

SKILLS TEST UNITS 1–3



1

A: Sales clerk **B:** Customer

- A:** Good morning. Can I help you with anything?
B: Yes, please. I'd like to buy a present for someone.
A: Of course. I can help you with that. Who do you want to buy it for?
B: It's for my mother. My brother and I want something nice for her birthday.
A: What kind of sports does she like? Can you think of anything she needs right now?
B: She enjoys tennis and the gym so maybe a gym bag or something like that.
A: Oh, that's a good present. We have some over here. They're very big and we sell a lot of them.
B: Yes, these are really nice. What colors do you have?
A: There's red, green, blue and black.
B: OK, thank you. Her favorite color is red so that's perfect.
A: Oh, I'm sorry, we don't have the bag in red right now, but I can order it for you. It takes about a week so I think next Friday is when it will arrive.
B: OK, next Friday is July 7th and her birthday is on July 14th. That's two weeks from today so there's time.
A: Great. Please could I have your telephone number or email to contact you?
B: Of course. It's 1-797-963-3272. But I'm a teacher. Please leave a message because I'm usually in classes all day.
A: That's no problem at all. I can call you when we receive it.
B: Thanks a lot.

SKILLS TEST UNITS 4–6



2

L: Lucas

- L:** My name's Lucas. I'm a history teacher and I'm 37 years old. I live in Amsterdam in the Netherlands with my wife and three children. I love it here. There are a lot of things for visitors to see and do.
We have over 50 museums and galleries for tourists to visit. I think everyone knows the Van Gogh Museum and the Anne Frank Museum. These are really interesting. There's also the Rijksmuseum. This has paintings from many Dutch artists like Johannes Vermeer and Frans Hals.
For people who don't like history or art, there are also a lot of cafés which do amazing cakes and coffee. I meet my family here after work, or we sometimes go for a walk in one of the beautiful parks on the weekend. Maybe you want to walk down one of the many canals. This is also a fun thing to do.
For people who like shopping, there's a very big shopping mall, the Kalvertoren. There are also many fashionable clothing stores near the city canals. And Albert Cuyp Market is always very busy. It's famous all over the Netherlands because it sells everything!
When people come to Amsterdam, they see bikes everywhere. Tourists can pay for a bike for a day or a week. It isn't very expensive and it's a nice way to get around the city. I go to work every day by bike at eight thirty. I ride through the parks and along the canals. It's a very relaxing start to my day.
And don't worry about your Dutch language skills. A lot of people speak good English. They are usually very happy to help tourists. When you are lost, or need information, just ask!

MID-COURSE TEST



A: Speaker 1 **B:** Speaker 2

Extract 1

- A:** Good evening. Can I take your coat and umbrella?
B: Thanks. It's really raining out there.
A: Yes, I'm happy I'm inside. Would you like to see the menu?
B: Yes, please.
...
A: Are you ready to order? We have a special two-course meal today.
B: Can I have five more minutes, please? I'm waiting for a friend.
A: Of course. No problem at all.

Extract 2

- A:** Hi. Nice to meet you.
B: Hi, I'm Gordon. Nice to meet you, too. I'm working here for the summer.
A: Ah, are you enjoying it?
B: Yes. There's a lot to learn but the engineering team is very friendly.
A: Well, some of us go out to eat on Friday nights. I think it's the Vietnamese restaurant this week. You should come along.
B: Thanks a lot. I think I'm free. Oh no. I have a party then.
A: No problem. Next time.

Extract 3

- A:** Hi, Lisa. Sorry I'm late.
B: Oh, hi, Adam. No problem. I came here at one o'clock because I finished teaching at twelve thirty today so I'm just reading my book.
A: Would you like something to drink?
B: No, thanks. I have a cappuccino and some chocolate cake.
A: Oh, I can't eat more cake. It was my sister's birthday yesterday. I think I want something hot.
B: Yeah, the hot snacks look really good.

Extract 4

- A:** Hi, Kate
B: Hi, Laura. You're here.
A: Well, another doctor is working today so I have a free evening!
B: Cool. I love your red dress.
A: Thanks. It's new. I made a cake for you and here's a little present. I hope you like it.
B: Wow! That's great. Thanks a lot. The other guests are in here. There's a chair by the window.

Extract 5

- A:** Hi, John
B: Hi, Dave. I can't find your house.
A: Oh, OK. Where are you?
B: I'm on South Street near the Spanish restaurant.
A: OK, cross the park and my street is on the left. It's not far.
B: Do you need any burgers or sausages? I can get some from the grocery store.

