

G speculation and deduction

V sounds and the human voice

P consonant clusters

1 VOCABULARY & WRITING sounds and the human voice

- a Try to sit for one minute in complete silence, listening carefully. Write down everything you hear. Then compare with a partner. Did you hear the same things?
- b **V p.166 Vocabulary Bank Sounds and the human voice.**
- c **4.4** Listen to the sounds and make a note of what they are. Then write three paragraphs based on the sounds. Begin your paragraphs as follows:
- 1 It was 12:30 at night and Mike had just fallen asleep...
 - 2 Amanda was walking down Park Street...
 - 3 It was a cold winter night...

2 PRONUNCIATION consonant clusters

Fine-tuning your pronunciation: consonant clusters

Combinations of two or three consonant sounds, e.g., **clothes**, **spring**, can be difficult to pronounce, especially if the combination of sounds is not common in your language.

Three-consonant clusters at the beginning of words always begin with *s*, e.g., **scream**.

Three-consonant clusters at the end of words are often either plurals (**months**), third person singular verbs (**wants**), or regular past tenses (**asked**).

- a **4.5** Listen to the words below. Then practice saying them.

At the beginning of a word

two sounds

click
slam
crash
slurp
drip
snore
stutter

three sounds

screech
scream
splash

At the end of a word

two sounds

shouts
sniffs
yelled
hummed

three sounds

crunched
mumble
gasps
rattled

- b **4.6** Listen and repeat the sentences.

- 1 She **screamed** when her friend **splashed** her in the **swimming pool**.
- 2 The **brakes screeched** and then there was a **tremendous crash**.
- 3 My co-worker **slurps** and **gasps** for breath when he **drinks** anything.

- c Write three sentences of your own, using two words from **a** in each sentence. Give them to your partner to say.

3 READING

- a Read the headline and the introduction to the article on p.37. With a partner, say how you think the following aspects of Vicky's life have been affected by her phobia.

- college studies
- relationships
- work
- where she lives

- b Read the article and check.

- c What is each paragraph about? With a partner, match paragraphs 1–7 to summaries A–H. There is one summary that you don't need.

- A ☐ how her phobia caused her to underachieve
B ☐ the physical effects of her phobia
C ☐ what she considers to be the most damaging effect of her phobia
D ☐ the effect of her phobia on where she works and lives
E ☐ her eventual diagnosis
F ☐ how therapy has helped her
G ☐ her ambivalent attitude to sounds
H ☐ how her problems originated

LEXIS IN CONTEXT

- d Look at the **highlighted** adverbs and adverbial phrases and figure out the meaning of any that you don't know. Use your dictionary.
- e How sympathetic are you to Vicky's phobia? Do you know anyone with a phobia that seriously affects their life?



Life & style Experience

[Previous](#) | [Next](#) | [Index](#)

I have a phobia of sound

For the last 30 years, I have had violent physical reactions to certain noises. Everyday sounds, like someone chewing or a pen being clicked, make me want to hide, scream, and put my fingers in my ears.

- 1 I feel unreasonable complaining to people about these **seemingly** harmless sounds, but for me they are threatening. My body reacts in the same way as it would under attack: I am flooded with adrenaline. It is as if I were in the same room as a huge, fierce dog. I am unable to focus on anything but my terror. I often have to hang up on phone calls **abruptly**, leave my seat, and walk around the room, trying to block out the noise.
- 2 My phobia began when I was 19 and started work in a busy office. The noise of a colleague next to me who chewed gum **incessantly** became unbearable. My ears tuned in to every sound until they filled my head, and I couldn't focus on my work. This cacophony was added to by another colleague who **continually** whistled, until I was forced to leave.
- 3 The path of my life has been dictated by the sounds around me. I have changed jobs numerous times, searching for the perfect quiet office. I have moved house, too, away from loud music or arguing neighbors. **Strangely**, I'd love to live near a motorway: the constant hum of traffic would be soothing to me.
- 4 My phobia has affected my ability to get on in life. During my final examinations at university, I was doing really well, translating Greek **with ease**, until the scratching of a pen against paper filtered into my consciousness, bringing me to a halt. During another exam, a nearby pub had a delivery and the sound of barrels being rolled along by whistling delivery men destroyed any chance of concentration. I discovered afterwards that I was two marks off a first.
- 5 My biggest regret is that it has prevented me from having a long-term relationship and children. The longest I have been with someone is two years, until the sound of their eating, breathing, just existing **in proximity** to me became intolerable. I would sneak off to the spare room in the night to try to get some sleep, but it would be interpreted as a rejection of them. It's hard to stay with someone who doesn't want to eat or sleep with you. I haven't ruled out love yet, though. I'm sure there is someone who could accept my limitations.
- 6 It took me 30 years to realize that what I have has a name: misophonia, or hatred of sound. When I recently discovered a support forum dedicated to it, I cried for two hours. I felt so relieved to know that other people—900 of them on this one site—felt like I did. I wasn't the only one.
- 7 It also gave me perspective. Some sufferers wish they were deaf, but I don't. I love many, many sounds: the sea, wind in the trees, music, the human voice. Time and experience have taught me that being able to hear is a beautiful thing, too important to sacrifice. I would never wish that away.

