

Smart Listeners

Casey Malarcher

3

Contents

	You rarely meet kids with a bunch of siblings.	8
	Conversation You come from a big family, don't you? Podcast Every family is different. Informative Talk Families are smaller today.	
	We have a lot in common.	14
	Conversation Welcome to our school. Podcast Finn has some good advice to share. Informative Talk Making real-life friends isn't hard.	
	The movie's never as good as the book.	20
	Conversation The story was better in the comic. Podcast Everyone reads them! Informative Talk A hit book can be a hit movie, too.	
	Fight for what you believe in.	26
	Conversation They didn't give up until they found it. Podcast Try to put yourself in the shoes of others. Informative Talk Life lessons for our parents	
	It was a vacation to remember!	32
	Conversation It was an awesome trip! Podcast I'll always treasure the memory. Informative Talk Not all vacations go as planned.	
	Learn first aid, and be a hero!	38
	Conversation It can't hurt to learn some first aid. Podcast Let's hear about the training a lifeguard gets. Informative Talk Anyone can do this to save a life.	



Let's grab a bite to eat.

44

Conversation

We can grab something fast.

Podcast

I try to make healthy choices.

Informative Talk

Welcome to Burger World.



They're the best band in the world!

50

Conversation

What kind of music do they play?

Podcast

There is something special about the guitar.

Informative Talk

A music app might be what you need.



Make a study plan!

56

Conversation

It helps me feel prepared for tests.

Podcast

Maybe my ideas can help you study.

Informative Talk

Not all kids learn things the same way.



Let's put a stop to cyberbullying!

62

Conversation

I had a bit of a problem.

Podcast

You'll find bullies offline and online.

Informative Talk

You might be in a good position to help.



People need to know there is a problem.

68

Conversation

Is there anything we can do about it?

Podcast

Animals are losing their habitats.

Informative Talk

You can learn a lot from the Red List.



Who wants to be a social media star?

74

Conversation

It's fun to imagine the future.

Podcast

I encourage anyone to give it a try!

Informative Talk

What do you want to be?

How to Use This Book

Each unit in the *Smart Listeners* series practices aural comprehension of three listening samples over 150 words in length. Target expressions used in the samples are presented first in the unit to facilitate comprehension while listening. Each listening task follows a two-part approach. Students first practice global listening for gist and general understanding of the topic. Students then practice discrete listening by completing comprehension tasks focused on details from the audio samples. Each unit ends with a ten-question quiz that practices common listening tasks found on standardized listening tests.

Before You Listen

Two questions are provided to get students to think about their own experiences or opinions connected with the unit topic. Preparing students to listen in this way stimulates ideas and language they already know related to the topic and naturally prepares them to be active listeners during each of the unit's listening tasks.

Learning Words

Ten target expressions are provided for students to study and talk about. These expressions are practiced through tasks including photos and written text supported with audio input.

The sample page features a photo of a family and a title 'You rarely meet kids with a bunch of siblings.' Below the photo is the 'Before You Listen' section with two questions: '1. Which of your classmates have no siblings?' and '2. Who has a family with more than two children in it?'. The 'Learning Words' section includes a matching exercise with six images and six phrases: 'a. on his own', 'b. a baby is born', 'c. raising children', 'd. lend a hand', 'e. my extended family', and 'f. a bunch of siblings'. At the bottom, there is a 'Fill in the blanks' exercise with a table of phrases and a list of sentences to complete.

The sample page shows a 'Conversation' section with a 'Global Listening' task. The task asks students to talk about six photos and choose the one that best matches a dialog. Below this is a 'Focused Listening' section with three multiple-choice questions about a boy's family. At the bottom, there is a 'Circle true (T) or false (F)' section with two statements to be evaluated.

Conversation

This is an informal dialog between classmates, family members, etc.

Global Listening

For this task, students listen to choose the best images that describe or specify the conversation's general content. It is helpful to have students talk about differences they see in the images before they listen.

Focused Listening

For this task, students listen again and complete multiple-choice and T/F comprehension questions while listening for details.

Podcast

Global Listening

1. Listen and choose the best answer. (6 items)

1. Who is part of Sonya's family? (Choose one or more)
 - a. Father
 - b. Mother
 - c. Brother
2. How does Sonya feel about her family?
 - a. Fine
 - b. Kind of sad
 - c. Proud
3. Who from her extended family does Sonya spend time with?
 - a. No one
 - b. An uncle
 - c. A grandparent

Listening Skill: Listening for Points of Difference

Speakers can describe key points about two or more things. The points can help you imagine each different thing.