Test Audio scripts

- A:** No, we have food. Maybe just buy something cold to drink. It's so hot outside today.
- B:** OK, see you soon.

Extract 6

- A:** Hello. Can I help you?
- B:** Yes, I'm looking for my student. He's from Brazil. He's here for the summer and it's his first day.
- A:** Oh yes. Are you Mrs. Taylor?
- B:** Yes, sorry I'm late. I'm a photographer and I'm always busy in the summer.
- A:** Don't worry. That's him. He has the blue jacket and black bag.
- B:** Great. Thanks.



B A: Anna S: Sophie

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- A:** My name's Anna. Nice to meet you.
- S:** Nice to meet you, too. I'm Sophie. Is it your first day?
- A:** Yes, I'm here for a year. Are you new, too?
- S:** Well, I started last week on Monday, so yeah, I am. Are you an architect like me?
- A:** Not right now. I'm a design student but I want to be an architect one day. First, I need to take my exams. But I'm here to learn about things.
- S:** Well, Mrs. Raven, our manager, is great. She's friendly and always answers my questions. I don't know the other people on the team well yet, but they seem nice.
- A:** That's good to hear.
- S:** Where are you from?
- A:** I'm from Washington D.C. I'm American. What about you?
- S:** I'm Canadian but I live here in the US with my brother. Where do you live?
- A:** Well, I'm in a hotel for the summer but I want to find a room in a house. I don't want somewhere far from the office.
- S:** Rooms in the city are expensive, but Charlotte is OK. It's a small town about half an hour away by bus.
- A:** Oh, that sounds good. Do the rooms have furniture?
- S:** I'm sure there are a lot of places with beds, dressers and maybe a desk. It's a college town so there are a lot of students. I think you can rent a room without any problem.
- A:** That's good news. I plan to look this weekend.
- S:** I can help you on Sunday, but I have a concert on Saturday. My friend plays in a rock band. Do you want to come with me?
- A:** I'm sorry but I'm in New York then. Sunday is good. What time?
- S:** Well, I get up late on the weekend, so after lunch is best. How about two o'clock at the station?
- A:** Great. See you then.

SKILLS TEST UNITS 7–9



5

A: Adam S: Sandy

- A:** Hi, Sandy.
- S:** Oh, hi, Adam.
- A:** I thought you lived in Seattle!
- S:** Well, I did for a long time but I moved back last month.

- A:** Cool. What are you doing here at lunchtime?
- S:** Oh, I'm shopping on my break. I want a long black coat because I'm going to Winnipeg on Saturday. I can't wear shorts and T-shirts at this time of year.
- A:** Wow! Canada in the winter is so cold. I moved to Winnipeg in 2015 and lived there for a year. The summer was OK though.
- S:** Yeah, my friend Tom lives in Winnipeg, too. He says it's really cold right now. He doesn't go outside a lot.
- A:** Yeah, the weather is horrible. Can you speak French?
- S:** Well, my brother can. He studied it in college and taught me a little. You know him, don't you?
- A:** Yeah, I know Steven. We were in the same class at school. So what does he do now?
- S:** He works for that big company with offices near here. It's called Northpark, I think.
- A:** Oh yeah, very modern. How about you? Are you working or studying?
- S:** I'm working at Gordon's. It's a café near here. I work every weekend because I study during the week. That's why I moved back here – so I can live at home. How about you?
- A:** I work for my dad. I'm a mechanic. I love it.
- S:** Great. Do you think this coat is good?
- A:** Yeah, I think so. But you need to wear a sweater, warm pants and a hat, too.
- S:** I know. I have them at home. I have a lot of clothes ready for my trip because my sister, Nicky, gave me some.
- A:** So why go to Canada in the winter?
- S:** Good question. My friend is a talented musician. He plays the piano and has a big concert at the Centennial Concert Hall.
- A:** That's amazing. Well, have a good time. I need to go back now.
- S:** OK. Let's meet up when I get back.
- A:** Yeah. I want to hear all about it.

SKILLS TEST UNITS 10–12



6

- Joe:** Well, at school I loved writing. I wrote a story every day and loved my English classes. I didn't spend time with my friends very much. I was happy on my own with my pen and paper. Anyway, one day I won a prize for a story I wrote for my local newspaper. It was just a book and it wasn't expensive, but I loved it. That's why I still have it today.
- Helen:** Well, I have a small photograph and it's always in my bag. We went on a vacation in the mountains with my grandparents when I was about 13. My mom took the photo of us at the top of a snowy mountain and gave it to me. There was an amazing view and we both look very happy. A few years later, when I was in college my grandmother died. I was so sad but when I look at it, I remember that happy moment. That's the reason I have it with me.
- Marisa:** My father gave me something that belonged to his grandparents and their parents before that. I don't know the age of it, but it's maybe from around the 1700s. It's a silver coin from Japan. I guess someone might pay a lot of money for it and I'm scared of losing it. That's why I never take it out and it's usually safe at home in a box!

