

UNIT 4 REVIEW TEST LISTENING SCRIPT

Angelina: Hey, Adam! I heard you just moved back from Japan. How've you been?

Adam: I'm doing great. I was just accepted into a teaching credential program, so I've got to start it in a few weeks.

Angelina: That sounds exciting! So are you glad to be back in the US?

Adam: There are definitely things that I already miss about living in Japan, but it's nice to be back.

Angelina: So, you were there for two years?

Adam: Three and a half years actually.

Angelina: Oh wow, that's a lot longer than I thought. So how was it living there? Japan looks like such a fun place to live from all the TV shows and movies that I've seen. I'd definitely like to live there someday.

Adam: Well, there were a lot of good things about living in Japan, but there were also some things that were very hard for me to adapt to.

Angelina: Tell me about them!

Adam: I decided to work at a Japanese office after teaching English there for two years because I could earn more money doing that than teaching. It was my first office job ever, so I was excited about it. But some of my Japanese friends tried to tell me they weren't allowed to leave their office until their managers left, even if they had already been at work for over 12 hours. I guess I should have listened to them!

Angelina: Haha, well, the hours don't seem too different from my job right now.

Adam: Yea well, it was also really hard for me to understand how people in Japan felt because of their way of communication. For example, I'm used to being very direct when telling people my opinion. In Japan, it seems like people didn't communicate that way at all. I had trouble understanding what people really wanted. It led to a lot of communication problems between me and co-workers and even sometimes with my friends.

Angelina: I think I may have some similarities to people in Japan. It's always really hard for me to tell people "no" or say things that I think will hurt their feelings... Anyway I'm sure there were things that you liked about living in Japan!

Adam: Absolutely! I definitely felt very safe living in Tokyo. Even walking alone at night. I didn't have to worry about my safety as much as I do in the US. In Tokyo, you see very young school children walking to school by themselves; that is something pretty much all parents here don't allow their kids to do.

Angelina: Yea, definitely not.

Adam: I also think the Japanese take a lot of pride in the work they do, and I thought people there were so polite and gracious. Their customer service is some of the best that I have ever experienced before in my life, and they don't even expect a tip in return. When I first moved there, I left a tip in a restaurant. I realized my mistake when the waiter came running out of the restaurant to give it back.

Angelina: People in Japan seem very nice.

Adam: I think they are. Overall, I thought it was a great experience living in Japan, but I wanted to come back here to start the next chapter of my life.