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Introduction

Welcome to Dialogue!

This course uses actual television interviews with international experts on topics of general interest as the basis for focused listening practice. This advanced, real-world content is suitable for higher-level learners preparing for university lectures, discussion groups, conference participation or international business presentations and discussions in English.

Significantly, Dialogue presents students with several varieties of English and a variety of cultural perspectives, especially from China. As China becomes increasingly important on the global stage, there is an urgent need to better understand and express Chinese perspectives and how to improve cross cultural communications. With the cooperation of CCTV (China Central Television) News, DynEd is pleased to be able to offer you this course.

With DynEd’s unique interactive design, you can study Dialogue at your own pace. At any point in the program, you can ask for repetition, record and monitor yourself, and watch how the participants interact with each other.

Each of the three dialogues is presented in 3 parts. Each part provides three kinds of lessons: Presentation, Interactive Listening, and Language Skills. The language in each lesson is reinforced with practice questions and teaching responses to help build your listening comprehension and language skills.

For further study at an advanced level, we recommend the following DynEd courses: New Dynamic English (Modules 7 and 8); Dynamic Business English; Functioning in Business; and Advanced Listening. These courses can be studied alongside Dialogue for more variety and effectiveness.
How to Do a Lesson

Presentation Lessons

The Presentation lessons give you practice in listening for main ideas, taking notes and maintaining your focus while viewing each part of the dialogue. Each part varies in length from 5 to 10 minutes, which you can see straight through. You may fast forward or fast rewind, but you cannot repeat individual sentences. At the end of the presentation, you will be asked a main idea question. If you don't know the answer, click the Listen Again button to see the video again. If you want to hear the question again, click on the Repeat button, which is below the answer choices.

You are encouraged to take notes. Taking notes will help you stay focused. Your notes will also help you answer the main idea questions. Like in other types of lessons, the questions in the Presentation lessons may vary each time you study the lesson.

Interactive Listening Lessons

In these lessons you can stop and repeat each sentence as many times as you wish. As you go through the video, you will be asked to answer three types of questions. Each type of question develops a different listening skill. Please note that each time you go through the video, the mix and number of questions will change.

The first type of question is for active listening. It develops your ability to search for one particular piece of information while listening. In this format, you are given a question before you listen to a short segment, and your goal is to listen carefully for the answer to that question.
If you have trouble finding the information you need to answer the question, click on the **Listen Again** button.

The second type of question is for detailed listening. It develops your ability to understand and remember details. In this format, you will be asked a question after you have heard the video segment. To repeat a question, click on the Repeat button. The **abc** button will show the question in written form.

The last question type is for the relationship of ideas. It develops your ability to determine how two or more ideas are related. For this question, you will hear one or two sentences from the video. Then you will be asked to determine how the sentences or parts of a sentence are related or linked to each other.

For example, does the second sentence provide a contrast to the first, or is it an explanation? Is there a cause and effect relationship? Often, discourse markers such as "therefore," "for example," and "on the other hand," can help determine these relationships.

**Language Skills Lessons**

There are two types of **Language Skills Lessons**: **Vocabulary and Idioms** and **Grammar Review**. It is important to do these lessons after going through the Presentation and Interactive Listening lessons, which build a contextual framework to support the exercises in the Language Skills lessons.

The **Vocabulary and Idioms** lessons help build and extend your vocabulary base. The exercises are designed to develop your ability to guess the meanings of words and idiomatic expressions from their contexts.

When doing these exercises, try to guess the meaning of the target word or phrase before you look at the answer choices on the screen. Then, when you look at the choices, choose
the one that is closest to the meaning you guessed. Click on the Repeat button to watch
the video again.

To make the most of these exercises, it is a good idea to keep a written log of new
vocabulary. Review these lessons often. For a list of vocabulary items, please refer to
Vocabulary Overview on page 9.

The Grammar Review lessons focus on the interplay between grammar and vocabulary.
To complete these click and drag exercises, click on the words at the bottom of the screen
and drag them to the correct place in the sentence.

You will find some sentences to be easy, while others may require a lot of thought. If you
are having trouble with a sentence, keep trying different combinations of words until you
find the right answers. Please note that the exercises will vary each time you go through
the lesson.

Target grammar structures range from relatively simple verb tenses combinations to more
advanced combinations involving subordinate clauses and other structures. In most cases
only one correct choice makes sense for a blank.
Contents of Dialogue

Dialogue 1: Higher Education in a Globalized Era

Chinese Moderator Yang Rui discusses important issues in tertiary education with Professor Nicholas Dirks, Executive Vice-President for Arts and Sciences at Columbia University. Issues such as academic freedom, the role of the liberal arts and the core curriculum in education and how the best universities can better prepare students for life in the real world make this dialogue thought provoking and filled with useful vocabulary.

Dialogue 2: Environmental Protection

Moderator Tian Wei leads a discussion of how to deal with environmental and climate change issues. Her guests are Senator Loren Legarda, from the Republic of the Philippines, Ma Jun, Director of the Institute for Public and Environmental Affairs in China, and Bill Ginn, Chief Conservation Programs Officer with The Nature Conservancy from the United States. This dialogue brings in useful vocabulary dealing with energy, greenhouse gases, carbon trading and the importance of economic incentives to motivate businesses to protect and preserve the environment.
Dialogue 3: Issues on Aging

Moderator Yang Rui explores how China is dealing with the important issue of social security with three guests: Professor Hu Jiye, Associate Professor with The Center for Law and Economics, China University of Political Science and Law, and Europeans Mr. Grayson Clarke, Fund Manager Expert and Mr. Steve Barker, Unemployment Insurance Expert.

This dialogue explores how China is preparing for its aging population and deals with economic and political issues. This dialogue is the most challenging of the three dialogues.
Vocabulary Overview

Total number of words in Dialogue: 21,192

Total number of individual vocabulary items: 2,313 in 1,119 word families

- 82.9% from the most frequent 1000 words (1 K Words)
- 3.82% from the 1001-2000 list of most frequent words (2K Words)
- 8.57% from the Academic Word List (AWL Words*), and not included in 1K or 2K lists
- 4.71% Content and other words not included above

Note: 1K Words are not listed below, since students at this level should already be familiar with them. *AWL Words are commonly found in academic texts in the following areas: Arts, Commerce, Law and Science (Coxhead List)

The lists below give the word families for 2K, AWL, and Off-List vocabulary items used in Dialogue. The bracketed number gives the number of occurrences of each word family in the video. A list of some of the idioms used in Dialogue is at the bottom.

2K word families: [171]

AWL word families: [271]

**Idioms**

be on an equal footing_[1] come down to_[1] come into play_[1] come under fire_[1] come up with_[1] fall victim to_[1] get stuck in_[1] give rise to_[1] ground-breaking_[1] has in part to do with_[1] hold dear to_[2] in absolute terms_[1] in terms of_[10] moral high ground_[1] ...not part of the vocabulary_[1] pointing fingers_[1] take the lead_[1] the cradle of_[1] the jewels of_[1] to be the cornerstone of something_[1] to bear a heavy burden_[1] to come up with_[1] to cut corners_[1] to go awry_[1] to opt for_[2] to peel away_[1] to put all eggs in one basket_[2] to revolve around_[1] when it comes to_[1] zero sum game_[1]