

Further Listening Unit 3

Conversation:

1 What kind of person does the woman want for a flatmate?

- A Very considerate and caring.
- B Somewhat reserved and quiet.
- C Pretty easy-going and straightforward.
- D Sociable but also aware of personal space.

2 What do we know about the woman's attitude to cleanliness?

- A She cares a lot about being neat and tidy.
- B She doesn't care whether her flatmate is tidy or not.
- C She hopes her flatmate will offer to clean up their room.
- D She thinks she should share the cleaning with her flatmate.

3 Why does the woman think money is a problem when looking for a flatmate?

- A She cannot afford to live alone.
- B Her previous flatmate often delayed payments.
- C She needs the rent to be paid as soon as possible.
- D She thinks reaching a deal regarding rent is difficult.

4 What will the woman do to make sure her flatmate can afford the rent?

- A Ask them about their work.
- B Ask them how much they earn.
- C Ask them to pay the rent each month on time.
- D Ask them whether they can pay three months' rent in advance.

Scripts:

M: If you were looking for a flatmate, what would you like to know about them?

W: For me, an important question is, "Do you keep yourself to yourself, or do you tend to be around a lot?"

M: What are you trying to find out?

W: I suppose I'm seeking a balance. The last thing I want is a person who comes in and goes straight up to their room, and whom I never see again until the next morning. You know, I'm quite sociable, and I like having friends around.

M: Yeah.

W: But on the other hand, I don't want a flatmate who's always there, not giving me any personal space. So yeah, I'd like someone who is quite sociable but not overly so.

M: I can understand that, and I suppose another important question is about cleanliness.

W: Yes, something like, "Are you a tidy person?"

M: What answer would you like to hear?

W: I'd like them to say, "Oh yes, extremely!" I really don't want to live with someone who is untidy, someone who just leaves their stuff all over the place. That would drive me crazy.

M: What about money?

W: It can be a problem. I had a flatmate who used to say, "I know I have to pay the electricity bill, but can I pay it next week?" She always promised to pay, but then she never did.

M: Oh yeah. You need to know whether they can afford the rent.

W: But I wouldn't ask, "Could you tell me how much you earn?" I think I'd mention that the rent needs to be paid in advance. So, I'd ask, "Can you pay three months' rent in advance?" and then see what they say.

M: That sounds like a good idea!

Passage:

1 How can we build trust and understanding with our neighbors?

- A By visiting them frequently.
- B By getting to know each other.
- C By organizing parties together.
- D By taking family vacations together.

2 What should we do if we are likely to cause problems for our neighbors?

- A Address problems appropriately when they occur.
- B Apologize to our neighbors when problems occur.
- C Take action beforehand to avoid potential problems.
- D Immediately cease activities that may cause problems.

3 How should we react if our neighbors are bothering us?

- A We should involve the police for help.
- B We should wait patiently for their explanations.
- C We should express our concerns and discuss solutions together.
- D We should involve more family members to address the problem.

Scripts:

Living in a community means we're likely to encounter disputes with our neighbors from time to time. Disputes can range from trivial matters, such as noise complaints, to more serious issues like property damage. Here are some tips for handling such situations:

Get to know each other. Being a good neighbor doesn't mean you have to take family vacations together. It could be as simple as knowing your neighbors well enough to say "hello" or perhaps occasionally borrowing things like a cup of sugar or a gardening tool. All these actions can help build trust and understanding. Issues are much more likely to occur among strangers than among even casual acquaintances.

Head off problems before they become problems. If you are going to throw a party, visit all neighbors who might be affected and offer them a card with your phone number. If they find the noise intolerable or if other problems occur, your neighbors can call you directly instead of involving the police.

Communicate your concerns clearly. Tell your neighbors what's bothering you – don't assume they know what the problem is. Be open and direct, not passive-aggressive. Ask for their opinions and, whenever possible, suggest a solution that reaches a middle ground or demonstrates your willingness to compromise. Stay cool and remain positive, even if your

neighbors do not.

Involve more neighbors. See if anyone else on your block is experiencing similar issues – they may be willing to help you resolve the situation together. If some of your neighbors have a good relationship with the person causing problems, consider having them join the conversation when you talk it out.

Bottom line? Resolving disputes with our neighbors is all about effective communication. Remember, the goal isn't to win an argument but to live in harmony with those around us.

Lectures:

Lecture 1

1 Who are the most likely loyal customers of a sandwich shop, according to the lecture?

- A People who love sandwiches.
- B People who are offered coupons.
- C Local residents living down the street.
- D Office workers living in the community.

2 Which of the following methods is crucial to building a genuine connection between a business and the local community?

- A Offering coupons.
- B Distributing free lunches.
- C Handing out free samples.
- D Sponsoring local organizations.

