

# STUDENTS' BOOK • AUDIO SCRIPTS

## UNIT 1 Recording 1

P = Presenter M= Matt

### Part 1

P: Now you might have heard of speed dating – those events for the young, free and single who are just too busy to find the love of their lives – but what about applying the same principle to finding a lodger for your spare room? Natalie Steed went to experience 'speed flatmating'.

M: My name's Matt Hutchinson and I'm with SpareRoom.co.uk. Basically what we do is we have an evening that introduces people looking for places to live with people who've got a spare room in their house and it's just a chance for people to meet the people that are involved rather than just see the flats. It's a chance to actually see who you'd be living with because it makes such a difference. And everybody that arrives gets a list of who's here so if you're looking for a room for example, you get a list of everybody who's got a room, what their area is, what their budget is. Everybody has a badge to say who they are and whether they've got a room or are looking.

## UNIT 1 Recording 2

P = Presenter M1 = Man 1 M2 = Man 2  
W1 = Woman 1 W2 = Woman 2  
W3 = Woman 3

### Part 2

P: You're wearing a white label. You've got a room to rent.

M1: We both have a room to rent.

P: Oh, I see.

M1: So we're seeking another person to join us.

P: Why are you looking for someone to move in?

M1: Our magnificent German roommate, who was away every weekend, has moved out. So as a result we're looking for someone equally magnificent who will be there as little as possible.

P: You're looking a little bit lost and you're wearing a pink badge. What does that mean?

M2: That means I'm looking for a room and also I'm willing to buddy up with someone else who's looking.

P: How long have you been looking for a room?

M2: A couple of weeks. I'm sort of new to the game. So I'm just trying to understand what's going on and how it works. You know, it's a bit of a shock and a bit of a steep learning curve for me.

P: Do you think you're pretty good at spotting the kind of person you can get on with?

W1: Yes I think it's easy. You just know straightaway.

P: When you've done it before, when you've done it through an online service, and you've presumably had people come to look at your house, how has that been?

W1: Well I must be a bit choosy I suppose, but the two best lodgers I had, I just knew immediately, as soon as I looked at them, smiled at them, I knew that they were somehow the right sort of people and that we would get along.

P: So, really it's ... this kind of event's quite good for you, rather than sitting down with somebody where you know straightaway you don't want to live with them but they're in your house, you feel obliged to show them round,

W1: Yes, because that's so embarrassing, having to show someone round when they're not interested. Sometimes I open the door and because I'm older they look at me and go 'Oh god, I don't want to live with my mother.'

W2: It's two bedrooms. There's one bathroom which is why I always ask people what time they get up in the morning. Because I do have a bad habit that I like to have half an hour bath in the morning.

W3: That's not a bad habit!

W2: Other than that I'm not largely in the house at all. I'm actually a little bit sort of brain dead from all the conversations I've had but it's been so so useful.

P: You seem to have to be quite open straightaway, I mean, I heard you talking about your bathing habits earlier.

W2: I think that's important. I mean they're going to be living with you. They're going to be in really close contact and it's best to [cut] advertise yourself as you are from the outset.

P: And have you had any firm interest yet?

W2: I have met several people that I'd like to follow it up with. Several people that I feel I could live with.

## UNIT 1 Recording 5

S1 = Speaker 1 S2 = Speaker 2 S3 = Speaker 3  
S4 = Speaker 4 S5 = Speaker 5

S1: I didn't enjoy it much. For a start, I was very anxious and I think animals can sense it when you're nervous and worried. It was OK when we were going at a walk but then we went faster and I found it difficult to stay on. Actually, I was extremely relieved when the lesson finished and I could get off.

S2: It was the first time I'd tried it and it was a kind of competition. So I chose a song I knew well and I really enjoyed doing it. I came second so I was really thrilled.

There were about twenty people entered and I was absolutely fascinated to see how different people behaved when they got in front of the microphone.

S3: It took me ages to do and I got really annoyed and frustrated at one point because I couldn't make it straight. Eventually, I put the books on it and it looked great. I felt really satisfied when I'd finished because it was the first one I'd ever put up on my own. Yeah. It was a really satisfying thing to do.

S4: Most people were there for the first time and I was really impressed by how quickly they learnt the steps. But I was useless and I'm sure my partner thought so too. I was very embarrassed because I kept treading on her toes. She was very patient but you could tell she was getting annoyed. So it was a bit of a disaster, quite disappointing.

S5: He should never have started it. I think he wanted to impress me because it was our first date but I found out later that he'd never changed one before. Anyway, after three hours, I suggested calling the repair company. I felt very awkward about it but I thought we'd never get home. I didn't get to bed till two in the morning and I was completely exhausted.

## UNIT 1 Recording 7

- 1 I've thought about it a lot.
- 2 I thought about it a lot.
- 3 We tried to phone you.
- 4 We've tried to phone you.
- 5 She's had her first lesson today.
- 6 She had her first lesson today.
- 7 I've changed my email address.
- 8 I changed my email address.
- 9 I think he's left the building.
- 10 I think he left the building.

## UNIT 1 Recording 9

W = Woman M = Man

M: Hello, English Language College. Can I help you?

W: Yes, I'd like to enquire about a course.

M: OK. Have you seen the information on our website?

W: Well, actually the situation is that I booked myself onto a course through your website yesterday, and now I'd like to change.

M: Could you tell me your name?

W: Misa Radnoti.

M: And which course was it?

W: A general English course, pre-advanced.

M: Bear with me a minute. Yes, I've got it. What would you like to change to?

W: I've just noticed this morning that you have an advanced course in business English starting next week.

M: That's right.

W: I was wondering if it would be possible for me to change to that group.

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M: OK, let me just check. There are still a few places in that group, but you'll have to do a level test.

W: But I've already done an online test for the other course.

M: I appreciate that, but for this course you need to do a level test in person.

W: Can you tell me why I have to do it in person?

M: It's because it's a specialised course and there's an oral component to the level test.

W: I see. Would there be any chance of doing the level test on the phone?

