

Unit 01 Meeting People

Track 1

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. Speaker #1: If I could be some kind of animal, I think I'd want to be a dog. They always look like they're having fun. I wouldn't want to be a wild dog, though. I would want to be a dog that someone keeps in their house.

b. Speaker #2: My most precious possession is a necklace that my parents gave me for my birthday. I got the necklace when I was six years old. My mother gave me the necklace on my first day of school. It has a picture of my mother and father in it. It's not a valuable necklace, but it's very precious to me.

c. Speaker #3: I think it's important for friends to have similar interests. If they don't have any similar interests, what can they do when they get together? They don't have anything to talk about or to do. On the other hand, if two people like some of the same things, then they can enjoy those things when they spend time with each other.

Track 3

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: Because a good friend is like my sibling, it is important for me to be able to trust my friend unconditionally. I should be able to rely on her help at any time and to know that she can just listen to me when I need it. But a good friend should also be able to tell me to stop complaining if I am being silly.

Response #2: If I were not in class, I would be outside in the sun. I live in Sydney, and I enjoy spending time at the beach or playing football with my friends in the local park. There are more than thirty beaches in Sydney, and so far I've seen more than half of them.

Response #3: No, I wouldn't because famous people have no privacy. They are under constant scrutiny

and can't go anywhere without paparazzi following them. In fact, Princess Diana died in a car accident trying to escape from the press in a high-speed chase.

Unit 02 Sports

Track 4

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. Speaker #1: I used to play on my school's basketball team when I was younger. After I started high school, I didn't have much free time, so I had to quit playing. I enjoyed being on the team. Sometimes we would travel to other cities for games.

b. Speaker #2: My favorite soccer player is David Beckham. He is from England, but now he plays for a soccer team in the US. He is probably one of the greatest soccer players of all time. A lot of people also think that he is really good looking.

c. Speaker #3: The last sports event that I watched in a stadium was a baseball game. I went there with my family. My father got free tickets from the office where he works, so that is why we could go. The seats were pretty good, and I really enjoyed the game. The weather was nice that day, too.

Track 6

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: I enjoy watching rugby. I get really excited about supporting my country's team in the rugby world cup. My country has one of the best teams in the world. We often get to the semifinals only to be beaten by New Zealand or Australia. I also enjoy watching because I play rugby, and know how it feels.

Response #2: I think women should play any sport men play. To say otherwise is discrimination. Though women are not as strong as men, they can easily compete in the same sports against other women. As long as women are not using the same

equipment as men, for example in weight lifting, they should be encouraged to compete in all kinds of sports.

Response #3: Injuries are the worst thing that can happen to professional athletes because they can finish the athletes' careers and lives. For example, when a tennis player injures his elbow, he can't play anymore. Many players continue in the world of sport by becoming coaches or commentators, often for the TV, radio, or newspapers.

Unit 03 Friendship

Track 7

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. Speaker #1: My definition of a friend is someone whom you know something about. You can't really say someone is your friend if you just know their name and their face. But if you spend time together and get to know each other well, then you can call that person your friend.

b. Speaker #2: One thing you should never do is give your friend a lot of money. That is a sure way to ruin a friendship. If you give your friend a lot of money, then you start worrying about when you will get the money back. It also makes your friend worry about how to pay you back.

c. Speaker #3: The last time that I helped a friend was a few days ago. I didn't do much. I just went out to a coffee shop with my friend and listened to his problems. He needed someone to talk to. That was how I helped him.

Track 9

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: Friends can often pressure people into doing things that they do not normally do. This can lead to negative consequences. Many children start smoking because they see their friends doing it and they want to fit in.

Response #2: The saying, "Tell me who your friends are, and I will tell you who you are," means that people judge you by your friends, people you associate with. This is due to the fact that friends tend to value the same things and act in a certain way. If your friends value something like humor, then more than likely, you will be funny yourself.

Response #3: While it is more difficult, it is possible to be friends with older people. People with similar interests will always want to be friends with each other. If a grandfather and a child both like baseball, they instantly have something that they can start a friendship around.

