

Basic Listening

John McDowell and
Sandra Stevens



Edward Arnold



Basic Listening



Authentic recordings to develop
listening micro-skills through
graded tasks

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Sandra Stevens**



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Unit 1

Personal Information



Exercise 1 Can you spell that, please?

Look at the pairs of surnames below. In each case the pronunciation of 'a' and 'b' is the same. On the tape you will hear six people spelling one name in each pair. Write down which one they spell, 'a' or 'b'.

- | | |
|----------|--------------|
| 1 a Bead | 4 a Leslie |
| b Bede | b Lesley |
| 2 a Reid | 5 a Stewart |
| b Read | b Stuart |
| 3 a Grey | 6 a Stephens |
| b Gray | b Stevens |

Exercise 2

1 Who's your doctor?

Sally and Peter are friends. Sally has just moved to the same area as Peter and she is asking him for some information about his doctor. Listen and write down the following details.

Name _____
 Address _____
 Tel. No. _____

2 Where's the restaurant?

Chris is asking a friend for some information about a restaurant. Listen and write down the following information.

Name of the restaurant _____
 Address _____
 Tel. No. _____

Exercise 3 Enrolling at a language school.

Read the registration form below. Then listen to the conversation between the school secretary and a new student and write down the missing information.

Name (Capitals) _____	(Mr/Ms)	<input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Intensive:	
Address _____		Either	
Age _____	Nationality _____	Programme A	
Dates of Desired Course:		Monday, Wednesday, Friday	9.15—12.15
from 14th JANUARY	to 31st MARCH	Tuesday and Thursday	1.45—4.45
Intensive:		Or	
<input type="checkbox"/> Monday to Friday	9.15—4.45	Programme B	
		Tuesday and Thursday	9.15—12.15
		Monday, Wednesday, Friday	1.45—4.45

Unit 2

Exercise 1 International Dialling Codes.

Read the list of towns and international dialling codes below. You will hear five different people telephoning the International Service to check the codes. While you listen, write a tick (✓) if the code is right. If it is wrong, write the correct code number.

1 Belgrade, Yugoslavia	010 38 31
2 Sydney, Australia	010 61 2
3 Athens, Greece	010 381
4 Hamburg, Germany	010 59 50
5 Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	010 966 11

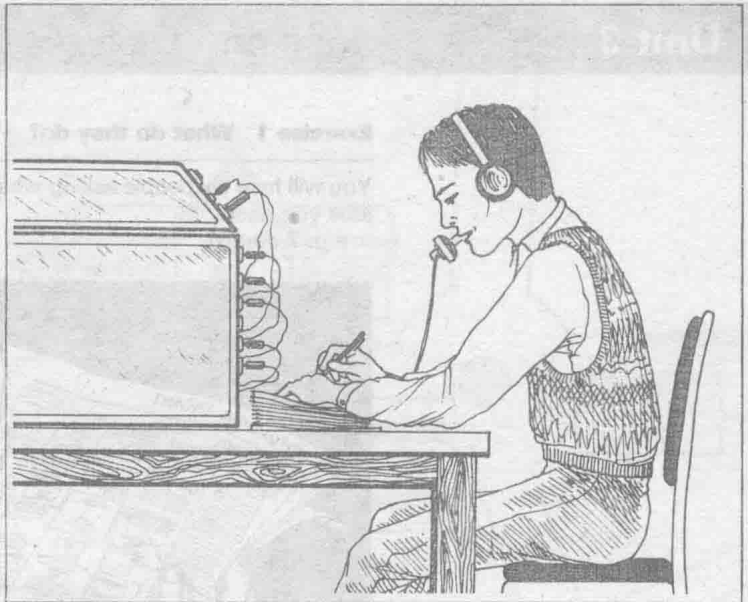


Exercise 2 Directory Enquiries.

Read carefully the names and addresses below. You will hear five different people telephoning Directory Enquiries to ask for a number. The names and addresses below are not in the same order as on the tape. First, identify which name and address you hear, then write down the telephone number.

e.g. 6 f 925 0136

- a T. Snelling, 14a Melrose Road, CARDIFF.
- b Philip Barnett, 21 Blenheim Crescent, GLASGOW.
- c P. Winters, 93 Bodley Lane, PORTSMOUTH.
- d Alec Lea, 1 Elm Road, BIRMINGHAM.
- e K. Neale, 117 Cliff Lane, BRIGHTON.
- f Sarah Hempson, 11 Clifford Road, GUILDFORD.



