

# **READING**

## **Sister 1**

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این مجموعه با لوگوی مرجع زبان ایرانیان  
به صورت نشر برخط و حامل به ثبت رسیده است .  
کپی برداری از آن خلاف قانون، شرع و اخلاق است و شامل پیگرد خواهد شد.

***To those who cherished me...***



## Table of Contents

Introduction.....	vii
Acknowledgment .....	xi
1. ARE YOU GETTING ENOUGH SLEEP? .....	1
2. MIKA'S HOMESTAY IN LONDON .....	4
3. THE BOOK OF THE FUTURE .....	8
4. HOW TO BE A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSPERSON .....	11
5. TONIC WATER, PLEASE.....	15
6. CELL PHONES: HANG UP OR KEEP TALKING? .....	20
7. THE GHOST PILOT .....	23
8. HELPING OTHERS .....	27
9. BASEBALL FANS AROUND THE WORLD.....	31
10. VANESSA-MAE: A 21 <sup>st</sup> CENTURY MUSICIAN.....	36
11. HOW SAFE IS NUCLEAR POWER? .....	41
12. LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.....	45
13. A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A FRESHMAN .....	51
14. GREAT PLACES TO VISIT.....	56

15. A LONG WALK HOME .....	60
16. CULTURE SHOCK .....	64
17. A YOUNG, BLIND WHIZ ON COMPUTERS .....	71
18. PRIVATE LIVES .....	76
19. FUTURE TALK .....	82
20. OUT TO LUNCH .....	89
21. PUBLIC ATTITUDES TOWARD SCIENCE .....	95
22. JOHN'S TAIWANESE WEDDING .....	102
23. CONVERSATIONAL BALL GAMES .....	109

## **Introduction**

Learning another language is a matter of trying; however, a sound, workable language learning system has to have certain qualities to be sure-fire. First and foremost, one requires constant, comprehensive **exposure**.

I'd say the thing that makes language learning easier said than done is that the keen learner has to study **continuously** until they can grasp the basic principles of **fishing**. Thus, the process is time- and energy-consuming but not that hard to grasp. We are on to learn about **axioms** not the intricate concepts of, say, philosophy or physics.

*So, expose yourselves to large quantity of authentic language data for a good period of time.*

Learners' language learning system, on the other hand, ought to be **comprehensive**, that is they need to focus not just on one or two language elements but on all the skills and sub-skills, namely listening and reading (the receptive skills); writing and speaking (the productive skills); as well as grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and culture (the sub-skills).

*So, don't just wander around the town looking desperately for conversation classes to the exclusion of other **inseparable** language components; that simply does not happen in the world.*

Finally, language learning should be **systematic** and **purposeful**. In other words, every single element of the plan is supposed to be well-designed and the goal needs to be transparent; otherwise, learners will be crushed under the heavy amalgam of books and exercises.



So, try to know, from day one, **how** to get **where**.

To this aim, the present book, along with her three sisters (Reading Book 2, 3, and 4), is willing to give learners extensive, pleasurable reading experiences (reception) through a complete user-friendly system. For this, every single word has been translated into Farsi produced on the accompanying audio files so that one can have the quickest and most efficient access to correct meaning and hence understanding<sup>1</sup> by exposing oneself to, as aforementioned, *'large quantity of authentic language data for a good period of time'*. No one can go through almost 55 thousand words<sup>2</sup> all by themselves: everybody needs help sometimes. Further, every now and then, there are notes on grammar and vocabulary on the audio for a better learning.

Last but not least, everyone had better follow their own method of learning and that no one is allowed to dictate one certain way to learn the language.

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1. In my opinion, the alleged interference of the mother tongue on the acquisition of a foreign language takes place more severely on syntactic than lexical level; my concern is the latter.