M: Hold on, let me check ... sorry to keep you. No, I'm afraid it has to be in person.

W: I see. Do you mind me asking what it involves?

M: There's a written task that you have to do under timed conditions, and preparation materials for the oral interview.

W: I see. Sorry to be difficult, it's just that I'm really busy this week and can't make it up to the school for the level test.

M: That's going to be a problem. I'm not sure what we can do about that.

W: I'd really appreciate your help.

M: Hmm ... You couldn't come in on Thursday evening, could you?

W: No, I'm afraid not. But I tell you what. I could come in on Saturday to do the level test.

M: The problem is, that's leaving it very late and we might have other applicants.

W: I'd be really grateful if you could hold a place for me till Saturday morning.

M: Can you hold on a minute? I'll just see ... OK, we can do that. We'll provisionally transfer the course fee over as a deposit.

W: That's great. Oh, I've got one more question, if I'm not keeping you.

M: No, go ahead.

W: If I don't get into this group, do I lose my course fee?

M: I'm afraid we can't refund the deposit, but you could apply it to another course.

W: That's a relief. Would you mind putting that in an email for me?

M: Certainly.

W: And could you tell me when the school opens on Saturday?

W: We're open from nine. I won't be here myself, but I'll tell my colleague to expect you.

M: Thank you very much for your help.

W: You're welcome. Thank you for calling.

## UNIT 1 Recording 1

W = Woman M = Man

M: Well, I've had some very embarrassing experiences in my life but one of the worst was my very first day at work. I was a trainee solicitor in a law firm and there were fourteen of us trainees there, and everyone was on their best behaviour.

Everyone was dressed nicely and the guys had polished their shoes and done their hair you know wanting to make a good first impression and

W: Yeah, I know what you mean. How old were you?

M: Only twenty-three, so I was one of the youngest in the group. Anyway, it started as a typical first day, you know a bit like the first day at school – everyone's not quite being themselves but, you know trying their hardest and you go and get your cup of tea or coffee and you try not to spill it or drop your biscuit on the floor.

W: Yeah.

M: And I remember I was feeling kind of ... kind of nervous, maybe a tiny bit shy and then having to pretend to be confident as if to say, you know, 'I'm very professional.' I spent the whole time looking at the others and wondering how experienced they were and ...

W: I know the feeling.

M: ... and then I had to go to my desk and wait for some work to be given to me and, it was a quiet department so I was waiting and waiting and my shoes were new and were hurting so I kicked them off under the table and then another hour went by, and by this time I was feeling a bit panicky because I didn't have anything to do. I hoped someone would give me some proper work to do. Then the head partner rang me up and told me to come to his office because he'd got some work for me so I grabbed my pen and pad and I went racing round there. And as I walked into his office, he looked me up and down and saw that I wasn't wearing any shoes. I must have seemed ridiculously casual. It was so embarrassing! Thankfully there were no holes in my socks because they were new, too. So I just spent the whole time in his office thinking 'are you gonna say anything, are you gonna tell me off?'

W: Did he say anything?

M: Just before he sent me away he stopped me and he wanted to know why I didn't have any shoes on, and I didn't have a good answer for that. I just said I wanted to feel more comfortable. I thought – I'm never going to fit in at this law firm.

W: And how did he react?

M: He smiled so I think he thought it was pretty funny, but ever since then I've always made sure I keep my shoes on!

## UNIT 2 Recording 1

### Conversation 1

A: How long have you been working here?

B: I've been here for over ten months now.

### Conversation 2

A: How many chocolates have you eaten?

B: I've only had three!

### Conversation 3

A: What have you been doing? You're filthy!

B: I've been running.

## UNIT 2 Recording 3

S1 = Speaker 1 S2 = Speaker 2 S3 = Speaker 3 S4 = Speaker 4 S5 = Speaker 5

S1: I really can't see the problem. The first thing I did when it all began was I tried to find my house on the website but they hadn't brought the camera van down our road yet, so I was quite disappointed. For me, it's great because it means I can go and look at things like hotels or even cities before I go on holiday ... and anyway if someone wanted to look at my house they could just drive past it or walk past it, so I can't see the problem.

S2: It's obvious, isn't it? I mean, they're nothing to do with safety. They're just used by the government to make money. I mean, look at the statistics. In the last year, in my area four cameras have been placed along one stretch of road, and you know what, the number of accidents has doubled. So they obviously don't work as a deterrent. And now your car number plate can be logged so that they can keep track of you wherever you go. I hate it – I hate being watched like that. It's just another example of our surveillance society.

S3: The way I see it, it's an invasion of privacy. It means whenever I go to the supermarket, it's recorded on a chip somewhere and they can find out exactly what I've bought. Why should people have the right to know what kind of food I eat? Or get my details and then send me junk mail? I certainly don't want to be sent adverts from companies I don't know. And this is just the start ... I expect next thing you know, the technology will be used to tell us what we can and can't eat.

S4: Me, I'm glad they're there. A few months ago I was robbed by two men at a bus stop not far from where I live but thanks to CCTV, the people who did it were all arrested. It was a bad experience but at least they didn't get away with it. And you see it in the news all the time – that more crimes are being solved because of CCTV cameras. I think we should have more of them. Most people are law-abiding anyway so they've got no need to worry.

S5: I actually think it's an important development. There was a case recently, where there was this big demonstration and lots of people took photos and these were sent to the media. So it means that demonstrators and the police – everyone – has to be more careful because their photos might be sent to the newspapers or posted online. So in general, yeah, I feel it's a good thing.

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## UNIT 2 Recording 5

### Conversation 1

A: Do you think you would ever have cosmetic surgery?

B: Me? No I don't think so I'm really against it actually, I think it's ...

A: Really, why?

B: It can be quite dangerous – some of the implants you can have, um –

A: Yeah, I know what you mean.

B: Take the case of Mike's girlfriend – she actually had some Botox injections in her forehead.

A: Did she?

B: Yeah, and she couldn't, you know she couldn't –

A: Couldn't move her face?

