

Unit 3 Shopping

Part A Phonetics Sound Recognition

Learning Points

Articles, pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions, auxiliary verbs in English are usually not stressed in speech unless for emphasis. Sometimes, a content word may also be unstressed if it is placed between two strong stressed words. In these situations, we use their weak forms to pronounce them.

I. Directions: The following exercise is for you to recognize the weak forms of certain words. Listen to the following ten phrases carefully. Repeat what you hear and supply the missing words in the blanks.

1. not _____ school
2. listen _____ write
3. on _____ campus
4. _____ information
5. _____ cup _____ coffee
6. away _____ home
7. early _____ boring
8. fond _____ reading
9. just _____ well

10. good _____ nothing

II. Directions: You will hear five sentences. Repeat what you hear and supply the missing words in the blanks.

1. We'll _____ picnic lunch by the seaside.
2. Why don't you _____ and join _____ drink at the bar next door?
3. You wanted to _____ secret, didn't you?
4. _____ beautiful, practical or something else?
5. Housing _____ improved enormously.

III. Directions: Listen to the following monologue and supply the missing words in the blanks.

I 1) _____ \$600 a month to pay for housing, food, 2) _____ books and I 3) _____ afford a pack of cigarettes—that's how 4) _____. So, when they raised the rent from \$265 to \$275, I 5) _____ get out. I study 6) _____ so I need a room with a good big window 7) _____ so a new room 8) _____. As luck 9) _____, though, a friend of mine 10) _____ place to share an apartment 11) _____ I got his. It's only \$260 a month 12) _____ little kitchen too, 13) _____ cook some of my food instead of having to eat at restaurants.

I figure with the five dollars 14) _____ rent and another \$50 I'll save cooking my own food, I might be able to go to the movies now 15) _____ ask out a boy on a date. Things are looking up.

Part B Communicative Function Making Requests and Enquiries

People make requests to ask others to do something for them and they enquire

others for information. This exercise focuses on different ways to make requests and enquiries.

Useful Expressions for Making Requests and Enquiries

Making Requests:

Can you...?

Could you...?

Could you possibly...?

Will you...?

Would you mind...?

Making Enquires:

May I ask...?

I am wondering whether/if...?

Could you tell me...?

Would you mind telling me...?

Do you mind if I ask...?

I. Directions: Listen and complete the dialogues.

Dialogue 1

A: Hello.

B: Hi, Mandy. It's Jill. I'm still at work.

A: Work? I thought you got off work at 4:00.

B: I was supposed to but I had to 1) _____. Listen. I'm running late. Could you do me a favor?

A: Sure. Anything. What do you need?

B: I'm having some friends over for a BBQ tonight. Could you 2) _____ for me?

A: I'll do that right now. Anything else?

B: Nope. That's it. Oh. By the way, I'll be stopping by the store on the way home. Do you need anything?

A: Yeah. Actually, I do. We 3) _____. Would you mind picking some up 4) _____?

B: No problem. I should be home in an hour. See you soon.

A: Actually, I'll probably be gone by the time you get here. I'm 5) _____.

B: OK then. See you later tonight. Have fun.

Dialogue 2

David: Good morning, can I speak to Mr. Iverson, please?

Secretary: 6) _____, please?

David: David Williams.

Secretary: 7) _____. I'll see if Mr. Iverson is available...Please speak on. Mr. Iverson is 8) _____.

David: Hi Michael, how are you?

Michael: Hello, David, I'm fine. How are you?

David: Fine, thanks. I need your help. Could you lend me some money, please?

Michael: How much?

David: Three hundred dollars.

Michael: Certainly. 9) _____?

David: I'll come myself. I'll be there in half an hour. Thanks Michael.

Michael: Most welcome. See you then.

Dialogue 3

Operator: Good afternoon, 311. How can I help you?

Marina: Hello, 10) _____, and I need some information.

Operator: Yes, when will you be arriving?

Marina: On April 1st. How can I get to Manhattan from the airport?

Operator: 11) _____?

Marina: Lagaardia Airport.

Operator: You can take M60.

Marina: Where in Manhattan does it go?

Operator: The M60 goes to the west side and the east side. 12) _____?

Marina: At 10:00 a. m.

Operator: The M60 13) _____ in the morning.

Marina: My last question: what color is the bus?

Operator: Blue and white. Now I have some questions for you. Who told you about 311, and why are you coming to New York City?

Marina: My friend told me about 311 and I'm traveling to New York City 14) _____.

Operator: 15) _____ and good luck with the interview!

Marina: Thank you.

II. Directions: You're going to hear some sentences. Repeat each sentence you hear. Then listen again and write down the sentence.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

III. Directions: You are going to listen to a conversation and complete the following exercises.

Task 1: Please listen to the first part of the conversation and complete the notes below from questions 1) ~ 5). Write *no more than two words and/or a number* for each answer.

Transport from Bayswater

Example Answer

Destination Harbor City

Express train leaves at 1) _____

Nearest station is 2) _____

Number 706 bus goes to 3) _____

Number 4) _____ bus goes to station

Earlier bus leaves at 5) _____

Task 2: Please listen to the second part of the conversation and complete the table below from questions 6) ~ 10). Write *no more than one word and/or a number* for each answer.

Transport	Cash fare	Card fare
Bus	6) \$ _____	\$1. 5
Train (peak)	\$10	\$10
Train (off-peak) -before 5:00 p.m. or after 7) _____ p. m.	\$10	8) \$ _____
9) _____ ferry	\$4. 5	\$3. 55
Tourist ferry (10) _____)	\$35	—
Tourist ferry (whole day)	\$65	—

Part C Close Listening

Learning Points

Listening Skills: Distinguishing Sounds

Words that sound similar or the same can be confusing. They make the listening challenging if the listener is not alert to such kinds of words. The following are some often-used words with similar pronunciation or same pronunciation.

