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LISTENING SKILLS 2

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We listen to news on the radio or television to learn about events in different parts of the world. When we listen to a **news bulletin**, we do not listen to every news item for the full details. The process is quite similar to the way we read the newspaper. News items are read selectively.

ACTIVITY 1
LISTENING FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION

[Refer to Appendix for tapescripts of the following](#)

1. Listen to this news bulletin and identify the correct option:
 - a. Long distance/ Local call rates will be reduced minimally/ substantially.
 - b. STD rates are expected to fall by 70-80%/ 60-70%/ 70%
 - c. The new rates have already come into effect/ will be announced in a week/ were announced a week ago.
2. Mohammad works in a government office. He has to submit a report on the earthquake that hit the Indian subcontinent recently, to his manager. Listen to the news report on the radio and complete the notes and the details below:

EARTHQUAKE

- a. Countries affected: _____
- b. Intensity: _____ Richter: _____
- c. Epicentre: _____
- d. Loss to life and property: _____
- e. Areas affected in Kashmir: _____
- f. Whether rescue operations have been started in Kashmir: Yes/
No

3. Listen to this short extract from a **news bulletin** and find out the answers to the questions below.
- a. Did the Central Govt. announce the pay revision of University teachers in accordance to the sixth pay commission?
 - b. Have all the demands made by the teachers' union been met?

ACTIVITY 2
PARTICIPATING IN CONVERSATIONS

1. Listen to a few **conversations** and understand how an apology is extended and it's importance in building good social relations:

S.no.	Expressions used for apologizing	reason
a.	_____	_____
b.	_____	_____
c.	_____	_____

Here are some useful phrases for making apologies:

I am sorry.
Oops! I am sorry about that.
I am sorry for the inconvenience caused.
My sincere apologies.

ACTIVITY 3
DIALOGUE

1. Two strangers are meeting for the first time at a Tennis court. Listen to this dialogue and answer the questions that follow:

Anita : Hello, I am Anita. I am studying in MD College.

Prakash: Hello, Anita. I am Prakash, doing my B.Com second year from SRCC.

Anita: You play really well! How often do you play tennis?

Prakash: Thank you, About once a week. And you?

Anita: Me? Just three or four times a year.

Make sure that you do this exercise without looking at the above dialogue:

- 2. Who are the two speakers?**
- 3. Where are the two studying?**
- 4. Who plays better tennis?**
- 5. How often do they play tennis?**

2. At the **Railway Station**; a **foreign tourist** is asking an Indian for information about interesting places in India.

Listen to this conversation and then without referring back to the dialogue, try and answer the questions that follow:

Foreigner: Excuse me, could you please tell me whether the Rajdhani Express goes to Kerala ?

Indian: No. it takes you to New Delhi. You can take another train from there to Kerala. Where exactly in Kerala do you wish to go?

Foreigner: Oh I see. Thank you. I was planning to go to Trivandrum, the capital city.

Indian: OK. You should also plan to visit Munnar and Kochi, the other beautiful cities in Kerala.

Foreigner: How far are they from Trivandrum? What is the best way to travel to those places?

Indian: I would suggest that you take the Kerala Express from Delhi. It will take you to Trivandrum from where you can hire a taxi to take you to all the rest of the popular cities and hill stations.

Foreigner: Sure, will do that. Thank you so much for all the information. I appreciate your help.

Indian: You are most welcome. Have a great tour of India. Bye, My train to Mumbai is announced.

Foreigner: Bye. Thank you and you have a great trip too.



1. Where does the foreigner want to go?
2. What extra information does the Indian give him?
3. What is the mode of transport suggested by the Indian?

ACTIVITY 4 LISTENING TO ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Refer to the appendix for the tapescripts](#)

1. You are at the Mumbai **railway station** waiting to receive your friend from Delhi. Listen to this announcement at the station and find out on which platform the Mumbai Rajdhani express will arrive:

Platform No.: _____

2. Listen to this announcement and find out the following details:
 - a. Name of the train:
 - b. Train No.:
 - c. Going to:
 - d. Arrival on platform No.:
 - e. Expected time of arrival:



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3. Listen to this announcement heard at the **Hyderabad airport** and find out the status of the following:

a. 9W 467 Hyderabad- Delhi

Status: On time Delayed

Reason for delay: _____

b. IA 320 Kolkata – Hyderabad

Status: On time Delayed

Reason for delay: _____



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4. Your city has been receiving heavy rains for over 48 hrs. Many parts of the city have been flooded; trees have fallen, disrupting the supply of water and electricity. Listen to this announcement heard over a public address system and find out the following:

- a. Announcement from BSES
 - b. When will normal electricity supply be restored?
-

c. Any alternate arrangement for the supply of electricity?

Yes/ No

Acknowledgements:

A course in Listening and Speaking 2
By V. Sasikumar, P. Kiranmai Dutt and Geetha Rajeevan,
Foundation Books, Cambridge Univ. Press, 2007

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNT?

1. Listening for specific information needs practice.
2. It is important to learn the correct expressions to use while apologizing.
3. Initiating dialogue is an art. It is important to make a good first impression while talking to a stranger.
4. Listening to announcements is important but not easy.