Chapter 1

Skill A

Q1 — practice 1

Sample response:
A useful skill my father taught me is managing my money. He taught me this skill by giving me an allowance when I was in school. From this, I learned how to plan what I should spend my money on. Today, I use this skill all the time when I get my monthly paycheck. I know how much money I should spend on food, clothing, and other expenses.

Q1 — practice 2

Sample response:
In high school, I spent my free time acting with the theater club. I think this was a good way to spend my free time. For example, one thing I did was practice for shows. I did this because I thought acting was fun. Another thing I did was build and paint things we used on stage. I did this because I enjoyed working with other members of the club. Spending my free time with the theater club in high school was a great experience for me.

Q1 — practice 3

Sample response:
One difficult experience that I went through was living alone in another city. I experienced this when I moved in order to go to school. It was difficult because I didn’t have any friends or relatives there. This meant I had to do everything myself and solve lots of problems by myself. From this experience, I learned self-reliance. Now, I know that I can take care of myself.

Q2 — practice 1

Sample response:
One person I admire is my mother. I admire her because she works very hard. My mother is a homemaker. She has worked hard to raise me and my brothers and sisters. Even though she does not earn a wage or hold a high job in a company, she has shown me how important it is to do your life’s work the best that you can.

Q2 — practice 2

Opinion 1:
One dangerous sport that I would like to try is skydiving. This sport looks like it would be a lot of fun. In order to do this sport, you have to be brave enough to jump out of the plane. I want to see if I can be that brave. I also think that I would enjoy the feeling of free-falling. That is why I want to try skydiving.

Opinion 2:
I don’t want to try any dangerous or extreme sports. One reason I don’t want to try them is because I could get injured. I always try to take care of myself and be healthy, so I don’t want to hurt my body by doing an extreme sport. Another reason I don’t want to try any extreme sports is because they cost a lot of money. I am not rich, so I don’t want to waste my money.

Q2 — practice 3

Opinion 1:
I prefer movies made to entertain audiences. One movie that fits this category is Spiderman 2. I saw this movie because several of my friends told me it was good. This movie was entertaining because it had lots of great special effects and an interesting story. This movie made me forget about real life for a few hours, and I enjoyed the fantastic life of a superhero for a little while.

Opinion 2:
I prefer movies made to make audiences contemplate certain issues. One movie that fits this category is Erin Brockovich. I saw this movie because my friend wanted to see it. This movie made people think about the issue of justice because it told the story of how a woman fought for the rights and safety of others. This movie made me contemplate how some businesses hurt the environment, and I discussed this issue and the story of this movie with my friend after the movie was over.

Skill B

Q3 — practice 1

M: Hi Tara! Did you hear that Prof. Brown is sick? He’ll be absent all of next week.
W: What? That’s awful! He’s so sick he can’t come to class?
M: Don’t worry, he’s not seriously ill. Anyways, I’m so happy because we have an extra week to finish the assignment!!
W: What do you mean about having an extra week to finish the assignment?
M: Both of next week’s classes are canceled, the one on Monday and the one on Wednesday. Check the notice in the student lounge. It says next week’s assignments are now due on the 29th once he’s back.
W: Well, all this is good news after all! I’m behind in my work. I haven’t even read the article yet, and doing that report would have taken all weekend. Hey, since we have both got an extra week, how about a movie on Saturday?

Sample response:
The woman learns that the professor is sick and that classes are being canceled. At first, she worries about the professor and the canceled classes. The man, however, explains that the professor is not seriously ill, and that they have an extra week until the professor is back to finish their assignment. After that, the woman feels glad because she was behind in her work.

Q3 — practice 2

M: Wow, they’re beefing up security on campus now. I guess what’s been happening is being taken seriously.
W: Well, it is serious. Lisa had her MP3 player stolen from her dormitory room last weekend and Chrissie had some money taken the very next night. Now, I’m always worried about something being ripped off from my room. It’s terrible.
M: Well, I don’t live on campus, but I surely understand how worried you are. I’ve also seen the heavy damage done to the campus square gates and all the yellow paint splashed onto the main building. I think whoever the culprit is should really be caught.
W: Right. I think the added guards are a good idea, and that if anyone knows anything they should report it right away.
Speaking TOEFL

A: The university is adding more security guards to campus night patrols. Students are informed this decision follows recent damage and thefts occurring on campus. The woman states that things are serious. The woman's friends had things stolen from their dormitory rooms and the woman herself is now worried about being robbed, too. The man understands. He has seen damage done to school property and buildings. The man thinks people doing all these things should be caught. The woman agrees and adds that any information should be reported. They both agree that adding security guards on campus is a good idea.

Q3 — practice 3
M: Have you ever taken a creative writing class?
W: No, why?
M: Well, we’re all going to have to now. They just made creative writing a requirement for us. Last year, the dean proposed all those studying literature should also have experience at doing creative writing. So, the English department finally made the class a requirement.
W: That’s a good idea. It should help us better understand what the authors we study are doing if we have experience in writing literature ourselves.
M: Yeah, I think you’re right. I’ve already been doing some writing on my own, and I can tell you it helps me analyze the works we have to read. The class will make us better writers and better students of literature. I also don’t mind because they are making the class available all the time. It will be easy to fit into my schedule.

Sample response:
The dean recommended that all literature majors should have practice in creative writing, so the English department made creative writing a required class for graduation. The woman thinks this is a good idea, and the man has the same opinion. The man explains that the creative writing he has been doing on his own has helped him analyze the literary works he has had to study. He thinks the required creative writing class will make him a better writer and a better student. He also doesn’t mind because the class is easy to fit into his schedule.

Q4 — practice 1
M: When Mount Vesuvius erupted in AD 79, it wiped out the city of Pompeii — POOH just like that! Pompeii, at that time, was a large city with a rich culture. Some people thought it was even more advanced than Rome. The eruption began about noon on, um, August 24th, although the final eruption wasn’t until midnight that day. So what happened? Why couldn’t the people escape? Scientists have now discovered that the citizens of Pompeii did not die as a result of lava, or molten rock. Instead, Vesuvius let out a great stream of superheated air. The air from the volcano was so hot, that it killed the people instantly. Later, their bodies were covered with ash and volcanic rock.

Sample response:
This reading passage talks about the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius. It erupted in 79 AD and destroyed Pompeii. The speaker says that it was strange because even though the volcano erupted for 12 hours, people couldn’t escape. In fact, people in Pompeii died due to superheated air from the volcano and not lava. Later, their bodies were covered in ash.

Q4 — practice 2
M: We call it the Dead Sea for one simple reason...nothing lives in it! Why not, you ask. Because the Dead Sea is full of salt, mineral salt. This mineral salt is carried into the Dead Sea from rivers. However, this salt is trapped here because no rivers flow out of the Dead Sea. When water evaporates, it leaves behind all the dissolved minerals, making the sea even saltier. Water evaporation and mineral salts carried into the sea from the rivers account for the Dead Sea’s unusual saltiness.

Sample response:
The reading passage says that the Dead Sea has a lot of mineral salt. This salt is deadly to plants and fish, so there are no living things in the sea. The Dead Sea has ten times as much salt as the ocean. Rivers carry mineral salts into the Dead Sea. Salt is trapped there because no rivers flow out of the Dead Sea. Water evaporation also makes the sea even saltier.

Q4 — practice 3
M: At the time of its origin, jazz was not widely accepted as “real” music by mainstream “white” America. Most people thought it was too wild and unstructured. Later, however, when white musicians such as Elvis Presley began incorporating elements of jazz into their music, the music became widely popular. It was especially popular with the younger generations. Since then, rock and roll music has gone on to dominate the pop music scene. Today, it has evolved into many modern forms such as punk, rhythm and blues, and hip-hop.

Sample response:
This reading passage talks about how jazz music began. First, it says that African-American musicians made jazz music. This music was different or special because it combined rhythms from African music with melodies from European music. The speaker says that white musicians didn’t like jazz at first. They thought jazz was too wild and that it wasn’t real music. Then, some white musicians began incorporating parts of jazz music into their songs. Eventually, one of these musicians, Elvis Presley, became really popular, so jazz, along with rock and other forms, became popular with younger people.

