

MSU-CELC Practice Test 4 (Revised Format) Listening Script

1. Making plans

Here is the situation: You were talking with your friend, Beth, and a young man has just interrupted you to ask Beth a question. You wonder what Beth will tell him.

Man: Hi Beth, would you like to come over this afternoon?

Beth: I'd love to. Remember last time, we were looking for something to eat and ended up inventing a new recipe? I can't make it today though.

Man: Oh? Why not?

Beth: My aunt is visiting this week and we have plans to meet her at a restaurant. What about tomorrow instead?

2. Noisy neighbors.

Here is the situation: There is loud music playing near your house. You go outside and hear this conversation between two of your neighbors.

Man: My neighbors have been playing loud music all night!

Woman: Are you going to call the police and complain?

Man: I could, but I'd prefer to handle it personally.

3. At the electronics store.

Here is the situation: You are in an electronics store and notice a man who is trying to help a customer.

Employee: Can I help you find something?

Customer: Yes. I'm just looking for some new batteries for my camera, but I can't seem to find the right ones.

Employee: What kind do you need? What type of camera do you have?

Customer: Actually, it's my son's camera and I'm not sure what kind it is. I guess I'll have to come back to tell you.

Employee: No problem.

4. Sleep problems.

Here is the situation: You stop by a coffee shop one evening and hear this conversation between a man and a woman there.

Woman: I won't stay awake if I don't get another cup of coffee. If I don't get some sleep tonight, I think I'll go crazy!

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Man: Have you been staying up too late, or just not sleeping well?

Woman: I wake up five or six times every night! I don't know why!

Man: Have you seen a doctor about this? You might have sleep apnea. You know – where a person stops breathing several times while sleeping, and then suddenly starts again. People sometimes wake up when they start breathing again.

Woman: My family has said the same thing. I guess I'd better make an appointment.

5. *Moving away.*

Here is the situation: You are visiting your friend, Kristin, in her office building when a man gives Kristin some news.

Man: So, Kristin, I wanted to let you know--I'm moving away this summer.

Kristin: Really? That's too bad. You're great to work with, and more importantly, I'll miss your friendship. Where are you headed?

Man: Well, my wife got a job in Hawaii. Of course, the weather's not why we're moving, but I am looking forward to some good weather year round.

Kristin: Well, I'm happy for you, but you'll be hard to replace!

6. *Getting ready for a test.*

Here is the situation: You are at the library and meet your classmate, Megan. Her friend approaches her with a question.

Man: Hey Megan! Are you ready for the science quiz tomorrow?

Megan: Ugh! I haven't even started studying. I can't find my textbook. I have no idea where it could be. I've looked everywhere!

Man: Oh, that's too bad. There isn't that much to go over, but he did say to pay attention to the chart on page 49, which I did.

Megan: I know! Hey, does that mean you're done with yours? I could certainly use it if you are.

7. *A friend's party.*

Here is the situation: You are at school and hear someone invite your classmate, Ann, to a party.

Man: Hey Ann! You finished your presentation for history class, right? That means you should have time to come to Tim's party on Friday night.

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- Ann: I did, but I already told him I don't think I'm going to make it.
- Man: Don't tell me you have to work on Friday night! That's no fun.
- Ann: No, I'm off, but I promised I'd cover Mary's shift on Saturday morning, so I really need to go to bed at a reasonable hour.

8. *At tennis practice.*

Here is the situation: You are watching your friend, Chris, play tennis. His mother has just arrived to pick him up and drive him home.

- Chris' Mom: Hey, Chris! It's almost 4:30. Are you close to finishing up?
- Chris: Oh, hi, Mom! Yup—almost done. I just talked to Dave. He wants to hit a few more balls. We're meeting with the coach tomorrow afternoon. Can you give us 10 minutes?
- Chris' Mom: Sure. I'm parked next to the court on the end. I'll be in the car.
- Chris: Great, Mom. We'll be there soon.

Part 2: Longer Conversations

Student sports teams

Questions 9 through 12 are based on the following conversation. Here is the situation: You are talking to a classmate, Chris, when he meets an old friend. Read questions 9 through 12 now.

- Jennifer: Oh, hi Chris, how've you been? I haven't seen you in forever.
- Chris: Not bad. Yourself?
- Jennifer: I'm doing o.k. Hey, are you going to be playing basketball for our school's team again this season?
- Chris: No, I don't think so. I'm thinking of switching to the soccer team, actually.
- Jennifer: Really? I thought you loved being on the basketball team.
- Chris: Yeah, I did, for a while. But I don't know Jennifer. This past season, it just wasn't as good as it used to be. I think I've just gotten tired of it, after having done it for so long.
- Jennifer: But you were so good at it!

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Chris: Yeah, I know. But we play so many games each season, and it just seems like more hassle than it's worth. This past summer, I've been playing a lot of soccer with my cousin Jerry, and it's been a real refreshing break.

Jennifer: Oh yeah, I remember him. We went swimming with him at Walton Lake one time.

Chris: Yeah, that's the guy. So anyways, me and Jerry and a couple of friends have been playing a bunch this summer, and a couple of them are on our school team, and they recommended that I talk to the coach before next week when registration for the school team begins.

Parents' birthdays

Questions 13 through 15 are based on the following conversation. Here is the situation. You just met your friends Will and Becky. They are talking about what they do on their parents' birthdays. Read questions 13 through 15 now.

Becky: Hey, Will, I was wondering if you and your sister buy your parents anything for their birthdays?

Will: Sure! Yeah, every year since I was a kid. Why? Don't you, Becky?

Becky: No. Our parents always tell us to just get them cards, or write a nice note, and maybe do something for them, like clean something we don't usually clean. Or, last year, my older sister did the cooking for the whole weekend of my mom's birthday.

