

Connectivity 4

Assessments Test 1 Audio Script

Unit 1 Review Test

Section 1: Listening

- Angela:** Well, that was rude! Did you see that customer storm out of the store, Tina? She was yelling at the clerk because they stopped carrying her favorite brand of yogurt. Isn't that ridiculous?
- Tina:** That was a bit over the top, Angela. But I can understand why the woman was frustrated. A lot of things are out of stock. I can't find half the things on my grocery list.
- Angela:** Okay, but she didn't have to be so mean. The clerks in this store are always so friendly! Blowing up like that was so selfish and unnecessary.
- Tina:** She was definitely out of line. But maybe she was having a bad day.
- Angela:** Oh, come on! That clerk is what—16? He makes minimum wage! Why didn't she at least scream at the manager?
- Marco:** Who cares? She's gone and she said she's never coming back. Good riddance!
- Tina:** Well, Marco, I agree that the woman was rude, but we don't know what's going on in her life. Maybe she lost her job today or her kid is in the hospital or something.
- Angela:** You are way too tolerant. No one is ever at fault! Just because someone is having a bad day, doesn't mean they get a pass to make everyone else miserable. If I worked in the store, I'd march her back inside and make her apologize.
- Marco:** I still think you're making a big deal over nothing. Rude customers are part of the job. Welcome to real life!
- Tina:** Well, I do see Angela's point. I do feel bad for the staff. They're being paid to stock shelves and ring up purchases, not to get yelled at by angry customers.
- Marco:** Anyway, she's gone now and she's never coming back. So, she's some other store's problem now!
- Angela:** Did you notice what she was wearing? Those colors were so garish. Did she get dressed in the dark this morning?
- Marco:** Really, Angela? Now you're criticizing her fashion sense?! Who cares what she's wearing? She actually isn't the worst customer I've seen here. Last week a guy grabbed a case of razor blade cartridges and walked right out the door without paying!
- Angela:** Don't get me started on shoplifters. Grocery stores operate on a 1-percent profit margin. That means for every dollar that gets stolen, the store must sell a hundred dollars just to make that up. And who do you think ends up paying for that? Us!

- Tina:** The cost of groceries has really gone up in the past year. What if the shoplifter was hungry and couldn't afford food?
- Marco:** Or maybe he just really needed a shave!
- Angela:** I don't know, Tina. You always make excuses for people. I think shoplifting is wrong no matter who does it.
- Tina:** I don't know. There's truth in what you're saying, but I'm not sure it's as simple as that. Life isn't always so black and white, you know?

Unit 2 Review Test

Section 1: Listening

- Stephanie:** Welcome back. This is Business Insider, and I'm Stephanie Sloan. My next guest is Alan Green, an expert on creativity in the workplace. How are you, Alan?
- Alan:** I'm great. Thanks for having me.
- Stephanie:** Alan, we have lots of business leaders on this show and one thing I hear a lot about is the value companies place on creative thinking.
- Alan:** That's true. Polls show that about 60% of CEOs cite creativity as the most essential employee quality—that's higher than integrity, which surprisingly only polls at 52%. They want people who can think outside the box and come up with fresh ideas. 84% of executives considered their future success to be extremely dependent on innovation. They know that one great idea can launch a whole new industry, as we've seen with many highly successful start-ups in recent years.
- Stephanie:** Absolutely. But you've also written that, despite how much they may value creativity, many companies are stuck in a workplace culture that actually stifles original thinking.
- Alan:** Yes. Even though executives say they want innovation, many tend to fall back on a mentality of "this is how we've always done things." But that's a dangerous way to think. Technology is changing so rapidly that if company leaders aren't finding new ways to help their products reach customers, they're doomed to failure.
- Stephanie:** Innovate or die. I hear that a lot.
- Alan:** Exactly. And this attitude doesn't just apply to how products are sold. Many workplaces are governed by rigid workflows and procedures. If you're not giving employees space to invent new ways of working that could be better and more efficient, then you're stifling your employees' creativity.
- Stephanie:** What are some other ways that workplace culture discourages creativity?
- Alan:** Well, I think it's important to point out that most people, even executives, are famously resistant to change. They don't like to leave their comfort zone. Executives are quick to shoot down new ideas or even to listen to what their employees are saying. Many managers are also risk averse and, even though they say they want fresh ideas, they're reluctant to approve anything if they think there's even a small chance of failure. If an employee has their ideas rejected enough times, they'll stop volunteering new ones.