Skill C

Q5 — practice 1
W: Hey, Tony, how’re you doing?
M: OK, but, uh...I’ve got a problem.
W: What is it?
M: Coach says I need to practice more to make the football team. But I’ve also got to raise my grades, or else I’ll flunk math and science. I don’t know how I can find time to do both.
W: Well, one thing you could do is find tutors to help you with your class work.
M: Tutors?
W: Yeah, you know, classmates who are smart in those subjects. Maybe they could help you, and you could help them with something else in return.
M: Hmmm...yeah, that might work, if I can find someone willing to tutor me.
W: Or, you could try to make extra time to practice football.
M: Make extra time?
**Q5 — practice 2**

W: Hey Mark, have you got a moment?
M: What about my sleep?
W: You’re going to have to sacrifice something, right?
M: Um, I guess so.

**Opinion 1:**
The man’s problem is that he doesn’t have enough time to practice football and improve his grades in math and science. The woman suggests two solutions to the problem. First, she suggests that he find tutors to help him with math and science. Second, she suggests that he get up early in the morning for extra football practice. I think the first solution is better than the second one. If the man has tutors, he can improve his grades in a short time. If he doesn’t have to get up early, he can get more sleep, so he’ll be rested for football.

**Opinion 2:**
The man’s problem is that he doesn’t have enough time to practice football and improve his grades in math and science. The woman suggests two solutions to the problem. First, she suggests that he find tutors to help him with math and science. Second, she suggests that he get up early in the morning for extra football practice. I think the second suggestion is better than the first one. If the man gets up early, he will have enough time to improve at football. The morning exercise will clear his mind, which will help him concentrate better in class.

**Q5 — practice 3**

W: Are you going to take world history this term?
M: No, I can’t!
W: Why not? You know we’re supposed to take it freshman year.
M: Yeah, I know, but the problem is that it’s only offered at 10 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. That’s the same time as my Math 101...and I’ve also got to take that!
W: Maybe math is also offered on a Tuesday-Thursday schedule. Did you check and see?
M: No, I didn’t think of it. Hmm, that might work.
W: Or, here’s another idea. Take one class this term and the other next term. That way you’ll still be able to take both of them this year.
M: Well, sure. I thought about that, but I kind of wanted to get them both out of the way this semester.
W: Both classes are pretty hard. It might be better to spread them out, so your studies each term will be less difficult.
M: OK. But, um, if I have to choose between math and history, which one should I take this term?
W: History, of course, so we can study together!

**Opinion 1:**
The man’s problem is that he needs to take a world history class and a math class that are offered on the same days and at the same time. The woman suggests two solutions to the problem. First, she suggests that he might be able to take the math class on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Second, she suggests that he take one of the necessary classes this term, and the other next term. I think the first suggestion is better than the second one. If he is able to take math on Tuesdays and Thursdays, he can take history with his friend and complete both classes in one term.

**Opinion 2:**
The man’s problem is that he needs to take a world history class and a math class that are offered on the same days and at the same time. The woman suggests two solutions to the problem. First, she suggests that he might be able to take the math class on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Second, she suggests that he take one of the necessary classes this term, and the other next term. I think the second suggestion is better than the first one. If he takes one mandatory class each term, he will have more time to concentrate on each class and earn higher marks. Also, he will get to study with his friend.

**Q6 — practice 1**

W: Okay everybody, show of hands please. How many of you like to eat squid? Some of you, good. Me, too. Today, though, we’ll be talking about a type of squid that probably none of you has tasted. We’ll be examining the giant squid. For a long time, no one really knew much about giant squid. People used to think they were sea monsters, or not believe in them at all. Well...two
things helped scientists learn more about giant squid: the capture of squid by sailors and the study of whales. Sailors helped scientists learn a lot about giant squid. In 1861, some French sailors caught one of the arms of a giant squid and gave it to the French Academy of Science. Years later, some fishermen caught an 18-meter-long squid. It's still the largest one ever measured. Then, in 1965, some Russian sailors witnessed a struggle between a whale and a giant squid in which both died. They brought the two bodies back, and it helped us see the link between these animals. Since then, sperm whales have helped us learn a lot about giant squid. Because the whales eat the squid, scientists can estimate the size of giant squid by measuring squid parts found inside whale stomachs. In fact, we now know that squid can grow as long as 40 meters! Can you imagine that? Something to think about next time you're at the beach, huh? Since we hardly ever see squid, cameras have been tied to whales so we can study where squid live and check out how they behave. 

Sample response:
This lecture is about giant squid. The speaker says that two things have helped scientists learn more about giant squid. These two things are sailors and whales. First, sailors were the ones who first captured giant squid and allowed them to be measured or given to scientific academies. The link between whales and squid has also been better understood thanks to Russian sailors. The speaker's next point is that whales are especially helpful in studying squid. Because the whales eat the squid, scientists can estimate the size of giant squid by measuring squid parts found in whale stomachs. Whales can also carry cameras, allowing scientists to study squid underwater more closely.

Q6 — practice 2
W: Leonardo da Vinci spent most of his life working as an engineer. During his time, leaders were really looking for scientific ways to modernize. What made Leonardo well-known were his breakthroughs in engineering. His work in engineering showed that he had the set of skills that powerful leaders wanted. Once word got around, Leonardo's engineering skills were in bigger demand than his art. Leonardo big engineering breakthrough was writing the first systematic explanation of how machines worked. He explained how the parts of any machine worked, and how each part could be combined differently to improve the machine or build new inventions. So, what he did, in effect... was develop modern techniques to solve existing problems. This gave him a really high profile and put him in great demand as an engineer for powerful leaders. So, Leonardo spent much of his life working as an engineer. He worked for powerful leaders and on special projects, too. Leonardo was Military Engineer for Cesar Borgia. A year later, he supervised the huge project to divert the River Arno. He developed mirrors for Pope Leo X in Rome. Leonardo died in 1519 while serving as scientific counselor to King Francis I. All his life, his engineering had been in bigger demand than his art.

Sample response:
This lecture is about Leonardo da Vinci's life as an engineer. The speaker explains that Leonardo made breakthroughs in engineering, while leaders were looking for scientific ways to modernize. Leonardo was the first to explain how machines could be improved or invented. He came up with modern techniques to deal with existing problems. Leonardo thus had the set of skills that leaders wanted. The speaker then explains how Leonardo spent much of his life working as an engineer for powerful leaders and on special projects. The speaker concludes that all his life, Leonardo the engineer was in bigger demand than Leonardo the artist.

Q6 — practice 3
M: So, how was the Giant's Causeway formed? Well, even after its discovery in the 1600s, this still remained a mystery for a long time. All the theories that followed its discovery only started big debates about its origins. So, basically, the Causeway's real origin remained pretty much a mystery up until modern scientists gave us definite answers. All the big debates about the Causeway's origins started in the 1600s. Its discovery by the Bishop of Derry in 1692 made the Causeway famous. Theories written about it by several natural scientists started the debates. There were a lot of different opinions and stories. Some said men with tools formed the Causeway. Others argued, quite correctly, that natural processes formed the Causeway. Many people believed a legend that a giant named Finn McCool made the Causeway and named it. The truth was, no one back then really knew for sure. Well, nowadays, we know the truth. Modern geologists know for sure the Causeway was formed by volcanic activity. They compare the Causeway's origin to what's happening in Hawaii right now. When lava cools quickly by contact with water, it forms large crystal rocks that crack and result in the many joined columns we see in the Causeway. So, the Causeway isn't a mystery anymore. Now, it's simply a fascinating geological discovery.

Sample response:
This lecture is about the origins of the Giant's Causeway. The speaker says that for a long time nobody really knew how the Giant's Causeway was formed. He explains that many different theories on the Giant's Causeway's origin were being debated after it was discovered in the 1600s. Some people believed a legend that suggested the Giant's Causeway was made by a giant. The speaker explains that nobody knew for sure how it was formed until modern geologists provided the real answer. Geologists explain that it was formed by volcanic activity in much the same way we see in Hawaii right now. Nowadays, we know the truth about how the Giant's Causeway was formed.