3 Which of the following strategies is effective in reinforcing the connection between a business and the local community?

- A Creating loyalty programs.
- B Offering more discounts to customers.
- C Choosing several advertising platforms.
- D Working with the most suitable marketing company.

Scripts:

Ladies and gentlemen, today I would like to talk about effective strategies for fostering a strong connection between your business and the local community. Whether you're the owner of a sandwich shop or any other local establishment, it's important to prioritize the needs of your community. This is because your most loyal customers are more likely to be your neighbors down the street, rather than those who have to drive 20 minutes to pick up a sandwich for lunch. Your goal should be to make your business a familiar and trusted presence in their lives – a neighbor they can rely on for great experiences.

Reaching out to people in your neighborhood can be as simple as offering coupons or handing out samples. However, building a genuine connection with the community goes beyond such gestures. It is crucial to actively get involved in the community. To do so, consider supporting and joining organizations that match your business values. For example, you can sponsor local schools and sports teams or participate in local fairs. This can not only establish your credibility but also strengthen the bond between your business and the community.

To strengthen the connection you've already made with the community, you can further tailor your marketing efforts to the specific needs of your neighborhood. Choose an appropriate advertising medium that best suits your neighborhood, whether through print publications or online platforms. Seeing your business name advertised through these channels can remind the local community of the positive relationships you've already established with them and may encourage them to become your loyal customers. Moreover, consider creating loyalty programs that involve issuing loyalty cards to customers. These cards can be used to record information about what your customers buy and to reward them for buying goods from your business. By doing this, local customers will be more willing to support your business.

By actively engaging with local residents and tailoring your marketing efforts, you can help your business establish a strong presence and become an integral part of the neighborhood. The connections and loyalty fostered within the community will not only solidify your position as a trusted, irreplaceable neighbor, but also ensure the continued success of your business.

Lecture 2:

1 Why are well-defined boundaries beneficial?

- A They help protect privacy and prevent trespassing.
- B They separate one's property from their neighbors'.
- C They prevent the occurrence of neighborhood disputes.
- D They enhance safety by defining the zones for specific activities.

2 What does the speaker say about boundaries in the past?

- A They were solid and well-defined.
- B They were more visible and tangible.
- C They were not reliable in terms of safety.
- D They were not harmful to neighborly communication.

3 What is the possible consequence of overemphasizing boundaries in today's world?

- A There will be fewer casual interactions.
- B There will be fewer gatherings and parties.
- C There will be fewer free exchanges of ideas.
- D There will be a misleading sense of security.

4 How should we address boundaries in modern times, according to the lecture?

- A By making more efforts to prevent invisible boundaries.
- B By overcoming the challenges posed by invisible boundaries.
- C By striking a balance between invisible and physical boundaries.
- D By removing all forms of boundaries to promote communication.

Scripts:

Today, we gather here to explore the profound concept of boundaries and their impact on our lives. Inspired by Robert Frost's famous poem "Mending Wall", we will explore how boundaries can preserve privacy but may also lead to isolation.

Frost's poem introduced the timeless saying "Good fences make good neighbors", which highlights the importance of boundaries in maintaining harmony and a sense of security. In this context, well-defined boundaries can protect our privacy and serve as a shield against trespassing. By maintaining such boundaries, neighbors can create a healthy degree of distance, which helps avoid the disregard of each other's privacy and cultivate a peaceful atmosphere.

However, it is important to recognize that when taken to the extreme, boundaries can result in isolation. In the past, low fences facilitated casual interactions among neighbors, enabling them to engage in friendly conversations about everyday matters. So, while indicating personal space, these fences didn't prevent individuals from reaching out to their neighbors. Unfortunately, in today's world, even though physical fences are often absent, an overemphasis on invisible boundaries for self-protection has impeded the free exchange of ideas and cultural intermingling. Ultimately, this may stifle personal and societal growth.

In conclusion, the age-old belief that "Good fences make good neighbors" continues to hold relevance in modern times, especially when it comes to personal space and privacy protection. However, it is important to note that an overemphasis on boundaries can have negative consequences. Instead of building invisible barriers that block communication, we should aim for respectful and meaningful interactions without sacrificing privacy. This can be achieved through regular gatherings and face-to-face exchanges that encourage sincere communication and relationship building. In this way, we can create a community that values open conversation, mutual respect, and cooperation.

Let us remember that boundaries should never become barriers that limit our ability to communicate, empathize, and form deep bonds with one another. Together, we can overcome the challenges posed by invisible boundaries and embrace gateways that enhance understanding, compassion, and communication.

Keys:

Conversation: D A B D

Passage: B C C

Lecture 1: C D A

Lecture 2: A D C B