2. Listen and match the correct information with each person. (6 items)

a. gives rides when I need to go somewhere b. lives close c. meet in line to lend a hand
d. is a teacher e. usually able to enjoy meals together f. works all the time

Useful Idiom

Learn this useful idiom.

off limits = not allowed; forbidden to talk about, see, etc.

I can go to my room for almost any topic. Nothing is off limits.
A: Why do your parents say some websites are off limits?
B: They believe that not everything online is good or useful. I agree.

10 • Unit 1

Podcast

This podcast is a show produced by a student, with a different episode or segment of the show used in each unit.

Global Listening

For this task, students listen to answer questions about the podcast's general content.

Listening Skill

For this task, students focus on how the information in the podcast is organized. Comprehension tasks vary from unit to unit to practice listening for details from the podcast.

Useful Idiom

Each podcast incorporates a useful idiom for students to learn. The meaning of the idiom is explained and presented with two examples of usage: in a sentence and in a short dialog.

Informative Talk

This informative talk is presented as a video of a monolog or semi-formal or formal report providing information to students.

Global Listening

For this task, students listen to choose a title that best suits the purpose or theme of the video's content.

Note-Taking Skill

For this task, students listen again to complete a graphic organizer detailing the key points from the video. Students are then encouraged to share their own experiences or opinions related to the video's topic.

Informative Talk

Global Listening

1. Watch the video and choose the best title for the talk. (6 items)

- a. Common Reasons Why Women Marry
- b. What Makes a Happy Home
- c. How Families Have Changed

Note-taking Skill

2. Watch again and complete the notes.

A Look at Families

Families are smaller in general compared to _____ families of the past.

One possible _____ for this: _____
Another possible reason for this: _____

Married couples are _____ to have fewer children. _____
The mother and father may live together but not be _____.
The mother may simply live _____.

These days, it is not uncommon to find _____ images of families in children's books.
That image of a "happy home" showed married _____ raising children.
Today's image of a "_____ home" may show one parent raising children or a home that includes _____ and step-children.

3. Talk about a family you know other than your own. Is the other family similar to or different than your family?

My friend _____ family is _____.
In his/her family, there are _____.

11

Listening Quiz

1. Listen and choose the statement that best describes the picture. (6 items)

2. Listen and choose the best answer. (6 items)

1. Multiple-choice question

- To continue a conversation
- To know how to answer
- To respond to a comment that was made
- To repeat the best choice to make

2. Which of the following statements is true according to the speaker?

- Children can continue talking loudly in the extended family.
- Most of the time teenagers choose to continue talking up to bedtime.
- Her parents and cousins who are not staying are included.
- Her parents have been married for almost 30 years.

3. Look at the graphic. Then listen and choose the best answer. (6 items)

Facts About Families Today

70% of young kids are born to single parents.

1. Listen and choose the best answer. (6 items)

1. Listen and choose the best answer. (6 items)
2. Listen and choose the best answer. (6 items)
3. Listen and choose the best answer. (6 items)

12 • Unit 1

Listening Quiz

This ten-question quiz reviews the target language of the unit through picture-description, question-and-response, multiple-choice, and integrated skills tasks.

Workbook

Each unit includes four pages of workbook activities to supplement and consolidate learning through expression review material, practice activities, and dictations.

Transcripts & Answer Key

Full transcripts and answer keys are provided for all the listening passages and practice activities in the series.

Unit
1

You rarely meet kids with a bunch of siblings.



Audio

Before You Listen

Think about the following questions.

1. Which of your classmates have no siblings?
2. Who has a family with more than two children in it?

Learning Words

A Match the pictures and phrases. Listen to check. Track 01



a. on his own
d. lend a hand

b. a baby is born
e. my extended family

c. raising children
f. a bunch of siblings

B Fill in the blanks with the given phrases. Listen to check. Track 02

pretty average

compared to

rarely able to

in general

1. Parents _____ are worried about paying for their children's education today.
2. Julia is _____ see her grandparents because they live in Singapore.
3. My father's family was large _____ most families these days.
4. My test scores in most classes are _____, but in math they're above average!

