

Unit 1: Manchester United

Listening Exercise - Track 2

- M: Did you see last night's game? It was so exciting!
- W: I know! Some friends and I watched it at a restaurant. It stayed open late to show the game. Everybody clapped and shouted when Man U won.
- M: That sounds like fun. I should watch the next game there with you.

Listening Activity - Track 3

In sports news, Ronaldo led Manchester United to another win. They beat Chelsea by a score of 4 to 1. Ronaldo scored two goals. If he stays healthy, he could score twenty-five goals this season. More importantly, he could help his team win the Premiership.

Unit 2: Internet Communities

Listening Exercise - Track 5

- W: Have you joined MySpace yet? It's really cool. You can keep a blog, send messages, and do lots of other things.
- M: I want to, since I'd like to upload photos. But I'm no good with computers.
- W: Trust me, it's easy. They teach you how to do everything, in simple English.

Listening Activity - Track 6

My sister, Rebecca, just signed up for a Facebook account. Her goal is to have 200 people join her network of friends. She asked me to join Facebook, but I haven't got the time. From Monday through Friday, I have classes. On weekends, I like going to the beach, not spending time online.

Unit 3: Console Gaming

Listening Exercise - Track 8

- M: Yesterday it was raining, so I couldn't go jogging. Instead, I stayed home and played games on my Wii.
- W: That's plenty of exercise. It gets tiring swinging that controller around!
- M: That's for sure. Hey, I'm thinking of holding a small Wii party this Saturday. You should come over.

Listening Activity - Track 9

I'm reporting from the Video Game Expo. This year, more than 100,000 people are here. Sony has a huge booth. Nintendo's is smaller, but they have a great deal. You can buy any three games for only \$50. There are just two days left in the show. Come on over!

Unit 4: Teleworking

Listening Exercise - Track 11

- M: My assistant, Sam, told me you're doing some work from home.
- W: Right, my department started a teleworking program in April. So far, I like it. I'll see how things go for a few months. Then I'll decide whether or not to continue.
- M: Personally, it's not for me. I don't like taking my work home.

Listening Activity - Track 12

At Rainbow Visions, we listen to what our fashion designers say. Many of you have asked about teleworking. We're ready to give that a try. If you'd like to telework one day a month, send Mark an e-mail. Include a list of the job tasks you'd like to do from home.

Unit 5: Graffiti

Listening Exercise - Track 14

W: Look at that wall. It's full of graffiti. That stuff is all over the neighborhood.

M: I think it's cool. Whoever did that has talent. Anyway, these walls were ugly. It's nice to have some art on the street.

W: I'm not saying the graffiti is ugly. I'm saying it doesn't belong here.

Listening Activity - Track 15

Last week, Blossom City held a special contest. At Blossom Park, people watched a Graffiti in the Park contest. Five large wooden walls were put up for the event. Artists had thirty minutes to write on a wall, in any style they wanted. Then, five judges chose the winner.

Unit 6: Cell Phone Novels

Listening Exercise - Track 17

M: Have you received chapter sixteen of *Supermarket Killers* yet? I think there's something wrong with my phone.

W: Nobody has received it yet. I really want to know what happens. The story is almost finished!

M: Exactly. You know, I think twenty chapters is too short. I hope his next story is thirty chapters long.

Listening Activity - Track 18

Yesterday, almost 500 people stood in the rain all afternoon. They were there to see Mr. Text. That's the pen name of one of today's hottest writers. He has written thirteen cell phone novels. At the event, Mr. Text answered questions and gave away posters. Many fans asked him to sign their phones.

Unit 7: Multiculturalism

Listening Exercise - Track 20

W: Where were you, Peter?

M: I just went to say hello to our new neighbors. They're from Korea. They don't speak much English, but I invited them over for a barbecue tomorrow night.

W: Oh, that's interesting. We'll have to look on the Internet to see what kind of food they might like.

