

RECORDING SCRIPTS

This file (Recording Scripts) contains the transcripts of listening exercises and dialogues on the January-February CD and the transcripts of the LanguageCert listening test sample.



CD Track 1



The Starless Sky

Teen: Oh, god, it's all so depressing.

Dad: What is?

Teen: Like, *everything!* But right now, I'm talking about light pollution. I'm just reading about it in this *Gate* article. I knew it means we don't see the stars much, but I didn't know that it affects wildlife too.

Dad: Oh, I read something about... um... was it baby turtles? The light kills them, or something?

Teen: Sort of. When they hatch out of their eggs, they have to get to the sea. Lights make them go in the wrong direction, and they go onto roads or get killed by other animals.

Dad: Poor "ickle turtuws". But surely that's only, what, a few places? And a few nights a year? Can't they just switch off the lights then?

Teen: Sure, I guess. But it's not just them. Like, you know how moths and flies love lights? Well, that causes problems with their feeding, their sleep... it makes them easier for predators to eat them, too – it all does harm.

Dad: And we need insects for our plants, right? I knew that insect numbers are going down and that the chemicals on farms were a problem. I didn't think of light pollution. I know another one, though. A surprising one.

Teen: Go on, then. Surprise me.

Dad: Nemos.

Teen: What?

Dad: You remember *Finding Nemo*? The movie? Nemo, the clown fish? Well, clown fish live on tropical reefs – you remember we saw them when we were snorkelling in Egypt. So, where there are clown fish, there are often lots of lights from beach resorts and towns and hotels.

Teen: OK, makes sense.

Dad: So, some scientists did a test to see if clown fish were affected by light. They put clown fish eggs in dark

water and water with just a little bit of light – the same as the lights from a town shining on the sea. And in the light, the clown fish eggs didn't hatch. *At all.* Not *one.*

Teen: Really? Send me the link to that, please – I haven't heard about it. I can show it to my teacher.

Dad: And did your teacher tell you about frogs and toads?

Teen: Nooo...

Dad: Some of them, right, they have these night-time sexy love-songs. You can hear them when we're at the cottage. All of them going ribbit-ribbit-I'm-SO-SO-SEXY-ribbit-OH-OH-YEAHHHH-ribbit

Teen: OK, boomer, I *get* the point.

Dad: Well, when there's artificial lighting at night, they don't have their *sexy singing time* and then they don't have *sex*.

Teen: God you're embarrassing.

Dad: ...and so their numbers go down. There's another kind of animal that gets too much light at night. I'll give you a clue... They're really stinky.

Teen: Um... skunks?

Dad: ...and often noisy, and rude, and sulky...?

Teen: [*tired*] Yeah, yeah, yeah: teenagers.

Dad: Exactly. Let's switch that phone off, and solve *one* species' light pollution problem for tonight.

CD Track 2

Which Books or Plays Are These Quotes from?

- 1 He is a gentleman, and I am a gentleman's daughter. So far we are equal.
- 2 In my younger and more vulnerable years my father gave me some advice that I've been turning over in my mind ever since. "Whenever you feel like criticizing any one," he told me, "just remember that all the people in this world haven't had the advantages that you've had."
- 3 "Excellent!" I cried. "Elementary," said he.
- 4 Love is heavy and light, bright and dark, hot and cold, sick and healthy, asleep and awake – it's everything except what it is!
- 5 God hath given you one face, and you make yourself another.
- 6 There are many Bets in the world, shy and quiet, sitting in corners till needed, and living for others so cheerfully that no one sees the sacrifices till the little cricket on the hearth stops chirping, and the sweet, sunshiny presence vanishes, leaving silence and shadow behind.

CD Track 3



Maccabiah Games

Did you know there is a whole Olympics for Jewish people? Just like the regular Olympics, the Maccabiah Games take place every four years. However, they always take place in Israel. The first Maccabiah Games took place in 1932. The most recent games were held in 2017. The only break was from 1935–1950 due to the events surrounding the Second World War, but then the games have continued ever since.

Today, Jewish people from 85 countries participate in 45 different sports. Over 10,000 people compete in total. There are four levels of competition: Open competition, Juniors, Masters, and Paralympic, so that people of all ages and abilities can compete. When I visited Israel, my grandfather was honored for playing tennis at the Masters level and was inducted into the Hall of Fame. After the induction he marched in the opening parade of the Games with all the other athletes and his American teammates. Even at the age of 83, he loves to compete and to be a part of this special tradition.

CD Track 4

Real Spies

Trailer clip: James Bond. 007. Licenced to kill whom he pleases, where he pleases, when he pleases.