Chapter 2

Skill A

Q1 — practice 1
Sample response:
One kind of work I am willing to do even if I never get paid for it is writing poetry. In fact, I do this all the time without getting paid because I enjoy writing poetry. One reason I enjoy writing poetry is because it lets me create something beautiful. When people create something beautiful, it gives them a good feeling in their heart. Another reason I enjoy writing poetry is because I can think about things in a new way. When I think about things in new, innovative ways, even boring things around my house become inspiring.
Q1 — practice 2
Sample response:
What I regret the most was not spending enough time with my cousin when he was young. This is regrettable because, when he was born, I thought I could spend a lot of time with him and teach him things. It is important for older family members to guide and teach younger family members. I often regret the many occasions I could have spent time with him but was preoccupied with something else instead. The fact that children grow up quickly is another reason why I regret spending too little time with my cousin when he was young. Once my cousin is older, spending a lot of time with him may be more difficult.

Q1 — practice 3
Sample response:
The last time I needed to talk about an important topic, I talked with my brother. The important topic I needed to talk about was an argument I’d had with my friend. I chose to talk to my brother at that time because my brother is very familiar with my friend. In fact, we all grew up together, so my brother and I have known my friend for many years. After talking with my brother, I better understood my friend’s point of view during our argument. Because of my brother’s aid, I was no longer angry with my friend.

Q1 — practice 4
Sample response:
The worst vacation I ever had to endure was a camping trip with my brother and a friend. First, it rained heavily the whole three days. We couldn’t hike or swim. Then, to compound the problem, the wet weather made me sick. I spent most of the time lying in my sleeping bag trying to stay warm. In addition, my friend and I had an argument, so we stopped speaking to each other. To top it off, when we finally left for home, my brother’s car broke down. We had to walk five kilometers to get help.

Q2 — practice 1
Sample response:
I think oral presentations are more beneficial for students than writing papers. First of all, oral presentations are easier in that they take less time to prepare and put less emphasis on grammar than papers do. Another reason is oral presentations are interesting and educational for the other students who listen to them. Finally, many jobs require oral presentations, so students can improve their communication skills and develop confidence by speaking publicly as a student.

Q2 — practice 2
Sample response:
I'm glad the government is finally going to address the transportation issue. In my opinion, building a subway is better than increasing the number of buses. First of all, a subway is clean and efficient, buses run on fuel that pollutes the air. Second, increasing the number of buses also increases traffic on the streets, while the subway, in contrast, reduces traffic. Lastly, a subway train can carry many more people than a bus, so it’s more efficient. Though a subway requires a lot of money to build, it is cheaper over time.

Q2 — practice 3
Sample response:
I think that watching too much television has produced several bad effects on society. These bad, or negative effects are damaging families and children. In my opinion, the worst effect has resulted in families not communicating much anymore. Parents and children just watch silently rather than sharing their thoughts and experiences. This means that children are learning behavior from television, not from their parents. In addition, watching too much television has resulted in lower levels of physical health among children. These days, they don’t get enough exercise. Instead of playing sports, children just sit at home and watch them on TV.

Q2 — practice 4
Sample response:
If I won some money, I would prefer to buy a sports car rather than an SUV. First of all, SUVs do not get good gas mileage. Secondly, they are too large and cumbersome, which makes them difficult to park. Finally, I think they’re ugly. Sports cars, on the other hand, are fun to drive. You can go fast. They burn less fuel than SUVs, and they’re much easier to park. Also, I think they look more impressive than SUVs.

Skill B

Q3 — practice 1
Sample response:
W: Are you going to vote about whether or not to close the cafeteria?
M: Yeah. I was going to vote this afternoon after my history class.
W: Which option are you going to vote for?
M: I’m going to vote to close the cafeteria and open a deli and barbecue grill on campus.
W: You think having those places on campus is better than having a cafeteria in the Student Center?
M: Sure. I like variety. So, the more food choices to select from, the better! Besides, I don’t like the food in the cafeteria. It’s too much like the food I used to eat in my high school cafeteria.
W: I don’t think the cafeteria food is so bad.
M: Another reason I don’t like the cafeteria is because it’s always so crowded. Too many students try to eat there all at the same time. I can never find a place to park my bike during lunch. See, there are lots of reasons we should close the cafeteria and vote for Option 2.

Sample response:
The man’s opinion about the campus food service is that Option 2 is better. The man likes this option because it adds several more places to get food. He will not vote for Option 1 because he doesn’t like the cafeteria. The reason he doesn’t like the cafeteria is that it is too crowded and there is no place to put his bike. He prefers Option 2 because he wants more variety, better food, and a less crowded place to eat.

Q3 — practice 2
Sample response:
W: Did you hear that they’re raising the student gym fee next semester?
M: Oh, man! Really?
W: Yeah, it’s going up to $15 a term.
M: Shoot, I don’t know if I can afford that.
W: It’s only $3.
M: I’m already living on a tight budget. I don’t have a job, you know.
W: So what are you going to do? You love to play basketball at the gym!
M: Yep, and I lift weights there too.
W: Well, $15 is still a good deal. Don’t you think?
M: I suppose so. I mean, if I go to the gym at the YMCA they’re going to charge me a lot more.
W: You could play for free on the high school playground.
M: Sure, but we can’t play there if it’s raining...and what about weights?
W: Seems like you’ll have to pay the fee.
M: I’ll pay it because it’s still cheap and the gym’s convenient. I just don’t like them jacking up fees all the time, though. I guess my beer fund will have to absorb the loss.

Sample response:
The man decides that he will pay the higher fee to use the gymnasium. The first factor he considers is whether he can afford the new fee. Even though it’s only $3 more, he doesn’t have a job. He considers using the YMCA, but that’s more expensive. The second factor he considers is convenience. The gym is close, and he can play there even if it rains. A nearby high school has basketball courts, but they are outside and he can’t lift weights there. In the end, he decides that even with the new fee, the gym is still the best bargain.

Q4 — practice 1

W: When most people think about organic gardening, they usually think of gardening without chemicals. There are other things involved with organic gardening, but let’s start with this basic idea. How do you all feel about organic gardening? Or, putting it another way, how do we all feel about using chemicals to control plant diseases in gardens?
M: I think it’s best not to use any chemicals.
W: OK, good. Why do you say that?
M: It’s healthier for us and healthier for the plants, I guess.
W: Well, think about this. Plants have natural chemicals in them to protect them from diseases and insects. In the past, farmers discovered that they could grow more crops by using other chemicals to help plants fight diseases and insects better. In the past, farmers used chemicals found in nature, like sulphur. Today, we have man-made chemicals, and they fight diseases and insects better than anything in nature. Are they harmful for the plants and unhealthy for us? I would argue no, as long as they are used correctly. So, although organic farming has some benefits, personally, I’m not totally against using chemicals in gardens.

Sample response:
The speaker talks about organic gardening and using chemicals in gardens. She says that using chemicals is okay if they are used correctly. The professor points out that plants have natural chemicals in them. These natural chemicals help the plant fight diseases and insects. As farming developed in the past, farmers used other natural chemicals to help plants fight diseases and insects better. This eventually led to farmers using man-made chemicals today. These man-made chemicals fight plant diseases and insects more effectively than natural chemicals, so farmers can grow plants better today than in the past.

Q4 — practice 2

W: When people think of the Eiffel Tower they usually think of Paris. However, we’ve read that Parisians were opposed to building the tower and wanted it destroyed after it was done.

Let’s start with a basic question. Do you think those who opposed building the Eiffel Tower were right? In other words, do you think building the Eiffel Tower was a good idea?
M: Well, I think they were wrong, and that building it was a good idea.
W: All right. And why do you say that?
M: Because now everyone seems to like the Eiffel Tower.
W: Perfectly true. And so we can go on and say that the reasons for opposing the Eiffel Tower back then are no longer valid today. First, the Eiffel Tower has become the ultimate symbol for the city of Paris. So, far from destroying the landscape of Paris, it now represents it. Its “ugly” skeletal design is today considered the world’s finest example of 19th century industrial architecture. It was thought useless, but proved very useful over the years and even right now is used for broadcasting French Radio and Television. So, I would agree with you that having built the Eiffel Tower was a good idea.

Sample response:
Parisians were opposed to building the Eiffel Tower for several reasons. They thought the tower would destroy Paris’s beautiful landscape. They considered the design to be like an ugly skeleton. They also thought the tower would be useless. In the lecture, we see that all those reasons are no longer valid. First, the tower has come to represent, rather than destroy, the landscape of Paris. Second, the skeletal design once considered ugly is now the world’s nicest example of 19th century industrial architecture. Finally, instead of being useless, the tower has been very useful for broadcasting.