2. The total number of words in the four sister books

*So, try to discover yours, and bear in mind that practice makes perfect; this series of books is here to help you discover more about yourselves and English.*

*Ali Hoseinipur  
Spring 2016*

## **Acknowledgment**

This book is an adaptation of the texts from the following:

- *Select Readings, Pre-intermediate* by Linda Lee and Erik Gundersen, Oxford University Press, 2000

- *Select Readings, Intermediate* by Linda Lee and Erik Gundersen, Oxford University Press, 2000

I, hereby, acknowledge the above respected authors and compilers.

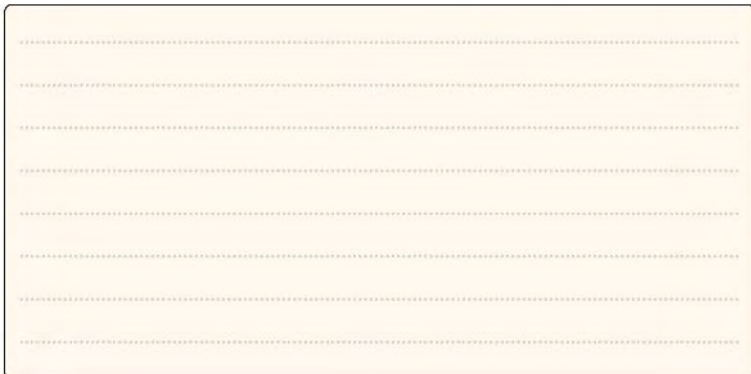


## Unit One

### ARE YOU GETTING ENOUGH SLEEP?

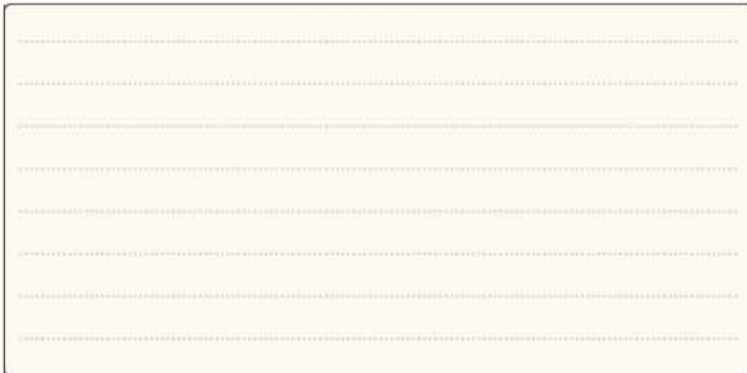
What happens if you don't get enough sleep? Randy Gardner, a high school student in the United States, wanted to find out. He designed an experiment on the effects of sleeplessness for a school science project. With doctors watching him carefully, Gardner stayed awake for 264 hours and 12 minutes. That's eleven days and nights without sleep!

What effect did sleeplessness have on Gardner? After 24 hours without sleep, Gardner started



having trouble reading and watching television. The words and pictures were too blurry. By the third day, he was having trouble doing things with his hands. By the fourth day, Gardner was hallucinating. For example, when he saw a street sign, he thought it was a person. He also imagined he was a famous football player. Over the next few days, Gardner's speech became so slurred that people couldn't understand him. He also had trouble remembering things. By the eleventh day, Gardner couldn't pass a counting test. In the middle of the test he simply stopped counting. He couldn't remember what he was doing.

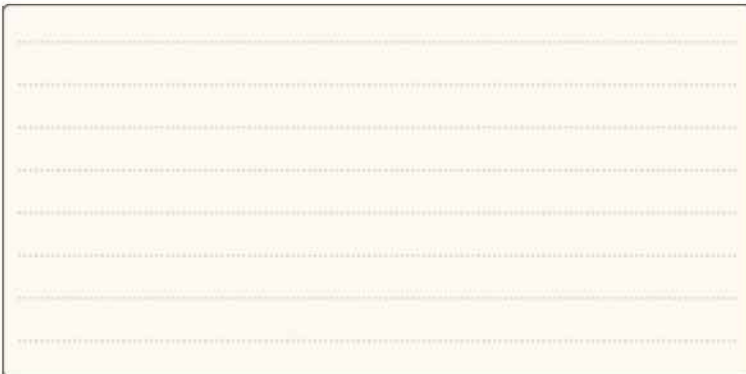
When Gardner finally went to bed, he slept for 14 hours and 45 minutes. The second night he slept for twelve hours, the third night he slept for ten and one-half hours, and by the fourth night,



he had returned to his normal sleep schedule.