By Vicky Rhodes in The Guardian

4 LISTENING & SPEAKING

- a **4.7** Listen to five people talking about noises they don't like.

- 1 What noise does each person describe?
- 2 How much do you think it affects their daily life?

- b Listen again. Who...?

- 1 ☐ feels that a sound represents a negative emotion
- 2 ☐ wishes he'd / she'd complained about a noise sooner
- 3 ☐ is annoyed because he's / she's powerless to stop a sound
- 4 ☐ has to make a sound stop before he / she can relax
- 5 ☐ describes sounds that other people clearly like

- c Talk to a partner

- **Are there any noises that really annoy you?**

Are you affected by them in your daily life?

Is there anything you can do to avoid or stop them?

- **Are there any sounds that you really love or that make you feel good?**

- **Do you prefer music or silence in these situations? Why? If you prefer music, what kind?**

- in restaurants
- in a supermarket
- in a gym
- when a plane is taking off or landing
- when you're put on hold on the phone

Glossary

two marks off a first two points away from a top score
motorway (NAme freeway or highway) a wide road, where traffic can travel fast for long distances

5 GRAMMAR speculation and deduction

a Look at this picture and answer the questions.



- 1 Where **could** the photo **have been** taken?
 - 2 Why do you think these people **might have been** in costume?
 - 3 What do you think **might have** just **happened**?
 - 4 How do you think the people in costume **must have been feeling** while they were walking around?
- b **C Communication** Masks for Manggao p.108. Find out what really happened.
- c **G p.148 Grammar Bank 4A** Learn more about speculation and deduction, and practice them.
- d Look at these photos and make speculations and deductions about them.



6 LISTENING

- a Have you had an interesting conversation with a stranger recently? Where? What about?
- b Read about an organization called Talk to Me London. What do they aim to achieve? Does Talk to Me London sound like a good idea to you?

TALK TO ME LONDON



What's the idea?

Why talk?

Stories

Get started!

Talk to Me London is all about finding ways for people to talk to each other. We know that talking brings about many benefits, from a greater sense of well-being to friendlier communities, and increased opportunities. Think about it—just one conversation can inspire us, reassure us, or brighten up our day. Our vision is to build a friendlier city through encouraging small conversations between strangers.



Note-taking

A good way of taking notes when you are listening to a talk, a lecture, or an interview is to try to write down the key words that you hear. These are the "content" words (usually nouns or verbs) that will help you remember the important information.

- c **4.8** Listen to an interview with Polly Akhurst, one of the founders of Talk to Me London. Make notes under these headings.

The Talk to Me London pin
How Polly has benefited from talking to strangers
Mediterranean countries and Madrid
Her reaction to negative media coverage
What she would say to people who don't want to talk



- d Compare your notes with a partner and agree upon the main points under each heading. Then listen again. Can you add anything to consolidate your notes?



7 SPEAKING

- a Read some online comments about Talk to Me London. How do you think each person feels about the project?

say [hello@talktomelondon](https://www.talktomelondon.com)

Posts Top / All



Alex I only lived in London for three months, but I experienced my fair share of conversations with people on random benches or at train stations late at night, etc. If you want unfriendly, try Los Angeles. Honestly, I've lived here for almost a decade, but it still drives me insane. You could spend all day, every day, in the same coffee shop and you'd die, decades later, before any of the other regulars even acknowledged your presence! [#talktomelondon](#)



Mark London is no different from most cities in this respect. It's an unwritten rule, you don't talk to strangers and they don't talk to you. I can imagine few things worse than someone trying to engage me in small talk on my morning commute. You keep to your private bubble and I'll keep to mine. That's how we like it. [#talktomelondon](#)



Bella I just don't get this—London unfriendly, nobody talks to a stranger? Ridiculous. Maybe those who find London unfriendly are in fact the ones who are unfriendly, and unwilling to initiate a conversation. No problem for many of us. [#talktomelondon](#)

- e 4.9 Listen to four true stories from the Talk to Me London website. Who started a conversation, and who was approached by someone else?

James Anneka Philippa Alise

- f Now listen again and match the four people to the information about the conversations. Write **Al**, **An**, **Ja**, or **Ph**.