Presenter: The British secret service's most famous agent was created by the author Ian Fleming. Fleming was a former spy who worked for British intelligence during the Second World War, and many people believe he based Bond on his own experiences. With me in the studio is Marcia Ranning, author of "Real Spies", a book about the history of MI6 (the secret intelligence service). Marcia, is it true to say that MI6 is nothing like in Fleming's books, or the movies?

Marcia Ranning: Absolutely right. If James Bond actually worked in MI6 today, he'd spend a large amount of time behind a desk doing paperwork and making sure everything was properly authorised. But in Fleming's time, it's true, it was a bit more like Bond's agency.

Presenter: In what ways?

Marcia Ranning: Well, it was exclusive, very old-fashioned and a little bit silly. MI6 mostly found new spies through the student societies at Oxford and Cambridge university or by speaking to old family friends, so it was full of rich, upper-class and university-educated men.

Presenter: You could only apply for a job if you were rich?

Marcia Ranning: You couldn't apply for a job *at all* until 1994, because officially, the Secret Intelligence Service – MI6 – didn't exist!

Presenter: Really? But I remember that when I was a child, my dad showed me the old MI6 building.

Marcia Ranning: Silly, right? Any tour guide or taxi driver, or your dad, could tell you where it was, but a newspaper editor could go to prison for printing it. These days, things are very different. The new home of the SIS is far from secret: it's a big, amazing building on the Thames.

Presenter: It's been in several James Bond movies, too.

Marcia Ranning: And if you want to find out about becoming a spy, you don't need to wait for a quiet word from someone at Oxford or Cambridge. You can visit the SIS website. You can see how an intelligence officer works as part of a team with other members of the intelligence services as well as people from the military, psychologists, computer experts and lawyers.

Presenter: And there's no more need for a Cambridge or Oxford degree?

Marcia Ranning: Not at all. These days, they want people from all backgrounds.

Presenter: I have the website open here. I can see there's even a "careers" section!

Marcia Ranning: Well, if you want to be a spy, click on the "Apply now" button. If you do join MI6, though, don't expect the exciting life of a James Bond, full of beautiful women and fast cars. Intelligence officers are experts at being as boring and unexciting as possible. You can't be "a" James Bond. You have to be "Mr Grey" – a nobody, a person you might pass on the street but you'd forget in a second.

Presenter: No killing *[imitating trailer voiceover]* whom you please, where you please, when you please?

Marcia Ranning: Not even a little bit.

Presenter: I'll stay in radio, then. Marcia, thanks for talking to us.

Marcia Ranning: Thanks for having me.

CD Track 5

Land of Opportunity

In 1867, the US Secretary of State was a man named William H. Seward. He decided that what America needed was more land – 1,518,800 km² of land to be exact. The land that became America's 49th state, Alaska. At the time, it was owned by Russia, so Seward started negotiating and agreed to buy it from them for \$7.2m (around \$112m today). Many people thought he was crazy. Alaska was too far north, covered in snow and ice and basically worthless. They believed he was paying too much money for what one newspaper called a "polar bear's garden". However, very soon the same people had to eat their words. In 1899, gold was discovered in Alaska and Seward's idea suddenly didn't look so crazy. And it wasn't just gold. Alaska was full of oil and copper that made America much richer. So much so, that if you tried to sell Alaska today, it would probably be worth around \$2.5 trillion!

A Garage Sale Surprise

Garage sales are a great opportunity to try and get rid of some of the old stuff that's lying around the house collecting dust. People who go to garage sales hope to find a hidden bargain, and that's exactly what a British man named Andy Fields was looking for when he attended a garage sale in Las Vegas in 2010. And he was in luck: he found five pictures that he liked for a bargain price of five dollars. But Andy's luck didn't end there. Oh, no.

When he got the pictures home, he decided to put them in new frames. And when he removed the pictures from the old frames he found another picture hidden inside. One with a signature on the back. A pretty famous signature. A signature from one of the world's best known modern artists. Andy Warhol. Could it be true? Did Warhol really draw the picture? If he did, it would be worth many, many times more than the five dollars he paid. Well, luckily for Andy, the picture was by Warhol. In fact, the aunt of the person holding the garage sale used to babysit the artist and it was a picture done by Warhol when he was around 10 years old. It was a real, genuine picture drawn by Andy Warhol. But it didn't turn out to be worth many, many times more than Mr Fields paid for it. It turned out to be worth many, many, many, many, *many* times more. In fact it was valued at \$2 million, making it surely the best thing bought at a garage sale ever.