Unit 04 Holidays

Track 10

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. Speaker #1: I live in an apartment, so there isn't much decorating we can do for the holidays. I guess one thing we do in my family is decorate our door. My mother has a special wreath of flowers that she puts on our door during the holiday season.

b. Speaker #2: Independence Day in my country is during the summer. On that day last summer, I ate hamburgers in my friend's backyard. His father cooked the hamburgers on their outdoor grill. Then, after it was dark, we went to see some fireworks.

c. Speaker #3: My favorite holiday is Labor Day. I know that sounds strange, but for me, it's a great holiday. We always have a three-day weekend for Labor Day, which gives everyone extra time to relax. Other holidays might fall on a weekend, so then everyone gets less time off!

Track 12

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: My country celebrates many holidays from many different religions and parts of the world. But I think that the most significant holiday

is Thanksgiving. It is so important because it is the one holiday that people of every background can celebrate. It celebrates the appreciation of everything that you are grateful for in your life.

Response #2: My family has a tradition of cooking scrambled eggs in a special way for the holidays. To make this dish, we take crackers and break them into the eggs. Then we scramble the eggs and sometimes cover the eggs in strawberry jam. It is delicious.

Response #3: When I was little we would always celebrate the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur. We had to go an entire day without eating or drinking as a part of that special day. I always remember around 4 or 5 o'clock watching my mom prepare dinner for that night, and feeling my stomach growl.

Unit 05 Stereotypes

Track 13

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. **Speaker #1:** A typical man's role in the family is to make money. Most fathers spend five or six days a week outside the home working at their jobs. They leave early and come home late, so they can't help out much around the house or with kids. Their role is just to provide income for the household.

b. **Speaker #2:** My brother was always concerned about his body image. He tried lots of different kinds of diets and he did various kinds of exercises to shape his body. He wanted a flat stomach and big arm muscles. These days, he is too busy studying, so he can't do all that stuff anymore.

c. **Speaker #3:** When I was growing up, there wasn't a difference between the chores I had to do and the chores my sisters had to do. We all had to clean our rooms, wash dishes, do the laundry, and take care of things around the house. My sisters even had to mow the lawn. Usually people think that is a guy's job, but not in my family!

Track 15

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: I think a father can raise his daughter alone, but it would be extremely difficult for him and his daughter. Only a woman can truly understand other women and all of the things that they go through. He might find it especially difficult to communicate with her and understand her during her teenage years.

Response #2: In my culture, it has traditionally been the role of the mother to take care of the children. Now, things are starting to change. Men and women now often share the responsibility of raising children. This is due to the fact that both men and women are now often busy with their careers.

Response #3: In my culture, many sports are open for participation from both men and women. The biggest exception to this is American football. American football is seen as very violent. Women's leagues are not so common due to the rough-and-tumble nature of the sport.

Unit 06 Time Management

Track 16

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. **Speaker #1:** I spend a lot of my free time reading. Last weekend, I didn't have any plans, so I just stayed home and read a book. I got a new mystery novel by an author that I really like, and I finished the whole thing in one day! I guess I read for about five hours that day.

b. **Speaker #2:** In order not to forget important dates or appointments, I write things down. I write notes on little pieces of colored paper, and I stick these notes on my computer. Then, whenever I work on my computer, I see these notes and remember those dates and times.



c. Speaker #3: Kids in school these days seem busier than kids in the past. There seems to be a lot more school work and studying required now. In the past, kids had more free time to have fun with their friends. Now, it's just study, study, study all the time.

Track 18

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: I am a high school student, and I spend about 8 hours a day at school. I don't think it is too much because I know how important it is to get a good education. I also get to see all my friends at high school every day, so I am not unhappy spending so much time there.

Response #2: I spend a lot of time browsing the Internet. When I do research for my assignments, I find it easiest to get the information online. When I am finished with assignments, I still stay online. I don't think it is too much because there are so many cool things to do online, including playing games, listening to music, and looking at pictures of places I want to visit when I am older.

