

Recording scripts

Unit 11

Listening Part 1

Recording script CD2 Track 14

Extract One

Woman: It'll be getting dark soon, won't it? What about over there? That looks quite a good place to stop and camp for the night, doesn't it?

Man: Maybe.

Woman: Very peaceful.

Man: I doubt if it'll be that. If I'd known about the mosquitoes, I'd never have come. I was expecting excitement and rapids and spectacular landscapes and all we're getting is bitten on a flat river surrounded by dull little trees – and the mountains are miles away! It's not as if we had to come here. There were lots of other places we could have gone.

Woman: Come on, Don. It's not so bad. If I were you, I'd put some insect repellent on right away, just like I've done, and then they won't bite you. And if you'd just stop griping for a while, perhaps we'd start enjoying ourselves a bit. Just think about how quiet and peaceful it all is and what a lovely rest from city life!

Man: Rest! If we'd stayed at home, I'd be resting in front of the telly right now, instead of paddling up this miserable river.

Woman: Don!

Extract Two

Man 1: So, what will we do if the weather turns bad? Just carry on, or do you think we'd have to call things off?

Man 2: Call things off? No way! Not after all the preparations we've made. Look, we're taking wet-weather gear and we've got good warm waterproof sleeping bags. I mean, if things look really bad, we can always put things off for a few days and start a bit later.

Man 1: OK, but we're not really going at the best time of year, you know. North-west Spain in winter can be pretty icy.

Man 2: Of course, but that's all part of it, isn't it? I mean, we've committed ourselves to this thing, so we've got to get there or else we'll never live it down. I'm sure we'll make it, I mean, our names will be dirt with all our sponsors if we don't. And a little hardship never hurt anyone. It's good for you!

Man 1: Still, I imagine they'd pay up anyway even if we didn't get there, don't you?

Extract Three

Interviewer: So, Kate, in your book *Lesser Known Egypt* you recommend all sorts of exciting and interesting places off the beaten tourist track.

Kate: Yes, and for the really intrepid tourist none of them is at all difficult to get to.

Interviewer: Right.

Kate: All you need is a little bit of planning in advance and even that's easy if you use my book.

Interviewer: You suggest people should go in the winter when the heat is not so overwhelming, don't you?

Kate: Exactly, and it can even get quite chilly at night, so you might need something warm to wrap up in. Mind you, in the daytime you'll find it's almost always sunny. You have to do quite a lot of walking over rough ground in the desert, and of course there's no shade, so I never went out without something to cover my head or I'd have got quite sunburnt. I'd strongly advise other people to do the same.

Interviewer: And what was the most enjoyable thing you found about travelling around Egypt on your own?

Kate: Without a doubt the people I travelled with. It could all have been quite unpleasant otherwise, you know, waiting for buses in dusty villages and so on, but I found everyone so kind. You know, they'd make conversation, invite me to coffee and really help me to get to know the country. Otherwise I wouldn't have enjoyed things nearly so much. As it was, I felt that I wanted the journey to go on forever.

Interviewer: Fantastic.

Kate: Yes, indeed.

Speaking Part 1

Recording script CD2 Track 15

Thea: Well, it depends where to. I'm certainly not afraid of taking risks for a bit of excitement and I get a real buzz from a bit of danger. But it would have to be a journey to somewhere interesting, somewhere that was worth visiting. I wouldn't want to do it just for the excitement.

Archie: Well, it certainly helps with the day-to-day problems like buying tickets, getting information and so on. But I'd say it's generally better to try to speak the local language if you can, because then you can get to know people, talk to them on their own terms and that's when real communication starts happening. On the other hand, you can't learn the language of every country you want to visit, and in those cases English is definitely better than nothing.

Nina: Normally I go to the Scottish Highlands for a couple of weeks in the summer, which is wonderful, it's such a lovely area, but the chance to go further afield and have some completely different experiences, well, for example to spend two or three months travelling round Africa, would be fabulous. It'd be great to see some of those places you only normally see on television, for example the Ngorongoro Crater or the Kruger National Park. I'd really love that. It'd be the chance of a lifetime!