Stephanie: That's a great point. You can't say you want your employees to be creative without listening to their ideas. Are there other issues businesses should be aware of?

Alan: Micromanaging can also be a huge problem, with managers tightly controlling every tiny detail of a project. That kind of control doesn't give employees any room to come up with their own creative ideas. It also kills morale and lowers self-confidence, because employees feel that their managers don't trust them to get the job done correctly.

Stephanie: Interesting! My guest is Alan Green, and we'll be talking more about creativity in the workplace after the break.

Unit 3 Review Test

Section 1: Listening

Austin: Hey Jake, what are you up to?

Jake: Hi, Austin. I'm just boxing up some things to take to the Art Cycle Center.

Sarah: What's that?

Jake: Hi, Sarah. Art Cycle is a cool nonprofit in town that runs artist studios and classes for kids and adults. You can donate stuff you aren't using anymore, and the artists reuse the materials in their projects. I'm donating some craft supplies I don't need. And my mom gave me some fabric she's not using.

Austin: So, your old stuff gets upcycled into new art—what a great idea! Hey—I have some old CDs and computer parts. Do you think they could use those?

Sarah: Hold on. I'm on their website. Yup—they can. It says that they accept old computers, electronic devices, and CDs. They take all kinds of stuff.

Jake: I guess anything can be repurposed and made into art!

Sarah: They take toys and jewelry, too. I've got a bunch of old toys that are just taking up space in my attic.

Jake: Art Cycle has a store where they sell the supplies that have been donated. They also have studio space they use for classes. They even have open studio hours a few times a week when you can just drop in and make anything you like.

Sarah: Their website says they've received almost 20,000 pounds of donated materials. Most of this stuff isn't biodegradable and repurposing it into art keeps it from just being dumped in a landfill.

Austin: That's incredible! Hey, their classes are a super good deal. I guess they can keep the costs down because they don't have to buy new materials.

Jake: Yeah. And I like the classes there. I'm not a great artist, but my sister and I took a class and made a sculpture with blocks, bottle caps, and buttons that turned out really nice.

Sarah: It says on the website that some volunteers sold their crafts at an art fair last month and raised a few hundred dollars for charity. It's neat that so much good can come out of donated junk.

- Austin:** You know, I bet there's all kinds of stuff I could donate that other people would find useful.
- Sarah:** Me, too. Hey, let's make a day of it. We can all box up our stuff and head over to the Art Cycle Center together!
- Jake:** Sounds great! Let's do it.

Unit 4 Review Test

Section 1: Listening

I'm reporting live from the Express Yourself Fashion Show downtown! It's a bright, sunny day, and we're about to see some amazing clothes. Directly behind me is the stage where the models will soon be showcasing some incredible new looks. But today, this fashion show is going to be a little different. Instead of professional models, kids from the neighborhood are walking the runway! Not only that, but they're showing off outfits they helped design and sew over the past six months. This show is part of a new program in the city schools that encourages students to get creative and make things. The program is intended to bolster the students' self-esteem and creative expression, especially related to their appearance. It sounds like the show is about to get underway. As you can hear, the crowd can't wait to check out the fabulous creations of these young fashion stars!

