



DILARA ISMAILOVA

EVERYDAY DIALOGUES

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INTRODUCTION

This book is designed for a student of English as a foreign or second language to use colloquial English speech. It is for elementary and pre intermediate learners at a Language University who need to improve their speaking and understanding of English through dialogues for everyday use.

The book is divided into two parts: "Everyday Dialogues" and "More Everyday Dialogues".

Students are free to use this book with or without a teacher, through obviously it is useful to have a group student, at least the help of a friend to converse with, and learn the dialogues by heart.

The dialogues are situation based and present spoken English that will help students of English as a foreign language gain practice in hearing and understanding the stream of speech.

There is no established order of difficulty in the arrangement of the dialogues within the text and teachers are encouraged to use them as needed to supplement the more normal type of a classroom learning activities.

To compile this book the author got great help from the use of a great number of textbooks and manuals on practical and conversational English published in Great Britain and US.



EVERYDAY DIALOGUES

CONVERSATION

Formal greetings and farewells

Paul: Hello. How are you?

Don: Fine, thank you. How are you?

Paul: Fine, thanks. (bus sound-effect). Oh, excuse me—here's my bus.

Good-bye.

Don: Good-bye.

CONVERSATION

Informal greetings and farewells

Dick: Hi! How are you?

Helen: Fine, thanks—and you?

Dick: Just fine. Where are you going?

Helen: To the library.

Dick: O.K. I'll see you later. So long.

Helen: So long.

CONVERSATION

Formal introductions

Margaret: Mr. Wilson, I'd like you to meet Dr. Edward Smith.

Mr. Wilson: How do you do, Dr. Smith.

Dr. Smith: How do you do.

Margaret: Dr. Smith is an economist. He's just finished writing a book on international trade.

Mr. Wilson: Oh? That's my field, too. I work for the United Nations.

Dr. Smith: In the Development Program, by any chance?

Mr. Wilson: Yes. How did you guess?

Dr. Smith: I've read your articles on technical assistance. They're excellent.

CONVERSATION

Informal introductions

(Sound of background conversation)

Jim: Who's the tall girl next to Barbara?

Charles: That's Mary Anderson. Didn't you meet her at Steve's party?

Jim: No, I wasn't at Steve's party.

Charles: Oh! Then let me introduce you to her now... Mary, this is my cousin Jim.

Mary: Hi, Jim. I'm glad to meet you.

Jim: I'm glad to meet you. Can't we sit down somewhere and talk?

Mary: Sure, let's sit over there.

CONVERSATION



Time

Margaret: What time is it?
Tom: It's a quarter to five.
Margaret: Aren't we supposed to be at Jim's house by five o'clock?
Tom: Five or five-thirty. He said it didn't make any difference.
Margaret: Then maybe we could pick your suit up at the cleaners.
Tom: Sure, we have plenty of time.

CONVERSATION

Telephone call

(Phone rings)

Barbara: Hello.
Fred: Hello. May I speak to Alice Weaver, please?
Barbara: Just a minute... Alice, it's for you.
Alice: Hello.
Fred: Hi, Alice. This is Fred. Would you like to go to a movie tonight?
Alice: Thank's, I'd love to. I haven't been to a movie for a long time.
Fred: Good. I'll pick you up around seven-thirty, then. The movie starts at eight.
Alice: Fine, I'll be ready.
(Phone clicks down)

CONVERSATION

Happiness

Linda: You look happy today!
Frank: I am happy. I just heard I passed my physics exam.
Linda: Congratulations! I'm glad somebody's happy.
Frank: Why? What's the matter?
Linda: Oh, I'm just worried, I guess. I have to take a history exam next week.

CONVERSATION

Ordering a meal

(Restaurant sounds)

Waiter: Are you ready to order now, sir?
Ralph: Yes. I'll have tomato soup, roast beef, mashed potatoes, and peas.
Waiter: That's tomato soup... roast beef... mashed potatoes... and peas.
How do you want the beef—rare, medium, or well done?
Ralph: Well done, please.
Waiter: Anything to drink?
Ralph: Hmm... just water. I'll have coffee with my dessert.

CONVERSATION

Birthdays

Patty: How old are you?
Susan: Nine... but I'll be ten on May sixteenth.
Patty: I'm older than you! I'll be ten on May fourteenth.
Susan: Are you going to have a birthday party?
Patty: Maybe. I'll have to ask my mother.

CONVERSATION

A crowded theater

(Theater murmur)

Bob: Excuse me, is this seat taken?
Larry: No, it isn't.
Bob: Would you mind moving over one, so my friend and I can sit together?
Larry: No, not at all.
Bob: Thanks a lot.

CONVERSATION

Mistakes

Bruce: Where did John go?
Laura: He went to the drugstore.
(Pause)
Bruce: To the bookstore?
Laura: No, I said he went to the drugstore.
Bruce: Oh, I misunderstood you. I thought you said bookstore.
Laura: How could you make a mistake like that? Weren't you paying attention?

CONVERSATION

Games

George: Say, Joe, do you play bridge?
Joe: No, I don't play any card games. But I know to play chess. How about you, George?
George: Well, I happen to be one of the best chess players around.
Joe: O.K. Let's play, then. We'll see who's the best!

CONVERSATION

Health

Jane: I hear you've been ill.
Cathy: Well, I had the flu for a couple of weeks, but I'm fine now.
Jane: You're looking well. By the way, did you hear about Mrs. Jaskson?
Cathy: No, What about her?
Jane: She had such a bad case of the flu that they had to take her to the



hospital.

Cathy: Oh, I'm sorry to hear that!

CONVERSATION

Sports

Phil: Say, what's your favourite sport?

Jack: Hmm... it's hard to say. I like golf a lot—but I guess I like tennis better.

Phil: Do you play much tennis?

Jack: Yes, quite a bit. How about a game sometime?

Phil: Sorry. I'm strictly a spectator—football, baseball, basketball, golf... I watch them all.

CONVERSATION

Asking directions

(Street noises)

Marilyn: Excuse me. Could you tell me which way Dobson's bookstore is?

Nancy: Yes, it's that way. You go two blocks, then turn left. It's on the corner opposite the post office.

Marilyn: Thanks. I've only been in town a few days, so I really don't know my way around yet.

Nancy: Oh, I know how you feel. We moved here a year ago, and I still don't know where everything is.

CONVERSATION

Coincidences

Allen: Haven't I seen you somewhere before?

Julia: No, I don't think so.

Allen: But your face is so familiar. Wait a second.... I know....
We were on the same flight to New York last month.

Julia: Oh, yes. Now I remember. What a coincidence to meet in San Francisco!

Allen: Well, you know what they say—it's a small world.

CONVERSATION

Safety

(Street noises)

Peter: There's the shoe store we've been looking for. It's just across the street.

Gail: Wait! You can't cross the street in the middle of the block!
You have to cross at the corner.

Peter: Oh, come on. Let's go across here.
(Sound of car screeching).

Gail: Look out! You nearly got hit by that car! Now do you see why you should cross at the corner?

Peter: I guess you're right. I'll be more careful after this.

CONVERSATION

Musical instruments

(Sound of piano playing)

Anne: Listen! Somebody's playing the piano.

Betty: Yeah, it sounds nice, doesn't it? I wish I could play a musical instrument.

Anne: Don't you play the violin?

Betty: No, but my sister does. Actually, she's pretty good at it.

Anne: I took flute lessons for a couple of years, but I never learned to play very well. I guess I don't have any musical talent.

Betty: Oh, that's not true. You sing very well. I can't even do that!

CONVERSATION

Taking a vacation

David: Did you say you're going to take a vacation next month?

Ruth: Yes, my family and I are going to New York for a week. We want to visit the museums and see some plays.

David: I envy you. I haven't had a vacation for a long time. I wish I could get away for a while.

Ruth: You can take a vacation sometimes soon, can't you?

David: No, there's too much work to do. Maybe next year, though.





CONVERSATION

Recipes

- Shirley: Would you like some cookies? I just made them.
 Louise: Thank you, Yes, I would.
 Shirley: These are chocolate, and those are almond-flavored.
 Louise: I guess I'll try a chocolate one first. Mmmm... this is delicious. Are they hard to make?
 Shirley: No, they're really quite easy. Wait a minute, I've got the recipe right here. See... these are the ingredients, and then you just follow the directions.
 Louise: That does look easy. I think I'll make some tonight.

CONVERSATION

Weather

(Wind noises)

- Karen: Brrrr! I'm cold. I thought it was supposed to get warmer today.
 Ed: Yeah, I thought so, too. That's what the weatherman said.
 Karen: It must be the wind that makes it so cold. I'm freezing!
 Ed: Me, too. Let's go inside.
 Karen: O.K. It's no fun standing out here, even if the sun is shining.

CONVERSATION

Having things done

- Steve: Excuse me. I wonder if you can help me.
 Mike: Sure. What is it?
 Steve: I want to have my hair cut, but I can't find a barber shop.
 Mike: I know where one is. Come on—I'll show you.

CONVERSATION

Mailing letters

- Dean: Do you mind if we stop by the post office? I have to mail these letters and I don't have any stamps.
 Carol: Oh, I have some. We don't need to go all the way to the post office.
 Dean: That would save time. Can you let me have two airmail stamps and one regular one?
 Carol: Here you are. Are you sure that's enough?
 Dean: Yes, that's fine. Now all we have to do is find a mailbox.

CONVERSATION

Animals

- Connie: That's a beautiful cat. I wonder who it belongs to.

- Gary: It belongs to the Browns. They live across the street from us. They have three cats, two dogs, and a canary.
 Connie: They certainly must like pets! But how do all those animals get along with each other?
 Gary: Don't ask me. Ask the Browns!

CONVERSATION

Shopping

- Saleslady: Can I help you?
 Gloria: Yes, I'm looking for a pair of white gloves. I think I wear size six.
 Saleslady: The white gloves are on this counter. Let's see... here's a size six. These are very nice, and they're washable, too.
 Gloria: Oh, I'll try them on. Hmmm... they seem to fit. How much are they?
 Saleslady: Five dollars.
 Gloria: All right. I'll take them.
 Saleslady: That'll be five-twenty with the tax.

CONVERSATION

Transportation

(Street noise)

- Joyce: Shall we take a taxi or a bus to the meeting?
 Bill: We'd better take a bus. It's almost impossible to find a taxi during rush hour.
 Joyce: Isn't that a bus stop over there?
 Bill: Yes... Oh, oh! There's a bus now. We'll have to run to catch it.
 Joyce: O.K... Oh, no! We just missed it.
 Bill: Never mind. There'll be another one in ten minutes.

CONVERSATION

Comparing

- Jean: I think this material is much prettier than that, don't you?
 Lois: Well, I don't know. I like them both. Why do you like that one better?
 Jean: Well, the design is more interesting and the colors are brighter. And it's not as expensive, either.
 Lois: Oh, I see what you mean. And besides, these colors are more becoming to you.
 Jean: Do you really think so? I'll buy it. then.

CONVERSATION

Pastimes



Roger: What do you do in your spare time?
Barry: Oh, nothing special. I read... watch TV... go to the movies.
Roger: Don't you have any hobbies, like stamp collecting or things like that?
Barry: No, I don't have any hobbies. How about you?
Roger: I have just one—photography. It's expensive, but it's a lot of fun.

CONVERSATION

Weddings

Bonnie: Guess what! Paul and Susan are engaged!
Janice: Really? When did that happen?
Bonnie: A week ago. They met last summer—and now, just think... they'll be married soon.
Janice: Have they set a date for the wedding?
Bonnie: No, not yet. But Susan says they'd like to get married in November or December. Then they'll go to Hawaii for their honeymoon.

CONVERSATION

Effort

Debbie: I give up! I simply can't learn French!
Helen: Why do you say that? I think you're making a lot of progress.
Debbie: No, I'm not. I try and try and I still can't speak it very well.
Helen: Learning any language takes a lot of effort. But don't give up. Why don't we practice those dialogs together?
Debbie: Good idea. That just might help.

CONVERSATION

Greetings

A. (Acquaintances)

Matt: Good morning.
Maxine: Good morning. How are you today?
Matt: Just fine, thakns. How are you?
Maxine: Wonderful. Things couldn't be better.

B. (Good Friends)

Dotty: Hi. What's up?
Vivian: Nothing much. What's new with you?
Dotty: Not too much. I've been pretty busy.
Vivian: Me too. Seems like all I do is eat and sleep.
Dotty: Gotta go. Call me tonight.
Vivian: Okay. Check you later.

C. (Family)

Mother: Good morning.
Son: Morning. What's for breakfast?
Mother: The usual. Eggs, toast, and cereal. Coffee, if you want.
Son: I think I'll just have cereal for a change.
Mother: Help yourself. The cereal and sugar are on the table. The milk's in the refrigerator.

CONVERSATION

Early in the morning

Gene: It's time to get up!
Ed: I just went to bed!
Gene: You shouldn't have stayed up so late watching TV. I told you we had to get an early start.
Ed: I know, but that movie was just too good to leave. I guess I'll just have to pay the price and be sleepy.
Gene: Do you want to eat breakfast here?
Ed: No. Why don't we just grab a bite at the coffee shop next door?
Gene: Okay by me.

CONVERSATION

Daily needs

Judith: This is the last of the milk.
Mother: I know. I intend to go to the store today.
Judith: Would you get some of that new cereal we saw advertised on TV?
Mother: Which one?
Judith: You know... the one with the silly ad about how vitamins jump up and down.
Mother: Oh, you mean "KIKIES"?
Judith: Yeah. That's the one.
Mother: Well, I'll see. Sometimes the stores don't have some of the new kinds of cereal.

CONVERSATION

Airport bus

Stan: What time does the bus leave for the airport?
Harry: I don't know. It used to leave every half hour, but I think the schedule's been changed.
Stan: Do you know the telephone number to call?
Harry: It's Enterprise 7-4700. At least that's what it used to be.
Stan: Yeah, I'll try it. (PAUSE) They don't seem to answer.
Harry: I expect that it's a little too early. I don't think they open until nine o'clock.



CONVERSATION

Making a date

Drew: What time are you leaving tomorrow?
Paul: You mean to go to the graduation ceremony?
Drew: Yes, I'd like to go with you if I may.
Paul: I'd be delighted to take you. I plan to leave here about nine-thirty.
Drew: Fine. I can be ready by then.
Paul: Okay. I'll pick you up at your house.
Drew: See you tomorrow, then, about nine-thirty.

CONVERSATION

Catching a bus

Steve: Is this where I catch the bus for the zoo?
Alan: You can take a T-30 from here, but then you have to walk about six blocks.
Steve: That doesn't sound too bad.
Alan: Actually, if you go to the bus stop in the next block, you can take a Z-8 which will let you right off in front of the zoo.
Steve: Maybe that's what I'll do. Thanks a lot.
Alan: You're welcome.

CONVERSATION

Ordering breakfast

Waitress: Would you like to order now?
Phil: Yes, I'd like bacon and eggs with buttered toast. No jelly.
Waitress: What would you like to drink?
Phil: Do you have hot chocolate?
Waitress: Yes, we do.
Phil: Then I'll have a cup of hot chocolate.
Waitress: How do you want your eggs?
Phil: Over easy, please.

CONVERSATION

Near accident

Quinn: How about that!
Kerwin: What? What happened?
Quinn: Did you see what that guy did?
Kerwin: No, I was looking the other way.
Quinn: He made a U-turn right in the middle of the block and almost hit a kid on a bicycle.
Kerwin: Drivers get crazier every day!
Quinn: Right. Nobody wants to drive by the rules anymore!

CONVERSATION

Arrival time

Pat: What time does Mother's plane get in?
Cliff: I'm not sure, but I think at 2:35. I'll call the airline to make sure.
Pat: Why don't you do that while I change my clothes?
Cliff: Do you think Dick or Brenda will want to go?
Pat: I don't know. I guess we could call them.
Cliff: I know Dick has to work, but maybe Brenda can go.
Pat: Okay. Call her first, then the airline. I'll go get ready.

CONVERSATION

After the game

Gloria: Did you watch the game last night?
Roy: I sure did. I wouldn't have missed it for anything!
Gloria: I think it was one of the best games I've ever seen.
Roy: Me too. I thought both teams played super ball. Too bad one had to lose.
Gloria: Yeah. I thought they were evenly matched. It could have gone either way!
Roy: That shot that won in the last fifteen seconds was really something.

CONVERSATION

Going for a walk

Roger: What did you say?
Claire: I said that it's a lovely day. Why don't we go for a walk?
Roger: Can you wait a few minutes? I have to finish this letter.
Claire: Don't take too long. It would be a shame not to take advantage of such lovely weather.
Roger: I won't be long. No more than ten minutes. Why don't you go on ahead and I'll meet you in the park.
Claire: Believe I will. Look for me near the rock garden.

CONVERSATION

What's for dinner

Mother: I wonder what we should have for dinner this evening?
Mona: Are you asking me?
Mother: Yes, I am. I really don't feel much like cooking, but the family must eat.
Mona: Well, you know me. I can always eat pizza—or spaghetti.
Mother: So I've noticed. You're putting on a little weight, aren't you?
Mona: I know. Don't remind me! I'm starting a new diet day after tomorrow.
Mother: It's about time!





CONVERSATION

Academy awards

- Janice: Did you see the Academy Awards program last night on TV?
Rob: I watched for awhile; then I had to go to bed.
Janice: You missed a good show. I didn't agree with the selection for best picture, though.
Rob: I guess I missed that part. What happened?
Janice: Oh, they chose some picture that was so avant-garde that no one understands it.
Rob: Well, I don't go to the movies very often. You know me. I prefer more active-type things.
Janice: Too bad. I really wanted to discuss it with someone.

CONVERSATION

At the hotel

- Clerk: Yes, sir. May I help you?
Tony: I have a reservation for tonight. Tony Davis.
Clerk: Just a moment, please, while I check. That is correct. You have a reservation for a three-room suite for tonight.
Tony: I'm afraid there's been a mistake. I only asked for a single room, not a suite.
Clerk: I'm sorry, Mr. Davis, but we have only the suite available. Your request arrived too late to reserve a single. There's a large convention in town this week and we're full up.
Tony: Well, if that's the way it is, I'll have to take it.
Clerk: Just sign the register here and I'll have your bags sent up later. It's suite 718.

CONVERSATION

After the movie

- Pamela: I really enjoyed that movie!
Scott: I did, too. At first I thought it was going to be a drag, but then it really got good.
Pamela: What part did you like the best?
Scott: Oh, I don't know. I guess the scene that grabbed me the most was the one in which the old man was dying.
Pamela: I liked that one, too. In fact, I cried.
Scott: To tell you the truth, I had a few tears in my eyes.
Pamela: Now what?
Scott: How about a coke and a hamburger?
Pamela: Super!

CONVERSATION

At the bank

- Teller: May I help you?
Nancy: I'd like to cash this check, please.
Teller: Do you have an account with us?
Nancy: Yeah. Here's my identification card.
Teller: Do you want large or small bills?
Nancy: Actually, I want to buy some traveler's checks.
Teller: What denomination?
Nancy: Twenties would be fine.
Teller: Do you want the whole amount in traveler's checks?
Nancy: Yes, please.

CONVERSATION

Discussing a news story

- Helen: Did you hear about that guy who was struck by lightning?
Mavis: You mean that man up in Maine?
Helen: That's the one; the blind guy who could see again.
Mavis: I read about him in the paper this week. He'd been blind for about eight or nine years.
Helen: Uh-huh. Wasn't he also able to hear again after the lightning hit him?
Mavis: Right. He didn't have to wear a hearing aid anymore.
Helen: I think it was a miracle!
Mavis: Me too!

CONVERSATION

Talking it over

- Jeff: Can't we go someplace and talk? It's so crowded in here.
Sonia: Well, there's a little park down the street about three blocks. It's usually not crowded this time of day.
Jeff: Let' go. I need to get some fresh air anyway.
Sonia: Just what is it you want to talk about?
Jeff: You remember that note you sent me last month?
Sonia: Which one? The one about the trip out west?
Jeff: Yeah. That's the one. Listen. I've got a terrific idea about the whole project and we need to discuss it.
Sonia: Wonderful! I'd like to hear some of your ideas.

CONVERSATION

Weekend plans

- Al: Hi. I'm glad I ran into you.
Bob: Why? What's up?



Al: How'd you like to go on a hike this weekend?
Bob: All weekend?
Al: Well, just Saturday and Sunday.
Bob: I'm not sure I can be gone all weekend. I promised to help my sister move Saturday.
Al: How about Sunday, then? We could start early in the morning.
Bob: I might be able to do that. Tell you what. Let me check and I'll call you at home tonight.
Al: Great! I'll talk to you later.
Bob: So long.

CONVERSATION

Dinner invitation

Laura: Don't forget. We're invited out to dinner tonight.
Ted: Oh. I almost forgot. Thanks for reminding me. What time?
Laura: Seven-thirty. We should leave the house by six-thirty. You know how bad the traffic is that time of night.
Ted: Uh-huh. It's informal, isn't it?
Laura: Yeah. You can wear your new sports jacket.
Ted: Okay. I'll try to get home a little early.
Laura: Good. Bye-bye.

CONVERSATION

Car insurance

Dick: I need to get car insurance. Ya got any ideas?
George: Well, you could try my company. It seems to have fair rates.
Dick: Do they insure older cars?
George: As far as I know, they insure all kinds of vehicles.
Dick: How long have you had a policy with them?
George: Oh, I don't know. Maybe five years.
Dick: And you say their rates are low?
George: Not low, reasonable. I've always gotten good service from them. Let me give you their phone number and you can call them.

CONVERSATION

Parents night out

Joe: Can you get a baby-sitter for tonight?
Susan: I don't know. Why?
Joe: Well, I thought we could go out for dinner and then go to a movie afterward.
Susan: I can call Debbie and see if she's available. She usually doesn't like to sit during the week, but she might make an exception.
Joe: Well, do that, and then call me at the office if you have any luck.

Susan: Okay, but don't get your hopes too high. It's hard to find a good baby-sitter these days.

CONVERSATION

Discussing the economy

Gordon: The economic news doesn't look good, does it?
Hobart: Not according to the newspaper yesterday. I saw a similar report last night on TV.
Gordon: I saw that, too. The analysis seemed to be quite realistic.
Hobart: I hope they're wrong. We really need to get the rising price structure under control.
Gordon: Well, costs seem to be rising in so many categories that it appears to defeat any efforts at stabilization.
Hobart: That's my feeling, too. Raw material now costs more. Labor is demanding higher wages and production costs continue to soar.
Gordon: There may be some relief this summer. I understand the price of some foodstuffs will decrease.

CONVERSATION

Dental appointment

(By phone)

Dental Assistant: Dr. Katuna's office. May I help you?
Karen: Yes. I'd like to make an appointment for a dental checkup.
Dental Assistant: Are you one of the doctor's regular patients?
Karen: No, I'm not. I recently moved to this area and a friend of mine recommended Dr. Katuna.
Dental Assistant: I see. Dr. Katuna can see you next Thursday. Do you prefer morning or afternoon?
Karen: Morning is best for me.
Dental Assistant: Would 10:30 be all right?
Karen: That would be fine.
Dental Assistant: Good. We'll expect you then at 10:30 on Thursday.
Karen: Thank you very much.

CONVERSATION

Making plans

Alice: When shall we meet?
Sofia: You mean to talk about the party?
Alice: Right. We really need to plan better this time. Remember what a mess it was at the last party?
Sofia: I sure do. I hope we'll do much more planning this time.
Alice: Well, that's why we're going to meet tomorrow at my house. How





does 7:30 sound to you?

Sofia: Fine by me. I'll call Jan and Judy. We'll see you tomorrow.

CONVERSATION

Neighborhood problem

Wife: We've got to do something about the neighbor's dog!

Husband: Why? Has he been into your flower garden again?

Wife: The flower garden, the garbage can, and yesterday he started digging holes in the yard!

Husband: Did you talk to Mrs. Gorham about it?

Wife: You know how she is. All sweetness and light to your face but then she never does anything. They should either keep that animal in the house or tied up!

Husband: I'll talk to Hank about it tonight. He usually listens.

Wife: We need more than listening, dear. We need action!

CONVERSATION

Car theft

Byron: Did you hear about what happened to Howard?

Vance: No, what?

Byron: Someone stole his car!

Vance: Really? When did it happen?

Byron: Last night. He left it parked in front of his girl friend's house and when he came out to go home, it was gone.

Vance: Wow! That's really tough. He just bought it last month, didn't he?

Byron: Uh-huh. Fortunately, he's got insurance and the police think they already have a good lead.

Vance: Well, I certainly wish him luck.

CONVERSATION

Getting ready

Bill: We don't have much time!

Jerry: I'm hurrying as fast as I can!

Bill: Well, try to hurry a little bit more, will you? I don't want to be late.

Jerry: Oh, we won't be late. You know how these affairs are. They never start on time.

Bill: Maybe so. But always like to get there on time.

Jerry: Oh, you're such a fuddy-duddy. Don't worry. I'll get you there with time to spare.

Bill: Is that a promise?

Jerry: It's a promise. Now leave me alone while I finish getting ready.

CONVERSATION

Making a purchase

Joan: How much is this?

Clerk: You mean the large one or the small one?

Joan: The large one.

Clerk: They're on special this week. They've been reduced to five dollars.

Joan: Is this the only kind you have?

Clerk: No. We have some that are different in style but not in color. They're over there. Do you see the sign?

Joan: Oh, yes. I think I'll look at those over there before I decide.

Clerk: Very well. Just take your time.

CONVERSATION

Mail time

Barbara: The mail has arrived.

Norma: Did I get anything?

Barbara: I think so. Let me look. You got something from the bank and an advertisement from a health spa.

Norma: Give me the letter from the bank. It might be important.

Barbara: Here. Maybe you've overdrawn your account.

Norma: No danger of that. I don't have any money to overdraw. I hope it's an offer of that job I applied for.

CONVERSATION

Bedtime

Angela: Did you lock the doors?

Frank: All except the back door. I left that open for Tim. He took the dog for a walk.

Angela: Well, I'm going on to bed. I'm bushed.

Frank: Okay. I'm going to stay up a while. I've got to go over the household budget. We're a little overspent this month.

Angela: Please tell Tim to close the door to the basement. I don't want the dog down there tonight.

Frank: Okay. Good night. See you at breakfast.

CONVERSATION

Getting something fixed

Lee: How long do you think it'll take to fix it?

Repairman: Hard to tell. Sometimes we can find the problem right away and sometimes it may take an hour or two.

Lee: Should I wait or come back later?

Repairman: Suit yourself, but it's probably better to come back later.

Lee: You will get it fixed today, won't you?

Repairman: I don't see any problem. We should have it ready for you by





three at the latest. But, better call before you come.
Okay. Thanks a lot.

Lee:



CONVERSATION

Family plans

Wife: The gas company phoned this afternoon.
Husband: About the gas stove that we ordered?
Wife: Yes, and also about the gas furnace you asked about.
Husband: What did they say?
Wife: They're going to send someone out to talk with us about the furnace.
Husband: Good. I think we're doing the right thing. The old furnace just isn't very efficient anymore.
Wife: I agree. We should be able to afford a new furnace now that you got that raise in salary.
Husband: Exactly my thoughts.