B: Yeah, she couldn't smile or frown – her face was just frozen solid.

A: Although if someone's really, really overweight and it becomes a health problem, do you think maybe then they should have some kind of surgery, you know, such as liposuction to get rid of fat?

B: Oh I see, for health reasons maybe, yes, I suppose so, I mean you've got a point there, but I still don't like the sound of it. I wouldn't do it myself.

A: I might, if it was to do with my health.

### Conversation 2

A: Do you ever download music for free?

B: You mean illegally? No, I think I'm probably one of the few people that don't do it. I've always paid whether it's the track price or the album price.

A: Why? I mean nobody I know pays.

B: Well the way I see it, it's just theft, isn't it? I mean ...

A: Oh I totally disagree.

B: I mean, artists have copyright on their songs, so you're stealing from them. It's as simple as that.

A: But it's a well-known fact that musicians get very little money from CD sales anyway. So they don't lose out. I mean, they want people to hear their music.

B: Hmm. I'm not so sure about that. If people share the music without paying, how can musicians make any money?

A: Well, the famous ones, they don't need more money and for newer groups, file-sharing is the way they get known so they don't have to spend a fortune, you know, on things like record companies and managers and ...

B: Yeah, but ...

A: ... anyway, nowadays singers and groups make most of their money from concerts.

B: Hmm. I'm still not convinced. Aren't you worried about being found out?

For instance, what about that woman in America? Because of the hundreds of tracks she downloaded illegally, she got fined something like two million dollars.

A: Two million dollars? Ouch!

B: Yeah, so maybe you'd better think again.

A: Hmm.

### Conversation 3

A: Have you seen this plan in the local paper for changes to the city centre?

B: Oh, you mean the idea to ban cars from the centre?

A: Yes and only allowing buses. What do you think of the idea?

B: Oh, I'm in favour of it. I think it'd be really good for the environment, you know for cutting down pollution.

A: Well I don't know, apparently it's been shown that buses are more polluting than cars.

B: How can they be? But even if they are at the moment, it seems to me that they're bound to get better, you know, they'll get replaced with electric buses or something like that.

A: Maybe.

B: Does that mean you're against it?

A: Yes, on balance, I think I am. I mean, according to the article, when they did a trial in another town there was a reduction in shop sales – apparently almost ten percent.

B: That doesn't sound right, if more people came in on buses. I suppose the main thing is to put money into making sure you have a good public transport system.

A: Okay, I mean I agree to some extent, but actually, I think the town centre works perfectly fine as it is.

B: But it's clogged up. You know, you can't move, it's polluted.

A: It's a bit clogged up but if you're patient you eventually find somewhere to park.

B: Well I just hope they decide soon.

A: Yeah.

## UNIT 2 Recording 7

W = Woman M = Man

W: Excuse me, hello, sorry to bother you, have you got a minute?

M: Ah, yeah sure.

W: Do you mind if I ask you some questions? I'm just doing a survey on happiness.

M: Right.

W: I'll read out the questions to you and you can just tell me what you think if that's okay.

M: Yeah fine.

W: Great. Um, could you look at this list of five things so you've got, ah, number one car, then two is friendship, three good food, four money and five free time. So which two of these would you find it the most difficult to live without?

M: Which two, the most difficult to live without?

W: Yes.

M: Ah, well I couldn't live without friendship I'm, I'm a very social animal I need, um, family and friends around me so it can't be that one. Um – oh no sorry that is, to live without ... yes ...

W: That's one.

M: That is one, so ...

W: Then we just need one more.

M: ... friendship is definitely one of them. Ah ...

W: Yes, number two, okay.

M: Oh, that's difficult. Free time I don't have any anyway, ah, I could lose the car, I think that wouldn't be a problem. Um, do you know what ...

W: How about money?

M: ... sad as it is, it's probably money, because money actually ...

W: Money, no most people ...

M: ... you know leads to happiness in, in indirect ways I think.

W: Okay, so I'm gonna put number two and number four for that one. And also how happy would you say you are, on a scale of one to five, five being very happy?

M: Today or just generally?

W: I think generally.

M: Oh generally okay, um, oh, ah, three or four, um – three and a half.

W: Ah

M: Can I have half?

W: No.

M: Oh, okay. Um, well you've made me laugh I'll have four.

W: Oh lovely I'll put you down for four. And what would you say is missing from your life, so what would make you happier?

M: Ah, probably, ah, working nearer to home?

W: Okay.

M: That's, I think you know ... just generally the time that would give me ...

W: Right.

M: ... with family.

W: So maybe it's free time then ...

M: Yeah, yeah.

W: ... more of that. Okay that's lovely thank you ever so much for taking part, really do appreciate it.

M: You're welcome.

W: Okay, bye bye.

# STUDENTS' BOOK • AUDIO SCRIPTS

## UNIT 3 Recording 1

K = Katie Derham A = Alison Rice  
C = Charlie Connolly

K: The buzz word de jour is 'niche travel'. Rather than the usual beach flopout, we're turning instead to a growing band of small tour operators offering Thai cooking weeks, trips to Sri Lanka for tea lovers, the ultimate trekking or trekkie experience or poignant visits to obscure battlefields. Well, I'm joined here in the studio by Alison Rice, who's been a travel writer for many years and Charlie Connolly, author and broadcaster, who among other things has travelled the globe in search of the legacy of Elvis Presley. Welcome to you both. Alison, let's start by turning to you first. This definition of niche travel these days, what does it mean to you?

A: I think some people would say we're just talking about activity holidays where, instead of just lying on a beach you follow a particular interest or hobby with like-minded people. Walking holidays, gardening, cookery, painting, yoga, bird-watching – you remember when bird-watching was just for geeks? There's masses of bird-watching holidays. Battlefields, music, theatre festivals – these are all pegs around which we can build a holiday.

C: I do believe in going to a place for a reason and rather than just 'cos there's a nice view or something. I'm a big believer in people. I think people make a place and the atmosphere of a place.