OK, and here they come! Our first model is Mikaela. She's modeling a classic short-sleeve black dress. It's simple but elegant. Very chic. She looks great in it, and she's stepping down the runway like she feels great, too. Next up is Chloe. She's wearing a casual plaid dress. The colors are loud and proud! The print is a blue, purple, and green plaid. I love it, and the crowd does, too. Next is Shayla, who is wearing a jacket that was made using pages from old newspapers and comic books. The shape is trendy, like a motorcycle jacket made of paper. It's a beautiful piece. It's amazing that they could make something that looks so professional out of paper! Our next model is Horatio. He's wearing a subdued gray shirt and pants. It's a formal look, and he's walking like he's a movie star on the red carpet. I have to say, I'm very impressed by the skills that went into making these clothes. Everything looks amazing. Jake is our next model. He's wearing a beautiful handknit turtleneck sweater. It's beige and appropriate for the cool weather we're having. And finally, we have Michelle. She's wearing a formal evening gown. The gown is bright pink, and the students have sewn silk flowers around the skirt. It's gorgeous. What a fantastic piece to highlight for the finale!

Listen to that crowd! They're really loving this. What a marvelous show! Anyone would look great in these clothes. It's not possible to be overdressed here! Ticket sales and donations have already brought in close to five thousand dollars to help bring this program to other schools in the city. This was the first show of its kind, but I think it's safe to say it won't be the last! I can't wait for the next one.

Unit 5 Review Test

Section 1: Listening

- Chair:** The Community Board meeting will come to order. Next, we'll hear public comments. Our first commenter is Mrs. Oliva Sanchez.

- Olivia:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. I would like to propose that the community board and the city invest more money in public parks and other recreational facilities. The only real amenity this neighborhood has is the playground on Fifth Street, which is so neglected it's not safe for children. Fixing that playground is a good first step. There are also empty lots in the neighborhood that the city could buy to convert into parks or green space. We could also follow the lead of other cities and convert old buildings like the Armory on Baker Street into sports facilities that offer affordable fitness classes to children and adults. Facilities like this could attract new residents in the neighborhood and be a great benefit to the people already living here. Regular exercise is important for health, and we can help make the community healthier! Thank you.
- Chair:** Great, thank you for your suggestions. The Board will consider it. Next up is Mr. Alan McDowd. Please step up to the microphone.
- Alan:** Thank you, members of the Community Board. I own a shop on Main Street where we've recently experienced a wave of thefts and vandalism. Groups of shoplifters are stealing merchandise. They just run into a store, grab items in our front displays, and run out. And my shop window has been spray painted with graffiti twice this month. The police presence is almost nonexistent, and when we call, they are slow to respond. The Board should consider having a discussion with the local police precinct about whether they have adequate resources, and how those resources are being distributed. I know many of the other business owners downtown would like to see more of a police presence during the day to help deter some of these crimes. Thank you.
- Chair:** Thank you for this information, Mr. McDowd. We've received reports about the uptick in crime downtown, and we'll certainly be in discussion with the police department. Next up, Mrs. Janice Moyer.
- Janice:** Yes, hello. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Speaking of police presence, we need more of it on my block as well. I know the city has laws about noise after ten o'clock at night, but no one is enforcing them. I live on Baker Street, and there's a bar there that's been a nuisance. Every night at midnight, when it closes, patrons spill out onto the street. They're extremely loud and often loiter on the sidewalk, drinking and yelling. Last week a huge fight broke out. When I call the police, they disperse the crowds, but then the next night it's the same thing all over again. We need better solutions to this problem. Thank you.
- Chair:** Yes, thank you for raising this concern, Mrs. Moyer. The Community Board will take all these issues into consideration and provide an update at our next meeting. Thank you all for attending.

Unit 6 Review Test

Section 1: Listening

Can you imagine coming face-to-face with a bear standing as tall as a one-story house? A bear that huge doesn't exist anymore, but it did once. Giant mammals roamed the

earth alongside humans thousands of years ago. This included 90-kilogram beavers, a 6-meter-long sloth, a tiger with 20-centimeter-long teeth, and armadillos as big as a car with armored shells and spiked tails. Fossil evidence shows that, 11,000 years ago, the average mass of a non-human mammal was about 90 kilograms. Today, it's about 7 kilograms. It's not that mammals have shrunk, exactly. Starting about 100,000 years ago, and accelerating at about 12,000 years ago, those big animals simply died off.