Response #3: It's important to manage your time wisely because you don't want to find yourself in a situation when you have to complete a month's worth of work in one week. It's very stressful and lowers the quality of your work. It also takes away from the time you should be relaxing or having fun.

Unit 07 Schooling

Track 19

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. Speaker #1: Homeschooling has a couple of interesting advantages, I think. For one thing, kids get to spend more quality time with their parents when they are homeschooled. That extra time can have lots of benefits for a child. I think kids can also finish their work a lot faster when they are

homeschooled. A lot of time in public school is wasted on stuff other than just studying.

b. Speaker #2: I have never taken a class that used a computer more than a textbook. In one of my classes last semester, we had to do some work in the computer lab, but we still studied most of the material for the class out of a textbook. The teacher gave us lectures and we had reading assignments most of the time. We only went to the computer lab once a week.

c. Speaker #3: Taking an online class is not as good as taking the same class in a regular classroom. For one thing, if you're watching an online lecture at home on your computer, there are lots of distractions. Those can keep you from paying close attention. It's also harder to ask the teacher any questions during an online class. You can't just raise your hand to ask something during the lecture.

Track 21

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: Homeschooled children often find it harder to learn certain social skills. As a result, they might find it harder to work in groups, or be part of a team when they get older. The schooling process teaches kids how to interact with others, and this part is often difficult to reproduce in the home-schooled environment.

Response #2: Student-teacher interactions have many positive and negative results. Teachers have a tremendous amount of influence when it comes to a child's interest in a subject. If a teacher connects with a student, it can create a positive life-long passion for the subject. However, if the interaction is negative, the teacher can turn the student off of the subject forever.

Response #3: The disadvantages of public schooling are the inability to study at your own pace and your own time. Also it is necessary to deal with peer pressure and issues with teachers and administrators. Many quiet children often get overlooked and ignored in public school due to the sheer number of students that teachers need to care for.



Unit 08 Politics

Track 22

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. **Speaker #1:** I did not have a chance to vote in the last election in my country. I was too young at that time. I remember watching television on the night of the election with my parents. My father was disappointed because the candidate he voted for didn't win.

b. **Speaker #2:** The best form of government is a democracy. In this kind of government, the people can vote and they can have some influence in how the country is run. The power of government officials is spread out, so one person can't control the whole country.

c. **Speaker #3:** The court system of my country seems fair to me. Anyone who has to go to court gets to have a lawyer. If he or she can't afford a lawyer, then the government helps pay for a lawyer. Cases are also heard by juries in my country. The jury decides if a person is really guilty or not.

Track 24

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: The leader of my country is called the "Taoiseach". This means first minister. He is the head of the democratically voted government of the country. If his party has a majority in government, they can vote in new legislation, though any change in the constitution must be voted on by the whole country.

Response #2: The office of president is voted on every seven years in my country. However, the president does not have any serious political powers. Every four years, local elections are carried out to vote in ministers for each constituency. These ministers, organized into parties, ultimately determine the legislation in my country.

Response #3: Yes, the last two presidents in my country were women. However, the president in my country is more of a figurehead as he or she doesn't really have any major political power. He or she acts more as a representative to other countries by visiting areas in need of financial aid. The president highlights problems, such as poverty in developing countries.

Unit 09 If You Could

Track 25

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. **Speaker #1:** If I got a chance, I would like to visit the Great Pyramids in Egypt. I've seen so many pictures of the pyramids. I think it would be awesome to see them up close and in person. It would be a great experience to visit such a historical place.

b. **Speaker #2:** I have two siblings now, and that is a good number. My brother is two years younger than me. I also have a sister who is four years younger than me. We all get along well and rarely argue or fight.

c. **Speaker #3:** If I had the chance to play polo, I think that would be fun. I like horses, so playing a sport on horseback would be cool. Even if I didn't play polo well, I still think it would be fun to try.