Listening Activity - Track 21

Students must take a level test before they can register for a free class. Students scoring less than thirty qualify for the beginner class. Scores between thirty and sixty qualify for the intermediate class. And scores between sixty and ninety qualify for the advanced class. Classes are held on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings.

Unit 8: Space Tourism

Listening Exercise - Track 23

M: Guess what! I won a contest on the radio. In two years, I'll be going up into space! I can't wait!

W: Wow! Aren't those tickets really expensive?

M: Yes, normally they're \$200,000. But I only have to pay some tax on the prize. It will be about \$10,000.

Listening Activity - Track 24

Rita and Fred have a dream. They want to be the first people married in space. They already have tickets for a trip into space. Now they need a priest to perform the ceremony. The couple are raising money on the Internet. They will use it to buy the priest a ticket.

Unit 9: Cultural Taboos

Listening Exercise - Track 26

- M: Celine, listen to this. Isabella, the student from Italy, tried to give Zhi Ming a clock on his birthday.
- W: Are you serious, Ichiro? Doesn't she know that's a major taboo here?
- M: Maybe not before, but she sure does now. Zhi Ming wouldn't accept it! Later, I explained the problem to her.

Listening Activity - Track 27

As part of our European culture series, we're selling a new set of DVDs. These videos will show you businesspeople in different situations: for example, in a meeting and at a restaurant. You'll also learn skills, like how to give and receive gifts. Buy a set now, and you'll receive a free electronic dictionary.

Unit 10: Volunteering

Listening Exercise - Track 29

- W: I'm so glad it is Friday. Are you going to help us at the Pet Day event tomorrow?
- M: I'd love to, but I'm not sure how I could help. I don't know much about animals.
- W: You don't need to. We're just trying to find good homes for these pets. After all, I'm just walking the dogs so they don't get bored.

Listening Activity - Track 30

We would like to announce the results of yesterday's food drive. Overall, we collected over 2000 cans of food, which is much higher than our goal of 1200 cans. I was also very happy that over 300 volunteers came to the event. I'm sure that next year's event will be even better!

Unit 11: The Burj Al Arab

Listening Exercise - Track 32

- W: You won't believe where I stayed in Dubai – the Burj Al Arab!
- M: Wow, that's amazing! Don't rooms cost thousands of dollars?
- W: They do, but I wanted to take my family somewhere special. Anyway, it was like heaven. I felt like a queen.

Listening Activity - Track 33

Tonight on the Travel Channel, we'll take you to the Burj Al Arab. Don't miss this chance to visit one of the world's best hotels. Joining me will be a special guest star. We'll show you the famous lobby, guest rooms, and much more. The hour-long program starts at 9:00 p.m. See you then!

Unit 12: Speed Dating

Listening Exercise - Track 35

- M: I just registered for a speed dating event. Are you interested in going?
- W: I'm not sure. How do I know the men won't be really strange? Anyway, I've got a big test tomorrow.
- M: Listen, it's next Friday night, which is a full week from now. Plus, I'll be there, so it will be totally safe.

Listening Activity - Track 36

On October 15th, The Perfect Shot will host its first speed dating event. Toronto's newest sports bar, The Perfect Shot, is a great place to meet the perfect person. Sign up on our website or at the bar. The charge is just ten dollars per person. That includes one free drink.

Unit 13: Shanghai

Listening Exercise - Track 38

- M: My sister, Lily, just returned from Shanghai. She said it was not what she expected.
W: Interesting. My boss is going there next month. What did your sister say, George?
M: Well, she didn't think it would be so modern. Plus, it was very expensive, which surprised her.

Listening Activity - Track 39

Shanghai is becoming one of Asia's most expensive cities. Travelers are reporting rising hotel rates. Almost everyone is complaining about higher food costs. Of course, shop owners are happy. Every day, thousands of tourists go shopping in the city. For small and large shop owners, business is better than ever.