Global Listening

A Talk about what each picture shows. Then listen and choose the picture that best matches the dialog.  Track 03



Focused Listening

B Listen again and choose the best answer.  Track 04

- Who has to share a room?
 - His sister
 - His brother
 - Both his sister and his brother
- Who lives in the boy's home?
 - His grandfather
 - His grandmother
 - Both his grandfather and grandmother
- Which people in his family are NOT mentioned by the boy?
 - His parents
 - His siblings
 - His uncle and aunt

C Circle true (T) or false (F).

- The size of the boy's family is described as "pretty average."
- The boy's mother is a stay-at-home mom.

T F
T F

Global Listening

A Listen and choose the best answer.  Track 05

- Who is part of Sonya's family? (Choose one or more.)
 - Father
 - Mother
 - Brother
- How does Sonya feel about her family?
 - Fine
 - Kind of sad
 - Proud
- Who from her extended family does Sonya spend time with?
 - No one
 - An uncle
 - A grandparent

Listening Skill: Listening for Points of Difference

Speakers can describe key points about two or more things. The points can help you imagine each different thing.

B Listen and match the correct information with each person.  Track 06

- a. gives rides when I need to go somewhere b. lives close c. next in line to lend a hand
d. is a teacher e. rarely able to enjoy meals together f. works all the time



Mom

1. _____



Grandfather

2. _____



Aunt

3. _____

Useful Idiom

● Learn this useful idiom.

off limits = not allowed; forbidden to talk about, use, etc.

- I can go to my mom for advice on any topic. Nothing is **off limits**.
- A: Why do your parents say some websites are **off limits**?
B: They believe that not everything online is good or useful. I agree.

Global Listening

A Watch the video and choose the best title for the talk. 



Video



- a. Common Reasons Why Women Marry
- b. What Makes a Happy Home
- c. How Families Have Changed

Note-Taking Skill

B Watch again and complete the notes.

A Look at Families

Families are smaller in general compared to
1 _____ families of the past.

One possible 2 _____
for this:
Married couples are
3 _____ to have fewer
children.



Another possible reason for this:
A family may only have one
4 _____ (so less people) because
the mother chooses not to marry.

- The mother and father may live together but not be 5 _____.
- The mother may simply live 6 _____.

These days, it is not uncommon to find 7 _____ images of families in children's books.

- Past image of a "happy home" showed married 8 _____ raising children.
- Today's image of a "9 _____ home" may show one parent raising children or a home that includes 10 _____ and step-children.

C Talk about a family you know other than your own. Is the other family similar to or different than your family?

My friend _____'s family is _____.
In his/her family, there are _____.

Listening Quiz

A Listen and choose the statement that best describes the picture.  Track 08

1.



a

b

c

d

2.



a

b

c

d

B Listen and choose the best response to the question you hear.  Track 09

3. a b c d

4. a b c d

C Listen and choose the best answer.  Track 10

5. What is difficult for the boy?

- a. Learning English
- b. Raising children
- c. Studying at home
- d. Taking tests

6. Why does the girl suggest the library?

- a. He can focus better there.
- b. It is near her home.
- c. People there can help him.
- d. There are lots of books there.

D Listen and choose the best answer. 

7. What is the speaker's purpose?
- To contrast differences that he sees
 - To list events from past to present
 - To respond to a comment that was made
 - To suggest the best choice to make
8. Which of the following statements is true according to the speaker?
- Children are common among couples in his extended family.
 - Few of the first marriages among his relatives lasted up to today.
 - He has aunts and uncles who are not raising any children.
 - His parents have been married for almost fifty years.

E Look at the graphic. Then listen and choose the best answer. 

Facts About Families Today



One out of every four children are being raised by one parent.



Out of 16 million one-parent families, 12 million are moms and 4 million are dads.

- 5 million one-parent families do not get money each month from the other parent. By law, a father has to help (with money) the mother of his kids even if they are not married.

9. Which of the facts above does the boy see as true around him?
- Moms living alone do not receive money.
 - Many kids are raised by only their moms.
 - Mothers and fathers have kids before they marry.
 - Some friends live with just their dads.
10. What do the speakers say they need to research?
- How happy are kids in homes with only one parent?
 - Why are there so many moms living alone?
 - Why don't people with kids get money?
 - How often do single dads get married?