

LESSON 1

Listening and Understanding

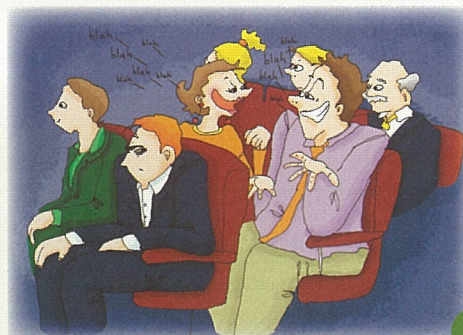
Listen to the recording, and then answer this question: Why did the writer complain to the people behind him?

Last week I went to the theatre. I had a very good seat. The play was very interesting. I did not enjoy it.



1

A young man and a young woman were sitting
5 behind me. They were talking loudly. I got very angry. I could not hear the actors.



2

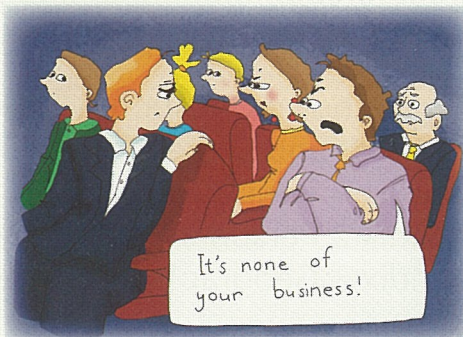
I turned round. I looked at the man and the woman angrily. They did not pay any attention. In the end, I could not bear it. I turned round again.

10 'I can't hear a word!' I said angrily.



3

'It's none of your business,' the young man said rudely. 'This is a private conversation!'



4

Guided Conversation

1 Answer questions about the text.

Example: Where did you go last week? To the theatre.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Did you have a good seat? | 6 Why couldn't you hear? |
| 2 Was it an interesting play? | 7 You turned round, didn't you? |
| 3 You enjoyed the play, didn't you? | 8 How did you look at them? |
| 4 Who was sitting behind you? | 9 They didn't pay any attention, did they? |
| 5 Could you hear what the actors were saying? | 10 What did the young man say? |

2 Ask questions about the text.

Example: I went to the theatre last week. (When?)

i) Did you go to the theatre last week?

ii) When did you go to the theatre?

- 1 I had a good seat. (What kind of?)
- 2 I saw an interesting play. (What?)
- 3 A young man and a young woman were sitting behind me. (Who?) (Where?)
- 4 They were talking loudly. (How?)
- 5 I couldn't hear the actors. (Who?)
- 6 I turned round. (What ... do?)
- 7 I looked at the man and the woman angrily. (How?)

3 Tell the story, using these key words.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1 Last week — went — theatre | 6 I turned — and looked — angrily |
| 2 didn't enjoy — play | 7 didn't pay — attention |
| 3 young man — woman — behind me | 8 In the end — couldn't bear |
| 4 talking loudly | 9 'can't hear — word' — said |
| 5 could not — actors | 10 'none — business' — man — 'private' |

4 Guided summary. Write a complete sentence in answer to each question, to make a paragraph of not more than 55 words.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Where did the writer go last week? | 6 Did he turn round or not? |
| 2 Did he enjoy the play or not? | 7 What did he say? |
| 3 Who was sitting behind him? | 8 Did the young man say, 'The play is not interesting,' or did he say, 'This is a private conversation!'? |
| 4 Were they talking loudly, or were they talking quietly? | |
| 5 Could the writer hear the actors or not? | |

5 Talk about you.

- 1 When did you last go to the theatre / cinema? What was the show?
- 2 When did you last get angry? Did you complain? What happened?
- 3 Do you often get angry? What kinds of things annoy you? Do you usually complain, or do you keep quiet?