

This file contains transcripts of the sample maturity exercises, additional texts and song lyrics. The headings indicate which CD track corresponds to the text. Listening tasks and exercises are in Teachers' File – Activity Tips.

The Recording Scripts and extra activity tips can be downloaded from the website www.bridge-online.cz once you register with the password: secret.

CD Track 1 p. 4

LISTENING Part One

You will hear people talking in four different situations. For questions 1-4, choose the correct picture: A, B, C or D.

1 How did Wanda get hurt this time?

Tom: Woah, Wanda. What happened to you? I don't see you for two days, and here you are with your right hand and leg in plaster. I'll bet you went horse riding again.

Wanda: Oh, Tom. Everyone's making fun of me that I can hurt myself even while vacuum cleaning.

Tom: If you said it was gardening, like mowing the lawn, I'd believe you. Those modern lawnmowers can start moving automatically, like that one that hurt you last year. As I remember, you were standing on a ladder in the garden cutting some branches when the mower hit the ladder and you fell. But vacuum cleaning?

Wanda: Of course not; it was just a joke. Your first guess was right. I didn't see a tree on the path while I was riding.

Tom: Ah, bad luck. So housework is safer after all.

The recording will now be repeated.

CD Track 2 p. 4

2 What did the man not have during his trip to India?

My mum is an experienced traveller. Once she travelled on her own as far as India. I decided to do the same, but the difference between us was that I relied too much on modern technology. I thought I had the best travel guide on my mobile phone, and I also decided not to take cash as I had a lot of credit cards. My mum told me I was stupid, and just as I was leaving, she slipped some dollars into my pocket. It's such a pity I didn't listen to her and pack the printed travel guide. There was no internet connection in most of

the places I visited, and I missed having a guidebook. The mobile phone was good for nothing.

The recording will now be repeated.

CD Track 3 p. 4

3 What are the couple going to eat for lunch?

Man: Darling, what are we going to have for lunch today?

Woman: Oh, I was thinking about making some sandwiches. I'm too busy to cook a proper meal.

Man: Are you still working on that city planning project? I thought you'd finished it. Honestly, I don't like eating sandwiches day after day. And don't mention ordering pizza again. I just couldn't stand it.

Woman: You could cook some spaghetti, and there's a jar of sauce in the pantry. It would be quick and easy. Or there's a chicken in the fridge; you could roast that with some potatoes.

Man: You are joking, aren't you? Do you remember the last time I did the cooking? I burnt everything. Where's the phone number for the pizza delivery service?

Woman: Next to the mirror.

The recording will now be repeated.

CD Track 4 p. 4

4 What do the children know about their last week of this school year?

My daughter's class teacher is very strict and demanding throughout the school year, but for the last week of term he's like a completely different person. He gets very creative, and the kids can't wait for it. Last year the whole class went camping. They slept in tents, and then the teacher arranged to have their bikes taken to the camp and they cycled all the way home. All the kids from the other classes are envious because they usually just go to the library, or at best to the swimming pool. So, I'm packing the tent again, but there won't be any

bikes this year. The teacher says the kids are going to get a big surprise.

The recording will now be repeated.

This is the end of Part One.

CD Track 5 p. 5

Part Two

You are going to hear part of a radio programme about health and gardening. While listening, decide if statements 5-12 are true (T) or false (F).

You now have 40 seconds to read the statements.

Host: These days it seems we can't live without modern technology. It makes our lives easier, but on the other hand it reduces our contact with other people, and with the living natural world – something doctors say is unhealthy. That's why our guest today is Basil Lloyd, a very keen gardener who works as a psychiatrist at St David's Medical Centre and runs courses on gardening as a hobby.

Basil: Hello. Well, I wouldn't put the blame for everything on technology. We have to realize that, at present, 70% of the European population live in cities, and they have very limited access to the natural world. This is what has a negative effect on our lives, rather than the use of modern technology itself.

Host: But isn't it difficult to start a garden when you live in a block of flats in the city centre?

Basil: It's easier than you think. In fact, I was going to have my first garden on the balcony of my flat – but before I got started, I realized I'd rather use the roof of the house. I told my neighbours what I was doing, and soon others joined me and I could share my gardening experience with them.

Host: OK, but what if I don't have a balcony, or if my neighbours are very different from yours?

Basil: Well, the local councils in many cities have recently introduced policies to support community

gardens, as they are starting to realize the benefits. Building companies have to provide space in new projects for community gardens for as many people as possible. Five years ago, these companies had to provide parking places; now it's gardens. People should ask.

Host: You were talking about the benefits of gardening. Could you be more specific?

Basil: Any type of gardening is an opportunity for physical activity. It's typically quite low-intensity and not very demanding, but it still provides exercise equivalent to jogging at a speed of five kilometres per hour and so it carries similar fitness benefits.

Host: Wow! I didn't realize that. What else can I expect when I start gardening?

