

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Listening Strategies
(Unit 8, Pages 92 and 93; Use A after completing Exercise D;
Use B after completing Exercise E)

INFERRING POINT OF VIEW

When someone's point of view is not explicitly stated, inferring it will help you better understand what that person means to say.

A. Practice. Listen to Part 1 of Vilkas's description of the generation gap. Then, with a partner, read each statement and answer the questions that follow.

1. Vilkas reports, "My mother said that everyone—her seven brothers and sisters, her parents, and her grandparents—all ate dinner together every night of the week."

Do you think in his mother's opinion it was a positive or negative aspect of life? What do you think she was saying about young people today? Why?

2. Vilkas reports, "[my father] says it was rare for a teenager to be a troublemaker at school . . . that kind of disobedience would have been highly unusual."

Do you think in his father's opinion it was a negative or positive aspect of life? What do you think his father is saying about young people today? Why?

B. Practice. Listen to Vilkas's description in Part 2. With a partner, read each statement and answer the questions that follow.

1. Vilkas says, "My parents dealt with a lot of difficulties. Back then, they didn't have as many choices—you know, for things like what direction your career would take, or traveling abroad—not so many opportunities."

What do you think Vilkas is saying about young people today? Why?

2. Vilkas says, "Most people got married at about the same age and had children shortly afterward. And they usually had one job for their whole life."

Do you think in his opinion it was a negative or positive aspect of life then? What do you think he is saying about young people today? Why?

3. Vilkas says, "A lot of the food Lithuanians eat now, a lot of the movies they watch, even some of the fashions, come from Western Europe or the U.S."

Do you think in Vilkas's opinion it is a positive or negative aspect of life now? What do you think he is saying about his parents' generation? Why?

4. Vilkas says, "But today a lot of my friends have moved away from Lithuania altogether. I have friends living all over Europe, some in the States, and even a friend in New Zealand."

Do you think in Vilkas's opinion it is a positive or negative aspect of life now? What do you think he is saying about his parents' generation? Why?