Track 27

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: If I had a chance, I would buy a vintage Porsche Spyder. I would buy this car because James Dean always drove around in this car. It is actually the car he died in. I've always loved James Dean. He was so cool, so I would buy the same car that he loved in hopes of one day being a little bit like him.

Response #2: If I got a chance, I would live in a French chateau in the Loire valley. This is known as

the valley of the kings. The landscape is beautiful, the castles are incredibly elegant and well preserved. The food and wine is as good as anywhere in the world. This would undoubtedly be where I would choose to live if I had the chance.

Response #3: If I had a chance, I would study Chinese. Chinese is the most commonly spoken language in the world. China is also gaining business might every day. It would be an advantage for my future career if I were able to speak Chinese. I believe Chinese will be the language of the future, so I would choose to learn it.

Unit 10 Inventions and Discoveries

Track 28

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. **Speaker #1:** Even though the radio doesn't seem very exciting today, I think people will still listen to the radio in the future. Maybe they won't listen to regular radio stations. These days, satellite radio is popular. I think the radio of the future will be free satellite radio for everyone.

b. **Speaker #2:** I would like to invent a robot that would take care of my dog. If the robot could feed my dog and take it out for walks, that would be great. It would save me a lot of time! It wouldn't need to play with my dog, though. I would still do that.

c. **Speaker #3:** One example of something that was invented a long time ago but that we still use is the wheel. I used two wheels to come to class today. I rode my bike here. If the wheel weren't invented, we wouldn't have bikes today!

Track 30

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: The most dangerous invention in human history is gunpowder. Gunpowder effectively neutralized human strength and fighting skill.

Gunpowder has enabled killing to be done at a distance, and it has also made killing much more efficient.

Response #2: I think our lives would be much better without the invention of TV. Before TV, people had to be creative to keep themselves entertained. Now, people just sit in front of the TV. I think TV has made society lazy and uncreative.

Response #3: The invention of the steam engine was important because it first captured vast amounts of power. The steam engine provided so much more power than animals that factories and giant boats were able to develop. The steam engine helped to transform society.

Unit 11 Money

Track 31

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. **Speaker #1:** I think it is better to invest in gold rather than in stocks or bonds. Gold is something that you can hold in your hand, and it has real value. Another good reason to invest in gold is because it doesn't lose value as easily as stocks or bonds. It's a safer investment.

b. **Speaker #2:** Last summer, I worked at a job that paid me minimum wage. I worked in a fast food restaurant for about two months. It wasn't a hard job, and I ended up saving over \$1,000 over the summer. I think it was a good experience.

c. **Speaker #3:** The last thing that I bought for over \$10 was a book for one of my classes. I paid for the book using cash. I try not to use a credit card when I buy things. Most of the time, I try to have enough cash with me to buy the things that I need to buy.

Track 33

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

a. Response #1: I would always choose the job that gives more satisfaction. People spend more time at work than anything else. You don't want to have to spend eight hours a day every day doing something that you hate, regardless of how good the salary is.

b. Response #2: The saying "Show me the money" has two very important meanings. The first meaning has to do with the fact that people need to have an incentive to do something. The second and more important meaning is that talking means very little unless there are actions or some kind of proof behind the talk.

c. Response #3: Yes, I got an allowance when I was little. I would receive twenty-five cents every week. I spent half of my money on things that I wanted, and I saved the rest of it. Eventually, after many years, my brothers and I were able to pool our money together to buy a video game system.

explain how they feel about drugs or alcohol. They can even talk about their own experiences.

Track 36

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: Parents can teach their children the values of their culture, traditions, and customs because every family preserves its culture in its own way. This could be anything from religion to facts about the family's history. It is always a good idea to learn lessons from the successes and failures of our ancestors.

Response #2: Parents should do quality activities with their children such as sport and educational games. When parents play sports or games with their children, everyone enjoys time together and children can learn how to play games with the right attitude. They don't always have to win. They just have to enjoy spending time with others.