Basil: Perhaps less obvious is the positive impact gardening can have on your mental health. Gardening can definitely improve your mood. In fact, it leads to greater reductions in stress than either reading indoors or an indoor exercise class. In hospital I tell my patients that gardening is also linked to better diet, and better eating improves mental health, too. Maybe I should add lessons on the connection between gardening and healthy eating to my courses as well.

Host: Then I would be the first to come.

You now have 20 seconds to answer the questions.

The recording will now be repeated.

You now have 15 seconds to check your answers.

This is the end of Part Two.

CD Track 6 p. 6

Part Three

You are going to hear a scout leader giving information about a day trip. While listening, answer questions 13–20. In your answers use a maximum of three words.

You now have 40 seconds to read the questions.

Hello, boys and girls. I'm glad to see you all here, as I need to give you the final details about our next trip. There's been a change in the schedule. As you know, the trip was planned for Thursday, but in the end we'll be going two days earlier, on Tuesday. Sonia, the leader of the girls, has a job interview, so she wouldn't be able to come with us.

As I've already told you, we're going to visit Emerald Hollow Mine Park, which is recognized as one of the most interesting geological sites on the North American continent. What's more, it's the only mine open to the public where you can look for precious stones and even gold yourself. There won't be any diamonds, though, as unlike other precious stones and gold, you don't find diamonds in water. Which brings me to the next important bit of information. This time you won't need to pack a change of clothes as usual, but I want you to take rubber boots instead, as we are going to try an activity called sluicing for the first time. That's sluicing, spelled S-L-U-I-C-I-N-G. I bet it will be completely new to all of you. You'll be given a bucket full of mud, sand and stones taken directly from the mine, and you'll see if you can find any precious minerals in it. And, of course, this is best done in water or close to water. I've prepared a booklet with pictures of the stones you could find there to help you identify them. Here you are.

We're not only going to enjoy physical activities this time. We're also going to learn how the industries that use minerals create job opportunities, and where the different minerals are used. You might be surprised by some of the facts.

Now, your parents don't have to give you sandwiches because I'm taking enough hamburgers and sausages for everybody, and there's a place in the park where we can have an open fire to cook them.

The cost of this trip is being covered by the County Scout Fund, but just for your information it comes to \$14 per person for the entrance and activities. And I've also paid \$40 for food. An extra bucket for sluicing is \$4 if you'd like to go back and look for more stones, but I'm not paying for that. There's also a gift shop where they offer gemstone jewellery at excellent prices, and as the Mother's Day is coming...

You now have 30 seconds to answer the questions.

The recording will now be repeated.

You now have 20 seconds to check your answers.

This is the end of Part Three.

CD Track 7 p. 7

Part Four

You will hear people talking in four different situations. For questions 21–24, choose the correct answer: A, B, C or D.

21 What type of insurance does Sarah need?

Man: Hi, Sarah. What is it you need this time? Sports health insurance again?

Sarah: Well, when I'm calling I always need insurance, don't I? The sports health insurance you sold me last time was more than useful. But this time I don't need anything so complicated.

Man: So, something to do with your cats?

Sarah: You're on the right track. The CFA cat show is on in Chicago next month.

Man: Wow! That's one of the most famous cat shows, isn't it? And you need to insure your pets?

Sarah: I'm going as a judge this time, actually, so what I need is car insurance.

Man: Wouldn't it be quicker to fly there? I can get you the best flight insurance there is.

Sarah: You forget how much I hate flying.

Man: OK, no problem. Whatever you like.

The recording will now be repeated.

CD Track 8 p. 7

22 Where is the man going to organize the school project this year?

Every year I feel completely stuck when I'm asked to say where I want to take my class for our annual project. I've always preferred staying in the city, but I have to change my habits this year. I really admire my colleagues – they always take their students to the mountains to go mountaineering or canoeing. The thought of that has always scared me to death. So I had this idea we could go abroad and do a lot of sightseeing, but then I thought, what if the weather is bad? No, thank you. Last year we took part in an archaeological project in a castle. That was fabulous, and I wanted us to go there again, but sadly that project's finished. So in the end I found some courage and told my colleagues that we'll be joining them for their sports activities. Hopefully, it will be fun after all.

The recording will now be repeated.

CD Track 9 p. 7

23 What will the woman do to fight her sleep problems?

Lately I've been having a lot of trouble getting a good night's sleep. I wanted to start taking sleeping pills, but as I understand it, pills might only make things worse. My doctor told me I should eat food containing natural things that help people sleep, like bananas. Don't laugh, it's true. But unfortunately, bananas are high in sugar, and I'm on a low-sugar diet. I've tried changing my sleeping arrangements. My bed is good-quality and quite comfortable, and I bought new curtains, carpets and other stuff. Nothing's helped. At the moment I'm trying to change my evening habits, and I've started taking long walks as a new evening hobby. Although my sleeplessness hasn't changed, it's very pleasant. I think in the end I'll have to follow my doctor's advice. It really seems that I have no other choice.

The recording will now be repeated.