Exercise 3

1 A reverse-charge call.

Listen to this woman asking for a reverse-charge call to a number in Milton Keynes, a town north of London, and write down the following details.

- Caller's number
- Caller's name
- Number calling

2 A person-to-person call.

Listen to this woman making a person-to-person call to someone in the United States and write down the following details.

- The number she's calling
- The person she's calling
- Her name

Unit 3

Exercise 1 What do they do?

You will hear six people asking what other people do. Write down the jobs you hear.

e.g. 7 dentist



Exercise 2 Here's a job for you.

On the tape, there are four conversations. In each one, a person is talking about an advertisement for a job. Copy the chart below and, while you listen, fill it in.

Job	Salary	Hours
1		
2		
3		
4		

Exercise 3 What do I do?

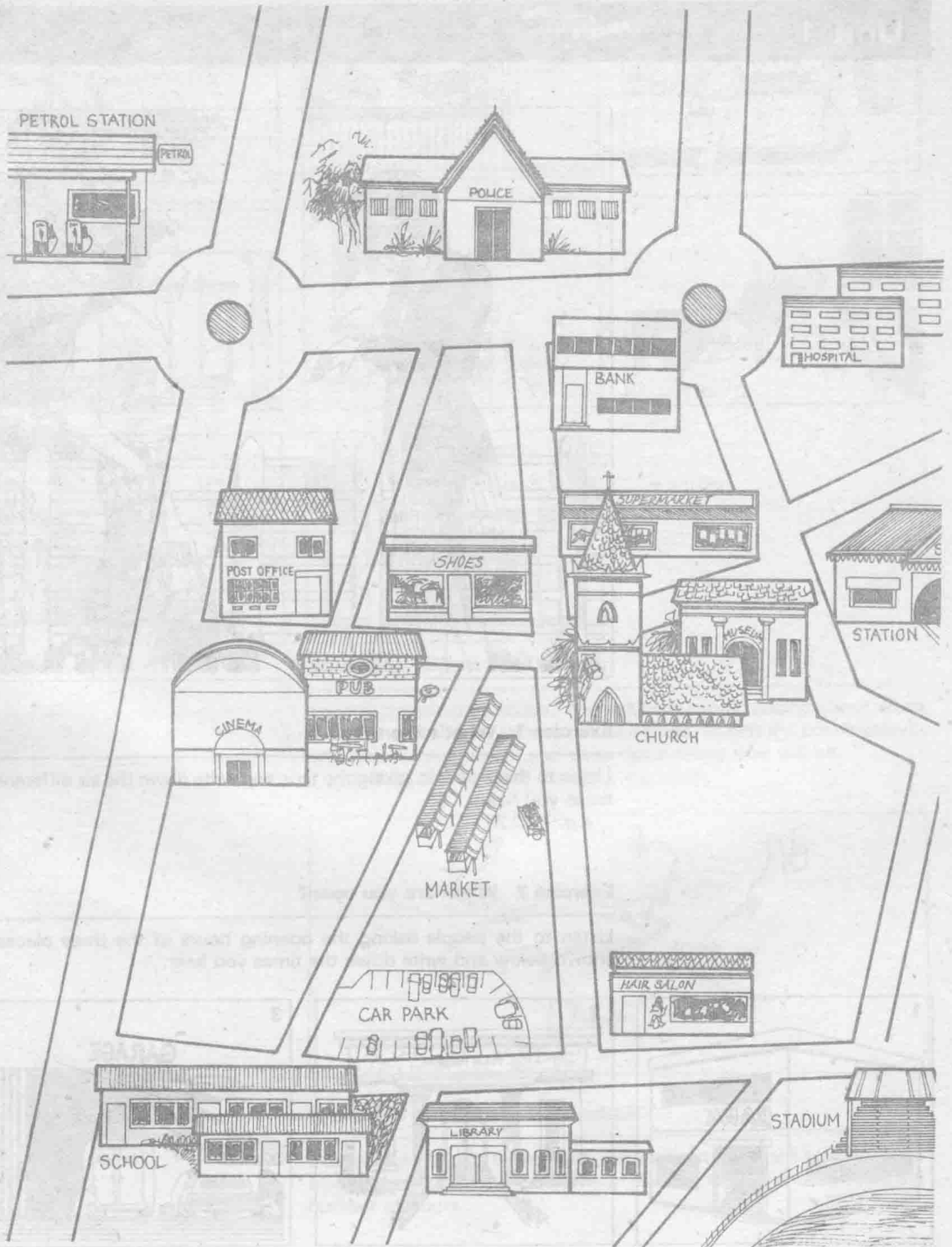
Listen to these four people talking about their daily work routine, and write down what each person does.