Why did this happen? It's difficult to prove the cause of animal extinctions definitively, and multiple factors, including climate change, may have contributed. However, scientists have strong evidence that the most likely explanation is us. That is, early humans hunted these giant species to extinction. Today, we have many ways to get food, but none of those methods existed thousands of years ago. Humans obtained their food from hunting animals or gathering plants. They didn't live in one place, but rather moved around as nomads in search of food. Large animals provided the biggest meals in exchange for the least amount of effort, which made them attractive targets for hunters. As the largest mammals died off, humans moved on to hunt the next biggest animals until they also disappeared. According to researchers who have examined the fossil record, these size-based extinctions coincided with the movement of humans. As humans migrated to new places, starting in Africa and then up through Europe, Asia, and over time to the Western Hemisphere, big animals in those regions began to die out shortly thereafter. Clearly, humans had a massive negative impact on large mammal populations.

Around the time that the big mammals disappeared, humans began to develop agriculture. Some scientists have theorized that the extinctions of big animals forced humans to find more efficient and reliable ways to get food. At this time, humans stopped roaming and settled down to cultivate crops and to domesticate animals as pets, food, and sources of labor. Instead of roaming the countryside following game and collecting edible plants, humans began to grow their own food in nearby fields and raise livestock like goats, sheep, pigs, cattle, and chickens. Eventually, this change in lifestyle led to the agricultural revolution and the development of towns and cities.

Unit 7 Review Test

Section 1: Listening

Mike: Welcome to the show. I'm Mike Romero. I'm with veteran advertising executives Barbara Sullivan and Chris Stevens to talk about the effectiveness of ads. What works? What doesn't? Let's start with Barbara.

Barbara: Thanks, Mike. Well, if we look at the year's most memorable ad campaigns, they often relied on one technique: humor. And there's a reason for that—people are far more interested in being entertained than in hearing a sales pitch! Studies show that humorous advertising is much more effective in capturing the viewer's attention and in overcoming their resistance to listening to a sales message.

Mike: I believe that.

Barbara: The thing is, if an ad makes you laugh, you're more likely to remember it. And because it's appealing to your emotions, there's a greater likelihood that you'll be persuaded to buy the product.

- Mike:** Is there an ad that you find particularly compelling?
- Barbara:** My favorite is a laundry detergent commercial. It's set up as a horror movie parody, only the monsters are grape juice and coffee stains. The ad is so funny you forget you're being sold a product. And the sales message—that the detergent will remove any stain—is just prominent enough to have an impact without turning people off.
- Mike:** Chris, how about you? What's another technique that sells?
- Chris:** I hate to admit it, but snob appeal always does well. It's even used to sell luxury pet food! There's this long-running campaign with cats eating from fancy china saucers! The technique here is to showcase the product's exclusivity. These ads imply that the product is better than others, and the people—and er, cats—who use it are, too.
- Mike:** So, they're playing off people's need to feel superior to the ordinary person.
- Chris:** Exactly. Let's face it, some people have a strong desire to be admired. If a product's reputation helps them feel more intelligent, or that they belong to a higher social class, they'll be more inclined to buy it.
- Mike:** True. Now, what are some techniques that you feel miss the mark?
- Barbara:** To be honest, I don't think celebrity testimonials offer a good return on investment. You're paying huge fees to famous people to endorse your product, and frankly, I don't think they're effective.
- Chris:** I agree. There's this basketball player who endorses over fifty products. I mean, come on! Does anyone believe he uses all this stuff? Why should I trust an athlete to recommend dishwashing liquid? I'll bet he hasn't washed his own dishes in thirty years!
- Barbara:** Right. Another technique I dislike is when ads play on hidden fears. They imply you'll face some kind of danger if you don't use the product. You see this often because fear is a big motivator. Home security companies show thieves stealing people's valuables and deodorant brands show people facing rejection because they don't smell nice. Honestly, I think people tune these messages out. Who wants to engage with something that puts you in scary situations?
- Mike:** Interesting! I see that's all the time we have for today. Thanks to both of you for an interesting discussion.

