2

Experiencing Nature

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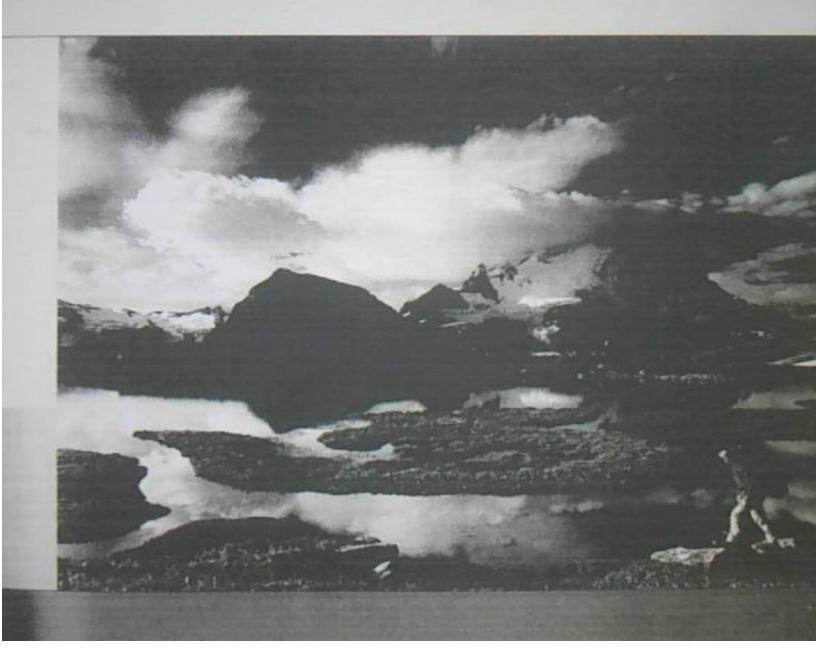**❝** In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks. **❞**

—John Muir
American naturalist (1838–1914)

Connecting to the Topic

1. Look at the photo. What do you see? Would you like to be in this place? Why or why not?
2. What kinds of outdoor activities do you enjoy?
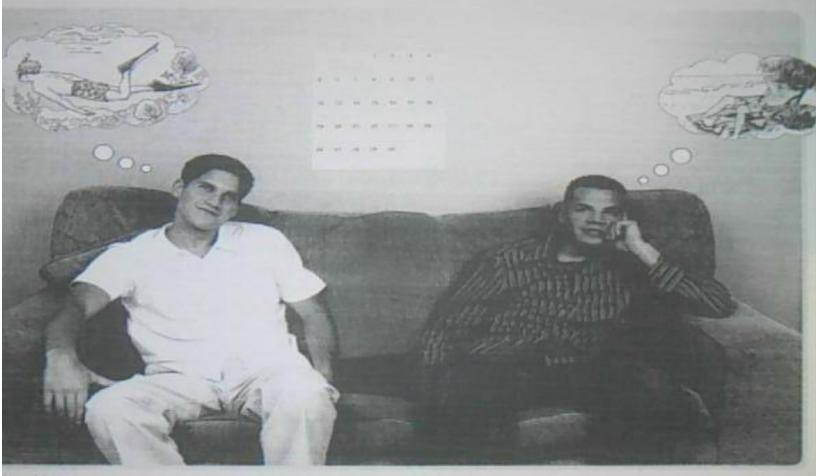3. What is your favorite kind of weather? Why?

Part 1 Conversation: Vacation Plans
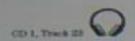
1 Prelistening Questions Look at the photo. Answer the questions with a partner.

k and Peter

1. What are Jack and Peter thinking about?

2. Describe your perfect outdoor vacation. Where would you go? What would you do there?

2 **Previewing Vocabulary** Listen to these words and phrases from the conversation. Complete the sentences with these words and phrases.

Nouns	Verb	Adjectives	Expressions
chance of	get a tan	extra	how come
degrees		freezing	it's raining cats and dogs
weather forecast		sick of (verb + -ing)	

1. **A:** Wow. _How come_ you're all wet?

   B: Because _it's raining cats and dogs_ outside, and I forgot my umbrella.

2. In the summer, I love to lie in the sun and _get a tan_.

3. The weather report in the newspaper says there's a 90 percent _chance of_ snow tomorrow. Be sure to dress warm.

4. It's 20 _degrees_ Celsius* outside. You don't need a sweater.

5. When are we going to get to Las Vegas? We've been on the road for six hours.

   I am _sick of_ driving.

6. **A:** Did you hear the _weather forecast_ for tomorrow on the news?

   B: Yes. It's going to be sunny and warm. A perfect day for the beach!

7. **A:** Why don't you turn on the heater?

   It's _freezing_ in this room!

   B: It's broken. We'll have to sleep in our coats tonight.

8. Do you have an _extra_ jacket? I forgot mine at home.

▲ It's raining cats and dogs.

Listen

3 **Listening for Main Ideas** Jack, Peter, and Bruce are talking about weather and vacations. Close your book as you listen. Prepare to answer these questions.

1. Why does Peter want to go on vacation soon?

2. Where does Bruce prefer to go on vacation?

3. What do Jack and Peter agree about?

Compare and discuss your answers with a partner.

🎧 **4 Listening for Details** Listen again if necessary. Write *T* if a statement is true and *F* if it is false.

_____ **1.** It is almost the end of the school year.

_____ **2.** Jack has never tried skiing.

_____ **3.** The weather isn't going to be better tomorrow.

Stress

CD 1, Track 25

🎧 **5 Listening for Stressed Words** Listen to the conversation again. Some of the stressed words are missing. During each pause, repeat the phrase or sentence. Then fill in the blanks with words you hear.

