

Smart Listeners

Casey Malarcher

2

Contents

	It's just the typical way people think.	8
	Conversation Which category am I? Podcast Athletes just might surprise you. Informative Talk Are teachers really like that?	
	What kind of skills do you have?	14
	Conversation Show time! Podcast Their personalities go with their jobs. Informative Talk Think again about the skills you have.	
	How about a sleepover this weekend?	20
	Conversation A busy week, a busy weekend. Podcast It's not true about my friends. Informative Talk Who wants to have a sleepover party?	
	Be sure to follow the house rules.	26
	Conversation It feels weird for me. Podcast Pick up those dirty clothes! Informative Talk Rules about rules	
	We became friends by chatting online.	32
	Conversation Don't forget your real-life friends! Podcast We've never met in real life. Informative Talk Be smart and be safe.	
	Go up the street and hang a left.	38
	Conversation Join us downtown. Podcast It's a great place I've found. Informative Talk There are lots of things to see and do.	

	Take it easy.	44
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conversation How was your class today? Podcast Try to see the big picture. Informative Talk Is your self-control strong or weak? 	
	Ever think about giving up meat?	50
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conversation What's a vegan? Podcast My parents worry about what I eat. Informative Talk Baking a different kind of dessert 	
	They were working on an assignment.	56
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conversation Tell me what you saw. Podcast Things my listeners want to know Informative Talk It's the most copied work of art. 	
	My tastes have changed.	62
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conversation He was a huge fan as a kid. Podcast I still enjoy a good book. Informative Talk What kind of music do you enjoy? 	
	It's just what my sweet tooth wants.	68
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conversation You might like the Hot and Sweet Burger. Podcast Ice cream? Yes! Informative Talk You can have water with or without bubbles. 	
	I've never ridden on an e-scooter.	74
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conversation How can we get there? Podcast It's an interesting report for a class. Informative Talk Using a shared bike is easier now! 	

How to Use This Book

Each unit in the *Smart Listeners* series practices aural comprehension of three listening samples over 150 words in length. Target expressions used in the samples are presented first in the unit to facilitate comprehension while listening. Each listening task follows a two-part approach. Students first practice global listening for gist and general understanding of the topic. Students then practice discrete listening by completing comprehension tasks focused on details from the audio samples. Each unit ends with a ten-question quiz that practices common listening tasks found on standardized listening tests.

Before You Listen

Two questions are provided to get students to think about their own experiences or opinions connected with the unit topic. Preparing students to listen in this way stimulates ideas and language they already know related to the topic and naturally prepares them to be active listeners during each of the unit's listening tasks.

Learning Words

Ten target expressions are provided for students to study and talk about. These expressions are practiced through tasks including photos and written text supported with audio input.

Unit 1
It's just the typical way people think.

Before You Listen
Think about the following questions.
1. What does it mean if someone is a nerd?
2. What does it mean if someone is a dumb athlete?

Learning Words

1. Match the pictures and phrases. Listen to check.

a. a nerd
d. an old cartoon

b. a hero
e. a general time

c. fashion sense
f. a dumb athlete

2. Fill in the blanks with the given phrases. Listen to check.

how people imagine quite a few full-written have in mind

- _____ of my friends are honor roll students at our school.
- What do you _____ for fun over the long weekend?
- I don't agree with _____ athletes are poor students who always get bad grades.
- You and your friend spend all of your free time in the library. You both _____ the category of nerd!

8 • Unit 1

Conversation

Global Listening

1. Talk about what each picture shows. Then listen and choose the picture that best matches the dialog.

1.

2.

Focused Listening

1. Listen again and choose the best answer.

- What does the boy put into categories?
a. Himself and the girl
b. His teachers
c. Students at school
- Which of the following is true according to the boy?
a. He is very different from the girl.
b. People are the same on the inside and outside.
c. The girl and her friends are similar.
- How does the girl feel about the boy's comments?
a. His comments make her quite angry.
b. She laughs, but she is not very happy about his comments.
c. The comments are surprising, but she agrees they are true.

2. Circle true (T) or false (F).

- The boy puts people into two categories: dumb athletes and nerds. T F
- The girl is upset when the boy talks about her bad fashion sense. T F

9

Conversation

This is an informal dialog between classmates, family members, etc.

Global Listening

For this task, students listen to choose the best images that describe or specify the conversation's general content. It is helpful to have students talk about differences they see in the images before they listen.

Focused Listening

For this task, students listen again and complete multiple-choice and T/F comprehension questions while listening for details.

Unit
1

It's just the typical way people think.



Audio

Before You Listen

Think about the following questions.

1. What does it mean if someone is a *nerd*?
2. What does it mean if someone is a *dumb athlete*?

Learning Words

A Match the pictures and phrases. Listen to check. Track 01



- a. a nerd
- d. an old cartoon

- b. a hero
- e. personal time

- c. fashion sense
- f. a dumb athlete

B Fill in the blanks with the given phrases. Listen to check. Track 02

how people imagine

quite a few

fall within

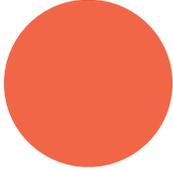
have in mind

1. _____ of my friends are honor roll students at our school.
2. What do you _____ for fun over the long weekend?
3. I don't agree with _____ athletes are poor students who always get bad grades.
4. You and your friend spend all of your free time in the library. You both _____ the category of nerd!