Unit 8 Review Test

Section 1: Listening

Hello, I'm your host, Daniel Martin and this is *Immigrant Experience*. Each week I read a different letter submitted by a listener. Our family story today came to us all the way from New Zealand. Here's Matthew Williams's story:

My grandmother was born near Rotterdam in 1911. In the years after World War II, life was difficult in the Netherlands and there were few jobs. My dad had immigrated to New Zealand, where there was a shortage of workers. So, in 1954, at the age of 43, my grandmother joined him. She struggled to learn English and my dad says she always gave the impression of being a displaced person. But she carved out a new life in her

adopted country. She returned to the Netherlands only once and found that she felt out of place. She missed New Zealand's rugged mountains and sandy beaches.

My grandmother's name was Bente, which means "brave" in Dutch. Bravery was a quality that she personified in life. I admire the courage it must have taken to relocate 20,000 km to a new country where she didn't know the customs or language. Her first sight after stepping off the train was of a man on a horse riding down the main street. She imagined she'd been transported to a Wild West cowboy movie! There's a funny story she used to tell—when she first arrived, she noticed her neighbors went around barefoot, even outdoors. Wanting to fit in, she tried imitating them. After a week of this, her feet—soft from a lifetime of wearing shoes—were so sore she could barely walk!

My grandmother never learned to speak English fluently. She understood what was said well enough, but people struggled to understand her thick accent. My dad joked that people often assumed she was speaking Dutch! Culturally, she clung to her heritage. My dad said that wherever Bente went, the Netherlands came with her. Her Dutch manner of speaking—direct, straight to the point—sometimes offended shopkeepers and neighbors. Even as she adapted to a new lifestyle, she surrounded herself with traditions imported from the old country. She decorated her home with needlepoint pictures and hand-painted pottery brought from Rotterdam and her flower garden was filled with bright tulips.

My parents integrated into Kiwi society more quickly, becoming the "invisible immigrant" generation. They said that, growing up, holding on to Dutch customs was frowned upon. Many of their generation felt it their duty to assimilate, since they'd chosen to live in New Zealand. But they carried over some Dutch values—hard work and saving money. My parents bought a run-down farm and were so successful that they eventually bought out two neighboring properties. And they were devoted to family. My father never understood how a man could prefer to spend his evenings drinking in a pub instead of enjoying time at home.

My own generation placed more importance on tradition. My sister and I joined a Dutch cultural center, where we learned traditional songs and folk dances. I even studied Dutch at Auckland University. Like my parents, we're careful with money and value family ties. But I think my generation is less focused on work. Unlike earlier generations, we try to create a better work-life balance.

Unit 9 Review Test

Section 1: Listening

- A:** You know the singer, Jennifer Keyes? You've got to check out her prank video!
- B:** Oh, yeah? Is it good?
- A:** So they set up a hidden camera in a restaurant and had Jennifer Keyes working as a waitress to see who would recognize her. Nobody did! And get this: one customer actually said, "Has anyone ever told you that you look a little bit like Jennifer Keyes?" [laughs] When people had finished eating, Keyes handed out their checks while belting out that hit song of hers, "You Don't Know Me." When they announced her real identity, everyone was shocked! The dumbstruck looks on their faces were hilarious.