Even though Gardner recovered quickly, scientists believe that going without sleep can be dangerous. They say that people should not repeat Randy's experiment. Tests on white rats have shown how serious sleeplessness can be. After a few weeks without sleep, the rats started losing their fur. And even though the rats ate more food than usual, they lost weight. Eventually the rats died.

During your lifetime, you will probably spend 25 years or more sleeping. But why? What is the purpose of sleep? Surprisingly, scientists don't know for sure. Some scientists think we sleep in order to replenish brain cells. Other scientists think that sleep helps the body to grow and to relieve stress. Whatever the reason, we know that it is important to get enough sleep.



## Unit Two

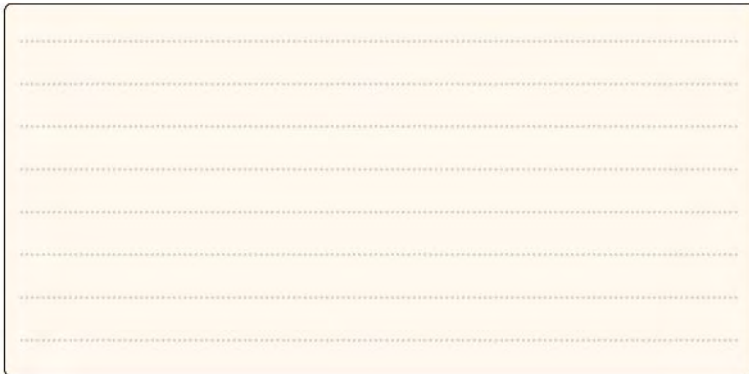
### MIKA'S HOMESTAY IN LONDON

By Mika Tanaka

*Mika Tanaka, a college student from Japan, had a wonderful homestay in London. She lived with a British family and studied English for a month.*

"What do you want for your 19<sup>th</sup> birthday?" my parents asked me. "A ring," I replied. However, instead of a ring, my parents gave me a one-month homestay in London.

On February 11<sup>th</sup>, I left Japan. On the plane, I worried about being all alone there \_ a stranger to



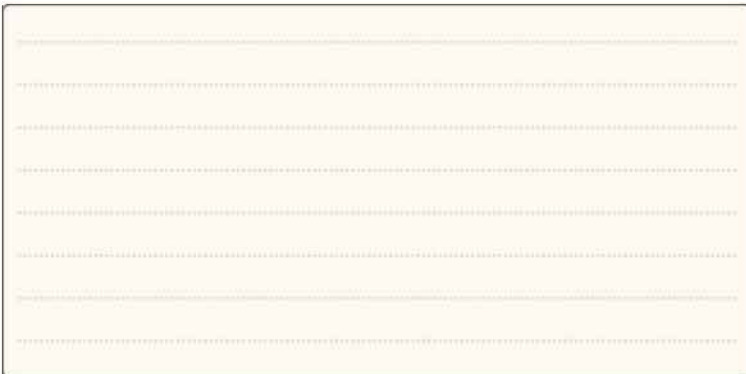


London. But when I met the Flannery family (my host family), their warm welcome made me feel at ease. Both my host father and mother were very kind and treated me like their own daughter.

### **Getting Ready to Go**

Before going to London, I did some research on English schools in London and chose Oxford House College, mainly because it had reasonable fees. Also, there weren't many Japanese students at Oxford House.