CD Track 10 p. 7

24 Why is James leaving the college of agriculture?

Woman: James, is that true you are leaving college a month before your graduation?

James: Well, yes, I *am* leaving.

Woman: I simply don't understand. Is it because you didn't get all the credits you needed, or because you didn't hand in your final project on time?

James: Neither. It isn't even because of all that medical treatment I had last winter – I managed to keep going to college through all that as if nothing had happened. It's just that my teacher, after reading my final written project, asked me if agriculture was really what I wanted to do in life.

Woman: But you love it, don't you?

James: Love is not the right word. I've realized it was more my father's dream than mine. No, I'm switching to physiotherapy next semester. They'll even accept some of my previous credits.

The recording will now be repeated.

This is the end of Part Four.

This is the end of the sample test practice for the maturita exam.

FCE

Poznámka: Poslechy k testu FCE jsou na CD kvůli nedostatku místa nahrány pouze jednou, ale studenti by je měli slyšet dvakrát. Každou část proto po přehrání zopakujte.

CD Track 11 p. 30

This is the First Certificate in English for Schools Listening Test. I'm going to give you instructions for this test. At the start of each piece you'll hear this sound. Now look at Part One.

PART ONE

You'll hear people talking in eight different situations. For questions 1-8, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

CD Track 12 p. 30

One

You hear a man talking on the radio about the weather.

And now to the weather, which will unfortunately continue to be unsuitable for travellers. Temperatures will drop tonight, and the forecast is no better for tomorrow. You're advised to travel only if it's absolutely necessary. Airports have been closed, and most trains have been cancelled. Everything is being done to ensure that the roads stay clear, but motorists should be aware that the continuing cold weather will cause heavy snow and freezing rain, so there will be icy roads all over the country.

CD Track 13 p. 30

Two

You hear two people having a conversation while they are waiting for a bus.

F: How long have we been waiting? I'm freezing!

M: It won't be long now, I'm sure. We just have to wait a bit longer.

F: What time is it supposed to arrive?

M: I don't know, really. I think the timetable said it comes at half past.

F: Well, what time is it now?

M: Nearly half past, according to my watch. But I'm not sure it's right because I dropped it the other day and now I think it's a bit fast.

F: You mean it might be only quarter past? Are we going to stand here for another fifteen minutes?

M: Well, what time does *your* watch say?

F: I haven't *got* a watch!

M: Well, that's no good, is it?

F: What are we going to do if the bus doesn't come?

M: I suppose we could walk...

F: Oh, here's the bus! Quick!

CD Track 14 p. 30

Three

You hear a voicemail message which a woman leaves for one of her colleagues at work.

Hi, Jeff, it's Lucy from the office here. I know you told me to finish the report by Tuesday, but there's a problem, I'm afraid. I'm not sure it'll be done by then because, as I expected, the information the Belfast office promised me hasn't arrived. Most of the report is ready, but I can't make any more progress without that information. This always happens with the Belfast people. They say one thing and then they do something else. This time they said they were waiting for you to confirm. Could you telephone them and assure them that they don't need to wait? I should have it finished on time if I get the information from them straightaway. If not, I don't know what to tell you. I can't give you a definite date, but I don't think it'll be Tuesday. Thanks.

CD Track 15 p. 30

Four

You hear two schoolchildren discussing one of their teachers.

M: What do you think of the new geography teacher, then?

F: I don't know. She seems OK but I've only had one lesson with her.

M: Well, at first I thought she was nice.

Then she caught me talking in the test and now she says I've got to do it all over again. After school!

F: Really? Actually, I saw her in the playground yesterday watching everyone run around and suddenly she just started shouting at someone who was on the grass.

M: And Brian says she punished him unfairly because he hadn't brought all his books. She doesn't let you get away with anything! She's really hard on everyone!

CD Track 16 p. 30

Five

You hear two people talking about their friend.

M: Did you hear what happened to Frankie?

F: Yes, it was terrible.

M: He could have been seriously hurt. I mean, you don't expect things like that to happen to you, do you? It's amazing, really, that he survived at all.

F: If he hadn't jumped out of the way at the last minute, the coach would have hit him. When you think about it, he was lucky just to hurt his arm.

M: The ambulance arrived very quickly, which was lucky too. Somebody saw it happen and called them straight away, and they took him off to hospital. He wasn't in any pain, but they wanted to keep an eye on him anyway.

F: I hear he's out of hospital now?

M: Yes, he's better now. He only stayed in for a day or two. He's gone off coaches, though!

F: No wonder!

CD Track 17 p. 30

Six

You hear a travel agent talking about holidays.

Here at the *Happy Holidays Travel Agency*, we want to find you the best holiday we can. At this time of year, a lot of people are thinking about where to go, and we are here to help you choose. These days there is so much to choose from, it's difficult to know what to decide, and that's where we come in. You can go skiing, swimming, sky-diving or just lie on a beach. You could see the sights of a modern city, walk along ancient roads or take a long cruise on a luxury ship. It's up to you. We will give you all the help you need to make your selection. You'll find the variety can be confusing, but with our expert assistance, you're bound to make the right choice!

