

Listening and Speaking Level Intro



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Unit 8



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Complete the sentences with the correct words from the word bank.

stars astronomer brightness died genius discovered distance universe

1. I love to look up at night and see the moon and the stars .
2. The Earth, sun, moon, and stars are only a few things in our universe .
3. Andrew's job is to study the universe. He is an astronomer .
4. Astronomers have not discovered if there is life outside of our universe.
5. The sun is the closest star to Earth. Its brightness gives Earth light.
6. Mika is a genius . She started college when she was only 14 years old! Now she is an astronomer.
7. The distance between the sun, the moon, and the stars is very great.
8. The famous astronomer Edwin Hubble died in 1953. He was 63 years old.

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See answers

Score: 8/8

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Listen to the podcast. Then choose the correct words to complete the sentences.



1. The host's name is ____.
 Mario
 Sam
 Carlos
2. Vargas Llosa was born in ____.
 Bolivia
 Spain
 Peru
3. He went to ____ when he was a baby.
 Lima
 Bolivia
 Peru
4. He went to a military academy in ____.

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Listen to the podcast. Then choose the correct words to complete the sentences.



4. He went to a military academy in ____.
- ✓ 1950
- 1936
- 1953
5. When he was 21, he published ____.
- novels
- newspaper articles
- ✓ a book of short stories
6. He published ____ novels.
- 74
- 21
- ✓ 16
7. Vargas Llosa ____.



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Listen to the podcast. Then choose the correct words to complete the sentences.



✓ a book of short stories

6. He published ___ novels.

74

21

✓ 16

7. Vargas Llosa ___.

writes only non-fiction now

✓ writes now

doesn't write now

8. He now lives in ___.

Peru

✓ Spain

France



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Listen to part of the podcast again. Write the words you hear.



in-1936 in-1963 in-1953 In-1950 When he was When he was Then when he was
when he was

Sam: So, tell us about Vargas Llosa's early life.

Carlos: Well, he was born in 1936 in Peru. His family moved to Bolivia when he was a baby.
Then they moved back to Peru a few years later. When he was 10, he went to Lima, the capital of
Peru, to go to school.

Sam: I see. Did he stay in Peru?

Carlos: Yes, he stayed for a while. In 1950, his father sent him to a military academy. But he didn't
graduate from the academy. He started working as a journalist.

Sam: Is that how his writing career started?

Carlos: Yes. After that, in 1953, he attended university to study law and literature. When he was 21

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Score: 9/9



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Listen to part of the podcast again. Write the words you hear.



in 1936 in 1963 in 1953 In 1950 When he was When he was Then when he was
when he was

Here, to go to school.

Sam: I see. Did he stay in Peru?

Carlos: Yes, he stayed for a while. In 1950, his father sent him to a military academy. But he didn't graduate from the academy. He started working as a journalist.

Sam: Is that how his writing career started?

Carlos: Yes. After that, in 1953, he attended university to study law and literature. When he was 21 years old, he published his first book of short stories. He graduated from university and then went to Spain and France. He continued to study and write. He published his first novel in 1963. In the years after that, he published 15 more novels as well as many works of non-fiction and newspaper articles. He published his most recent novel in 2010, when he was 74 years old.

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Match each word with the correct definition. You do not need to use all the words.

1. work and ideas connected with the government	politics
2. to go to a place, especially a school	attend
3. books, plays, and poetry	literature
4. to stop working because you are a certain age	retire
5. the group of people who rule a country	government
6. to finish your studies at school (usually high school or college)	graduate
7. a book about people and things that are not real	novel

graduate retire

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Complete the sentences with the correct phrases from the word bank.

gets sick got laid off got engaged got lost get along get in touch get hurt

1. Toshi and his brother get along well. They are good friends.
2. Amanda and John got engaged last month. They want to get married in June.
3. I fell down the stairs, but I didn't get hurt. I feel fine.
4. I want to get in touch with Sarah. Do you have her phone number?
5. Matt gets sick every winter. He gets terrible colds.
6. I'm sorry we're late. We got lost and we didn't have a map.
7. Carlos got laid off yesterday. He needs a new job.

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Score: **7/7**



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Reorder each set of words to make a sentence.