Response #3: Yes, they should. Parents should require participation in household chores from an early age because children have to learn that they are a part of a family. For example, children should be required to clean their own dishes and make their own beds.

Unit 12 Parenting

Track 34

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. Speaker #1: When I was little, I used to go camping with my father. I was in the boy scouts, so we went camping together several times each year. There were other boys on those camping trips as well, but it was a really good way for me and my father to spend time together. I have lots of good memories from those campouts.

b. Speaker #2: My parents didn't reward me for good grades. Some of my friends got money for good grades, but not me. Of course my parents told me that they were proud of my grades, but they didn't want me to just work for good grades so that I would get money.

c. Speaker #3: I think it is important for parents to talk to their kids about things like drugs, smoking, and alcohol. If parents don't talk about those things, then kids might think that their parents don't care. By talking about these things, parents can clearly

Unit 13 Space Exploration

Track 37

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. Speaker #1: I don't think a human will walk on Mars during my lifetime. Mars is too far away, so people can't really travel there to explore it. Anyway, I don't think it's practical to try and send people to Mars. Scientists should put more time and effort into studying how we can live here on Earth, not on Mars.

b. Speaker #2: I don't think there was a full moon in the sky last night. It was kind of cloudy, so I didn't



actually see the moon last night. But I remember that a couple of days ago there was only a crescent moon. It's too soon to have a full moon yet.

c. Speaker #3: The most interesting planet to me is Saturn. That is the planet with rings around it. There aren't any other planets in our solar system with rings. That makes Saturn unique.

Track 39

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: No, I don't believe horoscopes are true at all. That is just a way to pass the time and have some fun. In fact, the charts people use today were created a long time ago and might not accurately reflect the positions of the stars today.

Response #2: The first man to go into space was Yuri Gagarin, a Russian cosmonaut, aboard the *Vostok 1* spaceship on April 12, 1961. He made one orbit around the earth. He became a hero in Russia and worldwide.

Response #3: We know in the past that people used telescopes to count the stars and to observe their positions. Telescopes have been in use for hundreds of years. Before telescopes, people had to look up at the night sky with their naked eyes.

Unit 14 Superstitions

Track 40

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. Speaker #1: I learned about one superstition when I was in elementary school. That superstition had a saying. It went like this: Step on a crack and break your mother's back. So when I was walking home from school each day, I would be careful to try not to step on any cracks in the sidewalk.

b. Speaker #2: In my country, the number four is unlucky. But in the United States, four is not an unlucky number. The first time that I rode an

elevator in the US, I was surprised to see the number four on the elevator buttons. In my country, you never see that. They always just write the letter "F" on that button in my country.

c. Speaker #3: One bad luck superstition is related to walking under a ladder. I think this superstition has some logic to it. If a person walks under a ladder, there is a chance that the ladder may fall or something above the ladder may fall. So it's safer to avoid walking under ladders, which is what this superstition recommends.

Track 42

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: Yes, I do. I do believe in this superstition though some people think that I am silly. I don't know why, but every time I see a black cat in the street, I try to move very slowly so that it doesn't cross my path. I have never had bad luck from this, but I will probably never change.

Response #2: In my country, the number eight is considered very lucky, as is being born on the eighth of the month, or finding eight of anything. This is because the god of luck has eight arms. This means that if you encounter the number eight, in any form, you are going to be blessed with good luck.

Response #3: Yes, they do. We believe in the Chinese horoscope in our culture, and we often check it before we make a major change in our lives, like a big purchase or a wedding. My parents told me that if a horoscope says not to do something, you should wait one year, and have your horoscope checked again.

Unit 15 Television

Track 43

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. Speaker #1: I don't think it is healthy if a person sits too close to a television while they're watching



it. A person should sit at least one meter away from the screen. If you sit too close to a television while watching it, you may damage your eyes.

b. Speaker #2: In our apartment, we have a DVD player and a home theater sound system hooked up to our TV. My dad loves to watch movies, so he bought all that equipment. The DVD player can hold three different discs at the same time, but usually we just put one in at a time.

c. Speaker #3: My family had three televisions in our house when I was growing up. The TV that we used most often was in the living room. That was where we all watched TV together in the evenings. There was also a TV in my parents' bedroom and another small one in our kitchen.