Skill C

Q5 — practice 1

M: How is your history class, Tanya?
W: Terrible! I have a big problem with that class.
M: What is the problem?
W: My professor’s lectures are boring! I fall asleep every day in class. That means I miss a lot of the notes. What am I going to do?
M: Well, I had a problem like that with my math class, but I found a good way to solve that problem.
W: What did you do?
M: I got to know this smart girl who sat in front of me. She let me borrow her notes. In fact, we got to be really good friends from that class.
W: Hm. I don’t know if that will work for me. Most of the students sitting near me have the same problem I have. They usually fall asleep too.
M: Where do you sit in your history class?
W: At the back of the room, of course. I don’t want the professor to see me sleeping.
M: OK, then how about this. Try sitting at the front of the class. Then, you’ll have to stay awake or the professor will see you.
W: I guess I would make more of an effort not to sleep if I were sitting in the front row.
M: And while you’re sitting there, you should try to take as many notes as you can. Even if the information doesn’t seem that important, keep writing. When you’re actively writing things, you can’t fall asleep.
W: I appreciate your assistance. Do you have any other ideas?
M: Well, let me think...
Sample response:
In this listening passage, the woman describes a problem she's having in her class. The man offers suggestions to solve the problem. The problem the woman has is that she is bored and falls asleep in class. One thing that the man suggests is for the woman to sit in the front of the class and try to take lots of notes. I think this is a good suggestion. This will solve the woman’s problem because she will worry about the professor seeing her sleep and she will keep active by writing a lot.

Q5 — practice 2
W: Hi, Scott! You didn’t look too happy in philosophy class. What’s going on?
M: I’m having a rough time in that class.
W: Why...what’s the matter?
M: I bombed the mid-term exam. Meanwhile, the coach is pushing us to get ready for a tournament, and I’ve got tennis practice every day. I just don’t have time to read all the books we’re assigned.
W: No sweat. I had that problem with basketball and literature last year, but I found a good way to handle it.
M: Really? How did you handle it?
W: Well, you don’t need to read entire books page by page to understand them. Read quick summaries or critical notes, then only the book’s key passages. Doing this is a lot faster. It also gives you insights and ideas you’d probably miss in the book itself.
M: Hmm, I don’t know. It sounds like it’s still a lot of reading and a bit complicated too.
W: OK... well, here is another idea. How about coming to my study group. We meet once or twice a week at my place and sit around talking about the readings for an hour or so.
W: I guess it would save me reading time if I could hear and discuss ideas in the books with others.
M: It’s fast and fun. Key points of readings get covered, and we relate them to lecture topics that are going to be on the tests. Talking about this stuff is also the best way to remember it.
M: All right. Count me in.

Sample response:
The man in the conversation tells the woman he has a problem in philosophy class. His problem is that he has no time to read any of the books being assigned. One thing the woman suggests is joining her study group that meets for an hour or two every week to discuss the readings. This is a good idea. It will solve the man’s problem because in short amounts of time he will hear and discuss key points in the readings with others and remember them more easily.

Q6 — practice 1
M: OK, quiet please. Today we’re going to learn about telescopes. Now, in ancient times — yes, even before I was born — people believed that the Earth stood still, and that the sun and other planets moved around it. No, they weren’t drunk. They just didn’t have any telescopes.
About 1608, craftsmen in Holland invented glass lenses that made objects appear larger and nearer. These caught the attention of an Italian scientist named Galileo. That’s G-A-L-I-L-E-O. He made the first working telescope by fitting two lenses at either end of a long tube. His first telescope magnified images three times; that is, it made them appear three times larger. Over the next two years, he made telescopes that magnified eight times, and finally one that magnified objects 33 times.

Galileo used his large telescope to study the stars. It helped him make several important discoveries. First, he discovered the four largest moons around the planet Jupiter. Then he saw strange spots on the sun, which, logically enough, he called sunspots. These spots helped him conclude that the sun spins on its axis. Later, he proved that all planets in our solar system move around the sun. Since then, telescopes have gotten increasingly powerful. Today our largest telescope, called the Hubble telescope, orbits the Earth in space and is used to study the furthest sections of the universe.

Sample response:
In this lecture, the professor talks about telescopes. The first telescope was made about 1608 by the Italian scientist Galileo. He soon made a more powerful telescope, which he used to study the stars. It helped him discover many important things, such as four of Jupiter’s moons, sun spots, and the fact that planets move around the sun. Since then, telescopes have become more and more powerful. Today, a huge telescope, called the Hubble telescope, is in space orbiting the Earth. It helps us learn about the furthest parts of the universe.

Q6 — practice 2
W: After World War II, the city of Berlin was divided into four parts. One part was controlled by each of the countries that won the war; Great Britain, France, the Soviet Union, and the US. Now, right after the war, people in Berlin could travel around the city freely, but you all know that after World War II, another war began in Europe: the Cold War. During the Cold War, Great Britain, France, and the US brought East Berlin a democratic government and capitalist economy. The Soviet Union, on the other hand, formed a totalitarian government and communist economy in West Berlin.
All during the 1950s, people living in the communist part of Berlin could see that life was better for people living in the capitalist part of the city, so they moved to the west side. As more and more people moved out, the Soviet Union realized they had to stop this. They were losing all of their workers. In 1961, the Berlin Wall went up. Now, think about this. Most walls are built to keep people out of some place, but the Berlin Wall was built to keep people in a place. It trapped people in West Berlin. The Berlin Wall stood and actually grew over the next two decades. Finally, in 1989, travel restrictions between East and West Germany were lifted, and, over one weekend, the people of Berlin themselves basically destroyed the wall that had divided their city for decades.

Sample response:
In this lecture, the professor describes the Berlin Wall. It was built during the Cold War in the 1960s. The main point the professor makes about the Berlin Wall is that it was built to keep people in West Berlin. It stood in the city for many years, but people finally tore it down at the end of the 1980s. The professor points out that the Berlin Wall was destroyed in one weekend.
Chapter 3

Focus A

Step 1 — Pronunciation
1. Let’s eat some meat.
2. Dan likes jazz and pop.
3. Did you hear the lion roar?
4. If you dance, you will enjoy it.
5. I broke the dish set.
6. That hat is black.

Step 2 — Commonly mispronounced sounds: /th/, /d/, and /s/
1. taught thought
2. thigh sigh
3. boss both
4. skate scathe
5. sank thank
6. though dough
7. thin sin
8. torn thorn

Step 3 — Commonly mispronounced sounds: /l/ and /r/
1. The pretty flowers are growing.
2. We pray, not play, on Sundays.
3. He lent a car.
4. I like rivers.
5. Look at that big berry.

Step 4 — Long and short vowel sounds
1. slip sleep
2. leave live
3. wheel will
4. fool full
5. bin bean
6. peel pill
7. seek sick
8. pull pool

Focus B

Step 1 — Stress related to parts of words
1. a. biology b. biological
2. a. environment b. environmental
3. a. advantage b. advantageous
4. a. benefit b. beneficial
5. a. responsible b. responsibility
6. a. invite b. invitation
7. a. flexible b. flexibility
8. a. admire b. admiration
9. a. prefer b. preferable
10. a. negotiate b. negotiation

Focus C

Step 2 — Stress related to content words
Phrases
1. as quick as a fox
2. on top of the world
3. a history of England
4. land of the rising sun
5. last of the candy
6. the eye of the storm
7. better than the rest
8. in the heat of the moment
9. both uploads and downloads
10. not only an MP3 player but a camera

Sentences
1. I ate the last of the pie.
2. He feels better than yesterday.
3. Sam is reading about the history of Canada.
4. The professor gave us a deadline.
5. They waited over two hours to see him.
6. Homework is necessary in school.

Step 3 — Commonly mispronounced sounds: /l/ and /r/
1. Although we hadn’t finished, we decided to go home.
2. When she stepped off the boat, she immediately ran to her car.
3. It was raining so hard all day that they didn’t leave the house.
4. If the alarm rings, put down your books, and slowly leave the building.
5. The test will be two hours long, and will count for 25 percent.
6. When I went to the store, it was closed.

