

For Teachers: Please read each dialogue to the student as well as the names of the characters speaking each part. Do read the question, but do not read the answers to the question to the student. The answer choices are here for your review. Please have the student read the answer rather than merely saying the number.

Part 1 – Conversations



L1E 12-1

In this part, you will hear 10 dialogues, No. 1 through No. 10. Each dialogue will be followed by one question. For each question, you will have 10 seconds to choose the best answer and mark your answer on your answer sheet. The dialogue and the question will be given only once. Now, let's begin.

No. 1

Tony: Professor Webster, do you have a moment?

Professor Webster: What is it, Tony?

Tony: I found some great new research articles for my paper, but I can't get them through the inter-library loan service until next week.

Stella: Well, my husband's being transferred to Nevada next month. If I do buy a better one, I'd rather wait until after we've moved.

Dave: Are you sure? I have a friend who wants to get rid of her bike. It's like new, and she's only asking \$50 for it.

Stella: Really? OK, give me her number. I'd have to pass up what could be a good deal.

Question: Why is Professor Webster annoyed?

No. 1

1 *Tony copied directly from the articles.*

2 *Tony wants to submit his paper late.*

3 *Tony turned in an incomplete paper.*

4 *Tony wants her to change his grade.*

No. 2

Barbara: Have you been to the new corporate headquarters yet, Craig?

Craig: I had a meeting there last week. Marble floors, antique furniture... those managers have sure got it made.

Barbara: Well, if we keep up the hard work, maybe we'll end up there someday.

Craig: Yeah, I wouldn't mind a change of scenery. Meanwhile, though, they should spread the wealth a little and spend some money refurbishing this place.

Barbara: That's true. Then everyone would be happier, and probably work harder, too.

Question: What do these people think?

No. 2

1 *There should be fewer meetings at corporate headquarters.*

2 *Management should spend more time with ordinary employees.*

3 ***Money should be spent on their working environment.***

4 *Management should have stayed in the old building.*

No. 3

Marge: My son flunked his driving test yesterday. Boy, was he embarrassed!

Joe: My daughter failed her first test too, she was so disappointed.

Marge: You know what Matt's like. He just assumed he'd pass and didn't really practice much.

Joe: Maybe it's a good thing in the long run. When my daughter bombed her first test, she became much more serious about driving.

Marge: I hope you're right. Actually, I think the worst thing for Matt was telling his friends he didn't pass.

Joe: Well, that might motivate him next time.

Question: What does Marge imply about her son?

No. 3

1 *He does not care about being able to drive.*

2 *He should ask his friends for help.*

3 ***He was overconfident about passing.***

4 *He has failed his driving test several times.*

No. 4

Charles: How're things at the office, Judy? Are they still planning to lay you off in the downsizing?

Judy: Actually, they've hinted that they'd like me to stay on. My boss said she'd give me a final answer by the end of the month.

Charles: Sounds promising.

Judy: Yeah, I guess so. But if they got rid of me, I'd get six months' severance pay. I could really use a break like that.

Charles: And with your skills, you'd probably land something else pretty quickly.

Judy: That's what I'm thinking.

Question: How does Judy feel about being laid off?

No. 4

1 *She believes it is unreasonable.*

2 *It would make her life difficult.*

3 *She hopes it will be delayed.*

4 ***It might not be a bad thing.***

No. 5

Tom: Honey, we need to talk about Theo's problems at school.

Dorothy: Maybe we should call the principal again.

Tom: She doesn't seem willing to talk to the kids who always tease Theo.

Dorothy: What alternative is there? I can't stand to see him getting picked on, and we can't afford private school.

Tom: With his grades, he might qualify for a scholarship. But maybe there's a simpler solution, like studying a martial art.

Dorothy: So he could fight back?

Tom: Well, if need be, but I really meant that it would improve his self-confidence.

Question: What do we learn about Theo?

No. 5

1 He has been getting bad grades.

2 He was given a warning by the principal.

3 He wants to study a martial art.

4 He is being bullied at school.

No. 6

Sara: Do you gamble, Troy?

Troy: Uh, no. Why?

Sara: I think I'm going to try my hand. I've been watching horse racing since I was a kid and I often pick the winner. I can't help but imagine how much I'd win if I placed bets.