CONVERSATION

Planning a business trip

Dave: When shall I say that you will arrive?
Don: Tell them that I plan to be there by tomorrow afternoon.
Dave: Shall I have them make a hotel reservation for you?
Don: No need. I made one last week by telephone.
Dave: Do you plan to stay longer than three days?
Don: I don't think so. I can take care of all the necessary business in three days.
Dave: Well, have a good trip.
Don: Thank you.

CONVERSATION

A short discussion

Rosalie: Don't forget, Jim and Adrian are coming over tonight.
Tracy: I thought they were coming next week.
Rosalie: No. Tonight's the night. I told you at least a half a dozen times!
Tracy: Well, I forgot.
Rosalie: You forget all too easily if you ask me.
Tracy: Anyway, I've made other plans.
Rosalie: Like what?
Tracy: I told Frank I'd help him work on his car.
Rosalie: Then you'll just have to tell him you can't come!



CONVERSATION

Family squabble

Brother: Come on! It's time to go!
 Sister: Wait a minute! Just hold your horses! What's your hurry, anyway?
 Brother: Well, I've got to stop and get gas in the car, first.
 Sister: That won't take long.
 Brother: Well, it won't if there's no line at the pump.
 Sister: Well, I'm not quite ready.
 Brother: I'll give you five more minutes, then I'm going on without you!
 Sister: You wouldn't do a thing like that!
 Brother: Oh, yes I would!

CONVERSATION

The hotel

Jane: Good evening, Sir. What's your name, please?
 Sam: My name's Smth. Mr. Smith.
 Jane: Thank you Mr. Smith.
 Sam: What's your name?
 Jane: Jane. My name's Jane.
 Sam: Yes, Jane. My name's Sam.
 Jane: Thank you — Mr. Smith.

CONVERSATION

A party

Mary: Good evening.
 Francis: Excuse me. Are you Mary Brown?
 Mary: Yes, I'm Mary Brown. Are you Sam Smith?
 Francis: No. I'm not. I'm not Sam Smith. I'm Francis Matthews.
 Mary: Oh, sorry, Francis. Come in.
 Sam: Hello. I'm Sam Smith.
 Mary: Hello, Sam. Come in.

CONVERSATION

The telephone

Jane: 604 1528. Hello?
 Man: Is that 604 1529?
 Jane: No. This is 604 1528.
 Man: Sorry. Wrong number. Goodbye.
 Jane: 604 1528. Hello?
 Francis: Is that Jane?

Jane: Yes. Who's that?
 Francis: It's Francis.

CONVERSATION

Introductions

Francis: Hello, Jane. How are you?
 Jane: Hello, I'm fine, thanks, Francis.
 Francis: Jane, this is Bill.
 Jane: Hello, Bill.
 Bill: Hello, Jane.

Mr. Robinson: How do you do? I'm George Robinson.
 Francis: How do you do, Mr. Robinson? I'm Francis Matthews.
 Mr. Robinson: And this is my wife.
 Francis: How do you do, Mrs. Robinson?
 Mr. Robinson: How do you do?

CONVERSATION

Francis: Who's that?
 Sam: That's Barbara.
 Francis: Is she your sister?
 Sam: No. No, she isn't my sister.
 Francis: She's your girlfriend!
 Sam: No.

CONVERSATION

Name, address, telephone number

Father: Your boyfriend. What's his name?
 Kathy: Francis Matthews.
 Father: What's his address?
 Kathy: 7, London Road. London S.W. 18.
 Father: What's his telephone number?
 Kathy: 314 8411.
 Father: And his name? How do you spell it?
 Kathy: F-R-A-N-C-I-S M-A-T-T-H-E-W-S.
 Father: Hello? Is that Francis Matthews?...

CONVERSATION

Porter: Can I help you? Sir? Madam?
 Mr. Williams: Yes. Mr. Williams.
 Mrs. Williams: And Mrs. Williams.
 Porter: Just a moment, please. Yes, of course. Room 8. Can I take your luggage?





Mr. Williams: Yes, please.

CONVERSATION

Porter: Can I take your luggage, Sir?
 Mr. Williams: Yes, please. Will you take that?
 Porter: Yes, Sir. Shall I take this?
 Mr. Williams: No. Don't take that, please.
 Porter: Yes, Sir. Would you follow me, please?

CONVERSATION

Woman: Can you help me, please?
 Policeman: Yes, of course.
 Woman: Where's the park?
 Policeman: The park? It's over there. On the left.
 Woman: Thank you very much.

CONVERSATION

Man: Good morning.
 Policeman: Good morning, Sir. Can I help you?
 Man: Yes, please. Where's the nearest post office?
 Policeman: Look at this map. There's a post office in North Street. And there's one in West Street, and one in Market Street, and ...
 Man: Where's the nearest one?
 Policeman: Yes. The nearest post office is in Market Street. Look at this map.

CONVERSATION

Wife: Excuse me. Can you help me? Where's the Grand Hotel, please?
 Man: The Grand Hotel? I'm sorry, I don't know.
 Husband: Excuse me. Where's the Grand Hotel, please?
 Woman: It's near here. It's in North Street. No, it isn't. It isn't in North Street. I think it's in Market Street.
 Wife: Thank you very much.
 Policeman: Can I help you?
 Husband: Yes. Where's the Grand Hotel?
 Policeman: It's near here. It's in Market Street.

CONVERSATION

Receptionist: Grand Hotel. Good morning. Can I help you?
 John: Yes. Is Mr. Jones there, please?
 Receptionist: Mr. Jones? No, he isn't here. I think he's at London Airport.
 Receptionist: Good morning.



Sam: Good morning. Can you help me? Is Miss Brown here – at the hotel?

Receptionist: Miss Brown? Yes, she's here. Room 301.

CONVERSATION

Visitor: Is Miss Brown in, please?
 Receptionist: I don't know, madam. Just a moment, please. I'm sorry. She isn't in her room.
 Visitor: Thank you.

Visitor: Is Mr. Black in the hotel?

Receptionist: No. He's not in his room.

Visitor: Where is he?

Receptionist: I don't know. Oh, yes, he's gone to the cinema. Yes, he's at the cinema.

CONVERSATION

Francis: Bob, where are you?
 Bob: London.
 Francis: Where in London.
 Bob: I'm in South Street. Then at Victoria Station.
 Francis: Yes.
 Bob: Then, at the Tower of London, then at Buckingham Palace, then at London Airport.
 Francis: Then where?
 Bob: Home!

CONVERSATION

Francis: Can you help me?
 Policeman: Yes, Sir.
 Francis: What's the time?
 Policeman: It's ten o'clock.
 Francis: Ten o'clock?
 Policeman: Yes, it's ten o'clock.

CONVERSATION

At the station

Man: When do the trains leave for London, please?
 Porter: Trains for London, Sir? They leave at ten minutes past every hour, and twenty minutes to every hour.
 Man: Ten past and twenty to.
 Girl: And when do they arrive in London?
 Porter: They arrive in London at five minutes to every hour and twenty-



five minutes past every hour. This train will leave at ten ten and it'll arrive in London at ten fifty-five.

Man: ... arrive in London at ten fifty-five. Thank you.

Porter: And the next train will leave at ten forty.

CONVERSATION

Customs officer: Is this your suitcase?

Tourist: Yes, it is.

Customs officer: And is this your suitcase?

Tourist: Yes, it is.

Customs officer: Would you open this one, please?

Tourist: Yes.

Customs officer: Excuse me. What's this?

Tourist: It's a bottle. A bottle of wine.

Customs officer: And this? What's this?

Tourist: It's soap.

Customs officer: And these? What are these?

Tourist: They're cigarettes.

CONVERSATION

The London quiz

Quizmaster: Hello, and welcome to the London Quiz. Yes, a quiz about London. Here are six questions about London and this is question one. Question one. What's this?

1st and 2nd members: It's the Tower of London.

Quizmaster:

Yes, and question two is 'How old is the Tower of London?' Is it 500 years old? Is it 700 years old or is it 900 years old?

1st member: 900.

Quizmaster: Yes. Yes, the Tower of London is 900 years old. Right. Question three. What's this?

3rd member: The River Thames.

Quizmaster: Yes. Here's question four. How long is the River Thames? Is it 238 kilometres long? Is it 338 kilometres long? Or is it 438 kilometres long?

1st member: I don't know.

2nd member: I think it's 338 kilometres long.

Quizmaster: Yes. It is. Here's question five. What's this?

1st member: Is that Buckingham Palace?

Quizmaster: No, it isn't.

2nd member: Is it Big Ben?

Quizmaster: Yes, it is. And question six is 'How high is Big Ben?' Is it 78 metres high? Is it 88 metres high? Or is it 98 metres high?

3rd member: 88?

Quizmaster: No. It isn't 88 metres high.

2nd member: 98?

Quizmaster: Yes, well done! Big Ben is 98 metres high.

CONVERSATION

Man: Come in. Welcome to our new house.

Woman: What do you think of it?

Mother: I think it's very nice. I like the chairs.

Father: I don't. I don't like small chairs.

Woman: What do you think of that table?

Mother: I like it. It's a nice table.

Father: I'm sorry. I don't like it. I don't like small tables.

Man: Coffee or tea? Which do you prefer?

Father: I don't like tea.

Mother: We prefer coffee.

CONVERSATION

Woman: Shall we go to the cinema? Look! Marilyn Monroe!

Father: Marilyn Monroe! Ah!

Mother: It's an old film.

Father: But it's a very good film.

Woman: It's not bad, mother.

Man: Yes, Marilyn Monroe is very good.

Mother: No. I don't like old films. And I don't like Marilyn Monroe.

Father: Shall we watch TV?

CONVERSATION

In a restaurant

Waiter: Good evening, Sir, Madam.

Man: Good evening. Have you got a table for two?

Waiter: A table for two? Of course, Sir. This way, please.

Man: Waiter!

Waiter: Yes, Sir?

Man: One fish, one steak, two salads.

Waiter: One fish, one steak, two salads. One fish, one ste ...

Woman: Have you got any German wine?

Waiter: German wine? No, I'm sorry, Madam. We haven't got any German wine. We've got some Italian wine.

Woman: Oh, yes. I like Italian wine. Do you?

Man: Yes, I do. So—a bottle of wine, Italian wine. One fish, one steak, two salads.





CONVERSATION

In a restaurant

Waiter: Excuse me, Sir. Have you got a pen?
 Man: Yes, here you are.
 Waiter: A bottle of Italian wine, one fish, one steak, two salads. Thank you, Sir.
 Man: Waiter!
 Waiter: Sir?
 Man: You've got my pen.
 Waiter: Oh, sorry, Sir, Yes.

CONVERSATION

Dirrections

Waiter: Good morning, Sir. Can I help you?
 Man: Yes. Is there a garage near here?
 Waiter: Yes. There's a garage in North Street. Straight ahead. On the left.
 Man: Thank you.

Waiter: Good evening, Sir, Madam. A tble for two?
 Woman: No, tank you. Can you help us? Are there any hotels near here?
 Waiter: Yes. There are some hotels in this street. The nearest hotel is next to the bank.
 Woman: Thank you.

CONVERSATION

The london quiz

Quizmaster: Hello. Ans welcome to 'What are they doing?'
 Members: Hello.
 Quizmaster: New. Listen. There's a girl. What's she doing?
 1st member: I don't know.
 Quizmaster: Whell, where is she?
 2nd member: She's in the bathroom?
 Quizmaster: Yes, she is. But what is she doing?
 2nd member: She's having a shower.
 Quizmaster: No, she isn't. She isn't having a shower.
 3rd member: She's having a bath.
 Quizmaster: Yes. That's right. She's having a bath.

CONVERSATION

On holiday

Brian: Hello. Can I sit here?
 Jane: Yes. Please do.

Brian: Do you like Brighton?
 Jane: I don't think it's very nice. And my father doesn't like it. But my mother likes it. We always come here.
 Brian: Always?
 Jane: Yes. We come here every year.

CONVERSATION

On the telephone

Jane: Brian. Hello.
 Brian: Hello. What are you doing this evening?
 Jane: I'm staying at home this evening. What are you doing?
 Brian: I'm going to the cinema. At 8 o'clock.
 Jane: Oh! Can I come?
 Brian: Yes, of course.

CONVERSATION

An appointment

Mrs. Black: Good morning. I want to see Mr. Matthews, please.
 Secretary: Can I have your name, please?
 Mrs. Black: Black. My name's Black.
 Secretary: Mrs. Black or Miss Black?
 Mrs. Black: Mrs. Black.
 Secretary: Mrs. Black to see you, Mr. Matthews.
 Francis: Good morning, Mr. Black.
 Mrs. Black: No, Black. My name's Black. B-L-A-C-K.
 Francis: Oh, I'm sorry. Come into my office, Mrs. Black. Now, what can I do for you?
 Secretary: Good morning, Sir. What can I do for you?
 Jim Brown: Good morning. I want to see Mr. Matthews, please.
 Secretary: I'm sorry, Sir. I'm afraid you can't see him now. He's with Mrs. Black.

CONVERSATION

A telephone appointment

Receptionist: 602 7345. Good afternoon.
 Francis: Good afternoon. Can I speak to Mr. Brown, please?
 Receptionist: Certainly, Sir. Just a moment, please. Mr. Brown, there's a call for you.
 Francis: Mr. Brown? Is that Mr. Jim Brown?
 Jim: Yes, this is Jim Brown, speaking. Who's that? Who's calling?
 Francis: It's Francis Matthews here.
 Jim: Hello, Francis. How are you?



Francis: I'm very well, thank you. And you?
Jim: Fine, thanks. Can I come and see you this afternoon or this evening?
Francis: Well, shall I come and see you?
Jim: Yes, all right. Come to my hotel this evening.
Francis: Where are you staying?
Jim: At the Grand Hotel. It's in Green Street. I'm in Room 432.
Francis: Room 432. Fine. Shall I come at six o'clock?
Jim: All right. I'll see you at six. Goodbye.
Francis: Goodbye.

CONVERSATION

Apology

Woman: Yes, who are you?
Francis: My name's Francis. Matthews. Is Jim Brown there?
Woman: No, he isn't. This is my room and my name's Joan Robinson.
Francis: But this is Room 432, isn't it?
Woman: No, it isn't. This is room 482.
Francis: Oh, I'm sorry.
Woman: It doesn't matter.

Jim: Come in Francis. Excuse me.
(On the telephone) Room 432. Jim Brown speaking. Yes, he's here.
It's a call for you, Francis.

CONVERSATION

Who is he?

Manager: Who's that man over there?
Receptionist: Which man?
Manager: The man in the brown suit.
Receptionist: The thin one? The tall, thin man?
Manager: No. Not the tall, thin man. That's not him. That's Mr. Jones.
Look. He's wearing a brown suit and a hat. And he's carrying a parcel. Who is he?
Receptionist: The man with the parcel? I don't know.

CONVERSATION

Man: My name's Turner. I'm looking for a friend. Her name's Kay.
Manager: Is Kay her first name or her surname?
Man: It's her surname. Her full name is Jean Kay. Mrs. Kay.
Receptionist: Mrs. Kay isn't in her room, Sir. Perhaps she's in the bar.
Man: I don't think so. She never goes into bars.

Manager: Is she waiting for you?
Man: I don't know, but I think so.
Manager: What does she look alike?
Man: She's got dark hair and she's quite tall. About five foot seven.

CONVERSATION

Manager: Is that your friend? Over there?
Man: No. That isn't her. Jean's got longer hair.
Manager: And her skirt?
Man: Jean's skirt is shorter than that.
Manager: Is she younger than your friend?
Man: I don't think so. She looks older than Jean. And Jean is taller.

CONVERSATION

On a plane

Air hostess: Is this your bag, Sir?
Passenger: Yes, it is.
Air hostess: You can't put it up there, Sir.
Passenger: May I put it here?
Air hostess: I'm afraid not.
Passenger: May I put it here?
Air hostess: Yes, of course.

CONVERSATION

A restaurant

Angela: Waiter.
Waiter: Yes, Madam.
Angela: May I have a glass of white wine, please?
Waiter: Certainly, Madam.
Waiter: Here you are, Madam.
Angela: Thank you. A drink for you, Mary?
Mary: Yes, please. May I have a glass of white wine too, please?
Angela: Yes, of course. Waiter, would you get me another glass of white wine, please?
Waiter: Another glass of white wine. Certainly.

CONVERSATION

Mary: What shall we do this evening?
Bob: I don't know.
Mary: Let's go to the cinema.
Bob: No, not this evening. Let's stay here.
Mary: No. Let's go to a restaurant. Shall we go to an Italian restaurant?
Bob: Which one?



Mary: Franco's. I like Franco's.
Bob: I don't like Franco's. I'm afraid. And I don't like Italian food very much. I prefer Chinese food.
Mary: All right. Let's go to a Chinese restaurant. Is there one near here?
Bob: I don't think so.
Mary: All right. Shall we have another drink?
Bob: Yes. Let's have another drink.

CONVERSATION

Businessman: Good morning. I'm looking for Mr. Robinson.
Receptionist: Mr. Robinson's office is on the second floor. Room 205.
Businessman: Thank you.

Man: Excuse me. Is there a telephone near here?
Receptionist: Yes. It's on the ground floor. Over there. Next to the lift.
Man: Thank you.
Receptionist: Can I help you?
Woman: Yes, please. I want to see Mrs. Bramley.
Receptionist: Mrs. Bramley's office is on the fourth floor. Take the lift to the fourth floor and it's room 403.
Woman: Thank you very much.

CONVERSATION

John: Hello, Linda. These are for you.
Linda: How nice! Thank you, John.
John: Would you have dinner with me this evening?
Linda: Of course! Where?
John: Let's go to the Italian restaurant in Green Street. Franco's
Linda: How can I get there?
John: Go along North Street. Turn left down West Street and take the second turning on the right. That's Green Street. And Franco's restaurant is on the corner. Next to the Grand Hotel.

CONVERSATION

Linda: Excuse me. Can you tell me the way to Bridge Street, please?
Woman: Yes. Go down this street and take the third turning on the right.
Linda: Down this street, then it's the third turning on the left.
Woman: Right. The third turning on the right.
Linda: Thank you very much.
John: I'm sorry I'm late, Linda.
Linda: That's all right. But Franco's restaurant isn't here now. It's in Bridge Street. I can tell you the way. I think.

CONVERSATION

Secretary: Hello. Francis Matthews office.
Mr. Jones: Is Mr. Matthews there, please?
Secretary: I'm afraid Mr. Matthews is out.
Mr. Jones: Out?
Secretary: Yes, he's out. He's gone to lunch. He's gone to a restaurant. I think.
Mr. Jones: Oh! When is he coming back, please?
Secretary: He's coming back at two o'clock. Sorry. He isn't coming back at two. He's coming back at three. Can I take a message for him?
Mr. Jones: No, thank you.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Jones: Excuse me. I'm looking for Francis Matthews.
Waitress: Mr. Matthews? He's having lunch with some friends. They're outside.

Francis: Can you help me?
Manager: Yes. Mr. Matthews. What's the matter?
Francis: I'm looking for the waitress and I can't find her.
Manager: I'll find her, Sir. But there's a gentleman outside. He's looking for you.

Mr. Jones: Excuse me. I'm looking for Francis Matthews.
Bob: Oh. He's inside.
Mr. Jones: Is he coming back? Oh, yes. I think so. he's getting some coffee.

CONVERSATION

A holiday in Spain

Travel Agent: Are you going away on holiday?
Robber: Yes, I'm going away.
Travel Agent: Then book an XYZ holiday. Look! A holiday in Spain – in Majorca. There are flights on weekdays at twelve o'clock. The train leaves Victoria Station at ten. It arrives at Gatwick airport at ten forty. The flight leaves at twelve and gets to Majorca at fourteen thirty – half past two in the afternoon.
Robber: Can I go today?
Travel Agent: Sorry, sir. Not today. Not on Saturday.
Robber: Tomorrow, then.
Travel Agent: No, sir. Tomorrow is Sunday. We haven't got any flights on Saturday or Sunday. Is next week all right? Monday next week?



CONVERSATION

I'll be home late tonight

Bank Manager: I'm sorry, darling. I'll be home late tonight.

Wife: Where are you?

Bank Manager: I'm in my office. I'm working. But I'll be home in two hours. It's seven o'clock now. I'll be home at nine o'clock.

Wife: Will you be late tomorrow?

Bank Manager: Tomorrow? No, I won't be late tomorrow. I'll be early. I'll be back at four o'clock. Will you be at home then?

Wife: Of course.

Bank Manager: Good! And the next day we'll be on holiday.

CONVERSATION

When did you arrive?

Young Man: Are you on an XYZ holiday?

Bank Manager: Yes, I'm afraid we are.

Young Man: I'm on an XYZ holiday too.

Wife: When did you arrive?

Young Man: I arrived this morning. The plane was late. It was delayed.

Young Lady: Yes, we arrived in Majorca twelve hours late. We arrived at half past two in the morning.

Bank Manager: Our plane was late, too.

Young Man: Did you arrive today?

Bank Manager: No, we didn't. We arrived yesterday. We arrived last night.

Wife: Our flight was late. We were seven hours late.

CONVERSATION

How much does it cost

Salesgirl: Good morning, sir. Can I help you?

Mr. Williams: Yes. I'm looking for a present for my wife.

Salesgirl: This handbag is very nice, sir.

Mr. Williams: Is it expensive?

Salesgirl: Oh, no, sir! It's quite cheap. It costs fifteen pounds.

Mr. Williams: Fifteen pounds! That's too expensive, I'm afraid.

Salesgirl: Look at this vase, sir.

Mr. Williams: No, that one's too big. What about the one next to it?

Salesgirl: Ah, yes, sir. This one is smaller. And it's cheaper.

Mr. Williams: How much does it cost?

Salesgirl: Eleven pounds, thirty pence.

Mr. Williams: Eleven pounds thirty! It's too expensive. And it's too heavy.

CONVERSATION

What's it made of?

Mrs. Williams: How much is this hat?

Salesman: Fifty pounds, mada.

Mrs. Williams: That's expensive. What's it made of?

Salesman: It's made of real fur. It's a very good hat.

Mrs. Williams: Hm ...

Salesman: Those hats are cheaper. That one there is twelve pounds. Who's it for?

Mrs. Williams: It's for my husband.

Salesman: It's probably too small for your husband. Um. It isn't big enough. It's size five. Now, this one's bigger.

Mrs. Williams: What size is it?

Salesman: It's size seven. Is that big enough?

Mrs. Williams: Yes. It's the right size.

CONVERSATION

A kilo of tomatoes

Greengrocer: There you are, Mrs. Williams. A kilo of tomatoes, half a kilo of carrots, four apples and two lemons. Anything else?

Mrs. Williams: Yes, please. A big cabbage, and two kilos of potatoes. Oh, and a pineapple ...

Greengrocer: The pineapples are very expensive. Eighty pence for this small one.

Mrs. Williams: It looks too small.

Greengrocer: Is this one big enough?

Mrs. Williams: Yes. I'll buy that one.

Greengrocer: That'll be one pound twenty for the pineapple. Two pounds fifty all together.

CONVERSATION

Here's a lamp which works

Woman: I prefer that lamp. What do you think of it?

Man: Oh no!

Woman: Why don't you like that one?

Man: Because it's too big and too expensive. We can't buy a lamp which costs thirty-five pounds.

Assistant: Can I help you?

Man: Yes. Would you show us a lamp? One which is not too big, and which isn't expensive, and which looks nice.

Assistant: This one looks nice. Here's a lamp which looks nice. And here's



one which isn't expensive.

CONVERSATION

It's a different size

Woman: May we have another lamp?

Assistant: Yes, of course, madam. But why?

Woman: Because this one doesn't work.

Man: Would you please give us one which works?

Assistant: Certainly, sir. Just one moment, please. Here you are.

Woman: That's not the same. It's smaller than this one.

Assistant: You're right. It isn't the same. It's a different size.

Man: This one's a different colour.

Woman: May we have one which is the same size and the same colour?

Assistant: This is the right one. These lamps are the same.

Woman: Thank you very much.

CONVERSATION

You need a holiday

Boss: Are you tired?

Francis: Yes.

Boss: You look very tired. Perhaps you need a holiday.

Francis: I don't need a holiday. I need some sleep. What are those men doing? Why are they talking those things away?

Boss: You need some new things for your office – a new desk, some new chairs ...

Francis: I don't need a new desk. This desk is good enough.

CONVERSATION

What would you like?

Francis: Hello, Francis Matthews here.

Mary: Hello, Francis. It's Mary. What would you like for dinner?

Francis: I don't know.

Mary: Would you like fish?

Francis: I don't think so.

Mary: What would you like?

Francis: I'd like chicken. And I'd like potatoes, and some peas, and some fruit.

Mary: (to Jane) He'd like chicken, potatoes, peas and some fruit. Right. Now Francis, we'll need some wine.

Francis: All right. I'll buy a bottle of wine.

Mary: Thanks, Francis. Goodbye.

Francis: Goodbye, Mary.

CONVERSATION

I want a bottle of wine

Francis: I want a bottle of wine, please.

Assistant: Red or white wine, sir?

Francis: With chicken I'd prefer white.

Assistant: Do you want French wine, German or Italian wine?

Francis: French wine, please.

Assistant: This is a very good wine, sir.

Francis: Yes. That looks very nice. I'd like two bottles, please.

CONVERSATION

I never go out on Saturday night

Francis: Hello, Francis Matthews here.

Arthur: Hello, Francis. It's Arthur. What are you doing in your office?

Francis: I'm working. I often work late on Friday. I'm busy.

Arthur: Come and have dinner with us tomorrow.

Francis: Sorry. I never go out on Saturday night. I always watch football then, on television.

Arthur: Would you come next Wednesday?

Francis: Just a moment. Yes, Arthur. I'll come to dinner on Wednesday.





CONVERSATION

We went to France

- Francis: Ah Italy! Do you like Italy, Arthur?
Arthur: Yes, we went there on holiday.
Francis: When did you go there?
Arthur's wife: We went to Italy last year.
Francis: What did you do there?
Arthur's wife: We went to the shops.
Francis: What did you buy?
Arthur: I bought some wine.
Francis: Where did you go this year?
Arthur: Look! We went to France.
Francis: What did you buy in France?
Arthur: I bought some wine.
Arthur wife's: Yes, we bought some wine.
Francis: I went to France last year. And then I went to Italy. But this year I stayed in England.
Arthur wife's: What did you do?
Francis: I made some wine. Look! I make wine every year. Would you like some?

CONVERSATION

Are you married?

- Customs Officer: Now. What's your surname?
Mr. Williams: Williams.
Customs Officer: Thank you. I'll write your surname here. And your first names?
Mr. Williams: James. Robert.
Customs Officer: Your first names go there. James. Robert. And you put Mr, Mrs. or Miss there. Next to your name, Mr. Williams. Are you married?
Mr. Williams: Yes, I'm married. My wife is with me.
Customs Officer: You're married. Now, your nationality, please?
Mr. Williams: I'm American. I come from the United States.
Customs Officer: American. And what's your occupation? What's your job?
Mr. Williams: I'm a businessman.
Customs Officer: Businessman. Thank you, Mr. Williams. Now. May I see your passport, please?

