

UNIT 15 REVIEW TEST LISTENING SCRIPT

- Libby:** Hey, I'm glad I finally got a hold of you! Have you been really busy with final exams?
- Alison:** Yeah, I have an oral presentation on Wednesday and a research paper due on Thursday... but I'm really happy our schedules finally worked out so we can video chat! It's been so long! How is your semester abroad in Dubai? Last time, you sounded really happy.
- Libby:** Yea, it's OK—I'm learning a lot, but I haven't been feeling so great about my decision.
- Alison:** What's wrong?
- Libby:** I guess I'm just homesick. I thought Dubai would be a great place for my marketing internship since there are lots of major corporations that have offices here, and there are so many foreigners who work here. I assumed being here was similar to being in Los Angeles, since L.A. has a lot of immigrants from all over the world, too.
- Alison:** Have you made any friends? How are your colleagues?
- Libby:** When I first arrived, I met some people who I thought were really nice. The Americans who work at my company helped me get settled, and I was happy to make friends so easily. But now, they're always busy, even if just for a quick coffee break! I don't know if I've done something to alienate myself from them.
- Alison:** Well, I remember when I was living in Japan something similar happened to me. A lot of foreigners, most of whom were from Canada, were really welcoming and helpful. But after a few weeks, I saw them less and less. I think they probably just wanted to give me space so I could explore the city on my own and be independent. I don't think it's personal. Maybe try to hang out with other expats. And you could also email people in advance to schedule coffee or lunch.
- Libby:** Yea, I'll try that. Maybe I'll invite people to have dinner at a restaurant on the weekend.
- Alison:** How is the food?
- Libby:** I've eaten so much rice and chicken, or rice and fish, or rice and lamb during my first month here! It's the traditional food in this region—rice and some kind of meat. I'm

really tired of rice. There are plenty of other dining options, though, most of which are convenient, like kebabs, pasta, sandwiches, salads.

Alison: Have you visited Burj al Arab, the triangular building that looks like a sail?

Libby: No, I haven't. It's not free to visit, so I've only seen it from a block away. It costs money to enter the building, which doesn't interest me that much. I have gone to Burj Khalifa, though.

Alison: Is that the building built near the shopping mall with the aquarium and indoor skiing?

Libby: Yes! It's called Dubai Mall, it's enormous and has so many luxury shops! But there's no indoor skiing—you're probably thinking of Mall of the Emirates, which has a theme park called Ski Dubai. Dubai Mall has an indoor ice skating rink.

Alison: I can see why you're homesick, Libby... this is all very different from L.A. I mean, there are expensive stores and boutiques in Beverly Hills and many parts of Los Angeles, but definitely no giant malls with skiing. It all sounds very foreign and overwhelming, too.

Libby: You know, originally, I thought this was all so cool and amazing, but it's just an overpriced novelty. Most people here don't have the income to spend on frivolous shopping. Hey, I have to go, but let's talk again soon!

Alison: I'll see you really soon—you'll be home in two more months!