K: What would your favourite niche holidays be that you've come across recently?

A: For me, it's definitely singing. If you google 'singing holidays' you'll find 416,000 entries. Whole choirs go on holiday now, or if you want to just join a choir, you can join a holiday where you learn a piece, rehearse it through the holiday, sailing down the Nile, there is one in Malta next year where you'll be singing the Messiah ... and then the holiday ends where you put on a concert for the locals.

C: There is a tour you can do of Chernobyl. It's a one day tour from Kiev and you get to view reactor number four from a hundred metres away, and you get to visit the dead town of Pripyat, which is ... there are schoolbooks still in the school, and posters up on the wall, and calendars. And they do say it's a hundred percent safe – you're tested for radiation levels when you go and when you come back.

K: Well, *The Traveller's Tree* messageboard has been littered with postings on this subject. We've heard about Fairtrade holidays in Cuba and southern India, Inca treks, one from a contributor called Portly, who thoroughly enjoyed a historical cruise on the Black Sea. But thank you also to Dilly Gaffe who said, 'Never mind niche. Give me a five-star luxury hotel any time!'

## UNIT 3 Recording 4

### Conversation 1

A: Oh, you must have seen it ...

B: No, I've never even heard of it. How does it work?

A: Well it sounds really stupid, but I'll try to describe it. The way it works is that there are two teams, with two celebs on each team.

B: Two what?

A: Celebs. Celebrities.

B: Oh, right.

A: So anyway, there's a studio with a swimming pool and, at the end, about twenty metres from the pool, there's a wall, actually a giant wall covered by another 'wall', or maybe a sort of curtain ...

B: I don't get it. A wall covered by a wall?

A: Yeah, but it's really like a single wall.

B: OK

A: And the two people from the first team stand at the edge of the pool facing the wall. Then what happens is that the host says 'Bring on the wall!'

B: He does what?

A: He says 'Bring on the wall!' Like that, very dramatically. Then the wall starts moving quite fast towards the two people.

B: Who are in front of the pool.

A: Yeah and after a few seconds, the curtain lifts off the wall and there's a funny-shaped hole and they have to get through it.

B: They have to get through where?

A: Get through the hole. They have about five seconds to get themselves into the same position as the shape in the hole so that it goes past them and they don't get knocked into the pool.

A: Uh-huh.

B: Yeah, and that's the best part because nobody knows what shape the hole will be until the last moment. It could be anything person-shaped, and ...

A: What do you mean, person-shaped?

B: Well, maybe bent over or maybe with one foot in front of the other and one arm up at an angle, like this.

B: So what's the point?

A: Well, basically the point is NOT to get knocked into the pool. If they don't stand exactly in the shape of the hole, the wall will knock them into the pool. The teams take it in turns to have a go and the winning team is the one who gets through the most shapes.

B: It sounds pretty stupid to me.

A: You sort of have to see it to get it. It's incredibly popular.

### Conversation 2

A: I like it because it's basically a mix between a general knowledge quiz and kind of psychological game.

B: So how does it work?

A: Well, there are nine people standing in a semi-circle in a very dark studio with spotlights of one colour – maybe blue or red – so it looks very dramatic. Each one is standing behind a kind of metal podium.

B: Standing behind a what?

A: A kind of desk, made of metal. Anyway, the host stands in the centre.

B: Who stands in the centre?

A: The host, the woman in charge. Anyway, the first thing they do is answer general knowledge questions. She fires questions at them one by one, and the object is for the team to win money by answering a chain of questions correctly.

B: Sounds like any old quiz.

A: Yeah but if someone gives a wrong answer they lose all the team's money. The key thing is to bank the money as you go along.

B: Bank the money?

A: Yeah, before a contestant answers their question, they can say 'Bank' and then the total money so far is safely stored and a new chain is started from zero.

B: Whoah! It sounds complicated.

A: It isn't, when you get the hang of it. So then after they've finished each round, they have to vote on who should get eliminated, you know, who should leave the game: the person who is 'the weakest link' in the team.

B: So that's the person who got most answers wrong?

A: Yeah, but what usually happens is that people start voting strategically, sometimes they vote off a strong player so that they can win.

B: So the winner's the last one left?

A: When there are two left, it's the person who gets the most questions right and then that person wins all the money in the bank.

B: I still don't understand why it's so popular.

A: Well, the main reason everyone watches it is because of the host. She's very aggressive – like a sergeant in the army – and she can be really rude to the contestants but instead of being offensive it's actually very funny. I can't really explain. You need to see it.

B: What's it called again?

## UNIT 3 Recording 6

### Conversation 1

A: You have to sauté the potatoes.

B: You have to do what?

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## Conversation 2

A: The first player writes an anagram of the word.

B: The first player writes what?

## Conversation 3

A: You go to the webinar site.

B: You go where?

## Conversation 4

A: Basically, the aim is to beat the rival team.

B: The aim is to beat who?

## UNIT 3 Recording 7

I'm not the kind of person who likes extreme activities like bungee jumping or sky diving and, in fact, I'd never do any of those sorts of things. So the activity I'd like to recommend may seem quite boring to some of you, and very simple: it's jumping off of a three metre platform into water.

Anyway, I'll try to explain why it was so special. A few years ago I was at a lake with a friend, and there was a jumping platform about three meters above the surface of the lake, you know the sort of thing, made of wood and, anyway, people were jumping off it into the water and having a good time, so we decided to try it. We waited till there was no one around, because neither of us was feeling particularly courageous. I remember walking to the edge of the platform and looking down and thinking to myself, 'the water is a long way down!' I felt really nervous but eventually I gathered my courage and walked back a few steps, then I ran and jumped into the water.

Actually, I didn't exactly jump into the water, I jumped into the air, or that's what it felt like. Air all around me, for ages. It felt like some of the longest few seconds of my life. I was determined to keep my eyes open, but involuntarily they closed out of fear. I braced myself for impact, which came eventually of course, and it almost hurt, the way I hit the water and travelled quickly to the muddy bottom. I swam to the edge and climbed up to the level of the platform again. My friend had just done her jump, and was also climbing out. I was amazed how scared I'd felt, and at the fact that I hadn't been able to keep my eyes open. I told myself that if I did it again, I could surely keep my eyes open, and relax and enjoy it. I drew in a deep breath, ran, and jumped into the air ... and it was exactly the same as the first time.