Will: That sounds cool. My sister's done that, too—make a present out of her services, right? She makes a little coupon for like five hours of work, or something, and puts it in her card to my Mom. I tried doing that once for my Dad, but then he had me paint something in the garage and I made a total mess of it. I haven't offered any special work since then.

Becky: Yeah, you don't want your presents to cost your dad more work. That's pretty funny. Or maybe sad and funny. Was your dad angry?

Will: Nah, but he did make me clean it up! So last year I got him a cool pen and pencil set. He still likes to write notes by hand so he really appreciated it.

Becky: Cool. So, you see, this year, my brother and I were planning on doing something different now that we both have jobs and we can actually afford something. This way it's our own money. That was always the deal growing up—our parents didn't want to give us money to buy them something. They just thought it was silly, I guess. But I've been thinking about getting my mom a new pair of sewing scissors. Hers broke and she's been using a pair that doesn't work that well. They come in a packaged set with some other stuff she'll like, too.

Part 3: Extended Discourse

16-22 Library welcome

Here is the situation: A librarian is giving a presentation to you and your fellow students who are visiting the city library as part of a school trip. You are very interested in learning about what the library has to offer, so you pay close attention to what she says.

Hello, and welcome to the public library! How many of you have been here? Most of you, that's great. I'm so glad that you've all come here on a school visit today. Our city has a really great library. On these shelves you will find stories about kids of all ages, adventures to far-away places, and information on just about anything you want to know about. Whether you're interested in dinosaurs, outer space, the fastest airplanes, or the slowest snail, there are so many resources waiting for you. Have you ever been to a bookstore and looked for a book only to find it's not popular and not for sale anymore? It's probably still available at the library! You can check out five books at a time, and when you bring them back, you can get five more, and it's all completely free.

We also have movies on DVD and music on CD, though you can only check out two of those at a time. Once you check anything out, you can keep it for up to three weeks. After that, you have to pay a dollar for every week that you're late. So, the library materials are free, but only if you return them on time.

Another thing that we do here is offer free classes. Every Tuesday night, we offer something for people in our community. A lot is geared toward adults, like discussions on history or presentations on how to use certain computer programs, but there are no age limits on who can come. Also, the first Tuesday of every month is planned for kids, so sometimes we'll have a children's movie night, or an art workshop, or something else fun. Next month, a local children's author is coming in to read her latest book. Look at the calendar online and I bet you'll find something you'd like. If you have an idea of something you would like that isn't listed, stop by the information desk, or send us an email and tell us! We're always looking for new ideas.

One other thing I want to point out to you is the computer lounge on the other side of the library. There are about twelve computers in there, for anyone to use. They might not be the newest computers around, but they do have internet access and there are some really cool learning games already installed on them. We used to have printers available too, but we found that some people were carelessly wasting a lot of paper, which is not environmentally friendly. So, if you need to print something off, you have to ask for the code at the desk.

Okay, it is just about time for you to fill out an application for a library card, if you don't have one yet. That way, you can come back anytime and check out books. If you know your phone number and your address for the form, come over here and I can help you.

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23-30 A new dog

Here is the situation: It is Saturday morning, and you and your friend, Molly, are taking Molly's new dog for a walk in the park. Molly sees her friend, Jack, who asks Molly about her dog. Read questions 23 through 30 now.

Jack: Hi Molly, how are you? Is this your new dog?

Molly: Yes! Isn't she sweet? Her name is Cocoa. Or Brownie? Or actually, maybe Bella.

Jack: It sounds like you're still figuring that one out.

Molly: Well, I just got her last week. I've been thinking a lot over the last few months of what I'd name a pet, and now that she's here, I'm just not sure.

Jack: Give it time. It'll come to you.

Molly: I've wanted a pet for a long time, since I was a kid, but there's a lot to learn. For example, she's only ten weeks old, but she needs to eat a lot. Like, she only eats a small amount, but she needs to eat four times a day. But she asks for food *constantly*. So I have to figure out the best schedule for her to get used to.

Jack: How about walks? Does she like them?

Molly: Yes, but the first time we went out, she got all tangled up in my mom's rose bush. We broke a couple branches and I got a little scratched up, but *she's* fine, and she doesn't run over there anymore.

Jack: That's good to hear. Hey, where did you get her from?

Molly: Well, my neighbor's dog was having puppies, so I was originally planning to get a puppy from them. But, they ended up having more friends wanting the puppies than they had puppies to give. I was disappointed, so I decided to go to an animal rescue shelter instead. That's where I found this sweet dog. Now I'm glad it worked out that way.

Jack: That's fantastic! I'm glad you feel like you ended up with the right dog. So, what does she like to do?

Molly: She loves being brushed. She jumps, and spins around, and she chews on the brush!

Jack: Well, I wouldn't worry too much about that. I once read a book that says that that's normal behavior for a puppy.

Molly: Hmm, that's good. But, I can't leave her alone until she grows out of the chewing and learns the rules. She completely chewed up her first dog brush. If

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she destroyed my dad's new shoes like that, or the couch, I'd be in big trouble. We're going to the veterinarian in a couple days for a check-up. I'll ask if they have any suggestions.

Jack: It seems like you're learning a lot. She's certainly different than my cat. Felix is very affectionate and loves to jump onto my lap, but he stays inside all day. I've heard of people training a cat to walk on a leash, but that's usually a dog thing. I only have to feed Felix and clean up after him.

Molly: Hmm. No offense, but it kind of sounds like you have all the work of cleaning up after an animal with none of the fun parts, like running around outside and throwing toys.

Jack: Not at all! My cat loves to chase toys; he just does it inside. I would never trade him for a dog.

Molly: It sounds like we each have the pet that's right for us then. I know I do.