain it. I'll be a construction worker and a teacher!

22. Track 172 () 00:39

M: Some people use the expression, "You could read his face like a book," meaning that you can learn what someone is thinking or feeling by watching the expressions on his or her face. A new study in the journal *Psychological Science* reveals that no one can completely control the forty-three facial muscles that communicate emotion. This means that someone who has been trained can discover whether or not someone is telling a lie, even if their words contradict their emotions. The study involved watching people in a lineup and studying a recording of their testimony that was proven false. The recording was watched very slowly over and over again, and the psychologists noticed what they call micro-expressions that convey what the person is truly feeling. The scientists found a relation between inconsistencies in facial expressions that contradict what someone is saying. In conclusion, even if the person is telling a lie and trying to disguise it by displaying certain emotions on his or her face, these micro-expressions

23. Track 173 () 00:35

- M: You're funny, Cassandra. Anytime it even gets a little cloudy, you pull out your umbrella. I don't think we're really going to get any rain.
- W: Well, I guess it doesn't hurt to be prepared, now, does it?
- M: And it's better to be safe than sorry.
- W: I love carrying an umbrella. My sister sent me this one all the way from Paris, where she's spending the summer.
- M: That's cool
- W: She said that all of the fashionable women in France carry umbrellas. It's almost as though they were

- more of an accessory than something to protect you from rain
- M: I will never understand women's fashion. Next thing you know, they'll say those hideous paisley and floral hats like my grandmother wears to church are back in style.
- W: I enjoy keeping up with the latest fashion trends.
- M: You do always look like you stepped out of the pages of a magazine, but I just don't see how you do it.
- W: It helps having a sister who's living in the fashion capital of the world right now. She sends me magazines from there. It's funny, though, because she could care less about dressing trendy.

24. Track 174 () 00:39

- W: Hello, Jeremy. Are you going to the Halloween party?
- M: I think so, though I'm disappointed.
- W: Why? It's supposed to be great fun.
- M: I won't be able to use the costume I'd been planning on wearing.
- W: I'm sorry. You would have made a great judge.
- M: I thought so, too, but I overheard Michael saying he's going to be a judge.
- W: You could still dress like one. Besides, I guarantee Michael won't have a judge's robe like you. I still can't believe you were able to make a robe.
- M: I know, but I wanted to be the only one dressed like a judge there. Anyway, I'll save that costume for another time. What are you going to wear?
- W: Well, I'd considered keeping it a secret, but if you promise not to tell...
- M: Certainly, I promise.
- W: I'm going to dress as a flight attendant from the movie The Airplane. I found an old flight attendant's outfit at a garage sale.
- M: That's a great idea! Maybe I should go as the pilot from the movie!

25. Track 175 () 00:39

M: The law firm where I work is interviewing for several summer internship positions. The interns will assist with research on our cases as well as accompany the lawyers to court so they can observe courtroom etiquette. We are looking for enthusiastic and dedicated candidates who show promising ability that could lead to future employment with our firm. Interviewing all of the candidates is my responsibility. I first received fifty applications for the internship positions and have narrowed that number down to twenty candidates who have impressed me with their skills and academic excellence. I had to reject thirty right off the bat without interviewing them.

The day after tomorrow, I will start with the preliminary interviews, and I will choose five candidates who will come back for a second interview the next week. I will be looking for people interested in white-collar employment who show integrity, honesty, and hard work.

26. Track 176 () 00:36

W: Tonight on News at Nine, a group of concerned citizens in Britain have recommended adding another course to the school curriculum: manners. While this may sound extreme, those behind the idea believe that children and adolescents show an immense lack of respect for authority as well as several other negative behaviors. For instance, they cited swearing, spitting in public, cutting in line, and not saying courteous words such as "please" and "thank you" as unacceptable behavior from many in the younger generation. Adding a manners course to the curriculum would teach children what is and what isn't acceptable. The development of this course reflects the issues that are the cause of poor manners. Those who believe this is going too far feel that teaching manners and good behavior is up to each individual family. They believe the school curriculum should be dedicated to reading, writing, and intellectual pursuits. We here at Channel 28 want your opinion on the subject, so please call us at 555-1432 to tell us your thoughts on this subject. In my opinion, if the students are already in school, it is an ideal time to be teaching manners.

27. Track 177 00:34

M: I had a difficult time getting along with my biology teacher in high school. For some reason or another, our personalities clashed. I would often disagree with her, and I seemed to get into trouble a lot in her class. Admittedly, I didn't always do what I was supposed to, but she was too eager to blame me when anyone was misbehaving in her class. I tried talking to her, but she thought I was complaining and just being disrespectful. I talked to my parents about what I should do. They asked if I could switch to another biology teacher, but our school was small, so she was the only one who taught high-school biology. I truly wanted to make things work because I wanted a good grade in her class and didn't want to spend the year in trouble. At first, I was very discouraged, and it became evident that I was just going to have to find a way to make it work. I was determined that I wasn't going to let a difference in personalities affect my grades or behavior.

28. Track 178 / 00:38

- M: (a) Answering that question may not come easily to some if they possess the same people-pleasing tendencies I do. During my adolescent years, I attempted to fit in with the popular kids. My parents were strict about my curfew on weeknights and expected me to honor their rules. One night, my friends pressured me into staying out past curfew, and while I knew I shouldn't, I didn't want them to think less of me.
 - (b) When I finally arrived home that night, I was caught red-handed attempting to sneak in. My parents were tremendously worried and extremely disappointed because I'd violated their trust, and it took a long time for them to trust me again. Disappointing them taught me that going along with the crowd just to keep them happy wasn't the best choice.
 - © I was born a people-pleaser, someone who's willing to do anything it takes to keep the people around me happy. While this isn't a negative trait, it does usually present a person with an ethical dilemma at one point or another: should I do what people around me want me to do, or should I do what I know is the correct decision?

29. Track 179 () 00:47

- (a) W: It's a difficult issue to discuss since I believe every adoption situation differs from the next. Many factors are included when birth parents seek adoption as an option for reasons that aren't necessarily for a child to know. On the other hand, knowing the birth parents would help when attempting to resolve a lot of the guestions an adopted child may have. Still, it might not be the finest idea to try to find out who they are.
- (b) M: While I'm not angry that my birth parents gave me up for adoption, I don't necessarily feel a need to find them and pelt them with questions about the decision they made. I have a family that loves me, and I don't have the desire to disrupt the good, peaceful life we have by dragging in two people I don't even know.
- © W: Speaking as a mother who put her child up for adoption, I would be honored if the child I gave birth to attempted to spend quality time with me. It's a difficult decision that I'd like to explain to that child so that they could comprehend why an adopted family could give them more than I ever could.
- (d) M: When I was young and irresponsible, my girlfriend gave birth to my son. Neither of us were in a position to give the child a stable home, so we decided the best thing for our son would be to put

him up for adoption. Today, I wish more than anything that I could see his face and hold him in my arms. I hope that one day, my son will understand why we gave him up for adoption, forgive us, and try to find us.

30. Track 180 / 00:38

W: My friend Jonathan and I grew up across the street from each other and went to elementary, junior high, and high school together. We were never romantically interested in each other, preferring only each other's companionship, so I guess you could say we were more like brother and sister than friends. He confided in me about his plans to join the military before he even told his family. After Jonathan left for boot camp and was then shipped overseas on a tour of duty, I realized how much I enjoyed our time together and how much I missed his presence in every part of my life. We wrote letters back and forth for the two years he was gone, and slowly our relationship grew into one of love more than just friendship. It was as though the miles between us made us realize how much we meant to each other. Jonathan arrived home without telling me to surprise me on my birthday, and it was so great to see him and have him with me once again. We sat and talked a long time that night about our feelings for each other and what we had planned for our future together.

19:17

Practice Test 7

1. Track 181 () 00:37

- W: I'm sorry to have dragged you all over the shopping mall today.
- M: It certainly wasn't a problem, I don't have anything else to do, and I don't mind helping.
- W: I just really wanted to find a blue chair for my mom for her birthday.
- M: Why a chair?
- W: She just refinished our patio and wants to be able to sit out there comfortably.
- M: So, the office chair was the right price but not what you want?
- W: Yes. I thought about something soft and comfortable, but I don't think it would hold up outdoors.
- M: We saw one that matched the ones around your kitchen table.
- W: Yes, but those aren't very comfortable.
- M: Have you considered a director's chair? They have a canvas seat and back and wooden armrests.

- W: Oh, I like this plastic one! She can keep it outside and wash it easily because it's plastic. It also has opened slates on the back for air flow. She can also easily move the chair because it is very lightweight.
- M: That sounds great, and it's on sale. It's your lucky

2. Track 182 () 00:33

- W: I've been going to a yoga class on Monday nights, and I've learned some great stretches to help me
- M: Oh yeah?
- W: I'd be happy to show you some positions.
- M: I'd like that.
- W: I begin by lunging forward with my left leg and raising my arms parallel to the ground with one arm stretching forward and the other reaching behind me. The next pose is my favorite and starts with me standing and spreading my legs shoulder-width apart, and I spread my arms out straight to the sides. After pointing my fingers, I bend my upper body to the side and lift one of my arms overhead. I extend my hands in the opposite direction: one touching the floor, and one pointing toward the sky.
- M: Sounds tough. Then what?
- W: Then I lean forward and put one leg up in the air behind me and hold it for a few seconds.
- M: That's a little more difficult.
- W: Wait until you try this one; it's the hardest one. I bend my arms and stand on my head with my feet pointing toward the sky.
- M: Wow. I wouldn't be able to do that one at all.
- W: The last one is easy. I sit cross-legged on the floor, bring my hands together, and raise my arms over my head.
- M: That must feel really good. I can see why you got hooked on yoga.

3. Track 183 / 00:37

M: This marvelous fantasy film tells the story of the age-old battle waged between good and evil. At a time when all evil in the world appears too grand and the forces of good appear to have been defeated, a hero emerges to save the world. The hero in this marvelous story rises above himself and achieves what's nearly unfeasible, saving the world from evil. The battle between good and evil ensues in a spectacular setting of underwater life. Thankfully, with help from a trusted friend, our hero is expected to win. Together they certainly don't resemble an army, but they're extremely fast swimmers and utilize their high speed to their advantage. These intelligent swimmers use their black and white color

to hide from view in the shadows of the deep ocean. When evil finally falls upon them, they'll go face-to-face with a force who's been trying to conquer the sea world. This fantastic film will change your view of life in the deep blue sea as it includes amazing visual effects and action-packed scenes that'll keep you on the edge of your seat.

4. Track 184 () 00:33

- M: Hello, I'm calling about placing an order out of your
- W: Certainly. We do have a convenient order system that can be accessed online if you'd like that information.
- M: Actually, my home computer is down. I need this delivered in the next few days.
- W: OK. What would you like to order?
- M: I'd like the dress on page 84 in a size 8 and the gloves on page 34.
- W: The dress is fifty dollars, and the gloves are twenty dollars. Is that okay, sir?
- M: Yes, ma'am. How much for the blue jacket on page 51, and what are the delivery charges?
- W: The jacket is eighty dollars. For delivery, our standard option is free, but it will arrive the week after next. We have next-day delivery, which costs fifty dollars.
- M: Goodness, that's the same as the dress. What other options do you have? My wife's birthday is Friday, February seventeenth.
- W: Hmm... Today is February fourteenth. We could ship it 2nd Day Air, and it should be delivered to your home on Thursday. That would cost \$15.
- M: OK, I'll take just the dress and two-day shipping.
- W: Certainly, sir. We'll send it out right away.

5. Track 185 () 00:36

M: Jacob was a master at fooling people, cheating, and lying. When he was young, he tricked his brother into giving him his toy car collection. As a teenager, he snuck out of the house late at night and took his parent's convertible for a drive. As he was speeding down the road, he accidentally hit a mailbox, which left a large dent and a scratch down the passenger's side of the car. When Jacob returned home, he quietly parked the car in the garage and snuck back to bed. The next morning, his parents discovered the damage that had been done to the car. When they asked Jacob about it, he denied any involvement. In fact, he implicated his brother as the perpetrator. However, his parents knew better. They were well aware of his dishonest character.

6. Track 186 () 00:35

- M: There was a larger crowd than I expected in the lecture hall.
- W: You did a great job. I hope we'll have an even bigger turnout next month.
- M: Will you have guest speakers every month?
- W: We hope so. The committee's vision is that we can present an informative and useful topic for the students every month.
- M: I hope the things I said went with your theme.
- W: Oh, they did. We thought it would be good to focus on character for the first series and then get future topic ideas from the students.
- M: I'd be more than happy to help in the future if you
- W: I hope I can get you on the calendar again sometime in the next six or eight months.
- M: I'm honored that you'd think of me.
- W: Are you kidding? You were the first person who came to mind.
- M: I'm still not sure why.
- W: I know that all you've gone through has given you a perspective others need to hear.

7. Track 187 00:33

- M: Hello, and welcome to our grand opening day!
- W: I'm so excited that you guys are finally open.
- M: Did you bring the 15 percent off coupon you received in the mail? Those are only good on purchases made during our grand opening week.
- W: I did. How much are the tennis shoes?
- M: They are on sale for \$50 for the first week. After that, the regular price is \$60.
- W: OK. What about the pullover sweaters?
- M: All sizes are \$30. These have been one of our bestsellers so far today.
- W: There are just too many things I'd like to buy! But I need my husband to try stuff on.
- M: Don't forget your coupon is for 15 percent off your entire purchase. The more you spend, the bigger the discount!
- W: How much for these camping chairs and the tent? My husband would really like a new tent.
- M: The chairs are two for \$20, or \$12 each. The tent is on sale for \$100.
- W: OK, I'll take the tent, but I will come back with my husband to try on some boots and shirts. Those chairs are a good deal, but I will wait on those for now.

8. Track 188 () 00:36

- W: What are you doing today?
- M: I don't have much going on. I just have a doctor's appointment.

- W: I hope everything's OK. I didn't realize you were feeling sick.
- M: Oh, I'm not. In fact, I've been feeling better than I have in several months.
- W: Then why are you going to the doctor?
- M: They recommended that I have a checkup every two months for a year after a surgery like mine. I only have a few more months to go.
- W: I didn't know that. Is it because they have to monitor your medication?
- M: I'm actually not taking medication any more. I've done really well, and if there are going to be any complications, they will occur in the first year.
- W: I'm glad to hear you're feeling better. It's crazy that a broken leg can be this much trouble.
- M: I know. The doctor said my case was a bit more complicated than most because my leg was broken in several places. I'll definitely be more careful when I'm able to rock climb again.
- W: I think I'd be too scared to do anything if I had a fall like that.
- M: I'll admit, I'm a bit nervous, but I'm not going to let it slow me down.

9. Track 189 () 00:33

W: A job interview is not something to be taken lightly, but I believe things are going to go well today. Most of the time when I've interviewed for a new job, I've stayed up half the night before, worrying about what I was going to say and what they might think of me. I would rehearse my answers in the mirror, which probably only served to increase my nervousness. I can't quite put my finger on what makes today's interview different from the others, but it is different somehow. I believe that I am the most qualified candidate for the job because I have experience with computer programming and excellent references from my previous job. I am a diligent and dedicated person, and I am hard-working as well as responsible, intelligent, and a quick learner. While I've never been a manager before, I am skilled at working with people and possess natural leadership abilities.

10. Track 190 () 00:49

M: When does one's personality form? A recent study may surprise those who feel personality develops as one matures. This study, led by a professor of psychology in Germany, asserts that a person's personality is often set by the time he or she is of preschool age. Those who are timid or shy normally retain their introverted demeanor in adulthood. Children who are more sociable or outgoing at age

three or four will continue to be gregarious and extroverted as adults. Interestingly, introverts usually develop behaviors that are more socially engaging as they mature into adulthood, though their true introverted identity remains the same. Conversely, extroverted people will sometimes cultivate conduct that is more reserved. Psychologists believe that people develop traits that they see as acceptable to society in general. For example, the introvert might find it easier to maneuver in social settings by being more outgoing than usual, and the extrovert is likely to discover that most people aren't interested in someone who dominates the spotlight. Though we can, to some degree, choose our behaviors in social exchanges, this study reveals that we become who we're going to be, personality-wise, early in life.

11. Track 191 () 00:37

- W: Have you seen the life-size cardboard cutout of Elvis? I have to get one for Marie for her birthday. She's a huge Elvis fan.
- M: I didn't know that about Marie. I've got some vintage Elvis records.
- W: So, you're an Elvis fan, too? Have you been to that vintage department store at the shopping mall? They have a lot of Elvis stuff.
- M: I heard about it just a couple of days ago. Is that where you're going to get her gift?
- W: I think so. Would you like to come with me?
- M: Sure. Are you going this afternoon?
- W: Yes. I have some other errands to run while I'm out if that's OK.
- M: Sure. You wouldn't need to stop by the library on any of your errands, would you?
- W: Actually, I would! I have to return the book I just finished.
- M: I need to pick up a book they're holding for me. Want to stop there first?
- W: That makes sense since it's on the way. And after we finish downtown, I can swing by the grocery store before dropping you off at home.
- M: Sounds good to me. Let's go!

12. Track 192 00:31

M: Linguists are thrilled over the results of a recent study of Siberian and Native American languages. The study revealed that the Siberian language of Yeniseic, which is considered an Old World language, is closely linked to the Native American language of Na-Dene, a New World language. The findings show more than just a few common words in the two languages. This is the first time a connection has been made between an Old World

and a New World language. The two languages likely evolved from a common "mother tongue." The mother tongue is likely 10,000 years old. This information is based on the dates of the first migration patterns over the Bering Strait, which connects North America to North Asia and is the route through which North America was first populated. While there are still many discoveries to be made about the link between these two languages, the fact remains that these linguistic findings are as important as any archaeological or genetic evidence from the first humans in North America. In fact, language links may be the answer to many questions regarding the origin of humans and how humans lived in the past.

13. Track 193 () 00:31

M: Skydiving is not for the faint of heart, especially if you propose to do it without a parachute. You heard correctly: "skydiving without a parachute." Let me remind you that skydivers are at least 46,000 meters above the ground, jumping out of an airplane with nothing to decrease the speed of their fall. Nothing, that is, except for a new wing suit fashioned after the coat of a flying squirrel. The little flying squirrel actually glides through the air instead of flying, but it is this specific action that the designer is planning to replicate. While this wing suit remains in the preliminary planning stages, its designer is confident it will be a reality soon. In fact, skydivers already wear a version of the suit which has fabric panels between the arms and legs which enable them to zoom through the air in freefall. However, the success of landing in this new and cutting-edge suit without the use of a parachute would depend upon the wearer's aptitude at operating it in the air.

14. Track 194 / 00:36

- M: (a) Ruth Reichel shares the story of her dysfunctional life through recipes handed down through the women in her family. With her enticing wit and barebones style of writing, this novel is sure to be a favorite among all ages and is quite deserving of its high rank.
 - (b) This is a definite must-read western for those who enjoy a thrilling plot and enthralling, unexpected twists. Johnson writes much like an action movie plays, with nail-biting suspense and edge-of-yourseat storylines.
 - © Haven Kimmel had me laughing out loud from the start. Her autobiographical sketch of life in a small town in Indiana warms the heart and reminds us of days gone by. It isn't any wonder she is being

- chosen in book clubs all over the country. Enjoy her breakthrough masterpiece and expect great things to come from Ms. Kimmel!
- d A story of two people seemingly destined to be apart despite their immense love for each other. Through humiliation and arrogance, it is this love that eventually draws them together despite faith, class, and opposition from those closest to them. As always, Rivers presents an intriguing and well-told story of love that conquers all.