Unit 14: Global Warming

Listening Exercise - Track 41

- W: I'm thinking of getting a hybrid car. I know I could save a lot on gas. But, those cars are expensive.
M: Well, I read an article yesterday. It said that over several years, you will definitely save money by buying a hybrid.
W: Really? I'd love to see that report.

Listening Activity - Track 42

This summer, we can expect a very strong storm season. Scientists say higher temperatures are to blame. From June to September, we may see seven or eight strong typhoons. People should prepare plenty of bottled water and canned food. Also, pay close attention to weather reports. It's the best way to keep safe.

Unit 15: High Speed Trains

Listening Exercise - Track 44

- M: I don't think we should fly from London to Paris. It's probably cheaper if we take a super fast train.
W: We should take the Channel Tunnel, or "Chunnel." It's an undersea rail tunnel linking London and Paris. The train takes just over two hours.
M: Wow, that sounds exciting!

Listening Activity - Track 45

We asked 100 people what they thought of our high speed trains. Eighty percent felt the trains saved a lot of time. Most people said the trains were quiet and comfortable. There was only one complaint. Half the people thought the ticket prices were too high.

Unit 16: Single Child Families

Listening Exercise - Track 47

- W: Steve, are you and Linda planning to have more children?
M: Probably not, Marge. Our house is too small. Plus, we can barely pay for Tim's school costs. Also, we're both so busy, we only see him at night.
W: I understand. Kyle and I have similar problems raising our daughter.

Listening Activity - Track 48

As everyone knows, people are having fewer children. That's starting to affect the housing industry. Thirty years ago, most houses had four bedrooms. Now, the average is three for new homes. The good news is most children have their own rooms. In the past, they usually shared rooms with siblings.

Unit 17: Identity Theft

Listening Exercise - Track 50

- M: Martin couldn't get a car loan. They said he owed \$15,000 on three credit cards.
- W: That doesn't sound like Martin. Were his credit cards stolen?
- M: No, and he hasn't lost his wallet. Nobody broke into his house either. The police said it's probably a case of identity theft.

Listening Activity - Track 51

In Springfield, identity theft was a big problem last year. There were more than 2,000 cases. Most victims said thieves applied for credit cards in their name. On average, \$800 worth of charges were made. Unfortunately, the thieves have been hard to catch. Only thirty-five were caught last year.

Unit 18: India on the Rise

Listening Exercise - Track 53

- M: Our company is thinking about buying a small company in India. It would help us enter the market.
- W: We're also interested in India. We'll probably open a branch office there. That way we can quickly learn about the market.
- M: Right. Well, it's so huge, we're all hoping to do well there.

Listening Activity - Track 54

Last month, thirty Australian companies got together. They set up a trade office in Delhi, India. They hope the office will help them grow their businesses in the country. All of the companies are in computers and electronics. Since many companies are taking part, the yearly cost per company is low. It's only 4,000 dollars per year.

Unit 19: Trans Fat

Listening Exercise - Track 56

- M: Look at these labels. All my favorite desserts are full of trans fat! I can't even eat cake or pie anymore.
- W: Remember what the doctor said. You need to watch your diet.
- M: I know, I know. All right, let's go to the fruit section. At least that's safe.

Listening Activity - Track 57

Recently, 200 shoppers at a supermarket were asked about trans fat. Sixty percent said they are choosing food with less trans fat. Twenty-five percent said they want to learn more about the subject. The rest were unsure. To help shoppers, the supermarket has red signs pointing out products that are trans fat free.

Unit 20: Artificial Intelligence

Listening Exercise - Track 59

- W: This is where we make the newest models. These robots will speak and understand 1,000 words.
- M: I can't believe Mr. Santos let us in here, Lisa. Isn't he worried about people stealing secrets?
- W: Not really. He's a great manager. He doesn't mind if I show friends around.

Listening Activity - Track 60

In today's hospitals, more and more robots are being used. Doctors already use computers and special cameras to make their jobs easier. Now, robots are actually working as doctors. They are performing simple operations. Robots work quickly, and they don't get tired. In the future, smart robots may handle every kind of operation.