e.g. 5 teacher

Exercise 4 Where are they?

Look at the plan opposite. Listen to the six different people talking and decide where they are.

e.g. 7 hospital



Unit 4



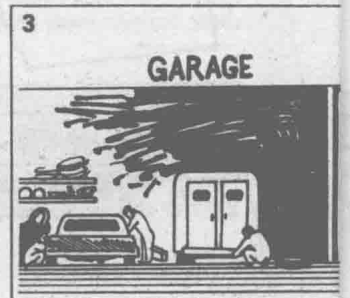
Exercise 1 What's the time?

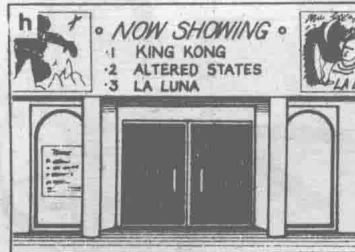
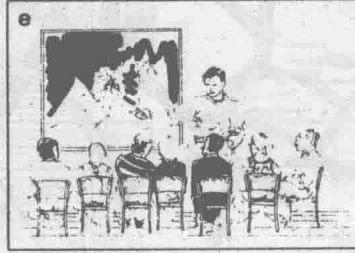
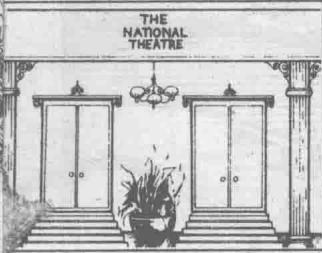
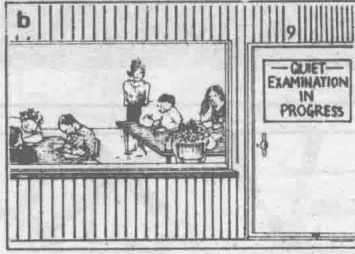
Listen to these people asking the time and write down the six different times you hear.

e.g. 7 10.25

Exercise 2 When are you open?

Listen to the people asking the opening hours of the three places shown below and write down the times you hear.

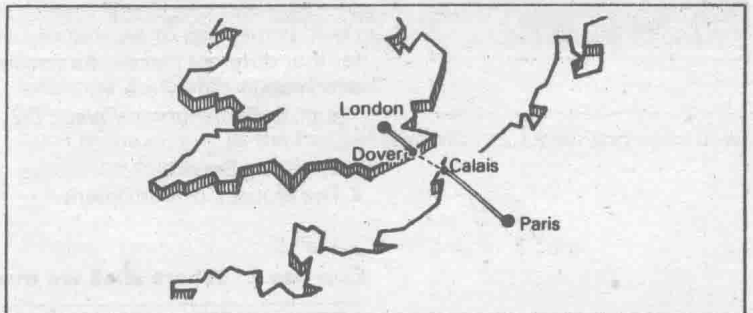




Exercise 3 When is it?