New Zealand: Waitangi Day – February 6th

New Zealand's national day is February 6th. It marks the date in 1840 when the Treaty of Waitangi was signed. This was an agreement between Britain and Maori tribal leaders to make New Zealand a part of the British Empire.

On Waitangi Day there are typically no fireworks and party-style celebrations. Ceremonies at Waitangi include speeches and launching a large war canoe.

Other events throughout the country include concerts and festivals, Maori dances and open days at marae (Maori community halls). And, of course, plenty of people simply enjoy the day off.

Controversy

However, Waitangi Day remains controversial. Many feel that the treaty was unfair on the Maori. The main problem was the difference between the English and Maori language versions of the treaty. For example, because of an inaccurate translation of the word sovereignty (which means the power to be in charge of a country) from English to Maori, Maori leaders did not realise that they were giving all control of New Zealand to the British.

Protests

There have been many Waitangi Day protests over the years. Some were quite dramatic:

- In 1990 a protester threw a wet T-shirt at Queen Elizabeth II

- In 2004, then opposition leader Don Brash was hit in the face by mud thrown by a protester.
- In 2009, then prime minister John Key, was attacked at Waitangi

Thankfully in the last couple of years, things have calmed down. The current prime minister, Jacinda Ardern, was warmly welcomed in 2018 and 2019.

Going with your Gut

A: Hey Jess, What's that you're eating?

B: Hi Jordan, it's kimchi, you want to try?

A: I dunno, it looks pretty weird...

B: Come on! Where's your sense of adventure?

A: Alright come on then, just a little bit... Urgh, urgh, that's so sour! It's horrible!

B: Well, yeah, it does taste a little...unusual, but it's really good for you.

A: How on earth is eating something that horrible good for you?

B: Well, it's full of bacteria.

A: Have you lost your mind? It's good for you because it's full of bacteria? Doesn't the fact that it is full of bacteria tell you that in fact, it is *not good* for you?

B: No, it's full of good bacteria!

A: I hate to tell you this, but bacteria are not good for you. How do you think you get ill? Why do doctors give us ANTI biotics when we are sick – to kill bacteria. I don't think you should be eating that Jess, are you ok?

B: I'm fine! And actually you are wrong. Sure there are some bad bacteria that make you ill, but actually our bodies are full of bacteria, and most of them are good for us. In fact, they are not only good for us, we need them.

A: What do you mean our bodies are full of bacteria? Mine isn't, I'm very clean.

B: It's nothing to do with being clean. It's to do with the food you eat. In your gut there are hundreds of different species of bacteria, trillions of them.

A: In *your* gut maybe...

B: ...and they all play a role in keeping you healthy. In fact lots of doctors believe that the bacteria in your gut can actually communicate directly with your brain, they can influence your mood, your behaviour – everything!

A: Hmm. So you are controlled by bacteria in your gut? That's pretty scary...

B: Well, not controlled exactly, but they definitely play a part. Our bodies have been co-operating with friendly bacteria for millions of years, since before we were really even humans.

A: Alright, whatever. Maybe your body is controlled by ancient microorganisms Jess, and I'm not surprised if you keep eating such weird things, but I make the decisions in my body. Me and my brain. And right now, my brain is telling me I'm hungry so I'm going to get some proper food. Some KFC.

B: Yeah? Your brain is telling you that is it? And who tells your brain what you want to eat?

A: ME! I DO!

B: Do you? Or does your gut bacteria want KFC?

A: What? No! I do... Don't I?



Everyday English: Relationships

Boy: I don't know why, but I'm so unlucky in love. I just can't seem to find the right person, no matter how hard I try. Every time I try to *chat up* a girl, I seem to always say the wrong thing, and it's no better online.

I have a profile on a dating app full of cool photos of me without a T-shirt so everyone can see my muscles, but I don't get many matches. And if I do, after a few messages I end up *getting ghosted*. What is wrong with me? My ex was totally crazy, I had to *break up with* her because she was *cheating on* me with a guy who she said was just an old friend. Yeah right. Everybody knows there's no such thing as *platonic love* between men and women. One of them will always *have a crush* on the other, it's just human nature. Oh well, I'll keep trying. In fact, there's a pretty *hot* girl in the café I go to. She is always really nice to me when I'm buying my coffee. I might try to *hit on* her later. Wish me luck!

