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.

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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.

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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.

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