Step 4 — Long and short vowel sounds
1. Due to illness, Professor Brown will be absent all of next week.
2. Beginning next term, the student fees will increase by 20%.
3. If a person smokes, it can lead to lung and heart problems in later life.
4. Much study and hard work can lead to a good education and a bright future.
5. If I won some money, I would prefer to buy a sports car rather than an SUV.
6. To top it off, when we finally left for home my brother’s car wouldn’t start.
7. The government’s attempt to raise taxes resulted in a loss of popularity.
8. When the wedding was over, the happy couple walked slowly from the church.
Practice Test

Question 3
M: Wow, that's great news. I really don't want to go further into
debt with more student loans for next year.
W: I don't know. I don't like this kind of scholarship.
M: Why not? You're an excellent student, Mary. I think you will get one.
W: Didn't you hear? They're not awarding them based on academic
performance. They're awarding them based on financial need.
M: So? All university students are in financial need.
W: True, but they award this kind of scholarship based on the
income of the student's parents, not on the grades earned by
the student.
M: I see. What do your parents do?
W: Well, my dad is just an editor, but my mom is a fairly successful
dentist. I don't stand a chance.
M: That's a pity.
W: Not only does this kind of scholarship discriminate against
students with wealthy parents, but it rewards lazy students who
don't work as hard. I think these scholarships should be based
on merit, not financial need.
M: I see your point, but someone has to reward lazy students like me.

Question 4
W: Good morning, class. Um, today we will be talking about the
Vikings and their *drakkar*, or longships. I'm sure most of you
know these ships were used over a millennium ago so the
Vikings could raid lands and steal riches, but what else do you
know about them?
Most people think these ships were only used to travel the
seas. This isn't true. In fact, the *drakkar* ships could travel along
rivers that were only one meter deep. Can you imagine living in
a small village by a river and one of those massive ships suddenly
appearing in front of you with two hundred Viking warriors?
Pretty scary, huh?
*Drakkar* ships were usually owned by a nobleman because no
one else could afford to build one. The regular ships were um,
usually about 28 meters in length and had uh, about twenty or
thirty oarsmen. However, much larger ones have been found.
The biggest one ever uncovered was actually over seventy
meters long and was probably owned by a king.

Question 5
W: Hey, Paul, how are you?
M: Pretty good. I'm a little worried about the exams we have soon.
How about you?
W: Oh, I'm a bit stressed, to be honest.
M: Really? Are you worried about your exams?
W: Well, it's because of my part-time job. My boss wants me to
work in the restaurant four weeknights each week. I just don't
have the time, especially with the exams coming up. I don't
know what to do. I need that job to buy books and meals.
M: Yeah, that sounds like a problem. Hmm, I know. Why don't
you ask your boss if you can work on the weekend instead.
That way you can study each night during the week and keep
your job at the restaurant.
W: Yeah, that's a good idea, but I play a lot of sports on the weekend
and hang out with my friends. It's when I like to relax.

M: I see. Well, why don't you explain to your boss that you have
these exams coming up soon? Maybe you can just work two
weeknights. That way you have your weekend free, and you
still have your job.
W: Yeah, that's a great idea. Thanks! I'll say that to him tonight.

Question 6
M: Today, we're continuing our series of lectures on the seven wonders
of the ancient world with an examination of the Hanging
Gardens of Babylon. As described by Greek historians, these
gardens were built by King Nebuchadnezzar for his wife, who
came from a land far from Mesopotamia. Now, from what
we've studied about the marriages of nobles, who can tell me
why Nebuchadnezzar might marry a woman from far away?
W: To help Babylon? Like to make powerful friends or trade partners
with another area.
M: Very good, Miss Andrews. That's exactly right. So, one reason
he had these gardens built was to keep his wife happy and help
maintain Babylon's strong relationship with her homeland. Can
anyone think of another reason he might build a great green
garden in the middle of the hot dry Middle East?
W: To impress and attract people from other cities? Like tourism?
M: That's a good thought. I doubt it was for tourism, but I think it
was to impress and attract others. Like the giant cathedrals built by
Christians in Europe, these gardens were a show of power—
a show of wealth that advertised the Babylon way was the right,
or at least, the powerful way. Indeed, the advertising might
have carried over to the historians who reported the gardens.
Early reports described the gardens as 400 feet by 400 feet
and as tall as 320 feet. In the late 19th century, however, archaeologists
excavated Babylon and found the base of the garden building
to be only 100 by 150 feet.
Answer Key
Skill B

Q3 – practice 1

Step 1
Suggested keywords:
History 102; Prof. Brown; lectures; canceled; assignments

Sample restatement:
The cancellation notice concerns students enrolled in History 102. They are advised that Prof. Brown is ill and that he will be absent all of next week. For this reason, both of next week’s lectures are canceled. Assignments will be due in class one week later, on August 29th.

Step 2
Suggested keywords:
happy; canceled; assignment; extra week; good news

Sample restatement:
The man tells the woman that the professor is sick. The woman worries about their teacher canceling classes, but then hears he’s not seriously ill. Then, the man tells her there’s an extra week to finish the assignment. They don’t have to turn in the assignment until the professor is back. The woman is happy to hear that.

Step 3
Opinion: The woman thinks the canceled classes and the extra week is a good thing.
Reason 1: The professor is not very sick.
Detail: The man tells her the professor is not seriously ill.
Reason 2: She has more time to do the work.
Detail: She hasn’t read the article yet.

Step 4
Sample response:
The woman learns the professor is sick and that classes are being canceled. At first, she worries about the professor and the canceled classes. The man, however, explains the professor is not seriously ill, and that they have an extra week until the professor is back to finish their assignment. After that, the woman feels glad because she was behind in her work.

Q3 – practice 2

Step 1
Suggested keywords:
security guards, added, administration, vandalism, report

Sample restatement:
Five extra security guards are being added to campus night patrols. The decision to do this was made by the university administration. Security is being increased on campus because of recent vandalism to school buildings and thefts reported in the dormitories. Students are urged to report any information about violations on campus to the administration.

Step 2
Suggested keywords:
serious, stolen, always worried, damage, should be caught

Sample restatement:
The man and the woman are talking about the added security guards and how matters on campus are now serious. The woman explains that two of her friends have been victims of theft. Now, she’s always worried about thieves coming into her room, too. The man says he saw the damage done to some places on campus. He thinks the people who did all this should be caught. Both the man and the woman think the added guards are a good idea.

Step 3
Opinion: They think the added security guards are a good idea.
Reason 1: The woman is always worried.
Detail: Two of her friends have been victims of theft.
Reason 2: The campus is being damaged.
Detail: The man has seen damage to various areas of campus.

Step 4
Sample response:
The university is adding more security guards to campus night patrols. Students are informed this decision follows recent damage and thefts occurring on campus. The woman states things are serious. The woman’s friends had things stolen from their dormitory rooms and the
woman herself is now worried about being robbed too. The man understands. He has seen the damage done to school property and buildings. The man thinks people doing all these things should be caught. The woman agrees and adds that any information should be reported. They both agree that adding security guards on campus is a good idea.

Q3 – practice 3

Step 1
Suggested keywords:
creative writing, requirement, experience; producing; literature

Sample restatement:
The English department is advising all English Literature majors that creative writing is now a graduation requirement. The notice explains that the Dean wants all literature majors to gain experience producing creative writing, because literature is the study of this style of writing.

Step 2
Suggested keywords:
writing, good idea, analyze, writers, students

Sample restatement:
The man explains that creative writing is now a required class for them to take. The woman thinks this is a good idea. She believes practice at creative writing will help her better understand the books she must read. The man agrees with this. He says he's been doing some writing already and it's helped him analyze literature. He thinks creative writing will help him become a better writer and become a better student.

Step 3
Opinion: They think that the creative writing requirement is a good idea.
Reason 1: It will help them understand literature better.
Detail: By writing literature themselves, they will understand what other writers are doing.
Reason 2: They will be better writers.
Detail: By practicing writing, they will improve their own abilities at it.

Step 4
Sample response:
The dean recommended all literature majors should have practice in creative writing, so the English department made creative writing a required class for graduation. The woman thinks this is a good idea, and the man has the same opinion. The man explains that the creative writing he has been doing on his own has helped him analyze the literary works he has had to study. He thinks the creative writing class will make him a better writer and a better student. He also doesn’t mind because the class is easy to fit into his schedule.

Q4 – practice 1

Step 1
Suggested keywords:
eruption, Pompeii, volcano, escape, reconstruct

Sample restatement:
This passage tells about a volcano that erupted and buried the Roman city of Pompeii. Few people escaped. Scientists can now reconstruct what happened the day the volcano erupted.