CD Track 18 p. 30

Seven

You hear two teenagers talking.

F: Hi, how's school?

M: Oh, fine, you know. We're not doing much now the exams are over.

F: Oh, lucky you! We're snowed under. Our university entrance exams are coming up next week, and everyone's really nervous about them. And I'm exhausted!

M: Have you just got exams or have you got other work to do as well?

F: We've got to do a big project as well. It's like a really long essay, and I haven't even started mine. I just haven't got the energy at the moment. But it's really interesting because you

can choose your own subject, and I've chosen to write about celebrities.

M: When do you have to finish it?

F: This week. Then it's the exams. There's such a lot to get through!

M: Well, afterwards I suppose you can have a bit of a rest.

F: Not really. I've got a summer job, so I won't be going on holiday at all this year.

M: Well ... good luck!

CD Track 19 p. 30

Eight

You hear a couple talking about a film they have just seen together.

F: Well, I didn't expect it to finish like that! I thought they were going to just sail away on his boat and live happily ever after. But not this time. I didn't like the ending at all.

M: You can't always have a happy ending.

F: I know you can't stand films like that! You told me you would never go and see another film like the one we saw last time. You remember, the film with the sheep and the farmer and the farmer's wife?

M: Yes, I do remember. And yes, you're right, I like thrillers or police movies, not films about happy people. Especially happy people and animals.

F: But did you enjoy this one? It wasn't really happy, after all.

M: Yes, it was OK. But what an endless movie! I thought it would never finish!

F: Yes, it did go on longer than it should have. Do you fancy a pizza?

M: I'm really hungry actually, so yes. It seems like hours since we went in!

F: Come on, then.

That is the end of Part One. Now turn to Part Two.

CD Track 20 p. 31

PART TWO

You'll hear a radio programme about the problems facing young people today. For questions 9–18, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

I think that many of us would agree, at least partially, that life for young people was easier in the past than it is nowadays. There are many problems facing young people today and the financial situation in the world is having a negative effect on everyone. When things go wrong with the economy, and nobody has

any money, things can be very hard, especially for teenagers, who have to rely on their parents for money. Now everyone has less to spend, young people are finding it particularly difficult.

And while the teenage years have never been easy, it certainly seems to be worse than ever, especially if you look at the future for young people. When they leave school, some choose to continue their education. University is a great opportunity, but you need to think about it carefully. Most governments have reduced the amount of money they give to support students, and without that help, students have to pay more themselves, so it's more expensive than it was in the past, and some students can't afford it. For those students, the only real choice they have, aside from staying in education, is finding a job. Some people think starting work straight away is a good idea, because you begin earning money earlier. You miss the experience of university, but, on the other hand, you gain the experience of working and earning. But there can be problems with having a job, too, so the best thing to do is to consider your options carefully and ask for advice. Having a discussion with your parents about your intentions is always a good idea.

Of course, there are problems which affect both people at university and people looking for a job. I mean, even if you go to university, sooner or later you'll be looking for work. But the situation isn't encouraging. The problem isn't only lack of money, but lack of jobs too. In difficult times, factories and other companies either close or stop employing new workers. There are record numbers of unemployed people nearly everywhere, and finding work when you are an inexperienced youngster can be extremely challenging.

However, although it doesn't sound very encouraging, there is some good news. If you compare the situation today with, say, that of seventy years ago, young people have more freedom and more opportunities than ever before. More than 55% of people in Europe between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one say they're optimistic about their future. That's the majority of young people. So there is hope, at least in this country.

In other countries, in Africa, for example, young people are facing a very different situation. Apart from poverty – many of the countries in Africa have always been very poor – some young people have to deal with their country frequently being engaged in wars. There are often conflicts between different

groups within a country, and some governments even force young people to join the army and fight even if they don't want to. These 'child soldiers' lose their freedom and sometimes lose their lives, which is terrible.

Then, in other parts of the world, young children are forced to work in factories. They work long hours making things like shoes and bags to be sold in richer countries, but they aren't paid very much at all. Some people might think they are lucky to have a job, but again, the point is that they don't have any choice. Although child labour – children working – is against the law, this doesn't really protect them because they work illegally because they need the money. With no choice, the children are in a very difficult position.

All I can say is that I hope these situations improve in the future, and that we find solutions to the problems facing our young people today.

That is the end of Part Two. Now turn to Part Three.

CD Track 21 p. 31

PART THREE

You'll hear five people talking about their favourite place. For questions 19–23, choose from the list (A–F) what each speaker says. Use each letter only once. There are three extra letters which you do not need to use.