CONVERSATION

I live in Athens

- Compere: Hello, where are you from?
Mr. Greece: Greece. I'm Greek. I live in Athens. My home is in Athens. I'm twenty-eight years old. And my name is Stavros Papadopoulos.
Compere: Would you say that again, please?
Mr. Greece: I'm twenty-eight years old. I'm not married and my name is Stavros Papadopoulos.
Compere: You speak English very well, Stavros.
Mr. Greece: I speak English, and French, and German and ...
Compere: Just a moment. Not too fast, please. Would you speak slowly, please?

CONVERSATION

I'm a businessman

- Compere: What's your job, Stavros?
Mr. Greece: I'm a businessman. I work in an office.
Compere: Thank you. And you, Angus. What do you do?
Angus: Would you say that again, please.
Compere: What's your job?
Angus: I work for the Central Bank. I was a policeman but now I work for the Central Bank.
Compere: Do you like your job?
Angus: Yes, I like my job very much.
Compere: Good. Thank you very much.

CONVERSATION

He doesn't look well

- Jean: What's the matter? Is Francis ill?
Henry: I don't know, but he doesn't look well.
Jean: Perhaps he's got a headache.
(to Francis) Francis, you don't look well. You look ill.
Francis: I feel ill.
Jean: What's the matter?
Mrs. Robinson: Ah! You've got a headache.
Francis: I think so. Yes, I've got a headache.
Henry: You need a doctor.
Mrs. Robinson: But there isn't a doctor here.
Henry: Oh yes, there is. Sheila, over there, is one.

CONVERSATION

You'll feel better



Doctor: Are you ill?
Francis: I think so, but I don't know. I didn't feel very well in there.
Doctor: You don't look very well. Perhaps you need some food. Are you hungry?
Francis: No, I'm not hungry.
Doctor: Are you thirsty? Do you want a drink?
Francis: No, not now, thank you.
Doctor: Take this medicine. You'll feel better.
Francis: Ugh!
Doctor: You'll feel fine tomorrow. Shall we go back to the party?
Francis: Yes, let's go back. I feel better now.

CONVERSATION

I want to play chess
Francis: Your move.
Mary: I don't want to play chess.
Bill: What would you like to do?
Mary: I don't know.
Jane: I'd like to go out. Let's go out.
Bill: Do you want to go out, Francis?
Francis: No. I want to play chess.

CONVERSATION

I can park here easily
Jane: You can't park here. Bill.
Bill: Why not?
Jane: You can't do it. Your car's too big.
Bill: I can park here easily. It's not difficult.
Mary: It isn't easy. Can you see that way?
Bill: I can't see very well. But I'll be all right.

CONVERSATION

You have to go in there
Attendant: Excuse me, Miss.
Jane: Do you want to look in my bag?
Attendant: No, I don't. You can't take bags inside the museum. You'll have to leave them here.
Jane: Can I leave it with you?
Attendant: No, please take it over there. To the cloak room.
Jane: (to Mary) I'll be back in a moment.
Mary: How much does it cost to go in?
Attendant: It's free.
Mary: Oh good. Can I take photographs?

Attendant: Yes, certainly. Excuse me, Miss.
Mary: Yes?
Attendant: You can't go in here. That's the exit. You have to go in there.
Mary: Oh thank you.

CONVERSATION

Let's go to the seaside
Mary: What shall we do this weekend?
Francis: Let's go to the seaside.
Mary and Jane: Yes, let's.
Bill: I want to go to the seaside too.
Woman: All right.
Her husband: It's a long way from here.
Jane: It isn't. The seaside isn't far from London. It's about 80 kilometres away.
Francis: Wait a moment. Brighton is the nearest seaside town.
Bill: How far is Brighton?
Francis: It's eighty-five kilometres away.

CONVERSATION

We can get there by train
Husband: And how can we get there?
Wife: By train. We can get there by train.
Husband: It's too expensive.
Mary: It's cheaper by bus.
Bill: You mean by coach.
Jane: By coach? He coach is very slow.
Wife: It's faster by train. We can take a train.
Husband: But it's cheaper by coach.
Francis: We can go in my car.
Mary: It's faster by train. Let's take the train.

**CONVERSATION**

You come to the motorway

- Jane: Excuse me. Can you tell me the way to Brighton?
Cyclist: Drive down this road. Take the first turning on the left.
Jane: First turning on the left. Is it very far?
Cyclist: No, it's not very far. It's about four hundred metres. Then drive for about three kilometres.
Jane: About three kilometres.
Cyclist: Then you come to the motorway.
Francis: The motorway? Then how far is it?
Cyclist: Oh, about fifty kilometres.
Jane: Thank you. Thank you very much.

CONVERSATION

It's south of extown

- Estate Agent: Yes, Mr. Harris. You want a small house, near the sea.
Mr. Harris: That's right.
Estate Agent: There's a very nice house for you, near Highcliff. Look at the map. Now, where is it?
Mrs. Harris: It's south of Extown.
Estate Agent: Ah, there it is.

CONVERSATION

Through the back door

- Estate Agent: Here's the front door. No, sorry. It's the back door. This is the front door. Here's the living room.
Mr. Harris: Where?
Estate Agent: Here. And the kitchen is here, at the back. And you go through the back door into the garden.
Mr. Harris: So this is the living room, at the front.
Estate Agent: Yes, that's right.
Mr. Harris: And what's the room between the kitchen and the living room?
Estate Agent: That's a toilet. An the bedrooms are upstairs. And the bathroom's upstairs too.

CONVERSATION

It's behind you

- Estate Agent: There you are. A wonderful new kitchen.
Mr. Harris: It's very small.
Estate Agent: There's the cooker and there's the refrigerator.
Mrs. Harris: Where?
Estate Agent: Behind you. The refrigerator's behind you.

- Mrs. Harris: I can't open it.
Mr. Harris: I can put the table outside. Then you can open the refrigerator.
Mrs. Harris: What's that under the table? On the floor?
Estate Agent: It's a box.
Mrs. Harris: What's inside the box?
Estate Agent: Spoons, knives, forks ...
Mr. Harris: Plates ...
Mrs. Harris: Cups. Where will we put all these things?
Estate Agent: Put them in the cupboard. There's a cupboard behind the door.

CONVERSATION

What's the date?

- Francis: What's the date today?
Jane: It's Friday, the fifth of April. My birthday is in April. Shall I write in your diary?
Francis: Yes, of course.
Jane: Monday, the fifteenth of April. Jane's birthday.
Francis: How old will you be?
Jane: I'll be twenty-three. Twenty-three years old on the fifteenth of April. When's your birthday, Francis?
Francis: The seventh of July.

CONVERSATION

I'd like to go away in spring

- Francis: When shall I go on holiday?
Jane: When do you want to go? You can go in spring, summer, autumn or winter.
Francis: Winter?
Jane: Yes. You can go to Switzerland, or Austria, or South America in December or January.
Francis: No, I'd like to go away in Spring. In May, to Italy.
Jane: How long will you be away?
Francis: For three weeks.
Jane: Look. Here's a good holiday, in Italy. Near Naples. In May.
Francis: How long does it last?
Jane: It lasts for three weeks. From the tenth of May to the first of June.

CONVERSATION

It took five hours by train

- Man: We arrived here last night.
Woman: It's nice here. But we prefer Florence. We went to Florence last year. For three weeks. In the spring.



Man: We arrived in Florence on the twenty-first of April and left on the twelfth of May.
 Woman: In the morning.
 Man: And we go to Rome in the afternoon. It took five hours by train.
 Woman: Yes. The train was late.
 Man: Then we stayed in Rome for a week.
 Francis: And when are you leaving here.
 Woman: On Wednesday, we're going to Sicily.
 Man: For a week. From the third of June to the tenth.

CONVERSATION

Is that yours?

Woman: May I have my coat, please?
 Attendant: Which one is it, Madam?
 Woman: That one. That one's mine.
 Attendant: This one?
 Woman: No. That coat isn't mine. Mine is the one next to it.
 Attendant: Here's your coat, Madam. And is this yours? This umbrella?
 Woman: No, it isn't.
 Attendant: Oh dear! Whose is it?
 Woman: Don't worry. I think it's my husband's. John! Is that your umbrella?
 Husband: Yes, it is.
 Woman: It's all right. It's his.

CONVERSATION

Single or double?

Clerk: Can I help you, sir?
 Mr. Harris: Er – yes, please. Two hotel rooms. Two rooms for two nights.
 Clerk: Yes, sir. Single or double?
 Mr. Harris: We want one double room and one single room for our daughter.
 Clerk: One double, one single for two nights. With shower or bath?
 Mr. Harris: We want one with a bath.
 Tracy: I'd prefer a shower.
 Clerk: Certainly. A double room with a bath and a single with a shower.

CONVERSATION

I enjoy reading books

Brian: Hello, Francis. What are you doing?
 Francis: I'm making a bookcase. I like books. I like buying books and I enjoy reading them. But I don't want to buy a bookcase.



Brian: Why not?
 Francis: Bookcases are expensive, and I enjoy making things. So, I'm making a bookcase.
 Brian: Well, I'm playing tennis this afternoon. Would you like to play?
 Francis: No, thanks. Not this afternoon. It's too cold. And I'm busy.

CONVERSATION

Who's winning?

Beryl: Who's winning? Brian or Peter?
 Anne: Brian's winning. He usually wins. He's good at tennis. Peter isn't.
 Beryl: Where's Francis?
 Anne: He's at home. He doesn't like playing tennis.
 Beryl: He enjoys watching tennis. He often comes here and watches.
 Anne: And sometimes he plays too. He played against Brian last week.

CONVERSATION

I need more

Girl: I've got a cold.
 Boy: I know. You've got some tissues.
 Girl: I've not many. This box is empty.
 Boy: Here's another box.
 Girl: There are only a few in this box. I need more.
 Boy: More? I bought five boxes yesterday.
 Girl: I had a lot of tissues yesterday. I'm cold and I'm wet.

CONVERSATION

There's very little milk

Girl: Is the coffee ready?
 Boy: No, there isn't any coffee. I'm afraid this jar is empty. And there's very little milk. There's a lot of tea. But you don't like tea.
 Girl: How much sugar have we got?
 Boy: Not much.
 Girl: Have we got any food?
 Boy: Only a little. We didn't bring much food.

CONVERSATION

A box of tissues

Assistant: Can I help you?
 Boy: Yes, please. I want some coffee, some milk, and some sugar.
 Assistant: Here's half a kilo. Half a kilo of coffee.
 Boy: Oh, that's too much. Have you got a smaller jar?
 Assistant: Is this big enough?
 Boy: Yes, thank you. May I have some milk?



Assistant: A bottle of milk. And you'd like sugar? A small packet?
Boy: Yes, that's enough. And I need some tissues. A big box of tissues.
No. Would you get me two boxes please?

CONVERSATION

I've just typed it
Boss: I want the letter to Mr Johnson.
Francis: I've just typed it. Here you are.
Boss: And the letter to Mr Bailey?
Francis: I haven't typed that one yet.
Boss: Has Mr Davies telephoned?
Francis: No. Not yet.
Boss: Francis, you need a new secretary.
Francis: Yes, I do. I haven't got a secretary. Jane's gone. She's got a new job
– and I'm very busy. I've typed twenty-five letters today!

CONVERSATION

How long have you been a secretary?
Francis: What work have you done?
Woman: Well, I was a nurse for six years. Then I worked in a bank. That
was a few years ago. And now I'm a secretary.
Francis: How long have you been a secretary?
Woman: I've been a secretary for one year. Since last August.
Francis: You've been a secretary for one year. In London?
Woman: No, I worked in Manchester for three months. I came to London
nine months ago.
Francis: So, you've worked in London since last November.
Woman: Yes, that's right, Mr Matthews.

CONVERSATION

What are you going to do?
Bill: Do you like your new job, Jane?
Jane: No, I don't
Bill: What are you going to do?
Jane: I'm going to work for Francis again. Next week. Is he here?
Francis: Yes, I'm here.
Bill: Jane says she's going to work for you again.
Francis: That's right. And I'm going to open another bottle of wine.
Cheers!
Bill Jane: Cheers!

CONVERSATION

An interview for a job

Janet: All right, Linda. Tell us something about yourself, please.
Linda: Well, my name is Linda Miller. I'm twenty-three years old, and
I live at 39, Hilltop Avenue, Surbiton. My telephone number is
2398076134.
Mr. Jones: Very good!
Linda: I'm single and I live in a flat with two other girls.

CONVERSATION

I went to berry wood school
Linda: I went to Berry Wood School. Then I did a course to become a
secretary.
Mr. Jones: Very good! Very good indeed!
Janet: You went to Berry Wood School until...?
Linda: Until 1975. I was there from 1968 to 1975.
Janet: Ah, yes. And what exams did you take, Linda?
Linda: Six O levels and two A levels. English and Geography at A
level.
Mr. Jones: Two advanced levels. That's wonderful!
Janet: I see. And then the course for secretaries?
Linda: Yes. And I've been a secretary for four years. I used to work for
Johnson Brothers. I'm working for Wilson's at the moment.

CONVERSATION

I used to live there
Roberts: Haven't we met before somewhere?
Gran: I don't know. Have we?
Roberts: I'm Harry Roberts. I used to live in Kingston. In Summer
Road. The house on the corner.
Gran: Kingston! I used to live there ... Wait a minute. Harry Roberts! Of
course! You gave me some flowers one day.
Roberts: That's right. But you already had a boyfriend.
Gran: That was Tom. We got married in 1934. But I'm a widow now. Of
course, I've got two sons and a daughter, all married. And six
grandchildren.

CONVERSATION

See you next week
Linda: I must go now, I'm afraid. Thanks for the tea.
Gran: All right. 'Bye.
Linda: 'Bye. See you next week.
Gran: See you next week.



CONVERSATION

Do you think he is married?

Sergeant: His name is William Naylor, Jenkins. He was born in this own and he went to the local school around the corner. He was there from September until October, 1953. But he didn't like the school, Jenkins.

Jenkins: No?

Sergeant: No, And there isn't a school there now. There was a fire, you see. In October 1953. A big fire and no more school.

Jenkins: Oh!

Sergeant: Do you think William Naylor is married, Jenkins?

Jenkins: I don't know, Sergeant.

CONVERSATION

He said his name was David Masters

Mrs. Russell: He said his name was David Masters. And he told me he lived in Brightsea.

Sergeant: I see.

Mrs. Russell: Well, he said he used to live in Brightsea. He lives in London now really. He's a student at the university. He told me that he took his exams last week.

Sergeant: He told you all that?

Mrs. Russell: Yes.

Sergeant: So, he said he was a student at London University.

Mrs. Russell: That's right. And I'm sure he is, Sergeant. He's very nice.

CONVERSATION

What do they want to know?

Sergeant: What do they want to know?

Mary: It says, "Person taking the course, please give full name ..."

Sergeant: Full name. Yes.

Mary: "Address and telephone number"

Sergeant: Yes.

Mary: They want to know if the person is married or single, male or female.

Sergeant: Right, I've got that.

Mary: And they want to know the date and place of birth.

Sergeant: O.K.

Mary: Now, what's this? Oh, yes. They want to know if you've done any courses in cooking before.

CONVERSATION

A driving test

Examiner: Now—would you please stop at the corner?

Young man: Ah! But—first look in front.

Examiner: Yes. But will you please stop at the corner?

Young man: And now look behind in the mirror.

Examiner: Please stop!

Young man: I remembered, didn't I?

Examiner: STOP!!

CONVERSATION

In hospital

Wife: I saw the insurance man, dear. He wants you to fill in these forms.

Daughter: Shall I fill them in for you, Dad? Oh, all right.

Wife: How are you today?

Daughter: You're looking well.

Wife: Mr. Ridley telephoned, dear. Yes, your boss. He wants you to have a nice rest, and not to worry.

CONVERSATION

Tell him to be quiet

Carol: Please tell him that I think he's the worst man I know.

Father: She thinks you're the worst man she knows.

Albert: And please tell your daughter that I don't care what she thinks.

Father: He doesn't care what you think.

Carol: Well, please tell him to be quiet.

Father: Be quiet.

Albert: Please tell her that I will not be quiet.

CONVERSATION

At the bus-station

Inspector: You want to get to King's Cross Station, sir?

Peter: Yes.

Inspector: It's very easy. There's a bus every ten minutes from stop number four. The next bus is at five past nine, and a ticket to King's Cross Station costs fifteen pence. It takes ten minutes to get there.

CONVERSATION

At the station

Jean: Look, I've got everything. You've got a reserved seat in coach three, seat number 2c.

Peter: Right.



Jean: Here's your ticket. Second class return to Brightley.
Peter: Okay.
Jean: Your train leaves from platform six in ten minutes. It takes three hours to get there.
Peter: Do I have to change?
Jean: No. The train stops at Nottingham, but you don't have to change.

CONVERSATION

Where can i get some flowers?

Young man: Excuse me.
Receptionist: Yes, sir.
Young man: Where can I get some flowers, please?
Receptionist: There's a flower shop in King Street, sir. Turn right outside the hotel. The flowers there are usually very fresh.
Young man: Thanks.



CONVERSATION

Can you help me?
Mr. Jones: Can you help me? Where can I get some theatre tickets, please?
Receptionist: At Robinson's Ticket Agency. It's across the road. It's a very good one.
Mr. Jones: Thanks. Oh, and can you recommend a good show? Is there a show that you want to see, for example?
Receptionist: Excuse me. Ask that gentleman, Mr. Jones. I'm sure he can recommend something.

CONVERSATION

Where can i get it repaired?
Woman: Excuse me.
Receptionist: Yes, madam?
Woman: I've got a problem with one of my shoes. Where can I get it repaired, please?
Receptionist: At Mason's. That's the shoe repairer's in the High Street. Turn right outside the hotel. But it's quite a long way. I'm afraid.

CONVERSATION

Who was he?
Susan: And now I'm going to ask you, "Who are they?" For example, who is this? He was born in 1564 and died in 1616. He went to school in Stratford-on-Avon . . . Julie?
Julie: William Shakespeare.
Susan: Very good. That was easy. Now try this one. She was born 1819 and died in 1901. Her mother was German and her father was German . . . Yes, Jason?
Jason: Queen Victoria.
Susan: Right.

CONVERSATION

It looks new but it's old
Barbara: It looks new.
Peter: Ah, but it's old. It's fifty-five years old.
Barbara: No, is it really?
Peter: It's green and it's got two doors. It's bigger than the earlier Bentley, of course.
Richard: It certainly looks longer than a modern car.
Peter: It is. And who wants a modern car when you can get a car like that?



CONVERSATION

A real English meal

Richard: There!

Barbara: It looks wonderful, darling. A real English meal. Roast beef, roast potatoes. Yorkshire pudding . . .

Richard: And two vegetables . . . Cheers!

Barbara: Cheers!

Richard: Well?

Barbara: It looks good and it is good. But the potatoes need a little salt.

CONVERSATION

A bedsitter

Woman: The kitchen!

Debbie: Oh, yes. Is the cooker gas or electric?

Woman: Gas, dear.

Debbie: And there's a fridge.

Woman: Oh yes, yes.

Debbie: It's got central heating? . . .

Woman: Here we are, dear. It's a very warm room and comfortable.

Debbie: Um—bathroom and toilet?

Woman: Outside, turn left, dear.

Debbie: Do we all use the same bathroom and toilet?

Woman: There's another toilet downstairs. But we all use the same bathroom. Not at the same time, of course.

CONVERSATION

What do you think of him?

Amanda: What do you think of Bob Wells? Do you like him?

Kate: Well . . .

Amanda: I think he's very nice. I like the way he smiles. And I like the way he speaks, too.

CONVERSATION

What do you think of her singing?

Amanda: Cleo Laine. What do you think of her singing?

Matthew: I think it's very good.

Amanda: And there's a Jack Jones record here. I really like the way he sings. Let's listen to him.

Matthew: Sorry.

Amanda: Oh, why not? He's a better singer than any of these.

Matthew: He's not better than Cleo Laine. He's a different kind of singer.

Amanda: Different and better. Cleo Laine doesn't sing as well as Jack

Jones. So, let's listen to Jack Jones.

CONVERSATION

What a face!

Bob: What do you think of her, Kate?

Kate: I don't think she's very nice. What a face!

Bob: Yes, terrible.

Kate: Her legs are too thin.

Bob: And she's got a big head.

Kate: Her boyfriend's no better. I don't like the look on his face.

Bob: And his arms are too long.

Amanda: Matthew. What do you think of Kate?

Matthew: I don't like the way she walks.

Amanda: And I don't like the way she talks. Or the way she smiles. Or the way she laughs.

Matthew: And I don't like the way she says things about her friends and laugh at them.

Amanda: And Bob's no better. In fact, he's worse than she is.

CONVERSATION

I need a secretary who can type well

Mr. Thompson: I need a secretary who can type well and fast.

Sarah: As I said in my letter, Mr. Thompson, I type well and fast.

Mr. Thompson: I need a secretary who can take good shorthand.

Sarah: I take good shorthand.

Mr. Thompson: I need a secretary who has a good voice on the telephone.

Sarah: I talked to you on the telephone, Mr Thompson. .

Mr. Thompson: Yes, true.





CONVERSATION

I need a job where I'm a person

Mr. Thompson: Well, then, the job is yours, Miss Yardley. When can you begin?

Sarah: Just a minute, please, Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Thompson: Yes?

Sarah: You see, I need a job where I'm a person, not a machine.

Mr. Thompson: Oh.

Sarah: And I need a job which is interesting.

Mr. Thompson: Yes.

Sarah: And I need a job where I can decide things, not just be told everything.

Mr. Thompson: I see.

Sarah: Well. . .

Mr. Thompson: Good.

Sarah: What?

Mr. Thompson: Good. You decide, then.

CONVERSATION

I want a lot, don't I?

Woman: Have you been here before?

Man: No.

Woman: But you'd like to meet someone?

Man: Oh, yes. I'd like to meet a girl who is my age, or younger.

Woman: A beautiful girl, of course.

Man: Oh, no. An interesting girl.

Woman: Interesting?

Man: Well, a girl who can talk about different things, a girl who reads and goes to the theatre and travels. . . I want a lot, don't I?

CONVERSATION

What were you doing?

Helen: What were you doing when I rang an hour ago? Were you still asleep?

Stephen: No. I was having breakfast when the phone rang.

Helen: Having breakfast- at ten o'clock?

Stephen: I had a late night last night. I was working until midnight.

Helen: Working?

Stephen: Yes-well, most of the time.

CONVERSATION

The editor wants to see Stephen

Helen: Tom wanted to see you.

Stephen: Oh?

Helen: He said he always got up at six when he a young newspaper reporter. And when he was your age he started work at eight. Every day.

Stephen: Eight!

Helen: He wanted to know if you started work at eleven o'clock every day.

Stephen: Of course not! Where is he?

Helen: In his office. He said he was waiting for you.

Stephen: Oh. Well, I'll go and see him.

CONVERSATION

An interview with Paul Oldman

Paul: My first film was "Holiday Hotel". People told me I was quite good in that.

Helen: Oh, you were.

Paul: That was in 1968. And then there was "October Night". I played a doctor in that film.

Helen: I remember.

Paul: In 1971 I was the husband in "Green Valley". In 1972 I was in "Bus Driver".

Helen: You were the bus driver.

Paul: Of course.

Helen: And you got married that year.

Paul: Did I? Oh yes, to Pauline. Dear Pauline. Then in 1973 I was the king in "Small Country". Some people said I was a big king in a small country.

CONVERSATION

Hobbies

Man: What do you do in your free time?

Woman: Oh, I go dancing and I go to the cinema. What do you do?

Man: I play football and I go swimming.

Woman: You like sport?

Man: Yes.

Woman: And what work do you do?

Man: I work in a bank.

CONVERSATION

I'd like to be a nurse

Assistant: I'd like to work in a hospital. I'd like to be a nurse.

Customer: A nurse? I'm a nurse, sometimes.

Assistant: Or I'd like to work in an office. As a secretary.

Customer: I'm a secretary too-sometimes.



Assistant: I'd like to be a teacher. They have nice long holidays.
Customer: I'm a teacher-sometimes. But I don't get long holidays.
Assistant: All those jobs at the same time? Where do you work?
Customer: At home. As a wife and mother.
Assistant: Oh, I see.

CONVERSATION

Are you interested in football?

Customer: Are you interested in football?
Assistant: Well, yes.
Customer: I am. Wonderful game, football.
Assistant: Yes. Now, what shoes can I show you, sir?
Customer: I like all sports and games.
Assistant: Oh, yes.
Customer: Yes. Football, cricket, swimming. Can you swim?
Assistant: I'm not a good swimmer but go swimming sometimes.
Customer: Tennis. That's good game.
Assistant: Yes.
Customer: I'm very interested in tennis. I never miss Wimbledon, you know. I see it every year.

CONVERSATION

What do you know about him?

1st student: What do you know about him? What's his name?
2nd student: John.
1st student: How old is he?
2nd student: Twenty-five, I think.
1st student: Twenty-five. Oh, no. I don't think so.
2nd student: Well, I'm not sure.
1st student: He's younger than that.
2nd student: All right, Twenty-four, perhaps, or twenty-three.

CONVERSATION

In the library

Librarian: Who's that?
Assistant: Oh, it's all right. He comes here every day.
Librarian: Do you know who he is?
Assistant: Yes, Mr Williams.
Librarian: How old is he?
Assistant: I don't know how old he is. It's difficult to say, isn't it? Perhaps he's fifty. Perhaps he's eighty.

CONVERSATION

Do you know anything about him?

Joan: That's our new neighbour over there. He's the man next door.
Betty: Oh! Do you know anything about him?
Joan: Well, I know he's married and his wife looks very nice. And I know they've got two children - two girls.
Betty: Do you know where they come from?
Joan: I'm not sure. But I think they used to live in Oxford.
Betty: And do you know what he does? What's his job?
Joan: I don't know.
Betty: Perhaps he hasn't got a job.
Joan: Oh, I'm sure he has.

CONVERSATION

You shouldn't eat so much

Woman: I feel very tired these days.
Electrician: Well, you shouldn't go to bed so late.
Woman: Oh! No. I'm also getting a little.
Electrician: Fat.
Woman: Well-yes.
Electrician: That's easy. You shouldn't eat so much.
Woman: No. I get headaches in the evening.
Electrician: You shouldn't watch so much television.
Woman: I suppose not. What about my sore throat? That isn't because of television.
Electrician: You shouldn't smoke so much.
Woman: Well, no.
Electrician: I've got to go now.
Woman: But what about me? I feel ill.
Electrician: You should see a doctor.
Woman: But you're the doctor!
Electrician: Me? No, I'm the electrician.



CONVERSATION

What's wrong with you?

Doctor: Well, Mrs Green... What's wrong with you?

Mrs. Green: Well?

Doctor: What's wrong with you?

Mrs. Green: My shoulder hurts. Here. I want the doctor to look at it.

Doctor: Right. Why don't you take your dress off?

Mrs. Green: What?

Doctor: Take your dress off, please. I want to look at your shoulder.

Mrs. Green: Certainly not!

Doctor: It's all right, Mrs. Green, don't worry. If you want me to help you, you should let me look at it.