15. Track 195 () 00:38

- W: Did you need something, Trent?
- M: Yes. I want to ask you about the art history assignment you gave us in class.
- W: It should be a very interesting assignment. What's your question?
- M: You said we could research any artist from the Renaissance period, correct?
- W: That's correct. There's a full listing of the artists you can choose from in our book. Just remember, the research is only a portion of your entire grade.
- M: Well, that's my question. I heard someone talking about painting something for the rest of their grade. I didn't hear that in class, and I want to make sure I do the assignment in its entirety. I'm a little nervous about this assignment.
- W: It's explained in detail on the back of the handout I gave you.
- M: Mine only has one side.
- W: That explains the problem! Here's another one. In short, I want you to reproduce one of the paintings of the artist you choose to research.
- M: Oh, OK, that sounds like a lot of fun. Thank you for clearing up my confusion.

16. Track 196 00:36

- M: I'm so glad you could come for the weekend.
- W: Me, too. At first, I didn't think Mom would go for me spending a weekend with you on a college campus in the big city.
- M: Why? I'm a responsible person who goes to college. I can take care of my little sister.
- W: That's what I told her to convince her. Now that I'm here, what are we going to do?
- M: I think you'd enjoy the football game this afternoon.
- W: That sounds fun. Are there any cool places to eat?
- M: Yes. There is a great burrito place on the way to the stadium. Lots of folks stop in there before the game.
- W: Sounds good to me. How expensive is it?
- M: It's pretty inexpensive. They know college students don't have much extra cash.

- W: I should probably get some cash for the weekend while I'm thinking about it.
- M: OK. I'll put my boots on, and we'll go to the ATM machine. Did you bring your ATM card with you?
- W: I certainly did. Let me just have breakfast, and then we'll go.

17. Track 197 () 00:33

- (a) W: I don't want to see that war movie. All those explosions and machine guns sending blood all over the screen look too scary.
 - M: I have to make dinner, but I don't know where the nearest theater is.
- (b) W: Would you like me to mow the lawn and take out the trash since you have to work late?
 - M: Thank you. I'm so busy with work, so I'd appreciate the extra hand with my chores this week.
- © W: I heard the temperature is going to go down, and there's a chance of snow tomorrow. Will you still have a soccer game?
 - M: Coach usually cancels in snowy weather. I'll call him
- d W: Nathan called to say he'd be late for your walking
 - M: Thank you. He's usually early, so something must've
- (e) W: Have you been following that big reality show this season?
 - M: No, I lost interest after they voted off the guy I wanted to win.

18. Track 198 () 00:40

- M: I'm glad I let you talk me into coming.
- W: Me, too! This is one of my favorite things to do in the spring.
- M: I'm interested to know what we're eating. I hear you've practiced your skills as a gourmet chef.
- W: I like trying to imitate things I taste in fancy restaurants.
- M: I'm anxious to taste whatever you're hiding in that basket. It has to be better than what I'd get in the cafeteria.
- W: It'll be much better! I found some fresh fruit to go with it at the market, so it should be a treat.
- M: I sure am lucky to get to taste some of your cooking masterpieces. When do we start?
- W: If you'll spread the blanket, I'll get everything set up.
- M: Sounds good to me. Something in there smells delicious.
- W: Try a bite. It's almond-crusted chicken.
- M: Yum! You should consider teaching cooking classes; you're a great cook!

W: Thank you, but I don't plan on doing anything more than cooking for friends now and then.

19. Track 199 () 00:45

M: Russian scientist Ivan Pavlov made history with his experiment in classical conditioning. He trained dogs to anticipate food upon hearing the ringing of a bell, and this led them to salivate every time they heard the bell. After a period of time, they didn't receive food at the sound of the bell, but the canines continued to salivate, thus conditioning them to react in a certain way to the sound. Marine biologists apply these similar principles into their experiment while training a particular type of fish. The black sea bass is farmed along the coast, but the expense of fish farming and its effect on the environment are taking their toll. Scientists have conditioned the fish to swim into a specific area to be fed each day. They hear a distinct tone that triggers their reaction to be fed. Scientists are optimistic this experiment will eventually allow the fish to be released in a controlled dome in the ocean and return for feeding once or twice each week. Their ultimate goal is that the black sea bass won't be released into the ocean to mature until they reach standard size to be sold in the market.

20. Track 200 / 00:50

M: As children, we often wish we could change into a super hero and have x-ray vision to help us overcome the forces of evil in our imaginary play. New technology designed by a company in England might actually accomplish it. It works by perceiving and measuring t-waves that are emitted by all people and objects. The system is connected to a computer that allows a security official to view anything suspicious found on the camera. It can detect anything from metal to plastic and even substances like clay and food. The technology first originated inside of a specialized camera for astronomy and used in spacecrafts to peer through cosmic dust. Its developers soon realized that if it could pierce cosmic dust, it had the potential to see through clothing as well. The camera can't distinguish anatomy underneath clothing, but it'd be quite useful for detection at airports, railway stations, and other security checkpoints. In fact, law enforcement and many governmental agencies believe this advanced technology will be very effective. Interestingly, a smaller, less powerful version of this x-ray camera is already in use in some high-traffic banks and other important buildings around the world.

21. Track 201 () 00:36

- W: Have you ever tried kombucha?
- M: I've never even heard of it. What exactly is it?
- W: I'd never heard of it either until about a month ago. It is a special kind of Chinese tea that is cured for thirty days. I buy it raw, but it also comes in a bottled drink.
- M: So, it is fermented?
- W: Not exactly. The culture process allows for certain nutrients like probiotics and amino acids to form.
- M: It definitely sounds interesting. How did you hear about it?
- W: I have a friend who has several health problems. She discovered it through her doctor. Supposedly, it helps the body with digestion, metabolism, your immune system, and lots of other things.
- M: It sounds like a miracle drink.
- W: It's better than anything else I've tried. I've never heard any claims that it cures anything, but I feel better when I drink it. It gives me a little boost if I drink it in the afternoon.
- M: Does it have caffeine?
- W: Only as much as you might find in green tea. It tastes slightly carbonated, so it's like a soda but much better for you.
- M: That sounds very good. It's just what I wanted, and hey, look, it's on sale! I don't think I'll find a better deal on it anywhere else, do you?

22. Track 202 00:40

M: Have you ever thought that charging more for something might actually attract more people? It's sound reasoning if you observe the movie theater industry. A recent study's findings show that charging more for concession items such as popcorn and beverages actually permits theaters to charge lower prices for admission tickets. Although movie snack sales only account for a small percentage of many theaters' total income, they make up a huge percent of their profits. This is because while theaters must share the money they make from ticket sales with movie distribution companies, theaters are free to keep all of the money they make from the concession stand sales of snacks at high prices. This makes up for the money theaters lose by charging less for tickets. Lower ticket prices keep people coming to movie theaters. While it seems outrageous to charge five to ten times the amount that popcorn and drinks are worth, the additional money the theater produces off these concession sales guarantee that movie ticket prices stay down. By driving up the cost of concession items, theaters allow more of us to _

23. Track 203 () 00:35

- M: I'm so excited that summer is here! I've got several camping trips planned. I can't wait to get there and relax with nature.
- W: Where will you be going this summer? You always seem to find something interesting and fun to do over the break.
- M: My brother and I are backpacking through Colorado in June. We talked about it for a while, and now we're actually on our way.
- W: That sounds fun. I bet it will be beautiful.
- M: The trip I'm most excited about is a backpacking trip through Austria in August.
- W: Are you serious? I'm thoroughly jealous. That's going to be amazing.
- M: I thought you were more of a city person. I didn't think you were into the outdoors.
- W: I'm not, but my favorite movie, The Sound of Music, was filmed there.
- M: I don't think I've ever seen that. Maybe I can bring you a souvenir from Austria.
- W: Oh, yes, please! That would be great!

24. Track 204 00:40

- W: I just heard that the school's changing the rule about off-campus lunch.
- M: What do you mean?
- W: I heard the secretary talking in the office. She said everyone will have to stay on campus for lunch starting next semester.
- M: Are you serious? That's a ridiculous idea.
- W: That's what I thought, I asked Ms. Richmond in homeroom, and she said it's because there have been too many traffic accidents involving students. I wonder if too many students have been skipping the period after lunch, too.
- M: You may be right. I was in an accident last year, but I still don't like the idea of staying here for lunch. Cafeteria food may be cheap, but it tastes awful and the lunchroom is always cramped and overcrowded.
- W: I guess they want to make sure we stay safe.
- M: But it isn't the school's job to keep us safe. That's like them saying we might as well just live at the school because we could get hurt walking or driving home from school.
- W: I wonder if we could get a petition signed, asking them to reconsider?

25. Track 205 () 00:37

W: I'm the cleaning supervisor for the offices where I'm employed, so one of my duties was to develop a schedule that everyone, including the janitors and the office employees, could see eye to eye on. The janitors empty the trash in the office next to mine three days each week because there are four employees who utilize that office space. It had been only once each week, but they thought they generated more garbage than one emptying could take care of. Mine's cleaned only one time each week because I'm the only one who uses the space, and some weeks, I don't even fill up the trash can. Then there's the trash can that's dedicated to shredded documents. Many employees have a paper shredder in their office space, although being a computer applications company, we don't have that many papers to shred. The shared document shredding bin is scheduled to be emptied every third Tuesday of the month.

26. Track 206 () 00:34

M: Spring has arrived, and the time's come to select which flowers to plant in your garden. First, it's extremely important to consider how much time you're going to have in order to properly take care of the flowers that you'll plant. Many people will spend an immense amount of time and effort planting a beautiful garden and yet forget to water the plants. Zinnias and geraniums are ideal for extremely busy people since they don't need much care compared to orchids and roses. Second, you'll be required to do a little research on the variety of flowers that grow best in the area where you reside. Drier regions of the country require plants that are adapted to that specific type of climate while those same plants wouldn't survive in rainy areas. Something people may not know is that different kinds of plants require more sun while others require more shade. Growing a garden successfully takes lots of thorough planning as well as an extensive amount of care and attention throughout the spring and summer.

27. Track 207 () 00:38

W: I was the alternate on our school's theatrical cast, so I didn't imagine I would have to act on stage at the competition. But I believed it was important to practice and know the lines of those in the theatrical production so that I would be prepared. I was thankful to have taken this approach when the theater director asked me to replace another girl on the cast who had missed several practices and couldn't seem to remember her lines. I felt nervous taking her place since she was the more talented actress, but he said, "Her skill doesn't matter if she isn't committed enough to dedicate herself to the success of the entire cast. She brings down our level of performance by not being willing to work hard." His wise words taught me that being a big part of a team is not only about skill, but the strength of character with which you try to make those around you better.

28. Track 208 / 00:37

- M: (a) The world celebrates April Fool's Day every April first. While everyone participates in the celebration, few know the original reason for the day. The most popular and accepted explanation for April Fool's Day dates back to 16th century France. The story is that France decided to change its calendar to more closely resemble the Roman calendar, with the first of the year celebrated in January whereas it had been traditionally celebrated around the first part of April.
 - (b) Little is known as to why the day includes pranks and jokes of all kinds. While the French explanation may or may not be true, Mark Twain viewed April Fool's Day in the correct light. He was guoted as saying, "The first of April is the day we remember what we are the other 364 days of the year."
 - © Communication was much slower then, and word of the calendar change didn't reach all parts of the French country for several months. Those in villages that were a great distance from metropolitan areas celebrated the New Year in April that year, not knowing it had been changed. Those in the city referred to citizens in the country as "April fools."

29-30. Track 209 () 00:47

M: Tonight's final story is one that began hundreds of years ago. Maria had the chance to visit with the experts at the Texas-based Center for Greek Studies, bringing you more about this interesting find.

W: Thank you for the introduction, Jeremy. This story reveals the tedious effort it takes to discover and preserve historical documents. It was announced that fourteen New Testament manuscripts from the Christian Bible were discovered in Albania. The manuscripts were discovered several months ago, but it's taken this long for experts to ascertain that they are genuine and to determine how old the manuscripts are. One of the manuscripts dates back to the sixth century, while the other manuscripts are thought to be written around the eleventh century. Now that the manuscripts have been proven genuine, the next step in the process is to photograph the manuscripts. Photographing the manuscripts is important because the center keeps a catalog of authentic manuscripts. Each manuscript has approximately 550 pages, and the



cost of photographing just one page is around ten dollars. The center in Dallas says the expense is worth every penny and that they've also photographed manuscripts from all over the world



Practice Test 8



- M: Thank you for coming with me today. I hope to find something my grandmother will like.
- W: I'm shocked that she wants a bike for her birthday.
- M: Well, she's definitely one of a kind. Not many can say their grandmother completed a marathon when she was seventy-three. She wants a bike to help her work out and stay in shape.
- W: So, does she want a stationary bike to be used indoors?
- M: Oh, no. She wants something she can ride outside. If it weren't so dangerous, she might even consider a motorcycle! But she just wants something for quiet rides around the neighborhood.
- W: That's great. Have you seen that antique bike, the one with the big wheel in the front? That might be something she would like.
- M: Actually, she has one of those in her garage.
- W: OK. Look at that bike. It has one wheel!
- M: That's called a unicycle.
- W: Wow. I didn't know a bike like that even existed. There's a nice bike that looks like it would ride smoothly.
- M: That's perfect. She wouldn't want one with too many gadgets on it; just a simple, easy-to-ride bike.
- W: Great! Let's go get it. She's going to be so excited, I'm sure.

2. Track 211 () 00:32

W: Martin's family had never had much money, so he took a part-time job, riding his bike to deliver newspapers before school every morning to help his parents. He was happy, but Martin had big dreams for himself. Martin aspired to go to college and become an electrical engineer. No one in his family had ever gone to college, so Martin studied hard to make good grades in all his classes. He knew he would have to have a scholarship to pay for college, and he needed the top grades in his class to be awarded that scholarship. Though he drove himself hard and sometimes missed hanging out with his friends, Martin was completely dedicated to achieving his goals. The time for high

-school graduation came, and his parents couldn't have been more proud as they listened to Martin as he delivered his speech. Martin's speech was about dreaming big and doing whatever it takes to accomplish that dream, and his classmates and family stood and cheered at the end because they knew he'd achieved his dream. As Martin stepped on the college campus that fall, he knew that hard work and determination were the things that led him there.

3. Track 212 () 00:35

W: This movie is about friendship, trust, family, and the power we have when we stand united. The heroes in this movie are somewhat unlikely. A group of friends fighting against the dark powers of a world far-removed from their own discover this world by accident when they are immediately drawn into a fierce battle for the Earth and all the creatures in it. As the story develops, they learn the bad in the world is much worse than they thought. They alone hold the power to unite the many divided peoples who live in it. Their task is daunting: use their new powers wielding swords, bows, and a determination to defeat the supernatural powers of the dark forces that threaten the lives of everyone there. They discover a powerful leader among the interesting people in this new world, and he possesses all the strength and power they need to overcome the darkness. This essential character's life is threatened, and his power is tested by those who want to take over his reign. In the end, the friends are victorious in defending against the darkness, and a new hope springs to life.

4. Track 213 () 00:33

- M: Thank you for calling customer service. Can I help
- W: Yes. I ordered a few items from your company, but not everything was delivered.
- M: OK. Our records show that you placed the order three weeks ago. When did you receive the computer?
- W: It came in the day before yesterday. My credit card statement shows that I paid for the computer, printer, and mouse.
- M: Yes, ma'am, our records show that as well. Did you also receive the printer?
- W: Yeah, I got that on Wednesday.
- M: So, you wanted to purchase the mouse as well?
- W: No, I already did that. My concern is that it did not arrive with the other shipments. And while I've got you on the phone, I would like to order something where I can save my documents. Do you carry

- memory sticks?
- M: No, sorry, we don't. But I can send you your missing purchase, and because of the inconvenience we've caused you, I'll credit your card with an amount equal to 20 percent off of the original price you paid for it.
- W: Oh, that sounds fair. Thank you for your help.
- M: No problem. We appreciate your business.

5. Track 214 / 00:34

M: Joseph is a very influential and successful businessman in the small community where he lives. He owns the only department store and car dealership in town. Needless to say, he is very wealthy. He lives on a large estate and owns ten race horses. He also has many vintage cars, which he keeps in his private garage next to his house. Joseph is the only man in the county to employ a full-time maid, butler, and chef. And on the weekends, many people drive by his home to admire his splendid palace. However, their feelings of wonder and awe usually turn to anger and contempt when they think about how selfish he is. You see, Joseph rarely helps anyone but himself. When the Girl Scouts come knocking on his door selling cookies, he sends them away without purchasing a single box or donating a single penny. When the community organized a fundraiser to help a local woman suffering from cancer, people making minimum wages donated as much as they could afford, but Joseph didn't offer a dime. He didn't even attend the event. He figures he earned his money, and it belongs to him. Therefore, why should he have to share it with anyone else?

6. Track 215 () 00:36

- W: Hi there. What brings you in today?
- M: I hurt my hand doing the dishes. Hey, I didn't know you worked in this office.
- W: Yes. I've worked for Dr. Shum for about nine months now. So, how exactly did you hurt your hand?
- M: I was washing my glass coffee pot, and it slipped out of my hand and shattered. I picked up the broken pieces and cut myself.
- W: Ouch. Let me have a look at it.
- M: So, you assist the doctor with patients?
- W: Yes. I do some small things in the office if he's busy. This looks pretty bad. You'll need stitches, but I don't think you'll need a sling.
- M: Does that require going to the hospital?
- W: No, we'll be able to do it all here in the office. You just need to sit still.
- M: Will I need many stitches or just a few?

- W: The cut isn't that big, so you'll just need a few. Just
- M: I'll try, but when it comes to blood and stitches, I tend to want to vomit!

7. Track 216 / 00:36

- M: I'm looking for something for my mom for Mother's
- W: Your mom collects antique dishes, doesn't she? Here's a set for \$55.
- M: That's a little more than I can afford.
- W: How much can you spend?
- M: I'd like to spend no more than \$30 because we're all pitching in some money to take her to her favorite restaurant.
- W: I bet we can find something nice for that amount. Does she need any flower pots or something for
- M: Actually, I heard her saying the other day that she wanted some geraniums and petunias in pots on the front porch.
- W: Here are a few nice pots with a mix of flowers in them for \$12.50 each.
- M: Those are nice. I'll get her some of those for sure.
- W: Over here are some gardening tools. They're a little more expensive.
- M: She'd really like those, but you're right, they are too expensive. Forget that idea.
- W: OK. I guess you've decided, and you stayed within your budget. Nice job!

8. Track 217 00:40

- W: Have you decided where you're going to go to college?
- M: I think so. It's been a hard decision to make.
- W: I know. I still can't decide where I should go. So, what did you decide?
- M: Well, I'd narrowed it down to two choices: the university here and Ridgeview, which is a few hours
- W: Ridgeview is pretty far, but I just learned that it has a highly regarded psychology program. I didn't know that before.
- M: I didn't either until I visited there last semester. Apparently, they've received many prestigious psychology awards. They also said my grade average is high enough to qualify for a scholarship.
- W: They offered you a scholarship? That's great. So, you're going to Ridgeview?
- M: Well, it was a tough choice, but it was the best decision for me. So...I'm going to stay at the university here.
- W: What made you decide?