- 1 ☐ met someone she knew who she hadn't seen for a long time.
- 2 ☐ talked to someone who had recently come to London.
- 3 ☐ was surprised that the other person was happy to talk.
- 4 ☐ was unexpectedly given something.
- 5 ☐ talked to four different people one after another.
- 6 ☐ didn't expect anyone to talk to her.
- 7 ☐ was given a suggestion about how to make the most of traveling time.
- 8 ☐ ended up talking to a whole group of people.

- g If you were visiting London, would you wear a Talk to Me London pin? Why (not)?

- b 4.10 Look at some useful phrases for giving your opinion in English. Underline the words that you think have extra stress. Listen and check.

Emphasizing that something is your own opinion

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 I'd say that... | 6 In my view,... |
| 2 If you ask me,... | 7 I feel that... |
| 3 Personally, I think that... | 8 My feeling is that... |
| 4 Personally speaking, ... | 9 As far as I'm concerned, ... |
| 5 In my opinion, ... | |

- c Answer these questions in small groups. Try to use the language from the box to express your opinions.

- 1 Do people in your town or city tend to talk to complete strangers, or would it be considered odd?
- 2 Which cities or regions in your country have a reputation for being friendly or unfriendly? Do you agree?
- 3 Have you ever been to a city or country that struck you as particularly friendly or unfriendly?
- 4 "You keep to your private bubble and I'll keep to mine." Do you think this is a good approach to city life?

modal verbs: must, may, might, can't, should, ought

- Ariana **must be** very well off—she has an enormous house.
You **must have seen** him—he was standing right in front of you!
 - They **can't be playing** very well—they're losing 3–0.
You **can't / couldn't have spent** very long on this essay—you've only written 100 words.
 - I haven't seen the sales manager today. He **may / might / could be** out of the office.
The keys of the storage cabinet have disappeared. Do you think someone **may / might / could have taken** them?
He **may / might not have heard** the message I left.
 - If I mail the letter today, it **should / ought to arrive** on Friday.
I mailed the letter a week ago. It **should / ought to have arrived** by now.
- As well as using *must* for obligation, we also use *must* + base form to say that we are almost sure something is true about the present and *must have* + past participle to say that we are almost sure something was true or happened in the past.
 - We use *can't* + base form to say that we are almost sure that something isn't true in the present and *can't have / couldn't have* + past participle to say that we are almost sure that something didn't happen / wasn't true in the past.
 - We don't use *must not / must not have* with this meaning.
 - We use *may / might / could* + base form and *may have / might have / could have* + past participle to say that we think it's possible that something is true in the present, or was true / happened in the past.
 - We only use *may not* or *might not* to talk about a negative possibility. NOT *couldn't*
 - We use *should / ought to* + base form to describe a situation we expect to happen. We use *should have / ought to have* + past participle to describe a situation we would expect to have happened in the past.

Base form or continuous base form after modals?

He **must work** really hard. He **never gets** home before 9:00 p.m.
(= deduction about a habitual action)

There's a light on in his office. He **must still be working**.
(= deduction about an action in progress at the moment of speaking)

adjectives and adverbs for speculation

- He's **bound / sure to** be here in a minute. He left an hour ago.
She's **sure / bound to** know. She's an expert on the subject.
 - I think she's **likely / unlikely to** agree to our proposal.
It is **likely / unlikely that** the government will raise interest rates this year.
 - She'll **definitely pass** the exam. She's worked really hard.
She **definitely won't** pass the exam. She hasn't done any work at all.
He'll **probably be** here around 8:00. He usually leaves work at 7:30.
He **probably won't be** here until about 8:15. He's stuck in a traffic jam.
- bound* and *sure* are adjectives. We use *be bound* or *be sure* + infinitive to say that we think something is certain to be true or to happen.
 - likely* and *unlikely* are also adjectives (not adverbs). We can use subject + *be likely / unlikely* + infinitive, or *it is likely / unlikely* + that + clause.
 - definitely* and *probably* are adverbs. They go before a main verb and after the auxiliary if there is one in $\boxed{+}$ sentences and before the auxiliary in $\boxed{-}$ sentences.
 - With *be* they go after the verb in $\boxed{+}$ sentences and before the verb in $\boxed{-}$ sentences, e.g., *He's probably Canadian. The painting definitely isn't genuine.*

