

UNIT 30 REVIEW TEST LISTENING SCRIPT

- Taiki:** Kev, I've been living in the United States for almost three years now, and I still don't understand some things about your culture.
- Kevin:** I sometimes don't understand it myself, Taiki.
- Taiki:** So what am I supposed to do?
- Kevin:** First thing: Be patient. Don't get too upset if you make a mistake. It's better to learn by experience than to be afraid and not communicate with people.
- Taiki:** It's not really what I *say* that's the problem. It's more about what I *do*.
- Kevin:** For example?
- Taiki:** Well, a few days ago, I was walking out of our apartment building, and someone held the door open for me. I thought it was nice, so I said thank you—I heard you are supposed to say that. A few days later, I opened the door for some woman in the building, and she just put her head down and didn't say anything. She actually looked a little mad.
- Kevin:** Well, some people don't like those things. I wouldn't worry about it.
- Taiki:** OK, then I've also got an issue with hugging: When I saw Paul and his new boyfriend—I think his name is Jordan—Jordan gave me a hug...and it was the first time meeting him!
- Kevin:** Some people like to do that.
- Taiki:** YOU didn't do that the first time I met you.
- Kevin:** No, but it's not because I wasn't supposed to. I usually just greet people with a handshake the first time I meet them.
- Taiki:** In Japan, people are never supposed to hug when they meet for the first time.
- Kevin:** What are you supposed to do the first time you meet someone? Shake hands?
- Taiki:** Yes, that is OK, but you are also supposed to bow at the waist, especially if the person is older than you. You can also say "konichiwa," "ohayo gozaimasu," or "konbanwa."

Kevin: You have to say all those things?

Taiki: Well, you're supposed to say "ohayo gozaimasu" in the morning and "konbanwa" in the evening. You can use "konichiwa" whenever.

Kevin: I see. I'll have a lot to remember if I ever go to Japan.