

LISTENING SCRIPT

Exercise 3 & 4

M: So, I've been checking some apartments in Vienna for our trip. This one here is the cheapest of the ones I've looked at.

F: OK. How many people can it sleep?

M: Only two. It's got a double bed, a nice little kitchen, and a very small balcony where you can sit.

F: Anything else included in the price?

M: Well, when I checked the website, it looked as though there's a car park you can use, but it looks like you have to pay a little bit extra for that. There is even the option to pay to use a small gym.

F: Well, we're not taking a car, and I don't want to use a gym on holiday!

M: You might want to use the swimming pool, though. It's in the same building, and it's included in the price.

F: Oh, OK. And if there's a kitchen, do you think we should cook our own food?

M: Yes, we could. There are a lot of places nearby where we could buy food. There's no supermarket, unfortunately, but we just have to walk down the road to find some small shops.

F: That's good.

M: There's also a restaurant right next to the apartment, which is good. It's open until midnight.

F: I don't know if that's good, is it? Won't it be very noisy at night?

M: Yes, you're right. OK, maybe we should choose another one.

F: But that would be more expensive, I suppose?

M: Yes, I saw one for €42 each per day.

F: OK, but you said this one here is the cheapest. So what IS the price, exactly?

M: It's €70.

F: Mm, so that's €35 each, which isn't bad. I'd rather not pay more if we don't have to. Let's go for this one.

Exercise 5:

You will hear Tom and Annie, who are brother and sister, planning a joint holiday for their families to a place called Beachside Holiday Park.

Tom: Hello?

Annie: Hi Tom, it's Annie. How are you?

Tom: Oh hi! I'm good. We're really looking forward to going away with you. The children are so excited.

Annie: Yes. It's going to be great. Anyway, I've got some information about Beachside Holiday Park.

Tom: Great – let me just get a pencil. OK, I'm ready.

Annie: Alright, there are three kinds of cabin. The first one is called an 'Economy'.

Tom: Economy. OK.

Annie: Well, it's only got one bedroom, but it would be OK for you and Sarah and your two boys. There's one double bed, and a bunk bed.

Tom: How about a kitchen? Does it have one of those?

Annie: No – you'd have to use the same one that everyone else uses at the camp. What it does have is its own small bathroom, though.

Tom: Alright, I'll just make a note of that. I'll discuss all of this with Sarah, later.

Annie: OK, and you can tell her about the location, too. When I first looked at the map, I thought the Economy cabins were next to the car park but I got that wrong. Actually, they're right by the playground. I think that'd be nice for the children.

Tom: Yes, they'd like that. And how about the cost?

Annie: It's £85 a night for the whole cabin. So, yes, at the cheaper end. Then there's the Family Cabin. It's got two bedrooms – so a bit more space, and a shower.

Tom: That reminds me. Do I need to pack a towel for all of us? You know, sometimes holiday parks don't

provide them.

Annie: That's right. You'll all need one of those. But you can get shampoo and soap from the little shop, there. And toothpaste, too. So if you forget those, it doesn't matter. Now, what else? Oh yes, it has a great view of the lake, and the cost ... let me see, in the busy season it's £130 per night for the whole cabin, but we're going after the busy season is over, so that's £100 for our booking. Wow! It goes up to £200 on New Year's Eve. Good thing we're not going then.

Tom: Yes, that's a lot for a holiday park. And did you say there was a third type of cabin?

Annie: Yes, it's called the 'Superior'. It's actually got enough beds for all eight of us, and it's got a nice big kitchen too.

Tom: Sounds good. So we could all fit into the Superior?

Annie: Yes – I guess it might get a bit crowded with my two girls and your two boys – but it should be fun. I suppose they could always go to the games room if we need some peace and quiet!

Tom: Good idea. They can meet other children that way.

Annie: The other thing I like about the Superior is that right outside, there's a garden – just for us to use. It's not very big – but big enough for some chairs – so we could take them outside and relax as we watch the sun go down.

Tom: Oh, Sarah would like that. I don't suppose it has a barbecue, does it?

Annie: Not one of our own, but there's a whole lot of them in the centre of the holiday park.

Tom: Alright.

Annie: The only negative thing for me is that it's quite near to the office – you know, where everyone comes and checks in. The noise might be a problem at night, if people are coming and going.

Tom: Hmm, possibly.

Annie: But the price isn't bad – £175 for two families. It's worth considering

Exercise 7:

Tom: OK, when do you think we should leave? The journey will take about 4 or 5 hours, won't it? So if we left early on Friday evening, we should be at Beachside Holiday Park about 9 or 10 o'clock.

Annie: Oh, but the traffic will be awful then. How about we go first thing Saturday morning? Then we won't have to drive in the dark.

Tom: Alright. I see what you mean. So if we leave then, we should arrive early Saturday afternoon – still time to head down to the beach.

Annie: OK, good. So if you all come round to our house for about nine, we can set off together. And what about food for the journey? I know my children – they'll be asking for food all the way there!

Tom: Yes – and I don't think we can make them wait until after we arrive at the holiday park. We can stop at the bakery on our way over to you, if you like – and pick up some sandwiches or something for us all.

Annie: That's a brilliant idea. Then we can stop off somewhere on the way and eat. Cheaper than a café, anyway.

Tom: OK, then. Do the children know what kind of activities they want to do when we're at the holiday park, Annie?

Annie: Well, they're very keen for us to go horse riding.

Tom: Great!