Girl: I'm perfectly happy being *single*, thank you very much. In fact, I'd rather just *hang out with* my *squad* than waste time *dating*. The last guy I was with was such a *player*, he spent most of his time on the phone talking to other girls when I was right there. And can you believe it, he wanted me to pay for everything. I offered to *go Dutch* but even that wasn't enough. He said he had forgotten his wallet. Then after I paid and we left, he still suggested we go back to his place. I just made up an excuse and left. What a loser. I really liked a boy I met a few months ago, I thought we had *great chemistry* and we arranged to meet up, but then he told me he was moving away soon and I don't want to be in a *long-distance relationship*. They never work. So for now I'm just focusing on myself and enjoying being free. They say that love comes when you least expect it, so you never know when you might meet your *soulmate*.

Everyday English: Relationships – Solutions

- 1 When two people are both attracted to each other, we say they have chemistry.
- 2 "To hit on" and "to chat up" are two phrases that mean to talk to somebody to show them you are interested in them romantically. A chat-up line is a (usually bad) first sentence that tries to do this – "Hey baby, if I could rearrange the alphabet, I'd put U and I together." Ugh!
- 3 A player is a person (often a man) who pretends to be interested in just one person, but in fact wants to have relationships with many different people.

- 4 If you each pay half the bill in a restaurant, café or somewhere else, you are said to go Dutch. Apparently people are very democratic in Holland, or just don't like paying too much.
- 5 If you end a relationship with someone, you break up with them or dump them.
- 6 Hot is another word for attractive.
- 7 If you don't live in the same town or city as your partner, you are in a long-distance relationship, often shortened on social media to LDR.
- 8 Everything seems to be going well. You are writing lots of messages to each other and then the other person stops replying. Maybe they block you on social media. And you never know what you did wrong: you have been ghosted.
- 9 If you secretly have a relationship with someone who is not your partner, you are cheating on them.
- 10 Your soulmate is the one perfect person for you; someone you love and with whom you have a deep and special connection. Do you think soulmates exist?
- 11 A non-romantic kind of love is called platonic love. It's the kind of love you might have for a pet, a family member, or a close friend.
- 12 To regularly spend time with someone you are possibly interested in romantically is to date. Each meeting with them is a date. A blind date is when you meet someone for the first time on a date. Would you like to go on a blind date?
- 13 If you have a crush on someone, it is a strong (often temporary) feeling of liking someone romantically. The person you have the feelings for is your crush.
- 14 If you are without a partner, you are single.
- 15 A favourite term in hip-hop; your squad is your group of friends.
- 16 If you used to be in a relationship with someone, but you are not any more, then that person is your ex-boyfriend or ex-girlfriend, or simply your ex. If you were married then that person is your ex-husband or ex-wife.
- 17 If you hang out with people, you spend time with them as friends, doing nothing in particular.



Breaking the Silence

1 The silent letter here is L.

Listen and repeat:

palm
salmon
walk
talk
half

Some other words that have a silent L are could, should, would, calm and chalk.

2 The silent letter here is K.

Listen and repeat:

knight
knife
knee
know

Some other words that have a silent K are kneel, knit, knot and knock.

3 The silent letter here is B.

Listen and repeat:

bomb
climber
comb
lamb
thumb

Some other words that have a silent B are tomb, dumb and debt.

4 The silent letter here is T.

Listen and repeat:

listen
castle
whistle
Christmas

Some other words that have a silent T are fasten, soften, ballet, and wrestle.

5 The silent letter here is W.

Listen and repeat:

write
wrong
wrist
sword
answer

Some other words that have a silent W are who, wreck, two, whole and wrap.

LanguageCert

Access A2

Listening Part One.

You will hear some sentences. You will hear each sentence twice. Choose the correct answers.

Number one. Number one.

The old man is listening to the radio.

The old man is listening to the radio.

Number two. Number two.

Go down the stairs.

Go down the stairs.

Number three. Number three.

Shapi wrote a letter.

Shapi wrote a letter.

Number four. Number four.

The flowers are on the table.

The flowers are on the table.

Number five. Number five.

The hospital is a large, tall building.

The hospital is a large, tall building.

Number six. Number six.

The party's on Tuesday the first of June.

The party's on Tuesday the first of June.

That is the end of Part One.

Listening Part Two.

You will hear some sentences. You will hear each sentence twice. Choose the best reply to each sentence.

Number one. Number one.
Is that Graham?
Is that Graham?

Number two. Number two.
Is it the big, brown bag?
Is it the big, brown bag?

Number three. Number three.
I didn't break the glass.
I didn't break the glass.

Number four. Number four.
I'm sure it's the same.
I'm sure it's the same.

Number five. Number five.
That's very kind of you.
That's very kind of you.

That is the end of Part Two.