I took my parents' advice and requested that my homestay family have both a mother and a father, be native-born, non-smoking, middle-class British people, and live near a subway station. I later found that this was very good advice, since some of my friends at the English school were

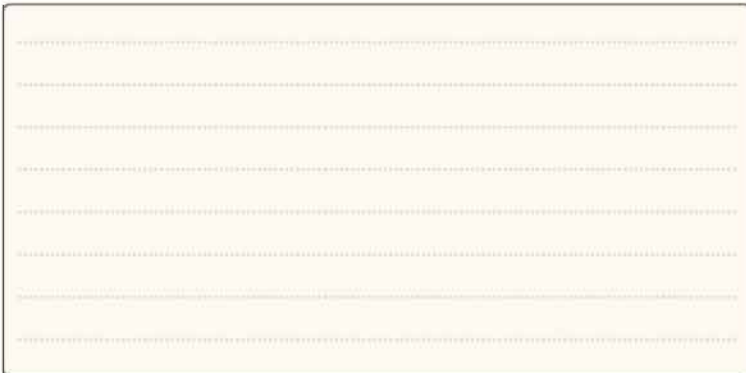


having problems with their host families.

### **Living in London**

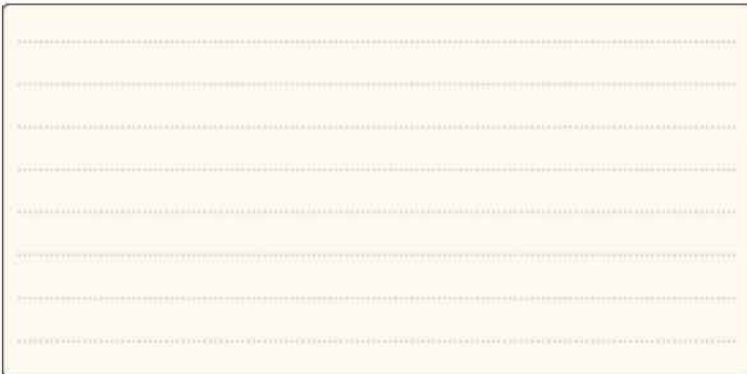
Potatoes! It took me a little time to get used to the many kinds of potato dishes served: fried potatoes, steamed potatoes, sliced potatoes, and different-colored potatoes. My host mother was a good cook. She made delicious pasta and chicken dishes and even cooked rice for me.

Nadiege, a French girl, was another homestay student living with us, and we went around London together. On Saturdays, my host family would have a party at home with friends or family. When we returned from touring London, Nadiege and I would join the party. On Saturday evenings, Mr. and Mrs. Flannery would go to their favorite pub to spend time together.



Although I selected a school with few Japanese students, there were still at least two in each class. In class, I tried to speak a lot, but many Japanese students didn't use their English very much (even if they had large vocabularies), and spoke only Japanese with their friends.

Sometimes, I asked other people their impressions of Japan. "Japanese people work too hard," said my French friend. My teacher thought that Japanese people were very rich. I did not agree with these points, but I was interested in knowing what foreign people thought. One month in London made me realize that speaking English was very important, because it is the language that people from many countries use the most. I would like to be more open-minded about people from different countries, like my host family is.

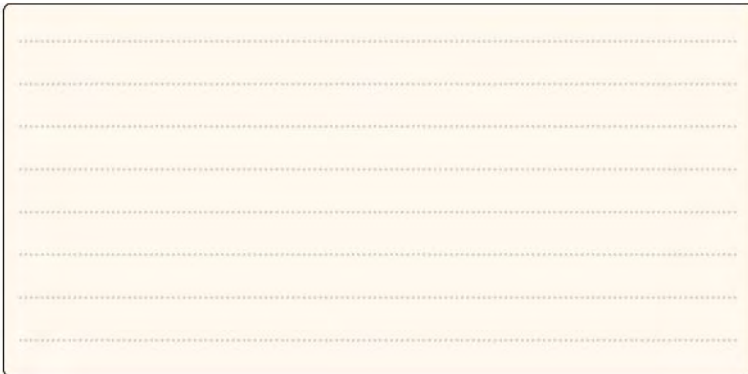


## Unit Three

### THE BOOK OF THE FUTURE

Will people still read books 100 years from now? A few years ago, many people would have said *no*. It seemed likely that computers and the Internet would replace books. Now, however, most experts think that books are here to stay.