- M: The university here has a great program, too, and I will be able to rent a room at my brother's apartment next to the school. Even with the scholarship to Ridgeview, tuition is still cheaper here.
- W: Well, there are advantages to staying closer to home.
- M: Yes. I wanted to be able to attend my sister's softball games and see my parents often.

9. Track 218 / 00:33

M: I'm against the idea of elementary schools banning play activities on the playground. I believe that this is caused by our belief in a society which thinks children should be babied and kept from having to go through the successes and failures of growing up. A few elementary schools have declared the game of tag to be banned because it fosters "intense aggression" among children at school. Since when did running, playing, and breathing fresh air become something that is bad for students? If this were the first such occurrence, I could understand, but sadly, this follows a long string of similar incidences, with games such as tug-of-war and dodge ball, playground essentials during most American recesses, being banned. I think the guestion we need to ask ourselves is this: Do our efforts to ensure that children never experience pain or loss, even on the playground, set them up for future struggles when they are faced with more adult issues? I believe that we are robbing them of some painful, but necessary, lessons. None of us wants to get "out" or be "it" in a game, but the resilience and character they build last a lifetime.

10. Track 219 () 00:52

W: Imagine yourself feeling stressed about having to make tough decisions. After you make a decision, you realize that you made the decision without even having to think about it. A new study confirms what some of us have suspected: that our unconscious minds are working much faster than our conscious minds and respond to situations more quickly. A study revealed that our unconscious minds make decisions up to ten seconds before our conscious brain is aware that a decision has been made. Those behind the study theorized this was the case, and in order to test their theory, they monitored the brain activity of a test group of adult men and women. Each person sat at a computer and was shown a letter of the alphabet on the screen. They could choose or not choose to press the corresponding key on the keyboard to each letter.

Repeatedly, as they pressed the letter keys on the keyboard, the brain activity scans showed activity in decision-making regions in the brain several seconds before they actually pressed the key. It is interesting, then, to realize that split-second decisions are made even more quickly than was once believed. It just takes a few seconds for them to reach conscious thought.

11. Track 220 / 00:39

- M: What's on your agenda for the afternoon?
- W: Well, I want to walk the dog at the park, but I also want to stop by a few garage sales in the neighborhood first.
- M: Are you looking for anything in particular?
- W: I'd like to find a bedside table and maybe some bookshelves. I need some for my dorm room, but I hate to spend a lot of money at the furniture store.
- M: Have you heard of that thrift store on Tenth? They might have something you like. Their prices are affordable.
- W: Isn't that store in the same part of town as Matthew's Bike Shop? I need some new tires for my bike.
- M: It is. We could stop there afterward if you want
- W: That's a good idea.
- M: I could come with you while you walk the dog, and then we could shop for furniture.
- W: Why don't I call you once I'm done at the garage sale? It should only be an hour or two.
- M: Sounds good to me. Have fun shopping!
- W: I'm sure I will find all sorts of things I just have to have.

12. Track 221 / 00:32

M: Hunger is a problem all over the world, and there are many ideas and solutions that have been discussed and attempted to ease the burden on countries with too many people and too few resources to feed them. Interestingly, a food that is a staple in many countries across the globe is rising to the top of the list of proposed solutions. The simplicity of its growth process and the cost-efficiency of producing it make it the ideal food to feed the hungry on a tight budget. The miracle food: potatoes. The length of time it takes to grow a potato is only fifty days, and they can be grown with minimal amounts of water and in almost any region, from dry, barren, and even frigid climates to tropical, rainy climates. This information comes at the perfect time as food production costs are going up and the population of the world grows by one billion people every decade. Wheat and rice, which have been the

staple food for many parts of the world, don't have as wide a range of potential benefits when contrasted with the benefits of the potato.

13. Track 222 00:34

W: Shakespeare once wrote, "What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet," meaning that names have no bearing on what we become. Many parents in Britain would disagree with Shakespeare as they spend, a combined thirty million hours every year choosing names for their children. Why do they spend so much time agonizing over just the right name for their child? They believe that a child's name holds the key to that child's success once they're grown and that an individual's career prospects will be influenced, whether positively or negatively, by his or her name. Many parents also believe that a child's name can instill confidence and increase self-esteem. Most of us might think this a bit extreme, but think of your own name and the feelings that come with it. Is it a name that generates pride in yourself when you hear it, one that you want others to remember, or is it a name that you are a little ashamed of and you would rather be known by something else?

14. Track 223 / 00:34

M: Thank you for joining us and listening to 89.5 FM today, wherever you are. Today's discussion is one that will hit home with many of you. It's one that has inspired many authors to write books and actors to make movies, though it's something many of us may never completely comprehend. As important to the human condition as breath, love is something for which everyone has a profound desire yet something that can be elusive and hard to understand at certain moments. Even the smartest scientists have difficulty describing the hows and whys of love, though they'll admit humans can't live without it. Whether it's love between family, friends, or lovers, it's something that affects every aspect of our existence. We'd like to hear your opinions on love. Whether you agree or don't agree, let us know if your views are based on your personal experiences or just objective observations. Enlighten us with your knowledge of how love has inspired you, or your life, or even changed you. The lines are open, and we're ready to accept calls from you!

15. Track 224 00:35

- M: I have to admit I'm a little jealous of how well your garden turned out this year. We planted at the same time and seemed to be on the same watering schedule, but yours is producing much more than
- W: Well, I guess I'll let you in on a little secret. I put plant food in the soil while I'm getting the soil ready for planting. It helps the plants to stay healthy.
- M: I've heard of that, but I never really knew it made that big of a difference.
- W: It really does. I learned that from my mother years ago, and my gardens have done well ever since.
- M: Thank you for sharing your secrets with me.
- W: I have one more secret, something I've always done. I collect rain water in barrels throughout the year, and that's what I use to water the garden. It's better for the plants than the city's water.
- M: What a great idea! And I just thought those barrels around your yard were part of the landscaping!
- W: Now you know.
- M: That's very nice of you to share your little secrets
- W: Good luck with your garden next year.

16. Track 225 00:36

- W: Have you seen the new baseball park?
- M: I haven't seen it yet, but I heard it's supposed to be the nicest one in the city.
- W: I'm excited to be able to watch your games there.
- M: We should have another good year. We have many of our best players returning.
- W: When do practices start?
- M: Our first official one is the week after next, though several of us on the team have gotten together to play practice games to help us stay in shape. We've got one in an hour at the old field.
- W: Will you miss as much school this year as you did last year?
- M: Only if we make it to the playoffs. Our regular season games are usually after school or on the weekends.
- W: Well, if you need help keeping up with school, let me know. We could have a study group for you guys like we did last year.
- M: That was a lifesaver for me. I'm definitely in favor of that! Since you're one of the team's biggest fans, would you like to come to the practice game this afternoon? Not many people know about it.
- W: I'd be happy to!

17. Track 226 () 00:35

- (a) W: I've really enjoyed the warm and sunny weather this spring. Look at how many flowers have begun to bloom.
 - M: Me, too. I love this weather, especially since it's usually still cool this time of year.
- (b) M: Do you know if there are going to be any more assignments for extra credit? I really need to boost my grade.
 - W: No, I haven't decided what to write about for my assignment.
- © W: I just made an appointment to get my senior pictures for the yearbook taken by a professional photographer.
 - M: That's so exciting! I can't believe graduation is only two months away.
- (d) M: If you don't hurry, we're going to miss the beginning of the movie, and I really want to see the previews. We missed them last time.
 - W: Sorry, I just got home fifteen minutes ago, but I'm almost ready.
- (e) W: Thank you for the concert tickets. They're really good seats, and I love this band!
 - M: No problem. I'm so glad you could come into the city to join me for the concert.

18. Track 227 () 00:37

- M: Wow, I'm surprised to see you here. You're not usually in here because of trouble.
- W: I know. This isn't a place I'm sent to very often.
- M: I'm curious to find out what it is that you did.
- W: Ms. Carrollton caught me sending a text message in her class, so she told me to pack my bag and go straight to the office.
- M: Uh-oh. She hates cell phones in class.
- W: I know. But every other teacher is generous with them.
- M: Not her. Her photography class will not be interrupted by technology!
- W: You sound just like her. I have already finished my assignment, so I don't see what the big deal was.
- M: You'll get off pretty easy, I bet. Mr. Moore is always easier on girls.
- W: Why did you get sent down here?
- M: I actually witnessed a fight. They just want to talk
- W: I'm glad you're not in trouble.

19. Track 228 () 00:39

W: Do you have any hidden or unique talents? If so, you might get the opportunity to use those talents in show business. While you may be thinking, I have no talent as an actor or actress, it may be the other talents you have—your singing or dancing ability, or your ability to speak another language that could land you a role in Hollywood. For example, a young woman named Hazel Court was a beautiful, aspiring actress, but the thing that brought her fame wasn't her acting talent or even her beauty. Her unique terrified shriek got her the nickname the "Scream Queen," and she starred in numerous leading roles in horror films throughout the 1950s and 1960s. World-famous actress Renee Zellweger was already known as a good actress, but it was her role in a movie-musical drama that gained her an Oscar nomination. Before she starred in Chicago, Renee Zellweger had only sung in the shower or with her radio, but producers heard her singing a tune one day and knew she was the voice they needed to make their movie a hit.

20. Track 229 / 00:54

M: The quality of modern gaming technology has increased, which has reintroduced an entire generation of people to the fun music can hold. Not at a video arcade, but in the comforts of home. Games with guitar controllers allow people to try their skills at playing guitar for some of the world's most famous bands. Another game, with guitar controllers as well as a drum set and a microphone for vocals, challenges its players to bring out their inner rock star and have fun playing through popular rock songs from the past few decades. Interestingly, the fun doesn't have to stop if you are interested in music other than rock-n-roll. There are at least a couple of games that allow you to play the part of the conductor, conducting an orchestra in a piece of classical music. The orchestra responds to the speed of the wand controller in your hand. Adults and children alike enjoy these games and are finding ways to reconnect in a world where technology favors the young and those who are more familiar with computers. Music games are certainly becoming one of the top-selling video games, and they are also changing the way people in their later years work out.

21. Track 230 () 00:37

- W: I'm sorry your soccer game got cancelled because the weather forecast predicted a high chance of rain today. You sound like you're congested anyway. Are you sick?
- M: I don't know. I feel really tired and run-down today. I'm sure it's just something in the air.

- W: You should get it checked out. I've heard the flu is going around, and you don't want to get it, that's for sure.
- M: Where did you hear that?
- W: I'm an office aide during third period, and that's all the secretaries talked about today. Twenty kids were home sick today because of it.
- M: Wow. Maybe I should at least have my parents take me to see the family doctor.
- W: The school nurse across from the office said she thinks the school should offer the flu vaccine for free to all of the students.
- M: That's a good idea. I just hate needles.
- W: They certainly aren't much fun. If it can keep you from feeling so bad, though, it's worth it.
- M: So, is the school going to start offering the shots?
- W: Not this year, but she hopes to get the school board to consider it for next year.

M:

22. Track 231 / 00:39

M: Negotiating the price of something you want to purchase, although still common in some markets, is something that hasn't been done regularly in our society for over 150 years. During the 1850s, department stores began setting fixed prices on all their merchandise rather than bargaining with shoppers looking for discounted prices. Recently, shoppers have found they may occasionally convince merchants to lower their regular prices, and all they've had to do is ask. It has been said, "Ask and it will be given to you," and shoppers seem to be getting better bargains when they do. This trend is mainly due to the decline in the world's economy, but whatever the reason, current store owners are more willing to haggle with customers. So, while it is uncomfortable for some of us to attempt, it's something that likely pays off in the end. Nothing ventured, nothing gained. The next time you're out shopping, ask the salesperson if you can have it for 20 percent less, and

23. Track 232 () 00:34

- W: Have you tried that new energy drink?
- M: I did, but I don't think I liked it. It seemed like it was full of sugar.
- W: Really? I like it a lot. But then again, you seem to be more aware of that than I am. If something sounds good to me, I eat it, whether it's healthy or
- M: I used to be that way, but I can tell a difference when I make better choices. I try to stay away from too much fat and sugar.

- W: But I think that would cut out everything I like! Do you ever let yourself cheat?
- M: I used to, but I've found that I usually don't want things like cake or French fries much anymore. The better I eat, the better I seem to feel.
- W: So, I guess inviting you to have ice cream with me this afternoon is out of the guestion?
- M: Not necessarily. You can always invite me to have ice cream. They have plenty of low-fat, sugar-free options. Let's go!
- W: I'd really appreciate it if you could drive.
- M: Certainly, I'd be happy to.

24. Track 233 () 00:37

- M: Are we still on for the movie around dusk?
- W: I'm glad you asked because I need to talk to you about that.
- M: You're not going to stand me up, are you? Did you find someone else to go with?
- W: Not at all! I still want to go, but I wondered if we could go to an earlier showing.
- M: I guess we could, though I'd hoped to eat dinner and then watch the movie.
- W: Could we watch an earlier movie at about midday, and then we can eat after that?
- M: Do you have somewhere you have to be?
- W: Well, I found out that my family's going out of town for the holiday weekend, and we leave early tomorrow morning.
- M: Ah, so you want to get home so you can get some rest before you leave.
- W: Actually, no, but I have to do some laundry for the
- M: Your mom doesn't do your laundry for you? I'm impressed. How about going at 1:30? Just so you know, I like to sit right in front of the huge screen.
- W: Well, I guess I should be flexible, too. The front it is.

25. Track 234 () 00:37

M: In my household, there are seven children. Therefore, my mother believes that an elaborate chore chart is a necessity. My siblings and I constantly argue about whose turn it is to sweep the floor or take out the trash. Everybody's least preferred chore is cleaning out the cat's litter box in the garage. It has to be cleaned every other day, yet only the four oldest children have to clean it. My mom's a big proponent of equality and fairness and feels this is increasing the development of positive character traits. My three youngest siblings are all under the age of six; therefore each has a different level of responsibilities to perform. As I'm the oldest, I begin each week cleaning the feline's litter box, and while I'm happy to do it because it's my responsibility, my preference is to vacuum or mow the lawn instead. The schedule is as follows: I'm the first to clean the litter box; a day's skipped; then my sibling Elizabeth cleans; a day is skipped; then Matthew does it; we skip another day, and then the fourth oldest brother, Mark, does it.

26. Track 235 00:35

M: If you think working with the sweet, fuzzy animals at a pet store is your fantasy job, think again! Topping tonight's Work Source portion of this reporter's newscast is a frightening story with a good ending. A female employee was caring for a 3.6-meter Burmese python when the snake latched onto her hand and wrapped itself around her body. These snakes are wild and unpredictable, so it was clear that emergency personnel had to be called to the scene since her life was in danger. Although she was embarrassed, she was quite reasonably worried about her arm. The police sergeant on the scene didn't seem to be too shocked about what he saw; he must witness many different kinds of strange occurrences. He quickly began to pry the snake's jaw open and detach it from the woman. Though the officer had never handled anything larger than a small garden snake, he was guite muscular and was able to get the python safely off the woman and back in its cage with neither the snake nor the woman sustaining any injuries.

27. Track 236 00:34

M: I'm a senior in college who's about to embark on a new career and become completely independent for the first time. I've been reminiscing over experiences I've had and the things I've accomplished thus far in my life, and I've come to realize I have few regrets. I had the privilege to travel with an honors choir in high school and had occasion to visit many foreign countries on mission campaigns throughout college. I considered those things an important part of my education. Therefore, I jumped at any opportunity to broaden my horizons. While it was challenging sometimes to earn my own funding for the trips and complete assignments early, I definitely wouldn't change a thing. I had several friends who would've liked to travel like I did but believed they couldn't do it right then. My philosophy was, if not now, when? I never wanted to look back in hindsight and wish I had taken advantage of something that was no longer within my reach.

28. Track 237 () 00:33

- W: (a) I spent a few years collecting memories and talking to family and friends to get their perspectives on life in the country. I compiled a manuscript and tentatively took it to a publisher, hoping that he wouldn't turn me away. I was shocked when he called a few days later wanting to negotiate a contract.
 - In college, I read autobiographical works of ordinary people who decided to share their lives with the world. I wondered if my autobiography would be worth reading. I began a journal of memories that I could recall from my childhood and realized that I at least had something unique and interesting because I'd been raised in a small town that was miles away from the city.
 - © I've always been an avid reader. There is nothing I enjoy more than getting completely lost in a fascinating novel. My mother always encouraged me to write stories of my own, but I never really took her recommendations seriously because I thought I didn't have the talent to create a book that other people would want to read. Even after I received many awards in writing in high school, I still didn't think I could do it.

29-30. Track 238 () 00:50

- M: For tonight's health report, Katie is in the newsroom bringing you the latest on some fascinating research being conducted at the University of Maryland on a connection between worms and one of the world's most common nutritional disorders.
- W: Thank you for the introduction, Don. Scientists at the University of Maryland are hoping to make an impact in the realm of iron deficiency, a condition that affects a huge percentage of the population, with a new study that includes a common microscopic worm found in dirt. By studying worms, the scientists have already identified many key proteins that assist in iron transport and absorption in the body. By understanding the absorption of iron in the body, scientists can develop a process that delivers iron to the body for easier absorption. Iron plays a role in many enzyme processes and cell functions that are of vital importance in the body. Iron is especially significant in the development of infants and children. In conclusion, their findings of the specific molecules and mechanisms that work in the iron absorption process could lead to lower deficiency levels in a large number of people.



Practice Test 9

1. Track 239 / 00:39

- W: I'm impressed you talked your roommates into getting a pet.
- M: They really don't mind, but I told them I would shoulder most of the responsibility.
- W: So, do they care what kind of pet you get?
- M: Not really. James said he doesn't want a cat, though. He's allergic.
- W: I've heard that pets without hair are easier to care for. Look at this one. It lives in water and only has to be fed once a day.
- M: I don't want to have to clean an aquarium.
- W: What about this one? They live a long time and make good pets. He won't bark or meow in the middle of the night, either.
- M: I don't mind a pet that makes noise. Besides, that one might slither somewhere unexpected.
- W: If you don't mind pets that are noisy, you should try this feathered one. I bet you could teach him to talk.
- M: I've heard you have to clean and vacuum their cage and sweep the floor almost every day, or it stinks. What about the one with floppy ears?
- W: That's a good choice. They are supposed to be faithful pets. And they're on sale.
- M: I bet the other guys will really like him.

2. Track 240 () 00:32

- M: All right, let's go through the steps it would take to repair your roof.
- W: Thank you. I knew you would help me if I just asked.
- M: First, get your ladder and set it securely next the house. Now, climb up to the roof. Be sure to grab the package of new shingles.
- W: This is the part that always makes me nervous.
- M: Next, use the claw part of the hammer to pry up the shingle that needs to be repaired. This may be somewhat difficult because the shingles may have damage as they were put on the house years ago.
- W: You're right. This is tough. I guess these haven't been replaced in quite a while.
- M: Once you've pried the shingle up, use your saw to cut the new shingle to the size of the one you're replacing.
- W: Thank you for taking the time to teach me this.
- M: No problem. The last step just involves taking your cordless drill and drilling screws into the shingle to hold it to the roof. We've found the screws do a better job than just nails.
- W: Oh, this looks great! Thank you for your help!

