

## THEME 1 SCHOOL LIFE LISTENING SKILL

**1. Listen to Mrs. Calmer, a psychologist, talking about school, everyday life and free time. Tick the expressions you hear. (Tapescript 1.3)**

**Presenter :** Well, Mrs. Calmer, do you think today's school prepares students for real life?

**Mrs. Calmer :** Actually, it does. Most people may disagree but it does.

**Presenter :** How does that happen?

**Mrs. Calmer :** Well... Students have to be at school at a certain time. It is the same for adults. They have to be at work. And there are rules at school, just like in everyday life. You are not allowed to skip courses or go out whenever you wish. They have to stick to the timetable. And if you are not the boss, you are not allowed to leave work at any time. There are timetables as well. What about working people? It is the same. There are other rules for them. If you violate, they punish you at school and at work. And there are behavioral patterns at school. Students and teachers should be polite and respect each other. It is the same at work or on the street. If you hit, insult or disrespect another person, you may go to prison.

**Presenter :** What about exams? How will you relate them to everyday life?

**Mrs. Calmer :** Oh! That's a nice question. Life is full of exams. What do you do before an important meeting, presentation or partnership contract? You prepare for that. You gather data, prepare slide shows, portfolios, memorize some figures, and of course you may feel stressed out. It is the same for students. They feel nervous and they do revision. So exams prepare students for everyday challenges. And successful students get better scores. Successful people achieve better success. They both have better reputations. They get self-confident. If you have a better CV, big companies employ you for higher salaries and if you have better scores and achievements at school, better universities will accept you. As you see, there are a lot of similarities.

**Presenter :** Interesting. Could you give some more examples?

**Mrs. Calmer :** With pleasure. Take classmates. Can students get on well with each other all the time? Of course, no. They may not choose their classmates. But they manage to find a way of sharing the same time and space. Similarly, you cannot choose the people in your office or apartment buildings but you have to get on in a way.

**Presenter :** Are there any similarities in free time, I mean outside school or work?

**Mrs. Calmer :** A lot of. Most students hang around with classmates. And similarly, adults spend time with friends from the office or work. Both students and adults go to the movies in groups from school or work. And they have dinners together.

___ be at school	___ skip courses	___ skip breakfast	___ stick to the route
___ stick to the timetable	___ have dinners together	___ chat	___ respect each other
___ gather data	___ prepare portfolios	___ argue with friends	___ do revision
___ everyday challenges	___ everyday problems	___ successful artists	___ get better scores
___ get on well	___ hang around	___ go to the park	___ go to the movies