

Listening and Speaking Practice: *Springville*

Level: A1

1.

Speaking Activity # 1

Audio Text: *Springville City*

Vocabulary

- **grow (v.)** [Spanish: *crecer*]
- **growth (n.)** [Spanish: *crecimiento*]
- **meet (someone) (v.)** [Spanish: *conocer (a alguien) por primera vez*]
- **because of (conj.)** [Spanish: *a causa de, debido a*]
- **warm weather (n. ph.)** [Spanish: *clima cálido*]
- **cost of living (n. ph.)** [Spanish: *costo de la vida*]
- **natural beauty (n. ph.)** [Spanish: *belleza natural*]
- **replace (something) with (something) (v. ph.)** [Spanish: *reemplazar algo con algo*]
- **get away from (v.)** [Spanish: *alejarse de*]

1.1. Listening Comprehension

A. General Comprehension

Directions: Listen to the man talk about Springville and answer the following general question.

Question: What is the man telling about? Choose the more general answer.

- A. The city growth.
- B. The different city services.
- C. The city environmental problems.

B. Specific Comprehension

Directions: Listen again and answer the following specific questions.

- a) Where is Springville located?
- b) Why do people move to Springville?
- c) Is everyone happy with the growth? Provide details in your answer.



1.2. Transcript (Shadowing Exercise)

Directions: Under your teacher’s supervision, repeat each line of the audio text for pronunciation accuracy.

Springville is growing fast. It is like many other cities in the South and Southwest. *“Every day I meet another newcomer”*, says Amy Mark, a Springfield real estate agent. New residents say they move to Springville because of the warm weather,



jobs, low cost of living and natural beauty. The area is popular with people from the large, expensive cities of the Northeast and the West coast. But not everyone loves the growth. Pam Foster, a longtime resident agrees: *“We are replacing the areas’ natural beauty with shopping malls and new houses. People come here to get away from the big city, but they are just bringing the big city with them”*.

1.3. Speaking

Directions: Answer the following questions in the form of a brief oral presentation. Feel free to add any other information about your city.

- a) Is your city growing fast?
- b) How many people are there in your city nowadays?
- c) Is the cost of living high or low, compared to other cities?
- d) Is it easy to find a job?
- e) Do people from other cities or countries move to your city? If so, why?
- f) Are you planning to move to another city in the future? Explain your answer.



2.

Speaking Activity # 2

Audio Text: *Looking for a Rent*

Vocabulary

- **laundry room** (n. ph.) [Spanish: *cuarto de lavado*]
- **laundromat** (n.) [Spanish: *lavandería*]
- **down the street** (prep. ph.) [Spanish: *al final de la calle*]

- **nearby** (adv.) [Spanish: *en los alrededores, cerca*]
- **around the corner** (prep. ph.) [Spanish: *al doblar de la esquina*]
- **ad** (n.) [Spanish: *anuncio*]

2.1. Listening Comprehension

A. General Comprehension

Directions: Listen to a man call a real state agency in Springville and answer the following question.

Question: What is the purpose of the man's call?



B. Specific Comprehension

Directions: Listen again and answer the following specific questions.

- What is the apartment like? How many rooms does it have?
- Where can people wash their clothes?
- Is there a park nearby? Where?
- How much is the rent?

2.2. Transcript (Shadowing Exercise)

Directions: Under your teacher's supervision, repeat each line of the phone conversation for pronunciation accuracy.

Agent: Hello!

Renter: Hi! I'm calling about the apartment for rent. Can you tell me about it?

Agent: Sure, there are two bedrooms and a large living room.

Renter: Is there a laundry room?

Agent: No, there isn't, but there's a laundromat down the street.

Renter: I see. Is there a park nearby?



Agent: Yes, there is... just around the corner.

Renter: Wow, and the ad says it's only \$200 dollars a month!

Agent: Yes, sorry, that was a mistake. The rent is \$2000 dollars a month, not \$200 dollars.

Renter: Oh, well, thanks. I guess I don't need any more information. I'm looking for something under \$500 a month.

2.3. Speaking

Directions: Answer the following questions in the form of a brief oral presentation. Feel free to add any other information on the topic.

a) Is it easy to find an apartment for rent in your city?

b) How can a person find an apartment for rent?

c) How much are the rentals in your city (a one or two-bedroom apartment, for example)?

d) What are the requirements to rent an apartment?

e) What about buying a property? Is it easy?

f) On average, how much are properties in your city?

g) Are you renting, or you own a property? Tell us about it!



3.

Speaking Activity # 3

Audio Text: *Reporting from Town*

Vocabulary

- **summer clearance** (n. ph.) [Spanish: *liquidación, rebajas de verano*]
- **shoppers** (n.) [Spanish: *compradores*]
- **return** (v.) [Spanish: *devolver*]
- **receipt** (n.) [Spanish: *recibo de pago*]
- **convenient** (adj.) [Spanish: *conveniente*]

3.1. Listening Comprehension

A. General Comprehension

Directions: Listen to a local news reporter and answer the following general questions.

- What's the name of the reporter?
- What's the name of the program?

B. Specific Comprehension

Directions: Listen to the broadcasting again and answer the following specific questions.

- Where is Lindsay reporting from?
- How many people does she interview?
- Why is the first person there?
- What about the second and the third interviewee?



3.2. Transcript (Shadowing Exercise)

Directions: Under your teacher's supervision, repeat each line for pronunciation accuracy.

Lindsay: Hi, this is Lindsay Campbell with "Eye Around Town"; the program that tells you what's happening in town. So, what's happening today? I'm here at the summer clearance at *Big Deals* and the store is full of shoppers. Let's talk to a few of them. Excuse me, what's your name?

Alisia: Alisia Duran.

Lindsay: Hi, Alisia! Tell us, why are you here at *Big Deals* today?

Alisia: Well, I shop here a lot. They have great prices on everything you need.

Lindsay: An, what do you need to buy today?

Alisia: Well, I don't need to buy anything, but I want to buy a new pair of jeans.

Lindsay: Well, I hope you find some, Alisia. Next... tell us your name, please.

Gladys: Gladys Flores.

Lindsay: Gladys, why are you here today?



Gladys: I'm here with my daughter. We don't need to buy anything today; we just need to return this dress. It's really easy to return things here if you have your receipt.

Lindsay: Oh, okay. And you, sir? Who are you and why are you here at *Big Deals* today?

John: My name is John Nichols. I need to buy some shorts for my son.

Lindsay: Do you always shop here at Big Deals?

John: Yeah, it's so convenient! They have everything here; so, I don't need to go to a lot of different stores. I really don't like to shop.

Lindsay: Okay, well, we need to go back to the studio now and I want to look for a jacket while I'm here. I'm Lindsay Campbell with your "*Eye Around Town*".

3.3. Speaking

Directions: Answer the following questions in the form of a brief oral presentation. Feel free to add any other information on the topic.

- a) Do you like to shop around town?
- b) Which stores do you usually shop at?
- c) Where can you find good deals?
- d) Do you shop alone? If not, who joins you?
- e) Is it easy to return stuff in your city?
- f) What's the typical returning policy?