Step 2
Suggested keywords:
Mount Vesuvius, superheated air, wiped out, Pompeii, advanced

Sample restatement:
A volcano called Mount Vesuvius erupted in AD 79. It wiped out the Roman city of Pompeii, a large city with an advanced culture. Although the volcano erupted for over 12 hours, people couldn’t escape. Scientists discovered that hot air from the volcano killed the people of Pompeii instantly. Later they were covered with ash.

Step 3
Suggested answers:
Volcano: Mt. Vesuvius
Erupted when: AD 79
Destroyed where: Pompeii
Strange because: people didn’t escape
People died because: superheated air, NOT lava. Later, ash covered the people.
Step 4
Sample response:
This reading passage talks about the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius. It erupted in 79 AD and destroyed Pompeii. The speaker says that it was strange because even though the volcano erupted for 12 hours, people couldn’t escape. In fact, people in Pompeii died due to superheated air from the volcano and not lava. Later, their bodies were covered in ash.

Q4 — practice 2

Step 1
Suggested keywords:
Dead Sea, landlocked, mineral salt, deadly, reason

Sample restatement:
The reading passage says that the Dead Sea is a landlocked sea with no living plants and animals. It is saltier than the oceans. It contains mineral salt which is deadly to plants and fish. Therefore, there are no living things in this sea. There are two reasons for the Dead Sea’s saltiness.

Step 2
Suggested keywords:
Dead Sea, salt, trapped, river, evaporate

Sample restatement:
The speaker said that nothing lives in the Dead Sea because it is full of salt. The salt goes into the Dead Sea from rivers. No rivers go out so this salt is trapped in the sea. When water evaporates, it leaves behind minerals, which makes the sea saltier.

Step 3
Suggested answers:
The Dead Sea has no living plants or animals. Rivers flow into the Dead Sea but not out. The Dead Sea has lots of mineral salt. It’s more than ten times saltier than the ocean. Mineral salts are deadly to fish and plants. Salt is carried into the Dead Sea from rivers. When water evaporates, the sea becomes even saltier.

Step 4
Sample response:
The reading passage says that the Dead Sea has a lot of mineral salt. This salt is deadly to plants and fish so there are no living things in the sea. The Dead Sea has ten times as much salt as the ocean. Rivers carry mineral salts into the Dead Sea. Salt is trapped there because no rivers flow out of the Dead Sea. Water evaporation also makes the sea even saltier.

Q4 — practice 3

Step 1
Suggested keywords:
jazz, African-American, combining, rhythms, melodies

Sample restatement:
This reading passage talks about how jazz music began. First, it says that African-American musicians made jazz music. This music was different or special because it combined rhythms from African music with melodies from European music.

Step 2
Suggested keywords:
white, wild, incorporating, popular, younger

Sample restatement:
The speaker says that white musicians didn’t like jazz at first. They thought jazz was too wild and it wasn’t real music, but some white musicians began incorporating parts of jazz music into their songs. One of these musicians, Elvis Presley, became really popular. Jazz has changed into many of the popular music forms of today.

Step 3
Suggested answers:
Jazz music went from being considered not real music to being very popular.
Originally: played by African-Americans
Different because: combined African rhythms and European melodies
Who liked it: young people
Who didn’t like it: mainstream white America
How it became popular: used by popular white singers like Elvis Presley
Step 4
Sample response:
This reading passage talks about how jazz music began. First, it says that African-American musicians made jazz music. This music was different or special because it combined rhythms from African music with melodies from European music. The speaker says that white musicians didn’t like jazz at first. They thought jazz was too wild and it wasn’t real music. Then, some white musicians began incorporating parts of jazz music into their songs. Eventually, one of these musicians, Elvis Presley, became really popular, so jazz, along with rock and other forms, became popular with younger people.

Skill C

Q5 – practice 1

Step 1
Suggested answers:
Problem: The man wants to spend more time practicing football and needs to spend more time studying.
Solution 1: Get tutors to help him study
Solution 2: Make more time for practice by getting up earlier

Step 3
Opinion 1:
The man’s problem is that he doesn’t have enough time to practice football and improve his grades in math and science. The woman suggests two solutions to the problem. First, she suggests that he find tutors to help him with math and science. Second, she suggests that he get up early in the morning for extra football practice. I think the second suggestion is better than the first one. If the man gets up early, he will have enough time to improve at football. The morning exercise will clear his mind, which will help him concentrate better in class.

Q5 – practice 2

Step 1
Suggested answers:
Problem: The woman has to take Chemistry 202 to graduate, but she doesn’t like the professor teaching the class.
Solution 1: The man suggests taking the class in another semester.
Solution 2: The man suggests taking the class now even though she doesn’t like the professor.

Step 3
Opinion 1:
The woman's problem is that she needs to take Chemistry 202 to graduate, but she doesn’t like the professor teaching it this semester. The man suggests two solutions to the problem. First, he suggests that she take the class next semester. Second, he suggests that she take the class this semester and try to get along with the professor. I think the first suggestion is better than the second one. If she waits, even though she might feel like she’s behind, she can catch up very quickly. Also, with a different professor she might get a higher mark.

Opinion 2:
The woman’s problem is that she needs to take Chemistry 202 to graduate, but she doesn’t like the professor teaching it this semester. The man suggests two solutions to the problem. First, he suggests that she take the class next semester. Second, he suggests that she take the class this semester and try to get along with the professor. I think the second suggestion is better than the first one. If she takes the class this semester, she won’t be behind. Also, she needs to learn to get along with teachers and bosses she doesn’t like.
Q5 — practice 3

Step 1
Suggested answers:
Problem: The man has to take a math class and a history class, but they are offered at the same time.
Solution 1: The woman suggests the math class might be offered at a different time.
Solution 2: She also suggests that the man take one of the classes in the next semester.

Step 3
Opinion 1:
The man’s problem is that he needs to take a world history class and a math class that are offered on the same days and at the same time. The woman suggests two solutions to the problem. First, she suggests that he might be able to take the math class on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Second, she suggests that he take one of the necessary classes this term, and the other next term. I think the first suggestion is better than the second one. If he is able to take math on Tuesdays and Thursdays, he can take history with his friend and complete both necessary classes in one term.

Opinion 2:
The man’s problem is that he needs to take a world history class and a math class that are offered on the same days and at the same time. The woman suggests two solutions to the problem. First, she suggests that he might be able to take the math class on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Second, she suggests that he take one of the necessary classes this term, and the other next term. I think the second suggestion is better than the first one. If he takes one mandatory class each term, he will have more time to concentrate on each class and can earn higher marks. Also, he will get to study with his friend.

Q6 — practice 1

Step 1
Suggested answers:
How two things have helped scientists know more about squid
A. sailors
- • sailors among first to capture squid
- • captured squid given to academies or measured
- • Russians helped understand link between squid and whales
B. whales
- • whales useful — hunt squid for food
- • sizes of squid estimated — measuring parts inside whale stomachs
- • whales carry cameras to observe squid underwater

Sample response:
This lecture is about giant squid. The speaker says that two things have helped scientists learn more about giant squid. These two things are sailors and whales. First, sailors were the ones who first captured giant squid and allowed them to be measured or given to scientific academies. The link between whales and squid has also been better understood thanks to Russian sailors. The speaker’s next point is that whales are especially helpful in studying squid. Whales hunt squid, and the sizes of squid can be estimated by measuring parts of squid found in whale stomachs. Whales can also carry cameras, allowing scientists to study squid underwater more closely.
Leonardo spent much of his life working as an engineer
- worked for powerful leaders and on special projects
- all his life, his engineering in bigger demand than his art

Sample response:
This lecture is about Leonardo da Vinci's life as an engineer. The speaker explains that Leonardo made breakthroughs in engineering, while leaders were looking for scientific ways to modernize. Leonardo was the first to explain how machines could be improved or invented. He came up with modern techniques to deal with existing problems. Leonardo thus had the set of skills that leaders wanted. The speaker then explains how Leonardo spent much of his life working as an engineer for powerful leaders and on special projects. The speaker concludes that all his life, Leonardo the engineer was in bigger demand than Leonardo the artist.