- B:** That's pretty funny. I love seeing the reactions of people getting pranked. I saw this one where there was a guy in his house with an earpiece. A woman was upstairs talking into a microphone and the guy had to do whatever she told him to do. They had a pizza delivered and the guy opened the door and started following her instructions. The woman had him squawking like a chicken and talking with these weird accents. The confused look on the pizza guy's face was priceless.
- A:** That's great. That reminds me of another good one. Have you seen the fake chair prank? They set up this metal frame under a man's clothing that supports his weight. It makes it look like he's sitting in an invisible chair, just floating in the air. Just like a magic trick! So many people stopped on the sidewalk and were completely confused how he did it. They'd wave their hands above his head looking for some kind of support wires!
- B:** Oh, yeah, I saw that one! The same group did another prank where they had a young girl playing piano in a public park. She was incredible! A bunch of people walking in the park stopped to watch her play, and then the pranksters started booing. People in the audience got so angry with them for being unkind. I actually thought they were going to get beaten up!
- A:** Wow! I saw a creepy one. A little girl left a doll on a table and asked strangers to watch it. The doll was facing away from the strangers, but as soon as the girl was gone, someone used remote control to make the doll's head spin around. The doll had this horrible, scary face! All the people watching the doll jumped up and screamed!
- B:** Some people are so gullible. I'd never fall for tricks like those.
- A:** I don't know. I think that doll prank would scare me.
- B:** Really? It seems pretty silly.
- A:** If you're just going about your day, you don't expect anything weird to happen. So your guard is down. I think anyone would be surprised.

Unit 10 Review Test

Section 1: Listening

- Marta:** Hey, Julia.
- Julia:** Hi, Marta. What are you reading?
- Marta:** It's this interesting article about personality types. It says everyone has a T personality type. It's a spectrum ranging from Big T to Little T.
- Julia:** Big T and Little T?
- Marta:** Yeah. Big T people like taking risks and trying new things. Little T people are risk-averse and avoid thrills. Where would you say you are?
- Julia:** Oh, I'm a Big T, definitely. I love a thrill.
- Marta:** Really? I didn't picture you as a thrill-seeker! What kind of dangerous stuff do you do?
- Julia:** Well, I love mountain climbing. I got my start climbing walls in a gym but give me a real mountain face to climb! I also love to go whitewater kayaking. Nothing beats a really great run down a wild river.

- Marta:** What drew you to adventure sports like that?
- Julia:** I come from an outdoorsy family. My parents took my brother and me on lots of vacations where we camped and hiked. It gave me a real appreciation for the outdoors. Our house was pretty deep in the woods, too.
- Marta:** That sounds nice.
- Julia:** It was. My brother and I used to dare each other to try risky stunts. Who could jump over the creek without landing in the water? Who could climb higher in the big tree? That kind of thing. We scared our parents half to death but had so much fun.
- Marta:** It sounds like you've been a risk-taker from an early age.
- Julia:** Absolutely. I was smaller than my brother and a little nimbler, so I usually won our tree climbing contests. Then I'd sit on a branch and look around the yard and feel so amazed by it all.
- Marta:** You weren't scared?
- Julia:** No, never. I loved it.
- Marta:** So, you think there's something to this T personality type idea.
- Julia:** I definitely agree that people have different tolerances for risk. I mean, I'm not reckless. If I go climbing, I always bring my safety equipment. I've got hooks and harnesses and I try to be as safe as possible. I wear a life jacket if I do anything in water.
- Marta:** Then you're not on the very end of the big T spectrum.
- Julia:** Right. But there's definitely an element of risk to what I do. I'm farther down the spectrum than, say, someone who's into riding rollercoasters. I like rollercoasters, too, but it's a very controlled kind of thrill, you know? There's a very small amount of risk. You're strapped in, the speed is closely regulated... It's not the same kind of thrill for me.
- Marta:** I've never liked rollercoasters. I like my feet to be planted firmly on the ground!
- Julia:** I guess you aren't a thrill seeker, then?
- Marta:** Nope, not at all. I'm terrified of heights. If I ever watch a scary movie, I have to sleep with the bedroom light on for a week. If the T personality is a spectrum, I'm definitely all the way on the side of little T!

Units 1-5 Review Test

Section 1: Listening Part A

- Host:** Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. It's with great pleasure that I introduce to you the two candidates in this year's city council race. They will each make a short statement outlining some of their accomplishments and their views on important issues that our city is facing. Our first candidate, Celia Johnson, was the city's Volunteer of the Year two years

ago. That's no surprise since she's been performing community service in our city for most of her life. She's a hardworking and energetic professional who is serious about making our community a safer and better place to live. At the same time, she's a realist; she knows we need to find new and creative ways to reach our long-term goals.

