



**MICHIGAN
LANGUAGE
ASSESSMENT**

MET

Teacher Seminar Series

Listening

 Cambridge Assessment
English

 UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

MET Listening Packet



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Global subskill example

Script:

Listen to a conversation between two friends.

W: How'd your interview go yesterday?

M: Uh ... pretty well, except when they asked me what salary I wanted. I never know what to say to that. I mean, they're offering the job, shouldn't they know how much they're going to pay?

W: I know what you mean. It's an awkward question.

M: Yeah, I mean, so if I give an amount that's lower than the maximum they're willing to pay, and they accept that, then I've kind of hurt myself. And if I give a figure that's higher than they're willing to pay, I just look greedy, you know?

W: Exactly. You can't win. So, um, what did you wind up doing?

M: I told them I was flexible, and we could discuss that later, once I knew a bit more about the job.

W: And how'd they take that?

M: They seemed to be fine with it: they invited me back next week. By then I should have a better idea of what I want to say.

Question:

What are the speakers mainly discussing?

- A. the woman's salary
- B. a company policy
- C. a job interview
- D. the man's paycheck

Local subskill example

Script:

Listen to a tour guide in the city of Chicago.

W: Good morning and welcome to the Architecture Tour of Chicago. On today's tour we'll visit some of Chicago's oldest buildings. We'll also introduce you to one distinct architectural style that shaped the city in its early days.

Before we begin our tour I want to give you some background information. Many of you know that Chicago suffered a great fire in 1871, and that's quite important when considering the architecture. The history of Chicago's buildings can be divided into two parts: before and after the Great Fire. Chicago's a relatively young city: the first buildings were erected in the early 1800s. By 1871 the city contained more than 50,000 buildings, roughly 17,000 of which were destroyed in the fire. This meant much of the city had to be rebuilt. Today though, we'll visit some of the older buildings in the city, ones that survived the Great Fire.

Many of the older buildings—like those we'll see today—are in a style called Italianate. Italianate was an architectural style that drew its inspiration from Italian villas. They have tall first floor windows which allow the beauty of the interior to be shown off. One of the most defining features of Italianate style buildings is their low-pitched roofs. I'll explain more about those later. You'll also have the chance to go inside two of the homes we see today, to experience close up the unique style. I do hope you've all brought your cameras along.



Question:

What is the main focus of the tour?

- A. a modern architectural style
- B. villas built after 1871
- C. several older buildings
- D. homes with simple interiors

Inferential subskill example

Script:

- M: Taylor Office Supply has raised their prices again, almost ten percent on most of their stuff. And that's the second price increase this year; I'm afraid it's time to find a new supplier.
- W: I've heard OfficePro has good prices, although their selection is a bit limited. But they might be good for ordering basic everyday supplies. Should I have them send a catalog?
- M: Yes, that'd be great.

Question:

What will the woman probably do?

- A. request an OfficePro catalog
- B. ask why prices have been raised
- C. contact Taylor Office Supply
- D. send payment for an order