

Dialogue Workout # 70

1.
A: Tell me about yourself. How long have you lived in San Francisco?
B: I've lived here about four years. How about you?
A: I haven't been here as long as you. I arrived two years ago.
B: A lot has changed in my neighborhood since I got here.
A: How long have you been attending classes at this school?
B: I've been studying English for the last two years.

2.
A: I started studying English a week after I got here.
B: How do you feel about your progress?
A: I feel pretty good about it. I've learned a lot in the last six months.
B: I haven't been able to come to class every day.
A: Neither have I. My work schedule changes every month.
B: I didn't know a word of English when I first got here.

3.
A: I had studied some English in High School before coming to the U.S.
B: My only English class has been at Mission Campus.
A: I'm not fluent yet. I need more reading and writing.
B: Have you studied other languages besides English?
A: No, I haven't studied any other languages. It's all brand new to me.
B: Do you have any brothers or sisters?

4.
A: I have two older brothers. They live in LA. I go down there and visit them every now and then.
B: I haven't been able to visit my relatives in Canada.
A: It takes time and money to go on a trip.
B: Yes, it does. If you drive, it takes a lot of time. If you fly, it's expensive.
A: You have to be able to afford the trip. It's not easy.
B: We seldom get two consecutive days off.

5.
A: My brother Ray is working in computers in LA.
B: Really? What kind of computer job does he have?
A: He's been repairing computers for quite while. He's gotten several promotions.
B: My sister's husband is an engineer. He makes pretty good money too.
A: I'm considering studying computer repair here.
B: Oh, do they offer a program in repairing computers at Mission Campus?

6.
A: Yes, they do. They have a certificate program.
B: Do they place graduates of the program in jobs?
A: Yes, they do. If you're interested in electronics, you should check it out.
B: I haven't had a chance to look into all the possibilities.
A: I was telling you about my family. My brother Bill is a teacher.
B: My sister is a teacher also. She teaches in grade school

7.
A: How long has your sister been a teacher?
B: She hasn't been a teacher for a long time. Only four years.
A: Yes, my brother has been a teacher for about that long.
B: My sister Anna hasn't been teaching for a year. She's been taking care of her new baby.
A: Was she able to get a maternity leave?
B: Yes, she was. She'll be able to return to her job in a year.

8.
A: I might have to go down to LA next week. My brother is moving and needs my help.
B: How long do you think you'll be gone?
A: I might be gone for a couple of weeks.
B: Will your employer excuse you from your job?
A: Yes, he agreed to give me time off in exchange for extra hours.
B: I asked my boss for only a couple of days off, and she said she'd think about it.

9.
A: It's a shame the boss is in such a bad mood.
B: I agree. I wish she were in a better mood.
A: Me too. I was hoping I could ask her for a couple of days off.
B: It looks like that's out of the question.
A: I wanted to go to Sacramento. My niece is getting married there. I wanted to attend her wedding.
B: The boss is under a lot of stress right now.

10.
A: Will you be able to go to your niece's wedding?
B: Yes, the boss finally agreed to let me go.
A: That's great. She really is a very fair person.
B: I know. It's just that sometimes she's stressed out.
A: Right. The best thing is not to take it personally.
B: I promised her that I'd do some work on the train.

Dialogue Workout # 71

1.
A: What kind of car are you planning to buy?
B: I haven't decided. Something economical.
A: I heard Toyota Tercels are economical. They don't use a lot of gas.
B: How do they handle on the highway? Do you know?
A: No, I don't. I've never driven one.
B: Actually, I'm thinking about a VW Golf. I'd like to drive to LA and visit relatives.

2.
A: Tercels are the most efficient car on the market.
B: My aunt and uncle have a Tercel, and they hate it.
A: Really? Why?
B: They said it doesn't drive very smoothly. They're thinking of selling it and buying a Golf.
A: No kidding? Well, as I said, I've never driven a Tercel.
B: No, you might be right. I'll test drive a Tercel and see how it feels.

3.
A: Guess what? I'm going to LA next week.
B: How are you getting there, by car or by plane?
A: That's a tough choice. What do you think?
B: If I were you, I'd fly. You can always rent a car in LA.
A: Actually, I was thinking of driving. It would be cheaper.
B: You have a point. But it takes a lot longer to drive.