Speaker 1

I don't have one particular favourite spot because I just like the beach in general, and it isn't important *which* beach I choose. I love just sitting on the sand beside the sea and relaxing. It's the fact that I *can* choose that I like the most, so it could be a beach anywhere, really. I like being able to do exactly what I want, with nobody telling me what to do. I don't mind if I'm alone or if I go with friends. Sometimes I meet people I know or even make new friends at the beach. But that's not really what makes the beach so special for me. It's the feeling of independence I get, the feeling of being away from my responsibilities for a while.

Speaker 2

When I need some peace and quiet, I like to go up to my room, sit on my bed and look out of the window. My room is right at the top of the house. I don't put any music on, I turn my phone off and I just sit there on my own. It's very relaxing after a busy day at school, and I've got a big, loud family, too, so it's like a safe place away from all the noise for me. If I've had an argument with one of my

friends or if I'm upset because I failed a test at school, I can shut the door behind me and calm down. It's a very special, private place for me.

Speaker 3

I love the wide streets, the tall buildings and the noise and traffic. It's so busy and colourful, and there's so much happening all around you. The first time I went there, I hardly slept for two days! I just wanted to see everything all at once. There are shops, museums, galleries, parks, there's music, theatre and the cinemas. Everything's so loud and fast, it takes your breath away. You can forget all your troubles among so many people. You're just another person in the city; you can lose yourself in the crowds. Nobody knows you and nobody cares what you do.

Speaker 4

Every Friday, I go to the local cinema, buy a ticket and sit in seat 27C. It's the best seat in the house, and it doesn't matter what film they're showing. I'll sit there in the dark with a drink and something to eat, usually ice cream or some popcorn, and watch anything at all. I like every film I've ever seen there just because I saw it there. The important thing is that it's my seat and my secret place, because I'm the only one who knows about my routine. I've never told my friends or my parents where I go every Friday and I always go on my own. 27C is where I go to get away from everyone, I suppose, but I'm doing it with everyone else watching the same film.

Speaker 5

I've got a favourite place in the park near my house. Well, it's a special place for me and for my friends. We all get together under the big tree on the hill, right in the middle of the park. It's our tree, and nobody else can go there – well, that's what we say, anyway. Of course, it's not our private property; we just hang out together and keep each other company there. We don't make any particular arrangements beforehand, we just go there when we want to find each other, and someone usually turns up after a while. It's not much fun being alone, is it? And having your friends around makes everything much more fun.

That's the end of Part Three. Now turn to Part Four.

CD Track 22 p. 32

PART FOUR

You'll hear a radio interview with Neil Stanton, a fiction writer from Blackpool. For questions 24–30, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

F: Neil Stanton's a local author who's been writing fiction for ten years now. His latest novel takes us on an historic journey through our very own Blackpool and examines the colourful life of a fortune teller who was living in the city when it became a fashionable tourist centre in the late 1800s. Neil, what an interesting story! Tell us, why do you write fiction?

M: Writing fiction has been a passion all my life. Ever since I was a young boy, I've been writing stories, though I never published anything. I really enjoy making things up, actually, because there's a sense that you can do anything. It's like magic, really. It's hard work, though, to write something good. It may sound glamorous to be a writer, but it's not always so great. I have to rewrite a lot of what I do, but the end result is personally rewarding.

F: Where do your ideas come from?

M: Sometimes I get them when I'm travelling abroad. I've written a novel set in Italy, since I've travelled there a few times. I also get ideas when I'm sitting in my house alone because the peace and quiet allows me to concentrate on a story idea. I'd say that having interesting conversations with friends produces the best results, though. For two of my best-selling novels, the ideas came from those occasions.

F: How do you organise a story?

M: Well, that has changed a lot over time. It used to be, after I'd decided on a setting, I would focus on writing a plot outline. That seemed like the most logical way of planning, from beginning to end. As I developed as a writer, I decided to begin writing detailed descriptions of the characters first. It's helpful to think about exactly who you want your characters to be. I find that a story often writes itself once I've done that.

F: What do you find most difficult about writing?

M: Well, that's an important question. Many people think writing comes easily to writers, but it doesn't. Some get stuck finding a good ending. I think for me, the middle part gets tricky, because the story has to stay exciting all the way through. The worst, though? Writing too much! In the end,

I have to cut a lot of stuff out. Knowing when to stop isn't easy.

F: Is there a type of character you favour most?

M: I like all my characters to some degree, but I write about characters I like. When I read other people's books, I notice that sometimes there are loud, abrasive characters, and I don't usually like that quality in a character. But when that character says something funny and clever, then I'm impressed! I'm not too fond of shy characters, but when they're hard working, I find that I like them more. I think I'm most fond of characters who surprise you. So, when a loud character keeps quiet at the right moment, I find that special.

F: What books do you like to read?

M: Well, I used to really love reading fiction, especially in my youth. I would go to the local library just a few blocks from here and spend hours reading at the weekend, after I finished reading for my degree, of course. I still read fiction now and again, but I've become a bit of a history fan. I think that's why my latest novel has an element of history in it.

F: What advice have you got for writers who are just getting started?