Look at the pictures above. You will hear people talking about when five of the situations shown will take place. Match the conversations with the correct picture and write down when they will be.

e.g. 6 Picture h—next Tuesday, 4 o'clock

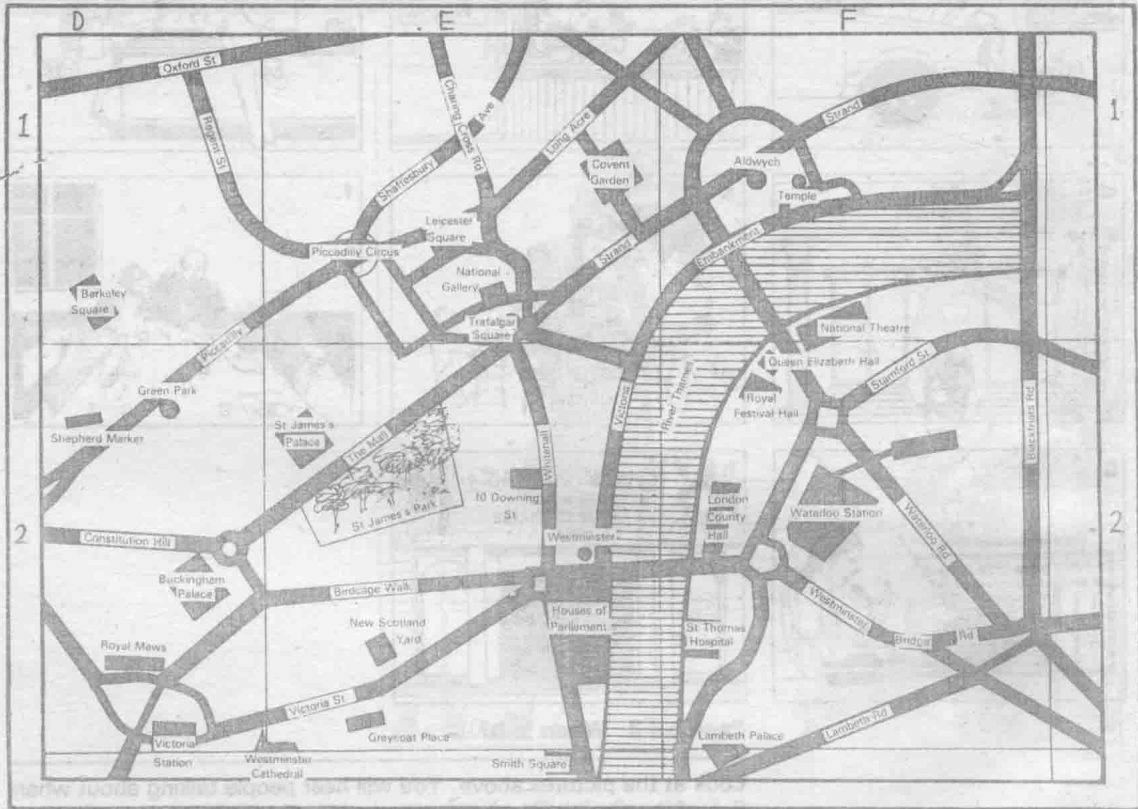


Exercise 4 How long did it take?

You will hear John telling Sally how long it took him to drive from London to Paris by the route shown above. Listen and write down the number of hours.

Unit 5

Exact Position



Exercise 1 Where is it?

Look at the map of an area of London. You will hear people looking for four different places. As you listen, find the places and write down which square they are in.

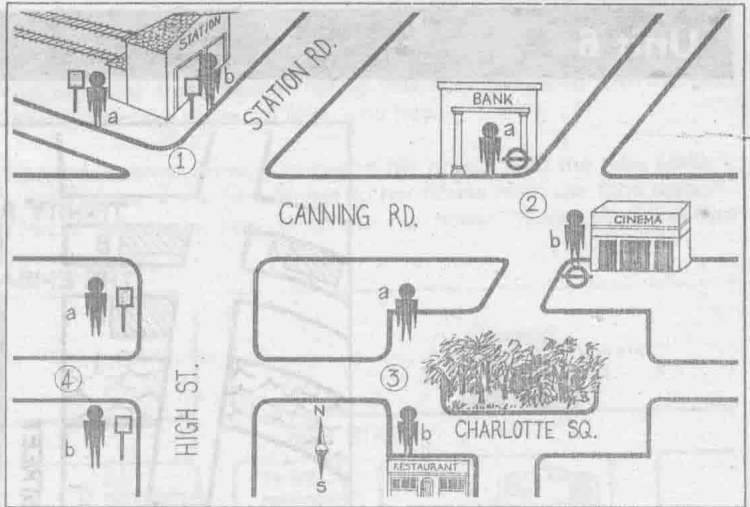
e.g. 5 Buckingham Palace D2

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Leicester Square | 3 Covent Garden |
| 2 The Houses of Parliament | 4 Waterloo Station |