I'd recommend this experience because it really makes you understand something about fear, in a situation where, in fact, there's no danger. Maybe for some people it's not a big deal, but for me it was because it taught me a lot about myself and how well I can control my feelings, or not.

## UNIT 4 Recording 2

I = Interviewer L = Larry Smith

I: In the 1920s, Ernest Hemingway bet ten dollars that he could write a complete story in just six words. He wrote, 'For sale: baby shoes, never worn.' He won the bet. An American online magazine has now used that to inspire its readers to write their life story in six words and they've been overwhelmed by the thousands who took up the challenge. They've published the best in a book which they've given the title of one of the submissions: *Not quite what I was planning*. I asked the editor, Larry Smith, what made him think of the idea.

L: Well, on the site, *Smith Magazine*, we tell stories in all sorts of different ways. Our whole idea behind the site is that story-telling should be egalitarian, you know, democratic. Everyone has a story, we say that over and over. That's our tag line. But in telling different types of stories since we launched a couple of years ago, we found that you had to give people parameters. So playing off the great literary legend, the Hemingway story, we thought, 'Let's ask our readers their six-word life story, a memoir' and see what happened. We really didn't know what would happen.

I: And what did happen?

L: It was incredible. In a couple of months we got fifteen thousand entries and I was just blown away. Funny, poignant – I really believe that everyone has a story and most of us aren't going to write for the *Guardian* but I was just so inspired by how serious and intense folks took the six-word memoir challenge.

I: OK, but before we look at the examples. It's one thing ... because the Hemingway is a story but it's not a story of a life. That seems to be a bit of a challenge to fit that in six words.

L: Well, it's interesting because some folks clearly tried to tell a whole story of a life in six words, and you can tell, and other times they're telling a moment in their life, right at this moment, something that they're feeling right now. Or perhaps something that's been an evergreen, a thread throughout their lives.

I: Give us some examples.

L: 'Wasn't born a redhead. Fixed that.' This woman took life under control. Whether she just always felt that her soul was a redheaded soul or simply at some point in life she was going to make a switch. She could have quit her job. She changed her hair colour.

I: But a lot of them are ... they're quite sad or there's a sense of regret or disappointment in a lot of them.

L: I didn't expect that. I thought people would come back with a lot of funny things, some playful things, plays on words ... but those are really interesting reality. People really told us, 'It's tough out there.' 'Found true love. Married someone else.' 'Never should have bought that ring.'

## UNIT 4 Recording 4

A = Amy B = Barbara C = Carl

C: So, Amy, when's your flight?

A: Tomorrow at one. It's twelve hours so I need a good book. Any ideas? Barbara?

B: Well, I've just finished *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* and ...

C: Didn't they make a film of that?

B: Yeah, apparently it's really good.

A: I haven't read it. It's a sort of thriller, isn't it?

B: Yeah, it's a kind of mixture between a thriller and a detective story, set in Sweden. I thought it was great. I mean I'm a big fan of detective novels anyway but what I really liked about it was the main character, the girl.

C: ... with the dragon tattoo?

B: Yeah. She's really edgy, strange, kind of brilliant but really messed up at the same time.

C: I'm not that keen on detective novels and the modern ones are usually too violent for me, so I don't think I'd like it.

A: Well, it's definitely a possibility. What would you recommend then?

C: What about *Life of Pi*? Have either of you read it?

A: No.

B: I started it but I just couldn't get into it ...

C: It's brilliant. It's about this Indian kid who's stuck on a boat in the middle of the ocean with a dangerous tiger, and a zebra and some other animals

A: Sounds very strange.

C: No, it's actually all about courage and survival. It'd be really good for a long plane journey – you won't be able to put it down for the whole twelve hours, it's so exciting, you'll just want to know what's going to happen next.

A: Uh huh.

C: But you didn't finish it?

B: No, actually, to be honest, I couldn't stand it, and I gave up after about a quarter of the way through. I suppose I'm not really into fantasy and

C: It's not really fantasy, it's er, what do they call it, magic realism.

B: Whatever, I just couldn't get into it. Amy, why not try one of the classics? You know, something like *Pride and Prejudice*? Do you like Jane Austen?

# STUDENTS' BOOK · AUDIO SCRIPTS

A: I dunno, I mean, I've seen the movie and the TV adaptation and I liked them, but I dunno, she's not exactly an easy read.

B: Oh, you should try it. I've read it about, what, ten times and it has to be the most romantic story ever written ... The thing I love about it is the writing, the English that she's used is so beautiful.

A: I know what you mean but it just seems a bit, well, a bit serious for a plane journey.

C: Yeah, I agree. I love it too, but maybe not for a plane journey.

A: Actually, you know what? I might try the first one you said, *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*. What's the overall story? You know, without giving too much away?

B: Well, it's about ...

## UNIT 4 Recording 7

*Fawlty Towers* I absolutely love *Fawlty Towers*, I've seen this hundreds of times and it's my absolute favourite. It always makes me laugh – in fact, it makes me cry with laughter sometimes ... can't get enough of it. And the main character, Basil Fawlty, played by John Cleese, is absolutely brilliant. It's like a lesson in comic acting; the more bad things that happen to this man the more we laugh.

My favourite scene is the scene with Mrs Richardson and Basil Fawlty. And, it's very, very cleverly done. Mrs Richardson wears a hearing aid and Basil Fawlty hates Mrs Richardson – she's a terrible grumpy old complaining customer who he really doesn't like. So he comes into the room and he mimes at her – so he moves his mouth but he doesn't make any sound – so that Mrs Richardson turns up her hearing aid so that she can hear him.

