

Listening and Speaking Practice

Level: A1

1.

Speaking Activity # 1

Audio text: *Tired Tania*

Vocabulary

- **work days** (v. ph.) [Spanish: *trabajar durante el día*]
- **work evenings** (v. ph.) [Spanish: *trabajar durante la noche*]
- **work two jobs** (v. ph.) [Spanish: *tener dos trabajos*]
- **take (someone) to (somewhere)** (v.ph) [Spanish: *llevar a alguien a algún lugar*]
- **housework** (n.) [Spanish: *tareas del hogar*]
- **a million** (+ noun) (adj. ph.) [Spanish: *un millón de* (+ sustantivo)]
- **at the same time** (prep. ph.) [Spanish: *al mismo tiempo*]
- **overwhelmed** (adj.) [Spanish: *abrumado/a*]

1.1. Listening Comprehension (10 min)

A. General Comprehension

Directions: Listen to a woman talk about her life and answer the following question.

What is the woman talking about, exactly?



B. Specific Comprehension

- a) Does Tania have a job?
- b) Does her husband work? If so, how many jobs does he have?
- c) How many kids does Tania have? What are their ages?
- d) Why is Tania so overwhelmed with her time?

1.2. Transcript (Shadowing Exercise)

Directions: Under your teacher’s supervision, repeat each line of Tania’s speech for pronunciation accuracy.

My husband and I both work. I work days, and he works two jobs: days and evenings. We have three kids, ages 3, 10 and 14. They need a lot of my time. They need me to help them with homework. I take them to school activities and sports events. And then, there is all the housework: the cooking, the laundry, the cleaning, the shopping, the bills. I need to do a million things at the same time. I can’t do it all.

1.3. Speaking

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

- Do you live alone? If not, who do you live with?
- Who does the housework at home?
- What’s your work schedule?
- What are your days off from work?
- How do you manage your time?
- Do you think you dedicate enough time to your children (if applicable)?
- Do you feel overwhelmed?
- What’s your suggestions for Tania?

2.

Speaking Activity # 2

Audio text: *Tina and Ming*

Vocabulary

- **sibling** (n.) [Spanish: *hermano(a)*, sin especificar sexo]
- **have (something) in common with (someone)** [Spanish: *tener (algo) en común con (alguien)*]
- **look alike** (v.i.): [Spanish: *parecerse físicamente*]

2.1. Listening

A. General Comprehension

Directions: Listen to Tina and Ming talk and answer the following question.

What family members are Tina and Ming talking about?



B. Specific Comprehension

Directions: Listen again and answer the specific questions below. Take notes if necessary as you listen.

- a) Does Tina have siblings? If so, how many?
- b) What does Tina have in common with her sister?
- c) Does Ming have any brothers? How many siblings does Ming have?

2.2. Transcript (Shadowing Exercise)

Directions: Under your teacher’s supervision, repeat each line of Tina and Ming’s conversation for pronunciation accuracy.

Ming: Tina, is this your sister? You two look alike.

Tina: Yeah, that’s my sister Lilly.

Ming: Do you have a lot in common?

Tina: Actually, we do. She works at a bank, and I do too. And we both have new babies.

Ming: That’s nice!

Tina: What about you, Ming? Do you have any brothers or sisters?

Ming: I have two sisters and we have a lot in common.

Tina: Really?

Ming: Yeah!

Tina: I have two sisters; and they do, too.

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) Do you have any siblings? Are you an only child?
- b) How many siblings do you have?
- c) What does your siblings do for work? Where do they live?
- d) Do you look alike?
- e) Do you usually spend time with your siblings?
- f) Do you have a friend that you consider “a brother or sister”? If so, tell us about that person!



3.

Speaking Activity # 3

Audio text: *Keeping in Touch*

Vocabulary

- **keep in touch with (someone)** (v. ph.) [Spanish: *mantener el contacto con (alguien)*]
- **email (someone)** (v. ph.) [Spanish: *enviar un correo electrónico a (alguien)*]

3.1. Listening

A. General Comprehension

Directions: Listen to two friends talk and answer the question below.

What topic are they discussing, specifically?

B. Specific Comprehension

Directions: Listen again and answer the specific questions below. Take notes, if necessary, as you listen.

- Does the woman keep in touch with her family?
- How often does she call her family?
- Does the man keep in touch with her family?
- What does he do to keep in touch with them?



3.2. Transcript (Shadowing Exercise)

Directions: Under your teacher’s supervision, repeat each line of the man and the woman’s conversation for pronunciation accuracy.

Man: Do you keep in touch with your family?

Woman: Yeah! I call my parents a lot.

Man: Really? How often?

Woman: About once a week. How about you? Do you call your family a lot?

Man: No, not really. I usually just email.

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) Is your family in another city or country? If so, where are they?
- b) Do you keep in touch with them?
- c) How do you keep in touch? Do you call, text, or email them?
- d) How often do you call/text/email them?
- e) How often do you visit them in person?
- f) What do you think of people who does not keep in touch with family?
- g) Is family a priority for you?