Track 45

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: Life would certainly be different without TV. Probably we would be able to occupy ourselves in other ways. We could read books, talk more to other people, and engage in more active pastimes such as sports. If we didn't have TV, we probably wouldn't miss it.

Response #2: People shouldn't spend too much time in front of the TV because it contributes to a sedentary lifestyle, which may cause obesity. People should have a balanced, active lifestyle. This could include time in front of the TV, but should also include exercise so that the person stays healthy.

Response #3: We have cable TV at home. This gives us about one hundred channels. The hardest part is deciding what to watch as there are so many to choose from. My favorite channel is the one that shows cartoons from about twenty years ago. I think they are much funnier than cartoons today.

Unit 16 Stress

Track 46

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. Speaker #1: I recently had a lot of stress from a difficult family situation. At that time, I didn't want to talk to my friends or anything. I just wanted to be alone. Luckily, I live near the beach, so when I want to be alone, I just walk along the beach and think. That really helped relieve my stress during that difficult time.

b. Speaker #2: Probably one of the most stressful jobs is being a doctor. In some cases, a doctor has a person's life in their hands. I can't imagine how stressful that would be. Certainly, I have no desire to ever be a doctor. I'd hate to have a job with that much stress. And I don't like the sight of blood either.

c. Speaker #3: Usually when I feel stress, I start sweating and I get a headache. Taking aspirin doesn't help much when I have a stress headache. The only thing that works for me is taking a nap. After I wake up, my headache is usually gone and I don't feel so stressed out.

Track 48

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: I like to read in my free time. I like all kinds of books, but most of all, I like science fiction novels. I also like to go walking to help myself relax. I live far from the city, in the mountains, so the air is fresh and walking is very relaxing.

Response #2: I would choose an easy job with low pay because I don't want to get sick from being constantly exposed to stressful situations. No salary is worth being constantly sick from stress. If you were sick and unhappy, it would be more difficult to enjoy the extra money you have.

Response #3: Yes, I do. A problem shared is a problem halved. Trying to deal with stress on your

own only makes you feel more stressed. Very often a friend can help you to feel better if you talk to them about your problems. Sometimes they can even do something for you to make your problems go away.

Unit 17 Memories

Track 49

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. **Speaker #1:** A memorable time in my life was when I went on a rafting trip. I took that trip with the Boy Scouts. There were about twenty people on the trip. We went down a river with rapids in big yellow rafts. It was a lot of fun.

b. **Speaker #2:** A good way to develop your memory skills is to practice memorizing stuff. Certain kinds of puzzles are also good for developing the memory. Solving puzzles like crosswords and number puzzles can really help older people keep their brains active, so they won't have memory problems.

c. **Speaker #3:** I broke my arm when I was young, but I don't really remember much about it. I remember wearing a cast on my arm in school. But the actual time and place when I broke my arm is gone from my memory. My mom says I did it on the playground. I just don't remember at all.

Track 51

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: I remember one of my elementary school teachers. My favorite one was Mr. Craven. He was so cool. Every Friday he would bring his guitar to school, and if we were good, he would sing in class.

Response #2: My favorite photo is a family photo taken when all of my family was together during the holidays. My brothers and cousins and I were all young. My family's fireplace is in the background, and since it was late, my brothers and I were in our pajamas.

Response #3: The most unpleasant event of my life was when my friend told on me for saying a bad word. I was in first grade. The teacher scolded me for it. I felt embarrassed, but mostly I was angry with my friend who got me into trouble.