CONVERSATION

I hope you enjoy your holiday

Travel Agent: There are four flights a day from Gatwick to Madrid. The flight takes one and a half hours and the return fare is \$120.

Woman: So I leave from Gatwick Airport and go to Madrid, then take a connecting flight.

Travel Agent: That's right, madam. There are four connecting flights every day.

Woman: Good. Thank you very much.

Travel Agent: I hope you enjoy your holiday, madam.

Woman: Thank you.

CONVERSATION

Where can I see a football match?

Mr. Thomas: Where can I see a football match?

Jean: Well, at Wembley, I suppose.

Barbara: Or at Stamford Bridge. Chelsea play there.

Mr. Thomas: And where can I play football?

Barbara: At a football ground.

Mr. Thomas: I like listening to music as well. Where can I listen to music?

Jean: At the Festival Hall.

Mr. Thomas: And where can I buy a good book?

Barbara: At Boyles in West Street.

CONVERSATION

Asking for information

Customer: Excuse me.

Jean: Yes, madam?

Customer: Where can I get some fresh fruit?

Jean: In the supermarket. Downstairs.

Customer: Oh, thank you. And thing for the garden?Where's the gardening department, please?

Jean: There we are – "Gardening". Sixth floor, madam.

CONVERSATION

We're going to France

Ann: We're going to France and Germany during the holidays.

Sally: Oh, that's good.

Ann: Yes. Not like last year. It was terrible. We stayed at home during the holidays last year.

Sally: All the time?

Ann: Yes. Fred did jobs in the house. At least, during the first three days he did, but he had one or two little accidents.

Sally: I see. So you cleaned up the house during the rest of the holidays?

Ann: Yes.

CONVERSATION

In two weeks' time

Fred: Hello, Gosport Garage? Yes. My name's Bennett. That's right. When will my car be ready, please? Ah, I see. Yes. Problems. A lot of problems. Yes, I understand. OK, thank you. Goodbye.

Ann: When will it be ready?

Fred: Well, by Thursday. . .

Ann: Not till Thursday?

Fred: That's all right, Ann. You're not going on holiday till Friday.

Ann: Yes, that's right. So it'll be ready in three days'time.

Fred: Well. . . no. Not in three days'time, exactly. In two weeks' time. It'll be ready by Thursday the twenty second.

Ann: Oh, no!



CONVERSATION

I used to cook all the time

Sally: When I was married I used to cook all the time. I used to clean the flat, and I used to wash clothes. Now I got out more. Visit old friends more.

Ann: But George used to help you in some ways.

Sally: Yes, he used to help me when he was at home. But he wasn't at home very often. And I used to wait for him. When I was married I used to be a very weak person, Ann.

CONVERSATION

What do you think of the new book?

Miss Prim: Florence, what do you think of the new book by Mr Dickens?

Florence: I haven't read it, Miss Prim.

Miss Prim: What do you think of Edinburgh?

Florence: I haven't been there, Miss Prim.

Miss Prim: What do you think of Mr Daker's new song?

Florence: I haven't heard it, Miss Prim.

Miss Prim: Oh dear, dear. . .

CONVERSATION

I like it very much

Miss Prim: What do you think of the new book by Mr Dickens?

Florence: I like it very much, Miss Prim.

Edith: I don't like it at all, Miss Prim.

Miss Prim: Very good, girls. Now, what do you think of Edinburgh?

Florence: I think it's very nice, Miss Prim.

Edith: I think it's awful.

Miss Prim: Good. What do you think of Mr Daker's new song?

Florence: I like it very much. I think it's very nice.

Edith: I don't like it at all. I think it's awful.

CONVERSATION

I agree, but . . .

Miss Prim: Florence, what do you think of Mr Dickens' new book?

Florence: I think it's very exciting and interesting. I like the way it begins.

Edith: Yes, I agree, but things happen rather slowly. It takes too long to get into the story.

Miss Prim: And Mr Wilde's new play?

Florence: I like it very much. I think it's very funny.

Edith: I don't like it at all. I think it's terrible.

CONVERSATION

I don't like the singer

Miss Prim: What do you think of Mr Daker's new song. "Daisy Bell"?

Florence: I like it. It's a very happy song.

Edith: Yes, that's true, but I don't like the singer very much. He doesn't sing. He shouts.

Miss Prim: And what do you think of Edinburgh?

Florence: I think it's very beautiful. I like the castle.

Edith: Yes, I agree, but it's a very grey city, and it rains a lot.

CONVERSATION

Receptionist: Good afternoon, sir.

Percy: Good afternoon. I'd like a single room, please.

Receptionist: Yes, sir. With a bath?

Percy: Yes, yes. With a bath.

Receptionist: For how long, sir?

Percy: For three nights, till the twenty-seventh.

Receptionist: Single room with bath until the twenty-seventh. Yes, we can do that, sir.

Percy: I'd prefer a room with a view of the sea.

Receptionist: All right, sir. I can put you at the front of the hotel.

CONVERSATION

Buying a suit

Assistant: Good morning, sir.

Percy: I want a suit, please.

Assistant: Yes, sir. What kind of suit do you want, sir?

Percy: I'd like a dark grey suit.

Assistant: Dark grey-yes, sir. Size?

Percy: Size 38.

Assistant: Very good, sir-Ah, here's a nice dark grey suit in a hundred percent wool.

Percy: Yes, I like that.

Assistant: A very good suit, sir, and only a hundred and seventy pounds.

Percy: How much?

Assistant: A hundred and seventy pounds, sir.

Percy: I don't want to play more than thirty pounds.

Assistant: Thirty pounds? For a suit?

Percy: Yes. No more than thirty pounds. Have you got something cheaper?

CONVERSATION

We're not very hungry

Percy: Right. We'd like roast beef, Yorkshire pudding, potatoes and



peas.

Waitress: Very good, sir. Two roast beef, Yorkshire pudding, potatoes and peas.

Percy: One.

Waitress: Pardon, sir?

Percy: I want one roast beef, Yorkshire pudding, potatoes and peas. And two plates. We're not very hungry, are we?

Waitress: No, Uncle.

CONVERSATION

Are we going to get married?

Dr. Crystal: Tell me what you want to know.

Girl: Oh, well, it's about Jason, my boyfriend.

Dr. Crystal: Ah! Ah! I see him, yes.

Girl: Oh, do you? Well, I want to know- are we going to get married? Jason and me, that is.

Dr. Crystal: Tell me, when are you going to see him again? Will you see him tomorrow?

Girl: Yes, I'll see him in the evening.

Dr. Crystal: Yes, you are going to see him tomorrow. I see you together.

Girl: Oh, no, wait a minute. I won't see him tomorrow because he's in Liverpool. I'm not going to see him till Friday.

CONVERSATION

I'll go and see elsie

Mrs. Crystal: If it's fine tomorrow I'll go and see Elsie in the afternoon.

Dr. Crystal: All right, Doris.

Mrs. Crystal: If you eat too much you'll be ill.

Dr. Crystal: Not me.

CONVERSATION

He said you would see him again

Dr. Crystal: Mmmmmmmmmmm.

Lady: My questions are: Can he hear me and see me? Will I see him again?

Dr. Crystal: I will ask him. One moment. Yes, Cedric, speak. Yes, I hear. Yes, I will tell her. He said he can hear you and see you all the time. And he asked if you could see him. He is near you.

Lady: No, Cedric. I can't see you. Where are you?

Dr. Crystal: He is there. He said that one day you would see him again.

Lady: Oh, good.

CONVERSATION

I support women's lib

Tony: I don't believe it.

Sue: What do you mean, you don't believe it?

Tony: I don't think it's true.

Sue: Of course it's true.

Tony: Well. I don't believe in the women's Liberation Movement.

Sue: Men believe in keeping women at home with the children and the housework.

Tony: I don't believe in that, but I think that women are women, not men. Men are good at some things, women are good at other things.

Sue: Well, I support Women's Lib. I think it's a good thing.

CONVERSATION

Are they still on strike?

Sue: Vera—are they still on strike in the factory?

Vera: I don't know. They're meeting this morning about it.

Sue: I think the strike is wrong too. I don't believe in strikes.

Tony: You don't work in the factory. You've got a nice job here.

Sue: But strikes are bad. I think they're bad for everybody.

Tony: They're not. I think they're necessary sometimes.

CONVERSATION

When I was your age. . .

Sue: It was wrong to strike.

Tony: Oh, no. Don't start that again.

Sue: All right. We'll ask Jack. What do you think, Jack?

Jack: I think you're lucky, you and Tony. You're both young. When I was your age I knew what to believe in. Now I don't know any more.

Tony: But are you a Socialist or a Conservative?

Sue: Do you support Women's Lib?

Tony: Perhaps.

Sue: Well, I think I'm as good as any man.

Jack: I think you're right.

CONVERSATION

He looks old

Harriet: William looks old but he's only forty-six.

Ronald: No, he isn't, dear. He was forty-seven in July.

Harriet: I don't think so, Ronald.

Ronald: Yes. He's forty-seven now.

Harriet: I don't think he is. Perhaps you mean Peter. He's forty-seven.

Ronald: Yes, you're right. Peter's forty-seven. And he was in the same class



as William at school. So William must be forty-seven.

CONVERSATION

I think she's gone to bed

Ronald: Where's Sandra?

Philip: I think she's gone to bed. She looked very tired. It is nearly half past three in the morning.

Harriet: Yes, perhaps she was tired.

Ronald: I like the early hours of the morning, don't you? So quiet.

Philip: Yes, I agree. It's quiet because most people are at home, in bed.

CONVERSATION

Perhaps she isn't English

Harriet: And she doesn't look English, does she, Ronald? The woman in number 14 doesn't look English.

Ronald: Perhaps she isn't English.

Harriet: Do you remember Ingrid? She looked English, but she wasn't.

Ronald: Yes, Strange, isn't it?

CONVERSATION

No more paper

Pam: It's a good copy.

John: Yes. It's a good machine.

Pam: What should I do if there's no more paper inside it?

John: You put some more in. Open this and put the paper in there.

Pam: O.K.

CONVERSATION

Making plans

Father: I'm making plans for our next holiday.

David: Oh, yes.

Father: I like to be ready, you know. For example, we're going to drive from Paris to Toulouse. There's a good road through Orleans and Limoges, and perhaps it's quicker to go that way. But sometimes it's better to go a longer way round. You see more, and there's less traffic, so it's easier to drive.

CONVERSATION

Can you tell me about the taxis?

David: By the way, have you ever been to Greece?

Father: Yes.

David: Good. I'm going there next week. Can you tell me about the taxis? For instance, how far is it from the airport to the centre of Athens?

How much does it cost by taxi? Do I have to give a tip, and if so, how much?

Father: Ah, I'll get my book on Greece.

David: Thanks.

CONVERSATION

The third shelf on the left

Jane: Yes, Mr. Williams. I'll be all right.

Mr. Williams: The peas, for example?

Jane: They're on the third shelf, on the left.

Mr. Williams: And the sugar?

Jane: That's here on the right, on the second shelf. And there's more under the counter.

Mr. Williams: Good. You remembered.

Jane: Of course I remembered.

CONVERSATION

Did I tell you where the milk is?

Mr. Williams: Oh—did I tell you where the milk is?

Jane: Yes. Three times. It's on the left, near the door.

Mr. Williams: Good. And if you need some more this afternoon...

Jane: I can get it from the Country Dairy in South Street, opposite the church. Their telephone number is in your little book.

CONVERSATION

He lives in Sefton Road

Mother: Who's her boyfriend?

Daughter: You know him. Michael Barnes. He works at Sellmore's, in the men's department, on the fourth floor.

Mother: At Sellmore's?

Daughter: Yes. He lives in Sefton Road, on the left next to the school.

Mike: It's a quarter to six. We're meeting Bob and Cathy at six.

Jane: All right. Just a minute.

Mike: We're meeting them outside the snack bar, in South Street.

CONVERSATION

Is Bob here yet?

Joanna: Is Bob here yet?

Heather: Yes. He's getting the flight information. When he's ready we'll leave.

Joanna: Before he arrives I'll telephone one of my friends.

Heather: You've only got a minute or so. When Bob arrives he'll expect





to find you here.

- Joanna: Yes, you're right. OK. I won't phone my friend till Bob arrives.
Heather: Sorry, but you know Bob.
Margaret: I must phone too. When we arrive in London I'll phone from the airport.

CONVERSATION

He's coming

- Margaret: Okay, go in there, girls. He's coming.
Heather: After he arrives we'll all come out.
Margaret: No, it's all right. When he comes, I'll bring him in there.
Heather: If you need any help....
Margaret: Ssh! He's coming. Don't say anything until I bring him in.

- Margaret: I'm glad you came, Jack.
Jack: So am I.
Margaret: All the time I was away, I thought: when I arrive in London, I'll phone Jack. And when he's here with me...
Jack: Yes?
Margaret: Come in here.
Jack: Margaret...
Heather: Hello, Jack.
Jack: Heather! What are you doing? Sue! Carol! Liz! No! Girls, please! No! Help!

CONVERSATION

What did you think of John Wayne?

- Dentist: Did you watch the film on television last night?
Bob: Yes.
Dentist: What did you think of John Wayne?
Bob: Oh, I thought he was very good. I liked the way he walked into that bar.
Dentist: That's true, but he didn't do much and he didn't say much.

CONVERSATION

My local dentist

- Dentist: Who did this work, Robert?
Bob: Mr Smith. He was my local dentist.
Dentist: What did you think of him?
Bob: I thought he was all right. He worked very quickly.
Dentist: Mmm. Not very well, I'm afraid. You've got a tooth that will have to come out.

CONVERSATION

I'd like a present for my brother

- Mr. Smart: I'd like a present for my brother, please.
Mr. Green: What kind of thing are you looking for?
Mr. Smart: I'm not sure.
Mr. Green: Something for him to wear?
Mr. Smart: No, I don't think so.
Mr. Green: Well, what about a watch? This is a very nice watch. Look.
Mr. Smart: Yes, very nice. That's a good idea. How much is it?
Mr. Green: Fifty pounds.
Mr. Smart: I'll take it.





CONVERSATION

I know what I want

Mr. Smart: Can I help you?

Mr. Green: I'd like a present for my brother, please. And I know what I want.

Mr. Smart: Oh, good.

Mr. Green: I want a record.

Mr. Smart: Oh, that's a very good idea, sir. Something classical or modern?

Mr. Green: Something classical, please.

Mr. Smart: Well, what about some Chopin? This is a very nice record.

Mr. Green: All right, I'll take that.

Mr. Smart: Three pounds, sir, please.

CONVERSATION

I'm afraid he's already got it

Shop Assistant: Can I help you, sir?

Man: Yes. I bought this record for my father last week. But I'm afraid he's already got it. Could I change it for something different?

Shop Assistant: Certainly, sir. Have you got your receipt?

Man: Yes. Here you are.

Shop Assistant: Thank you, sir. Would you like to choose something now? Or would you prefer a credit note?

CONVERSATION

It won't start

Producer: Right. We'll try the "Dance a cachucha". Words and music only, this time. I'll record it for you.

John: Oh, no!

Elaine: It'll be terrible.

Producer: It will help you to hear it... Oh, no, it won't start. It's broken...Oh, thanks. Right. Ready, everyone?

Everyone: Yes.

CONVERSATION

Help!

Producer: You were right, Elaine. It was terrible. Oh, no! Now I can't turn it off. Help! Thanks. Can you play it back now, Robert?

Robert: Do we want to hear that again?

Everyone: No.

Robert: Sorry, David. It won't start. It's broken.



CONVERSATION

I've got a problem

Plumber: Hello? Plumbing service?

Woman: Hello. I've got a problem with the sink in the kitchen.

Plumber: What's wrong with it?

Woman: I can't turn the water off. The tap's leaking.

Plumber: Have you turned the water off at the mains?

Woman: I've tried. But the tap doesn't work. Can you send someone round to look at it?

Plumber: I'll send someone to look at it immediately. What's the name and address, please?



MORE EVERYDAY DIALOGS

CONVERSATION

- 1- Is there anything I can do? I'd like to help in some way if I can.
2- I can't think of anything at the moment.
1- Well, maybe I could run errands or something.
2- You could if I needed something.
1- I feel so useless just hanging around with nothing to do.
2- Don't worry. In a couple of days there'll be too much to do. Then you'll want to be back in these lazy days.
1- I guess I'm just a workaholic. I never was very good at doing nothing.
2- Maybe you should learn how to relax and enjoy yourself more.

CONVERSATION

- 1- Where on earth are we?
2- Judging by all the traffic, I'd say we're near the heart of the downtown area.
1- What did I do wrong? Did I take a wrong turn?
2- I'm not sure, but I think that you turned left when you should have turned right.
1- Well, now the problem is how to get back onto the main highway.
2- Well, if I may offer a suggestion.... Why don't you stop and ask a policeman?
1- Yeah, yeah, yeah, I think I see one up there in the next block.

CONVERSATION

- 1- Did you hear the latest about Danny?
2- No. What happened to him?
1- Nothing happened to him exactly. He's going to move to Seattle.
2- To Seattle? That's a long way from here! What in the world made him decide to move to Seattle?
1- He got terrific job offer. I guess the salary was so good he just couldn't turn it down.
2- Well. It certainly will be a switch for him to be living in a place where it rains a lot. You know what a sun lover he is.
1- I guess if you're earning good money you can learn to like rain.
2- I don't know. I've never had the chance to learn. I've never had a lot of money!

CONVERSATION

- 1- When can we expect you for dinner? Can you come tonight?
2- Not tonight. I promised to go to a concert with my sister.
1- Well.... How about Friday then?
2- That sounds fine.
1- Good. Shall we say seven o'clock?



- 2- I'll be there! You're still a fabulous cook, aren't you?
 1- That'll be for you to decide. I've got a new dish that I want to try out on you.
 2- I'm ready. I think I'll fast all day Friday!

CONVERSATION

- 1- I can only tell you this once, so pay close attention.
 2- What do you want me to do? Shall I write it all down?
 1- No, just listen carefully. Try to block out everything else.
 2- I almost feel as if we were getting into something clandestine—like spy work.
 1- Don't be silly! This is a simple matter of concentrating to learn a rather complicated procedure.
 2- Okay. I guess I'm ready.
 1- Good. Now, concentrate.

CONVERSATION

- 1- What time is it?
 2- About half past two.
 1- What time does the mail arrive?
 2- Normally around three o'clock, but it's already been delivered today.
 1- That's too bad. I wanted to have the mailman pick up this letter.
 2- How important is it?
 1- Very. It's the payment on my car, and I'm already a week late.
 2- Well, the only thing to do is to drive to the post office.
 1- That's the catch. My car broke down this morning.
 2- No problem. I'll drive you.

CONVERSATION

- 1- When you finish with that, can we go?
 2- I won't be very long now.
 1- I promised to be home an hour ago.
 2- I'm sorry to take so long. I just didn't expect the delay in receiving these notices. They came nearly two hours late!
 1- I wish I could help you a little, but I don't know a thing about it.
 2- I know. If you give me about two more minutes we can leave.
 1- I think I'll go out and wait in the car.
 2- Okay. I won't be long.

CONVERSATION

- 1- I hear that Sam lost his job. Did you hear that, too?
 2- I did hear something about his job being abolished.
 1- What a terrible thing to happen now, just when he and Helen are expecting their first baby!



- 2- It is a shame, I'll admit, but I told Sam months ago to get out of that place where he works and get another job. I had a feeling that the company wasn't very stable financially.
 1- You mean it's not a strong company? I'd always thought it was one of the strongest around.
 2- If you've been reading the news in the financial section, you could see that the company was headed for trouble. I wouldn't be surprised to see it go bankrupt before the end of the year.
 1- It sure is too bad. Is there anything we can do for Sam?
 2- I'm going to call him this afternoon. I heard yesterday that there's going to be an opening in the section where I work. He can get his application in today.
 1- I'll check things out with my boss, too. There may be something open in one of the departments over in Fairmont.

CONVERSATION

- 1- You're mad! Stark, raving mad!
 2- Oh, I don't know. Weird, maybe, but not mad.
 3- Nobody in his right mind would do a thing like that!
 1- It's so foolhardy, man. You could get hurt,—and seriously.
 2- I know. My mother used to scold me all the time about it.
 3- Well, she doesn't seem to have had any effect.
 2- Actually, I listened to her a lot of the time, but, really, nothing serious has ever happened.
 1- All I can say is, "Somebody up there likes you!"

CONVERSATION

- 1- What's the latest news about Bill?
 2- I talked to him last night on the phone and he said he's feeling a little better.
 3- How long has he been in the hospital now?
 2- Nearly ten days.
 1- He was really sick. The doctors thought he was going to die.
 3- I guess he's pretty tough.
 2- He is, but he also got excellent care. The nurses were just super, and his family doctor gave him a lot of special attention.
 1- Some of these modern drugs can perform miracles, I guess.
 2- That and the expert care he received pulled him through.
 3- Does he have any idea when he'll be able to go back to work?
 2- He's not certain, but the doctor is saying, now, that it might be another three weeks.
 1- It sure will be good to see old Bill back on the job again. I really miss him.
 3- Um-m. Yeah. So do I.



CONVERSATION

- 1- Do you think you can manage this on your own?
 2- I think so, but it would help if we could go over the procedure one more time.
 1- I'd be glad to, but I don't have the time right now.
 2- Then, why don't I just go ahead and practice, and you can check me out later?
 1- I was going to suggest that because it seems to me that you've got it down pat.
 2- That's encouraging, but I'd still like one more review, if you don't mind.
 1- Not at all. I'll be back this afternoon.

CONVERSATION

- 1- You're going to get into a lot of trouble if you do that.
 2- What makes you say that?
 3- I don't see anything wrong with what we're doing.
 1- That's just the problem. In these kinds of things the trouble doesn't always appear at first.
 2- But everything has been so easy!
 3- Everything has gone as smooth as clockwork—just like we planned.
 1- That may be true. But I warn you. There's trouble on the horizon.
 3- You always say that!
 2- Yeah. You never look at the positive side of things.
 1- Okay. Have it your way, but don't say I didn't warn you.

CONVERSATION

- 1- Why don't you begin by telling me something about yourself?
 2- What do you want to know?
 1- The usual—you know—something about your background and experience and anything personal that you feel is pertinent.
 2- Well, I was born in Iowa and went to school there, right up through college. My father is a doctor, and my mother is a lawyer.
 1- Sounds as if you come from a professional family.
 2- That's right. One of my sisters is a dentist and the other one teaches at a university.
 1- What made you decide to get into computers?
 2- Oh, nothing in particular, I guess. I always liked mathematics and tinkering with machines.
 1- Now what about your experience? How long have you been working with computers?
 2- More than five years now. After I did my engineering degree, I began to specialize in computer technology and I even had my own company for a



while.

- 1- It certainly sounds impressive. Why don't you have your credentials sent to me and I'll show them to the board. We'll probably get back to you in a week.
 2- Thanks very much.

CONVERSATION

- 1- What kind of a car do you have?
 2- An old one.
 1- I know it's old, but what make is it?
 2- It's a Chevrolet. Why do you ask? You going into the car business?
 1- Nothing like that. My cousin is going to take a job overseas and he can't take his car with him, so he's going to sell it—cheap. It's practically new.
 2- Well, I have been thinking about getting a newer car. I can't afford a brand new one.
 1- Would you like to look at my cousin's car?
 2- Is it a four-door or a two-door?
 1- It's a coupe with a vinyl roof.
 2- Does it have automatic transmission?
 1- Yes, and it also has power steering, power brakes, and air conditioning.
 2- I guess I might take a look at it. How much is he asking?
 1- I don't know for sure, but he'll make you a good deal.
 2- Okay. Set it up for me to see it, if you can.
 1- I'll phone him this afternoon.

CONVERSATION

- 1- What shall we do today?
 2- Did you have something special in mind?
 1- No. Not really. I just thought that it might be fun to do something we've never done before.
 2- Well, are you feeling adventuresome? Do you want to do something dangerously exciting?
 1- It doesn't have to be dangerous or exciting—just something different. I need a change. I feel like I'm in a rut.
 2- I know the feeling. Usually I get it very spring. I feel I have to get away from it all, you know, seek new horizons, new beginnings...
 1- I thought that was spring fever! What I'm talking about is a change, change from the humdrum, the mundane.
 2- Sounds like the same thing to me! You've just got spring fever in the fall!
 1- Well, anyway, can we discuss what we're going to do today? Maybe we'll come up with some kind of a terrific idea.
 2- Okay by me.



CONVERSATION

- 1- Hey! What's the rush?
2- The bank closes in half an hour and I need to cash a check.
1- I can lend you some money.
2- I need to cash a check because I'm going on a trip weekend. Actually, I want to buy some traveler's checks.
1- Hmm. Can I help in any way?
2- You can drive me to the bank if you want to. My car's out of gas.
1- Yeah. Glad to. Let's go.
2- Wait just a minute. I have to get my checkbook out of the desk.

CONVERSATION

- 1- We shouldn't have very to wait now.
2- I hope not. I'm starving.
3- How can you think of food at a time like this?
1- Easy. I like to eat and I'm hungry.
2- Don't you ever think of anything but food!
3- Sometimes. When I'm asleep I don't.
1- All right you two. That's enough. Let's concentrate on the task at hand. This may well be one of the most important moments of our lives!
2- Okay by me, but I'm still hungry!

CONVERSATION

- 1- There's a good chance that Mary will get home today.
2- Yeah. I had a letter from her friend, Susan, yesterday, and she said that Mary would probably arrive today.
1- Well, I hope she drives carefully. You know how the traffic is this time of year.
2- Oh. Mary's a good driver—and pretty careful, too. I don't think we need to worry about her being careless.
1- True, but, nonetheless, that doesn't mean that all the other drivers are careful. There are a lot of wild drivers out there.
2- I have confidence in Mary. She's very good about driving defensively.

CONVERSATION

- 1- How's school going?
2- Just fine. I finally got the grant to go to graduate school.
1- Great! Are you starting your doctorate?
2- That's right. I'm going to do it in biochemistry.
1- Sounds like an interesting field.
2- It is to me.
1- You've got a degree in nuclear physics, haven't you!
2- Just a Master's degree. Actually, biochemistry is a lot better field for me.

I've always preferred chemistry to physics.

- 1- What do you plan to do after you finish?
2- I haven't decided yet, but probably medical research.
1- Well, you've got some years of hard study ahead of you.
2- I know it.

CONVERSATION

- 1- Was that the telephone ringing?
2- I didn't hear anything.
1- I thought I heard it ring two or three times.
2- Sometimes when the windows are open, you can hear the neighbors' phone.
1- Well, I'm expecting an important phone call, and I don't want to miss it.
2- Is it anything I should know about?
1- Not really. It has something to do with work and doesn't really affect us here at home.
2- Well, why don't you go ahead and do what you wanted to do outside. I'll call you if the phone rings for you.
1- Thanks. I think I will. I've been waiting so long now I'm getting nervous. I need to relax outdoors.