3. Track 241 00:38

M: Centuries ago, the world was a different place, where people had to fight to protect their homes and their way of life. Set in an era full of battles for power, this movie chronicles the long journey of an ordinary man who becomes a legend. The story begins with him as an honest man, part of a legion that was trying to defend his country. He fought alongside his friend and a beautiful woman, who would later come between the two men and cause them to choose what was more important: their friendship or love. But long before this, our hero gains the respect of the people of the land, and he is asked to become their ruler. Our hero accepts this responsibility and sets about building a strong and legendary empire. At the peak of his success, as he is living the life most men only dream about—full of power, respect, and fame—he discovers his friend's dark motives to steal his true love and take over everything our hero has worked so hard to build. He is left to fight with just himself and his sword, defending his honor.

4. Track 242 / 00:34

- W: Hello. I need to ship something to my brother
- M: Hi. I'm sorry to keep you waiting. I've been busy with other customers.
- W: No problem. I'll need you to weigh my package for me because I don't have a scale at home. I can't afford to send it Next Day Air, but he needs it within the week.
- M: We can do that. We have several options available, but I guess we can't send it electronically.
- W: Certainly not. What about by boat? How much does that cost and how long does it take?
- M: Standard shipping would cost \$20 and a \$5.25 delivery charge, and it would be delivered in two weeks.
- W: I need it to get there in the next week.
- M: Sometimes standard can take as long as two weeks, so I guess that won't work. The next level of shipment is \$50 and a \$5.75 delivery charge, and it would arrive within one week.
- W: I guess a helicopter is out of the guestion! What about the next level?
- M: We can guarantee it will arrive by train in three days, but that will cost you \$100 and a \$10.10 delivery charge.
- W: I'll take the third option before it gets booked up, and there's no more room for my package!

5. Track 243 () 00:34

W: Bill is a fantastic musician and singer. He has an incredible talent for writing inspirational lyrics as well as the music that accompanies them. So, it is not surprising that he is on the road to extreme success and fame. Wherever he goes, his fans recognize his face and hope to get his autograph and their picture taken with him. While most people with that kind of success tend to brush off the general public, Bill does not. He signs autographs for everyone who wants one, and he is always kind to each person he meets. Whenever people compliment him on his album, he blushes and thanks them for their kind words. Fame has not changed his character one bit. He is grateful for the success that he has achieved and remains grounded, without the least bit of arrogance about him.

6. Track 244 () 00:31

- W: I'm having trouble balancing school, extracurricular activities, and my friends.
- M: You've got a lot on your shoulders right now.
- W: I've thought about dropping something, but I hate
- M: Learning to juggle your responsibilities is part of growing up. Life was simpler when I was in grade school.
- W: That's probably right. I wouldn't want to stay ten years old forever.
- M: True. We take on more as we mature, but that's the way it's supposed to be. You're at the age when you should dream big dreams.
- W: That's a good way to look at it. Did you struggle when you were my age?
- M: I certainly did. Ask your grandmother about it sometime. I wanted to be a waiter, then a chef, then a business person, and now I'm a taxi driver!
- W: Yeah, she said you tried to do everything after high school.
- M: I didn't want to put all of my eggs in one basket, but I should have been more focused.
- W: Slow and steady wins the race.
- M: Your mom's example is the one to follow. Unlike me, she balances it all and is still able to enjoy it.

7. Track 245 () 00:33

- W: Hi. I'm looking for organic almonds. Where would I find them?
- M We have them pre-packaged on aisle 4, but you can buy them in bulk as well. Which would you prefer?
- W: I prefer bulk. Can you tell me where they are please?
- M: Follow me. We have several kinds of nuts that you can purchase in bulk, as well as trail mix and dried

- fruit. Those are our best sellers. They are both \$4.50 per pound.
- W: That's better. I've never been in here before, but I will definitely come back.
- M: Good! A pound of walnuts costs \$5.50, and a pound of almonds is fifty cents cheaper than that.
- W: That's a good sale price. How much are the peanuts?
- M: Those are a little cheaper. A pound is \$4.00.
- W: Do you think I can put cashew nuts on my salad?
- M: Certainly. I do it all the time. Those are \$6.00 per pound.
- W: Oh, they are a little more expensive. All right, I'd like a pound of those almonds.
- M: Good choice. I eat those all the time before I work out. They have great protein. If you bring your receipt to the cashier next time you, you can get a discounted price on your next purchase.

8. Track 246 / 00:34

- M: I talked to my mom last night about going on the school's spring break trip.
- W: What did she say?
- M: I can't go. She's planned some family stuff that week since my sister's going to be heading off to college.
- W: The ski trip only lasts a few days. Did you tell her that?
- M: Yes, but she scheduled family pictures. Also, she invited some cousins we haven't seen in a while to stay with us.
- W: On the one hand, I am very disappointed that you aren't going to go. On the other hand, I understand the need for quality family time. Who am I supposed to ski with, though? I was really looking forward to hanging out with you.
- M: I'm sorry to back out on you, but I'm excited to spend time with my family, too.
- W: How long has it been since you've seen your cousins?
- M: They live in California, so we haven't seen them in a couple of years. I didn't want to miss the chance to see them.
- W: Wow. You'll definitely have some catching up to do. I wish you were going on the trip to with me, but I'm sure you'll have fun!

9. Track 247 () 00:38

W: I consider myself a responsible and careful taxi driver, someone who is considerate and knows what it takes to be safe on the roadways. Why is it, then, that I find myself more and more stressed every time I open the door and get behind the wheel? I'm shocked to see other drivers chatting on their cell phones as they swerve into my lane or searching in

the console for something while they hold up traffic on the interstate. I guess I'm just disgusted that these people were able to pass a driving test in the first place, making them free to endanger the lives of those of us driving around them. More and more, I'm convinced that the driving system should be reevaluated and overhauled. I wasn't allowed behind the wheel of a car until my father was satisfied that I could drive defensively and responsibly in all settings: rain, snow, ice, sunshine, or nighttime. I wish that everyone on the road would've had such conscientious training.

10. Track 248 00:50

M: Find ten different people on the street, ask them this question, and you'll probably get ten different answers. How much water should the average person consume on a daily basis? The question of how much water our bodies require has been asked and answered, getting a different response from the experts virtually every time. The majority of people believe that eight glasses every day is advisable. Professors conducting other studies report that each person needs approximately half of their body weight in ounces of water every day; that is, unless they're exercising, and then it's an ounce every fifteen minutes. Interestingly, doctors and scientists can't seem to agree on this topic. Recently, a study released by two kidney specialists found that too much water can be detrimental to overall body health. So, how can we confidently know the right amount of water to consume without being confused? Experts recommend simply taking in water when your body indicates it requires some. If you feel full and satisfied, then don't force yourself to swallow ounce after ounce of unnecessary liquid. On the other hand, if you find yourself dehydrated and parched, then maybe it's time to increase your water quota for the day.

11. Track 249 () 00:39

- W: I'm so excited for the long weekend. I have many things planned.
- M: I'm thrilled to have some time off. What are you going to do?
- W: I've wanted to see that new George Clooney movie. It looks really funny.
- M: I strongly recommend it; it's gotten several good reviews. I'd be interested in seeing it, if I can invite
- W: Of course! I also want to spend some time finding a book at that new book store.

- M: That sounds nice. I hope tomorrow's weather is good enough to spend some time working on my parents' yard.
- W: That sounds like fun. It's supposed to be warm. I'd be willing to help if you need it.
- M: That would be great. I promised my mom I would plant some rosebushes before her birthday. It's only a few days away.
- W: Why don't we take in the movie and check out the book store tonight? We'll work in the yard tomorrow afternoon.
- M: That sounds good. Let's have a barbeque before the movie; I'd also like to grill outside. But I need to get meat and some vegetables at the grocery store before I can do that.

12. Track 250 00:32

M: There are many double standards in the business world that women have worked hard to overcome over the past few decades. Women are earning more money and being granted better promotions than ever before. So, has the gender issue completely disappeared in the corporate world? Certainly not, according to a recent study published in a respected psychological science journal. The study had male and female actors portray potential job applicants at the same company. Participants who interviewed the candidates were asked to rate them on their level of responsibility, perceived competence, and what type of compensation they should receive should they get a job. Male interviewees who showed some level of anger in their demeanor were thought to be more competent and more deserving of a bigger salary than women who displayed the same type of anger. Women related that their personal experience had taught them to maintain a level of emotional neutrality on the job, and if they ever revealed anger about a work situation, they learned to be able to explain themselves. Anger was not the only emotion used in this experiment. Surprisingly, the results were different when the men and women had a frightened disposition during the interviews.

13. Track 251 () 00:31

W: Technological advances have improved businesses worldwide and continue to bring innovation to the workplace. Businesses everywhere from home healthcare providers to fast-food restaurants and farmers have come to rely on computers to help them conduct their day-to-day affairs. In fact, the majority of businesses are accomplishing what they can to make the move toward what most call a

"paperless" system. It comes as a surprise because US government's bigger agencies made the decision to return to old-fashioned paper and pencil, at least temporarily. The US has been in the midst of preparations for the next mass census. At first, they'd budgeted millions of dollars for the cost of high-tech handheld computers to simplify the job of tallying the United States' growing population. The test run of the new computers proved they did just the opposite; in fact, they hindered and humiliated those trying to use them. This year, as hundreds of thousands of census employees hit the streets to count the people living in America, we'll be pleased to see them carrying something that some people may not recognize: notebooks and writing instruments.

14. Track 252 00:35

M: This certainly comes as a surprise, considering how much competition there is for this honor. First of all, I was surprised to be included in such a talented group and never dreamed I'd be chosen as the recipient. I feel that it's necessary to mention that nothing like this is ever accomplished alone, so I owe those who worked alongside me gratitude and appreciation for their hard work. The development of something like this takes the work of a multitude of people laboring behind the scenes to make the magic happen. To those whose faces are never seen, I say you are the reason any of us in this business succeed. What a privilege it has been to work on something that has made such a great impact on the world of collegiate athletics. Lastly, I owe so much to those closest to me: my family and friends, who accept me just as I am and love me regardless of my success or failure. Thank you all for your kindness.

15. Track 253 () 00:36

- W: Are you going to come to the community service project this weekend?
- M: I don't know. I'm in such a hurry to get things done at my house before I have guests.
- W: I wish you'd come. It's going to be great fun. We're going to paint the outside of Ms. Landry's house, and you could hang out with friends.
- M: Although that does sound like fun, I'm actually planning to paint my house, too, and do some other work as well, like fixing the leak in the kitchen sink and replacing the part of the fence that fell down
- W: It sounds like we are in the same situation.
- M: Yes, but maybe I'll be able to stop by for a little bit.
- W: We'll be working all day on Saturday, so you could

- come for even just an hour or two. We just really want to get lots of people involved, if possible.
- M: I don't think I can go in the morning, but I'll plan on coming by sometime in the afternoon. I'll call your cell phone to find out where you are.
- W: OK, Ms. Landry's house is the biggest of all on our
- M: I don't know my way around there, but that will make it easy.

16. Track 254 () 00:32

- M: I've got to go to a restaurant to see my parents before our night class tonight. Would you like to come?
- W: Sure. I actually need to stop at the shoe place that's in the same shopping mall.
- M: Oh, me too. I want to get a pair of boots. I want the ones that has the cushioned sole in it. But I want to compare it to the ones without the cushions.
- W: I saw those at my friend's house just a couple of weeks ago.
- M: Did your friend complain about them at all?
- W: Not really. In fact, he suggested that I buy a pair of the women's boots when they are on sale.
- M: It sounds like he likes them. I'm not sure which color I want, though.
- W: I know that they come in several different colors. I think my friend bought the black ones. We could go by my friends's house and see the boots.
- M: That would be good, if you don't think he'd mind.
- W: Not at all. Let's go right now.

17. Track 255 () 00:39

- (a) M: I don't know how you can get up in front of people without being nervous.
 - W: Oh, I'm nervous all right. I just try not to show it.
- M: Our cat had kittens, and I wondered if maybe you'd like one?
 - W: I would love one, but my brother is allergic and can't be around animals for a very long time.
- © M: I told you already that I don't want to go to that party tonight.
 - W: I know, but I was hoping you might've changed your mind. I know you can't resist a good party.
- d M: I can't believe it's already 8:30. I'm supposed to pick up donuts before we go to the realtor.
 - W: That's funny! I got a hat just like that last Thanksgiving. My grandmother knit it for me; it took her almost four months.
- (e) M: For my birthday, I got beautiful red mittens from my grandma this year.
 - W: My birthday is April fifteenth. I hope I get mittens like those, too.

18. Track 256 () 00:39

- W: Can you help me? I need to get change for this \$50
- M: Certainly. Are you paying for gas? I can give you change when I ring you up.
- W: No. I just need change, and I don't know if there's a bank anywhere close. If you'll tell me where one is, I can go there.
- M: It's no problem. I'd be happy to change it for you, but I have to have a reason to open the cash register.
- W: OK, then I'll have a bottle of water and a package of raisins.
- M: Sure. Thank you for understanding.
- W: No problem. I've worked part time in the summer in several different stores, so I know how it goes.
- M: Surprisingly, some people aren't as nice about it as you.
- W: Really? I don't know how getting upset about it would help.
- M: It doesn't. One man said the policy was ridiculous and that he'd never shop here again. My friend works at the hotel down the street and said he's experienced some pretty mean customers, too.
- W: Wow. That's too bad.
- M: I know, but some people just react differently, I guess.

19. Track 257 () 00:39

W: Somnambulism is a long word that is hard to pronounce. It is used to describe what many commonly refer to as sleepwalking. The condition affects approximately 2.5 percent of the world's adult population, with 10 percent of all people experiencing at least one sleepwalking incident at some point in their lives. Many wonder what causes people to sleepwalk. Sleepwalking occurs when the brain doesn't enter the body's normal sleep cycle. This can be triggered by worry, by digestion while you sleep, or even as a complication of some medical and mental disorders. Previously, it was believed that feeling stressed was the sole reason for sleep walking, but a recent study introduced the idea that sleep deprivation can actually contribute to more occurrences of sleepwalking. Participants in a study were asked to keep a sleeping journal and were then kept awake for over twenty-five hours. When they were allowed to make up the sleep they missed and went to bed after being kept awake for so long, the incidence of sleepwalking in all of them increased dramatically. Whereas the whole group had only thirty-two episodes of sleepwalking during the normal night, the group experienced ninety-two sleepwalking episodes when they hadn't gotten adequate rest.

20. Track 258 () 00:54

M: A hiccup is an involuntary response to some type of stimulus that causes the diaphragm to spasm. One of the most common causes of the hiccups is a full stomach, which is most often the result of swallowing too much food or air. Sudden temperature changes inside or outside your stomach, such as drinking a really hot or really cold beverage, could trigger your diaphragm to spasm. Strong emotions such as feeling shock or extreme excitement can cause your body to hiccup. In fact, an ancient Greek physician believed that hiccups were an intense emotion that began in the stomach and erupted out through the mouth. Whatever the cause, they're usually no more than a minor inconvenience that lasts only a few minutes, but if you can't stand to let them resolve on their own, drinking water, holding your breath, pulling on your tongue, and standing on your head might help. Many of these cures stimulate the nasal passage, and this has been known to help put a stop to the hiccups. Some cases of hiccups are more serious and require medical attention, and the cures for these incidences are more complicated than simply holding your breath.

21. Track 259 / 00:38

- W: I'm so thrilled you came today!
- M: Are you kidding? I wouldn't miss this for the world.
- W: Well, I really appreciate you coming. It means a lot that you wanted to be here for my graduation.
- M: I'm really proud of how hard you've worked.
- W: Thank you. It feels great to have accomplished so much.
- M: What are your plans after graduation?
- W: Well, my parents are taking me to Europe as my graduation present.
- M: That's great! I'm sure you guys will have a lot of fun.
- W: After that, I plan to work through the summer and then start on my master's degree in the fall.
- M: Are you going to try to find a job that you can keep while you go to school for your master's? What type of work would you do?
- W: Yes, I've already got two interviews set up with firms that hire people with accounting degrees. It would be mainly full-time bookkeeping, though the idea is to get me prepared to be a full-fledged accountant once I get my master's degree.

22. Track 260 00:43

M:

M: One of the most popular game shows on television is one where an adult plays against a fifth grader in order to establish who has more knowledge.

Surprisingly, the fifth graders often come out on top, and as a result, the show draws large audiences. Yet, when this occurs in real life, will we find it as comical and entertaining? Recently, a Michigan boy who, coincidentally, is in the fifth grade traveled with his family to the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC. There, he found an error in one of the displays that has been there for the entire twenty-seven years since the exhibit was first created. Interestingly, the fifth grader had recently studied the subject in his Earth Science class, so he immediately spotted the error. The Smithsonian quickly changed the mistake after he and his family brought it to their attention. This incident raises the question, "_____"

23. Track 260 () 00:39

- M: I'm disappointed that I missed the guest speaker the day before yesterday.
- W: He was really good. He said a lot of things that you would've related to.
- M: Really? What did he talk about?
- W: He talked a lot about his past, the cause of his deep debt, and how he actually went bankrupt just a few years ago. He now owns his own business.
- M: Wow. Why did he talk about that at the banquet?
- W: I think he wanted us to see how you can steadily rise above circumstances to be successful. His talk was very inspiring.
- M: That's great. I wish I could've been there to hear his speech and talk to him. It sounds like we've got a lot in common, both overcoming something like that and doing well in the end.
- W: That's what I thought. He believes in setting goals and achieving them, without making excuses for your past. I'm sure he would've liked to hear your story.
- M: Is he still in town? Perhaps we should consider going to visit him?
- W: He's in the next town, but we can still visit him.

24. Track 261 00:39

- M: OK. Were you doing anything in particular when you started feeling this way?
- W: I was at soccer practice, running through some team drills.
- M: Can you describe in detail how you feel?
- W: I have a fever, I vomited, and I have a stomachache.
- M: That's interesting. Do you often feel this way? We've had several people in the past few days with your same symptoms.
- W: Really? Could it all be caused by the same thing? Maybe we all have the same food allergy?
- M: Tell me, where did you eat dinner the night before your soccer practice?

- W: My parents took me to Joe's Steakhouse. I ate their beef and shrimp dinner.
- M: Then I think you have the same thing the other people have had: food poisoning from the shrimp.
- W: Are you serious? Is there anything I need to do?
- M: Yes. We've already contacted the restaurant, and they confirmed that the shipment of shrimp wasn't fresh. Your body will do what it needs to do for another day or two in order to get rid of the shrimp, but you'll be fine. I would say you shouldn't go to soccer practice until next week. I will prescribe you something to make you feel better.
- W: OK. Thank you, doctor.

25. Track 262 () 00:43

M: I work alongside my father at his very popular business, and a fraction of what we do is to paint people's surnames on their mailboxes in front of their houses. We do about eight mailboxes per day, from beginning to end. Business has picked up immensely recently. Therefore, we've been able to work in neighborhoods all over the city. People are fond of our work since we're extremely meticulous and always spell the names correctly. They tell us we are better than many of the businesses out there. The River Valley area, which is home to the richest neighborhood and about three hundred of the biggest houses in the city, offered us a job and we have just completed our work there. Many of those people requested special lettering or designs, so the project there took us longer than usual. The Richland Park neighborhood recently called and requested us to paint the names of everyone that lives in their section of town. There are 144 houses in that neighborhood.

