

Open Forum 2

Web Site Worksheet

Chapter 7

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Preparing to Listen

You are going to listen to a lecture about language change. Before you listen, think about the following questions.

Have you ever noticed any changes in the language(s) you speak?

In what ways do you think languages change?

What do you think causes these changes?



2. Listening for Main Ideas

Read questions 1 and 2. Listen to the lecture. Then choose the correct answer for each question.

- Dr. Herman Nash is _____.
 - an English teacher
 - an expert on literature
 - a linguist
- According to Dr. Nash, the languages we speak _____.
 - are being corrupted
 - do not remain the same for very long
 - are all very similar
- Which word was added to English because of the Internet?
 - cell phone
 - blog
 - fax
- According to Dr. Nash, words that start out as slang sometimes _____.
 - become accepted as standard language
 - corrupt a language
 - become extinct
- Dr. Nash believes that language change _____.
 - should be stopped
 - is usually predictable
 - is natural
- To be corrupted* probably means _____.
 - to become worse
 - to improve
 - to change quickly
- In 1994, the French government asked its citizens to _____.
 - not use slang
 - not study English
 - not use words borrowed from English
- Samuel Johnson is known for _____.
 - creating many new words
 - writing a dictionary of English
 - beginning an English school



3. Listening for More Detail

Read questions 3–10. Listen to the interview again and choose the correct answer for each question.

- Changes in language are _____.
 - always difficult to observe
 - always easy to observe
 - often gradual
- Gradual* probably means _____.
 - slow
 - unimportant
 - negative