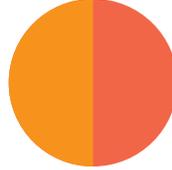
Global Listening

A Talk about what each picture shows. Then listen and choose the picture that best matches the dialog.  Track 03

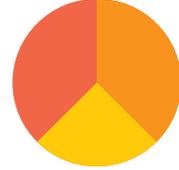
1. a



b



c



2. a



b



c



Focused Listening

B Listen again and choose the best answer.  Track 04

- What does the boy put into categories?
 - Himself and the girl
 - His teachers
 - Students at school
- Which of the following is true according to the boy?
 - He is very different from the girl.
 - People are the same on the inside and outside.
 - The girl and her friends are similar.
- How does the girl feel about the boy's comments?
 - His comments make her quite angry.
 - She laughs, but she is not very happy about his comments.
 - The comments are surprising, but she agrees they are true.

C Circle true (T) or false (F).

- The boy puts people into two categories: dumb athletes and nerds. T F
- The girl is upset when the boy talks about her bad fashion sense. T F

Global Listening

A Listen and choose the best answer.  Track 05

- Who does Tom talk about?
 - Himself
 - His friend
 - A family member
- What does Tom say about how people typically imagine athletes?
 - They are correct.
 - What they think is half true.
 - What they think is not correct.
- Where are names of many athletes listed?
 - With good students
 - With bad students
 - With popular students

Listening Skill: Listening for *Why* a Speaker Disagrees

Speakers can say why they don't agree with another person or an idea. They can explain how another person or idea is wrong.

B Listen for what the speaker does or doesn't agree with. Check (✓) Agree or Disagree for each sentence.  Track 06

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Kids in the band do not have time for sports. | <input type="checkbox"/> Agree | <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree |
| 2. People think wrong things about kids in sports. | <input type="checkbox"/> Agree | <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree |
| 3. Most athletes do not study very hard. | <input type="checkbox"/> Agree | <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree |
| 4. There are not many athletes on the honor roll. | <input type="checkbox"/> Agree | <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree |

Useful Idiom

● Learn this useful idiom.

check out = look at; carefully study to see in detail

- Just **check out** the honor roll at school.
- A: I heard that the new Wonder Woman movie is pretty good.
B: Let's **check it out** this weekend.

Global Listening

A Watch the video and choose the best title for the talk. 



Video



- a. Different Classes, Different Teachers
- b. How Teaching Changes a Person
- c. Types of Teachers We See

Note-Taking Skill

B Watch again and complete the notes.



The 1 _____ Teacher

- the heroes in movies and shows
- kind and 2 _____ with their personal time
- the ones that parents 3 _____ their kids get



The Heard-But-Not-Seen Teacher

- seem 4 _____, but we don't really know them
- good example from the old 5 _____ with Charlie Brown
- only know what she says by how kids 6 _____ to her



The 7 _____ Teacher

- maybe have the 8 _____ because they couldn't do anything else
- don't care about 9 _____ or students
- the ones that parents hope their kids 10 _____ get

C Talk about two types of teachers you see. Try to use two adjectives for each blank.

In our school, one type of teacher I see is the _____ type.
Another type of teacher I see is the _____ type.

Listening Quiz

A Listen and choose the statement that best describes the picture.  Track 08

1.



a

b

c

d

2.



a

b

c

d

B Listen and choose the best response to the question you hear.  Track 09

3. a b c d

4. a b c d

C Listen and choose the best answer.  Track 10

5. What is the boy not happy about?

- a. His grade on the last exam
- b. His teacher's actions
- c. How people think about his brother
- d. What his parents will think

6. What will the boy probably do?

- a. Ask for help studying math
- b. Stop seeing people the wrong way
- c. Take the class again next year
- d. Talk to his brother about the teacher

D Listen and choose the best answer.  Track 11

7. What is the speaker's purpose?
 - a. To explain the cause of a problem
 - b. To list the best choices for kids
 - c. To speak about bad comments that he heard
 - d. To suggest steps in a solution
8. Why does the speaker mention old cartoons?
 - a. They are available around the world.
 - b. They are the best ones to watch.
 - c. They have easy stories for kids.
 - d. They show something wrong for kids.

E Look at the graphic. Then listen and choose the best answer.  Track 12



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the search bar containing the text "how to develop better fashion sense". Below the search bar, there are two search results. The first result is titled "Your Personal Style" with the URL https://www.your_style.com/styling-tip-for-men and the text "Dec 30, 2019 – How to develop your personal style by Sam Kennedy". The second result is titled "Tips for Great Fashion Sense!" with the URL <https://fashiontips4U.com/easy-tips-to-develop-a-great-fashion-sense/> and the text "Jul 25, 2021 – Fashion is about planning what to wear. With these simple...".

9. Why is one of the websites NOT useful for the speakers?
 - a. It focuses on men.
 - b. It is too old.
 - c. The website is a magazine.
 - d. There are not enough tips.
10. Which statement relates to what the speakers discuss?
 - a. Go shopping in December for new clothes.
 - b. Plan what you will wear each day.
 - c. Fashion is not just about clothes.
 - d. You only need two tips for better fashion sense.