

MM PLACEMENT TEST

by H.Q. Mitchell and J. Scott

TRANSCRIPTS

(Version in British English)

Part One

1

- Pete: What are you doing under the bed, Claire?
- Claire: I'm looking for my lucky shoes. I can't find them anywhere!
- Pete: Did you say lucky shoes?! Everybody in this house is crazy!
- Claire: Don't just stand there, Pete, help me. Look for a pair of blue shoes.
- Pete: Oh, alright. Pete to the rescue! Make way! Well, what do you know!?! Your lucky shoes, sis, right behind the curtain!
- Claire: They're black!
- Pete: Oh... hey, what's that over there?
- Claire: You found them! I can't believe they were right in front of my nose all this time.
- Pete: Who keeps shoes on a bookcase!?! I'm living in a house full of crazy people!

2

- Customer: Excuse me, I'm looking for something for my son's birthday.
- Shop assistant: I see. Well, we have some really nice jumpers. Red is in fashion this winter.
- Customer: Hmm... red is not really his colour and besides he's already got lots of jumpers.
- Shop assistant: How about a shirt?
- Customer: I got him one last year. Can I see that jacket over there? Oh, it's really nice, but it's a bit expensive. Never mind. Only the best for my boy.
- Shop assistant: Excellent choice, madam. Follow me, please.

3

- Tim: Where's Noah when you need him?
- Maura: In his room on the phone.
- Tim: No, he isn't. I checked.
- Maura: Well, maybe he went out. He said something about going windsurfing today.
- Tim: There's no wind today.
- Maura: That hasn't stopped him before. Oh, there he is!
- Tim: Swimming? Again? All that boy ever does is swim, windsurf, or talk on the phone. Things have got to change around here. Enough is enough!

4

- Ray: Mmm, that meat smells really good!
- Judith: I hope it tastes as good as it smells. Do you think we should have a salad to go with it, Ray?
- Ray: Great idea! I think we've got some tomatoes and onions.
- Judith: Do you want to prepare that while I do the rice?
- Ray: Sure! How about making that nice salad we usually have at Tino's?
- Judith: Can you do it?
- Ray: Can I do it? Am I a cook or what?
- Judith: You know what, Ray? I think you and I should open up our own place.

5

Man: Yes, hello. I'm calling about the advertisement in the Sunday paper... Yes, the one about Thailand. It says here six nights in a hotel of your choice. I'd like to stay in a hotel by the sea... I see, they're all on the beach. What about sightseeing tours?... Three! With hotel pick-up and return? That's excellent! Do I have to pay anything extra?... No? All right! Is breakfast and dinner included in the price?... Oh, just breakfast. How come it's so cheap?... Special offer? You don't say! Well, I would like to book a double room in July... Yes, that suits me fine... Some time next week. Thank you. Bye.

6

Harriet: Where are you going on holiday this year, Judith?
Judith: Same as every year.
Harriet: Aren't you bored of going to the same place year after year?
Judith: No, I quite enjoy it up in the mountains in the summer.
Harriet: Why don't you try something different, like a holiday by the sea?
Judith: What? Pay a fortune to stay at a hotel and go to a crowded beach? Once was more than enough!
Harriet: Well, then go hiking, for instance.
Judith: At my age? What's wrong with camping by a lake? It can be adventurous, you know. You should give it a try, too!

7

- Liz: Where have you been? We're going to miss our flight.
- Gary: Relax. We still have time.
- Liz: Is everything alright? You look a bit weird.
- Gary: I don't know... I've got my wallet... the tickets...
- Liz: Don't tell me you've left your passport at home?
- Gary: Hang on a minute! I know I put it in my bag this morning. Oh no, I think I've lost it. Kidding!
- Liz: Give it to me! Why don't you make yourself useful and go and change some money while I check us in? Wait a minute. Gary, you fool!
- Gary: What!?
- Liz: Your passport, eh? You look really old for a twenty-year-old. I didn't know your name was Patrick.
- Gary: Oh, no. That's my dad's...!

8

- Lucy: Nick. Hello... Earth to Nick... NICK!
- Nick: What do you want? Can't you see I'm watching the game?
- Lucy: You have to hear this. It says here that the Japanese are making a new mobile phone.
- Nick: Let me guess. It will be so small that it will fit inside your ear and all you have to do is think of the person you want to call and it will do it automatically.
- Lucy: Close! You will actually wear it like a watch. To make or answer calls, you simply put your finger in your ear. Your caller's voice will travel down the finger and into your ear. Cool, don't you think? Hey, where are you going?
- Nick: Far away from you!

9

- Louise: Gareth! Stop! Did you see that? Right there. In the middle of the lake.
- Gareth: See what?
- Louise: The Loch Ness monster.
- Gareth: Yeah, and I'm the king of England. Get real, Louise, will you? There's no such thing as a Loch Ness monster.
- Louise: I'm telling you I saw it. It looked like a lizard with...
- Gareth: ... big yellow eyes.
- Louise: No, a long neck.
- Gareth: I'm not having this conversation, Louise. We've got a long way to go. We have to pick up the kids from your mother's and then finish that presentation for work tomorrow, or have you forgotten?

10

- Jess: It's popular in several countries all over the world and it has been an Olympic sport since 1988. It's pretty much like tennis, but you play it across a table using a small bat. And no, it looks nothing like a baseball bat. You have to hit the ball over the net. The ball can actually reach speeds of up to 190kph. Can you believe that? A small ball like that!

Part Two

1

Colin: Hello Mike. It's Colin here. Sorry to bother you like this, but I need to know if you are coming on Sunday or not.