M: Many writers want their work to be perfect. They spend too much time making every word in every sentence just right. I admire their attention to detail, but sometimes you've just got to let your fingers run across the keyboard. You know, relax, let your ideas come naturally and enjoy what you're doing. You can always go back and fix your mistakes later.

F: Neil, thanks very much for your time. It's been a pleasure.

That's the end of Part Four. That's the end of the test. Please stop now.

CD Track 23 pp. 50–51

An Adaptation of *White Fang* by Jack London, Part One

Narrator: White Fang's life began in the forests of the Yukon Territory in Canada. He was born wild: his father was a wild wolf, his mother a wolf-dog who ran away from a Native American camp. White Fang enters the world of men when he and his mother are found by Grey Beaver, a Native American. White Fang is separated from his mother, and so begins a very hard life in the human's camp. Grey Beaver makes him the leader of the sled team

and sets out on a long journey to trade with the gold hunters.

Grey Beaver: Mush! Mush!

Narrator: In every village, dogs hate the wolf – and the wolf hates them back. He fights at every stop. And when he fights, he kills.

Prospector: Isn't that the famous Fighting Wolf?

Another Prospector: I hear he's never been knocked off his feet. He's killed dogs all along the Rockies.

Narrator: Eventually they reach their destination: the town of Fort Yukon.

Salesman: Cheap furs! Get your cheap furs!

Another Salesman: Best whisky in town!

Narrator: White Fang continues his war against dog-kind, and the hard men of Fort Yukon take pleasure in the violence.

Prospector: Get him, boy!

Another Prospector: Fifty on the wolf!

Narrator: One man in particular never misses a fight: Beauty Smith.

Beauty: I want to buy your dog.

Grey Beaver: Dog not for sale. Good sled dog. Kill other dog like men kill mosquito. I have money. Why I sell?

Narrator: But a man like Beauty Smith does not take no for an answer.

Beauty: I know how to deal with Indians.

Narrator: One bottle of whisky becomes two, then three – until Grey Beaver needs the drink more than he needs his Fighting Wolf.

Grey Beaver: You catch dog, you take dog.

Beauty: Ha! The dog will never come with me and you know it. You want whisky, *you* catch him! You're mine now, Wolf.

Narrator: Beauty is a cruel master. He makes White Fang fight other dogs for money. And not just dogs: wolves, too. Even a lynx. And then...

Beauty: You're gonna make old Beauty rich tomorrow, Wolf!

Bulldog's Owner: He's a savage, all right. But he ain't gonna beat my Cherokee.

Narrator: White Fang's new opponent, Cherokee, looks unlike any animal he has fought before.

Prospector: What is that thing?

Another Prospector: It's called a bulldog. Maybe the wolf will finally meet its match.

Narrator: It is a long and brutal fight. White Fang attacks again and again, but Cherokee will not stop. At last the bulldog catches White Fang – and it will not let go. It looks like the end. But then...

Weedon Scott: You cowards! You beasts!

Beauty: I ain't selling.

Weedon Scott: Oh, yes you are. Because I'm buying. Here's your money. The dog's mine.

Narrator: And so White Fang leaves behind his life of slavery and the horror of the dog fights. For the first time in his life, White Fang is to experience what it means to be more than a tool or a slave. With his new master, the American Weedon Scott, he begins the long journey to a better life. To be continued...

CD Track 24 p. pp. 50–51

An Adaptation of *White Fang* by Jack London, Part Two

Narrator: White Fang is taken south to California, to Weedon Scott's home farm. He is no longer the ferocious wild animal that the cruelty of Beauty Smith made him, but still he doesn't understand the rules of this strange, gentle new land.

Judge Scott: Weedon, my boy! Welcome home!

Weedon: Woah there, White Fang. Hold, boy. Hello father. Hello, mother.

Alice: Weedon, you're here at last. And what an unusual dog – looks almost like a wolf.

Judge Scott: Good god, Weedon. Tell me it isn't a wolf.

Weedon: Don't worry, he'll learn the rules. Easy, boy.

Judge Scott: I don't know about that. A wolf is a wolf. You can never trust one. Better to shoot it.

Weedon: No. He's a smart one.

Narrator: The weeks pass, and White Fang becomes less like a wolf and more like a dog. One day, some worrying news reaches the family.

Alice: Weedon, look at this. That monster, Jim Hall. He's escaped.

Weedon: Jim Hall? Who's that?

Alice: It was while you were in Canada. Your father sent a man to prison. A dreadful man, a monster. And now he's escaped. I'm afraid he might come here. Look.

Weedon: Let me see. Goodness, he killed four guards!

Judge Scott: We are perfectly safe. The man's no danger to us, and the police will soon have him back in prison.

Narrator: But although the judge seems calm, Alice does not feel safe. The judge refuses to call in the police, so Alice finds another protector. Each night, after the house has gone to bed, she lets in White Fang to sleep in the big hall.

Alice: Come on boy, in you come! And quiet now – let's not wake up the men, OK?