Peter: Wow. Look. It's raining cats and dogs— _____again_____ ! I _____hate_____ this weather. When does winter _____break_____ start?

Jack: Winter break? It's only _____October_____

Peter: I know, but I'm _____sick of_____ of studying. I want to go someplace _____warm_____ and lie on the _____beach_____ for a week. Someplace where it's _____sunny_____ and dry. Florida or Hawaii, maybe?

Jack: Yeah. Where we can go _____swimming_____ and snorkeling and get a great _____tan_____. Now _____that's_____ my idea of a perfect vacation.

Bruce: Not mine. I can't swim very well, and I _____don't_____ like lying in the _____sun_____

Peter: Oh, yeah? How come?

Bruce: I don't know. I just prefer the _____mountains_____, especially in winter. I _____love_____ snowboarding. In fact, I'm _____planning_____ to go to Bear Mountain with some friends in _____December_____ Do you want to _____come_____ ?

Jack: No thanks. I went there _____last_____ year. I was _____freezing_____ the whole time. Anyway, I don't know how to _____ski_____ very well. Last year I _____fell_____ about a hundred times.

Bruce: Peter, how about you?

Peter: Sorry, I'm like Jack. I don't want to go _anyplace_ where it's below 70 _degrees_

Jack: By the way, what's the _weather_ forecast for tomorrow?

Bruce: The _same_ as today. _Cloudy_, cold, and a 90 percent _chance_ of rain.

Jack: Oh, no! I _left_ my umbrella at the _library_

Bruce: You can _borrow_ mine. I've got an _extra_ one.

Now read the conversation with two other classmates. Practice stressing words correctly.

Reductions

6 Comparing Unreduced and Reduced Pronunciation The following sentences come from the conversation. Listen for the difference between unreduced and reduced pronunciation. Repeat both forms after the speaker.

Unreduced Pronunciation	Reduced Pronunciation*
1. It's raining cats and dogs.	It's raining cats 'n' dogs.
2. I want to go someplace warm.	I wanna go someplace warm.
3. We can swim.	We kin swim.
4. I'm going to go to Bear Mountain.	I'm gonna go ta Bear Mountain.
5. How about you?	How bouchu?
6. I don't want to go.	I donwanna go.

7 Listening for Reductions Listen to the following conversation. You'll hear the reduced pronunciations of some words. Repeat each sentence during the pause. Then write the unreduced forms of the missing words in the blanks.

Jack: Hi, Bruce. Hi, Peter.

Bruce and Peter: Hey, Jack.

Bruce: What's happening?

Jack: I'm going to the campus recreation center. _Do_ _you_ _want_ _to_ come?

Bruce: What are you _going_ _to_ do there?

Jack: Well, it's a nice day. We _can_ swim _and_ lie in the sun.

Bruce: Thanks, but I ___don't___ ___want___ ___to___ go.
I'm too tired.

Jack: How ___about___ ___you___, Peter?

Peter: I can't. I've ___got___ ___to___ stay at home ___and___ study. Maybe tomorrow.

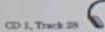With a partner, repeat the dialogue. Practice reduced pronunciation.

After You Listen

8 **Using Vocabulary** Discuss the following questions with a partner. Use the underlined vocabulary in your answers.

1. When you are <u>sick of</u> studying, what do you do to relax?

2. In your hometown, what is the coldest temperature, and what is the hottest temperature? (Use the word <u>degrees</u> in your answer.)

3. What is a safe way to <u>get a tan</u>?

4. Are you afraid to drive if it's <u>raining cats and dogs</u>? How much <u>extra</u> time do you give yourself when you drive in bad weather?

5. What is the <u>chance of rain</u> tomorrow in the area where you live?

6. What's the best place to get the <u>weather forecast</u>: TV, newspaper, or Internet?

7. Which is worse for you: to be <u>freezing</u> or to be too hot?

Pronunciation

CAN OR CAN'T

Notice the difference between the pronunciations of *can* and *can't* in the following sentences.

I can méet you tomorrow.   I cán't méet you tomorrow.

Can is unstressed, so the vowel is reduced. It sounds like "kin." Stress only the main verb:

can méet.

Can't is stressed, so the vowel is not reduced. Stress both *can't* and the main verb:

cán't méet.

9 **Distinguishing Between *Can* and *Can't*** Listen and repeat each statement. Circle *Can* if the statement is affirmative and *Can't* if the statement is negative.

1. Can	(Can't)		6. (Can)	Can't	
2.(Can)	Can't		7. Can	(Can't)	
3.(Can)	Can't		8.(Can)	Can't	
4. Can	(Can't)		9. Can	(Can't)	
5. Can	(Can't)		10.(Can)	Can't	

Using Language Functions

TALKING ABOUT ABILITIES

You can use *can* and *can't* to talk about abilities.

Example Bruce can ski, but he can't swim.

Here are some other expressions for talking about what you can and can't do:

I'm (not) able to (+ verb)
I (don't) know how to (+ verb)
I wish I could (+ verb)
I'm (not) good at (+ verb + -ing)
I'm (not) really good at (+ verb + -ing)

Strategy

Graphic Organizer: T-Chart
T-charts can help you organize and compare two different sides of a topic. For example:

- You can compare the advantages and disadvantages of an idea to help you make a decision.
- You can compare facts and opinions.
- You can list the strengths and weaknesses of an idea or of something you read or listen to.

Advantages/Disadvantages T-Chart
Topic: _____

Advantages	Disadvantages