4.
A: It's not that much cheaper when you figure how much gas costs these days.
B: I know. Gas is really expensive.
A: And I heard it's going to get even more expensive.
B: Still, I would save money driving instead of flying.
A: You're probably right. Do you have a place to stay down there?
B: Yes, I'm staying in my aunt and uncle's guest room.

5.
A: Which freeway are you going to take?
B: I'm considering taking the coast route, Highway 101. What do you think?
A: Highway 5 is a lot faster. You save about two hours.
B: True. But 101 is much more scenic.
A: There's a nice restaurant just off Highway 5. It's called Harris Ranch.
B: I plan to drive the coast route and enjoy the scenery.

6.
A: What's your plan? Are you going to drive your new Golf down there?
B: Yes, and I'm very excited. I've never driven to LA before.
A: Are you driving to LA by yourself?
B: Yes. I asked Sally to go with me, but she's too busy.
A: Be very careful. Don't fall asleep at the wheel.
B: No. If I feel sleepy, I'll pull off the road and take a nap.

7.
A: If you get lost, you can look at your map.
B: I always take a map with me because sometimes I like to go on side trips.
A: Oh? What side trip are you going on this time?
B: I want to drive around Santa Barbara a little. I've never been to Santa Barbara.
A: The coast is nice and Santa Barbara is beautiful.
B: I might grab a meal in Santa Barbara before I go to LA.

8.
A: Do you think I can get to LA on one tank of gas?
B: I doubt it. I'm sure you'll have to stop at a gas station.
A: That's okay. I'll have to stop anyway to eat dinner.
B: Where are you thinking of eating dinner? Burger King or MacDonalds?
A: I refuse to stop at any of those fast food restaurants. I want a nice meal if I'm going to drive for seven hours.
B: Good luck finding a decent restaurant off Highway 101.

9.
A: How was your weekend in LA? Did you enjoy driving down there?
B: I took your suggestion and drove Highway 5. It was pretty fast.
A: Did you stop at the Harris Ranch?
B: Yes, I had a real nice dinner there.
A: You weren't disappointed by the scenery?
B: I didn't care for the scenery much, but I brought some good music so I was entertained.

10.
A: I drove back to San Francisco by the coast route.
B: It must have taken much longer.
A: Yes, it took a lot longer. But the scenery was very nice, especially the ocean.
B: Did you stop in Santa Barbara as you had planned?
A: Yes, I did. I drove around Santa Barbara and had a bite to eat there.
B: I'm glad you enjoyed your trip in spite of everything.

Dialogue Workout # 72

1.
A: Have you finished cleaning your apartment yet?
B: I finished cleaning the living room a little while ago.
But I haven't finished washing the dishes yet.
A: You think you'll be finished soon?
B: It shouldn't take too much longer. But it's exhausting.
A: I know what you mean. I hate cleaning my apartment.
B: Even though I feel exhausted, I'm glad I'm doing it.

2.
A: Have you paid your bills yet?
B: I've paid the phone bill and the rent, but I haven't paid the P.G. and E. or the garbage bills yet.
A: When do you think you'll be done paying bills?
B: It'll probably take me another half hour or so.
I have to enter everything in the check register.
A: Maybe when you're done we could go to the movies.
B: I'm afraid I might fall asleep during the movie. I'm so tired.

3
A: Has Jenny finished washing the windows yet?
B: She finished washing the windows in front,
but she hasn't washed the windows in back yet.
A: She was supposed to finish those windows today.
B: It's a tough job. Those windows were really filthy.
A: It's taking longer than I thought it would.
B: Jenny is doing a very thorough job. You should see the windows in front.

4.
A: Has Dan given the children their haircuts yet?
B: He's already given the little girl her haircut.
He hasn't given the little boy his haircut yet.
A: He was supposed to cut the children's hair last week.
B: He's doing the best he can. The children were in school last week.
A: When he finishes cutting the children's hair,
he has to cut my hair too.
B: Yes, you really need a haircut.
You look like you haven't had one in a year.

