

UNIT 6 REVIEW TEST LISTENING SCRIPT

Dennis: Welcome back, everyone, to our program tonight featuring my special guest from Korea: Eugene Kim. He's currently filming a hit TV drama about romance in the military. Eugene, thanks for taking the time out of your busy schedule to join us.

Eugene: Thanks, Dennis, it's really great to be here.

Dennis: So, a lot of people in the audience are still unfamiliar with the Korean entertainment industry. What can you tell us about it?

Eugene: Well, the Korean wave—or hallyu, as the locals call it—probably was initiated by the government in the mid-1990s. Efforts to develop media and entertainment were encouraged by politicians, and companies were asked to financially contribute to producing music, movies, and television.

Dennis: How interesting. Do you have a favorite actor or actress who emerged from this period?

Eugene: Well, I don't really have a favorite actor, although Bae Yong-Joon was made extremely popular by the drama "Winter Sonata." Lee Young-Ae is a lot older than I am, but she's so beautiful and definitely my favorite actress.

Dennis: So, in addition to dramas and entertainment, what else is Korea known for these days?

Eugene: Cosmetics is a big industry now.

Dennis: You mean, make-up? Perfume?

Eugene: Yes—lots of make-up and skincare products are exported to other Asian countries and even the U.S.

Dennis: How did that sector develop?

Eugene: I'm not really sure, but I believe it's related to the entertainment industry. You know, celebrities are usually gorgeous and very fashionable. Everyone wants to be just as good-looking, so when people see a celebrity wear a certain style of shoe, or use a specific type of shampoo, then that shoe or shampoo will sell out instantly. Basically, anything used by a celebrity will do well in the fashion and make-up industries.

Dennis: Do you use any make-up products?

- Eugene:** Haha, no, I don't, but it's not uncommon for skincare products to be advertised by Korean actors and singers. In fact, some beauty products, like lotion, are designed specifically for men to use. There are men who buy it!
- Dennis:** Hey, that sounds interesting—I'd like to try that! Bring some next time you visit, okay?
- Eugene:** Sure, no problem! Is there anything else you want to know?
- Dennis:** What are some common hobbies among people in your country?
- Eugene:** It depends—almost everyone loves karaoke and people will go sing with colleagues after work or sing with friends on the weekends. Computer games are very popular among both boys and girls—they go to places called PC-rooms. Korea is a mountainous country and national parks are popular places to visit for older people, especially during the weekends and holidays.
- Dennis:** One last question, Eugene.
- Eugene:** Yes?
- Dennis:** Who is the best person you have been interviewed by?
- Eugene:** That's an easy answer—you are!