

MIDTERM TEST LISTENING SCRIPT

Anna: Hey, Geoff! How're things going with you?

Geoff: Oh, hey there, Anna. You know, things are going as well as they can.

Anna: You seem a little upset. What's up?

Geoff: Med school. I have so much work to do day in and day out. I've been working about 40-hour weeks and then taking classes as well. So my studies plus my work makes almost an 80-hour week. I've got very little money, a lot of loans, and it's not going to get any easier.

Anna: Well, you have to work hard for the things you want.

Geoff: Yea, I get that, but I'm not sure it's worth the effort ... and the money. By the time I finish school, I'll be thirty, and I'll have taken on about two hundred thousand dollars in debt. And then, I'll have to be an intern for a few years, making barely any money at all and working insanely long hours. I'm thinking about quitting.

Anna: Quitting? You can't quit now. You've already been in med school for a few years—Columbia Med School—one of the best in the country! You can't quit now. You've put in so much effort: four years double majoring in biochemistry and genetics for your undergraduate degree. And over the last three years you've spent countless hours studying and working to get to this point. If you quit now, you'll have wasted all that time!

Geoff: But I'm terribly unhappy. I spend so much time at work or in class, and then I have to spend my free time studying. It's been like that for years. I haven't even been able to have a serious relationship with a girl for years. I'd like to at least be able to find time to go on a date or two.

Anna: I see what you mean, but dating in this city isn't all that great—believe me.

Geoff: I'll have to believe you because I don't have time to find out for myself!

- Anna:** Well, all right. So what are you going to do if you quit med school? Work at the restaurant downtown with all those rude waiters? It's easy for a doctor to get a job, but not a half-doctor, which is what you'll be.
- Geoff:** Very funny, Anna. I'm sure I'll be able to find something at a research facility or something like that.
- Anna:** A research facility? For any decent job at a research facility, you definitely need a PhD or something. And you don't have a PhD.
- Geoff:** Well, I had worked at a lab in Wisconsin before I moved to New York. I'm sure that will be useful.
- Anna:** Yea, maybe. But you were an intern then. To get any sort of higher position at a research lab, you'll need an advanced degree. I really don't think you should quit medical school. It's just a few more years of hard work.
- Geoff:** We'll see. Anyway, I gotta get to work. I have to serve people food so that I can spend my free time studying.
- Anna:** Oh, stop it. Nobody feels bad for you. You're intelligent and hardworking, and you'll be a doctor in a few years. Bye!