- Right (✓) or wrong (X)? Correct the mistakes in the **highlighted phrases**.
Jim didn't leave work until 6:00, so **he won't likely be here before 7:00.** X
Jim didn't leave work until 6:00, so he isn't likely to be here before 7:00.
 - My glasses aren't in their usual place. **Someone must move them.**
 - A Do you know where Ann is?
B **She should be in the library.** That's where she said she was going.
 - A What's that noise in the garage?
B **I think it can be** the neighbor's cat.
 - I'm sure Brazil will win tonight. **They're unlikely to lose** three times in a row.
 - I think you should delete that photo of Tina. **She won't definitely like it.**
 - Julian is bound be late**—he always is.
 - No one's answering the phone at the store. **I'd say they've probably gone home.**
 - I don't think Marta has gone to bed yet. **I think she must still study.**
 - It's very likely that the boss will retire** in a year or two.
- Rewrite the sentences using the **bold word**.
Perhaps Luke has gotten lost. He has no sense of direction. **might**
Luke **might have gotten lost**. He has no sense of direction.
 - I don't think he'll have time to stop by and see us. He has a very tight schedule. **probably**
He _____. He has a very tight schedule.
 - I'm not sure she'll ever get over the breakup. **may**
She _____ the breakup.
 - They will probably have heard the news by now. **ought**
They _____ now.
 - I didn't leave my credit card in the restaurant. I remember putting it in my wallet. **can't**
I _____. I remember putting it in my wallet.
 - I'm sure your sister will like the scarf—it's just her style. **bound**
Your sister _____. It's just her style.
 - The company director probably won't resign, despite the disastrous sales figures. **unlikely**
The company director _____, despite the disastrous sales figures.
 - I'm sure he was in love with her, otherwise he wouldn't have married her. **must**
He _____, otherwise he wouldn't have married her.
 - Are you sure you locked the back door? **definitely**
Did _____ lock the back door?
 - According to press reports, the couple will probably get divorced soon. **likely**
According to press reports, it's _____ soon.

➔ p.38

1 SOUNDS

- a 4.1 All the words in the list can be both nouns and regular verbs. Many of them are onomatopoeic (they sound like the sound they describe). Listen to the sounds and the words.



bang /bæŋ/ buzz /bʌz/ click /klik/ crash /kræʃ/
 creak /kriːk/ crunch /krʌntʃ/ drip /drɪp/ hiss /hɪs/
 honk /hɒŋk/ hum /hʌm/ rattle /rætl/ roar /rɔː/
 screech /skriːtʃ/ slam /slæm/ slurp /slɜːp/ sniff /snɪf/
 snore /snɔː/ splash /splæʃ/ tap /tæp/ tick /tɪk/
 whistle /ˈwɪsl/

- b Complete the **Sounds** column with the words in the list.

Sounds

- 1 This clock has a very loud .
- 2 Don't ! Get a tissue and blow your nose.
- 3 To get the new software, just on the "download" icon.
- 4 There was a as he jumped into the swimming pool.
- 5 Did you hear that ? It sounded like a gun.
- 6 I heard a floorboard and I knew somebody had come into the room.
- 7 I could hear the of a fly, but I couldn't see it anywhere.
- 8 I hate people who at me when I slow down at a yellow light.
- 9 When I'm nervous, I often my fingers on the table.
- 10 Don't your soup! Eat it quietly.
- 11 The snake reared its head and gave an angry .
- 12 Please turn the faucet off all the way, otherwise it'll .
- 13 We could hear the of the crowd in the soccer stadium from our hotel.
- 14 Some of the players continued playing because they hadn't heard the .
- 15 I don't remember the words of the song, but I can the tune.
- 16 Please don't the door. Close it gently.
- 17 I heard the of their feet walking through the crisp snow.
- 18 I can't share a room with you if you — I won't be able to sleep.
- 19 Every time a bus or truck goes by, the windows .
- 20 I heard the of brakes as the driver tried to stop and then a loud .

tick

2 THE HUMAN VOICE

- a Match the verbs and definitions.

giggle /ˈɡɪɡl/ groan /ɡroʊn/ mumble /ˈmʌmbəl/
 scream /skriːm/ sigh /saɪ/ sob /sɒb/
 stutter /ˈstʌtər/ whisper /ˈwɪspər/ yell /jel/

- 1 scream to make a loud, high cry because you are hurt, frightened, or excited
- 2 (at somebody) to shout loudly, e.g., because you are angry
- 3 (at something) to laugh in a silly way
- 4 (to somebody) to speak very quietly, so that other people can't hear what you're saying
- 5 to speak or say something in a quiet voice in a way that is not clear
- 6 to make a long deep sound because you are in pain or annoyed
- 7 (or stammer) to speak with difficulty, often repeating sounds or words
- 8 to cry noisily, taking sudden sharp breaths
- 9 to take in and then let out a long deep breath, e.g., to show that you are disappointed or tired

- b 4.3 Listen and check.

- c Answer the questions using one of the verbs in a.

What do people do...?

- when they are nervous
- when they are terrified
- when they lose their temper
- when they are not supposed to be making any noise
- when they are amused or embarrassed
- when they speak without opening their mouth enough
- when they are relieved
- when their team misses a penalty
- when they are very unhappy about something

ACTIVATION Choose five sounds from 1 and two verbs from 2. Make the sounds for your partner to identify.

➔ p.36