Q6 — practice 3

Step 1
Suggested Question:
How was the Giant's Causeway formed?
- origin debated until modern geologists gave answer

Early Debates:
- big debates in 1600s after discovery
- theories about its origin started the debates
- a lot of different opinions — but no one knew for sure

Nowadays:
- we know the truth
- was formed by volcanic activity
- lava cooled quickly by water — crystal rocks cracking result in many joined columns
- not a mystery anymore — just a fascinating geological place

Sample response:
This lecture is about the origins of the Giant's Causeway. The speaker says that for a long time nobody really knew how the Giant's Causeway was formed. He explains that many different theories on the Giant's Causeway's origin were being debated after it was discovered in the 1600s. Some people believed a legend that suggested the Giant's Causeway was made by a giant. The speaker explains that nobody knew for sure how it was formed until modern geologists provided the real answer. Geologists explain that it was formed by volcanic activity in much the same way we see in Hawaii right now. Nowadays, we know the truth about how the Giant's Causeway was formed.

Vocabulary Review

Review 1
1. (C) 2. (A) 3. (D) 4. (C) 5. (A) 6. (B) 7. (A) 8. (B) 9. (B) 10. (A) 11. (A) 12. (C) 13. (B) 14. (D) 15. (D) 16. enrolled 17. kindly 18. absent 19. cancellation 20. check 21. frustrated 22. bury 23. kindly 24. violence 25. element

Review 2
1. (D) 2. (A) 3. (A) 4. (B) 5. (B) 6. (D) 7. (B) 8. (A) 9. (D) 10. (B) 11. (C) 12. (D) 13. (C) 14. (B) 15. (A) 16. engineer 17. modernize 18. breakthroughs 19. imagine 20. combine 21. (C) 22. (E) 23. (A) 24. (B) 25. (D)
Skill A

Q1 – practice 1

Step 1
C, B, D, F, A, E

Step 2
Suggested answers:
1. One kind of work the speaker does without getting paid is write poetry.
2. One reason she enjoys doing this is that it lets her create something beautiful.
3. Another reason she enjoys doing this is that it lets her think about things in new ways.

Step 3
Sample response:
One kind of work I would be willing to do even if I never got paid for it is writing poetry. In fact, I do this now without getting paid because I enjoy writing poetry. One reason I enjoy writing poetry is because it lets me create something beautiful. When people create something beautiful, it gives them a good feeling in their heart. Another reason I enjoy writing poetry is because I can think about things in a new way. When I think about things in new, innovative ways, even boring things around my house become inspiring.

Q1 – practice 2

Step 1
F, E, A, C, D, B

Step 2
Suggested answers:
1. The speaker most regrets not spending enough time with his cousin.
2. One reason he regrets this is because he thought he could spend time with his cousin and teach him things.
3. Another reason he regrets this is that spending time with him when he is older may be more difficult.

Step 3
Sample response:
The last time I needed to talk about an important topic, I talked with my brother. The important topic I needed to talk about was an argument I’d had with my friend. I chose to talk to my brother at that time because my brother is very familiar with my friend. In fact, we all grew up together, so my brother and I have known my friend for many years. After talking with my brother, I better understood my friend’s point of view during our argument. Because of my brother’s aid, I was no longer angry with my friend.

Q1 – practice 3

Step 2
Sample response:
The worst vacation I ever had to endure was a camping trip with my brother and a friend. First, it rained heavily the whole three days. We couldn’t hike or swim. Then, to compound the problem, the wet weather made me sick. I spent most of the time lying in my sleeping bag trying to stay warm. In addition, my friend and I had an argument, so we stopped speaking to each other. To top it off, when we finally left for home, my brother’s car broke down. We had to walk five kilometers to get help.
Q2 – practice 1

Step 1
B, D, C, A

Step 2
Suggested answers:
1. The speaker prefers oral presentations to writing papers.
2. One reason he prefers this kind of assignment is that oral presentations are easier.
3. A second reason he prefers this kind of assignment is that oral presentations are interesting and educational for other students.
4. A third reason he prefers this kind of assignment is that oral presentations can help students improve their communications skills and confidence.

Step 3
Sample response:
I think oral presentations are more beneficial for students than writing papers. First of all, oral presentations are easier in that they take less time to prepare and put less emphasis on grammar than papers do. Another reason is oral presentations are interesting and educational for the other students who listen to them. Finally, many jobs require oral presentations, so students can improve their communication skills and develop confidence by speaking publicly as a student.

Q2 – practice 2

Step 1
E, C, D, A, B, F

Step 2
Suggested answers:
1. The speaker thinks building a subway is better.
2. The first reason she uses is that the subway is cleaner and more efficient than buses.
3. The second reason she uses is that the subway reduces traffic on the streets whereas buses increase traffic.
4. The final reason she uses is that the subway can carry more people on it than a bus, so it is more efficient.

Step 3
Sample response:
I’m glad the government is finally going to address the transportation issue. In my opinion, building a subway is better than increasing the number of buses. First of all, while a subway is clean and efficient, buses run on fuel that pollutes the air. Second, increasing the number of buses also increases traffic on the streets, while the subway, in contrast, reduces traffic. Lastly, a subway train can carry many more people than a bus, so it’s more efficient. Though a subway requires a lot of money to build, it is cheaper over time.

Q2 – practice 3

Step 2
Sample response:
I think oral presentations are more beneficial for students than writing papers. First of all, oral presentations are easier in that they take less time to prepare and put less emphasis on grammar than papers do. Another reason is oral presentations are interesting and educational for the other students who listen to them. Finally, many jobs require oral presentations, so students can improve their communication skills and develop confidence by speaking publicly as a student.

Q2 – practice 4

Step 2
Sample response:
If I won some money, I would prefer to buy a sports car rather than an SUV. First of all, SUVs do not get good gas mileage. Secondly, they are too large and cumbersome, which makes them difficult to park. Finally, I think they’re ugly. Sports cars, on the other hand, are fun to drive. You can go fast. They burn less fuel than SUVs, and they’re much easier to park. Also, I think they look more impressive than SUVs.
Skill B

Q3 – practice 2

Step 1
Suggested answers:
Man’s choice: Option 2
Reason 1: more variety
Reason 2: bad food in cafeteria
Reason 3: cafeteria too crowded

Step 3
Sample response:
The man’s opinion about the campus food service is that Option 2 is better. The man likes this option because it adds several more places to get food. He will not vote for Option 1 because he doesn’t like the cafeteria. The reason he doesn’t like the cafeteria is that it is too crowded and there is no place to put his bike. He prefers Option 2 because he wants more variety, better food, and a less crowded place to eat.

Q4 – practice 1

Step 1
Suggested answers:
Lecture topic: using chemicals in gardens
a. plants have chemicals naturally
   - to fight diseases and insects
b. in past, farmers used natural chemicals
   - like sulphur
c. today, we use man-made chemicals
   - prof thinks OK to use in gardens if used correctly

Step 3
Sample response:
The speaker talks about organic gardening and using chemicals in gardens. She says that using chemicals is okay if they are used correctly. The professor points out that plants have natural chemicals in them. These natural chemicals help the plant fight diseases and insects. As farming developed in the past, farmers used other natural chemicals to help plants fight diseases and insects better. This eventually led to farmers using man-made chemicals today. These man-made chemicals fight plant diseases and insects more effectively than natural chemicals, so farmers can grow plants better today than in the past.
Step 3
Sample response:
Parisians were opposed to building the Eiffel Tower for several reasons. They thought the tower would destroy Paris's beautiful landscape. They considered the design to be like an ugly skeleton. They also thought the tower would be useless. In the lecture, we see that all those reasons are no longer valid. First, the tower has come to represent, rather than destroy, the landscape of Paris. Second, the skeletal design once considered ugly is now the world's nicest example of 19th century industrial architecture. Finally, instead of being useless, the tower has been very useful for broadcasting.

Skill C

Q5 — practice 1

Step 1
Suggested answers:
Problem: She falls asleep in class.
Solution 1: borrow notes from another student
— Possible benefit — know the information from lectures
— Possible benefit — make a friend in class
Solution 2: sit in the front row of the class
— Possible benefit — worry about the professor seeing her sleep, so she will stay awake
— Possible benefit — write everything in order to stay awake, so have good notes from class

Step 2
Suggested answers:
1. She falls asleep in class.
2. She should sit in the front row of the class.
3. She will try harder to stay awake and take more notes.