5.
A: I'm moving to a new apartment, and the job is exhausting.
B: I know. I moved last year.
I carried so many boxes that I was sore for a week.
A: I've packed all the books in boxes, but I haven't packed the kitchen ware yet.
B: Be patient with yourself. Moving is hard work.
A: I was supposed to be out of my old apartment last week.

5. (continued)
B: You've already done a lot. You've moved most of your furniture to the new apartment.

6.
A: I'm nervous about my wedding.
There are a lot of things on my list I haven't done.
B: You still have a couple of weeks until the big day.
A: I've already bought my wedding dress,
but I haven't rented a reception hall yet.
B: You were supposed to rent one last week.
A: There were so many other details, I just forgot.
B: Don't worry. If you get on it right away, you'll find something.

7.
A: My parents are nervous about their trip. Their check list is missing a lot of checks.
B: They shouldn't worry. Their trip is two weeks off.
A: Do they have enough time? They've bought their plane tickets,
but they haven't gotten their passports yet.
B: It shouldn't take them more than a few days to get it.
A: They haven't gotten their photos taken yet.
B: Wow. They're really dragging their feet. They'd better get going.

8.
A: Sylvia is worried about her grades.
She hasn't turned in her history term paper yet.
B: She doesn't need to worry. It isn't due until Monday.
A: She's written an outline, but she hasn't started writing the paper yet.
B: She can write it over the weekend. The outline will help her.
A: If she starts early Saturday morning, she will have all day.
B: And then on Sunday, she can make revisions.

9.
A: Sam is concerned about his lawn. He hasn't watered it this week yet, and it's starting to turn yellow.
B: He was supposed to water his lawn five days ago.
A: He was so busy planting flowers that he forgot about the lawn.
B: There's still time to make it green if he waters it now.
A: To tell the truth, he's afraid to water his lawn. His water bill will be too high.
B: He only has to water it long enough to wet the ground.

Dialogue Workout # 73

1.
A: I was supposed to go to the dentist, but I forgot.
B: Did you miss your dental appointment?
A: It completely slipped my mind. I've had my yearly physical, but I haven't had a dental exam yet.
B: You'd better call the dentist office now and make another appointment.
A: I've been brushing my teeth regularly and using floss.
B: I wouldn't worry about your teeth if I were you.

2.
A: Something came up. I can't go to the movies with you.
B: Oh, that's all right. We can do it another time.
A: My boss told me I have to work a double shift today.
B: We can take a rain check. No problem.
A: Next weekend, if you aren't doing anything, we can go.
B: Yes, I think I'll be free next weekend. I'll give you a call.

3.
A: I went to see "Mission to Mars" at the Metro Theater.
B: I wanted to see it too, but I was busy. How was it?
A: You didn't miss much. The story wasn't very interesting.
B: I went to the museum. The paintings were exciting.
A: I want to go there. I haven't seen their current exhibit.
B: I think you'd enjoy it a lot.

4.
A: If you take a keyboarding class, you'll learn to type 25 words per minute.
B: When do they offer keyboarding?
A: In the morning, from 8:30 to 12:15. Gloria Bautista is the teacher.
B: I'm really interested in learning about computers.
A: This class is a very good introduction.
B: I know how to type, but I type very slowly.

5.
A: Have you taken the books back to the library yet?
B: Not yet. I plan to drop them off this afternoon.
A: They should have been taken back yesterday.
B: You're right. They were due yesterday, weren't they?
A: That's all right. The fine is only ten cents a book.
B: I borrowed eight books. I'll have to pay 80 cents.

6.
A: Last week, somebody parked in front of my driveway.
B: What did you do? Did you call the police?
A: Yes. I had to call them. I didn't have any other choice.
B: Did you give them the license number?
A: Yes, I did. The police came about an hour later. The car was towed away.
B: There aren't enough parking spaces in this city.

7.
A: There will be a neighborhood meeting tonight.
B: Oh, good. I'll be there. What are we discussing?
A: We're discussing some neighborhood problems.
B: There have been quite a few problems lately.
A: Yes, there have. There's been a lot of noise from construction.
B: Yes, and sometimes it lasts until late at night.