CONVERSATION

- 1- I don't understand how or why, but it seems to have disappeared.
 2- But you just had it this morning, didn't you?
 1- Yes, and I was being very careful, I thought, not to misplace it.
 3- Have you checked all the usual places?
 1- The usual and the unusual.
 3- Well, when I get finished here. I'll give you a hand in looking for it.
 1- Thanks. I'd really appreciate it.
 2- Hey! Look what I found!
 1- That's it! Where in the world was it!
 2- Apparently, it had fallen off the table into the corner.

CONVERSATION

- 1- Whatever became of Martha Stevens?
 2- Didn't you hear? She moved to New York. The last I heard she was working for an advertising agency.
 1- She always was good with words. Remember how she used to make up slogans for different household products?
 2- Yeah. She seemed to be a natural for advertising. But she studied English in school, didn't she?
 1- No. Remember, she majored in art history.
 2- Oh, yeah. Now I remember. We used to have a drill her on the names of painters and their paintings.
 1- She was a lot fun to be around.
 2- Uh-huh. Do you ever hear from her?
 1- Oh, only at Christmas. I guess she's doing very well financially. I think she's a vice-president or some kind of big shot.

CONVERSATION

- 1- There seems to be some sort of commotion up the street in the next block.
 2- Yeah, I thought I heard shouts or screams.
 1- It sounded more like shouts to me.
 2- Think we should investigate?
 1- I don't think that's a good idea. I don't like to get involved in other people's quarrels—if it is a quarrel.
 2- Yeah. I know what you mean. What's that old proverb? Something about anyone who meddles in a quarrel not his own is like a guy who grabs a passing dog by the ears?
 1- That sounds pretty good to me. My folks always taught me to mind my own business, and I think that's good advice!

CONVERSATION

- 1- Did you hear how cold it got last night?
 2- I heard the radio announcer say it was 18 degrees below zero.



- 1- That's cold. I could hardly start my car, it was cold this morning!
 2- My car didn't want to start, either, at firsts.
 1- Don't you have a garage?
 2- Not in the new apartment. We have to leave the car in the parking lot.
 1- How much anti-freeze do you put in your car then? You must have to keep it well below zero.
 2- I do. Right now I have it protected to 30 below.
 1- Does it ever get that cold around here?
 2- Not really. It sometimes gets to 20 below.
 1- Speaking of cold, how about going for a cup of coffee to warm up?

CONVERSATION

- 1- Did you hear about that guy who climbed a skyscraper?
 2- I don't believe I did. Was it on the TV news last night?
 1- Uh-huh. This guy—calls himself "the Human Fly"—climbed up this skyscraper with nothing but some big suction cups!
 2- I suppose he got arrested.
 1- He sure did! As soon as he got to the top of building, the cops were there to grab him!
 2- And he'll have to pay a fine, of course.
 1- In this guy's case it looks as if he might have to go to jail, too!

CONVERSATION

- 1- My uncle says that this is going to be a very hot summer.
 2- Really? How does he know?
 1- Oh. He believes in the Farmer's Almanac. He's always referring to it for information about the future weather, what's going to happen to crops and that sort of thing.
 2- Um. My grandfather was always quoting the Almanac too. He put great store in it.
 1- I've often wondered though just how accurate the weather predictions were. I never did check on it.
 2- I did once or twice. If I remember correctly it was only about 50% right, but there was an amazingly high percentage of correct information about the weather and crops.
 1- I wish the Almanac could help me in a personal matter. I have to make an important decision soon, and I just don't know where to start.

CONVERSATION

- 1- They'll never help us. You know that old saying, "You can't get blood out of a turnip".
 2- I know, I know. But that's no reason not to ask them.
 1- We asked them last year and what did they say?



- 2- Actually, they didn't say anything.
 1- Yeah. They didn't say anything and they didn't do anything.
 2- I think they might do something this year. I was talking to Gail last week and I thought I detected a more friendly attitude.
 1- There you go with your optimism! Don't get your hopes too high!
 2- I won't, but it doesn't hurt to expect the best. Sometimes you get it!

CONVERSATION

- 1- Whatever happened to Nadene Fitzpatrick?
 2- Oh. Didn't you hear? She moved out West.
 1- I didn't know that. When did she leave?
 2- I don't remember exactly, but I think it was about three months ago.
 1- Well, that's certainly news to me.
 2- I heard just last week that she got married.
 1- Nadene married? I can't believe it! Remember how she always said that marriage wasn't for her?
 2- I do, but now apparently, the mighty has fallen!
 1- Do you have her address? I'd like to write her.
 2- I have her old address—the place where she lived before she got married.
 1- Good. I borrow it?

CONVERSATION

- 1- What a scorcher! This's gotta be the hottest day we've had so far this summer.
 2- You can say that again! I've never suffered so much from the heat!
 1- This is the kind of weather that makes me want to stay inside and do nothing.
 2- I'm so glad we have air conditioning.
 1- Me too. I don't know how they stood it in the old days with only fans and shade trees to keep them cool.
 2- I guess it took a strong, pioneer spirit.
 1- Well, I certainly don't seem to have it!



CONVERSATION

- 1- I haven't the remotest idea where it is! Have you looked upstairs?
 2- Yes. And downstairs and in the basement. I've even looked in the car.
 1- Well, the last time I saw it, it was on the table in the living room.
 2- Mother said she put it in the den, but it isn't there. At least, if it is, I can't see it.
 1- Did you ask Harry if he's seen it?
 2- He said he didn't even know I had one.
 1- It seems that it will remain the mystery disappearance of the century!
 2- Unfortunately, I really need it!

CONVERSATION

- 1- There's no reason on earth why we should stay here.
 2- Yes, there is! Somebody's got to keep an eye on things.
 3- That's what I think. Otherwise this whole project could go wrong.
 1- I doubt that. It looks to me as if everything is off to a good start. I don't think there needs to be any more supervision.
 2- It's better to be safe than sorry.
 3- I agree. Sometimes being cautious is the best way to go.
 1- All right. All right. I'm outvoted two to one. So we'll stay.

CONVERSATION

- 1- When did you get here?
 2- Just a few minutes ago.
 3- We've been waiting for almost an hour.
 2- I'm sorry, but I had car trouble—a flat tire.
 1- Oh. That's too bad. Couldn't you have telephoned?
 2- I was going to, but I didn't have any change for a pay phone.
 3- You could have gotten some change in a store.
 2- Not really. The tire went flat out on the edge of town. There wasn't anyplace to call from.
 3- Well, at least you're here now. No need to wait any longer. So let's get started!

CONVERSATION

- 1- Okay. Let's get this matter settled.
 2- It won't be easy.
 3- You've got too many complications. After last night, there's no telling what will happen.
 1- I think you're partly right, but still I also believe that we have to make an attempt.
 2- I'm willing to make an attempt, but if things get all fouled up again, we should quit.

- 3- I don't care one way or the other, but you can count on my help, as much as I can give it. Beyond that, I don't have any ideas.
- 2- What say we spend no more than an hour discussing the matter, and then if we haven't made any progress, call it off, and wait till tomorrow?
- 1- Sounds good to me. I could use some rest. We've been at this now for 18 hours at least!

CONVERSATION

- 1- We seem to have quite a few choices in the matter.
- 2- Like what?
- 3- Like dropping the matter, right now!
- 1- No.No. Now, be serious. The only way to really get at the heart of things is to discuss the matter openly—and dispassionately.
- 2- It sounds good, but I'm not sure that most of us can be dispassionate about it.
- 3- I agree. This whole affair is too fraught with complications.
- 1- Well, look at it as a challenge to our ingenuity, then.
- 2- I left mine at home today.
- 3- So did I, but I guess we can at least try—even though I'm very dubious.
- 1- Thanks. I do appreciate your help.

CONVERSATION

- 1- Who put that there anyway?
- 2- I don't know. Was it there yesterday?
- 1- I don't remember seeing it.
- 2- Is it in the way?
- 1- Yes. It'll have to be moved. It's blocking the entrance.
- 2- I don't think we can move it by ourselves.
- 1- I doubt it.
- 2- Why don't I call Tony? He's not doing anything right now.
- 1- Okay. While you're doing that, I'll take these papers upstairs.

CONVERSATION

- 1- My washing machine went on the blink this morning, so I have to go to the Laundromat this afternoon to do the washing.
- 2- The same thing happened to my dishwasher last week. That's when I got my husband to pitch in and help with the dishes.
- 1- Well, I don't think mine would leave work just to help me wash clothes.
- 2- Have you called a repairman, yet?
- 1- I called the Home Service Center this morning after it happened. They're supposed to be pretty good, aren't they?
- 2- They're good, but they're expensive. What I like about them is that they usually come out the same day you call them.

- 1- That's certainly worth something. You know how we are! We can't live without all our modern conveniences!

CONVERSATION

- 1- "The night is young and you're so beautiful". Isn't that the way the song goes?
- 2- I believe so, and thank you, kind sir.
- 1- Where would you like to go for dinner?
- 2- Oh. I'd rather leave that up to you. Remember, you promised to surprise me.
- 1- I did, didn't I? Well, then, I think dinner first and then to the theatre afterwards.
- 2- That is a surprise. I thought our budget was a little tight this month.
- 1- It was until today. That was the other surprise I was saving to tell you about. I got that raise I'd been promised!
- 2- Wonderful!

CONVERSATION

- 1- So Marsha's getting married?
- 2- That's what I hear!
- 1- That's what I hear, too.
- 2- It's kind of sudden, isn't it?
- 1- I thought so. She's only known the guy a month.
- 2- Reminds me of the old saying, "Look before you leap", at least that's what my grandmother always said.
- 1- Well, you know how Marsha is. She's been a romantic as long as I've known her, always talking about "love at first sight".
- 2- She does tend to act a little too quickly in my judgment.
- 1- Of course, she's not getting any younger.
- 2- True, and as they say. "She who hesitates is lost". In this case, it could be a husband who's lost.



CONVERSATION

- 1- I forgot my watch. What time is it?
2- It's about half past nine.
1- Do you think I'll have time to go to the drugstore before it closes?
2- I don't know. What time does it close?
1- I think at ten o'clock.
2- Can't you make it in half an hour?
1- I don't know. I've got to change my clothes first.
2- Why don't you just go as you are? Nobody important is going to see you.
1- That's what you think. The last time I went like this, about ten thousand people I know saw me.
2- Ten thousand?
1- Well, at least two or three!

CONVERSATION

- 1- Did you find the money I left on the desk?
2- Yes. But what's it for?
1- Did you see the note I left?
2- I didn't see any note.
1- Well, I felt a note saying I wanted you to get some stamps at the post office.
2- Why can't you get them?
1- The post office is closed when I get off work.
2- You could get them on Saturday morning.
1- I know but I won't be in town on Saturday. I'm going on a hike with some of the guys.
2- Okay. I'll get them for you. What do you need?
1- I need a book of regular stamps and two of airmail. And thanks for doing it for me.
2- It's okay. You're welcome.

CONVERSATION

- 1- I see there's a full moon tonight.
2- Does that put you in a romantic mood?
1- Not really. My moods don't depend on the moon.
2- I thought that the moon was supposed to have an effect on people.
1- I suppose so. At least that's what I've read about various superstitions.
2- Isn't there one about the moon's affecting a person so that goes crazy?
1- I believe so—especially if the moon were to shine on your face while you're asleep.
2- You know how we call a person "looney" if he acts crazy. Isn't that related to the Latin word for moon, luna?
1- I'm not sure. Maybe it is. Probably it comes from lunatic and that comes

from luna.

- 2- Well, I'd better watch where I sleep!

CONVERSATION

- 1- How long are you going to be at the service station?
2- I don't know for sure. Not long if they're not busy. Maybe an hour.
1- Could you drop me off at the department store? I want to look at some shoes they advertised on sale.
2- Sure thing, I'll probably go over to the bowling alley and talk to Tim while they're fixing the car.
1- Where should I meet you then?
2- I can pick you up in an hour and a half in front of the drugstore, is that okay?
1- Fine with me. I'll see you then.

CONVERSATION

- 1- Did you see the movie on channel 6 last night?
2- No. I missed it. I went shopping for clothes.
1- It was an excellent film. It had been made especially for television, you know.
2- I read the preview in yesterday's paper and hoped to watch it last night, but, then, Meg called me to go shopping with her. So I went.
1- You remember that the critic thought that it was one of the best films of the last ten years.
2- Yes. I do remember. He felt it would be a candidate for some film awards at the end of the year.
1- Well, if I were one of the judges, I'd pick it as the best film of the year. I haven't seen such a marvelous plot and such superb acting in a long time!
2- Sounds as if I'll have to see it, if they ever re-run it.

CONVERSATION

- 1- The other night certainly was an interesting one, wasn't it?
2- You enjoyed it, then?
1- Immensely. I don't think I've ever been with such a stimulating group of people.
2- They are lively, aren't they? I think they're one of the liveliest groups I've ever been with.
1- I certainly got my mind stretched! I think it was shrinking!
2- I find that's true with me, too. One needs that kind of company now and again just to keep the old gray matter from getting stagnant!
1- Will the group be meeting again soon?
2- Not for another two months. We're taking a month's break because so many of us are going to be on vacation.



- 1- Well, let me know when you're going to meet again. I'd like to join you.
- 2- Don't worry. I will.

CONVERSATION

- 1- Just look! The day has dawned lovely!
- 2- It certainly looks clear—good day for a picnic.
- 1- I was thinking the same thing.
- 2- Well, how about it then?
- 1- Okay by me. How soon do you want to leave?
- 2- Say...in an hour.
- 1- Make it an hour and a half. We have to take time to get some more food, and besides that I'd like to invite Nancy and Jim.
- 2- Fine. While you're getting things ready in the house, I'll go pack the car.

CONVERSATION

- 1- Can you help me?
- 2- What seems to be the trouble?
- 1- My zipper's stuck.
- 2- Let me take a look. It looks as if a piece of your blouse is caught in the zipper.
- 1- Can you get it out without tearing the blouse?
- 2- I think so. We'll just have to be patient and work it out little by little. This happened to me once, and I finally got the zipper clear without tearing anything.
- 1- Well. Be careful! I hope you can get it. This is a new blouse.
- 2- Never fear! If we go slowly, it should come loose without causing any damage.

CONVERSATION

- 1- Have you met Barry?
- 2- I think so, but I don't remember what he looks like.
- 1- He's a most unusual person.
- 2- What do you mean by unusual?
- 3- You'll understand when you see him.
- 2- You mean it's his physical appearance?
- 1- Not exactly. There's a certain way that he has of speaking and choosing his words that's unique. But that's not what I'm talking about.
- 3- That's part of it. But it goes beyond speech. I guess it's what some people call "charisma".
- 2- Oh, that. Now I know what you're talking about. I'm just full of it!
- 1- Ha, ha. Big joke!



CONVERSATION

- 1- Hey! "Curiosity killed the cat!"
- 2- Now, just what do you mean by that remark?
- 1- I saw you nosing around in my mail!
- 2- I wasn't nosing around in your mail. I was looking for something.
- 1- Uh-huh. That's what they all say. Why would it be in my mail?
- 2- I think I left it there on your desk a day or so ago.
- 1- If that's the case, just tell me what it is and I'll help you look for it.
- 2- It's that memo from headquarters about the new quarterly plan. I was supposed to write a reply for the supervisor.
- 1- Oh that. I put it in that file cabinet by the door. It's in the second drawer.
- 2- Oh, thanks a lot!

CONVERSATION

- 1- Can I help you with those packages?
- 2- Huh? Why, yes. I could use some help. That's very kind of you.
- 1- No trouble at all. Are you parked nearby?
- 2- Right over there. The white station wagon.
- 1- Where do you want me to put these?
- 2- In the back will be fine. Just let me open the tailgate.
- 1- It looks as if you're having Christmas early at your house.
- 2- No. It's my twin girl's birthday, so I had to buy presents for two!

CONVERSATION

- 1- The other day you quoted something about economics from a book you had been reading, and I've been trying to remember what it was.
- 2- It must have been from that new book by Shelley because that's the only one I've been reading.
- 1- Yeah. That's the author. We were talking about deficit spending and you quoted something that Shelley had said that I thought was so accurate.
- 2- Was it related to national or international policies?
- 1- National. Later we talked about the international scene.
- 2- I think I know what you're referring to. Let me bring the book tomorrow because I don't remember the quote exactly myself.
- 1- Okay.

CONVERSATION

- 1- The other night we were watching TV and the strangest thing happened.
- 2- Really? What?
- 1- It was during that thunderstorm we had. You remember. It poured down rain and there was a lot of lightning and thunder.
- 2- I remember quite well. The children were frightened, and the dog ran and hid under the bed!

- 1- Well, anyway, the lightning flashed a number of times, and we were going to turn off the TV. That's when this strange thing happened.
- 2- I hope the lightning didn't hit your TV!
- 1- Oh, nothing as serious as that. But, suddenly the TV began to change channels rapidly—all by itself!
- 2- That's weird.
- 1- I'll say! It was a little scary, too.

CONVERSATION

- 1- Whose book is this?
- 2- It's mine. Why do you ask?
- 1- Could I borrow it? I've been wanting to read it.
- 2- Be my guest, but I warn you. It's not as good as they say.
- 1- What's the matter with it?
- 2- Well, for one thing the plot is highly improbable and for another, the characters seem more like paper dolls than people.
- 1- That's strange. Usually that author does a good job of characterization. I've read three of his books and thought they were all well done.
- 2- I've been a fan of his for a long time too, but he really flubbed on this one!
- 1- What did the reviews say?
- 2- They were mixed—some good, some bad. My review, bad!

CONVERSATION

- 1- Okay. Let's get this problem solved.
- 2- It's not going to be all that easy, you know.
- 3- What I want to know is why it's suddenly become our problem?
- 1- The explanation is quite simple. We were asked to solve it.
- 3- Well, nobody asked me!
- 1- I'm asking you now. In fact I'm telling you.
- 2- Wait a minute. Who put you in charge, anyway?
- 1- Nobody, but I can see that if someone doesn't assume some authority, we'll never make any progress.
- 2- Frankly, I don't care!
- 3- Me neither. I'm leaving! So long.

CONVERSATION

- 1- That's really too bad. This whole thing has turned into a terrible mess.
- 2- Yeah, and I sure didn't expect it to. It seemed like the right thing to do at the time.
- 1- Well, have you had any help from the insurance company?
- 2- Not really. They just hem and haw about making some kind of a settlement.
- 1- It sounds to me as if you've got a strong case in your favor. Have you talked to a lawyer?

- 2- Not yet. But if the insurance company doesn't do something by next week, I think I will.
- 1- Well. Let me know if you want the name of a good one. My cousin is one of the best lawyers in the area.

CONVERSATION

- 1- You look rather pale. Aren't you feeling well?
- 2- Not very. I was sick most of the night. I didn't sleep very well.
- 1- What seems to be the matter? Is it the flu?
- 2- No, I think it's something I ate. We ate at that new restaurant last night, and I must have eaten something that didn't agree with me.
- 1- Was it that new restaurant over on Fourth Street?
- 2- As a matter of fact, it was. Why do you ask?
- 1- Because, Jerry ate there last week and had the same kind of problem. He was sick the next day, too.
- 2- That's interesting. Maybe the health authorities should investigate the place.
- 1- That's what I think. Two people with similar problems in such a short time can't just be coincidence!

CONVERSATION

- 1- Do you think we'll have time to stop for lunch soon?
- 2- Why? Are you starving?
- 1- Not quite, but almost. Don't forget I didn't eat any breakfast.
- 2- It was your own fault. You preferred staying in bed another thirty minutes to eating breakfast.
- 1- It seemed like a good idea at the time.
- 2- I won't let you starve. I have to stop for gas in the next town anyway and you can eat then.
- 1- Will that be long?
- 2- Only about ten minutes.

CONVERSATION

- 1- Well, you know what they say. "A chain is only as strong as its weakest link". So, I think we should get rid of him.
- 2- Isn't that a little drastic?
- 1- Not really. He's been given every chance to prove that he's competent and so far he hasn't produced anything worthwhile.
- 2- I had the impression that he did a good job on that project we had in the spring.
- 1- He started out okay, but wasn't able to finish the job. Someone else had to take over.
- 2- Well, it's too bad. He's a very likeable guy.
- 1- I know, but you know the old saying. "Nice guys finish last!"



CONVERSATION

- 1- You're the only person who knows what really happened.
2- That's not quite true. Stan Bailey was there, too.
3- Oh. Was he there? I didn't know that.
2- Well, actually, he wasn't there all the time, but still I think he was enough to give some valuable insight on the matter.
1- Do you think I should call him? Would he be willing to help?
2- No problem. You know Stan. He's the kind of guy that's always willing to go the extra mile.
3- Hey. That's right. I remember one time when he gave up two days of vacation just to help me out with a problem I had.
1- That's good to know. I guess I'll give him a call today, then.

CONVERSATION

- 1- How long before we get to Phoenix?
2- Oh, I don't know. About an hour I guess.
1- Do you want to play a game of chess?
2- Do you think we'll have time?
1- We can play till we get to Phoenix.
2- Okay. But I'm not very good.
1- That's what they all say!
2- No, seriously. I haven't played very much at all.
1- Well...that doesn't matter. Neither have I! But I really would like to learn to play well.
2- "Practice makes perfect" they say.
1- I know, but I don't think I'll ever be able to practice enough!

CONVERSATION

- 1- Why, Tom! What a nice surprise! What brings you out here?
2- Oh, I had some time on my hands and thought I'd take a little drive in the country. And, I wanted you to meet my friend, Richard.
1- How do you do. It's pleasure to meet you.
3- It's a pleasure to meet you, too.
1- Do come in, both of you. Can you stay for lunch?
2- I'm afraid not. We want to see some other people this morning, so we can only stay for a few minutes.
1- But you do have time for coffee, don't you?
2- That would be nice.
1- Please, sit down while I go fix the coffee. I won't be a minute.

CONVERSATION

- 1- Hey. I'm sorry to interrupt, but there's something important I have to tell

you.

- 2- Can't it wait?
1- Not really. It's pretty important.
3- Is it a matter of life and death?
1- Well. Not exactly, but almost. It could affect our future drastically.
2- Sounds to me like a scheme to get us away from the TV!
3- Yeah. What's more important than this championship game?
1- Just like I said. What we have to discuss.
2- How long will it take?
1- Not more than five minutes.
3- Okay. But wait until the next commercial. And remember—no more than five minutes!

CONVERSATION

- 1- The time has come to say goodbye.
2- So soon. It seems as if you just got here.
1- I feel that way, too, but all good things must come to an end, they say.
2- It certainly has been a pleasure seeing you again and renewing old memories.
1- I've had a delightful time and I really appreciate your spending so much time showing me the sights.
2- Oh. It was fun for me, too. It gave me a chance to get away from my routine and do something a little bit different.
1- You'll be out to see us next year, then, as you promised?
2- Oh, yes. Unless something catastrophic comes up, that's our present plan. We should be there some time early in September.
1- We'll be expecting you.

CONVERSATION

Please Call me Dave
Hello, My name is David Johnson.
Please call me Dave.
I am from Toronto, Canada.

Hello. I am Mrs. Tato.
I'm from Kyushu, Japan.

Hi! My name is Antonio Tavares.
I am from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
Please call me Tony.



CONVERSATION

Meeting someone

Noriko: Hi! My name is Noriko Sato. I am from Osaka, Japan. What is your name?
 Chuck: I'm Chuck O'Brien.
 Noriko: And where are you from, Chuck?
 Chuck: I'm from Austin, Texas.
 Noriko: Oh, really? Nice to meet you.
 Chuck: Nice to meet you, too.
 Noriko: By the way, what do you do?
 Chuck: I'm a sales manager. And how about you?
 Noriko: I'm a dance instructor.
 Chuck: Hey, Noriko, can I join your class?

Giovanni: Hello.
 Vera: Hi.
 Giovanni: Excuse me. Are you from Italy?
 Vera: No, I'm from Brazil.
 Giovanni: Oh? What city are you from?
 Vera: I'm from Sao Paulo.
 Giovanni: Oh, really? By the way, my name's Giovanni.
 Vera: Hi, I'm Vera.
 Giovanni: Are you on vacation here?
 Vera: No, I'm not. I'm studying English.

CONVERSATION

Saying goodbye

Adam: Goodbye. See you tomorrow.
 Greg: See you. Take it easy.
 Adam: Bye! See you later!
 Greg: Yeah, bye!
 Adam: Goodbye.
 Greg: Bye-bye. See you on Wednesday.
 Adam: Goodbye. Have a nice evening.
 Greg: Thanks. You, too!

CONVERSATION

It's a great job!

A: Good morning, George.
 B: Good morning, Mary.

A: How are you?
 B: Fine, thanks.

A: Hello, Mrs. Garcia. How are you doing?
 B: Pretty good, thanks. How about you, Pierre?
 A: Not bad, thanks.

A: Good morning, Ann. How's everything?
 B: OK, thanks. How are you today? Toshi?
 A: Just fine, thanks.

A: Where do you work?
 B: I work for Thomas Cook Travel.
 A: Oh, really? And what do you do there?
 B: I'm a guide. I take people on tours to Europe.
 A: That sounds interesting.
 B: Yes, it's a great job. I love it! And what do you do?
 A: I'm a student, and I work part-time, too.
 B: Oh? Where do you work?
 A: I work in a fast food restaurant. I cook hamburgers.
 B: Big Macs?
 A: No, Whoppers! I work for Burger King.

CONVERSATION

Names and addresses

Clerk: What is your name, please?
 Mary: Mary Moore.
 Clerk: Is that M-O-O-R-E?
 Mary: Yes, that's right.
 Clerk: And what's your address?
 Mary: 809 Oak Street, Apartment 1201, Westwood, California.
 Clerk: And what's your phone number?
 Mary: It's 732-1465.
 Clerk: Thank you very much.
 Mary: You're welcome.

CONVERSATION

I'm just looking, thanks

Sally: Oh, look at this bracelet, Carlos! It's lovely!
 Carlos: Yeah, it's OK.
 Sally: Excuse me, please. How much is this?
 Clerk: Oh, that's on sale. It's only \$75.



Carlos: That's crazy! Come on, Sally...

Carlos: Hey, Sally, how do you like these running shoes?

Sally: Well, they're all right, I guess.

Carlos: Excuse me. How much are these?

Clerk: They're \$80.

Carlos: Oh, that's not bad!

Sally: Eighty dollars! Well, thanks, anyway. We're just looking.

A: Hello.

B: Hi, I'm calling about the car for sale.

A: Yes, what would you like to know?

B: Well, what kind is it?

A: It's a Toyota Celica.

B: And how old is it?

A: It's about four years old.

B: Oh. How much do you want for it.

A: \$5,200.

B: Mmm. I think I'd like to see it. Is 8 o'clock OK?

A: Yes, that's fine. My address is 139 King Street, Apartment 4.

A: OK, thanks a lot. See you later. Bye!

B: Bye.

CONVERSATION

What kind of music do you like?

Likes and dislikes

Liz: Do you like jazz, Tom?

Tom: No, I don't like it very much. Do you?

Liz: It's OK. What kind of music do you like?

Tom: Well, I like rock a lot.

Liz: What's your favorite group?

Tom: U2. How about you? Do you like them?

Liz: No, I don't. I can't stand them!

CONVERSATION

Invitations

Dave: There's a jazz concert at the Blue Note on Friday. Would you like to go?