1.	We	moved	to	Madrid last	month	.		
2.	When	did	you	graduate	from	college	?	
3.	Did	he	attend	this	school	?		
4.	We	didn't	get	into	that	school	.	
5.	Where	did	you	grow	up	?		
6.	Where	did	your	friend	go	to	school	?

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Score: 6/6



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Complete each sentence with the simple past form of the verb in parentheses.

1. We (eat) ate lunch in town yesterday.
2. John and I (have) had two classes together last semester.
3. I (see) saw Professor Jones at the coffee shop.
4. John (go) went to college for four years.
5. They (do) did their homework last night.
6. She (come) came home yesterday for summer break.
7. Class (begin) began five minutes ago.
8. I (think) thought this was Professor Tam's class.
9. Sarah and Emma (meet) met last spring.
10. I (take) took Spanish lessons for five years.

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See answers

Score: 10/10

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Listen to each sentence. Choose the number you hear.

1. 1913
✓ 1930

2. 14
✓ 40

3. 14
✓ 40

4. 1970
✓ 1917

5. \$380
✓ \$318

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Score: 8/8

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Listen to each sentence. Choose the number you hear.

4. 1970
✓ 1917

5. \$380
✓ \$318

6. 60
✓ 16

7. \$519
✓ \$590

8. 4:50
✓ 4:15

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Put the important events in the correct order.

Albert Einstein is born in Germany in 1879.
Einstein completes the general theory of relativity in 1915.
His theory is proved four years later, in 1919.
In 1921, he wins the Nobel Prize in Physics.
Einstein moves to the U.S. in 1933.
Albert Einstein dies of heart failure in 1955.

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Score: 6/6



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Watch the video. Then read the statements. Select *True* or *False*.



1. Sho Yano is the youngest student at Loyola University in Chicago.
 True
 False
2. Most children his age are in fourth grade.
 True
 False
3. He is already in medical school.
 True
 False
4. He walks to college by himself.
 True
 False
5. He understands the questions that the professor asks.

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Score: 10/10

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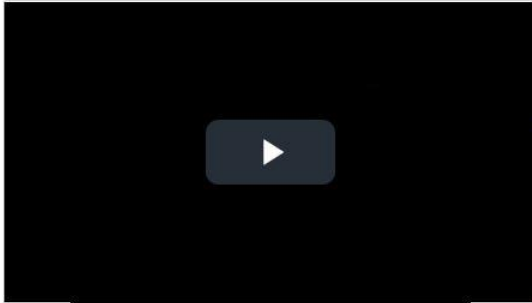


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Watch the video. Then read the statements. Select *True* or *False*.



- 5. He understands the questions that the professor asks.
 True
 False
- 6. His first paper was about the possible connection between cell phones and cancer.
 True
 False
- 7. He got a perfect grade on the paper.
 True
 False
- 8. His parents are from China.
 True
 False

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See answers

Score: 10/10



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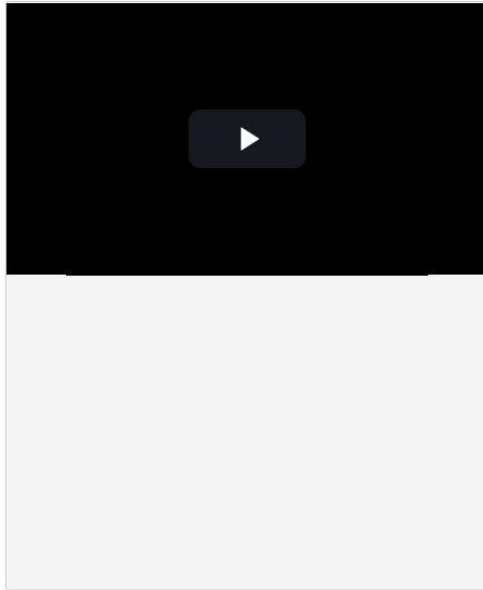


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Watch the video. Then read the statements. Select *True* or *False*.



- False
- 7. He got a perfect grade on the paper.
 True
- ✓ False
- 8. His parents are from China.
 True
- ✓ False
- 9. Both his parents have advanced degrees, but they are not geniuses.
 True
- False
- 10. Sho is not musically talented.
 True
- ✓ False

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