Annie: But you need to book in advance, and I'm not sure I want to do that right now.

Tom: Why not? If you're worried about the cost, I'd be happy to pay for you and the children.

Annie: Thanks, but that's not it. It's just that at the moment, we're not sure what the forecast is. I mean, it's fine right now, but there's a possibility it might rain at the weekend. So I'd rather wait until we get there.

Tom: OK.

Annie: But hopefully it'll be OK – it's a two-hour ride, and my kids would enjoy that. They can ride pretty well.

Tom: One thing that I'd like to happen during the holiday – I'd like the children to be a bit more independent. I think they're old enough to go and explore by themselves, don't you?

Annie: Actually, Tom, I'm afraid the waves at the beach can be pretty big, and my children aren't great swimmers, although they are having lessons. Maybe next year?

Tom: If you like, I'll go with them to the beach.

Annie: I'd feel better if you did. But it would be good if we could teach them how to make a fire, like dad taught us. And how to put it out properly, once you've finished with it.

Tom: Definitely. I couldn't agree more. All kids should know how to do that. It's part of growing up. More useful than playing on their computers all day long, or watching TV!

Annie: Well, I'll call you again tomorrow and ...

Exercise 8:

1

Tom: So if we left early on Friday evening, we should be at Beachside Holiday Park about 9 or 10 o'clock.

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Tom: Alright. I see what you mean. So if we leave then, we should arrive early Saturday afternoon – still time to head down to the beach.

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Tom: Yes – and I don't think we can make them wait until after we arrive at the holiday park. We can stop at the bakery on our way over to you, if you like – and pick up some sandwiches or something for us all.

Annie: That's a brilliant idea. Then we can stop off somewhere on the way and eat. Cheaper than a café, anyway.

Tom: OK, then.

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Annie: It's just that at the moment, we're not sure what the forecast is. I mean, it's fine right now, but there's a possibility it might rain at the weekend. So I'd rather wait until we get there.

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Tom: If you like, I'll go with them to the beach.

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Tom: Definitely. I couldn't agree more. All kids should know how to do that. It's part of growing up.

Exercise 9:

You will hear a man who is interested in doing voluntary work connected with the environment talking to a woman who works for an organization that runs environmental projects. First, you have some time to look at Questions 1-10.

Pause

Now listen and answer Questions 1-10.

Hannah: Hello, how can I help you?

Ryan: Well, I've come in because I want to volunteer for one of your environmental projects. I read something about your organization in the paper a few days ago and I thought I'd like to get involved.

H: OK, that sounds good. What's your name?

R: Fine.

H: Right, well as you know, we're called The Volunteer Agency and that pretty well explains what we do. We recruit people for a wide range of projects. A lot of our work concerns environmental projects and at the moment we've got 130,000 volunteers working on these projects.

R: What sort of environmental projects are they?

H: Well, for example, if you wanted to go abroad, one of our big projects involves gathering information that is used for the protection of marine and forest environments. Volunteers on that do diving or collect biodiversity data on tropical rainforest species.

R: Sounds exciting. But I think I'd rather stay here, at least to start off with.

H: Ok. Well, here in our own country we've got a big project aimed at clearing up litter in rural areas. The aim of this is to get everyone involved in making sure their local environment is clean and tidy.

R: Yes, I've seen adverts for that.

H: Another project involves looking after the National Cycle network, keeping the routes safe and attractive for cyclists. This is part of a bigger scheme concerned with developing sustainable transport systems all across the country.

R: Interesting ...

H: Now, if you want to do something in the city, rather than the countryside, within cities we also have the City Farms projects, which involve working with people, plants and animals.

R: Oh, what are those? Are they real farms? How do they work?

H: Well, yes, they're real farms and they're an example of a project that relies almost entirely on volunteers. On other projects, you might be working alongside salaried people, but with these, almost everyone is unpaid. In fact, many of our projects have very few, if any, paid staff.

R: Yes, that's what I thought.

H: Well, do any of these things sound particularly appealing to you?

R: Well, as I say, I wasn't thinking of going abroad, and I'm not sure that any of those is exactly the sort of thing I'm really looking for. Sorry!

H: That's OK, there are a lots more things I can tell you about. I'm sure we'll find a project that's right up your street.

R: Yes, I hope so.

H. OK, well, let's have a look at a few other possibilities.

Pause

H. Right, well one thing that might suit you is a scheme called Wildlife Link. There are 47 branches of this around the country, with over 24,000 active volunteers, and it's involved in all aspects of nature conservation. Its aim is to protect wildlife in all habitats across the country. Things you can do there include looking after nature reserves, taking part in community gardening and carrying out surveys of wildlife species. Tell me, are you keen to be outdoors?

R Yes, I am, and that does sound like the sort of thing I might be really interested in.

H OK. Well, here's another project that you might like the sound of. This one's aimed at young people.

R Right, tell me about that one.

H It's called Wildlife Watch, and involves organizing groups for young people, getting them to explore and learn about their local environment. There are over 300 groups and around 150,000 members of those groups. As well as running those groups and going out with them, there is a need for volunteers with administrative skills. Is that the sort of thing you might fancy?

R Maybe, but I think I'd probably prefer to be more hands-on, doing physical work.

H. OK. Well, then the organization called Action Earth might be the one for you. They've got a total 908 projects, involving over 18,000 volunteers. They do all sorts of things, from planting trees to constructing fences and walls and collecting litter, their aim being to improve the local environment in all sorts of ways. How does that sound?

R. I might well be interested in that.