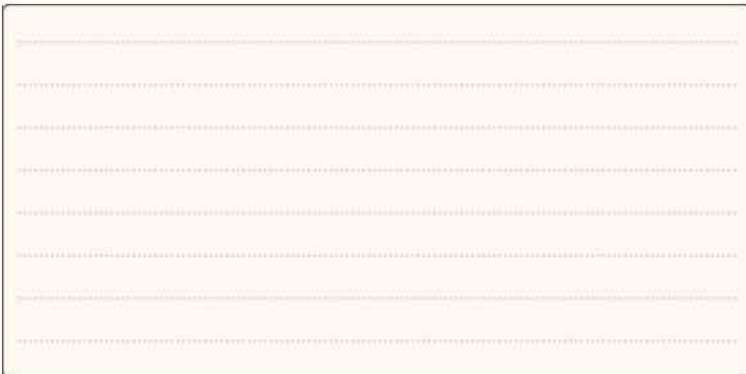
There are a number of reasons why computers won't replace books entirely. One reason is that books on paper are much cheaper than computers. Books don't need a power source either. You can read a book for as long as you want and wherever you want. You never have to worry about losing



power. Also, many people feel more comfortable reading words in a book than reading words on a computer screen. It's less tiring to the eyes.

Will books in the future be similar to the books you can buy today? The answer to that question is *no*. In the future, you may only need to buy one book. With this one book, you will be able to read novels, plays, and even today's newspaper. It will look like today's book, but it will be electronic.

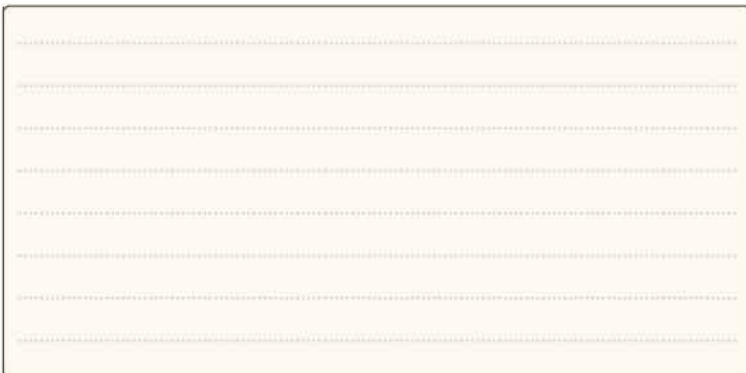
One of the people working on the book of the future is Professor Joseph Jacobson from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the U.S. Professor Jacobson's book will have a small button on the side. When you press the button, words will instantly appear on the page. When you want to read a different story, you can push the button again and a new story will quickly appear.



What is the technology behind Professor Jacobson's book? Two important inventions will make this new kind of book possible: electronic ink and radio paper. Electronic ink \_ or "e-ink" \_ is a liquid that can be printed on paper, metal, or anything else. E-ink looks and feels like printed words on paper. Unlike regular ink, however, words in e-ink are not permanent. They can be changed by pushing a button. When you push the button, all of the words on the page go away and new words appear.

The other new development is radio paper. This paper looks and feels like a page in a book. In reality, however, radio paper is made of plastic.