Mike: I'm still not sure, Col. Can I let you know later in the week or better yet can I just turn up on Sunday if I feel like it?

Colin: Not really. You see, the caterers need to know by Friday how many people are coming.

Mike: Oh, right. Let me see, today's Wednesday... Tell you what. I'll call you tomorrow afternoon. How's that?

Colin: Great!

2

Mary: So, tell me Sheila, did you have a good time in Cairo?

Sheila: It was wonderful. I really enjoyed visiting the Pyramids. Did you know that the Great Pyramid of Giza is 137m high?

Mary: Really? I had no idea!

Sheila: You know what really amazed me though?

Mary: No... What?

Sheila: The prices! We bought so much stuff for practically nothing! Which reminds me, I got you something. Here you are. It's a T-shirt with a picture of the Pyramids on it.

Mary: Thank you, Sheila. You really didn't have to. My, my... this is some cotton!

Sheila: Yeah, Egyptian cotton is just the best. You can wash that T-shirt a million times and it will still look good.

3

- Phil: Now that's what I call a coffee! Nice and strong! I really needed it. I haven't stopped since I got here this morning.
- Jenny: Mmm... You're a Scorpio, aren't you Phil?
- Phil: I think so... it's the 31st of October.
- Jenny: Oh, so you weren't born in November?
- Phil: No, why? Does it make a difference?
- Jenny: Sort of. It says here that November Scorpions will be lucky with money this month.
- Phil: That means I won't be getting a raise this month.
- Jenny: I guess not, Phil. Anyway, time to get back to work. I'll let you have that file I'm working on in about half an hour.

4

- Interviewer: ... and with me, I have one of the victims of the tragedy. You've lost your home, I believe, Mr Warren?
- Mr Warren: I suppose we have to be grateful we're still alive.
- Interviewer: Can you tell us exactly what happened?
- Mr Warren: Well, we knew that it was on the way so we took all the necessary precautions. It got really windy out there. The sky was completely dark. There was this terrible roaring noise like aeroplanes flying over your head. Suddenly the house shook all over like there had been an earthquake. It was awful! When we came up from the basement, we saw that the roof had been torn off.
- Interviewer: That's terrible! You must have been terrified.
- Mr Warren: We were. Luckily, it didn't last long. We have no idea what we are going to do now.

5

- Mary: Tim! Tim! Come quickly! You're on television. Oh, that was quick! They didn't give you a very big part, did they? Ha, ha...
- Tim: Was it on then? I forgot to tell you about it. When I got to the station this morning, there was a television crew there. They were asking people's opinion of the train service. Said they were doing it at stations all over the country. Jim, from next door, was interviewed, too.
- Mary: Well, I didn't see him. Grace will be upset. You know how jealous she is!
- Tim: Oh, come on. It's not as if I was given a part in a film.
- Mary: Anyway, you looked very nice. Good you were wearing your new suit. I hope you told them how bad the service has been recently... (fade out)

6

- Paul: Wow Cheryl, you look great! Are you going to a fancy dress party?
- Cheryl: Well, I actually bought this costume for a carnival party, but I've got a part in a play they're doing at the community centre. We are having a dress rehearsal this evening.
- Paul: No kidding! So what are you? A princess?
- Cheryl: A queen, actually.
- Paul: Well, you look absolutely fabulous, like a real film star!
- Cheryl: Are you sure you're alright? You don't sound like your usual self!

7

- Ginny: Hello Ethan. I see you finally made it!
- Ethan: Sorry I'm late. You'll never believe what happened to me?
- Ginny: Let me guess. You were attacked by aliens!
- Ethan: Very funny! Forgive me if I don't laugh. Just hear me out, will you? So, I woke up OK and left home with plenty of time to spare, but I decided to take a taxi anyway.
- Ginny: Don't tell me! The taxi got lost. None of them seem to know where they are going these days, do they?
- Ethan: Will you let me finish!? Anyway, we got pulled over by the police. It seemed we were going too fast. So, I had to get out and take the bus. I was at the bus stop for half an hour! Can you believe it?
- Ginny: No! Tell me something Ethan. Did the bus have a flat tyre on the way?
- Ethan: Oh, just forget I said anything!

8

- Jack: Hi! I'm Jack Pritchard. I believe you're expecting me.
- Receptionist: Oh yes. They've just called us from NTC Channel and told us you were on your way. Well, we don't have a lot of TV people come to our town. Is this your first time here?
- Jack: Yes, it is. Anyway, I really need a good night's sleep. I've been up since five.
- Receptionist: Here you are. If you would just sign here, please. Thank you.
- Jack: I'd like a wake-up call at 6 am and some coffee and croissants sent up at half past.

9

- Kitty: Have you seen the article in the Sunday newspaper about how flying a lot can give you blood clots?
- Craig: Yes I have and it didn't make me very happy considering all the travelling I will have to do in my new job.
- Kitty: It says here that you should take an aspirin a day for three days before you go and try to walk around as much as you can while you're up there.
- Craig: It's Sunday today and I'm leaving for Australia on Wednesday. Have we got any aspirin?
- Kitty: In the bathroom cabinet. I'll have a couple, too. I can feel a headache coming on.

10

- Tom: So, what did you think of the film, Penny?
- Penny: Not much. I must say it was quite a letdown.
- Tom: Yeah, me too. I expected more information about Sophie's life.
- Penny: Yeah, not just another bad marriage. If I want to hear couples screaming at each other, I just need to take a walk around my neighbourhood.
- Tom: It was very dark and gloomy.
- Penny: No doubt it will win all sorts of awards, but I don't like to leave a cinema feeling depressed.
- Tom: I know what you mean. Why is it that these so called 'cultural films' are always so dark?