Celia: Good evening, everyone. My main concern is our city's budget, which has gotten way out of control. I'm troubled by the way our current representatives spend public money. We need to be much more careful about spending. Think about it—by next month, the government will have spent most of the year's budget already and we are only halfway through the year. This behavior is not only impractical, but it is also irresponsible. We shouldn't have spent thousands of dollars to replace the trees in city parks when there are so many other important issues that need to be addressed. To be honest, I'm not certain where some of that money has gone. I'm sure you want your next leaders to be trustworthy and careful about spending your money. I intend to focus on the immediate issues and use public money to help our city reach its long-term goals. I'm hopeful about improving our city's future. I hope you are too.

Units 1-5 Review Test

Section 1: Listening Part B

- A:** Ugh ... I wish I had never bought these!
- B:** What?
- A:** These shoes.
- B:** What's wrong with them? They are a little flashy, but I wouldn't say they're over the top. I think a lot of people wear shoes like these nowadays.
- A:** Oh, they're stylish, for sure. I really like how colorful they are. The style isn't the problem. I bought them for a wedding that I thought was going to be really formal.
- B:** Well, so what's the problem? Don't they go with your dress?
- A:** That's not it either. I have this great short-sleeved cocktail dress with a high neck for the reception.
- B:** So, I still don't see the problem. Your outfit sounds just right for the occasion.
- A:** Yes, but I just found out that it's not going to be a formal dinner. There will just be snacks, so we'll have to eat standing up. By the time it's over, I'll have been on my feet for at least four hours. With these heels, my feet are going to be killing me.
- B:** Uh, oh. I hate to say it, but I think you should return these and buy something more appropriate. And there will probably be dancing too. You'll want comfortable shoes for that!
- A:** Definitely. The bride has hired an amazing band...But I don't know.... She expects all her friends to look really fashionable. Maybe I'll just take my shoes off to dance.

Units 6-10 Review Test

Section 1: Listening Part A

Parents ... do you worry that your kids are getting spoiled? Are they acting up in school? Let's face it, no matter how strict you try to be, kids today are getting more and more rebellious and disrespectful with each passing day. And they don't like being told what to do. But there is something you can do about this: Send them to us at Miyazawa Karate Dojo for our special three-month intensive children's course. We'll train them in the skills and discipline of karate. Your kids will be able to work out their aggressive feelings in a safe, supervised environment. They'll learn and grow, not only physically, but emotionally and spiritually as well. They'll learn the importance of obedience, but also self-confidence and independence. (In fact, studies reveal that 70% of teens participating in karate programs report an increase in self-esteem.) In addition, the longer and more deeply they study this ancient martial art, the more mature and responsible they'll become.

But there's another reason to check us out. What about you—the parent? Are you stuck in a sedentary job? Stressed out from the constant demands of your job? Maybe it's time for you to take a breather. If you've been thinking of setting aside some time for yourself and taking up a hobby, karate is a great option. Plus, it could give you and your kids something in common, something to talk about around the dinner table. Who knows? Maybe it'll bring your family closer together. Come and visit us today at Miyazawa Karate Dojo.

Units 6-10 Review Test

Section 1: Listening Part B

- A:** I've got to do something about my spending. I'm turning into a shopaholic.
- B:** That sounds pretty serious. Are you sure what you're doing is not just an occasional splurge?
- A:** Maybe, but I think it's more than that. I really went overboard last month with all the sales. There were so many bargains. But I just got my credit card bill, and it's pretty scary.
- B:** How bad is it?
- A:** Every month, I'm just going to get deeper and deeper in debt. I've got to get this under control.
- B:** That's rough. Have you ever tried being a little stricter with yourself, like making a budget and sticking to it?
- A:** That doesn't work for me. It's not like I enjoy the shopping all that much, but once I get the urge, I don't seem to be able to resist. I start out just window shopping, and the next thing you know, I'm being pulled into the store by some special offer. I just can't pass up a bargain.
- B:** Hmm ... Try this: Cut up your credit cards. When you go out, just take a little bit of cash. The less you have with you, the less you can spend.
- A:** OK, I'll try it. It might work. But it's pretty hard to kick the shopping habit.