26. Track 263 00:36

W: Thank you for tuning into Channel Six news. It's been a couple of rainy days that included hail and lightning, so listen carefully as we have the latest on the flooding situation on Highway 131. Cleanup crews there have been working since last night to clean up the mess created by yesterday's unprecedented ten inches of rain in just a little under two hours. This area has been so dry that any chance for rain was welcomed, but the area wasn't ready for the downpour that came yesterday. The ground was so dry that most of the water simply ran off into roadways, causing flooding conditions in most parts of town. The water has receded in most places, but the area on Highway 131 still has water over one meter deep. This area will remain closed for at least another day while workers try to dig trenches for the water to flow into and clean up

the damage left as a result of these rainy days.

27. Track 264 00:35

M: Daniel was having trouble making friends at his new school, even after he'd been there for several months. When he first came to this school, he was furious about having to leave his old school and wasn't very friendly to those who reached out to him to try to make him feel welcome. He just kept to himself and didn't participate in any activities that people tried to invite him to and didn't talk much to other people, even when they tried to become his friend. Everybody thought he was just really shy. He was starting to realize that his loneliness was the result of him closing himself off from everyone else. It didn't take too long for people to cease extending invitations to him, and he was soon left alone, which is what everyone at his new school thought he wanted. He recognized that if he was going to make any friends, he was going to have to be the kind of friend that people wanted to be around: friendly, talkative, and willing to spend time getting to know others.

28. Track 265 () 00:38

- M: (a) The time came for them to leave, so we said goodbye. As I closed the door behind them, my heart was overflowing with a hundred different emotions: excitement, worry, nervousness, and an overwhelming sense of freedom. I realized that I had only myself to rely on for my successes and failures, and though the thought frightened me, it also encouraged and challenged me. I was ready to get started!
 - (b) My parents and younger brothers helped me unload, taking armfuls of my belongings up three flights of stairs to my cramped room. After we'd carried the last of my baggage upstairs and unpacked, my family lingered most of the day, since none of us knew exactly how to proceed. I was the firstborn and, therefore, the first of my parents' children to leave home, and while I couldn't have been more enthusiastic about the change, there was still a lot of uncertainty.
 - © I'd waited a long time to be out on my own, eagerly anticipating my high-school graduation so I could begin my studies as a college freshman. The long-awaited day arrived for me to move into the dorms, and I can't remember when I'd ever been so excited.

29-30. Track 266 00:51

- M: Art lovers around the world have been known to spend substantial amounts of money for works of art created by famous artists that are thought to be priceless. We shouldn't be shocked then to know that art lovers in Milwaukee, Wisconsin are following the same trend. Only there's something interesting behind the art in this auction, and we have a news correspondent on site to tell us more. Rachel?
- W: Thank you, Ted. The artists featured in this sale aren't renowned for their artistic ability; rather, they live in an enclosed environment, are given their meals and entertainment for free, and have only to be observed by the hundreds of people who visit the Milwaukee Zoo every week. That's correct: the artists whose paintings are going to the highest bidder are animals at the zoo. Zoos have long encouraged their animals to paint as a way to keep their mental capacities engaged, but never before have the paintings been considered anything that someone else might want to buy. Zoo officials are finding that zoo enthusiasts will spend large sums to acquire artwork painted by the trunk of an elephant or by the hand of a monkey.



Practice Test 10

1. Track 267 / 00:37

- W: Thank you for coming to the shopping mall with me today. It's so fun to find things for my new place.
- M: I'm happy to join you. What are you looking for?
- W: I want to find a comfortable couch for my apartment. I'm looking for something that isn't too fancy or expensive that several people can sit on at the same time.
- M: Then that cuts out this little red one.
- W: It's nice, but you're right—it's not what I'm looking for. I want one that isn't too square.
- M: So, this modern one with designs and patterns won't do, either.
- W: No. Hmmm...this one looks comfortable, though it only has two big cushions.
- M: What about this one, with the slightly curved back? It looks relaxing.
- W: Well, I would rather have one with more than one cushion to sit on, and that couch only has one.
- M: What about this one? It has three cushions to sit on and arm rests along the sides. And it's simple, like you're looking for.



- W: That's the perfect one! That's exactly what I want. I think it will look great along the wall across from the water cooler.
- M: Great! I'll go ask them to help us load it.

2. Track 268 / 00:31

W: I'd never been out of the state of Mississippi before, but when the opportunity came up to be a foreign exchange student, I knew it was something I had to do. It took some convincing for my parents to agree, though they eventually gave in to my pleading, and I began to pack. I was matched with a family in France who had a daughter close to my age and five-year-old twins. I don't think I've ever experienced such a wide range of emotions like I did on the day I left for France. I was afraid of a plane crash and nervous of meeting my new family, who I hoped would be friendly. It was extremely strange to say goodbye to my family, knowing I wouldn't see them for many months, and board the international airplane by myself. Before I knew it, the plane was descending over Paris, and I could see the Eiffel Tower out my window. I was so excited to be in France, but when I got off of the plane, I began to get nervous. I timidly looked around the airport for my host family. I felt completely isolated and wondered if I'd made a big mistake. Then, I spotted them. They were eagerly searching the crowd, waving a sign with my name on it that said, "Amanda Johnson from Mississippi: Welcome to France!"

3. Track 269 () 00:34

W: You'll fall in love with this action-adventure film, and it'll have you on the edge of your seat, cheering for the good guys from beginning to end. Set in the old west, this movie tells of the struggle to bring the law to an area of the American west that didn't want anything to do with it. Made up of a band of skilled gunmen and horsemen, this law enforcement crew takes a stand against the rough, lawless criminals who rule the west with their ruthless and cruel ways, instilling fear and distrust in all the people who are trying to make a living as farmers and ranchers in the untamed west. Their methods are unconventional, but the crime in the city decreases by half almost immediately. Their battle is mainly against uncivilized men who would do whatever it takes to continue their reign of cruelty and injustice. Many times along the way, these brave men face masked enemies who turn out to be past friends who've chosen to be on the wrong side of the law. But don't despair; they are

triumphant in the end, establishing their place in history as those who tamed the wild west.

4. Track 270 00:37

- M: Thanks for calling customer service today. How can
- W: I'd like to place an order. I already have an account with your company. The account number is 454-683. I'd like to inquire about some items before I make a decision about my order.
- M: Certainly. What would you like to know?
- W: I want to know the sale price on a pair of the boots, product number 549, size 7.
- M: OK. Those are on clearance this weekend for \$25 per pair.
- W: So, the sale ends this weekend. Next, can you tell me the price of the pearl earrings, number 214?
- M: Those are more expensive. They're \$100.
- W: Yes, that's a little more than I was hoping to spend. Hmm... I'm so pleased with my dark denim, wide-leg pants I bought last year. Do you have any more?
- M: Can you give me their product number, ma'am?
- W: Oh, yes, I'm sorry. The number is 603.
- M: I'm sorry, we no longer carry those. But I do have some good news for you. If you order \$20 or more of our products, you qualify for free express 2-day shipping. Otherwise, this order will arrive in one week, and shipping will cost \$7.50. What would you like?
- W: For today, I am just going to get a winter hat, product number 779, in red please.

5. Track 271 () 00:33

W: Whenever Preston walks into a room, all eyes focus on him. He is strikingly handsome and very fashionable. And he has a smile that lights up the room. But it's not just his looks that make him attractive. He has a wonderful personality and a natural way with words. He can talk to anyone without ever having awkward silences; there is never a lack of conversation where he is concerned. People are drawn to him because he makes them feel so special and comfortable in his presence. He also makes it a point to compliment each person he greets, whether it is to say how nice they look or what a great job they are doing for the community. Sometimes there are skeptics who feel that his behavior is all an act used to persuade people to do things for him. However, it's not an act; it's just the type of person Preston is. He is genuine and sincere, and you can't find a better guy than him. Many girls compare him to a prince in a fairytale and dream about the day he will sweep them off their feet.

6. Track 272 00:36

- M: I want to talk about the group project. I feel like some of the people in the group aren't very committed to getting a good grade.
- W: What makes you say that?
- M: Well, a couple of the other members were saying that they don't plan to spend too much time on their part, which is the visual presentation.
- W: It's too bad that that's the way they feel. The class presentation is a large portion of the final grade for the group.
- M: I know. I didn't want to take it to Mr. Abbott, but I also want to make sure we get a good grade.
- W: Have you tried talking to the other members?
- M: That's what my dad suggested I do, but I'm not very good at confrontation.
- W: Remember what we learned from the school counselor when she talked to our class about handling conflict?
- M: Yes. Open and honest communication is the key to keeping conflict from arising.
- W: That's right. Would you like me to go with you to talk to the guys about what you heard them say?
- M: I haven't decided what I'm going to say yet, but I would feel more comfortable with someone there.
- W: Certainly. I'd be happy to come.

7. Track 273 () 00:36

- W: Welcome to Outdoor World. Can I help you find something?
- M: Actually, yes. I'm going on a camping trip this weekend and need some new gear.
- W: OK. Let's start with a tent. We have some nice ones
- M: My friend has one big enough for all of us to sleep in, so I don't need one.
- W: What about a sleeping bag?
- M: I certainly need one of those to camp in the mountains, but I already have one at home.
- W: I've got what you need. This cold weather bag will keep you warm even in zero-degree weather. It's \$65.
- M: No thanks. I do need a new backpack, though.
- W: This one is good for hiking because it's lighter and smaller than the others, and it is spacious enough for all of your supplies. It comes in blue, yellow, and brown and is on sale for \$29.50.
- M: Perfect. I'll take the brown one. The last thing I need is a pair of these hiking boots.
- W: That's a good choice; they're \$47.50.
- M: Oh, too expensive for me, but thank you for your help.

8. Track 274 () 00:36

- W: I've got to go get my passport photo taken today.
- M: What's the rush with getting your passport? Are you planning a trip?
- W: My parents surprised my brothers and me with a trip this summer to an exotic island—New Zealand!
- M: Wow! That's awesome. What's the occasion?
- W: My dad received a promotion at work, so he'll be making more money, and he'll also have more vacation time. We've wanted to take a big family trip and haven't been able to for the past couple of years, so we're going to this summer.
- M: So, how long will you guys be in New Zealand?
- W: We'll be gone a total of two weeks, though some of those days, we'll be on the airplane traveling to and from the island.
- M: Why did your parents choose New Zealand?
- W: My brothers and I love the movie Mountain Lords, and it was filmed there. We're going to see a lot of the places where it was filmed and then just spend some time touring the countryside.
- M: I've heard it's beautiful there.
- W: It really is. Also, they've got great surfing during midday, and my dad is guite the surfer.
- M: That's great. I'm sure you guys will have a great time.

9. Track 275 () 00:33

W: Alia Sabur recently became the youngest person in history to be a college professor. She's eighteen years old and currently teaches math and physics at Southern University in Louisiana. Dr. Sabur broke the youngest professor record formerly held by Colin Maclaurin, who was nineteen in 1717 and a student of Isaac Newton. Dr. Sabur's a truly matchless brain. She started school at the age of three and finished the curriculum required for elementary school by the age of five. She had her bachelor's degree by the age of fourteen with top honors and her doctorate just a few years later. Not only is Dr. Sabur an extremely gifted scholar, but she's also an accomplished musician on the clarinet, having played her first solo with orchestras at the young age of eleven. You would never know that Dr. Sabur is very shy since she's so friendly to whomever she encounters. She sees what she's been able to accomplish as a great gift that she must share with others. Her guest for knowledge motivates her students at Southern University to reach beyond themselves, and she is a fabulous example to adolescents everywhere to dream big and reach for the stars.

10. Track 276 () 00:50

M: Studying always seems to take the back seat when spring arrives and everyone wants to enjoy the beautiful sunny weather. There's something in human nature that longs to soak in sunny days and breathe the fresh spring air. So, while enjoying some outside time is permissible, here are a few helpful tips to make the most out of your studying time, taken from a how-to guide to help people who put off their studies until the last minute. First, set aside a specific time that you are going to dedicate to studying without distractions. Second, find an area that is well-lit, quiet, and uncluttered, where you can easily get your studying done. Although the coffee shop might seem like a great idea, it can get crowded. Instead, go to a library and choose a big table in a quiet area. Third, eat a healthy snack before you start so that your brain has the energy it needs to work properly and so that you aren't interrupted by hunger pains. The fifth step is something that many often forget but that will actually help your brain to maintain focus: take periodic breaks every hour for no more than ten minutes.

11. Track 277 00:32

- M: Hello, Jamie. What are you doing at the shopping mall today?
- W: I had to get some things for my mom. I usually don't like the shopping mall on weekends. It's overcrowded.
- M: I agree. What are you doing the rest of the day?
- W: Well, I haven't really thought about it. I just enjoy having a couple days off from school and my parttime job at the sandwich shop.
- M: I understand. But if you're looking for something to do, they're having the fall festival at the park. I plan to go over there in a little while.
- W: That sounds fun. I always enjoy the carnival rides.
- M: Oh, it's not that kind of festival. This is the time of year when all the farmers bring out the things they've grown over the summer.
- W: I didn't even know they had something like that.
- M: I've gone to it every year for as long as I can remember. My granddad owned a farm and used to bring vegetables from his garden to it.
- W: Cool. I think I'll check it out with you.
- M: Great! Do you need to take those things back to your mom?
- W: I'll just call and tell her I'll be home with them later.

12. Track 278 / 00:31

M: Social networking sites are a popular way to communicate online for many people. They're websites where people who have things in common can meet and exchange information. While these sites are fascinating and seemingly risk-free, many users simply don't realize how little security there is when exchanging personal information online. When someone has a page on the social network, that person receives alerts prompting him or her to download new applications for their space to make it look more interesting, such as games and trivia. What most users don't realize is that clicking to download that application allows personal information from their profile to be sent to the company who wrote the application. Most of them use it only for advertising or not at all, but the frightening thing is that you don't know who your information is being released to. On the one hand, it's a great way to download new applications, but on the other hand, this opens the social networking site users to potential identity theft. There are some security measures that should be taken when using social networking sites.

13. Track 279 00:32

M: Turn on the television, and you'll hear another story about a selfish person. People often forget the value of face-to-face interaction and helping one another on a personal level. However, we were recently reminded of the importance of a lending hand when a disabled elderly man almost lost his home. The man had lived in the same Texas community for a long time and had always done what he could to help people in need in the community. Now, the man was older and living in a run-down house, and the city threatened to demolish his house because it didn't meet city guidelines. He wasn't physically able to fix the house and couldn't afford to pay someone to do it. The community reached out to this man, volunteering time out of their busy schedules and money from their own pockets to remodel his home so that he could continue living there. The elderly man was overwhelmed by their generosity and was so thankful that he would be allowed to stay in his home because of their unexpected hard work. So, in today's world of selfishness, most of us can still count on our neighbors in our times of need.

14. Track 280 00:32

W: Thank you for coming here today to show your support and to get the answers to the questions that really matter to you. I want this to be a time that encourages you, reassures you, and gives you the information you need to make an informed decision. The issues we are dealing with affect everyone, regardless of social status, ethnicity, or background. Whether rich or poor, young or old, this is something that has the potential to change your lives in either a positive or negative way. I represent the positive. This means more money for education, a stronger focus on relief for those who're hurting, better healthcare for the entire population, and a decrease in taxes so that you get to keep more of the money that you work so hard to make. This isn't something that can happen overnight, but I believe, with your vote, we can change this country to be stronger, better, and more secure for the generations to come.

15. Track 281 () 00:37

- M: Boy, am I pleased to see you!
- W: Such a dramatic greeting—you must need something. What's going on?
- M: I'm in a bit of a crunch and need some help. I told my mom that I would help with my dad's surprise birthday party by buying some of the food and decorations, but I'm stuck.
- W: That doesn't sound too hard.
- M: Well, I'm on a tight budget and can't seem to find what she wants. You're creative. Would you mind helping?
- W: Not at all. We just need several snacks and some festive decorations for the party, right?
- M: Yes, but I don't have a lot of money to spend.
- W: No problem. You'd be amazed at how far you can stretch your money. First, let's go to Judy's. It's a party store that has better deals on its merchandise than anywhere else.
- M: Man, I'm glad you came along. If you hadn't, I'd never get this done.
- W: Well, you've asked the right person. I love the challenge of throwing a party on a budget.

16. Track 282 () 00:33

- W: Hey, Matt. How's it going?
- M: Good. I just finished my final in calculus, so I'm
- W: That's great. I was wondering if you would help me.
- M: OK.
- W: Well, I got a new MP3 player, and I wanted to load some music on it, but I don't really know how.

- M: Certainly, I could help with that.
- W: I have several CDs of mine that I want to load on it. and I'd like to download some music off of the Internet, too.
- M: OK. I can definitely help with the CDs, but I want to make sure we download music off of the Internet legally. Lots of people I know do it illegally.
- W: Really? I don't know anything about that at all. What is the right way to do it?
- M: Well, you've got to be a member of an online music store and be willing to pay their cost per song. Why don't you come to my parents' house? We can use their computer, and maybe my mom will make us cookies while we're there.
- W: Thank you for that. I appreciate it! I just have to go by my house and grab my MP3 player and CDs.
- M: OK. I'll give you a ride.

17. Track 283 () 00:33

- (a) W: I really don't feel very well today. I don't know what's wrong with me.
 - M: There must be something going around because I've heard so many people sneezing and coughing lately.
- (b) M: Excuse me, but that is very loud. Would you mind listening to that on your headphones?
 - W: Sorry. I didn't realize that my music would distract
- © W: I hope to find a part-time job this summer. I'm saving for a car, but right now I'm just window shopping.
 - M: Good luck with that. I've been looking, and it seems no one's hiring.
- d M: Ever since that movie came out, all the girls are wearing big sunglasses.
 - W: I know. That actress just made them look so fashionable. Now everyone wants some!
- (e) W: If you don't mind, I'd like to go by the big aquarium on our way home.
 - M: I don't blame you. I'm ready to be able to relax at home, too.

18. Track 284 / 00:36

- M: Thank you for agreeing to see me.
- W: No problem. What kind of information do you need?
- M: I'm in a careers class. Our assignment is to interview a professional.
- W: That's an interesting assignment. What made you choose me?
- M: We had to pick someone in a career we're interested
- W: So, you're interested in being a loan officer?
- M: That's one of my interests. I've thought about several different careers.

- W: So, does your class help you explore all of them?
- M: Yes. I've followed a university professor, a doctor, a realtor, and a business person who owns a chain of coffee shops. And now, here I am to learn how you handle money.
- W: I bet it has been very interesting, and you must have learned a great many things. What a good opportunity for a young person to be exposed to various jobs.
- M: Yes, ma'am. I've also learned something; I don't want to work my part-time job selling cell phones in a booth at the shopping mall for the rest of my life, and I don't want to work in retail.
- W: That's the whole point of a part-time job: to learn your likes and dislikes.

