

British English: Listening Comprehension 14

A Perfect Day



(7:26)

This is the second video at the pre-intermediate level. There is no accompanying lesson with this video, and there is only one new vocabulary word: *punting*, which refers to propelling a flat-bottomed boat with a pole, commonly in shallow rivers.

Watch the video and summarize the events.

- 1) What plans did Helen make with Simon? _____
- 2) What did she tell the Jane she was doing that day? _____
- 3) What did the others decide to do? _____
- 4) What strange thing did the 3 see while on their picnic? _____
- 5) Who noticed Helen's purse? _____
- 6) Would you like to try punting? Why or why not? _____
- 7) Do you know the passage from Shakespeare that Helen mentioned? _____
- 8) Below is a transcript of the video. Listen again—just the audio below—and fill in the blanks. Some blanks should be filled with multiple words.

Helen (voice over): That Saturday I was coming home from the gym and I stopped to _____ the view.

Helen: Hi.

Simon: Oh, hi.

Helen: The weather's better today.

Simon: It's certainly better than yesterday.

Helen: Yes, it is.

Simon: What are you doing tomorrow?

Helen: Oh, nothing special. Just another boring Sunday.

Simon: Would you like to go somewhere?

Helen: What? Do you mean with...

Simon: Yes, with me.

Helen: Er... Yes, I'd love to. Where?

Simon: How about on the river? We can go punting.

Helen: That would be good.

Simon: Great. I'll _____ at about half past nine.

Helen: No, I'll call for you.

Simon: OK. See you then.

Helen: See you. ... I'm looking _____ to it.

Simon: Me too.

Helen: Bye.

Simon: Bye.

[Scene changes to Helen and Jane.]

Jane: Oh, hi. You're up early.

Helen: I couldn't sleep.

Jane: Are you going out?

Helen: Er, yes, I'm going to meet a friend in town. We're going to have lunch. What are you going to do today?

Jane: Nothing much.

Helen: Well, I'll see you later.

Jane: Sure.

Helen: Bye.

Jane: Bye.

Simon: You ready?

Helen: Ready.

[Scene changes to Jane and Matt in the living room.]

Matt: Is Helen still in bed?

Jane: No. She went into town about an hour ago. ... Are you just going to _____ all day?

Matt: Yes.

Jane: We could do something. Go somewhere. We could go for a picnic. What do you think, Matt?

Matt: I suppose we could. ... We're going to have a picnic.

David: That's not a bad idea.

Jane: I'll make some sandwiches.

David: I'll _____.

Jane: I can take my video camera. ... Oh. Have you got anything to drink? Matt?

Matt: I'll go and get something.

Jane: Come on.

[Scene changes to Helen and Simon, then to the other housemates.]

Jane: We can go through this gate. Then along the path between the _____ and the farm. That's the quickest way.

David: It's quicker on the road, by car.

Jane: Don't be so _____. Come on, it'll only take ten minutes.

Helen: This is perfect. It's so much nicer than the city. It's beautiful.

Simon: Yes, it really is.

Jane: It's this way.

Helen: That's Jane.

Matt: Come on, David.

Helen: It's all three of them. ... Quick!

Simon: What's the problem?

Helen: They don't know about this.

Simon: What?

Helen: They think I went out for lunch. Let's go back. Please, Simon.

David: OK. How long did she say it was?

Matt: Ten minutes.

David: It's _____ ten minutes in history.

Jane: It's just through here.

Helen: Simon, we're going the wrong way!

Simon: Oh, no!

Matt: This was a great idea.

Jane: Thanks.

David: _____ Helen isn't here.

Matt: Look at that.

Jane: What?

[Scene cuts to the housemates watching Jane's video.]

Jane: And this is really strange.

David: It just appeared _____.

Jane: Really?

Matt: That's funny.

Jane: What?

Matt: Look at that bag. It looks just like Helen's.

Helen (voice over): In one of his plays, Shakespeare said something about not telling the truth. I wish I could remember what it was.