And then he mimes again and he moves his mouth again not making any sound so she can't understand why she can't hear him, so she turns up her hearing aid again. And then once he's sure that her hearing aid is on full volume he shouts at her, 'Mrs Richardson!' – of course which deafens her and, it's, it's, it's very, very funny and it's amazing because he gets his own back on her 'cos she's been awful to him so, he, you know, he kind of wins in the end but, –

Oh it's just brilliant. If you've never seen it you really should see it. There were very few episodes made. I think there were only – only ever one series, maybe eight episodes ... something like that ... I'm not entirely sure about that, but not very many made and, they're – they're really, really fantastic. Every one is absolutely priceless.

# WORKBOOK · AUDIO SCRIPTS

## UNIT 1 Recording 1

- 1 I wonder if you could introduce us to the director.
- 2 Do you mind me asking how much your camera cost?
- 3 Would you mind telling me what you do exactly?
- 4 I'd like to know whether it's really worth upgrading to the new smartphone.
- 5 Can you tell me which platform the Eurostar train leaves from?
- 6 What do you think he'll do when he discovers the mistake?

## UNIT 1 Recording 2

- A: Do you have a dream? Is there something you've always wanted to do but somehow have never managed to? Well my guest today is the man who can make it all happen, for a price of course, Owen Winters, founder of DreamsRreal.com. Owen, welcome to the programme.
- B: Thank you for having me.
- A: So tell us, how does DreamsRreal work?
- B: OK, well it's quite simple. We help people make their lifelong dream come true – whatever it is.
- A: So if I, for instance, have dreamt of being a rock star since I was a teenager, you can help me with that.
- B: Yes, that's right. And in fact not long ago we had a client, a woman, who wanted exactly that.
- A: And you made her a rock star.
- B: Well, we couldn't give her talent ...
- A: Not that rock stars are always talented.
- B: Right, but in talking with her, we worked out that the image she had in her mind was doing a live concert to a huge audience. She wanted to experience the sensation of performing in front of thousands of screaming fans.
- A: And so how did you manage that?
- B: Well, to be honest, it's a bit like producing a scene in a film. In fact that's my background, I worked as a production manager in the film business for many years, till just a few years ago.
- A: That's interesting.
- B: Yeah, so in this case, we needed to find a venue, an arena where rock concerts are held, a place we could rent out for an evening. Then we needed a backing band, a crew to set the whole thing up and ...

- A: And how about the thousands of screaming fans?
- B: Well, just like getting extras for a film, it's not that difficult.
- A: Did you pay the fans?
- B: Some of them, yes. We price up the different parts of the plan, write a budget, give the client the figure, and if they agree to the terms, we go ahead and do it.
- A: How much did this rock concert cost?
- B: I'm afraid I can't tell you. We don't reveal any financial details.
- A: Oh, OK. Well, what other dreams have you made come true recently?
- B: Let's see, we've just finished working with a client who wants to fly across the Atlantic Ocean on a supersonic aeroplane.
- A: But Concorde no longer flies.
- B: No, but we've just found a solution to that, using an air force plane. I can't tell you which air force.
- A: Another trade secret.
- B: A military secret, actually. And another client wants to pilot a submarine. We've done the Normandy beach landings from the Second World War, with the client as general ... we've done dining with a movie star, spending a night inside a pyramid, and lots of make-up jobs.
- A: Make-up jobs?
- B: Yes, some people – all their life – have been curious about what it's like to be a man or a woman, or a celebrity ...
- A: And you make them up to look the way they want.
- B: That's right. We've recently done a job for a guy who wanted to look like Tom Cruise for a day. Our make-up artist did a brilliant job, but the guy couldn't wait for the day to end.
- A: Why was that?
- B: Too much attention. He couldn't go anywhere without getting asked for an autograph. We suggested that we provide bodyguards, but he didn't want to pay for that.
- A: And have you ever had to say no to a request?
- B: Hmm ... We never say no to a dream. But sometimes it does take time. One client wanted to fly in space, to be an astronaut. That wasn't possible back when she first requested it. But since then it's become possible for ordinary people to go into space, again for a price, and in fact she's blasting off on the next tourist flight.
- A: Incredible. So what do you think has been your most extraordinary request, and ...

## UNIT 1 Recording 3

- 1a/b I'm calling to enquire about a reservation I made.
- 2a/b I was wondering if that's possible.
- 3a/b Would there be any chance of getting the same price for the following weekend?
- 4a/b I'd appreciate it if you could make an exception.
- 5a/b Would you mind telling me why it's so complicated to change?
- 6a/b Do you mind me asking what your name is?
- 7a/b I'd like to speak to your supervisor.

## UNIT 1 Recording 4

- A: Eden Gardens Hotel. How can I help you?
- B: Hi, I'm calling to enquire about a reservation I made. The booking reference is 6714.
- A: OK. How can I help you?
- B: I need to change the dates to one week later. I was wondering if that's possible, and how much the change will cost.
- A: Let me just check. Ah, it's a two-for-one weekend deal.
- B: Yes. Would there be any chance of getting the same price for the following weekend?
- A: I'm not sure. Bear with me a minute.
- B: I'd appreciate it if you could make an exception.
- A: I need to ask my supervisor. Can you just hold on a minute? I'll just see ...
- B: OK ...
- A: Sorry to keep you. No, sorry, we can't do that.
- B: I've got one more question if I'm not keeping you. Would you mind telling me why it's so complicated to change?
- A: Sorry, it's policy. Online special deals are non-refundable, non-transferable.
- B: Do you mind me asking what your name is then?
- A: We aren't allowed to give our full names.
- B: In that case, I'd like to speak to your supervisor.

## UNIT 2 Recording 1

- 1 She's done all her homework. She's been doing her homework since she got home from school.
- 2 I've sent twenty-five application letters this morning. I've been sending application letters all morning. I need a break!