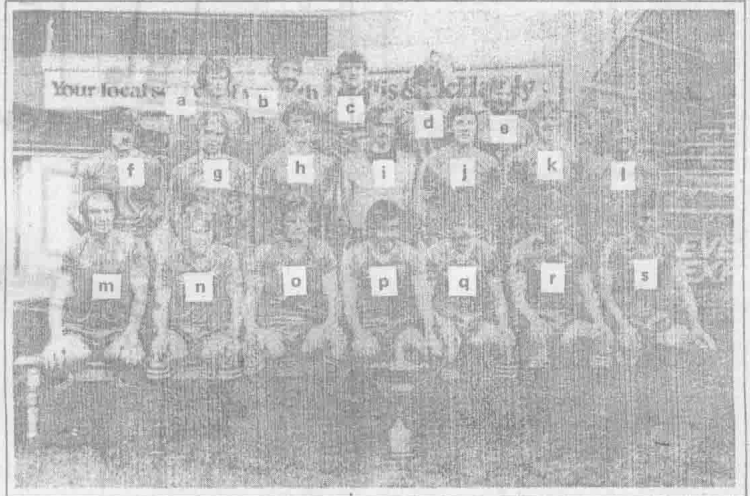
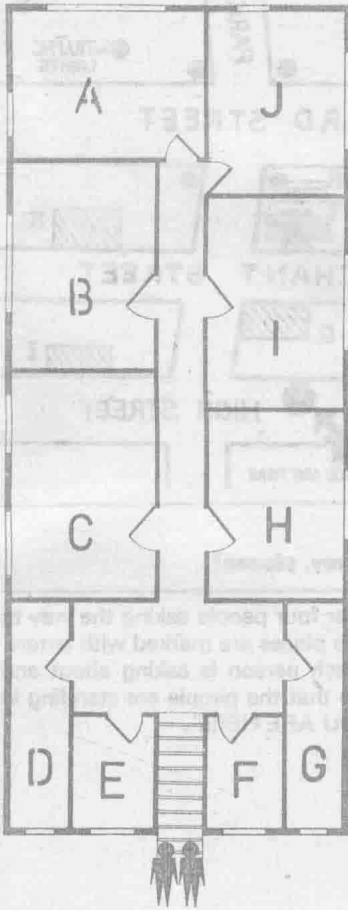
Exercise 2 Where shall we meet?

You will hear four different conversations. In each one a person is arranging to meet a friend. Look at the map at the top of the next page. For each of the conversations, two people, a and b, are shown waiting in different places. Listen and decide which person is waiting in the correct place.

e.g. 5 a



Underground Station



Exercise 3 Which one's Peter?

Look at the picture of the football team above. Listen and write down where the following people are.

