

UNIT 12 REVIEW TEST LISTENING SCRIPT

Dr. Sanders: Please, come in.

Fred: Hello, Dr. Sanders. I'm Fred Young. I emailed you about meeting.

Dr. Sanders: Ahh yes, Fred, you're a bit early. But, please, come in and have a seat.

Fred: Thanks.

Dr. Sanders: So, how are you finding your first semester here at Columbia?

Fred: It's been pretty good. I've already made a couple of good friends and I enjoy meeting new people every day. I'm also in love with New York City. There's so much more to do here than back in Colorado.

Dr. Sanders: Well, there are certainly different kinds of things to do here. Colorado is a great state. There's a great deal of hiking and outdoor activities that you can do there year-round. It's pretty tough to do that here in the city.

Fred: Yea, but that's what the summer is for I guess.

Dr. Sanders: Indeed. So, how about your classes? How are they going?

Fred: Well, yes, that's why I emailed... I didn't think they were that difficult at first. But then midterms happened. I got three Bs and a couple of Cs on my tests. I've never had such low scores in my life. I'm a bit nervous about the rest of the semester. I'm beginning to think this school might be too difficult for me.

Dr. Sanders: Well, don't let one round of bad test scores convince you of that. You are taking a few required courses this semester—tell me, do you like what you are learning?

Fred: Well, not really. The History of Western Civilization and Philosophy are quite boring. I really don't enjoy learning about the ancient Greeks. I came here to study finance and economics.

Dr. Sanders: Yes, but part of getting a degree here means that you have to take a number of foundation courses, some of which might be uninteresting to you. It's part of the curriculum.

Fred: I understand. And I do want to excel in those courses, but so far some of my classes and all of my grades have been subpar.

Dr. Sanders: How are you studying for those classes, especially the ones that you don't like as much?

Fred: Just like I did in high school. I go to class, I do most of the readings, and I do the assignments.

Dr. Sanders: And...

Fred: And... then I did poorly on my tests.

Dr. Sanders: Well, Fred, this is *college*, not *high school*. Everyone here has the same amount of intelligence as you, and a great deal of them are very interested in excelling at even the most uninteresting of subjects.

Fred: So, what do you suggest?

Dr. Sanders: Well, a couple of things: First, you're going to have to motivate yourself to do better. Remember *why* you are doing all of this studying; it's to do well and set yourself up for more options in the future. A well-rounded education helps you achieve this. Also, I'd suggest finding some study partners. Working with a few people might allow you to get more perspectives on class material, forcing you to engage with it on a deeper level. Challenging yourself will make you more of a critical thinker. Deep critical thinking is what the professor who grades your exams and papers wants to see. They don't want to see you repeating what someone has already said a number of times over.

Fred: Yea, that was the comment on one of my midterm papers. The professor said that my analysis was too "surface level." I had never heard that about my writing before. I guess I have to get really deep...