Troy: I wouldn't if I were you. Things can get out of control pretty easily, you know.

Sara: Don't worry, I won't get hooked.

Troy: If you say so. But don't expect any sympathy from me when you need a loan!

Question: What is Troy's opinion?

No. 6

1 The woman should reconsider her idea.

2 The woman should pay off her debts.

3 The woman should have quit gambling.

4 The woman should learn more about horse racing.

No. 7

Karen: I wish Carol wasn't so into gymnastics.

Daniel: But she's such a natural athlete, honey.

Karen: I know, but I get so worried. What if she gets injured? And competition for the state championship is very fierce. She'll be devastated if the team loses. Can't you talk her out of competing?

Daniel: Listen, honey, I agree that making it through to the finals will be tough, but if this is what she wants, we should support her. She's old enough to make her own decisions.

Karen: I guess you're right.

Question: What will the couple probably do?

No. 7

1 *Suggest Carol join a different gymnastics team.*

2 ***Let Carol participate in the state championship.***

3 *Persuade Carol to take up an easier sport.*

4 *Warn Carol about the risk of injury.*

No. 8

Nancy: So, Cliff, I expect you're wondering why I asked to see you.

Cliff: Err, yes. Should I be worried?

Nancy: I'm sure you're aware the company's got to cut costs. Well, I'm afraid we're going to have to let you go.

Cliff: Oh. ... But don't my long years of service count for anything?

Nancy: It was a tough decision. But management has directed me to prioritize performance over loyalty.

Cliff: I see. And there are others in the same boat?

Nancy: Unfortunately, yes. I'll be talking to them all today.

Question: What do we learn from this conversation?

No. 8

1 *Cliff was expecting to lose his job.*

2 *Several company employees will be promoted.*

3 *The company values loyalty most in its employees.*

4 ***Cliff has not performed well enough at his job.***

No. 9

Donald: Grace, did you read that article about the increasing number of people

Grace: Yeah, it was scary. It said many of them are forming paramilitary forces.

Donald: I'd say that's probably a bit of an exaggeration on the part of the writer. Only a small percentage of them are really extreme.

Grace: Maybe you're right, but I still don't understand why someone would join up with those guys.

Donald: Any number of reasons. There's a lot of dissatisfaction in society at the moment, not least with the high unemployment rate. People have lost faith in the government's ability to do anything to improve the situation.

Grace: Well, I guess I can understand people's frustrations. The economic situation has been pretty unstable lately.

Donald: Right. Members of these groups aren't the only ones worried about the government's failures. And there's not much to indicate things are going to get better for ordinary people anytime soon.

Question: What does Donald imply?

No. 9

1 There is growing support for the government.

2 The government should invest more in the military.

3 It is understandable why people join patriot groups.

4 Most patriot groups are a threat to society.

No. 10

Christy: Welcome to Global Travel. My name's Christy. How can I help you?

Tony: We'd like to fly to Las Vegas from New York on March 10th and stay until the 15th.

Lisa: Our budget's about \$2,000 for the flight and hotel, preferably a four-star one.

Christy: That normally wouldn't be difficult this time of year, but there are some major conventions that week. You'd only be able to get a three-star place in that price range, unless you're willing to stay some distance from the central nightlife area on the Strip.

Lisa: OK, but we want a place with a pool since the weather's nice this time of year.

Christy: Hmm... That might be difficult. How about going another week instead?

Tony: Unfortunately, this is the only time we can both get days off.

Barbara: Win that case, the best I can do is the flight and five nights at the Bellevue Grand for \$2,400. It's an excellent four-star hotel with a great pool. It's located a mile from the Strip, but offers complimentary shuttle service.

Lisa: That sounds acceptable.

Christy: What do you plan to do in Vegas?

Tony: We're not gamblers. We mainly hope to see some shows and dine out at some nice places.

Christy: I can book shows for you, if you'd like.

Lisa: Great. Thanks.

Question: Why does Christy suggest the couple change the dates of their trip?

No. 10

- 1 Hotel prices would be more reasonable.*
- 2 Tickets are sold out for the best shows.*
- 3 Most flights are already fully booked.*
- 4 The weather would likely be better.*