e.g. David c

1 Peter

2 Paul

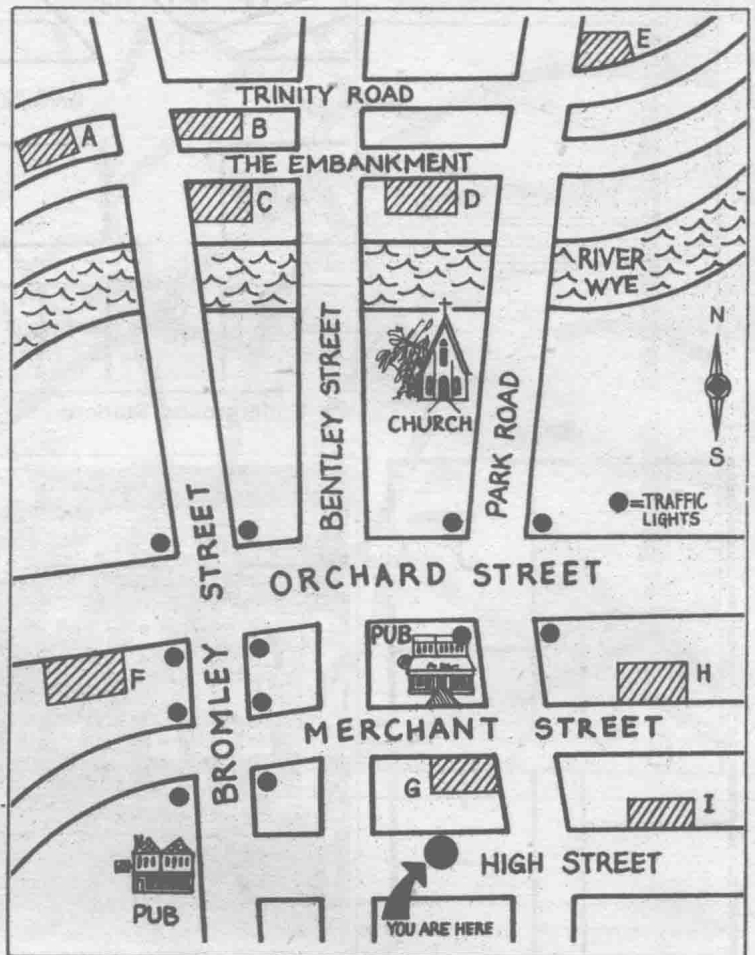
3 Tom

Exercise 4 Where's room 4?

Look at the plan of one floor of a school building. You will hear four people asking where different rooms are. Listen and match the four rooms mentioned with the corresponding letters. Note that the speakers are standing at the bottom of the stairs.

e.g. C classroom

Unit 6



Exercise 1 Can you tell me the way, please?

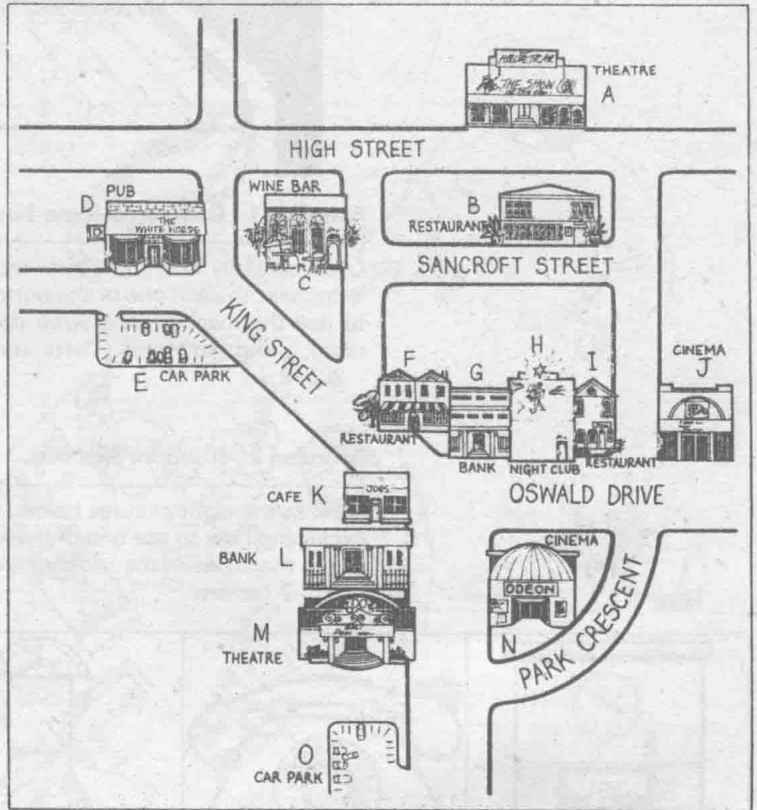
Look at the map above. You will hear four people asking the way to four different places on the map. The places are marked with letters. Listen and write down the place each person is asking about and which letter it is on the map. Notice that the people are standing in High Street, at the spot marked 'YOU ARE HERE'.

e.g. Market 1

Exercise 2 How do I get there?