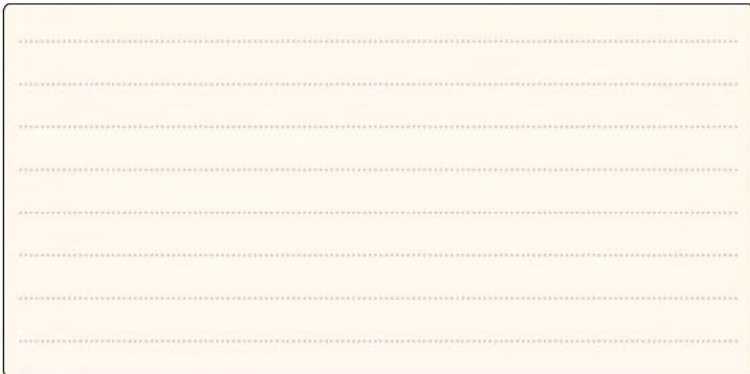
Professor Jacobson calls his book of the future "the last book". This book, he says, will be the last book you will ever need.



## Unit Four

### HOW TO BE A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSPERSON

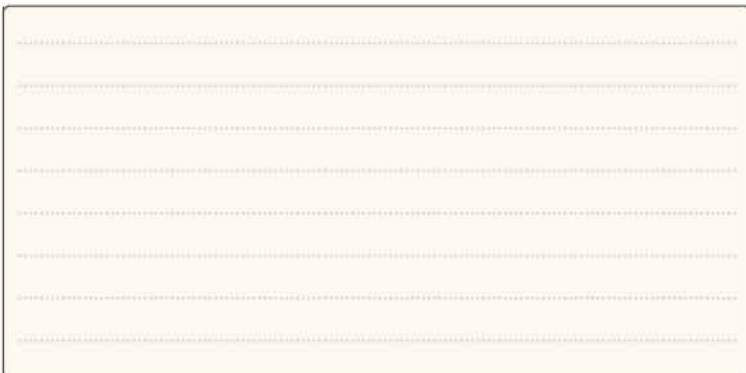
Have you ever wondered why some people are successful in business and others are not? Here's a story about one successful businessperson. He started out washing dishes and today he owns 168 restaurants. Zubair Kazi was born in Bhatkal, a small town in southwest India. His dream was to be an airplane pilot, and when he was 16 years old, he learned to fly a small plane. At the age of 23 and with just a little money in his pocket, Mr. Kazi moved to the United States. He hoped to get a job in the airplane industry in California. Instead, he



ended up working for a company that rented cars.

While Mr. Kazi was working at the car rental company, he frequently ate at a nearby KFC restaurant. To save money on food, he decided to get a job with KFC. For two months, he worked as a cook's assistant. His job was to clean the kitchen and help the cook. "I didn't like it," Mr. Kazi says, "but I always did the best I could."

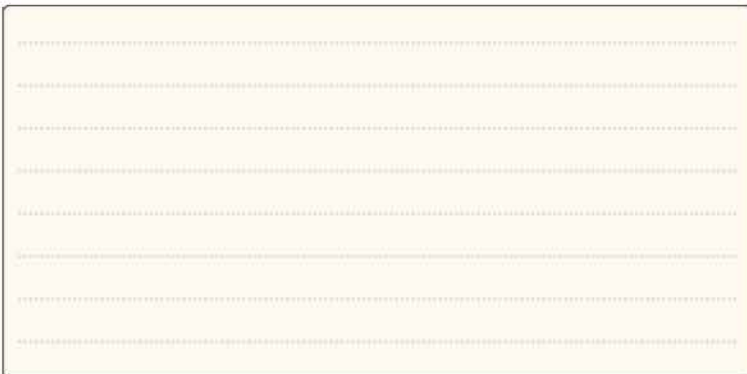
One day, Mr. Kazi's two co-workers failed to come to work. That day, Mr. Kazi did the work of all three people in the kitchen. This really impressed the owners of the restaurant. A few months later, the owners needed a manager for a new restaurant. They gave the job to Mr. Kazi. He worked hard as the manager and soon the restaurant was making a profit.





A few years later, Mr. Kazi heard about a restaurant that was losing money. The restaurant was dirty inside and the food was terrible \_ greasy and undercooked. Mr. Kazi borrowed money from a bank and bought the restaurant. For the first six months, Mr. Kazi worked in the restaurant from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week. He and his wife cleaned up the restaurant, remodeled the front of the building, and improved the cooking. They also tried hard to please the customers. If someone had to wait more than ten minutes for their food, Mrs. Kazi gave them a free soda. Before long, the restaurant was making a profit.