- B:** Tell you what, the next time you feel the urge, just call me. I'll come with you and help you stick to browsing.
- A:** Really? Thanks, that's so nice of you.
- B:** No problem. That's what friends are for. I'll be on call—24/7!

Units 1-10 End of Course Test

Section 1: Listening Part A

To all of you listeners out there, I want to introduce you to our exciting new project, We_R_U. We not only plan to bring you all the greatest fashions, from classic to trendy, as well as the latest hits in popular music, but so much more than that. When you buy one of our products, you'll own a great product and you'll also be helping make the world a better place for all of its inhabitants. What you'll really love is that ten percent of all of the profits from We_R_U products will go to conservation organizations and global charities in the developing world.

By this time next year, we hope to have donated over a million dollars to charities that work with victims of war and natural disasters, and organizations that are working to protect the environment, especially the ecosystems of endangered species. We know that you're all concerned about these issues, and all of us here at We_R_U want to be part of the global solution. In our fashion division, we've been working with world-famous designer Yvette delaCouer. She'll be designing a casual clothing line, including sweaters, T-shirts in stripes and interesting prints, and jeans, as well as a line of party and work clothes, which will include cocktail dresses, suits, and tuxedos. None of the clothes will be too bright or colorful; they're meant for everyday wear. On the music side, we've been working with rock superstar Royal Earl. As you know, he's amazing to work with. He's able to think up new and interesting ideas, and he's extremely dedicated to music. We're all looking forward to his new album, which is being released next week.

This is going to be a great year for fans of fashion and music as well as for philanthropy. We_R_U products let you shop as much as you want without feeling guilty. You'll know that everything you buy is helping you to do good in the world. The more you buy, the more good you'll do. That T-shirt you're wearing? It might have helped preserve an elephant's habitat. And that song you're listening to? It could have helped feed hungry children. So go shopping and feel good too!

Units 1-10 End of Course Test

Section 1: Listening Part B

- Lynn:** Hi Kate, did you see those We_R_U dresses in the window?
- Kate:** I sure did, Lynn. I really like them—stylish but elegant. I heard a famous designer named Yvette delaCouer designed them. Did you buy anything, or were you just looking around?
- Lynn:** Actually, I've been trying to stick to a strict budget. I've been buying too much on credit and then paying a lot of interest. My goal is to have paid off my credit card debt in a couple of months. The only time I'll purchase something is if I really need it and I know that the same item isn't cheaper online or in other stores.

- Kate:** That sounds like a good plan. I know how hard it is to resist buying things that you want. I sometimes buy things on impulse and then I wish that I hadn't.
- Lynn:** What about you? Are you going to buy anything from the We_R_U boutique? They certainly have been attracting a lot of attention lately.
- Kate:** Yeah, actually I was wondering about that. They've gotten a lot of publicity because of the ten percent donation they make to charity. But...
- Lynn:** But what, Kate?
- Kate:** Well, I guess I'm a bit skeptical. I listened to their advertisements and I just wonder if they're exaggerating a little.
- Lynn:** In what way? Ten percent will probably add up to a lot of money. That's why I would buy their products.
- Kate:** Clearly, that's what they want consumers to think, but I'm not so sure. It's ten percent of their profits, not ten percent of the price.
- Lynn:** Oh, I see. I hadn't thought of that. Those will add up to very different amounts.
- Kate:** Apples and oranges, I'd say. How much will the donations really help these organizations? It all seems questionable to me.
- Lynn:** I'm glad we had this discussion. Now I don't feel so bad that I haven't bought any We_R_U products!