# WORKBOOK · AUDIO SCRIPTS

- 3 Pete's called and left you a message.  
Pete's been calling you all evening. Is your mobile on?
- 4 I've read this magazine. Do you want to borrow it?  
I've been reading this magazine. Do you want to borrow it when I've finished?
- 5 Julia's gone to the gym – shall I ask her to call you back?  
Julia's been going to the gym, and she's ten kilos lighter now.
- 6 The temperature has dropped to minus thirty.  
The temperature has been dropping all day.

## UNIT 2 Recording 2

pollution, famine, homelessness, obesity, drug abuse, drunkenness, divorce, drought, debt, domestic violence, poverty, lack of drinking water

## UNIT 2 Recording 3

- 1 I decided to do this because I hate it when people forget my name, like at school the teachers who don't know your name, they don't give you so much attention. So anyway, I looked on some websites to find out the best way to do it. Apparently there are two important things, first is that when you're introduced you really pay attention and look at the person and try to find a way to remember the name. For example, I recently met a woman called Keira and she had curly hair, so Keira, curly, sounds similar, you see what I mean. That was easy. Then secondly you need to repeat the name as often as possible, say it to yourself several times and use it when you're talking to the person. You just have to be careful that you don't sound really strange. Anyway, the result's been good. Somehow people seem friendlier and I feel a lot more confident about chatting to people. The only problem is someone told me it made people uncomfortable because they couldn't remember my name!
- 2 It was quite difficult at first ... I mean you actually have to stop people trying to give you one; I didn't realise before I started how many are given out all the time. I thought this was a good thing to do because apparently it can take up to a thousand years for one to decay and about thirteen billion are given out each year in the UK alone. And it's not only the pollution but animals and

fish can get caught in them. Anyway, I invested in two shopping bags and I've been using them for the past three months. The only problem is I keep forgetting to take them out of the house or I leave them in the car, which is very annoying. My solution has been to get one of those fold-up bags that you can carry in your pocket or bag. I've got all my friends to do the same and now our local shops are going to become a plastic-bag-free zone. At least that will make me remember to take a bag!

- 3 I thought this was a good one to try because everyone always looks so bored or miserable, especially on public transport. So the next time I was sitting on a train and someone sat opposite me I looked up and gave them a big smile. They looked a bit surprised but smiled back at me, then buried their face in the newspaper. I got the impression they were a bit embarrassed. Anyway, I continued and kept smiling at all sorts of people during the day. To be honest, I got a mixed reaction, but the kids and older people seemed the friendliest. Oh and I found out later that one woman in the office thought I was flirting with her!

- 4 I decided to combine two of the ideas. I've always been hopeless at telling jokes, I'm sure it's not because I don't have a sense of humour. It's something about the timing. And I know that jokes are great for building relationships and good for me personally as I often have to give business presentations and a funny story really helps build rapport with the audience. One of the best things about doing this was that I asked all my friends to tell me their favourite jokes and we had lots of laugh-out-loud times together. And I'm getting better, though I did have one very embarrassing moment at work when I told my joke to my boss and he just stared at me like I was an idiot. You want to hear a joke? Something short? OK ... uh, What do cows do on Saturday night? They rent moooovies!

## UNIT 2 Recording 4

- A: Do you think students should be allowed to use their phones in class?
- B: Yeah, I'm in favour of that. The way I see it is that students would be more motivated if they could use phones, maybe to make short movies or things like that.

A: OK, you've got a point there, but you know how kids are. It seems to me that they'd just start texting each other whenever they were bored.

B: I agree to some extent. They would certainly need very strict rules, you know, about turning them on and off. But phones could be useful for things like practising languages or setting homework reminders.

A: Yes, I suppose so, but what about bullying, you know, kids sending each other nasty messages? Or phones could be a target for thieves.

B: Fair enough, but either of those things could happen after school.

A: Hmm. I see your point, but I'm still not convinced. I think on balance it's better to keep them out of classes.

B: I disagree. I think we should encourage them.

## UNIT 2 Recording 5

I'm in favour of that.  
The way I see it ...  
You've got a point there.  
It seems to me ...  
I agree to some extent ...  
I suppose so.  
Fair enough, but ...  
I see your point, but ...  
I'm still not convinced.  
I disagree.

## UNIT 2 Recording 6

illegal, sensible, unethical, justifiable, inevitable, disturbing, outrageous, inoffensive

## UNIT 3 Recording 1

- 1 I'm logged on twenty-four hours a day, and each time a message comes in I check it ... I start getting frustrated if I don't get at least one an hour. Nowadays, I often don't answer the phone when my old friends call. Almost all my friends are people I've met online – the other day I met some people I knew from uni and I actually found it quite strange talking to them face to face because I'm much more used to interacting with people online. I'm a bit worried because my eyes are starting to hurt real bad ...



# WORKBOOK · AUDIO SCRIPTS

2

It's the quizzes and other applications that get me, like there's always a new questionnaire or test for something, you know, 'Do your friends think you're cool?' or 'How long would you survive on a desert island?' Then there's Farmville, you know, where you have to manage a farm – I've been doing that for the last two months. Now I can't stop thinking about it, I lie in bed at night planning what I'll do when I log on next time. So of course, I'm not ...

3

When I was in high school I was completely hooked. I used to sit in lessons checking my texts, and sometimes I told the teacher I was ill so I could go outside and log on to chat with friends. I would often skip lunch so I could carry on chatting. I spent more time online than I did studying so then my grades went down ...

4

I realised it was getting ridiculous when my daughter actually sent me a message through Facebook asking for help with her homework ... I mean, she was only in the next room! To be fair, she probably asked me in person first but I suppose I'd got so absorbed in the site that I didn't hear her. I'm also not taking proper care of myself – I have terrible headaches all the time. I know you're supposed to stop and give yourself a break regularly, but I never remember. Anyway, after that ...

5

I lost my job because of it. It started out that I'd just go onto the website during coffee breaks, but then I started to log on during work time. When a chat message came in, I couldn't resist, I'd stop what I was doing and join the conversation ... and my boss noticed that I was working less and less. He warned me a couple of times ... then he fired me. So then I ...