Joan: Yeah, that sounds good! What time is the concert?

Dave: It's at 10 o'clock.

Joan: Great! Let's go.

CONVERSATION

Tell me about your family

Rita: What do you do, Keiko?

Keiko: I'm a lawyer.

Rita: Really? Tell me about your family.

Keiko: Well, I'm married and have two children.

Rita: And what does your husband do?

Keiko: He has an export business.

Rita: Oh, that's interesting.

Keiko: And how about you, Rita? Do you have any brothers and sisters?

Rita: Yes, I have a brother and a sister.

Keiko: Really? And what do they do?

Rita: Well, my brother teaches French, and my sister drives a taxi.

Keiko: No kidding.

CONVERSATION

Do you play tennis?

Routines

Marie: What do you usually do on your day off, Chuck?

Chuck: Well, I always get up very early, around 5 o'clock. And I lift weights for an hour.

Marie: You're kidding.

Chuck: No, and then I usually run for about 2 hours.

Marie: Wow! You really like to stay in shape.

Chuck: And after that, I come home and eat a big breakfast. How about you?

Marie: Oh, on my day off, I just watch TV all day, I guess I'm a real couch potato!

Cathy: What great muscles, Pedro! Do you work out in a gym?

Pedro: Yeah, I do.

Cathy: How often do you work out?

Pedro: Every day after work. You're in pretty good shape, too, Gathy.

Cathy: Thanks. I take an aerobics class twice a week.

Pedro: Good for you! Hey! Race you to McDonald's for a chocolate milkshake!

Cathy: Ok!



CONVERSATION

It was terrific!

On vacation

Mike: Hi, Celia! How was your trip to Japan?

Celia: It was wonderful! I really enjoyed it.

Mike: How long were you there?

Celia: I was there for three weeks.

Mike: Great! And did you go to Kyoto?

Celia: Yes it's a beautiful city.

Mike: What did you do there?

Celia: Well, I visited some temples. They're really fantastic! And then I went to a sumo match in Osaka. That was fun!

Mike: And did you like Japanese food?

Celia: Yes, I did, but I didn't like sushi.

Mike: Oh, really? I love it!

Celia: By the way, do you want to see my photos?

Mike: Sure!

CONVERSATION

You can't miss it!

The neighborhood

Jack: Excuse me, ma'am, I'm your new neighbor. I just moved in. My name's Jack.

Woman: Oh, yes.

Jack: Say, are there any grocery stores around here?

Woman: Yes, there are some on Pine Street.

Jack: OK. And is there a laundromat near here?

Woman: Well, I think there's one opposite the shopping center.

Jack: Thank's ma'am.

Woman: By the way, there's a barber shop in the shopping center.

Jack: A barber shop?

Dan: Where do you live, Kim?

Kim: I just moved into a new apartment on Bush street.

Dan: Oh! What's it like?

Kim: It's really nice.

Dan: How big is it?

Kim: Well, it's fairly big. It has two bedrooms, a living room, and a big kitchen. It also has a pool.

Dan: Sounds great!

Kim: Yeah. There's a Jacuzzi, too.

Dan: Gee, that's terrific! And what's the neighborhood like?

Kim: It's very quiet, I really like it.

CONVERSATION

Which one is Judy?

Sarah: Hi, good to see you! Where's Margaret? Is she coming tonight?

Raoul: Oh, she couldn't make it. She's working late.

Sarah: Well, why don't you go and talk to Judy? She doesn't know anyone here.

Raoul: Judy? Oh, which one is she?

Sarah: She's standing near the window. She's wearing a black mini-skirt.

Raoul: OK! I'll talk to her later.

CONVERSATION

Guess what happened!

Jill: Oh, I love this car! It's so much fun to drive. Have you ever driven a sports car?

Ted: No, I haven't, but please slowdown a little, Jill. You're doing nearly so!

Jill: Am I? Oh, sorry, but don't worry. I've never gotten a speeding ticket.

Ted: Um, how long till we get there? You know, I've never been to Disneyland before.

Jill: Oh, we'll be there in about an hour.

CONVERSATION

An embarrassing situation

Bill: Do you know what happened on Sunday?

Rose: No, what?

Bill: I went downtown to do some shopping. Then I went to a restaurant for lunch. I ate lunch and asked for the check. But I found I didn't have enough money!

Rose: How embarrassing! So what did you do?

Bill: Well, first I called my parents, but they were out. After that I tried my roommate, but he was out, too. So finally I phoned my boss at home. He was very nice and brought me some money.

Rose: That was lucky!



CONVERSATION

It's an interesting place

Linda: Whereabouts in Canada are you from?

Steve: I'm from Toronto.

Linda: Oh, I've never been there. What's it like?

Steve: It's a great city! It has good museums and wonderful restaurants. And the nightlife is exciting, too.

Linda: Really? Is it expensive there?

Steve: Well, it is not bad, but apartments are fairly expensive

David: Can you tell me a little about Mexico?

Maria: Yes, sure. What would you like to know?

David: Well, when's he the best time to visit?

Maria: Mmm, you should go in the winter or spring. The weather is nice then. It's not very hot.

David: Really? And does Mexico have good beaches?

Maria: Yes, the beaches are excellent.

David: On, good! And what places should I see?

Maria: Well, you should go to Mexico City. And you shouldn't miss the Mayan ruins. They are very interesting.

David: Great! I can't wait to go there!

CONVERSATION

It really works!

Joan: Hi! How are you?

Craig: Oh, not so good.

Joan: Gee, what's the matter?

Craig: I have a terrible cold.

Joan: Really? That's too bad! Have you taken anything for it?

Craig: No, not yet.

Joan: Well, do you know what you should do? Chop up some garlic and cook it in chicken stock. Then drink a cup every half hour. It really works!

Craig: Ugh!

A: How are you, Mrs. Webb?

B: Well, I'm fine. But I'd like something for my husband. He doesn't have any energy these days.

A: Oh, that's too bad.

B: Can I have some multi- vitamins with vitamin E?

A: All right. Do you want a large or small bottle?

B: Could I have two large ones, please?

A: Why yes. Mrs. Webb. Here you are.

CONVERSATION

May I take your order, please?

Reservations

Host: Hard Rock Cafe. May I help you?

Carl: Yes. Can I make a reservation for Saturday the 16th, for two, please?

Host: Certainly. For what time?

Carl: Six o'clock.

Host: All right. And could I have your name and phone number?

Carl: Sure. My name is Carl Moro and the number is 590-3442.

Host: O.K. Mr. Moro, that's a table for two at 6 on Saturday, the 16th.

Carl: Thank you. Good bye.

Host: Good bye.

CONVERSATION

Ordering a meal

Waiter: May I take your order, please?

Customer: Yes. I'd like a hamburger and a large order of french fries, please.

Waiter: All right. And would you like a salad?

Customer: Yes, I'll have a small salad.

Waiter: OK. What kind of dressing would you like? We have Thousand Island, Italian, and French.

Customer: Italian.

Waiter: And would you like anything to drink?

Customer: I'd like a large Coke, please.

Waiter: Thank you.

CONVERSATION

Thanks and goodbye

A: Thank you for inviting me. The dinner was delicious!

B: You're welcome. I'm glad you enjoyed it.

A: Good bye now! Take care!

B: Thank. You too. Bye!



CONVERSATION

It's the greatest!

Making comparisons

Alan: Gee, Los Angeles is a terrible place to live! I'm glad I live in New York.

Sue: Come on! Los Angeles is much nicer than New York! It's warmer, it's cheaper, and it's cleaner.

Alan: Cleaner? Are you kidding? Anyway, I love New York. It's much more exciting than Los Angeles. And the people are friendlier, too.

Sue: Well, you can have New York!

Alan: And you can have Los Angeles!

Johnny: Hey, Dad. Can you help me with this crossword puzzle?

Dad: O.K. I'll try.

Johnny: What's the largest continent in the world?

Dad: Oh, that's easy. It's Asia.

Johnny: And what's the highest mountain?

Dad: It's Mount Everest, I think.

Johnny: Gee, Dad, you're so smart!

Dad: I know!

CONVERSATION

What are you doing Friday night?

Telephone messages

Secretary: Good morning, Parker Industries.

Mr. Kale: Hello. May I speak to Ms. Graham, please?

Secretary: I'm sorry. She's not in. Would you like to leave a message?

Mr. Kale: Yes, please. This is Mr. Kale.

Secretary: Is that G-A-L-E?

Mr. Kale: No, it's K-A-L-E.

Secretary: All right.

Mr. Kale: Please tell her the meeting is on Friday at 2:30.

Secretary: Friday at 2:30.

Mr. Kale: And would you ask her to phone me this afternoon? My number is 356-4031.

Secretary: 356-4031. Yes, Mr. Kale, I'll give Ms. Graham the message.

Mr. Kale: Thank you. Goodbye.

Secretary: Goodbye.

CONVERSATION

Inviting someone out

Anna: Hello?

Tony: Hi, Anna! This is Tony.

Anna: Hi, Tony! How are you doing?

Tony: Good, thanks. Say, what are you doing Friday night? Would you like to go out?

Anna: Oh, sorry, I can't. I'm working late.

Tony: Well, how about Saturday night? Are you doing anything then?

Anna: No, I'm not.

Tony: Well, would you like to see a musical?

Anna: Sure, I'd love to! My treat this time.

Tony: All right! Thanks!

CONVERSATION

A time to remember

A: Hi. Can I give you a hand?

B: Oh, thanks.

A: By the way, I'm Maria. I'm in Apartment 203.

B: Oh? I'm moving into 204. My name is Noriko.

A: Nice to meet you.

B: Good to meet you, too.

A: And where are you from, Noriko?

B: I'm from Japan, from Osako.

A: Oh, really? And are you going to school here?

B: No, I'm a reporter. I just started working for World News. And how about you, Maria? What do you do?

A: I'm a law student. I go to UC Berkeley. Say, why don't you come over for coffee later?

B: Oh, thanks. I'd love to.

Ann: I just saw a great video, Stand By Me.

Jeff: Oh, yeah. I loved that movie! It really reminded me of my childhood.

Claudio: Me, too! What's your favourite childhood memory, Jeff?

Jeff: Um, let me see. Oh, I remember... My best friend and I built a treehouse in the back yard. We used to play in it all summer. It was really fun!



CONVERSATION

I'm just passing through

A: Excuse me, officer. Could you tell me how often the number 6 bus comes?

B: You just missed it, ma'am, but there's another one in half an hour.

A: Oh, no! Then could you tell me where Adam Street is?

B: Two blocks east and one block north, ma'am.

A: Thank you. And just one more thing. Do you know where the nearest restroom is?

B: Right behind you, ma'am. See that sign?

A: Oh! Thanks a lot.

A: Excuse me, please. Do you know where the nearest bank is?

B: Well, the City Bank isn't far from here. Do you know where the Main Post office is

A: No, not really. I'm just passing through.

B: Well, first go down this street to the traffic light.

A: O. K.

B: Then turn left and go west on Sunset Boulevard for about two blocks. The bank is on your right, just past the post office.

A: All right. Thanks!

B: You're welcome.

CONVERSATION

That's outrageous!

A: Hello?

B: Hello, Mr. Andrews? This is Max from Rialty's Rialty.

A: Hi, Have you found a house for me yet?

B: Yes, I have a great house to show you on Padley Drive. It's only \$ 200,000.

A: Oh, that's too expensive for me.

B: Well, I have another one on Bank Street. It's only \$ 85, 000. But it only has one bedroom.

A: Oh, that's not big enough

B: Well, how about a house in the country?

A: That sounds interesting.

B: Yes, it's fairly old, so it needs a little work. But it's really nice, and it has a lovely view.

Client: Hotels are really expensive in Bangkok!

Agent: Yes, but not as expensive as Tokyo. I just paid \$150 a night there!

Client: That's outrageous!

Agent: Yes, it is.

Client: But which is more interesting?

Agent: Well, Tokyo has good sightseeing, but Bangkok's much more fun,

especially at night!

CONVERSATION

I've never heard of that!

A: Hey, this sounds good-snails with garlic. Have you ever eaten snails?

B: No, I haven't.

A: Oh, they're delicious! I had them last time. Like to try some?

B: No, thanks. They sound strange.

C: Have you decided on an appetizer yet?

A: Yes. I'll have the snails, please.

C: And you, sir?

B: I think I'll have the fried brains.

A: Fried brains? Now that sounds strange.

A: What's your favourite snack?

B: Oh, it's a sandwich with peanut butter, honey, and a banana. It's really delicious!

A: Ugh! I've never heard of that! How do you make it?

B: Well, first, you take two pieces of bread and spread peanut butter on them. Then cut up a banana into small slices and put them on one of the pieces of bread. Then pour some honey over the bananas and put the other piece of bread on top.

A: It sounds awful!

CONVERSATION

Going places

A: Hey, Mom, I'm thinking of hitchhiking around Europe this summer. What do you think?

B: Hitchhiking? That sounds dangerous! You shouldn't go by yourself. You ought to go with a friend.

A: Yes, I've thought of that.

B: And you'd better talk to your father first.

A: I did already. He thinks it's a great idea. He wants to come with me!

Jumi: Are you going to go to the Halloween party?

Greg: Sure. I love Halloween!

Jumi: What are you going to wear?

Greg: I'm going as Frankenstein. How about you?

Jumi: I'm going to go as the Bride of Frankenstein.

Greg: Hey, maybe we should go together.

CONVERSATION

What on earth is this?



- A: What on earth is this?
 B: Oh, that's called a Musical Finder. It's the most wonderful new gadget on the market today!
 A: Oh, what's it for?
 B: It's used for finding things. And it's terrific! Look. You clip it on your glasses at night so you can find them in the morning. Then you just clap twice and you hear a tune. Listen.
 A: Uh, I don't wear glasses. Thanks, anyway.
- A: Good afternoon, sir. May I help you?
 B: Uh, something's wrong with this watch.
 A: What's the problem.
 B: Well, it's stopped.
 A: Oh? How long have you had it?
 B: About a year.
 A: OK. Let me have a look. Oh, the battery needs to be changed, and I think the watch needs cleaning. That's all!

CONVERSATION

Let's celebrate!

- A: Did you know it's St. Patrick's Day next week?
 B: Oh, is it? What happens then?
 A: Well, it's a day when Irish people wear green. And there's usually a big parade and lots of parties. Would you like to come to a party?
 B: Sure.
 A: Good! Remember to wear something green!
 B: Ok. Maybe I'll wear that green tie you gave me for my birthday.

- A: You look beautiful in that kimono, Mari. Is this your wedding photo?
 B: Yes, it is.
 A: Do most Japanese women wear kimonos when they get married?
 B: Yes, many of them do. Then after the wedding ceremony, the bride usually changes into a Western bridal dress during the reception.
 A: Oh, I didn't know that.

CONVERSATION

Back to the future

- Cindy: Grandma, do you think people were better off in the past than they are now?
 Grandma: Well, yes, in some ways, because people didn't rush around like they do today.
 Cindy: Yeah, I guess so.
 Grandma: But there are some things I like better today.
 Cindy: Really? Like what?

- Grandma: Well, I love my new car! And I couldn't live without my computer! I'm really hooked on computer games!

- A: You know, I really should give up smoking. I'm up to two packs a day.
 B: Yeah, and it's getting more expensive, too. If I gave up smoking I could save about \$100 a month.
 A: The trouble is, though, if I stop smoking, I'll probably gain weight.
 B: Uh-huh. And if I stop, I might start chewing my nails again.
 A: Mmm. Well, I guess I'd only stop smoking if they passed a law banning cigarettes.
 B: Me too. Got a match?

CONVERSATION

I don't like working overtime

- A: Are there any interesting jobs in the paper today?
 B: Well, here's one for a tour guide. But you have to work Saturdays and Sundays.
 A: I don't want to work on weekends.
 B: Neither do I. Oh, there's another here for a salesperson. It's a job selling children's books.
 A: Sounds interesting.
 B: Yes, but you need a driver's license, and I can't drive.
 A: Oh, I can! I just got my license. What's the phone number?
 B: It's 798-3455.

- A: Have you met the new sales manager?
 B: Yes, I have.
 A: What do you think of him?
 B: Well, he seems very nice. He's very friendly, and he's always helpful.
 A: Oh, do you think so?
 B: Yes, but I think he's kind of forgetful. He never remembers my name.
 A: Yeah, you're right. He's very forgetful.
 B: Oh, do you know him?
 A: Yes, he's my husband!

CONVERSATION

It's really worth seeing!

- A: Have you studied for the test tomorrow?
 B: Yes, I have.
 A: OK. Let me quiz you on the Panama Canal.
 B: All right. Go ahead.
 A: Who was the canal built by?
 B: It was started by the French and completed by the Americans.



- A: Right! And when was it completed?
B: It was completed in 1911.
A: No! It was completed in 1914.
B: Oh, that's right.
- A: Hello?
B: Oh, hello. I need some information. What currency is used in Japan?
A: Where?
B: In Japan.
A: I'm not sure. Isn't it the yen?
B: Oh, yes. And do they drive on the left or the right?
A: I think the left, but I'm not sure.
B: Oh, Well, is English spoken much there?
A: I really have no idea.
B: Uh? Well, what about credit cards? Are American Express cards used there?
A: How would I know?
B: Well, you're a travel agent, aren't you?
A: What? A travel agent? This is Linda's Hair Salon.
B: Oh, sorry, wrong number!

CONVERSATION

It's been a long time!

- A: Hey Joan! I haven't seen you since graduation!
B: Yeah! It's been a long time, pete!
A: So, what have you been doing since then?
B: Well, right after I graduated, I married the boy next door. But, unfortunately, it didn't work out. Now I'm back at school. Have about you?
- A: So tell me a little more about yourself, Sharon.
B: Well, when I graduated from drama school, I tried to get a job as an actress in Hollywood.
A: Really?
B: Yeah, but I didn't get any parts. After two years, I finally got a job with Universal studios.
A: So you finally got to be an actress?
B: No. I'm a tour guide at the studio! But while I'm on the job, I get to see a lot of stars!

CONVERSATION

A terrible book, but a terrific movie!

- A: Are you interesting in a movie tonight?
B: Um, maybe. What's on?

- A: There's a new Dirty Harry movie playing.
B: Oh, I can't stand Clint Eastwood! He's so boring. All he does is stand around and try to look macho.
A: Oh, come on! Well, then, how about a James Dean movie? They're showing Rebel Without a Cause at Cinema City.
B: Now that sounds interesting! I've never seen it, and I really like James Dean.
- A: Oh, I've never read this. What's it about?
B: It's a horror story. It's about a guy who goes crazy and tries to kill his family.
A: Is it any good?
B: Not really. It's too long. The movie was a lot better. Jack Nicholson's in it, and he's really terrific. Hey-why don't you just rent the video?
A: Good idea! Would you like to come over and see it?
B: Yeah, sure. I'll bring some popcorn.

CONVERSATION

Say what you mean!

- A: I'm glad we rented this car. Now we can get around and see the sights!
B: Yeah. You know, these highways are really great, but the road signs are pretty confusing.
A: Mmm. What do these lines on the road mean?
B: They may mean you can't pass here.
A: Well, I'm going to pass anyway – I want to go around this car. It's going to slow.
Now, I wonder what this sign means.
B: I think it means you have to turn left in this lane.
A: Yeah, or maybe it means you can turn left if you want to. I think I'll just go straight.

CONVERSATION

What would you do?

- A: Look at this! Someone just won \$10 million in the lottery! How come I never choose a winning number?
B: Well, what would you do if you won \$10 million?
A: Me? Well, first I'd quit my boring job at the bank. And then I'd buy a boat and sail around the world!
B: That's all? I'd go straight to Monte Carlo and try my luck in the casinos. I bet I could turn it into \$20 million!
A: Yeah, and I bet you could lose it all in a day!
- A: Hi! Is your house guest still staying with you?



- B: No, after three weeks, she finally left. Thank goodness!
A: So how did you get rid of her?
B: Well, I hid and told her my parents were coming for a visit and I needed the room. I feel bad about it, though. What would you have done?
A: Oh, I would have told her to leave after a week. By the way, my father-in-law is coming to visit us next week. Can I move in with you for a few days?
B: No way!

CONVERSATION

That's what friends are for

- Dave: Hello!
Jim: Hi! My name's Jim Brady. I'm calling about the ad for a roommate.
Dave: Oh, yes.
Jim: Are you still looking for someone?
Dave: Yes, we are.
Jim: Oh, good. I'm really interested.
Dave: Well, there are four of us, and it's a fairly small house, so we want someone who's easy to get along with.
Jim: Well, I'm pretty easygoing.
Dave: Great! Can I ask you a few questions?

- Sue: Oh! Don't they make a perfect couple!
Tom: Yes, they really do. They're both so easygoing and sociable.
Sue: Where did they meet?
Tom: In Florida. Linda was teaching a computer course, and Bob was one of her students. But guess what! He failed the course!

CONVERSATION

On the job

- A: So you're a journalist. That must be an exciting job.
B: It is, at times. It's certainly better than being a teacher!
A: Oh, really?
B: Yeah, I used to be a teacher, but I hated it! The worst thing about teaching is correcting homework. That's why I quit.
A: I guess you travel a lot now and meet lots of interesting people.
B: Yes, that's one of the best things about my job.
A: Sounds great. I wish I had a job like that.
B: Where do you work?
A: In an office. It's kind of boring. I'm stuck inside all day, and I have to work long hours.
B: Oh? What do you do?
A: I'm a vice president.

- A: When did you graduate, Celia?
B: I graduated last year.
A: I see. And what have you been doing since then?
B: Traveling mostly. I love to travel, but now I think it's time for me to get a job.
A: Uh-huh. Are you good at foreign languages?
B: Yes, I think so. I speak French and German, and I can speak a little Russian.
A: Mmm. What kind of job are you looking for?
B: Well, I'd like to have a job where I can use my writing skills. I love working with computers and organizing information. Also, I'd like to work in a large office, so that I'm around other people.
A: OK... Well, I think I have the perfect job for you!

CONVERSATION

Destinations

- Andy: Whereabouts are you from, Carla?
Carla: I'm from Santa Fe, New Mexico.
Andy: Oh? What's it like there?
Carla: Well, it's a beautiful little tourist town, and the climate's great. Actually, it's a center for American Indian culture, and there are also lots of artists there. Georgia O'Keeffe, the famous painter, used to live there.
Andy: Really? It sounds like an interesting place! I'd love to go there sometime.
Carlo: Yeah, you'd enjoy it, Andy.

- A: I'm thinking about spending my vacation in southeast Asia, but I haven't decided where.
B: Oh? What kind of place are you looking for?
A: Somewhere with good weather, that's quiet and far away from the crowds.
B: Hmm, Phuket might be the place.
A: Phuket? Where's that?
B: In Thailand. It's a beautiful island with excellent beaches. I was there last summer. It's fantastic!
A: Sounds good. But what about the weather?
B: The weather is great. And there are plenty of cheap hotels along the beach.
A: It sounds just like the kind of place I'm looking for.

CONVERSATION

When a story!



- A: You know, I had a really strange dream last night.
B: Oh, yeah? What was it about?
A: Well, I dreamed that I was driving in the country late at night when I saw a UFO land on the road in front of me.
B: And then what happened?
A: Well, first, I got out of my car. While I was standing there, this strange green creature came out of the UFO. I tried to run away, but I couldn't move. Then, as it was coming nearer, it put out its hand touched my face. It felt wet and horrible!
B: Ugh! And...?
A: And then I woke up and found my cat on my pillow. It was licking my face!

CONVERSATION

Could you do me favor?

- A: Hello?
B: Hello. Can I speak to Sophia, please?
A: I'm sorry, she's not in right now. Would you like to leave a message?
B: Yes, please. This is Harry. Would you tell her that Tony's having a party on Saturday?
A: Sure.
B: And please ask her if she'd like to go with me.
A: All right, Peter. I'll give her the message.
B: No, this is Harry, not Peter!
A: Oh, sorry.
B: By the way, who's Peter?

CONVERSATION

Comparatively speaking

- Ann: Would you rather send your children to a public or a private school?
Tom: Mmm, I'd rather send them to a public school, I think.
Ann: Oh, why?
Tom: Well, it's cheaper for one thing...
Ann: Yes, but do you think the teachers are as good in the public schools?
Tom: Oh, yeah, I went to a public high school, and I had very good teachers there.
- A: Is the education system in Britain the same as in the United States, Alex?
B: Well, it's fairly similar, but in most of the country we don't have separate junior and senior high schools. We just have secondary schools.
A: Oh? And how old are children when they enter secondary school?
B: Well, most kids enter when they're eleven. Then all students continue till they're sixteen, and many continue until they're eighteen.

CONVERSATION

Don't drink the water!

- A: I'm thinking of going to Brazil next year, Maria.
B: Oh, great! I'm sure you'll have a good time.
A: What places do tourists visit in Brazil?
B: Well, a lot of people go to Rio for Carnival. And nowadays, lots of people are visiting the Amazon to take river trips.
A: Oh, really? That sounds interesting. And when's a good time to visit?
B: Well, I like Rio in the spring or fall because it's not too hot then.

- A: Guess what! I just got invited to my teacher's house for dinner!
B: Oh, that's nice.
A: Yeah, but what do you do when you're invited someone's home here?
B: Oh, you usually bring a small gift.
A: Really? Like what?
B: Well, some flowers or a bottle of wine.
A: OK. And is it all right to bring a friend along?
B: Well, if you want to bring someone, you should call first and ask if it's OK.

CONVERSATION

Getting things done

- A: Do you know where I can get a passport photo taken around here?
B: Well, I think there's a place on Center Street downtown.
A: Oh. Do you know any place closer?
B: Let me think. Oh! There's a place in the shopping center where you can get one taken for five dollars.
A: OK, that's great. Thanks!
- A: I've got a friend coming for the weekend who loves jazz. Where's a good place to take her?
B: Uh, why not take her to the New Orleans Club? That's a great place to hear live music.
C: Yeah, but it's hard to get in on the weekend. I like the Back Door better because it's not so crowded.
A: Oh, yeah? Do they have dancing there?
C: Uh, I don't think so.

CONVERSATION

Is that a fact?

- A: I've just been reading an interesting article about robots. Did you know that the typical worker in the future will be a robot?



- B: Really? That's scary.
A: Yeah, and they'll even use robots to make and repair other robots.
B: That's hard imagine. And when is this supposed to happen?
A: Within thirty years. And robots will also be building factories in outer space and even mining minerals on the moon.
B: Hey, maybe by then they'll have invented a robot to clean my apartment!



CONVERSATION

There's no place like home

- A: Have you moved to your new apartment yet, Fred?
B: Yes, we moved in last Saturday.
A: So, how do you like it?
B: Oh, it's great? There's plenty of room, and it's quiet, too.
A: Yeah? Uh, what's the building like? Does it have a pool?
B: No, it doesn't have a pool, but there's a patio downstairs and a big yard for the kids to play in.
A: It sounds nice.
B: It is. Why don't you come over this weekend and see it?
A: OK. I'd like to.

