

# Written test 2 audio scripts

## A (Track 16)

- Ron* Uh-oh, Sandra. . . . Did you hear? This news article says that the city is getting rid of its recycling program.
- Sandra* What?! Why? Don't they know that recycling is more important now than it's ever been? I mean, with global warming and everything. . . .
- Ron* Well . . . apparently, the city's sanitation budget isn't doing so well. It says here in this article that taxes need to be raised in order to restart the program, but a lot of people are against that.
- Sandra* Oh, no. . . . Well, what are we supposed to do in the meantime? We buy so many water bottles. . . . We can't just throw them away. I mean, if city officials knew they didn't have the money for a recycling program, they could have said something sooner so we could plan. I don't even want to think about what's going to happen with everyone's garbage piling up.
- Ron* Well, it says here we should start taking our used bottles and packaging to supermarkets, and they will take them to recycling centers.
- Sandra* I see. . . . Well, that's kind of a hassle, isn't it? I don't really want to carry all of my recycling to the store every time I go.
- Ron* It should only be for a little while. The newspaper says that a lot of people have been demanding a quick solution to the problem.
- Sandra* Well, I hope it comes soon. . . .

## B (Track 17)

1. *Lina* A lot of people my age are having a hard time paying all their bills. It's really difficult to get a job right out of college, and even if I do, the pay will probably be very low. If I had gone to a less expensive school, maybe I wouldn't be in so much debt. Now I have to work two jobs in order to pay all my bills and keep up with my rent. People need to be informed about debt management before they go to college. Maybe that would help people make better decisions about money.
2. *Tom* I think I had a great education, but students at my college weren't given enough support in terms of finding a good career path. Once school ended, I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life. It took me months to figure out what kind of job I wanted, and now I'm not even sure if it's the right one for me. Colleges need to help students think more critically about jobs and their career goals.
3. *Yumiko* In Japan, the population trend is a big problem. It's pretty expensive to live here, so fewer people are having families than they were in the past. This means that more people are retiring every day, but there are fewer and fewer young people to replace them in the workforce. If things keep going on the way they are, there might not be anyone to take care of the elderly, and the economy would really suffer because there would be fewer and fewer people working. Something needs to be done, but I can't imagine what would help fix the problem.
4. *Dan* I'm a little worried about population trends these days. According to some experts, the world population is growing at an alarming rate. In other words, I'm afraid that our natural resources are decreasing very quickly over time. There will be more pollution because we'll keep burning coal and oil for energy, and by the time I'm 60, we might not have done enough to conserve resources like oil. I'm afraid of what the planet might be like when my children and grandchildren grow up. If politicians had thought about this a little more before, maybe we wouldn't be having this problem.