## UNIT 3 Recording 2

- 1 I used to love it.
- 2 I didn't use to discuss it.
- 3 We'd always eat together.
- 4 We'd always argue.
- 5 He's not used to it yet.
- 6 I'm getting used to it.
- 7 She can't get used to it.
- 8 I've got used to it.

## UNIT 3 Recording 3

The way it works is that you draw a grid of 5x5 on a piece of paper. There are two players, and the object of the game is to complete the sequence 'SOS' in a straight line as many times as you can. So the first thing you do is one of you writes an 'S' or an 'O' in one of the squares. Then the other player writes an 'S' or an 'O' in another square. Whenever one of you completes an 'SOS', you get another turn and basically, the point is not to let your partner succeed, so what usually happens is that one player gets an 'SOS' and then blocks the other player. It's easy to lose track of who's winning so the key thing is to keep score of who gets how many 'SOSs'. Then after you've finished (once the grid is full), the winner is the player with the most 'SOSs'.

## UNIT 3 Recording 4

- 1 Look up the idiom where?
- 2 I should see who?
- 3 You last spoke to her when?
- 4 I can use a question word to do what?
- 5 Who's waiting backstage?
- 6 The rain's doing what?
- 7 I'll find you where?
- 8 The what's too high?

## UNIT 4 Recording 1

An eight-year-old boy has been rescued by an enterprising Bangkok firefighter.

The boy from Thailand is autistic and had been feeling very nervous before his first day of school but initially he seemed to be OK. However, during the first lesson his teacher was explaining something to the class when she realised that the boy had climbed out of the window. 'He was sitting just outside the window with his legs swinging over the edge.'

The rescue services were called in when the boy's mother had also failed to get the boy down. Everyone was beginning to run out of ideas when one of the firefighters, Somchai Yoosabai, overheard the boy's mother talking about her son's love of superheroes. The quick-thinking fireman rushed back to the fire station and changed into his Spider-Man costume. Until then, Mr Somchai had been using the costume to make school fire drills more interesting. 'I told him "Spider-Man is here to rescue you, no monsters are going to attack you." ' The sight brought a smile to the youngster's face and he immediately walked into his rescuer's arms.

## UNIT 4 Recording 2

Hello and welcome to Arts Review. In tonight's programme we look at a rather surprising answer to the question: How many stories exist? You might think that there are hundreds or thousands of different stories in literature, theatre and film but experts like to put the number rather lower, anything between one and twelve. Now, in a new book, Christopher Booker says that there are exactly seven basic 'plots' and every story in the world can fit into one of them. Before we review his book, here are the seven:

Plot one: Overcoming the monster.

In this story, the hero or heroine has to battle and defeat a monster. This could be a real monster for example, Dracula, or it could be a person, such as a villain in a James Bond film. The monster is defeated, the hero is victorious, the community is saved and order returns to the world. Most detective stories are actually variations on the theme of overcoming the monster.

Plot two: Rags to riches.

This idea is found in countless stories. It involves a very ordinary person or someone that everyone thinks is normal, nothing special. Then during the course of the story, it's shown that this person is in fact extraordinary. Just think of the story of Superman or any story of an ordinary person who ends up marrying someone rich.

Plot three: The quest.

This features a main character who travels a long distance, often with companions, in search of a treasure or to do a brave or noble act. At the end he or she succeeds and is rewarded in some way, often by keeping the treasure or sometimes by saving a community. Probably the best known example of this is *The Lord of the Rings*. Interestingly, it's also often the basis of many computer games.

Plot four: Voyage and return.

This typically tells the story of an ordinary person who is thrown into a completely strange and alien world, one that is outside their experience. Often they face dangers and difficulties and then have a thrilling escape back to their original situation. There was a TV series called *Lost* about people whose plane crashed on a desert island. That was a voyage and return story.

# WORKBOOK · AUDIO SCRIPTS

Plot five: Comedy.

This doesn't always mean humour although the story can be funny. It's more about a situation which is full of mistakes and mix-ups. The whole story gets more and more confused until at the end everything is sorted out and there's a happy ending.

Plot six: Tragedy.

As its name suggests, this plot never has a happy ending. It's about what terrible things can happen when someone tries to get power or go against the system ... this person often has a weakness in their character and this weakness is the reason that everything ends badly. There are lots of examples in theatre, such as Romeo and Juliet, who fall in love although their families hate each other.

Plot seven: Rebirth.

This plot is about a person in a dark and difficult situation, maybe they've lost all their money or their job or they are in prison. Or perhaps he or she is unpopular or has an unpleasant personality. Then a series of events happens, often amazing

events, and the situation or the person changes so that the character becomes a kind of hero, a very positive character.

So that's all seven. Before we go onto discuss these, there's an interesting quote from the American novelist, Kurt Vonnegut, who claimed ...

## UNIT 4 Recording 3

- 1 I wish I'd had more money.
- 2 I wish you'd worked harder at school.
- 3 I wish it would stop raining.
- 4 I shouldn't have told her.
- 5 We should have gone to the party.
- 6 You shouldn't have turned it off.

## UNIT 4 Recording 4

- A: What did you think of the book?  
B: Well, I'm not a big fan of travel books.  
A: Oh, why's that?  
B: I'm not that keen on all the description.  
A: I hear Nick's enjoying his new school.  
B: Yes, what he loves about it is that they do a lot of sport.

A: I didn't know he liked sport.

B: Oh, yeah. He's really into football at the moment.

A: Why don't you like barbecues?

B: I can't stand it when the meat isn't cooked properly.

A: You haven't tasted *my* barbecues!

B: And the other thing I hate about them is the mosquitoes.

A: OK. Maybe we'd better stay inside.

## UNIT 4 Recording 5

- 1 Well, I'm not a big fan of travel books.
- 2 I'm not that keen on all the description.
- 3 Yes, what he loves about it is they do a lot of sport.
- 4 Oh, yeah. He's really into football at the moment.
- 5 I can't stand it when the meat isn't cooked properly.
- 6 And the other thing I hate about them is the mosquitoes.