8.
A: There are other problems in our neighborhood.
B: People drive too fast. It's dangerous for children.
A: That's right. They should put up more stop signs.
B: Last week, I saw an accident that could have been avoided.
A: It wouldn't have happened if there had been a stop sign.
B: If the neighbors speak up, we can make some changes.

9.
A: Did you go to the meeting last night?
B: Yes, I did. Most of the neighbors attended it.
A: I'm sorry I couldn't go to it. I had to work late.
B: It was the best meeting we've had so far.
A: What problems did the neighbors discuss?
B: We discussed crime, parking, drugs, and noise.

10.
A: We didn't decide on a location for the next meeting.
B: You can hold the next meeting at my house.
A: That's very generous of you. We'll probably accept your offer.
B: How many do you think might show up to the meeting?
A: I would guess around twenty-five people. Is that too many?
B: No, it's not. Since I wasn't able to come last night, I want to contribute something.

Dialogue Workout # 74

1.
A: "Mission to Mars" wasn't the best movie I've ever seen, and it wasn't the worst.
B: I've seen better movies. The characters weren't especially interesting.
A: The best thing about the movie was the coke and the popcorn.
B: I didn't especially like the popcorn. It had too much butter on it.
A: The special effects were exciting. I really believed those people were in space.
B: I thought the story was unbelievable.
2.
A: Could you tell me how to get to the movie theater from here?
B: I'm sorry, I can't. I'm new here. I don't know my way around the city.
A: Thank you anyway.
B: Why don't you ask that young man over there? He looks like he's been living here a while.
A: Which young man are you talking about?
B: That one with the red cap. I'm sure he'll be able to help you.
3.
A: Excuse me, can you tell me where "Mission to Mars" is showing?
B: I believe it's showing at the Metro Cinema.
A: Do you happen to know when it starts?
B: I don't know when it starts. But you can find out by looking in the Chronicle.
A: Yes, here it is. It's in the Datebook Section.
B: This is yesterday's paper. You can check today's schedule by calling this number.
4.
A: How did you like the movie?
B: Well, to tell the truth, I was a little disappointed.
A: Disappointed? Why? It got great reviews, didn't it?
B: It wasn't as exciting as I thought it would be.
A: Really? All my friends told me it was the most exciting movie they've ever seen.
B: I really expected it to be a lot more interesting.
5.
A: I prefer the movie "Mars Attacks". In it, Jack Nicholson plays the President of the United States.
B: I saw it. I wasn't as thrilled by it as you seem to be.
A: Really? Don't you think the special effects were

- awesome?
5. (continued)
B: Actually, I thought the whole thing was rather ridiculous.
A: It was supposed to be funny. After all, it was a satire.
B: I hoped it would be more entertaining.
6.
A: I think there's too much violence on children's cartoon programs.
B: I'm not sure I agree with you.
A: You're not? But, don't you think all that violence is harmful for children to see?
B: Not really. I don't think most children are affected by it.
A: I don't agree with you at all.
B: It seems to me that children know that cartoon violence isn't real.
7.
A: I think there's too much sentimentality in afternoon soap operas.
B: I completely disagree with you. In my opinion, those shows are wonderful.
A: How can you say that? There's nothing worse than those tear jerkers.
B: I believe the characters are completely realistic.
A: Realistic? No, they're not. They're totally phony.
B: It sounds to me like we have a difference of opinion.
8.
A: What would you like to do after dinner?
B: I wouldn't mind going to a movie.
A: That's not a bad idea. We haven't been to a movie in a long while.
B: Let's check the paper to see if there's anything interesting playing.
A: There's an Elizabeth Taylor movie playing at the Castro. "Butterfield Eight."
B: We've already seen it, remember? It was on Channel 9 last week.
9.
A: It's raining and the children are bored. Let's take them to the movies.
B: Are there any children's movies playing today?
A: As a matter of fact there is. The Walt Disney movie "Beauty and The Beast" is playing at the Castro.
B: Is there a matinee showing?
A: Yes, there is. It starts at 3:00 pm. Let's go.
B: We'll have to hurry. We have only a half hour. And we have to find a parking place.