Words with similar pronunciation: pie vs. pine, tie vs. tine, pole vs. pull, poke vs. pork, pat vs. pet, van vs. vain, win vs. wing, fourteen vs. forty, fifteen vs. fifty.

For this type of words, the distinction of the pronunciation of some vowels and consonants can be very important. More practice will help the listener be alert to distinguish them.

Words with same pronunciation: pea vs. pee, sigh vs. thigh, die vs. dye, steel vs. steal, plain vs. plane, flu vs. flue, rain vs. reign, rap vs. wrap, complement vs. compliment, council vs. counsel, fair vs. fare, ail vs. ale, baron vs. barren, beat vs. beet, hair vs. hare.

For this type of words, the understanding of the information is quite crucial. For example, she was dressed simply in a ___ (plain/plane) black dress. In this sentence, “plain” must be the right word.

Words and Phrases

gangster: *n.* 流氓

traveler's check 旅行支票

personal check 个人支票

I. Directions: You're going to hear some prices. Listen carefully and choose the one you hear.

1. A. \$2. 15. B. \$2. 05. C. \$2. 50.
2. A. \$7. 40. B. \$7. 14. C. \$7. 44.
3. A. \$22. 18. B. \$28. 12. C. \$22. 80.
4. A. \$15. 13. B. \$15. 33. C. \$15. 30.
5. A. \$40. 16. B. \$46. 14. C. \$41. 60.
6. A. \$84. 90. B. \$89. 40. C. \$88. 19.
7. A. \$60. 90. B. \$60. 19. C. \$60. 09.
8. A. \$113. 70. B. \$130. 17. C. \$131. 07.
9. A. \$270. 50. B. \$217. 50. C. \$270. 15.
10. A. \$580. 52. B. \$508. 25. C. \$518. 05.

II. Directions: You're going to hear some short conversations. Listen carefully and choose the right answer to each question you hear.

1. A. Trying to sketch a map.
B. Painting the dining room.
C. Discussing a house plan.
D. Cleaning the kitchen.
2. A. She is tired of the food in the canteen.
B. She often eats in a French restaurant.
C. She usually takes a snack in the KFC.
D. She is very fussy about what she eats.
3. A. Listening to some loud music.
B. Preparing for an oral examination.
C. Talking loudly on the telephone.
D. Practicing for a speech contest.

4. A. The man has left a good impression on her family.
B. The man can dress casually for the occasion.
C. The man should buy himself a new suit.
D. The man's jeans and T-shirts are stylish.
5. A. Grey pants made from pure cotton.
B. Fashionable pants in bright colors.
C. 100% cotton pants in dark blue.
D. Something to match her brown pants.
6. A. Its price.
B. Its location.
C. Its comfort.
D. Its facilities.
7. A. Travel overseas.
B. Look for a new job.
C. Take a photo.
D. Adopt a child.
8. A. It is a routine offer.
B. It is new on the menu.
C. It is quite healthy.
D. It is a good bargain.
9. A. Brother and sister.
B. Husband and wife.
C. Mother and son.
D. Father and daughter.
10. A. The man's wife heads the mobile phone division.
B. The man's wife is up for the next promotion.
C. The man's wife wasn't promoted.
D. The man's wife promoted someone with more experience.

III. Directions: You are going to listen to some long conversations. Listen carefully and choose the right answer to each question you hear.

Conversation 1

Questions 1 to 6 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

1. What is the name of the store?

A. Arby's.	B. Angie's.
C. Angelo's.	D. Sheri's.
2. How many racks of clothes are on sale?

A. One.	B. Two.
C. Three.	D. Four.
3. When Marianne sees the sweater, she likes it. But she would prefer _____.

A. a smaller size.	B. a larger size.
C. a green one.	D. a red one.
4. A fitting room is a place where you _____.

A. buy clothes.	B. make clothes.
C. try on clothes.	D. hide clothes.
5. Marianne's credit card is almost maxed out so _____.

A. she will use it to buy the sweater.	B. she will write a check instead.
C. she cannot buy the sweater.	D. she will use a different credit card.
6. Which item is not an I. D.?

A. A driver's license.	B. A student card with a picture.
C. A passport.	D. An essay about English.

Conversation 2

Questions 7 to 10 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

7. What is the person trying on in the dressing room?

A. Pants.	B. Jacket.
-----------	------------

- C. Sweater. D. Shirt.
8. How can this person save 10% off the sweater?
- A. Waiting until the sale happens this weekend.
B. Using a coupon in the catalog.
C. Filling out a survey.
D. Opening a department store credit card.
9. What else is this person looking for?
- A. Pants. B. Jacket.
C. Sweater. D. Shirt.
10. Why is the person not going to buy the second item?
- A. Jacket sleeves are too long. B. Pants are too long.
C. Sweater is too bulky. D. The shirt is too tight.

IV. Directions: You're going to hear a passage. Listen carefully and choose the right answer to each question you hear.

1. A. It is always possible to bargain when shopping in America.
B. In most American stores, one often has to ask the sales people for prices of the goods.
C. To pay with traveler's checks is out of the question in most American stores.
D. You don't have to accept the help of the sales people if you don't want to buy anything.
2. A. Cash. B. Traveler's checks.
C. Personal checks. D. Both B and C.
3. A. To take the personal checks to a bank or someone who knows him.
B. To pay for all of his items at one of the checkout counters.
C. To wait till a clerk comes to help.
D. To ask a clerk for help.