19. Track 285 00:32

M: Getting enough water's vital for the human body in order to maintain good health. Water assists in moving blood through the body and digesting food, as well as assisting with many other bodily processes. If you are out in the wilderness, and you're without a water supply, it's extremely important that you know how to find water. One of the most effective ways to find water in the wild is to look for green vegetation. In addition, traveling to a valley or low point is another good way to discover water. There are many other ways to collect water if you can't find a stream or lake. You can catch water that comes up from the soil, or you can tie a plastic bag to the branch of a shrub or tree and catch the water that the plant leaks out during the day. Once you've collected water, it's vital that you sterilize it if at all possible in order get rid of any bacteria in the water. Boiling water for a minimum of ten minutes should kill most harmful bacteria. If you have a problem with starting a fire, you can leave the water under the sun, which will also kill the bacteria.

20. Track 286 () 00:53

W: The continent of Antarctica is uninhabited by humans. Plant and animal life is almost nonexistent due to the harsh blizzards and overall winter weather there. This makes it the perfect location for natural scientific testing in many different fields. Studying the geology, or physical development of the land, in Antarctica aids in understanding geology across the rest of the Earth. For example, geological research shows that big animals and trees once filled the landscape there. But now, the continent is covered in ice. Also, the study of Antarctica's atmosphere and climate contributes to our understanding of weather patterns across the globe. Observing temperature, wind direction, and

rainfall there allows scientists to understand the effect of Antarctic weather on other parts of the world. Also, the waters around Antarctica are unique because they are continuous and uninterrupted by any land. This is the perfect setting to observe oceanic currents and the many properties of seawater. While Antarctica seems to be a treasure trove for science, using the continent for research purposes was a long time coming. Several countries tried to claim Antarctica for themselves, which led to the development of the Antarctic Treaty in 1959.

21. Track 287 () 00:37

- W: Hi, Mr. Bartlett. Would you like to buy a raffle ticket for a good cause?
- M: Well, Sarah, that's an offer that's hard to resist. What are you raising money for?
- W: I'm on a team that's competing in the Autism Awareness run. We are raising money for autism research.
- M: That's a great cause. What will I win if you draw my ticket?
- W: You could win a new grill, a hammock, or plane tickets to a luxurious tropical island for a guided tour of a safari park.
- M: Those are great prizes!
- W: Yes, sir. We were able to get some great things donated. It seems lots of people have been affected by autism in one way or another.
- M: I'd like to buy ten raffle tickets. How much are they?
- W: That's great, sir! They are \$5.00 each.
- M: OK. When is this autism run? Can anyone come to
- W: Oh, yes, sir. There are lots of four person teams. Each member has to run a mile of urban terrain. and the team that has the fastest time gets the trophy. We'd love to have a big crowd. The run is this Saturday, and it begins at the high school track.

M:

22. Track 288 () 00:41

W: We've all been driving down the highway and have seen a dog sticking his head out the window, enjoying the feel of a windy day in his face. Maybe you've seen a car with a sleeping cat curled up in the back window as the driver cruises down the street. While this may bring a smile to the face of an animal-lover, there are many who believe that pets travelling in vehicles increase the risk of an accident occurring. A recent incident in California proves the validity of this argument. A woman was

driving with her cat in her lap when it scratched her, causing her to jerk the wheel into a light pole. On the one hand, travelling with pets should be permitted in order to get from one location to the next, but on the other hand, we must consider the safety of society. Should pets, like children, be required to wear seat belts or be transported in some type of carrier? Advocates for safety are pushing to pass a law to _

23. Track 289 00:37

- M: Hey, Christie! It's good to see you. How was your
- W: Oh, it was awesome! I spent a month with my brother and his wife. They have a house along the coast, so I mostly hung out at the beach. What about you?
- M: I went on a backpacking trip in the mountains with my cousins for a week, but other than that, I just stayed here and worked.
- W: That's cool. I bet you have a nice amount of cash to start the school year.
- M: I made good money, but my plan is to use most of it for a security deposit on an apartment.
- W: That's awesome! I don't blame you. Living in the dormitory gets old guickly.
- M: Yes, it does. I guess you will live in the dormitory another year?
- W: Yes. I have a scholarship that pays for my living arrangements as long as they're on-campus, so I have to make the best of it.
- M: Good for you. I've always dreamed of getting a scholarship. Well, I'd be happy to have you over to my apartment any time.
- W: I don't know my way around the city yet, because I'm always on campus, so you're going to have to give me directions.

24. Track 290 00:38

- M: Thank you for the invitation to your party.
- W: Don't mention. Are you going to be able to come?
- M: I would love to, but I don't think I can. I've got to work that night.
- W: Seriously? I was really hoping you'd be there.
- M: I know. And I thought I'd be able to get off work, but we've been shorthanded lately. Several people have quit. Since I'm new to the job, I hate to ask for too much from my boss.
- W: So, there's no way you can switch shifts with somebody else?
- M: I'm afraid not. Tell you what—I'll ask my boss, but I don't want to make any promises.

- W: Thanks for trying, either way. It should be a great time, though. My parents hired a band.
- M: I'd hate to miss that.
- W: Also, we're having the meal catered by Fajita Joe's.
- M: That's great! The food will be really good, for sure.
- W: Hopefully, your boss will let you come, even if it's only for part of the night.

25. Track 291 00:36

M: I stood in a long line of many musicians in order to audition for the orchestra. Due to my undeniable talent, I was asked to join the youth symphony orchestra. I was one of fifty-seven kids who auditioned, and only four of us were chosen due to the limited spaces available. I've been taking private cello lessons every week for the past five years, so making the orchestra was a dream come true. Trying to fit symphony practice into my already busy schedule took a little bit of work because the symphony requires a lot of practice time, both together and on our own. During a regular month, the full symphony practices together two times a week. Each section woodwinds, strings, and brass—has their own practice one time a week as well, in addition to the symphony practices. When there is a concert during the month, we have three practices each week with the full symphony as well as the section practices.

26. Track 292 / 00:34

W: All you women out there, listen up! Here's the chance you've been waiting for. A new study gives a group of women permission to eat chocolate every day for the next year. While this may sound far-fetched, it's completely true. A university in eastern England is looking for a test group of women to eat chocolate every day for the next year to see the effects of how the rich candy can aid in the fight against heart disease among women. The scientists behind the study believe that there's a connection between chocolate, which contains flavonoids, a healthful compound, and a reduction in heart disease risk factors. So, if you'd like to participate in this study and believe it's something you'd really like to try, the University of East Anglia in Norwich is asking you to contact them. You can log onto our website for their contact information. For those of you women out there who merely want to enjoy different types of chocolate without the pressure of participation in a scientific study, I say go for it!

27. Track 293 () 00:34

W: My senior year in high school, I had many class periods where I was able to take electives because I'd taken everything required for graduation, so I decided that the food and homemaking class would be an easy way to fill space on my schedule. I approached Miss Thompson's class with a rather relaxed attitude, thinking it didn't count because it didn't deal with any "real" subject matter in my mind. I'd worked extremely hard in classes such as physics, advanced biology, and foreign literature and viewed her class as something I didn't have to worry about. We learned how to bake cupcakes and sew T-shirts. When we got our first six-week grade report, I was shocked to see that I'd been given a "C" in my food and homemaking class, and at first, I was really irritated with Miss Thompson. I wondered how she could've given me such a low grade. It occurred to me then that I hadn't put forth any effort in the class and probably deserved a failing grade.

28. Track 294 () 00:36

- W: (a) I struggled to imagine a family where those things didn't happen on a daily basis, but the more time I spent with other families, I noticed that I really was a part of something special. Once I moved out on my own, I felt isolated and realized how special those times in my parents' home were, and I missed them horribly. I vowed then and there that I would be the kind of parent that made a home where everyone felt wanted and welcome.
 - **(b)** The older I get, the more I understand how blessed I was to have my family. My parents loved us enough to discipline us when we needed it and made it a point to put our family before anything else. We would always eat supper together at the table.
 - © Many of my friends would invite themselves over for these dinners, and it took me a while to understand that it was more than my mother's fabulous cooking that drew them to our family. One time, a friend came to stay with our family for Thanksgiving weekend. She commented that she couldn't imagine growing up in a family that hugged each other and enjoyed spending time together.

29-30. Track 295 () 00:49

W: This week's medical minute may spark the interest of you kids at home who've been trying to convince your parents that you need a pet. Mike Thurman is a local veterinarian who has more on this interesting story.

M: Thank you for the introduction, Jeanine. It's long been said that a dog is man's best friend, but a recent study shows that a dog may be even more than that. For children who are prone to asthma, or breathing problems, and allergies commonly called hay fever, a dog may be just what the doctor ordered. The study followed over nine thousand children for six years, and it revealed that having a pet in the house caused the children's immune systems to establish antibodies to the germs associated with having a pet. While more germs around your child might not seem like a good thing, scientists say it's exactly what the child needs to build immunity that will help protect the child from being too sensitive to common allergens. The children in the study who had a pet in the home reported significantly lower incidents of allergyrelated illnesses than children in the study without a pet.

19:17

Practice Test 11

1. Track 296 () 00:36

- M: Thank you for coming with me.
- W: So, you, your dad, and your brothers are getting your mom a new table, but you have to pick it out?
- M: No, Dad's already found one, but he sent me to buy it today with his credit card.
- W: OK. So there are no chairs or benches with it?
- M: No. He also said the legs are curving out and not
- W: So, that brown, round one with four legs isn't what he wants?
- M: No. He did say that it had four legs, though.
- W: OK. That narrows it down. What about this one? It's actually three tables in one. They can all stack underneath each other, or they can stand separately.
- M: No, he just wants one table. Oh, did I forget to mention that it has a glass surface?
- W: That would've been nice to know at the beginning!
- M: Sorry. You know I'm not good at this stuff. That's why I brought you with me.
- W: All right. Is it this rectangular table with the glass
- M: That one was my favorite, but Dad thinks she'll like the one with the curved legs better.
- W: That's a very pretty table. I bet she'll love it!

2. Track 297 () 00:34

M: After you've finished your workout, you need to stretch. I'll show you some.

- W: I really appreciate this.
- M: You're very welcome. While you're standing, spread your legs shoulder-width apart, and stretch both arms out. Take a deep breath in, and lean your hands back a little
- W: That does feel good.
- M: After that, put your left hand behind your left leg. Point your right toe to the right, and then lean forward.
- W: OK. I can feel that stretch all the way down the back of my leg.
- M: Great. Now, lie on your stomach. Put your legs up toward your head. Put your hands back, and grab your legs. Lift your head up, and pull your legs forward. Make sure to keep your abs tight so that your body stays in a straight line.
- W: That feels really good.
- M: Yes. It stretches your arms, your back, and your abs all at the same time. Next, lie on your back. Put your hands on your side, and lift your legs over your head and touch the ground. This will stretch the backs of your legs.
- W: This is a little hard.
- M: Now, let's finish off by sitting with your legs crossed and placing your hands on your knees. Now, breath in and out slowly.
- W: These are great. Thanks for your help.

3. Track 298 / 00:33

W: This fun-loving and heart-warming romancecomedy features one of America's most popular leading women. The blond and beautiful main character is a charming, inspirational, and hardworking woman who believes the sky is the limit. She breaks the mold for women in the business world and turns modern politics upside down. She attracts the attention of the men around her. first with her beauty and poise and, second, with her nontraditional business style and success at getting the job done. She meets a handsome businessperson, and they are forced to drive across the country together a few days after they meet. They fall in love while they are isolated in the middle of nowhere. Armed with her signature style, her new boyfriend, and her charm in working with people, she descends on Washington with a mission: to change the policies that govern the care and treatment of animals and the current process of lawmaking in America. Though she means business, she definitely believes in approaching each new challenge with a positive outlook and an eye for change. In conclusion, the results of her hard work are her positive legacy and optimistic attitude on Capitol Hill.

4. Track 299 / 00:35

- M: Thank you for calling Vermont's General Store. What can I do for you today?
- W: Actually, sir, I'm calling from out of town about the maple syrup and cheese that Vermont is so famous for. I'm going to use them as Thanksgiving gifts. Can they be here before the holidays?
- M: Certainly, ma'am. In fact, the cheese will need to be delivered in three days or less because it must be kept cool.
- W: OK. I may not need to order it just yet. But just in case, please tell me the sale price for your Vermont cheddar.
- M: A block of cheddar is \$8.50. The shipping for it costs \$10 because we send it by two-day delivery.
- W: Hmmm...tell me the sale price for your maple syrup.
- M: Well, a 14 oz. bottle is \$13.50, and a 24 oz. bottle is \$20.00.
- W: OK. I would like one 24 oz. bottle. What are the shipping fees on that?
- M: We can ship those as standard delivery, which costs \$4 per bottle. It will arrive within two weeks.
- W: OK. Can you put it in a box?
- M: Yes, ma'am. Is there anything else you'd like to order? We sell wine and crackers, as well as some delicious homemade honey.
- W: Not at this time, but I may order some of those when I call again.

5. Track 300 00:37

W: Nancy is a very fun and popular girl, but it seems like wherever she goes or whatever she does, she causes a scene. More than once while walking to class with her friends, she has tripped and fallen to the ground. As soon as her friends realize that she is OK, they burst out laughing. Nancy just sits on the ground in the middle of her things with a dazed look on her face that says, "How did that happen?" That's not the only embarrassing thing she does, though. One time, she was riding her bicycle, and she ran into a telephone pole. Fortunately, she wasn't hurt. And just last week, she ran into a glass door, fell down the stairs, and cut her finger with a knife and had to get stitches—all on the same day! Poor Nancy! Many people feel sorry for her because she is always getting hurt or breaking things. But Nancy just laughs about it. It's a good thing that she is so easygoing and accepting of her awkwardness. If it were anyone else, they may not ever go outside of their house for fear of hurting themselves.

6. Track 301 () 00:33

- W: I really appreciate the hard work you put into your
- M: Thank you, ma'am. I take pride in a job well done.
- W: That's a great attitude to have.
- M: It's something that my parents taught me when I
- W: I was raised as a farmer, and that's something we learned as well.
- M: Yes, I believe working the land is something that develops a good work ethic.
- W: It also encourages discipline. In a job where you're the boss, you have to motivate yourself to get things done, even when you don't want to.
- M: Very true.
- W: I'm sorry, I have a tendency to ramble. Back to your evaluation. Because of your performance this year, I'm recommending you for a promotion.
- M: Really, ma'am?
- W: Yes. You display qualities that good managers have. I would like you to be our dayshift manager if you're interested.
- M: Well, before I give you an answer, I'd like to hear what that position would entail.
- W: I know you do. Your responsibilities will include overseeing the other employees in your department as well as conducting training for new employees.
- M: OK. Then, I'm very interested. Thank you for believing I have what it takes.

7. Track 302 00:34

- M: I'm so busy with work, but I need to find several different gifts, and I hope I can find all of them here.
- W: I'm sure you can, sir. What's on your list?
- M: I need several gifts, though I don't have a specific one in mind. I'd like to give something to my classmates for graduation.
- W: That's a nice idea. We've got an inspirational book that's really popular with teenagers. It's called Make the Most out of What You've Been Given. Each copy is \$10.
- M: Interesting, I never thought about that. I was thinking of coffee mugs.
- W: Who else are you shopping for?
- M: I would like something for my teachers, maybe something small and considerate that could sit on a shelf or desk.
- W: I guess a necklace is out of the guestion. Hmm... I know just the thing. We have wooden picture frames in different shapes and sizes. They are on clearance for \$10 each.
- M: OK. I'll take four of the black rectangular ones.
- W: Will you need wrapping paper and ribbon as well?

- M: Does your store offer gift wrapping?
- W: Actually, we do if you've got the time.

8. Track 303 () 00:33

- W: Hey! Do you have a minute? I'm planning a party for Haley, and I need some help.
- M: Why are you planning a party for Haley?
- W: She's going to go to college, so she'll be moving out of state.
- M: Wow. When does she leave?
- W: At the end of the month, I believe. I want to throw her a huge party because she's really nervous about leaving. I want her to know she'll always have good friends who are there for her.
- M: She's lived here all her life, hasn't she?
- W: Yes, and I think that's what's making the transition a lot harder. She's excited but frightened, too.
- M: I don't blame her. Being in a new place is always a little frightening.
- W: It didn't seem that way for you. You moved here and made friends immediately.
- M: Well, my dad is in the military. I'm used to moving around, and I've learned to hide how nervous I really feel
- W: Maybe you would be a good person for Haley to
- M: Good idea. I'll take her out for coffee before she leaves.

9. Track 304 00:35

M: Guys, I can't tell you how much trouble I got into this weekend for the little stunt we pulled Friday night. My parents were absolutely furious at me for disobeying their rule about when I was supposed to be home, and my dad even said he couldn't believe I would disrespect them like that. I didn't think it would be that big of a deal because I never do much to get into trouble, but boy, was I certainly mistaken. They apparently stayed up until I got home, worrying over where I was and contemplating what kind of punishment they should give me for violating their rule. I tried to explain that it was harmless, that we were just walking around downtown, but that made them even angrier. Sadly, I was just getting to the point with my parents where they were starting to see me as a young adult instead of just a kid, but sneaking out and staying out until 2:00 a.m. has pretty much ruined my chances for freedom any time soon.

10. Track 305 () 00:49

W: "Cleanliness is next to godliness," or that's how the old saying goes. We live in a society of antibacterial

soaps and household cleaners. We consider ourselves hygienic people because we keep our rooms tidy, we launder our clothes often, and we shower regularly. Many of us are dedicated to washing our hands after being in public restrooms. But did you know that a large number of us encounter something that is five times dirtier than a public toilet seat every day of our lives? That's right. Each time we sit down at our computer keyboard, we likely come in contact with an immeasurable number of germs and bacteria. A study conducted in Britain found that most people's computer keyboards are home to many more microscopic bacteria than public restrooms. People may be allergic to these bacteria. After these findings were revealed, they polled computer users and found that at least 10 percent have never cleaned their keyboard and almost half of the people surveyed clean their keyboards less than once a month. While this bad habit of ours is easily reversed, it's considered disgusting to find out this truth by many who feel they are relatively clean people.

11. Track 306 () 00:35

- M: I've really enjoyed this project. This is an example of how to build a house and have fun.
- W: It was great fun! I enjoyed it because we're doing something for a family that really needs it.
- M: Yes. It's good to do something nice for others every once in a while. I can't imagine losing everything I owned in a fire.
- W: I know. It would be awful. I'm glad they're at least enjoying a picnic together today. After we're done here, what are you doing tonight?
- M: Maybe I'll go bowling.
- W: That sounds fun, but I've got a better idea. Why don't we take up a collection and get everything this family needs to fill their refrigerator? Feeding four growing kids has to be expensive.
- M: That's a good idea.
- W: I've already talked to some others, and they've donated some money to our cause.
- M: My mom is always cutting coupons, so I'm sure she'd have some we could use. That would make it cheaper and cut the cost a little.
- W: That's a great idea.
- M: Let's talk to the rest of the crew to see if they want to pitch in some money. Then, I'll go get the coupons, and meet you back here so we can drive there together and get started.
- W: Great!