- A: Hello?
B: Hello, Ms. Crocker. This is Mr. Roberts.
A: Uh, Mr. Roberts... in apartment 205?
B: No, not 205, 305.
A: Oh, yes. What can I do for you? Is it the refrigerator again?
B: No, it's not the refrigerator. It's the oven this time
A: Oh? Well, what's wrong with it?
B: Well, I think something's wrong with the temperature control. Everything I try to cook gets burned.
A: Really? Ok, I'll get someone to look at it right away.
B: Thanks a lot.
A: Uh, by the way, Mr. Roberts, are you sure it's the oven and not your cooking?

CONVERSATION

What a world we live in!

- A: Did you hear that Jerry lost his job?
B: Oh, he did? Gee, that's too bad.
A: Yeah, the company wasn't making money, so they had to lay off some employees.
B: So what's Jerry going to do now?
A: Well, he's thinking of starting his own business.
B: Oh, that's great. I don't know what I'd do if I lost my job. Maybe I'd go back to school. What would you do?
A: Well, first I think I'd probably take a vacation. After that, I guess I'd try working for myself, too.

CONVERSATION

How does it work?

- A: Are you good at crossword puzzles?
 B: Well, sometimes.
 A: OK. What's this? It's a small piece of curved wire that's used for holding sheets of paper together.
 B: Gee, I have no idea.
 A: All right. Then how about this one? This instrument, which is usually made of metal or plastic, is used for eating food. It has a handle at one end two or more points at the other.
 B: I'm sorry. I can't guess that one either.

- A: Gosh, these bonsai trees are really beautiful! How are they grown?
 B: Well, first you take a healthy young tree. Almost any kind of tree can be used.
 A: Oh, really?
 B: Yes. Then some of the leaves and branches are removed. You also have to cut back some of the roots.
 A: Why's that?
 B: It makes it grow more slowly. Then it's planted in a pot with a little soil.
 A: And how do you get it to grow into an interesting shape?
 B: Well, wire is used to tie the branches into the shape you want. Later on, when the tree is older, the wire is removed.
 A: I see.
 B: The tree has to be given plenty of fertilizer. As it grows, it's trimmed to stop it from growing too big. And from time to time it's taken out of the pot and the roots are cut.
 A: Oh, that's very interesting. Thank you.

CONVERSATION

That's a possibility

- A: You know, we're studying dinosaurs in science class. It's really interesting.
 B: Oh, yeah? Hey, have you learned why the dinosaurs disappeared?
 A: Well, no one knows for sure.
 B: I thought it had something to do with the climate. The temperature might have gotten cooler and killed them off.
 A: Yeah, that's one theory. Another idea is that they may have run out of food.
 B: Uh-huh. And you know, there's even a theory that they could have been destroyed by aliens from outer space.
 A: That sounds crazy to me!
- A: How was your dinner party?
 B: I think it went pretty well.

- A: That's good.
 B: Yeah, but we shouldn't have invited my wife's boss. We couldn't get him to leave!
 A: Really? How late did he stay?
 B: Until two o'clock in the morning! And we both had to work the next day.
 A: Oh, he shouldn't have stayed so late. That was really inconsiderate. I would have asked him to leave earlier.
 B: Well, it's really difficult to say that to your boss!

CONVERSATION

The right stuff

- A: Look at this interesting ad! What do you think it's advertising?
 B: Gee, it looks like an ad for a car.
 A: Mmm, try again.
 B: Well, it could be an ad for clothes. But whatever it's selling, it's a great photograph.
 A: Geah. It really caught my eye!

CONVERSATION

It's a matter of opinion

- A: How was your vacation?
 B: It was OK, but every time I lit up a cigarette, someone asked me to stop smoking. I'm getting sick of all these restrictions! I think we should be able to smoke wherever we like in public.
 A: Well, I don't know. Non-smokers have their rights, too, you know. I hate breathing other people's smoke.
 B: Mmm. Maybe somebody there'll be a smokeless cigarette, and then everyone will be happy.

CONVERSATION

I'd like to book a flight

- Mr. Lee: I'd like to book a flight to Palmville, please.
 Clerk 1: Certainly, sir, single or return?
 Mr. Lee: Return, please, economy class. I believe there's a flight next Saturday.
 Clerk 1: Just a minute, sir, I'll check... Sorry, sir, that's fully booked. But you can catch an SAS flight via Copenhagen – you change in Copenhagen.
 Mr. Lee: That sounds all right. Could I see the timetable?

CONVERSATION

- Mr. Taylor: I believe our tickets are ready. My name's Taylor.
 Clerk 2: That's right, sir, here's your folder – air tickets, airline labels,



hotel voucher, everything's here. And here's your receipt.

Mr. Taylor: Fine. What time must we be at the air terminal?
Clerk 2: Your flight leaves at 19.30 and you must check in at the terminal two hours before.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Lee: Could you make a hotel reservation for me?
Clerk 1: Yes, sir, which hotel?
Mr. Lee: Hotel Samyra, if possible.
Clerk 1: Sorry?
Mr. Lee: Samyra. S-A-M-Y-R-A.
Clerk 1: I see. OK, we'll get confirmation as soon as possible.

CONVERSATION

Mrs. Taylor: How long does the flight take? It's a direct flight, isn't it?
Clerk: Yes, the travelling time is nine and a half hours. You arrive in Palmville just after 11.00 am local time. Your connecting flight to Port Merlin leaves two hours later.
Mrs. Taylor: I hope we don't miss it.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Lee: I'd like to pay by cheque. Is that all right?
Clerk 1: Yes, sir, if you have a banker's card.
Mr. Lee: Oh yes, here you are.
Clerk 1: Right. Thank you, sir.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Taylor: Oh, one more thing. Is your travel insurance all right?
Clerk 2: Yes, sir. The premium was included in our account.
Mr. Taylor: And it's valid for the full two weeks?
Clerk 2: Oh, yes. In fact you're covered for seventeen days. And there's claims form in your folder.

CONVERSATION

Which way do I go now?
Mr. Lee: Excuse me, is this the right platform for the airport?
Passenger A: Well, no, you're going in the wrong direction.
Mr. Lee: Oh, really?
Passenger A: Bill, where does the airport train go from?
Passenger B: Platform 2, I think.
Mr. Lee: OK, thanks.

CONVERSATION



Airline clerk: May I see your tickets and passports, please?
Mr. Taylor: Here they are. Will you weigh all our baggage together?
Airline clerk: Yes, would you put it all on the machine, please.
Sarah: Dad, do I need to weigh my bag?
Mr. Taylor: Yes, put everything together... Ah, seventy-eight kilos.
Mrs. Taylor: Is that inside the free allowance?
Mr. Taylor: Yes, we're allowed twenty kilos each.
Mrs. Taylor: That's lucky!

CONVERSATION

Airline clerk 2: I'm sorry, sir, you're five kilos overweight.
Mr. Lee: I know, it's the books. Look, I'll take them out for reading on the plane. Is that all right?
Airline clerk 2: Well, yes, you can do that if you like.
Mr. Lee: They weigh five and a half kilos. So then I'll be just under the weight.

CONVERSATION

Airline clerk 1: Right, sir, you've got four seats in the non-smoking section. And there are your tickets for the airport bus.
Mrs. Taylor: Have you got the boarding cards?
Mr. Taylor: Yes, dear, they're here. When does the next bus leave?
Airline clerk 1: At 5.30. They run every twenty minutes.
Mrs. Taylor: I'd like some coffee. Where can we find the refreshment lounge?
Airline clerk 1: Just up the stairs, madam.



CONVERSATION

Mr. Lee: Have you booked my case through to Palmville?
Airline clerk 2: Yes, sir. Your baggage tag is attached to your ticket.
Mr. Lee: Which way do I go now?
Airline clerk 2: Passport control is that way. Then the departure lounge is straight ahead.

CONVERSATION

John: Have I got time to buy a magazine?
Mr. Taylor: I don't think so. They're announcing our flight.
John: Where?
Mr. Taylor: On that sign board up there.
John: Oh yes. Gate 27. Which way is gate 27?
Mr. Taylor: Here's someone in uniform. Excuse me, could you tell us the way to gate 27?
Airline official: Yes, do you see that arrow?
Mr. Taylor: Yes.
Airline official: Start there and follow the passage. You'll soon find it, sir.

CONVERSATION

They're asking us to fasten our seat belts
Pilot: On behalf of British Airways Captain Allen and his crew would like to welcome you on board this aircraft. We apologise for the delay but we'll be taking off shortly.
Mr. Taylor: Excuse me, when will you serve drinks?
Air hostess: I'll be bringing the trolley round soon after take-off sir.
Mr. Taylor: Good. Thanks.
Mrs. Taylor: Could I have a blanket for my daughter, please?
Air hostess: I'll get you one, madam.

CONVERSATION

Passenger A: Excuse me, is this seat free?
Mr. Lee: Sorry, it's taken. I'm just going to sit down.
Passenger A: Well... would you mind changing places with me? Then I can sit next to my family.
Mr. Lee: Oh, I see. No, I don't mind.
Passenger A: Thanks very much.
Mr. Lee: Not at all.

CONVERSATION

John: Dad, there's something wrong with my earphones. I can't hear anything.
Mr. Taylor: Really? Try mine.
John: These don't work either.
Mr. Taylor: OK, I'll tell the stewardess. Er, sorry, but my son can't get any sound. And he's paid for the earphones.
Air hostess: Sorry about that, sir. Perhaps it's the seat. I'll have to give you a refund.

CONVERSATION

Passenger B: Oh, steward.
Steward: Yes, sir?
Passenger B: Isn't this a non-smoking area?
Steward: That's right.
Passenger B: Well, would you ask that passenger not to smoke?
Steward: Er... yes, all right. Excuse me, sir, this area is for non-smokers. Do you mind not smoking?
Mr. Lee: What? Oh yes, sorry.

CONVERSATION

Mrs. Taylor: What was that announcement, Jim?
Mr. Taylor: They're asking us to fasten our seat belts.
Mrs. Taylor: Why? What's happened?
Mr. Taylor: Don't worry, everything's fine. We're probably going through some bad weather.

CONVERSATION

Pilot: Ladies and gentlemen, we shall shortly be landing at Halo airport, Palmville. Local time is five thirty in the afternoon and local weather conditions are slightly cloudy. The outside temperature is twenty-eight degrees.
Passenger C: Well, we're arriving on time. Er... what do we do with our landing cards?
Mr. Lee: They're for the immigration officer on arrival.
Passenger C: I haven't filled mine in yet. Would you mind lending me your pen?
Mr. Lee: Sure, here you are.



CONVERSATION

I hope we haven't missed our connection

Customs officer: Is this all your luggage?

Mr Lee: Yes, it's all here.

Customs officer: Would you open this one, please.

Mr Lee: Right... Sorry, it's a bit difficult to open. There's something wrong with the lock ... there.

CONVERSATION

Mrs. Taylor: I hope we haven't missed our connection.

Mr. Taylor: We should be all right. It's just twelve o'clock. Let's find the domestic flight counter.

Mrs. Taylor: Look – the exchange bureau. Don't forget to change some money.

Mr. Taylor: There isn't time for that now. We'll get some in Port Merlin.

CONVERSATION

Customs officer: How long are you staying in Arcania?

Mr Lee: Ten days. I'm here on business.

Customs officer: Is this a new tape-recorder?

Mr Lee: No, it's two years old. I have a receipt for it.

Customs officer: All right. Have a pleasant stay.

Mr Lee: Thank you.

CONVERSATION

Airline official: Can I help you?

Mr. Taylor: Yes, we have a problem. One of our suitcases is missing. It was booked on to this flight. Could you help us to find it?

Mrs. Taylor: It's full of clothes. We must have it.

Airline official: I see. Well, would you give me your tickets and baggage tags, sir. I'll check with the aircraft. Can you describe the suitcase?

Mr. Taylor: Yes, it's light blue with soft sides and it's got my initials on it, J.R.T.

Airline official: OK, please wait here and I'll see what I can do.



CONVERSATION

Mr. Lee: I'd like to change seventy pounds, please. What's the rate of exchange today?

Clerk: It's four point seven five dinars to the pound. May I see your passport please?

Mr. Lee: Here you are.

Clerk: You haven't signed one of these cheques.

Mr. Lee: Ah, sorry. I'll do it now.

Clerk: Now, if you show this pink slip when you leave the country you can change dinars back into pounds.

Mr. Lee: I'll remember that, thanks.

CONVERSATION

Airline official: I've got some good news for you. They've got your suitcase in Palmville.

Mr. Taylor: Thanks very much. So when can we get it?

Mrs. Taylor: Yes, we need it soon.

Airline official: Well, there's another flight arriving at seven this evening. If you let me know the name of your hotel we'll deliver the case.

Mr. Taylor: That's very kind of you, thanks.

CONVERSATION

Can you find out how to turn the water on?

Mr. Taylor: Let's find out where to get a taxi. Porter, the taxi rank, please.

Mrs. Taylor: How far do we have to go?

Mr. Taylor: A few yards, I expect. There's probably one near here.

Mrs. Taylor: No, I mean to the hotel.

Mr. Taylor: Oh, I think it's about twenty kilometres.

John: Dad, here are the taxis.

Mr. Taylor: Right, let's pay the porter-seven pieces of luggage, what's that?

John: Three dinars fifty cents – I worked it out!

Mrs. Taylor: Ought we to tip him?

Mr. Taylor: I don't think we need to. He hasn't brought them far.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Taylor: Could you take us to Diamond Beach Inn, please?

Taxi driver: OK, that'll be forty dinars.

Mr. Taylor: Forty? But according to that notice it's twenty-five.

Taxi driver: That notice is out of date, sir (to his friends). That's right, isn't it?



Other drivers: Sure, that's right.
Mr. Taylor: But look, it's dated 1 July – that's only a month ago. All right, thirty dinars.
Taxi driver: Thirty-five.
Mr. Taylor: Well, ... OK, but you're asking too much.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Taylor: Be careful of that suitcase. It's too big to go on top there.
Mrs. Taylor: Yes, mind the lid.
Mr. Taylor: Why can't we take it inside? It'll go on my lap.
Taxi driver: No problem. I'll borrow my friend's roof rack. Just a minute.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Lee: My name's Lee. I believe you have a reservation for me.
Hotel clerk: Mr. Robert Lee from London?
Mr. Lee: Right.
Hotel clerk: Yes sir. Number 817. Air-conditioned with private bathroom. I'll get the porter to take your bags up.
Mr. Kay: I'll wait down here.
Mr. Lee: Yes, I'll just sort things out, then let's have a drink.

CONVERSATION

Sarah: Mum!
Mrs. Taylor: What's the matter?
Sarah: We've got a double bed in here. Can't we have twin beds?
Mr. Taylor: Don't worry. I'll get them to change it.
Mrs. Taylor: Jim, I can't flush the toilet. Can you find out how to turn the water on?
Mr. Taylor: All right, just coming. I'm trying to find a socket for my shaver.
John: Hey, there's no bath and I don't having showers.
Mrs. Taylor: Oh, you'll soon get used to it.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Lee (on the telephone): Hello, reception?
Hotel clerk: Yes sir?
Mr. Lee: Could you possibly change my room – it's right under the night club and it's much too noisy.
Hotel clerk: Well, we are rather full, sir.
Mr. Lee: Could you please try?
Hotel clerk: Very well, sir. I'll do my best.

CONVERSATION

It says they've got boats for hire
Mrs. Taylor: Well, I'm glad they discovered our case.
Mr. Taylor: So am I. But now we're short of coat hangers. I'll get the maid to bring us some more.
John: Dad, Sarah and I want to hire a boat.
Mrs. Taylor: Hire a boat?!
John: Yes, it says in the hotel brochure they've got boats for hire.
Mrs. Taylor: You're too young to go out in a boat by yourselves.
John: But Dad can come with us.
Mrs. Taylor: I don't know – we must find out if the water's safe.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Lee (on the telephone): Hello, room service?
Clerk: Yes, sir?
Mr. Lee: I'd like to order breakfast in my room, please. Shall I give you my order?
Clerk: Yes.
Mr. Lee: I'll have a boiled egg, toast and coffee. Oh – and can you tell me whether it's safe to drink the water? I mean water from the tap.
Clerk: Well, we advise you to drink boiled water, sir. The water in your flask is boiled.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Taylor: Excuse me, my son wants to know about hiring a boat.
Manager: We used to hire out boats, sir, but we don't any more. That information's out of date.
Mr. Taylor: Ah, that's OK. But could you tell me where I can hire a car?
Manager: There's a car-hire firm just down the road, sir, Kapur Motors. They'll be glad to help you.



CONVERSATION

Mr. Lee (on the telephone): Hello.
 Clerk: Yes, can I help you?
 Mr. Lee: Yes, I want to know why there's no electricity.
 Clerk: Sorry sir, there's been a power cut.
 Mr. Lee: Well, when will it come on again?
 Clerk: It's usually off for about half an hour, so we expect it back about eight thirty.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Taylor: I asked about picnic things.
 Mrs. Taylor: Yes?
 Mr. Taylor: I was told there's small supermarket about half a mile down the road.
 Mrs. Taylor: Let's have a look this evening. It's too hot to walk there now.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: Good morning. Did you sleep well?
 Mr. Lee: Yes, thanks.
 Mr. Kay: I hope you don't mind walking to the office. It's not far.
 Mr. Lee: No, that's fine. I like walking.
 Mr. Kay: There used to be a short cut behind the hotel but they're digging the road up. How do you like the weather?
 Mr. Lee: It's certainly warm.
 Mr. Kay: Yes, we'll be getting rain any day now.

CONVERSATION

I couldn't drink any more, thanks
 Mr. Taylor: It looks a bit crowded.
 Jane: There's a table free in that corner.
 Head waiter: Good evening sir.
 Mr. Taylor: Good evening. We'd like a table for four, please. I'm afraid we don't have a reservation.

CONVERSATION

Bill: What would you like to drink? Have you tried maki?
 Mrs. Taylor: Er, no. What's maki?
 Bill: The local wine. It's made from mangoes – they drink it with every course.
 Mrs. Taylor: Is it very strong?
 Bill: Quite strong, but you can add water if you like.
 Mr. Taylor: Let's try it. Shall we order a couple of bottles?

CONVERSATION

Mr. Lee: What do you recommend?
 Mr. Kay: Have you ever tried squid? How about a squid cutlet?
 Mr. Lee: It looks like a hamburger.
 Mr. Kay: It's served in chili sauce, so it's pretty hot.
 Mr. Lee: OK, I'll try that. Do we help ourselves?
 Mr. Kay: Sure, self-service here.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Taylor: May I fill your glass?
 Jane: Thank you.
 Mrs. Taylor: I think I'll start with the soup.
 Bill: Actually, you finish with the soup in Arcania.
 Mrs. Taylor: Really?
 Mr. Taylor: I think I'll have the steak. (to the waiter) I'd like it well done, please.
 Waiter: Right, sir.
 Jane: The prawn curry's worth trying.
 Mrs. Taylor: Sorry, I can't eat shellfish. It makes me ill. I think I'd rather have the chicken pie.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: Tea or coffee?
 Mr. Lee: Coffee for me, please.
 Mr. Kay: How do you like it? Black or white?
 Mr. Lee: Black please, one spoonful of sugar. Now, let me pay for all this.
 Mr. Kay: No, no, it's on me.
 Mr. Lee: Really?
 Mr. Kay: Yes, be my guest.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Taylor: Well, it's getting late. Where's the waiter gone?
 Bill: He'll be back. He's just bringing another bottle. There he is.
 Mrs. Taylor: Oh, I couldn't drink any more, thanks.
 Jane: That banana pudding was nice. I must get the recipe.
 Bill (to the waiter): Sorry, I'm afraid we'll have to cancel that order. Could we have the bill, please.
 Waiter: Yes, sir. Would you like separate bills?
 Mr. Taylor: One bill will do – we'll settle up afterwards.

CONVERSATION

We'd better look at the map again
 Mr. Taylor: OK, let's stop a minute, we'd better look at the map again.



Mrs. Taylor: Right, now we're here, just past Serena Square.
So we keep straight on along Caruso Avenue, turn right at the City Hall, then take the second turning on the left.

Mr. Taylor: I wonder if you can park there.

John: I've seen one or two parking meters.

Mr. Taylor: All of you, keep an eye on the street names.

Sarah: Watch the speed limit, Dad. Forty kilometres an hour it says.
And no overtaking.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: There's a car park by the main branch but not here, so I'll park in that side street and go on foot. I won't be long – I'll be about ten minutes.

Mr. Lee: OK, I'll look after the car. Are we allowed to park here?

Mr. Kay: I think so; anyway, I can't see any 'no parking' signs.

CONVERSATION

Policeman: This is a one-way street. Didn't you see the sign?

Mr. Taylor: Sorry, no, I didn't.

Policeman: May I see your driving licence?

Mr. Taylor: Yes, it's an international one.

Policeman: OK... Well, that'll be twenty dinars.

Mr. Taylor: Eh?

Policeman: The fine. It's twenty dinars.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: This is Miss Sorak, the chief librarian.

Miss Sorak: How do you do?

Mr. Lee: How do you do? You have a fine library. Have you been working here long?

Miss Sorak: For about two years. Have you just arrived in Palmville?

Mr. Lee: Yes, the day before yesterday.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Taylor: The place is full.

Mrs. Taylor: You saw all those coaches. It's obviously an excursion.

Mr. Taylor: How about visiting the museum first?

Sarah: Can't we go to the beach? Museums are so boring.

Mrs. Taylor: Oh shut up. You'll have plenty of time for swimming.

CONVERSATION

Miss Sorak: I was interested to hear about your exhibition. How long does it stay open?

Mr. Lee: Ten days. I do hope you'll come to the opening.

Miss Sorak: Of course. Mr. Kay sent me an invitation card last week.

Mr. Kay: You know where it is, don't you?

Miss Sorak: The Publishers Association? Oh yes, in the block opposite the National Museum.

Can I have one made to measure?

CONVERSATION

Shop assistant: Can I help you?

Mr. Lee: I was just looking at these safari jackets.

Shop assistant: This one looks like your size, sir. Would you like to try it on?

Mr. Lee: OK. Yes, I like the colour, but I'm not sure about the style. Can I have one made to measure, maybe in a lighter brown? I suppose you have some patterns?

Shop assistant: Of course, sir. Do you like this material? It's a cotton-polyester mixture, very hard-wearing.

CONVERSATION

Mrs. Taylor: Those are rather attractive, aren't they?

Mr. Taylor: Yes, what are they for?

Shop assistant: They're candle holders.

Mrs. Taylor: How much are they?

Shop assistant: Six hundred dinars the pair, madam.

Mrs. Taylor: Can you sell them separately?

Shop assistant: Sorry, madam, only as a pair.

Mr. Taylor: But how would we get them home? Do they come to pieces?

Shop assistant: Yes, you can take them to pieces like this... and you can easily fit them together again.

Mrs. Taylor: Could you give us some discount on that price?

Shop assistant: I'm afraid not, madam, our prices are fixed.

CONVERSATION

Mrs. Taylor: It's one metre wide, so for a dress I'll need, let's see, four metres.

Mr. Taylor: How do you like the green?

Mrs. Taylor: Oh no, I look awful in green.

Sarah: I think blue suits you best, Mum.

Mrs. Taylor: Yes... well, I think I'll take the light blue, no, on second thoughts I prefer the dark blue. It'll go better with my new shoes.



CONVERSATION

Shopkeeper: Are you being served, sir?
 Mr. Lee: I'm just looking, thanks.
 Shopkeeper: Can I interest you in these pocket calculators?
 Mr. Lee: That depends on the price.
 Shopkeeper: They're very good value, only a hundred and five dinars including the case. Would you like me to show you how it works?
 Mr. Lee: Well, not just now, thanks – I'll let you know.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Taylor: Do you sell colour film for slides?
 Shopkeeper: No sir, only for prints. We're out of stock at the moment but we'll be getting some in this afternoon.
 Mr. Taylor: Thanks, I'll call back sometime tomorrow. I'll just take these postcards for now.
 Shopkeeper: Right, shall I wrap them up for you?
 Mr. Taylor: Yes, please. What time do you open tomorrow?
 Shopkeeper: Nine o'clock, sir.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Lee: OK, but the sleeves need to be about half an inch longer.
 Shop assistant: I'll see to it, sir.
 Mr. Lee: And could you make it fit a bit more loosely under the arms?
 Shop assistant: A bit looser, all right. And did you decide about the lining?
 Mr. Lee: Yes, I'd like it half-lined.

CONVERSATION

We could see them doing the flower dance
 Mr. Taylor: What's this place?
 Mrs. Taylor: It says 'Arcanian handicrafts' – see, all sorts of pottery and things made of brass.
 Sarah: Dad, can we see the puppet show?
 Mr. Taylor: Where's that?
 Sarah: It says it's in the little theatre – you know, we passed it on the way in.
 Mrs. Taylor: We can't, Sarah, look, two thirty. It started half an hour ago.
 Mr. Taylor: What a pity.
 Mrs. Taylor: If we went to the main square we could see some Arcanian dancing. We could see them doing the flower dance.
 Mr. Taylor: That's good idea.



CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: How would you like to hear a concert this evening?
 Mr. Lee: I'd like to very much.
 Mr. Kay: Only a friend of mine promised he'd get me some complimentary tickets. The concert hall's not far from here – we could go there straight after work.
 Mr. Lee: Who's playing?
 Mr. Kay: It's the Palmville Symphony Orchestra – they're doing an eighteenth-century programme.

CONVERSATION

Dancer: Hold on to my belt.
 Mrs. Taylor: Like this?
 Dancer: Yes, now we move four steps forward... good, and two sideways. That's right. Now let go of my belt and we all turn to face in the opposite direction.
 John: Well done, Mum.
 Mrs. Taylor: What do I do now?
 Dancer: Now we all advance to the middle of the circle and pick a flower. Hold the flowers up so that they touch.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Lee: Wasn't that the bell?
 Mr. Kay: Yes, it's time to go back. What did you think of the first half, then?
 Mr. Lee: Not bad at all, I thought. I reckon they played the Vivaldi best.
 Mr. Kay: Yes, the soloist was trained abroad. In fact he's just come back from another tour in the United States.

CONVERSATION

Mrs. Taylor: What's happened to the procession?
 Sarah: I saw them carrying the bride. She was in a sort of chair supported on wooden poles.
 John: I saw them coming down that hill.
 Mr. Taylor: This is a waste of time. I reckon they've gone the other way.
 Mrs. Taylor: Very likely.

CONVERSATION

Mrs. Taylor: It's a pity we didn't see the elephant race.
 Mr. Taylor: Yes, that was bad luck, but they only have it every other week.
 Bill: You know, if you stayed on a few extra days you'd see the lantern festival.



lane: Oh yes, that's well worth seeing. Some friends of ours saw it last year. They celebrate the harvest by hanging lanterns in the trees.

Mr. Taylor: Ah well, we can't manage that. We've already got our flight bookings.

CONVERSATION

She seems to be the best qualified

Mr. Samuel: Do you mind if I take a couple of hours off this afternoon?

Mr. Kay: OK, but what for?

Mr. Samuel: It's Jennie – my wife can't pick her up from school because she's got to wait in for the plumber.

Mr. Kay: Trouble with the water?