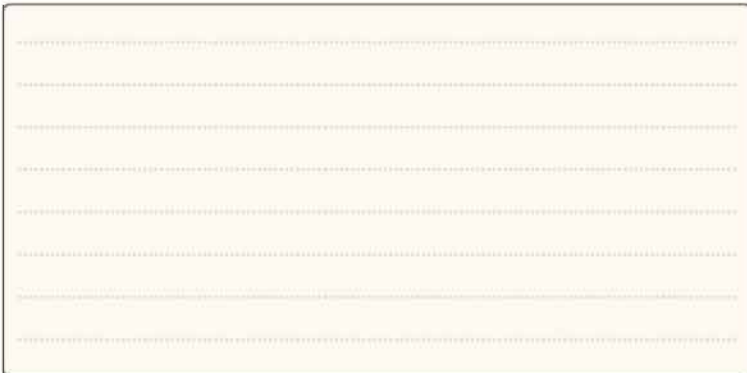
A year later, Mr. Kazi sold his restaurant for a profit. With the money he earned, he bought three more restaurants that were losing money. Again, he cleaned them up, improved the food, and retrained



the employees. Before long, these restaurants were making a profit, too.

Today Mr. Kazi owns 168 restaurants, but he isn't planning to stop there. He's looking for more poorly managed restaurants to buy. "I love it when I go to buy a restaurant and find it's a mess," Mr. Kazi says. "The only way it can go is up."

*This article was adapted from the Wall Street Journal.*

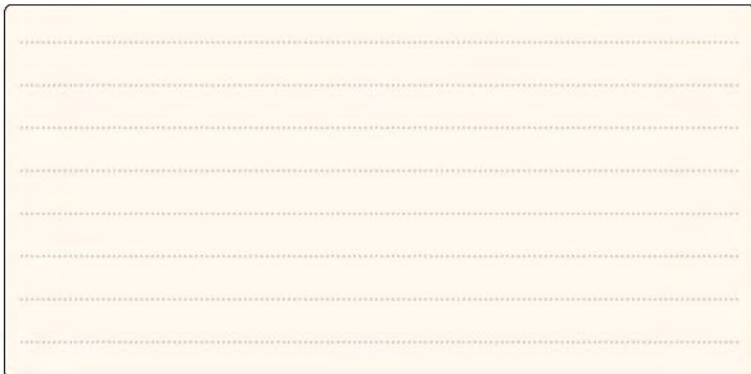


## Unit Five

### TONIC WATER, PLEASE

*Tetsuya Saruhashi grew up in Tokyo, Japan. He worked and studied for a year in Toronto, Canada. This story is based on two of Tetsuya's experiences there.*

How well do you speak English? Could you survive in an English-speaking country? Last year I went to live and study in Canada. Before going, I took several English conversation classes. I also listened to a lot of English conversation tapes and I practiced speaking English with some

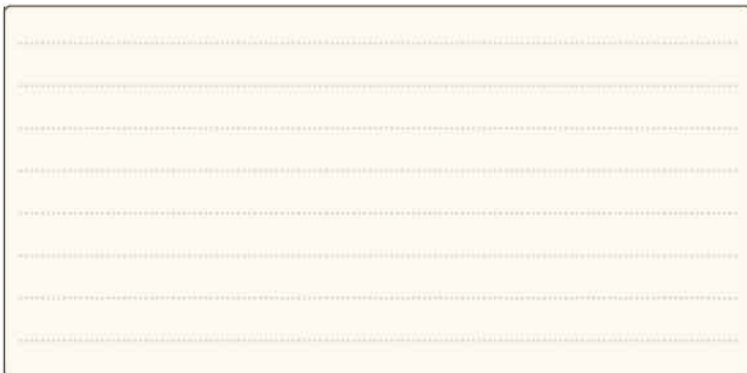


foreign friends in my country. But could I communicate with people in Canada?