Narrator: Then one night, when all the house is sleeping, White Fang wakes. He has heard a sound. Silently, he sniffs the air. The sounds are not loud, but a wolf can hear a mouse under the snow – and to his ears, the sounds say danger. The smells are not strong, but a sled dog can smell a cooking fire across a crowded camp – and to his nose, the smells say stranger. If he were a guard dog, he might have barked. But White Fang is not a guard dog. He gives no warning. He attacks!

Judge Scott: Don't move! I have a gun!

Weedon: Turn the light on!

Alice: My god! It's him, isn't it?

Judge Scott: Jim Hall, don't move!

Weedon: Keep your gun pointed at him, father. Let me see... He's dead! His throat is ripped open.

Alice: White Fang. He's hurt. Weedon!

Weedon: There, there... good boy... good boy. Looks like he's finished.

Alice: We'll see about that! Give me the telephone!

Narrator: They call a surgeon. But things don't look good for White Fang.

Surgeon: One broken leg, three broken ribs... There are internal injuries, too. Three bullet holes, see? He's lost nearly all the blood in his body. I'm sorry.

Alice: Don't give up on him, doctor! This dog just saved my husband's life.

Surgeon: I'll do what I can, ma'am, but there's not much hope. At best? One chance in ten thousand.

Alice: Then we'll give him that chance!

Narrator: White Fang came straight from the wild, and there is no weakness in him. It takes many slow weeks, but White Fang wins out on that one chance in ten thousand the doctor gave him.

Alice: He's standing! The blessed wolf!

Judge Scott: Now you see. No dog could do what he did. He *is* a wolf.

Alice: A blessed wolf!

Judge Scott: Yes, a blessed wolf indeed.

Narrator: And from then on, that is the Judge's name for him. Not White Fang, but The Blessed Wolf. The end.

CD Track 25 p. 47

Shakespeare's Corner

One of the most famous lines in *Hamlet* is not actually spoken by the lead character himself. This fatherly advice is given by Polonius to his son Laertes,

warning him to stay out of trouble. Polonius was known for giving long-winded speeches and encouraging others to be honest and good, while he himself spies on both his children and Hamlet.

“This above all: to thine own self be true. And it must follow, as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man.”

which means

If you can be yourself, then you will always be honest with others.

Grammar in a Modern Context

How could you rewrite Shakespeare's quote using modern, conversational English?

Be true to yourself.

Of course, Shakespeare is not the only person to have talked about being oneself.

“Be yourself. Everyone else is already taken.” (Oscar Wilde)

“I take a lot of pride in being myself. I'm comfortable with who I am.” (James McAvoy)

“To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment.” (Ralph Waldo Emerson)

“A girl should be two things: who and what she wants.” (Coco Chanel)

“A friend is someone who gives you total freedom to be yourself.” (Jim Morrison)

CD Track 26 pp. 42-43

1 Manfast

Jenny: Woah, Chase, what is *that*?

Steak, eggs, black pudding, fried mushrooms... That's your *breakfast*?!

Chase: Ohhh, yeah, Jenny. A real *man's* breakfast. A *manfast*!

Jenny: A fatfast more like it.

A heartattackfast. A call-an-ambulance-my-friend-is-dead-fast.

Chase: Hey, it's not unhealthy! Look, I've got yoghurt there too!

CD Track 27 pp. 42-43

2 Spaghetification

Marcy: I've just been reading about black holes.

Richard: You are *such* a nerd, Marcy.

Marcy: Yeah, well. True. But it's really interesting, Richard. Do you know what happens when you get sucked into a black hole?

Richard: Wait, yeah, I do. I saw this on Star Trek. You enter a tunnel to another place in the universe, right?

Marcy: Not exactly. The gravity gets stronger the closer you get. And at some point the gravity at one end of you gets much stronger than the gravity at the other end.

Richard: Uh-oh.

Marcy: And then, for just a moment you get stre-e-e-e-e-tched like spaghetti. It's actually called *spaghetification*!

Richard: Hmm. And then what? You shrink back?

Marcy: Uh. Sure. If you're made of elastic?

CD Track 28 pp. 42-43

3 Foofoo

Mae: Lucy, what do you think of Tania's new boyfriend Harry?

Lucy: Well, I suppose he's OK in a foofoo, puppy-dog kind of way.

Mae: I *like* foofoo.

Zack: “Foofoo”? What does that mean?

Mae: You know. Foofoo. Cute.

Lucy: Cuddly. Sweet.

Zack: I've never heard that before!

Mae: Oh, you weren't with us in Portugal, were you? There's this Portugese word, fofo. It means cute. We started using it, but we changed it to foofoo because it sounds better.

Zack: Huh. Foofoo. Foofoo, foofoo, foofoo. I suppose it *does* describe Harry.

Mae: You are so mean.

CD Track 29 pp. 42-43

4 Tzpo

Noah: So, how was your holiday?

Lucas: My what?