Unit 18 Phobias

Track 52

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. **Speaker #1:** I know someone who is afraid of heights. It is my older brother. We went to one of those tall buildings with a restaurant on the top floor. He refused to sit at a table near the window, so we had to sit by the wall.

b. **Speaker #2:** It is natural for children to be afraid of the dark. There is probably some natural instinct in humans to avoid dark places. Dangerous things might be waiting in dark places. Snakes and spiders live in those kinds of places, so our instinct tells us to avoid those places.

c. **Speaker #3:** Some people are really afraid of speaking in front of large groups of people. Maybe everybody feels that way to some extent. Some people are just better at overcoming the fear and standing up there and talking. Others can't overcome that fear.

Track 54

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: I think people are afraid of going to the dentist because they associate this place with pain. There are also some pretty scary-looking dentist's tools. I had to have root canal surgery which not only hurt a lot, but it cost me a lot of money.

Response #2: People are afraid of dogs because they think that the dog might bite them. However, most dogs never bite those who treat them kindly. Dogs sometimes bark loudly as you walk by them, but that is only because they are protecting their owners'

properties. I have never had a bad experience with a dog.

Response #3: When I was little, I was afraid of the monster that I thought lived in my closet. When my parents opened the door and it wasn't there, I thought it had just gone away for a minute. I only learned later that it was only the changing shadows that looked like a monster.

Unit 19 Social Issues

Track 55

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. Speaker #1: I had some trouble getting medical help once because of the poor state of my country's national health care system. I needed an operation on my knee. The problem was that the hospital was full. I had to wait four months before I could schedule the operation. It was terrible!

b. Speaker #2: My definition of poverty is a level of wealth that is less than \$6,000 a year. Why did I choose that number? That amount is equal to earning \$500 a month. I think if someone earns less than that amount in this country, he or she is living in poverty.

c. Speaker #3: The best way to get the crime rate of a city under control is to make sure citizens have what they need. If most citizens in a city have a decent job, good medical care, and suitable places to live, then the crime rate will be low. When people don't have these things, the crime rate goes up.

Track 57

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: Crime rates in my country are reasonably low, except in the capital. In the capital, there is a high rate of unemployment, and this causes many people to turn to drugs. This has also led to a high crime rate since many drug addicts commit crimes to pay for their drugs.

Response #2: My country has one of the best healthcare programs available. If you don't have private healthcare, you can visit any public hospital, and they will immediately take care of you. We also have arrangements with foreign countries, so that if you are injured abroad, you don't have to pay for healthcare.

Response #3: The most important thing governments can do to keep families from falling below the poverty line is to maintain a high level of education. The more educated someone is, the more likely they are to succeed and get a good job. It is also important to supply accommodation to those who cannot afford it as housing is frequently a major source of expenditure.

Unit 20 Media and News

Track 58

1 Listen to the speakers. Check the type of answer the speaker gives.

a. Speaker #1: I didn't watch the news on TV last night, but I did read the headlines online. I have my favorite news website bookmarked on my computer, so I can check the news there easily. One of the headlines that I read last night was about my country's recent presidential election.

b. Speaker #2: I don't think there is much danger of radio ever disappearing. Plenty of people still enjoy listening to music or talk shows on the radio. Radio stations may need to think of creative ways to get more listeners, but I don't think they have to worry about losing their audiences completely any time soon.

c. Speaker #3: I rarely buy newspapers. I get my news from free sources like television news programs or online news sites. My parents still buy newspapers, though. My mother likes to look through the newspaper to find coupons.



Track 60

6 Listen to each response and match it to the question it answers.

Response #1: Mass media deliver news and information to the majority of any population. They can influence the way we look at events because we are at the mercy of what they are telling us. Most citizens do not have access to the type of information that the mass media have, so people who control media are able to pick and choose which stories the general public gets to hear.

Response #2: News is an event that piques people's interest. This can be anything from war, to finance, to celebrity gossip. News is important because it often affects people's lives. Weather is often one of the most watched segments of the news because the weather affects people's lives, too.

Response #3: The issue that always seems to be in discussion is the Middle East. It always seems as if someone is fighting and dying in the region. The news also seems to highlight links between terrorists in other countries and certain groups based in the Middle East.