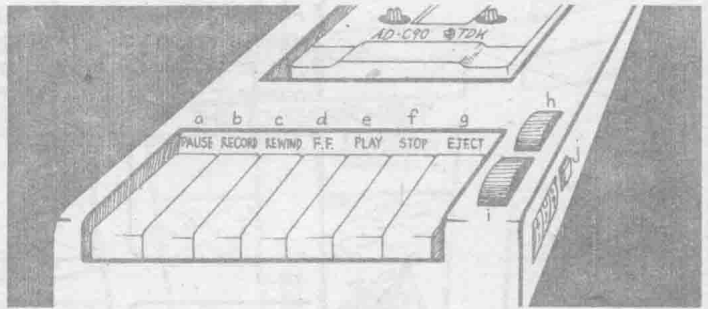
You will hear three people telling you how to get to their homes. Listen and make notes on what you hear.

- 1 Anne is telling you how to get to her house from the tube station.
- 2 Jane is telling you how to get to her house from the tube station.
- 3 Pat is telling you how to get to her house by car from Bedford Square.



Exercise 3 What did you do last night?

Look carefully at the map of Northfields above. Listen to Robert telling Gill what he did last night and where he went. Write down the places he visited in the correct order.



Exercise 1 Can you tell me how this machine works, please?

Look carefully at the cassette-recorder above and notice there is a letter next to each one of the buttons. Listen to Sue telling John how to use the machine and write down her instructions in the correct order, using the letters. There are seven instructions.

e.g. 8 j

Exercise 2 It works like this.

Look at the eight pictures below. You will hear six people, each one explaining how to use one of these machines. Write down the names of the machines in the order of the descriptions.

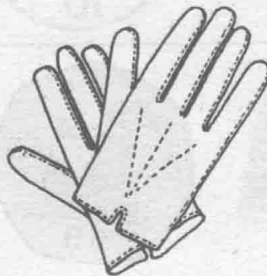
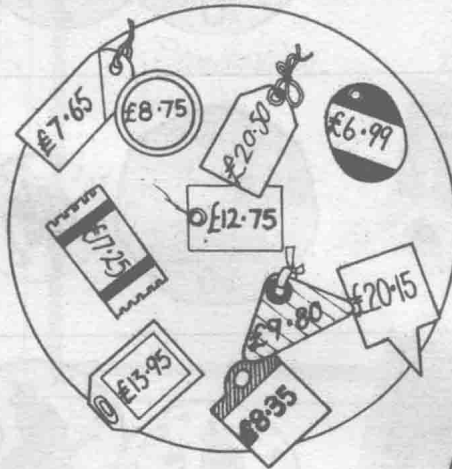
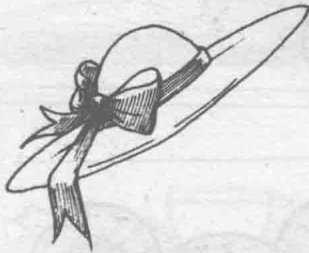
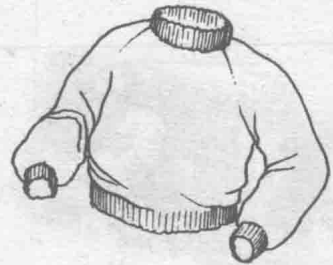
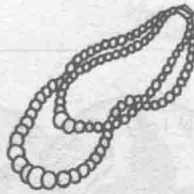
e.g. 7 camera

<p>Car Park Ticket Machine</p>	<p>Telephone</p>	<p>Parking Meter</p>	<p>Cigarette Machine</p>
<p>Drinks Machine</p>	<p>Camera</p>	<p>Public Telephone</p>	<p>Photo Machine</p>

Unit 8

Exercise 1 How much is it?

Look at the articles and prices below. Listen to six people asking how much these things cost and match each article with the correct price.
e.g. shoes £20.15



Exercise 2 That's £1.15 please.

Listen to these conversations at the cash desk in three different shops. First, write down the price of each item, check the total and then decide which is the correct sum of money to pay for each, a, b, c or d.

1 writing paper
birthday card
pen

2 potatoes
biscuits
cheese
milk

3 shampoo
soap
toothbrush

Total

Total

Total