Noah: That's what you wrote on Facebook. “On holiday in Zorkshire. See you Sunday.” Weird typos.

Lucas: Oh, yeah, I call them tzpos. You know, mistakes you get because of the Czech keyboard. They have the Z and the Y the wrong way round. So it's not a typo, it's a tzpo.

Noah: Ha, I like it. Clever!

5 Lol

Marcus: Gran, can I have a new tablet for my birthday? I need it for school.

Grannie: Very lol. You must think I was born yesterday.

Marcus: Did you just say "lol"?

Grannie: Yes. Isn't that how you kids say "silly"? I see it on the internet all the time.

Marcus: It's not a word, Gran! It's *el oh el*. It means "laughing out loud".

Grannie: Well, I never knew that. I've been using it as a word. I suppose everyone must think I'm very lol.

CD Track 31 Maturita Card

A New Job

Austin: So, what's new, Jerome?

Jerome: I have a new job!

Austin: Nice, congratulations! Is it that journalist position you wanted?

Jerome: The one with National Geographic magazine? No, I didn't get that one, unfortunately. That would have been more interesting - but on the other hand it was only part-time. And the pay wasn't very good.

Austin: So, what's the job?

Jerome: Well, you remember I studied to be an architect, right?

Austin: Sure.

Jerome: And you remember I did that programming training course as well?

Austin: Yeeeah...?

Jerome: And you know that I'm a qualified paramedic. Well, almost qualified. I did fail that one exam...

Austin: Yeeeee? Wait, wait, with all those qualifications, let me guess. You've got a job at McDonald's.

Jerome: Ha. Very funny, Austin. No, this job really is connected to all those things. I'll be working in a hospital in their building management department.

Austin: Which means...?

Jerome: Well, when they're making changes to their buildings, I'll be checking that the plans are OK. You know, making sure that doctors can get patients into surgery quickly, making sure the hospital doesn't fall down, things like that. So it is sort of architecture. And I'll need to use a lot of software, too, so my computer skills will be useful. They even liked that I trained as a paramedic as it means I'll have some practical understanding of what hospital staff need.

Austin: Sounds perfect!

Jerome: Well, yes and no. I'm sure a lot of the day-to-day work will be

pretty monotonous and boring. But on the other hand I think it'll be challenging and quite rewarding, as I'll help save lives. Well, not directly but by making the hospital more efficient.

Austin: I see.

Jerome: Anyway, what about you?

You were searching for a job as well, weren't you?

Austin: Oh, yeah. Well, I've got a new job too. But it's not as exciting as yours.

Jerome: What is it?

Austin: A waiter in a pizza parlour. Badly paid, part-time... But at least I get a staff discount card. Twenty percent cheaper pizza! Oh, yeah, I'll be living like a boss!

Jerome: Oh, I'm sorry.

Austin: Nah, it's fine. It's only until I graduate. I'm still a student, remember?

CD Track 32 p. 50

Tenderly Emeli Sandé

When it rains it always pours
But I have found a friend in Noah
Still the dogs they bite and it's cold at night
And the sharks deep in the water
There's more of us than ever
But we're just lonely altogether
So baby, reach out and remind me that it's real

I need you to love me tenderly
I need you to touch me gentle, please
'Cause it's cold out there
It's tough enough
So baby, love me tenderly

Oh, it's a roller coaster ride
We all need someone to hold onto
A friend who understands exactly what we must be going for
If you can trust a stranger
And go on reach out touch your neighbour
And do your best to let them know they're not alone

Why don't you just love me tenderly?
Why don't you just touch me gentle, please?
'Cause it's cold out there
And they like to play rough
So baby, love me tenderly

Oh, please, just close the door behind you, dear
Oh, don't you let the cold inside of here
No, I don't wanna talk about it
Heard just quite enough about it
Baby, won't you take me outta here?

Come on and love me tenderly

How about you touch me gentle, please
'Cause it's cold out there
It's tough enough
So baby, love me tenderly

Why don't you just love me tenderly?
Love me gentle, please
'Cause it's cold out there
And they like to play rough
So baby, love me tenderly

Love me, love me, love me, love me
Love me, love me, love me, love me, love me
Baby, love me tenderly

CD Track 33 pp. 44-45.

I Believe Nikki Yanofsky

There comes a moment when my heart must stand alone
On this lonely path I've chosen
Like a house that's not a home
Sometimes when I feel I've had enough
And I feel like giving up
You willed me to be all I can be
Now nothing can stop me

I believe in the power that comes
From a world brought together as one
I believe together we'll fly
I believe in the power of you and I

This is the moment we have dreamed of all our lives
We'll be the change we wish from others
We'll stand tall for what is right
And in my heart there'll be no doubt
The arms of the world will come reaching out
And embrace me to be all I can be
Now nothing can stop me

I believe in the power that comes
From a world brought together as one
I believe together we'll fly
I believe in the power of you and I

I believe the time is right now
Stand tall and make the world proud
I believe together we'll fly
I believe in the power of you and I