12. Track 307 00:32

W: Most believe that young people have a lot to learn from the older people in their lives, but a recently released study showed that older adults can take a few pointers from adolescents. The study focused on the benefits of friendship in people's lives in regard to their physical and social well-being. Those who reported several interactions with close friends every month demonstrated a reduction in illness, and they said they feel happier overall than those with no close friends. Interestingly, the time teens spend online chatting counts as beneficial friendship time as well. Adults are encouraged to sign on and experience the benefits of establishing Internet friendships. Everything from book clubs to support groups to chat rooms for people with similar interests offers the chance to connect with others. Though some adults feel the Internet is impersonal, the study revealed that people are 50 percent more likely to have face-to-face interactions when they're active online when compared to people who don't use computers to socialize. Getting adults to change these habits will take time. The study recommended several ways that adults can break into this new habit of socializing.

13. Track 308 () 00:35

M: You've probably heard the old saying, "No pain, no gain." For males in New Guinea, it's meant very literally that pain will bring respect and status in the tribe. Males must be initiated into the tribe of men in their village, which means they must complete several challenging tasks to prove their strength and dedication to the tribe. The ritual is several weeks long because they believe that a male who can endure the long weeks of sacrifice and suffering will be strong enough to endure the struggles and burdens that come with adulthood. To be recognized as a man in the tribe, the last task the men must endure is to be marked with the scar of a crocodile, which means the skin on their back, torso, and legs is cut to look like the rough skin of a crocodile. The hundreds of tiny cuts take several painful hours to make, and the healing process takes several weeks. The villagers believe the pain of the process is critical because it shows the man can persist through trouble and hardship in the future. Upon completion of this agonizing ritual, the men are accepted and celebrated among the tribe.

14. Track 309 () 00:37

W: Did you know that 25 percent of students who aren't achieving their full potential in school will

drop out before their senior year? Did you know that 60 percent of students who graduate report feeling inadequate or not good enough to go to college? In today's competitive academic arena, you may find it hard to get ahead of the pack. Though you study and spend time improving your standings, you find yourself falling short and blending in with those who aren't making the top grades. If this describes you, we would like the chance to change your position. We offer one-on-one tutoring and self-improvement sessions so that you can become what you truly want to be. Our simple approach is completely driven by the individual needs of each student. We can guarantee results because 95 percent of those who have been a part of our program have reported marked improvement in their grades, their study habits, and their overall sense of self-satisfaction.

15. Track 310 00:36

- M: I don't know how I'm going to get everything done on my project for Professor Martin's biology class. I still have so much to do, and it's due at the end of the week.
- W: You've still got a few days to work on it. Is there something I can do to help?
- M: I can't find science journals and need help researching them for information on the role nitric oxide plays in regulating plant processes.
- W: I've got to go to the library anyway, so I'll see if I can find some good sources for you.
- M: I really appreciate your help. If I can find the display board that I need to display all the information I've got, I'll be in good shape.
- W: I have one left over from my project last year. We could cover it with some nice fabric or something and then glue your information on it.
- M: That would be great. I can't thank you enough for this. I really appreciate it.
- W: No problem. I know how it is to have too much to do and not enough time to do it all.
- M: I've been so busy. I am really lucky to have such a good friend like you.
- W: Don't mention it. I'm happy to help you.

16. Track 311 () 00:33

- W: I don't know about you, but I'm really glad that's over. I think this calls for a celebration.
- M: I know. We don't have to open another school book for three months—what a good feeling!
- W: It's going to be so nice this summer to concentrate on something other than school. I plan to spend a lot of time at the swimming pool and catching up on some reading.

- M: That sounds great. I think we ought to kick things off with a trip to the ice cream store.
- W: Oh, that's a great idea.
- M: Perhaps we should consider swinging by the student center to see if anyone else wants to go?
- W: There weren't many people there the day before vesterday. Can I bring my roommate?
- M: Certainly. Is she done with her finals?
- W: Yes, she took her last one last night. She told me to come get her in our dorm room if I was going to do anything fun around midday.
- M: Perfect. We'll do that, and then let's check the student center, too, just in case. I think we should get a lot of people to go, so we can play Frisbee after we get ice cream.
- W: How fun! That's a great idea.

17. Track 312 00:33

- (a) M: If I had the chance, I would book a flight and travel around Europe for a few months.
 - W: Wouldn't that be great? You could visit all the places we usually see in the movies.
- (b) M: Have you heard about the new bowling alley at the shopping mall?
 - W: I know. I just bought one, too. Being able to check your email on your cell phone is great.
- © M: I can't wait to see that new movie based on the action and adventure book I just read.
 - W: After a while, those movies are all the same. The good guy rescues the girl and wins.
- (d) M: I had planned to workout at the gym today, but it's so pretty outside that I don't really want to anymore.
 - W: Why don't we take our bikes and ride along the biking and walking trail outside of town?
- (e) M: I told my little sister I'd take her to the new shopping mall tonight on High Street.
 - W: I think it's great that you two are so close.

18. Track 313 () 00:39

- M: It's been such a stressful day for you. How about I stay with you through the rest of it?
- W: Yes, please. I appreciate you coming to the police station with me.
- M: No problem. That could be a little intimidating. I'm glad we were finally able to leave.
- W: I know. This office is not so scary.
- M: What did the police officer say about your car?
- W: He said the car hasn't been seen, but they hope to find it soon.
- M: That's great.
- W: It was so horrible to cross the street by the school and see someone driving off in my car.
- M: That had to be such a weird feeling.

- W: I hope I get it back. I'm glad my insurance will cover the cost of a rental car until the police find it. I dreaded having to take the bus to school every day.
- M: That's great. Any idea what kind you're going to get? I think you're next in line. Maybe they'll rent you a sports car or sport-utility vehicle.
- W: I haven't decided yet.

19. Track 314 () 00:35

W: Making plans to go to college away from home can be overwhelming and can make you feel quite stressed, especially if you'll be living in a dormitory with a roommate that you've never met. Being away from your family for the first time and adjusting to life on your own can be made easier when you have a positive roommate experience. Here are a few tips to ensure that you're the kind of roommate that you hope yours turns out to be. First, do your best to make a positive and friendly first impression on move-in day because the first few days with your new roommate will probably set the pace for how the rest of the year goes. Since you'll be sharing a small space, make sure there are clear boundaries with your new roommate and be clear about which possessions can be shared and which you both prefer to keep to yourselves. Next, try to get to know your roommate. It's important to find common ground on which you can begin to build a friendly relationship. Living with someone is a great life experience and can teach you a lot about being open-minded and accepting of other people.

20. Track 315 () 00:54

W: Anyone who has spent much time around a dog can attest to the fact that these animals seem to understand some of what humans say. We definitely know that dogs recognize words like fetch, stay, and sit. It's hard to deny that a dog knows the word walk when he wags his tail expectantly at the mere mention of it. Beyond these simple command words, many believe dogs have the capacity to know more, and numerous studies over the past few decades have confirmed that dogs can comprehend a varied vocabulary. A Border collie was studied extensively because he displayed the ability to understand over a hundred words. The researchers tested his knowledge by having him retrieve certain items. After a month, the researchers wanted to see if he'd recognize the items he'd been introduced to a month before. He correctly identified and retrieved the new items over 50 percent of the time. This is remarkable

when you consider that Rico performed as well as a three-year-old child in recalling information. Some researchers, though, believe that dogs can't truly understand language and are only trained to be familiar with certain words

21. Track 316 () 00:37

- W: I'm so excited! Guess what my parents got me for mv birthdav!
- M: A new car?
- W: That would be nice, but no. They paid for me to have guitar lessons.
- M: That's awesome! I didn't know you had a guitar.
- W: Actually, my mom had one that she used to play in college. It's a simple, acoustic one that would be great to learn on. I'd mentioned wanting to learn to play, but my parents totally surprised me!
- M: How cool. Who will be teaching you?
- W: There's a guitar shop downtown, and they have musicians who teach lessons. I'll be learning from the guy who plays in that local band, The Espresso Beans.
- M: I like that band! How cool that you'll be learning from him. So, do you want to play in a band eventually?
- W: I haven't decided yet. On the one hand, I've just always wanted to learn how to play. On the other hand, it would be fun to play in a band.
- M: Well, I'm excited to get to hear you play after a few lessons.
- W: Maybe you should give me a couple months before expecting too much.
- M: __

22. Track 317 () 00:36

M: A recent purchase on the Internet might, at first glance, be considered excessive, but the man who bought the nine-story-tall Ferris wheel has big plans. He lives in Oklahoma and intends to bring the Ferris wheel to Oklahoma City as part of a neighborhood his company is building there. One might wonder why he needs an amusement park-sized ride in his neighborhood, but the man is determined it's the perfect fit. He hopes to build a community that is all-inclusive, meaning it has shopping, entertainment, and everything needed for living, all within walking distance of people's homes. It might not be a bad idea after all: If you arrive home after a long day at school or work, you might want to take a peaceful ride in one of the wheel's enclosed seats without having to brave the crowds and noise of an amusement park. This relaxing picture _

23. Track 318 / 00:34

- W: I found some great buys at a garage sale this weekend. I'll be able to decorate my dorm room without spending more than about \$50 bucks.
- M: That's crazy. What did you find?
- W: They had some funky artwork for only \$5 a print, so I bought four different ones. They're really colorful and have all different colors and designs in them.
- M: That's cool. What else?
- W: I found a comforter set for my bed that I'd seen at a really expensive store in the shopping mall. It was \$175 at the mall, and I paid \$20 for it at the garage sale. The colors in it match the artwork I bought
- M: Wow. I'm really impressed with your ability to find bargains.
- W: I was thrilled. I try not to pay regular price for anything if I can help it.
- M: Maybe I should take you with me next time I go shopping.
- W: I'd be happy to go with you next time.
- M: You can show me how to get discounts off the regular price.

24. Track 319 00:36

- M: I'm really sorry that I can't hang out with you at
- W: Me, too. We were going to have a really good time.
- M: I know. It's the perfect day for a game of beach volleyball.
- W: It certainly is! Our team isn't going to be as good without you there.
- M: You'll be fine without me. I just hate to miss it.
- W: Do you have to drive to your mom's house for Mother's Day now?
- M: No, we're getting my senior pictures taken in the park, and we need good weather. We've already changed the appointment twice.
- W: I understand. I guess you are running out of time.
- M: I know. We're supposed to have them done before school starts, so we've only got a few more weeks.
- W: I can't believe the summer's almost over!
- M: Me neither. Registration is next week. But, I'm looking forward to being a senior. I think school will be bearable since we only have one year left.
- W: That's probably true.
- M: Well, I'm supposed to pick my mom up at her office in half an hour, so I'd better go. You guys have a good time!
- W: OK. Come by if you get finished in time.

25. Track 320 () 00:33

M: I was extremely excited when I had the opportunity to participate in the yearly state track meet last year with our school's team. The top two finishers in each category from every region got to compete. My specialty is running in the 400 meter relay race, and since our team qualified, I had the opportunity to run. Since our state is so big, there were hundreds of athletes attending in order to compete in different types of races, and the sports stadium was packed. I can't imagine how extremely tired the judges and time-keepers must've been after it was all over. The day of the tryouts began at nine in the morning and went on until four in the afternoon. They had three races every hour of the day, except for the hour that everyone rested for lunch and had some time off. The track meet lasted three days, with each day focusing on a specific type of races. All racers began to feel extremely exhausted toward the end of the meet. Fortunately, the relays were held on the last day, and our team only had to run three times. Therefore, I was fortunate enough to watch all the other races.

26. Track 321 () 00:36

W: Well, on tonight's Fantastic Fan sports section, we have a story of dedication and unending devotion for the past four and a half years. In May of 2003, a boy in Connecticut received a new jersey of his favorite football star for his birthday. He put on the jersey that day and only recently took it off for good. The young boy was fascinated with the football player's skill and determination on the field as well as the image he portrayed off the field. For this reason, he wanted to honor his favorite quarterback by wearing his jersey every day. His mother demanded that she launder the garment every other day and mend any tears or signs of wear. His parents believe he stopped wearing the jersey only because it had gotten too small to wear. This kind of commitment and enthusiasm is rarely seen in adult fans of sports teams. Fans everywhere have a lot to learn about perseverance from this young man.

27. Track 322 00:34

M: Though my mother warned me not to think too highly of myself or my achievements, I knew that I was a talented basketball player, and I soon began to believe myself to be superior to everyone around me. After graduation from high school, I planned to try out for a college basketball team so that I could play in front of huge crowds and prove how skilled I was. The day of the tryout, I played well and could tell the other guys who were trying out were jealous of my talent. The coach called me into his office after the tryout. I assumed he was going to tell me that he'd be honored to have someone of my talent and skill on his team, so it shocked me when he said I wasn't the right fit for the team. He said he appreciated my basketball skills but didn't think that the team needed someone with my ego and self-centered attitude.

28. Track 323 () 00:37

- W: (a) They were so grateful for the songs we sang, and though they barely had money enough for food, they presented us with a gracious meal to show their appreciation. This experience taught me that the things of the soul—being kind, sharing with others, and reaching out to people who are different—are what life is all about.
 - (b) When we arrived at the base of a small mountain, we were met by villagers who were to lead us up the mountain where the small village was located. As we started the hike upward on the walking trail, our guides told us to stay in a single-file line for our safety because the men in the village were hunting for supper in the jungle surrounding us. We arrived at the village to find some of the most giving and humble people I'd ever met.
 - © I traveled to the Philippines with a choir I sang with in college, and while the whole trip was an eyeopening experience for me, I will never forget one concert in particular. We were scheduled to sing in a small, rural village several hours' drive from the city of Olongapo.

29-30. Track 324 () 00:47

- M: Parrots, chimps, and dogs are all known examples of fascinating animals with abilities once thought to belong only to humans. Interestingly, there's something that's been left out of this talented listing, and Natalie is at Pet Groomer's Pets Place in the shopping mall with more on this story— Natalie?
- W: Thank you for the introduction, Timothy. What you said is right: parrots, chimpanzees, and dogs are soon to be joined by none other than a goldfish. A man and his son have trained several pet fish to perform a number of tricks, including swimming through hoops, scoring touchdowns in a game of football, and dunking a small basketball. This began when the boy won two goldfish at a school carnival and observed them in their tank for a few weeks. The man and his son say they simply

wanted to test their hypothesis that fish have higher levels of brain activity than people think. They used a common technique for teaching any animal a new trick: offering a food reward for completing certain tasks. And it was so successful on the fish they trained that they've developed a fish training kit that will soon be available at stores across the country.

19:17

Practice Test 12

1. Track 325 () 00:37

- W: They're dedicating the school library to an elderly couple that donated a lot of money to have it remodeled. Each art student was asked to paint a picture using books in some way.
- M: That's cool.
- W: They are allowing us to borrow books from the library as a reference for our painting. I want my painting to be simple, but I'm not sure which one of these books to use. Will you help me choose?
- M: Sure. I don't think the thick law book is a good
- W: OK. What about the journal? It has a simple yet elegant design on the cover.
- M: If you try to copy that intricate design, you are going to be painting for weeks.
- W: You're right. I would want to get it exactly right, and that would take me forever. What about this red book?
- M: It's not bad, but it's not my favorite.
- W: Well, I definitely don't want to use this boring, white book. I don't know why I grabbed it in the first place.
- M: Yeah, that one is not very interesting at all. I think you should use this thick book with the cover made of wood. It is so unique, and you could make it look very realistic in your painting.
- W: It wasn't my first choice, but now that you mention it, I think it would be the best subject for my painting.

2. Track 326 / 00:35

W: Tony's Pizzeria was one of our favorite restaurants to dine in, so we always went there a few times a month. One day, a sign on the door announced a new contest. The advertisement snagged my attention immediately. It said the contest winner would receive free pizza for life! A friend and I discussed with the owner the circumstances of the contest, and he informed us he was seeking a new type of pizza. He wanted local applicants to submit

their ideas, and he'd host a pizza-tasting day where the entire town could vote on their favorite. Immediately, my friend and I decided to enter the contest and spent hours poring over recipe books. We also spent some time on the Internet researching the manner in which pizza was initially made in Italy. We developed a delicious sauce by combining different types of recipes, and then we added specialty cheeses and toppings to finalize our creation. We didn't want to count our chickens before they hatched, yet we felt we had a good chance. The day arrived for the town to taste all of the pizzas, and ours was chosen as the crowd favorite. We received the award and a never-ending gift card for Tony's Pizzeria.

3. Track 327 00:34

W: Honoring the long tradition of romance comedies, this film is sure to warm your heart, tickle your funny bone, and entertain even the most practical person in the audience. Like most successful romantic comedies, this one begins with an independent woman who is a businessperson in New York. She's smart, beautiful, and has her own ideas about romance that haven't seemed to materialize for her yet. She begins chatting online with a fellow New Yorker, who just so happens to be part of a multimillion dollar company that will eventually put her out of business. He is the classic businessperson—intelligent, practical, and no nonsense, except when he's interacting with this woman online who he's never met. The two develop a deep friendship online, appreciating each other's quick wit, similar interests, and love for their city. They optimistically await those muchanticipated words announcing an email in their inbox. While their business interactions are nothing short of a fierce battle, they unknowingly develop deep feelings for each other, though they've never met. Before the end, they'll discover the other's true identity, and it will test their growing respect and love for one another.

4. Track 328 () 00:35

- M: Thank you for calling Books Online, the lighter way to get the books you want without ever having to leave your home. This is Mark. What can I do for vou today?
- W: Hi, Mark. It's Patty Nelson. I wanted to see how quickly you could ship an order of books to my
- M: Oh, hello, Patty. Well, we offer \$5, 2-day shipping guaranteed to any continent.
- W: That sounds great.

- M: Is your sister still in Korea?
- W: No, not anymore. She was in Korea for about two years. Then, she moved to Paris.
- M: I see. What an exciting place to live! We have a shipment going to Paris at noon. Do you want to order now before the flight is booked up?
- W: Thank you for looking that up for me, but she doesn't live in Paris anymore. She moved back to the US.
- M: Oh, did she move back to Larsville?
- W: The old-fashioned town where people still wear old-fashioned clothing? No, she's in Hawaii.
- M: Well, if she was going to move away from Paris, then that sounds like the perfect place to move to. Usually delivery to Hawaii will take one week by express and two weeks by regular delivery. The costs of those are more expensive at \$15 and \$10, respectively.

5. Track 329 00:39

M: By looking at Sam, you would assume that he is a very timid person. He is guiet and kind, and he takes academics very seriously. However, once he steps on the football field, his true colors are revealed. He takes charge of his teammates, calls the plays, and makes things happen. He does not quietly stand by while his opponents attempt to defeat them. Sam is such a strong player that his coaches sometimes play him on offense and defense. On offense, he usually plays the quarterback position because he has the best arm on the team. However, his coaches prefer him to play on defense because he is a hard-hitting and forceful player. He doesn't let his opponents push him around the field. Sam shows no fear. He bursts through the linemen, tackles his counterparts, and throws them to the ground without hesitation. Sam works so hard throughout each game that by the time the last whistle blows, he is completely worn out. As he walks off the field, everyone congratulates him on a job well done, and Sam simply smiles and thanks them for their support.

6. Track 330 00:33

- M: Can you tell me where I can speak to the manager?
- W: That's me. What can I do for you?
- M: Well, I have a few questions about how this store is one of the most groundbreaking businesses in
- W: Yes it is. We pride ourselves on offering options for those who want to eat out or in things you can't find elsewhere.
- M: So, your focus is to have control of health food in the area?