Mr. Samuel: It's those old iron pipes, they're leaking again. We reckon at least four of them need replacing.

Mr. Kay: Right, see you later then.

Mr. Samuel: Sure, I'll be back around four.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: Twenty applications – that's not bad for one advert. I've made a shortlist of five, so we'd better call them for interview.

Mr. Samuel: Will next Monday do?

Mr. Kay: Monday, all right. I'll see this one first, Juanita Ling. She seems to be the best qualified.

Mr. Samuel: Is she the graduate in business studies?

Mr. Kay: Yes, and I hope she's good at typing as well.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: Now, Miss Ling, about your qualifications. I see that you have fluent French as well as English and that you were working with your last company for four years. Tell me, why did you leave?

Candidate (A): Actually, I didn't leave. The company closed down.

Mr. Kay: Closed down?

Candidate (A): Yes, it went bankrupt. So I was out of a job.

Mr. Kay: I see. And have you been doing anything since?

Candidate (A): I had a couple of temporary jobs, but now I really need something permanent.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: So tell me, why are you applying to work for my

company?

Candidate (B): Well, I was trained in book-keeping and office practice and I'd like to use my secretarial skills.

Mr. Kay: I see. And apart from typing what experience do you have with office machinery?

Candidate (B): I know how to use the telex machine and the photocopier.

Mr. Kay: All right. Well, I'll think it over and we'll get in touch with you in a day or two. Thank you for coming.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: Now let me tell you a few things about the job. You know the salary already. We pay a bonus twice a year and we give three weeks holiday a year. Office hours are nine to five thirty and we work a five-day week. Do you have any questions?

Candidate (C): Er, yes. Could I ask about sick leave?

Mr. Kay: Sick leave? Well, I insist on a doctor's certificate if staff are away for longer than a couple of days.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: Miss Ling is still my first choice, so could you give her a ring and I'll offer her the job. If she accepts I'll write to the others straight away so as not to keep them waiting.

Mr. Samuel: Are you going to take up her references?

Mr. Kay: No, there's no need to do that. I'm pretty sure we can trust her. If she accepts I'll write her a letter of appointment.

CONVERSATION

You're supposed to insert a twenty-cent coin

Mr. Taylor: Hello, is that Arcanian Airways?

Clerk: Yes, can I help you?

Mr. Taylor: Yes, this is Jim Taylor and it's about our return journey to the UK – we're supposed to confirm our flight. Shall I give you the ticket numbers?

Clerk: Sorry, sir, you've got Cargo Section. You want Reservations.

Mr. Taylor: Oh, sorry. Could you get me transferred?

Clerk: Yes, hold on a minute and I'll put you through.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Lee: Hello, international trunks?

Operator: Yes, can I help you?

Mr. Lee: Yes, I'd like to make a call to Britain.

Operator: What number?



Mr. Lee: It's Buckley 80233 and the code number is 8502.
Operator: Have you tried dialling direct?
Mr. Lee: Yes, but I can't get through. There seems to be a fault on the line.
Operator: I see. What is your number?
Mr. Lee: I'm at the Samyra Hotel, that's 048-7157, Room 217. My name's Lee. Robert Lee.
Operator: All right, would you replace the receiver and I'll ring you back.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Samuel: Mr. Kay.
Mr. Kay: Yes?
Mr. Samuel: You're wanted on the phone.
Mr. Kay: Who is it?
Mr. Samuel: I don't know. It's operator. Long-distance call, I think.
Mr. Kay: OK ... Hello.
Operator: Are you Mr. Fergus Kay?
Mr. Kay: Yes, speaking.
Operator: I've a personal call from a Mr. Basil Moty. Will you accept reversed charges?
Mr. Kay: Oh ... all right, yes.

CONVERSATION

Mrs. Taylor: Do you know what? It's Freda's wedding anniversary the day after tomorrow.
Mr. Taylor: Hey, you're right. Well, there's no point in sending a card so we'd better send a greetings telegram.
Mrs. Taylor: I've half a mind to write as well. I'll get an air letter form when we stop at the post office. Anything else we need?
Mr. Taylor: Maybe a few more forty cent stamps – oh, and some of those airmail labels.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Lee: Hello.
Operator: Mr. Robert Lee?
Mr. Lee: Yes, Lee speaking.
Operator: Your call tooooo England. Would you hold the line a moment ... Right, go ahead, caller.
Mr. Lee: Hello, Vicki, is that you?
Mrs. Lee: Bob. He is everything OK?
Mr. Lee: Yes, I'm fine. I tried to call you earlist but I couldn't get through.
Mrs. Lee: Our phone was out of order – they've just put it right.

CONVERSATION

Mrs. Taylor: It says 'Lift the receiver and wait for the dialling tone'.
Mr. Taylor: I've done that, and I've dialled the number.
Mrs. Taylor: Then you're supposed to insert a twenty-cent coin when you hear the pay tone.
Mr. Taylor: I seem to have got thee engaged signal.
Policeman: Let me listen, sir ... No, it's ringing but they're just not answering. Better try again later.





CONVERSATION

Mr. Lee: Damn ... Hello, operator. Operator?
Operator: Yes, can I help you?
Mr. Lee: Yes, we were cut off. Could you reconnect me, please?
Operator: Sorry, caller. One minute, I'll try to reconnect you.

CONVERSATION

Keep gargling with warm salt water
Mr. Taylor: How do you feel now?
John: I've still got a sore throat and I keep feeling hot and then cold.
Mr. Taylor: I see ... then I'll get hotel to call a doctor.
John: No, really, I'll be OK, Dad.
Mr. Taylor: You just stay in bed and take it easy.

CONVERSATION

Doctor (on the telephone): What are his symptoms?
Mr. Taylor: Well, he's got a slight fever and it hurts him to swallow. It's pretty obviously a throat infection. At first we just thought he had a cold.
Doctor: No vomiting?
Mr. Taylor: No. He says his neck is painful – it's a bit swollen.
Doctor: All right, don't worry, I'll be there in about half an hour.

CONVERSATION

Doctor: Now, would you lower your shorts?
John: What's that?
Doctor: Just an injection.
John: Will it hurt?
Doctor: Well, it won't hurt me! ... There. Now, these packets. I want you to take one packet three times a day.
John: Er ... What's in them?
Doctor: Two tablets, see? And some powder. Now, you mix the powder with water.
Mrs. Taylor: It isn't penicillin, is it? We don't know if he's allergic to it.
Doctor: No, it's an antibiotic but it isn't penicillin. One more thing – I want you to keep gargling with warm salt water. But make sure it isn't sea water!

CONVERSATION

Doctor: So, how are you getting on? Feeling any better?
John: I feel a lot better, thanks. But the powder tastes horrible.
Doctor: Ah, that's because it's doing you good.
Mrs. Taylor: What are those spots on his face?

Mr. Taylor: They're just insect bites, dear.
Doctor: Mosquitoes, eh? Well, at least ours don't cause malaria. Still, I should keep them covered up.

CONVERSATION

Sarah: Mum, I've cut my foot.
Mrs. Taylor: What? Show me.
Sarah: It was a bit of glass.
Mr. Taylor: That looks quite deep.
Mrs. Taylor: Where's the antiseptic?
Mr. Taylor: I guess we didn't bring it. Nor the plasters.
Mrs. Taylor: I wonder if there's a chemist around here?
Mr. Taylor: There was a building with a green cross – we passed it just back down the road. A green cross means a clinic here, so let's try there.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Taylor: I wonder if you could help us. My daughter's cut her foot.
Doctor: Let me see ... I think that needs a couple of stitches.
Mr. Taylor: Really?
Doctor: It won't take a moment.
Sarah: I feel a bit faint.
Doctor: It's all right, you just lie down for a bit.

CONVERSATION

Doctor: There, I've put a plaster on it. Everything's going to be all right. How does it feel?
Sarah: A bit stiff. It hurts to walk a bit.
Doctor: If you like I can put a bandage on it as well.
Mrs. Taylor: Please don't bother. We'll make sure she doesn't get dirt in it.



CONVERSATION

They should've used more waterproof paper

Mr. Lee: Have they got the boxes out of Customs yet?

Mr. Kay: Yes, they were cleared this morning. I've just had a phone call.

Mr. Lee: So we can pick them up straight away.

Mr. Kay: Yes, my assistant's going down this afternoon with a couple of workmen. They'll load them on to the lorry and take them straight to the hall.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: About the reception for the exhibition – we've had to change the caterer.

Mr. Lee: Oh? Why?

Mr. Kay: Well, it seems his staff have just gone on strike. I guess they wanted higher wages and the boss won't pay.

Mr. Lee: So who've we got now?

Mr. Kay: A firm called Samy No. They're charging fifteen dinars a head, but that doesn't include waiters.

Mr. Lee: And how many are we catering for?

Mr. Kay: I reckon about a hundred and fifty. We sent out three hundred invitations but we always allow for a lot who don't reply and for others who just drop out. So a hundred and fifty's a rough estimate.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: I'll get the workmen to open the boxes tomorrow morning.

Mr. Lee: Where are you going to store the boxes?

Mr. Kay: Oh, in the big room.

Mr. Lee: You mean the room marked 'C'.

Mr. Kay: Right.

Mr. Lee: How about chairs for the film audience?

Mr. Kay: We can get about thirty in, but the rest of the audience will have to stand. In any case they'll coming in and out all the time. By the way, what about the screen?

Mr. Lee: Ah, it's a special folding one.

CONVERSATION

Mr. No: Right sir, we'll provide the drinks and ten kinds of cocktail snacks.

Mr. Kay: And how about the extras, for example, table cloths, flowers, etc.?

Mr. No: Yes sir, they're included.

Mr. Kay: And your people will get there by five o'clock so that

everything's ready by six?

Mr. No: No problem, sir, we'll be there by mid-afternoon.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: We've opened the first box; look, some of these books are damp.

Mr. Lee: They should've used more waterproof paper. I'm really annoyed with those packers – that's the second time in three months. What are we going to do about it? It's too late to order replacements.

Mr. Kay: Actually, only the top layer's damp. The books underneath are all right.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: That light needs fixing.

Mr. Samuel: Which one?

Mr. Kay: The one over there. It keeps going on and off.

Mr. Samuel: Let's try changing the tube.

Mr. Kay: OK, has anyone got a spare tube?

Mr. Samuel: I daresay they've got one in the basement. I'll go and ask. We'll need a step ladder too.

Mr. Kay: While you're there ask if they've got a hammer. These walls are so tough the pins won't go in.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Lee: I reckon we'll put six tables along each wall, there and there, and four along the back wall. Then we'll hold the reception down the middle.

Mr. Kay: Right. How do you want those big medical books arranged?

Mr. Lee: Better lay them flat along the front of the table.

Mr. Kay: OK.

Mr. Lee: Then we'll stand the medium-sized books in the middle and hang the smaller ones on the panels.

Mr. Samuel: Mr. Kay, we're running low on cloth. I'll just run down to the market and get a couple more rolls.

CONVERSATION

The damage can't be too serious

Mr. Taylor: About our trip to Kolon – do you want to go tomorrow or would you rather put it off till Sunday?

Mrs. Taylor: I don't mind, maybe tomorrow. What's the weather forecast, though?

Mr. Taylor: Probably showers and sunny intervals. It always says that.

Mrs. Taylor: Do you reckon it'll stay fine?
 Mr. Taylor: Very likely.
 Mrs. Taylor: Well let's risk it and go tomorrow.
 Mr. Taylor: There's a motel at Kolon under the same management as this one. Maybe they could put us up for the night.
 Mrs. Taylor: I think I'd rather come back.
 Mr. Taylor: OK, well, let's set off early, then.

CONVERSATION

Mrs. Taylor: Jim, there's a really good view over there.
 Mr. Taylor: Sorry, can't stop here, there's nowhere to park.
 Sarah: What about there?
 Mr. Taylor: That's no use, that's a path to someone's farm. Hang on, there's a place on the left there...OK, I'll go a bit further and reverse into it... (starts to reverse)...keep a lookout on the left.
 John: You're OK, Dad.
 Mr. Taylor: There. I wish they'd leave a bit more space at the side of the road.
 Mrs. Taylor: They seem to grow things right up to the edge.
 Mr. Taylor: And I'm still not used to this car – I can't see the back of it when I'm reversing.

CONVERSATION

Mrs. Taylor: What's that sign?
 Mr. Taylor: Does it mean 'detour' or 'one-way traffic'? I can't tell the difference.
 Mrs. Taylor: Ah yes, the road's up. It's a detour.
 Mr. Taylor: Over an unmade road!
 Mrs. Taylor: Maybe we'd better turn back.
 Mr. Taylor: I wonder how long it lasts.
 Mrs. Taylor: We could ask that chap over there.
 Mr. Taylor: What, that chap with the rucksack? He isn't a workman. I think he wants a lift. (to the hitchhiker) Sorry, we've no room!

CONVERSATION

Mr. Taylor: (to the petrol station attendant) Could you fill it up, please? I think it'll take about thirty litres.
 Attendant: Right, sir. Premium?
 Mr. Taylor: Please. And could you check the oil and water.
 Mrs. Taylor: We'd better clean the windscreen too – it's filthy.
 Attendant: Shall I do your battery and tyres as well?

Mr. Taylor: Thanks, good idea.
 Mrs. Taylor: I'll find a litter bin and get rid of this rubbish.
 Mr. Taylor: By the way, is there a mechanic around? I'm getting some trouble with the carburettor.
 Attendant: Sorry sir, he's off for lunch.
 Mr. Taylor: OK, never mind.

CONVERSATION

Policeman: Can you tell me exactly what happened?
 Mr. Taylor: Yes, I parked the car and got out to look under the bonnet. I know I shouldn't have parked on a bend but I couldn't help it – I had a breakdown, something went wrong with the engine. Then the other car hit me behind. Anyway, he was travelling pretty fast.
 Other driver: It wasn't my fault – I swerved but I couldn't avoid him.
 Policeman: Can you still drive the car?
 Mr. Taylor: I've no idea. Let's have a look (starts engine). Yes, it seems to go all right.
 Policeman: (to other driver) Better move your car, it's blocking the road.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Taylor: (on the phone) There's some damage to the rear offside wing. I've got the other driver's details and I've reported it to the police.
 Clerk: I see, sir. And the car is still driveable? So the damage can't be too serious.
 Mr. Taylor: Yes, I can get the car back to you but of course I can't use it as it is. So could I ask about a replacement car?
 Clerk: Well, it is rather short notice, sir.
 Mr. Taylor: But it's in your contract.
 Clerk: That's right sir, we'll certainly do our best. You see we're a bit short of vehicles because it's the high season but don't worry, we won't let you down. Ah, here's the manager – I'll hand you over to him.

CONVERSATION

Manager: Sorry to hear about your bad news, sir. Now, exactly where did the accident take place?
 Mr. Taylor: Let's see, it was between Gomi and Kolon, about ten miles along the turning off the Palmville motorway.
 Manager: Any witnesses?
 Mr. Taylor: Only my family. The other driver was alone.



Manager: Was anyone injured?
Mr. Taylor: My wife was bruised on the arm – she was the only one sitting in the car. Oh – one more point. The other driver's licence wasn't up to date. He should have renewed it six months ago.

CONVERSATION

There must be someone under that floor
John: Hey, Dad, look over there – smoke.
Mrs. Taylor: So it couldn't have been a plane. They must be demolishing some buildings.
Mr. Taylor: I doubt whether they'd blow up buildings in the middle of the city. It must have been close to the sea front.
Sarah: There, look, where that crowd is, that building, it's on fire.
Mr. Taylor: (to a man wearing an armband) Sorry to bother you but do you know what's happening?
Man: Don't know, there's been an explosion, and if I were you I'd get your car out of the way. We're trying to clear the road.
Mr. Taylor: OK.
Mrs. Taylor: What do you think it was. A bomb?
Mr. Taylor: I doubt it. Probably gas or something.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Taylor: What a mess!
Mrs. Taylor: It looks as if we're stuck.
Mr. Taylor: Hey, you, in front, can't you move?
Mrs. Taylor: Take it easy, Jim, he can't help it. His engine's stalled.
Mr. Taylor: Right, I'll get out and help him to push ... What's the matter? Want some help?
Driver: Thanks a lot.
Mr. Taylor: You're welcome. By the way, can I get back to the sea front this way?
Driver: Sure, go straight on and you'll come to a big, grey wall. Then you can go either way.

CONVERSATION

Ambulance man (1): Did you hear that?
Ambulance man (2): Yes, someone's knocking.
Ambulance man (1): He must be under the floor here.
Ambulance man (2): OK. See that beam? You lift the end and I'll start moving the bricks away. With any luck we can reach him before the fire spreads.
Ambulance man (1): Right.
Ambulance man (2): Can you manage?

Ambulance man (1): Yes, hang on, I'll need something for moving this lump of stone. An iron bar or something.
Ambulance man (2): Look out, that wall's moving.
Ambulance man (1): OK, I saw it.

CONVERSATION

Ambulance man (1): Let's put him down there for the moment.
Policeman: What's wrong with him?
Ambulance man (2): He's got a broken leg as well as burns on the chest.
Policeman: Look, you've cut your hand.
Ambulance man (2): It doesn't matter. It's not deep.
Policeman: You won't leave him there, will you?
Ambulance man (1): Of course not, but I'm just going to ring the hospital.

CONVERSATION

Policeman: Hey, you!
Reporter: Who, me?
Policeman: Yes, where do you think you're going? Can't you read?
Reporter: Sorry, I just wanted to take a few pictures. I'm from the 'Recorder'.
Policeman: Let's see your press card ... All right, but don't get too near that wall. It's liable to fall down any minute.
Reporter: I can see that.

CONVERSATION

Reporter: Mr. Holden, can you describe what happened?
Mr. Holden: Well, I was just going up the stairs, then round the corner there was this terrific bang. It must have knocked me out and I woke up lying at the bottom..
Reporter: Do you remember smelling any gas before the explosion?
Mr. Holden: Well, there was rather an odd smell, a bit like new paint.
Reporter: And did you hear anyone walking around upstairs?
Mr. Holden: I don't think so. It's hard to remember.
Reporter: Thank you, Mr. Holden. I hope you're better soon.
Mr. Holden: Thanks.

CONVERSATION

Editor (1): That firm that fitted the pipes – they're being blamed for the accident.
Editor (2): I'm not surprised!
Editor (1): And another thing – their managing director's upset because he says we suggested it in our article last Friday. He's talking about legal action.
Editor (2): I don't like the sound of that.





Editor (1): Anyway, there could be trouble. I was going to spend the weekend out of town, but I've decided against it.

CONVERSATION

It's time we cut the tape

Sir John Moulton: Sorry I kept you waiting.

Mr. Kay: That's all right, there's no hurry. By the way, could I introduce Mr. Peter Sety, the President of the Arcanian Publishers Association.

Sir John Moulton: John Moulton. How do you do?

Mr. Sety: How do you do?

Sir John Moulton: It was very good of you to send me those books about Arcania.

Mr. Sety: Not at all. I hope you enjoy reading them. By the way, I'd like to introduce my wife. She's a writer.

Sir John Moulton: Very pleased to meet you. And what kind of things do you write?

Mrs. Sety: Well, short stories mainly. Actually, at the moment I'm writing a travel book.

Sir John Moulton: Oh yes?

Mrs. Sety: It's about walking through the Gwalian jungles. I'm very fond of walking.

Sir John Moulton: I'd like to read it sometime. By the way, have you met Alan Brown? He's the member of my staff responsible for books.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: The chief guests are all here now, Sir John, so it's time we cut the tape.

Sir John Moulton: Right, I'm ready when you are.

Mr. Sety: Sir John, would you stand in the middle of the line?

Sir John Moulton: Thank you, if you insist! I bet get the blunt scissors again. Right, are you ready? One, two, three, go! (he cuts the tape). I'd like just to say a few words, ladies and gentlemen. May I say how pleased I am to see such an excellent range of books here and I must congratulate our hosts on arranging the display so well. I feel sure that these books will help Arcanians to learn more about British science and culture and I'm certain that this exhibition will make British-Arcanian friendship even stronger. Thank you.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Danby: Mr. Kay.

Mr. Kay: Hello! Haven't seen you for ages.

Mr. Danby: Actually I meant to ring you. We moved to a new office in June, then I was on holiday for a while at Mount Zebu.

Mr. Kay: That's where we went last year. Beautiful, isn't it? Did you enjoy it?

Mr. Danby: Oh yes, wonderful place.

Mr. Kay: So what are you doing these days?

Mr. Danby: Trying to catch up with my work, mainly, but it was very nice to get your invitation. Anyway, you must come over for a drink sometime.

Mr. Kay: Thanks, I'd love to.

CONVERSATION

Sir John Moulton: Well done, Mr. Lee. Congratulations on your display.

Mr. Lee: Thank you very much.

Sir John Moulton: I should think you'll get some good orders.

Mr. Lee: I certainly hope so.

Sir John Moulton: Now, would you excuse me? I've got another engagement so I'll have to be going.

Mr. Kay: Of course. Thank you for coming.

Sir John Moulton: Thank you for inviting me. Goodbye.

Mr. Kay: I'll see you out, Sir John.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Samuel: Mr. Kay, there's a telephone call for you.

Mr. Kay: Thanks. (to Mr. Danby) I'd better take it. Excuse me.

Mr. Danby: Of course.

Mr. Kay: (on the telephone) Kay speaking.

Miss Sorak: Hello, Mr. Kay? I owe you an apology. I was coming to your reception this evening but I'm afraid I can't make it after all. My mother's been taken ill and I've got to go down to the hospital.

Mr. Kay: Very sorry to hear it. I hope it's nothing serious.

Miss Sorak: Well, they aren't sure. They've got to do some tests.

Mr. Kay: Well, thank you for letting me know. Let me know if there's anything I can do.

Miss Sorak: Thanks. Goodbye.

Mr. Kay: Goodbye.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Took: Do you mind if I join you?

Mr. Samuel: Please do.



- Mr. Took: I'm Alan Took. I work at St. Jude's Training College.
Mr. Samuel: How do you do? Fred Samuel. And what do you do at the College?
Mr. Took: I'm in charge of the science department.
Mr. Samuel: Have you been here long?
Mr. Took: Just over a year. By the way, haven't I seen your picture in the paper recently?
Mr. Samuel: Ah, that must have been the national tennis championships last week.
Mr. Took: That's right – you won a cup.
Mr. Samuel: Well, I guess I was lucky. How about you? Do you play?
Mr. Took: I used to, but I'm out of practice these days. I must see about joining a club sometime.



CONVERSATION

- Mr. Lee: That chap alone over there – who is he?
Mr. Kay: Him? That's Colonel Marcus. He's retired, owns a book-shop.
Mr. Lee: Well, I think he's drunk.
Mr. Kay: What? You're joking.
Mr. Lee: No, I'm serious. I was talking to him just now – he had a drink in each hand and he kept spilling it down his jacket. Most of the time he was talking nonsense. And he's been pretty rude to the waiters.
Mr. Kay: He certainly looks in a bad mood.
Mr. Lee: Look at him now. I reckon he's going to fall over any minute.
Mr. Kay: If he does it'll serve him right for being so greedy. OK. I'll have a word with him.

CONVERSATION

- Is everyone in favour?
Mr. Kay: Well, we've all had time to study the Council's plan and ...
Mr. Chan: Sorry to interrupt, but have you got a spare copy of the diagram? Mine didn't come out very clearly.
Mr. Kay: Certainly (he passes him a copy). So I'd like to ask for your views. As you know, we've got three alternatives. The first is to leave the Arch where it is. The second is to move it to another site. The third would be to demolish it and not rebuild it at all. I presume no one is in favour of the third proposal.
Sister Dorada: Certainly not.
Dr. Chosuk: No.
Miss Potomak: Oh, no.

CONVERSATION

- Miss Potomak: Is there any chance of persuading the Council to change the direction of the road?
Mr. Kay: At this late stage none at all, I'm afraid. In any case, as you see from the plan, the road passes naturally over the place where the Arch stands. No, there's no point in asking them to do that.
Dr. Chosuk: Is there any guarantee that they will accept our recommendation?
Mr. Kay: No, that isn't certain. But since they've asked for the Association's views it seems likely that they'll pay attention to them.
Mr. Solomon: Could I ask what the cost of moving the Arch is likely to be? I feel we ought to take that into account.



Miss Potormak: On the contrary, that's for the Council to decide. In my opinion we should recommend the best solution for the Arch itself.

Mr. Chan: Yes, I support that. I feel it's up to the Council to find the necessary funds. Obviously the cheapest solution is to leave the Arch where it is. But that isn't necessarily the best solution from our point of view.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: Let's begin by looking at the first proposal. As you can see, the road would pass three metres behind the Arch and two and a half metres above it, in other words more or less right over it.

Sister Dorada: Apart from the appearance of the Arch shouldn't we consider the danger to it from traffic? I mean the fumes and the vibration.

Mr. Kay: I don't think we need to worry too much about that, Sister. Don't forget that traffic already passes around the Arch and hasn't damaged it noticeably. I'm more worried in case the Council damages the Arch while removing it. We must also bear in mind that they might remove it to some unsuitable site. I'd like to point out that Pakot Island has been suggested and we know that often gets flooded.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: We now come to the second proposal, which is to move the Arch to another site.

Miss Potormak: Sorry, I'm not clear how that would be done. I mean, can they do it without taking the Arch to pieces?

Dr. Chosuk: Well, it might be possible to move it in one piece. But it's much more likely that they'd take it to pieces, numbering each stone. Then they put it together again in exactly the same order.

Mr. Solomon: That's right. I believe that's what they did with one of the bridges in London. It was taken to pieces and put together again somewhere in America. I understand some millionaire bought it.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Chan: Could I raise a point about the upkeep of the Arch. I'm referring to the names carved on it. I had a look at them the other day and I noticed that some of them are getting a bit hard to read.

Dr. Chosuk: I agree. I must say that in my view the City Council has

rather neglected some of our old buildings. To my knowledge there are at least five buildings inside the City limits awaiting restoration.

Mr. Kay: Well, as you know, this isn't the main point of our report to the Council. But if we intend the Arch to be preserved then it's a point worth making.

Sister Dorada: Yes, well, after all, those are the names of the founders of our republic.

CONVERSATION

Mr. Kay: To sum up, then, we're all agreed that the Arch should be moved to another site and that it should be a suitable site where members of our Association can hold their annual ceremony in a proper manner.

Dr. Chosuk: Mr. Chairman, could I make one additional recommendation?

Mr. Kay: Yes, Dr. Chosuk.

Dr. Chosuk: I suggest that a metal or stone plate be laid on the site where the Arch now stands, stating that this was the original site.

Mr. Kay: Yes, I think that's a good suggestion. Is everyone in favour?

Others: Yes, Hear, hear.

Mr. Kay: Right, then. Dr. Chosuk, perhaps you could suggest a suitable inscription for the plate.

Dr. Chosuk: I'll do that, and I propose we add it to our report.



SUGGESTED LITERATURE

1. Dean Curry. Dialogs for Everyday Use.
2. Dean Curry. More dialogs for Everyday Use.
3. Barry Tomalin. Follow we.
4. Dean Curry. Talking English.
5. Interchange.
6. Graham Coe. Colloquial English.

