

UNIT 21 REVIEW TEST LISTENING SCRIPT

- Jason:** So Amy, have you told your parents yet?
- Amy:** Not yet. I actually wrote my mom a letter, but I still haven't sent it to her. Do you want to see it?
- Jason:** Sure... Oh, I can't understand any of this.
- Amy:** Oh, I thought I saw you texting your parents in Vietnamese before.
- Jason:** That definitely wasn't me. Just like you, I also only speak to my parents in English. They still have accents, but they don't really have any problems communicating with me or at their jobs. So, did you write this yourself?
- Amy:** Well, I wanted to talk to my mom about everything that has been happening. I asked my friend Vince to help me write a letter to my parents. He actually speaks and writes Vietnamese very well. Most people from Vietnam wouldn't be able to tell that he was born here. He was so helpful in suggesting ways to improve the letter.
- Jason:** Why can't you just talk to your mom about it directly?
- Amy:** I'm not on the best of terms with either of my parents right now. I've tried talking to my mom about it, but it's almost as if she doesn't want to acknowledge anything I try to tell her. I figure if it's in writing, it will be harder to ignore. Also, language has always been a challenge for them and me. My eldest sister is really the only one in our family who can communicate easily with them. Although I can speak Vietnamese pretty well, I still can't keep up with a lot of in-depth conversations, and I don't really know enough vocabulary to understand more than just everyday topics. My parents' English is probably about as good as my Vietnamese is. Unfortunately, my sister isn't really talking to me right now either.
- Jason:** So why didn't you just email your parents? Why the letter?
- Amy:** Although my parents never really got used to using computers, they told us that they had access to email, but I'm not really sure how often they check it. But the biggest reason for me not emailing them is that writing letters just seems so much more personal to me.

Jason: How do you think your parents are going to respond to what you wrote?

Amy: I'm not sure. My parents immigrated to escape the war and started here with nothing. They did so much to raise us in an unfamiliar country and to give us so much more than they had when they were growing up, so I'm absolutely appreciative of everything that they've done for us. But they also come from a very different and conservative culture. They can be pretty rigid about certain things, and some people have even told me that they came off as pretty self-righteous on a few occasions. I'm hoping that after reading the letter, my mom can talk to my dad to start opening the lines of communication between him and me.