- W: Actually, our focus is just the opposite. We always want to set the standard in quality organic produce and health food.
- M: Is this store part of a chain, or is it independently owned?
- W: This store is the first of its kind, though we hope the concept catches on and is soon adopted by others.
- M: I'm writing a piece on what this area has for those who are health-conscious.
- W: That's great. We'd love to be a part of it.
- M: Would it be possible for you to tell me who actually owns the store?
- W: My husband and I. We've dreamed of starting something like this for years.

7. Track 331 00:37

- W: I'm so excited that we are going to the prom together this year.
- M: I know. It's going to be so much fun. I really like the theme our class chose this year.
- W: Me, too. So, have you rented a tuxedo yet?
- M: No, not yet. I am going to do that this weekend. Have you already bought a dress?
- W: Yes. I bought it last Saturday at the mall. I really like
- M: What does it look like?
- W: Well, it's a pretty simple dress, and it doesn't cover my knees.
- M: What color is it?
- W: It is a basic black and white dress.
- M: Does it have stripes or a pattern of any sort?
- W: No, it doesn't have a pattern. It is just a solid white with black trim on the top and bottom edges. The trim at the top of the dress crosses over another piece of black fabric that loops up and forms the straps of the dress. That is my favorite detail about the dress.
- M: Well, I can't wait to see how it looks on you, and I'll make sure that my tuxedo matches nicely with your dress.

8. Track 332 00:33

- W: I hope to see you at the game tonight.
- M: Actually, I won't be able to make it.
- W: Why not? You never miss a game.
- M: Well, I'm a little embarrassed, but I have to do community service for a speeding ticket I got last week. I could either pay a \$200 fine or do twenty hours of community service, and I didn't have any money.
- W: So, what will you have to do?
- M: Well, I got to choose. I'll be spending the time at a nursing home visiting with the people who live

- there and helping them as they need it.
- W: You chose that? The other options must've been really bad.
- M: I could've cleaned up trash or shelved books at the library, but it's my pleasure to do this sort of thing.
- M: My grandmother was in a nursing home for eight years, and I got to know all the people who lived there. I even went to a few retirement parties.
- W: I would never have guessed that about you.
- M: Elderly people have such wisdom and tell great stories. It's a shame we younger people don't spend more time with them.

9. Track 333 () 00:32

W: Everyone says that high school is the best time of your life, but I disagree. Most of the people I know who are in high school right now can't wait to be finished, and those who are already out are glad it's over, too. High school is a time of constant pressure and transition, as many feel stressed and discouraged as they attempt to grow into who they want to become. It's a time of experiencing new things and trying to determine what direction to take with the rest of your life. Juggling homework, athletics, and student council while having to live under someone else's rules and expectations aren't what I'd consider to be the best that life has to offer. I look forward to a time of freedom, independence, and choice once I graduate and go to college. That's the time that I think will be the greatest time of my life, setting out on my own and having the whole world in front of me. I'll have an opportunity to learn about life and other people. I'll learn self-reliance and, hopefully, what it takes to make it.

10. Track 334 () 00:51

M: It seems that everywhere we turn, we're met with suggestions on what we need to do to take care of our planet. While I'm in complete agreement with the "green" movement which advocates being responsible with our planet, I used to get a little frustrated at hearing the same old thing all the time, until I heard of an Australian company who has built a car completely out of green grass. To alert the public to what they were doing, they parked it in several prominent public places around Sydney and Australia's other major cities. I applaud the imagination behind this originality. A construction worker named Stephan Mouroy also has some pretty innovative and resourceful ideas regarding housing and clothing. He and his friends have determined not to build new houses but to find long-forgotten,

rundown dwellings and repair them so they're spacious and inhabitable again. He also decided several years ago that he was not going to buy any more clothes if he could help it. He always repairs his own clothing or makes new garments using old ones. Though these ideas seem small, they inspire us to do something that makes a difference in the world

11. Track 335 00:41

- M: I'm glad they cancelled classes this afternoon.
- W: Me, too! It's the perfect day to fly a kite at the
- M: I've never actually flown a kite.
- W: I'll have to teach you. Want to come with me?
- M: Well, I'll be at the park, but I'll be fishing with my nephew. I've promised him for a couple of weeks that I'd take him.
- W: That sounds fun.
- M: It will be. He's great. We do lots of things together. One of his favorite things in the winter is to go sledding.
- W: I remember you showing me the pictures of you guys last winter. Is he a good fisherman?
- M: He's not bad for a six-year-old. I think he just enjoys being outside.
- W: I bet he's happy just to spend time with you. It sounds like you're a good uncle.
- M: Would you like to come fishing with us? It might be better than flying a kite or taking a road trip by vourself.
- W: I've never been fishing. I'd be willing to try it, if you don't mind teaching me. It would certainly be nice to take a break from class.

12. Track 336 () 00:38

M: Where you live determines the accent you have and influences the way that you dress and the habits you have. It should come as no surprise then that the geographical region in which you live could tell you what types of diseases you may be prone to developing. In an interesting study conducted in London, over 4,500 people from the United States, the United Kingdom, China, and Japan were tested to find out the differing metabolic processes between countries. A person's metabolism is determined by the variety of chemical processes through which the body's cells produce energy. By closely studying the metabolism of people from different countries, the researchers were able to determine that each country battles certain sicknesses. The differences between countries can be attributed to variations in diet and activity level.

For example, people in China are more likely to develop heart disease while the Japanese are more likely to be at risk for strokes. The part of the world in which you live can tell you so many things about yourself. Another way this can be observed is through the different types of allergies experienced by people from region to region.

13. Track 337 () 00:33

W: In today's world of marketing, creative advertisers are developing interesting ways to grab the attention of potential customers using uncommon advertising methods. For example, a talented special-effects professional in Alabama invented a machine that creates clouds that can be formed into any shape. These clouds are actually a foam mixture created from water and specially formulated soap that are produced in the machine, sliced into any shape imaginable, and then pumped into the sky, where they float on the air and capture the attention of people on the ground. A casino in Las Vegas, Nevada recently resorted to distinctive artwork painted on cows to advertise their casino. Interestingly, this casino has developed a reputation in the marketing world as being very innovative and creative, though some might call their tactics a little over the top. The company held an auction on the Internet that sold the casino's name to the highest bidder. The result was that a woman exchanged her last name for the name of the casino for the price of \$15,199. While these may seem a bit peculiar, most can't argue with their success. Their objective is simply to get noticed, and these stunts certainly achieve that purpose.

14. Track 338 () 00:36

W: All right, everyone, listen up. We've got something that we know you definitely don't want to miss. We've heard from many of you that you aren't satisfied with the same old thing anymore and that you want something fresh, new, and exciting. Well, you've spoken, and we've listened, so starting next month, you'll have several different lunch options to choose from. We've contracted with several local restaurants and businesses to provide better choices for your dining experience. There will be a healthy corner where salads and low-fat food will always be available, and we'll also feature a world cuisine section, where you can experience foods from different places around the world. By popular demand, we'll have a brick oven pizza corner that's open every day. It's important to us that you're

pleased with the food selections we have to offer because we know that not being allowed to go off campus for lunch greatly limits your eating options. We look forward to serving you in this way and thank you for your patience as we do our best to meet your needs.

15. Track 339 00:32

- M: I'm on the committee that's supposed to come up with a theme for the prom this year.
- W: That's great. Good for you.
- M: Our meeting is this afternoon, and I'm stuck. I haven't thought of anything.
- W: Maybe you could use a theme from a popular movie—something like a superhero ball or maybe a picnic at Central Park in New York would be a fun backdrop.
- M: Those are good ideas. The other part of our task was to find decorations and things that go along with our theme. I don't even know where to look.
- W: I believe there's a party store in the city—behind the ice cream store and the pet groomers—that would have everything you'd need. They have themed packages that would be easy to use. You could go by there before your meeting.
- M: Wow! You should be on this committee instead of me
- W: I'm on the decorating committee, which I don't think that you'd enjoy very much, either.
- M: That's true. I thought I was more of an idea person, but I'm discovering I may not be very good at that, either.
- W: Don't be so hard on yourself. Sometimes the best thing to do is to get other's input.

16. Track 340 00:33

- W: Did you know that it's Elvis Presley's birthday today?
- M: Seriously? I didn't know that.
- W: Well, I'm thrilled, and I know I'm sure going to celebrate it. If I'd been alive during Elvis's time, I would've been his biggest fan.
- M: I didn't realize you liked him so much. How are you planning to celebrate?
- W: I plan to listen to his CDs all day and watch one of his movies with my mom.
- M: That reminds me—my aunt may have an autographed picture of Elvis in her storage room behind the parking garage.
- W: Are you kidding? Where did she get it? What does it look like?
- M: I think she got it at a concert or something when she was young. We could go over there and check

- it out. Why don't we go over there now since it's not rainy out anymore?
- W: That would be great!
- M: In fact, I'd be happy to ask if you can have it. It's in the pile of stuff she's getting ready to take to a thrift store.
- W: Oh my goodness! I don't know how to thank you for doing that. I'd even be willing to buy it from her.
- M: It's no problem. I'm happy to do it.

17. Track 341 00:40

- (a) W: I really don't know if I'm up for a hike today with everyone.
 - M: I know it's a big group today, but it's a great way to hang out with your friends.
- (b) W: He is very good at math. I heard he would take math courses in between semesters at school.
 - M: Yeah, I'm always losing things. I'm lucky I found it, or I would have never gotten out of there.
- © W: I plan to see that new movie the day it opens. It is supposed to be really good.
 - M: The theater might be booked up that day because I've heard a lot of people are planning to go.
- d W: Your brother told me he's planning on enlisting in the military when he's old enough.
 - M: I know. He's dreamed of doing that as long as I can remember.
- (e) W: Did you hear about the sidewalk sale at the shopping mall today at noon? Everything's at the discounted price of 10 percent off.
 - M: That's awesome. We should go by there later.

18. Track 342 () 00:39

- M: Ms. Potter approaches teaching totally differently from any of my other teachers, but I learn the most
- W: She's certainly into hands-on learning. Remember that field trip to the park to observe how trees, wind, sun, and insects were all a part of the park's mini-ecosystem?
- M: That taught me more than reading about it in the biology textbook.
- W: I completely agree. I'm actually excited about today's assignment, too.
- M: Which animal are you going to choose? There is such a variety of species to choose from.
- W: I haven't decided. What about you?
- M: I'm studying the tiger fish. I'm going to interview the employee who feeds them as part of it. Do you know if you want to study a bird or a big cat like a tiger?
- W: Well, I have a problem with animals that can eat me, and I have studied birds before.



- M: I guess you're back to square one about choosing what you're going to study. Unless you want to study snakes.
- W: I think I am going to choose one of the biggest land animals on the planet.

19. Track 343 () 00:36

M: An explorer and researcher recently authored a book detailing the places in the world where people have the highest rates of longevity. He labeled these areas blue zones and reported that they're found all over the globe. Although the locations of these places are many miles apart, there are several common threads that can be seen throughout each blue zone. As many know, a diet low in fat is healthy, but this author believes it's one of the pieces of the longevity puzzle. He discovered that the people in every blue zone region survive on a plant-based diet. Most of these blue zones can be found in countries that haven't developed into industrial hot spots yet, so the pace of life in these areas tends to be a little slower. This demands that the people in the region do more physical work, and this is one key to maintaining health. One of the biggest of all mutual factors found in every blue zone was that those who were in their 90s maintained strong social connections with family and friends. Certainly, these relationships provide them with a sense of purpose and fulfillment that many people in faster-paced societies have trouble finding.

20. Track 344 () 00:50

W: Teenagers consider turning sixteen and obtaining their driver's license to be the peak of their adolescence and the beginning of freedom on the way to adulthood. Parents do their best to prepare their teens for the road by teaching them safe driving habits, and teenagers are required to complete and pass a driver's safety course prior to being granted a license. But are these lessons enough to keep teens safe on the road? Some people believe that teenagers need more exposure to the dangers that face them on the road. A recent reporter showed that using cell phones for text messaging and making calls while driving is unsafe for drivers of any age but is especially hazardous when a more inexperienced teenage driver is behind the wheel. One of the most dangerous things for teens on the road is driving without a buckled safety belt. Though it's required by law in most places, wearing a seatbelt can be the difference between life and death should an accident occur. Interestingly,

the third most dangerous thing for a teen to do while driving is something that many traffic laws prohibit and that many teenagers fall into a habit of doing.

21. Track 345 00:35

- W: What are you doing this weekend?
- M: I'm actually planning to spend Saturday looking for a job for the summer.
- W: That's cool. Where are you planning to apply?
- M: I've already filled out an application for the coffee shop, ice cream store, and the museum. If I got to choose, I'd work at the museum for the summer.
- W: Are you serious? I think that would be a very boring
- M: Not at all! I think it would be great. You know I'm into history. In fact, I plan to major in history in college and become a professor.
- W: I still think I'd take the coffee shop or even the icecream store over the museum.
- M: Not me. But I guess that's why there are all kinds of jobs to suit all kinds of people.
- W: What would you do at the museum?
- M: There are several positions open. They need people to give guided tours, and that would be my first choice. I could work at the front desk or do museum security. It just depends where they need me.
- W: Giving guided tours sounds like it might be fun.

22. Track 346 () 00:38

W: Autism, a brain development disorder, is something that greatly inhibits a person's ability to interact socially at a normal level. Most people who have autism function in a quiet world governed by a strict routine that allows very limited stimulus. Those with autism seldom make eye contact or observe or express emotion like a normally developed child would, and so far, studies into the causes behind autism and possible cures for the disorder have been impossible to find. For these reasons, a case of autism in a 12-year-old in Seattle has captured the attention of psychologists and researchers everywhere. He has the ability to make extremely complicated pictures out of pieces of construction paper. Most of his pictures mimic emotions that can be seen in people around him. Experts are astounded that someone who doesn't express or show the understanding of the distinction between emotions in other people has a great talent for displaying it in his art. Psychologists are excited because his ability might have a connection to

23. Track 347 () 00:33

- M: Have you decided on the topic for your presentation for career day?
- W: I've narrowed it down to a professor, lawyer, veterinarian, or dentist.
- M: Those are interesting choices. Are you having that much trouble figuring out what you want to do?
- W: Well, I'm interested in helping people, and those are professions where I'd be able to help people in a variety of different ways. I need to decide what kind of impact I would like to make on people's lives. I like working with animals, but as a lawyer, I think I could help those in need.
- M: I see. I can understand wanting to help people. I want a job helping the environment where I'm not stuck in an office all day, whether I make a lot of money or not.
- W: So, what's your topic?
- M: It's either going to be wildlife conservation officer or state park manager.
- W: You definitely wouldn't spend much time in an office with either of those.
- M: I don't mind wearing a uniform or having to dress warmly either.
- W: I'm just the opposite. I'd like to dress in business suits.

24. Track 348 () 00:39

- M: I heard on the radio this morning that the state government may add another test that we have to pass before we graduate.
- W: Are you kidding? I disagree with that for sure. We are already taking so many different types of major
- M: I know. I don't understand why they can't just look at our grades and be content that we've learned everything we need to go to college.
- W: We have to take four or five different tests to go to college.
- M: What about organizing the students to sign a petition telling the government we have a problem with adding another test?
- W: That's an interesting thought. You're really taking that political science class to heart.
- M: Well, it's teaching me that if you don't like something, you should take action.
- W: If you're interested in getting a petition started, I'll help. Having hundreds of students' signatures would be very convincing.
- M: We should also enlist the help of teachers and even the school board.
- W: That's a great idea. The school board has a meeting next week.

- M: Great. I'll see if I can get on the agenda to talk to them about it.
- W: I don't think I can go, but I'll confirm that with you beforehand.

25. Track 349 () 00:35

W: I'm assisting my mother in her preparation for our family's big Thanksgiving dinner. We always have about twenty people over; however, this year, there'll be thirty people there, so there's a whole lot of cooking that must get accomplished. This year, I'm in charge of all the baking. I've been attending a cooking class at the neighborhood's "teenage bakers" school, so my mother wanted to put my skills to practice. I'll be baking six different pies for the occasion since my family loves various flavors such as cherry pies, pecan pies, and chocolate cream pies. I'll be making two of each, and I'll also be making the rolls that we eat with Thanksgiving dinner since they are extremely popular with the guests. It's an old family recipe, and we'll require five dozen of those. The pies will take forty-five minutes to cook in the oven, and I can cook two at a time while the rolls take twenty minutes to bake for each batch, and I can cook the five dozen rolls in three batches.

26. Track 350 / 00:35

M: Everyone knows that there are many differences between males and females, including the way they socialize, the way their brains work, and how they respond to stressful situations. It should stand to reason then that boys and girls have very different learning styles. Some schools in America have even opted for same-sex classrooms, where boys learn with other boys and girls with other girls. While some schools can't consider this option, they are finding success in catering to each gender's needs. Across the country, teachers are adjusting the way they teach in order to accommodate the differences in learning between genders. One big way that teachers have changed their classrooms has been to have boys sit on one side while the girls sit on the other. This has helped both genders immensely by allowing the girls to concentrate more and has resulted in fewer disciplinary problems with the boys.

27. Track 351 00:36

M: My best friend, Robert, and I decided that we would attend the same college and even room together there. We both wanted to get a degree in business management, so most of our classes were with each

other. Although we were inseparable growing up, we began to find ourselves growing tired of each other and annoyed at the simple sight of one another. We seriously considered getting our own rooms next to each other instead. It was then that we remembered the advice we'd gotten from numerous people back home when they found out we'd be living together. "Make time for yourself and develop friends besides each other," they all said. We never thought it made any sense because we'd always enjoyed each other's company, but we decided to set a few boundaries on time for ourselves and decided to spend time with different friends we'd made at college. Interestingly, we found that the boundaries and separation helped us to remember what we appreciated in the other and helped us make it through the rest of our vear there.

28. Track 352 / 00:33

- W: (a) We were taken aback since that's something we'd never do and were clearly offended. She told us that most of the young people that come into her store couldn't be trusted. I don't know what came over me, but I told her that she shouldn't judge all young people by the few she'd had problems with.
 - (b) I've never been one for confrontation, even when I have a problem with something that makes me furious. I rarely say anything, choosing instead to push my feelings aside. I admit this isn't the best way of dealing with a situation, but it's the way I did it for years, until a certain situation forced me to take a stand against someone who wrongly accused me. My friends and I were buying natural beauty products, and when we brought our purchases to the register, the salesperson accused us of shoplifting.
 - © I offered to let her search our pockets and our purses in order to properly demonstrate my point, yet instead, she apologized! I was taken off guard, but she insisted she was sorry and asked us to forgive her judgmental attitude. I decided that some confrontation is a learning experience and can help clear up a misunderstanding.

29-30. Track 353 () 00:54

- M: Tonight, we've discovered a career that could make you as much as \$17,000 in only ninety days. Is that amount of money worth all that you'd be required to do? Live on location is Amanda
- W: Thank you for the introduction, Jeremiah. Researchers at NASA are searching for volunteers who are willing to lie in bed for ninety days. On the one hand, you'd receive adequate money, yet on the other hand, you'd be lying in bed horizontally for 24 hours a day for the next ninety days, which is a total of 2,160 hours. They're conducting tests to see the effects of microgravity on the human body, and the test subjects will be placed on their backs with their heads slightly tilted downward for the entirety of the study. The tests are in response to the astronauts who've had trouble readjusting to Earth's gravity after a stint in space, and researchers are hopeful they can develop ways to help the astronauts readjust to being on Earth.