During my first months in Canada, I didn't have a lot of trouble understanding people. This was a happy surprise. Unfortunately, however, Canadians couldn't always understand me. This was because of my pronunciation.

My biggest pronunciation problems were with the "v" sound and the "l" sound. For example, when I said the word *vote*, it sounded like *bote*. And when I said the word *late*, it sounded like *rate*. One day I decided to look for some volunteer work. I went to the tourist center in Toronto to ask for information about volunteering.

"Can I help you?" the woman at the tourist center asked. "Yes, I'm looking for some volunteer



work," I replied.

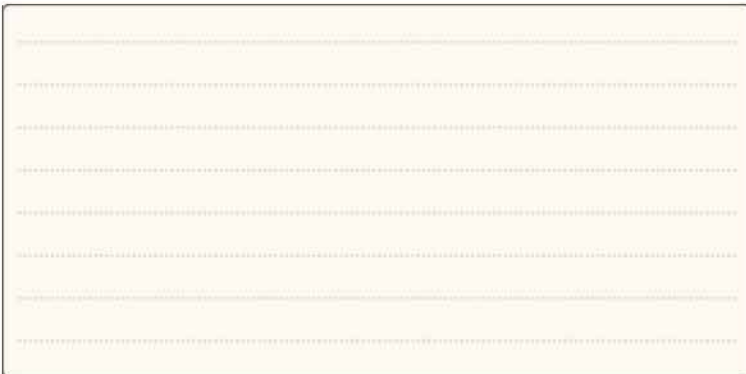
Unfortunately, I pronounced the word "volunteer" like "borunteer."

"I'm sorry," she said, "What are you looking for?"

"Volunteer work," I answered, saying "borunteer" again. She looked at me strangely and then she called to a man behind the counter.

"Can I help you?" the man asked. "Yes, I'm looking for some volunteer work," I repeated. "Could you write that for me?" he asked. I wrote the words down and he immediately understood me. After that, I spent a lot of time practicing the *v* sound and the *l* sound.

I had trouble pronouncing a few other English sounds, too. I remember a funny experience I



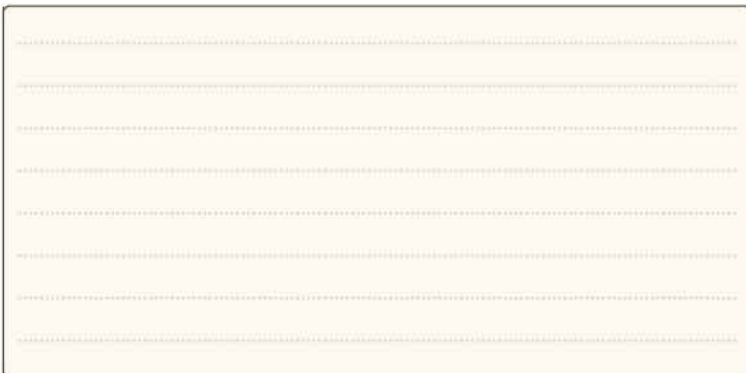
had at a night club. I wanted to get something to drink, so I went up to the bartender.

"Excuse me, tonic water, please," I said. "What?" the bartender asked. I asked, "Can I have a tonic water?" "Say it again," he responded.

I was kind of disappointed that he couldn't understand me. I repeated my request several times, but still he couldn't understand me. Then, suddenly, he opened the cash register and took out some quarters. He put the quarters on the bar and began to count them.

At first, I didn't know what he was doing. Then, suddenly, I understood. I asked for tonic water, but he thought I asked for "twenty quarters"!

I burst into laughter and said, "No, I didn't ask for twenty quarters. I just want tonic water."



The bartender seemed embarrassed. "I'm so sorry," he said to me. "The music is so loud."

Now, whenever I ask for tonic water, I remember this incident and I look forward to the bartender's response.