Robert: Well, there are so many, but my favorite is the one from my girlfriend, who's now my wife. She gave it to me on my 21st birthday when we were in college. It was a joke because she can't make anything, but she made me this tie. It's terrible but I love it! I wore it when we got married and she laughed. A lot. I think it's special because of this reason. She didn't buy it so no one else has one like it.

Geoff: When I was in school, I wasn't interested in doing homework. I just loved music and playing my drums. I was awful but anyway, my parents wanted me to study. They said when I got good grades, they had a present for me. They didn't tell me what it was. That's the reason I worked hard because I wanted to know. When I passed all my exams, they gave me a ticket to a Beatles concert. It was amazing!



8

M: OK. How about six forty-five outside the restaurant?

E: Perfect. See you then.

B Sandy: Well, this was a long time ago. I went with my school to Washington D.C. It was a very long bus trip, but everyone had great snacks. Nothing healthy at all like grapes or bananas. I ate so much chocolate and so many cookies. Then I started to feel sick so the bus driver stopped. I felt terrible! We had an amazing time there, but I just remember the bus ride now and how bad I felt.

Ben: I went on a camping vacation when I was ten. It was my first time away from home. It was summer but it wasn't hot. At night I wore my hat, a sweater and two pairs of pants to bed. It was only for three nights but I really missed my mom's food. We were awful at cooking. We just had a stove and some pasta, I think. By the second day, I needed my own bed. I hated sleeping on the ground.

Matilda: I can remember it well. We went to Amsterdam on a sightseeing vacation. The bus trip was long but it was OK. We took a lot of breaks. When we arrived we didn't spend much time outside which was good because it rained the whole time. The best thing was the great art galleries, museums and beautiful buildings. For my friends it was boring but not for me. I think that seeing those amazing places when I was young is why I became an architect.

Will: When we arrived at the airport and I showed my passport, I was really happy. It was my first time skiing and my first time on a plane. We didn't have the internet or tablets or any of the modern technology we have now. We didn't take selfies or anything like that. But there's one photo of me in sunglasses outside our chalet, with the mountains behind me. It was amazing.

Marta: I was 13 and I was a big fan of classical music. I won a music prize with some other students, so we traveled to New York to see a concert at the Radio City Music Hall. The architecture was the first thing we saw, and we all took a lot of photos. It was beautiful. And the concert was great. We stayed at a hotel for one night and went to the park nearby for a picnic. The weather wasn't bad at all which made me smile because it was February.

END-OF-COURSE TEST



7

A M: Matteo E: Erica

E: Hi, Matteo. How are you?

M: I'm fine, Erica. And you? Did you pass that history test?

E: Yes, I'm so happy. I studied really hard.

M: Me, too. Do you want to go to watch a movie? That new action movie is out now. You know, the one with that famous actor.

E: You mean Ron Andres. Yeah, good idea. I heard it's amazing. I can't do anything tonight because I'm doing yoga. And then on Thursday, I'm singing with my band. We have a concert at a local bar, but Friday's OK.

M: OK, well I'm playing soccer so tonight is no good for me anyway. And I have a party on Friday night. How about Saturday? What time are you free?

E: Well, I'm seeing my grandparents in the afternoon. My grandpa is 80 years old so we are having a big party! So let's say around eight o'clock?

M: Great. But can we eat first? There's a great new Italian restaurant in the town center.

E: OK, I love pasta. Is it near the train station?

M: No, you're thinking of another one. This one is next to the movie theater, so it's really close.

E: Great. I think we need to buy tickets online, but I don't have a credit card, only cash, so I'm not sure I can.

M: That's OK. I have one. I can do it. But can you book the restaurant? It's busy on the weekend.

E: Yeah, sure. Can you buy the expensive tickets for the nice seats? Those other seats are really old and uncomfortable.

M: Aren't they a little expensive?

E: Maybe, but it's a long movie. You don't want to be uncomfortable for two and a half hours, do you?

M: That's a good point. OK, that's fine with me. And I can talk to my brother James. He enjoys watching that kind of movie. Is it OK if he comes?

E: Yeah, of course. And I can ask Giulia.

M: I don't think she's here. She went on a ski vacation with her family yesterday evening.

E: Ah, I forgot about that! No problem ... So we need to meet at six forty-five. I can make that after my grandpa's party.