Step 3
Sample response:
In this listening passage, the woman describes a problem she's having in her class. The man offers suggestions to solve the problem. The problem the woman has is that she is bored and falls asleep in class. One thing that the man suggests is for the woman to sit in the front of the class and try to take lots of notes. I think this is a good suggestion. This will solve the woman's problem because she will worry about the professor seeing her sleep and she will keep active by writing a lot.

Q5 — practice 2

Step 1
Suggested answers:
Problem: He has no time to read the books for class.
Solution 1: read summaries and key passages in books
— Possible benefit — faster, save time
— Possible benefit — will get ideas from summaries that he might not get by reading the books himself
Solution 2: join the woman's study group
— Possible benefit — hear other people discuss the books
— Possible benefit — hear ideas of how lectures relate to information in books

Step 2
Suggested answers:
1. He has no time to read the books for class.
2. He should join the woman's study group.
3. In a short time, he can hear and discuss key points. He can also remember them more easily.

Step 3
Sample response:
The man in the conversation tells the woman he has a problem in philosophy class. His problem is that he has no time to read any of the books being assigned. One thing the woman suggests is joining her study group that meets for an hour or two every week to discuss the readings. This is a good idea. It will solve the man's problem because in short amounts of time he will hear and discuss key points in the readings with others and remember them more easily.
Q6 – practice 1

Step 1
Suggested answers:
Main topic of lecture: telescopes
Where invented: Italy
When: 1608; early 1600s
Who made first telescope: Galileo
Why important: learned about things in space
Other key info: saw Jupiter’s moons, saw sunspots, learned planets orbit sun

Step 3
Sample response:
In this lecture, the professor talks about telescopes. The first telescope was made about 1608 by the Italian scientist Galileo. He soon made a more powerful telescope, which he used to study the stars. It helped him discover many important things, such as four of Jupiter’s moons, sunspots, and the fact that planets move around the sun. Since then, telescopes have become more and more powerful. Today, a huge telescope, called the Hubble telescope, is in space orbiting the Earth. It helps us learn about the furthest parts of the universe.

Q6 – practice 2

Step 1
Suggested answers:
Main topic of lecture: Berlin Wall
Where: Berlin, Germany
When: after WWII; 1950s and 1960s
Why: keep people in West Berlin
Other key info: torn down in late 1980s in one weekend

Step 3
Sample response:
In this lecture, the professor describes the Berlin Wall. It was built during the Cold War in the 1960s. The main point the professor makes about the Berlin Wall is that it was built to keep people in West Berlin. It stood in the city for many years, but people finally tore it down at the end of the 1980s. The professor points out that the Berlin Wall was destroyed in one weekend.
Focus A

Step 2  Commonly mispronounced sounds: /th/, /d/, /s/

1. thought  ✔
2. thigh  ✔
3. both  ✔
4. scathe  ✔
5. thank  ✔
6. though  ✔
7. thin  ✔
8. thorn  ✔
9. sank  ✔
10. dough  ✔

Step 3  Commonly mispronounced sounds: /l/ and /r/ sounds

1. The pretty flowers are growing.
2. We pray, not play, on Sundays.
3. He lent a car.
4. I like rivers.
5. Look at that big berry.

Step 4  Long and short vowel sounds

1. sleep  ✔
2. leave  ✔
3. wheel  ✔
4. full  ✔
5. bean  ✔
6. peel  ✔
7. seek  ✔
8. pull  ✔

Focus B

Step 1  Stress related to parts of words

1. a. bi-ology  b. bio-logical
2. a. en-viron-ment  b. environ-mental
3. a. ad-van-tage  b. advanced
4. a. be-nefit  b. beneficial
5. a. re-spon-sible  b. responsible
6. a. in-vite  b. invitation
7. a. flex-ible  b. flexibility
8. a. ad-mire  b. admiration

9. a. pre-fer  b. pre-ferable
10. a. ne-go-tiate  b. negoti-ation

Step 2  Stress related to content words

Sentences
1. I ate the last of the pie.
2. He feels better than yesterday.
3. Sam is reading about the history of Canada.
4. The professor gave us a deadline.
5. They waited over two hours to see him.
6. Homework is necessary in school.

Focus C

Step 1  Stress related to parts of words

1. Although we hadn’t finished / we decided to go home.
2. When she stepped off the boat / she immediately ran to her car.
3. It was raining so hard all day / that they didn’t leave the house.
4. If the alarm rings / put down your books / and slowly leave the building.
5. The final test will be two hours long / and will count for 25 percent.
6. When I went to the store / it was closed.

Step 2  Stress related to content words

1. Due to illness, / Professor Brown will be absent / all of next week.
2. Beginning next term, / the student fees will increase by 20%.
3. If a person smokes, / it can lead to lung and heart problems / in later life.
4. Much study and hard work / can lead to a good education / and a bright future.
5. If I won some money, / I would prefer to buy a sports car / rather than an SUV.
6. To top it off, / when we finally left for home / my brother’s car wouldn’t start.
7. The government’s attempt to raise taxes / resulted in a loss of popularity.
8. When the wedding was over, / the happy couple walked slowly from the church.
Question 1
The best vacation I ever had was a trip to Hawaii. The first reason I enjoyed this trip was the beautiful weather. Every day it was sunny and clear, so I could do many outdoor activities. Another reason I enjoyed my trip was all the beautiful scenery. Hawaii has many lovely parks and beaches. Finally, I really liked Hawaiian food. I enjoy eating seafood. Because Hawaii is an island, there is a wide variety of seafood available.

Question 2
Sample response 1:
In my opinion, allowing men to choose to serve in the military is the better policy. First of all, I believe in freedom of choice. By forcing someone to serve, the government takes away that freedom. In addition, when a man serves in the army, he loses time that he can never get back. With this time, he could be studying or working or preparing for his future. Second, I believe forcing only men to serve is discrimination. It is not fair to men. They should be treated equally with women.

Sample response 2:
In my opinion, forcing men to serve in the military is the better policy. First of all, it is very important for a country to have a strong military. If men weren’t forced to serve, the army would be too small to protect the country from attack. Second, I think men can learn a lot from serving in the military. For instance, they learn discipline and how to work in a group. They can also improve their health by exercising all the time. Finally, men often make business contacts in the military that help them in the future.

Question 3
The Ministry of Education announced a new scholarship to help students who don’t have a lot of money. The woman disagrees with this scholarship. First, she believes that the scholarship discriminates against students whose parents are wealthy. In fact, her mother earns a lot of money, so the woman will not be able to get the scholarship. Second, she believes that because the scholarships are not given based on academic performance, they reward lazy students who don’t work as hard to earn high grades. In sum, she would like the scholarships to be awarded based on grades, so she would be able to get one.

Question 4
The reading talks about Vikings and their ships, called drakkars. These ships were very long and strong. They were used to transport up to 150 warriors on raids all across Europe. The speaker mentions that the drakkars were actually often used for travel on small rivers rather than just on the sea. This way, the Vikings could raid smaller villages. She also explains that noblemen usually owned these ships. In addition, she details how drakkars were usually about 30 meters long with about 25 oarsmen. Last, she mentions that the largest drakkar ever found was about 70 meters long and was probably owned by a king!
**Question 5**

Sample response 1:
In this conversation, the woman describes a problem she has with work and school. She is worried about having enough time to study for exams while working at a restaurant four nights a week. The man suggests two ways for her to deal with the problem. First, he suggests that she only work on weekends. I think this is the best idea. The woman says that she likes to relax and hang out with her friends on the weekend, but I think her job and education are more important. After she finishes university, she will get a better job and have a lot of time for her friends.

Sample response 2:
In this conversation, the woman describes a problem she has with work and school. She is worried about having enough time to study for exams while working at a restaurant four nights a week. The man suggests two ways for her to deal with the problem. In my opinion, his second suggestion, that she ask to only work two nights per week, is better. This way, she will have more time to study and earn high grades, but she will still have time to relax and see her friends on the weekend. If she didn’t have time to relax, she might get too stressed to perform well in class.

**Question 6**

The lecture provides information about the Hanging Gardens of Babylon. In particular, the professor talks about why the gardens were probably built. One reason the king in ancient Babylon probably built the Hanging Gardens was to please his wife. The gardens were probably meant to improve relations with her homeland and thereby maintain the queen’s home country as an ally. A second reason may have been to impress people with Babylon’s power and to convey its wealth and might. By showing how powerful and prosperous Babylon was, it was showing that its way of life was the right one.