

## 4c Develop your listening

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**Goal** | understand a short radio programme  
**Focus** | understanding weak forms

#### GSE learning objective

Can identify key information (e.g. places, times) from short audio recordings, if spoken slowly and clearly

### Introduction

Ss develop the listening skill of understanding a short radio programme by learning how to understand weak forms.

### Warm-up

Write on the board:

*Think of a very hot place you've visited.*

*Think of a very cold place you've visited.*

*What was the temperature?*

Ss discuss in small groups.

**1a** Focus attention on the first photo and elicit what people can see, then put Ss in pairs to discuss the questions. When they are ready, ask a few Ss to share their ideas with the class.

**b** 4.11 Write *Calgary* on the board and ask: *Where is this?*

(Canada). Read the sentences with the class and elicit if they think each one is true or false, but don't give any answers yet. Play the recording for Ss to check their guesses and discuss in pairs. Check answers as a class and ask Ss to correct the false sentences.

**Answers:** 1 F (–30°C) 2 T 3 F (for 18 km)

### Audioscript 4.11

**Presenter:** People live in all kinds of unusual places around the world: hot places, rainy places, dry places. But what is life like in a very cold place? Reporter James Larkin travels to three different cities around the world to find out.

**James:** Well, here I am in Calgary in Canada. It's sometimes minus 30 degrees centigrade here in winter. So how do people live?

**Woman 1:** Life here is good in winter. We do different winter sports like skiing. It's fun!

**Man 1:** It's cold here in winter but it's also sunny so you need to wear sunglasses almost every day.

**James:** How are the city streets here in winter?

**Woman 2:** I don't often use the streets in winter. We have the Skywalk so I walk from the train station to my office inside. We can walk eighteen kilometres around the city inside with the Skywalk. It's warm and comfortable. I love it!

**2a** Read the Focus box with the class and elicit the answer to the question. Answer any other questions Ss might have.

**b** 4.12 Play the recording for Ss to listen and check, then play it again and ask Ss to repeat the words.

#### Answers:

*an* /ən/ *the* /ðə/

*from* /frəm/ *to* /tə/

*are* /ə/ *do* /də/

*and* /ənd/ or /ən/ (because we often drop the /d/ sound, particularly before a consonant sound)

*but* /bət/ or /bə/ (because we often drop the /t/ sound, particularly before a consonant sound)

**3** 4.13 Tell Ss that they're going to hear four extracts from the radio programme and they need to choose the word they hear in each one. Ss listen and choose the word then check in pairs. Check answers as a class.

**Answers:** 1 of 2 a 3 to 4 the

### Audioscript 4.13

- 1 People live in all kinds of unusual places around the world.
- 2 But what is life like in a very cold place?
- 3 Reporter James Larkin travels to three different cities.
- 4 I don't often use the streets in winter.

**4a** 4.14 Focus attention on the second photo and elicit or tell Ss that it shows Reykjavik in Iceland, which is where the second part of the radio programme is from. Go through the questions with the class so they know what to listen for. Ss listen and answer the questions alone then check in pairs. Check answers as a class.

#### Answers:

1 He sits in a hot pool in his garden.

2 There's natural hot water under the roads.

3 Four or five

4 Three


5 Two or three minutes

6 A T-shirt, a shirt, a sweater, a coat, two pairs of trousers, gloves, a hat, a scarf and boots.

7 Cars

**Audioscript 4.14**

- James:** Now, I'm in Reykjavik in Iceland. There's natural hot water here and so people don't need to pay for warm homes in winter. It's free. There are also hot pools outside.
- Man 2:** I go outside every day and sit in a hot pool in my garden in January and February. It's fantastic in really cold weather.
- James:** The hot water also helps with the roads.
- Woman 3:** It's not easy to drive around Iceland. We need to have special tyres on our cars so we can drive safely. But natural hot water goes under some of our roads in the city so there's no snow on them. It's easy to drive on those roads.
- James:** There isn't much sunlight in winter in Iceland.
- Woman 4:** In December, we have just four or five hours of sunlight but in June, we have only three hours of night time so it's OK!
- James:** This is Yakutsk in Russia. Some days it's minus forty degrees here but people live normal lives. They get up, go to work, go shopping and come home.
- Man 3:** We go outside but we don't stay outside for very long. We walk to our car or to another building – just two or three minutes.
- James:** Clothes are important in cold places.
- Man 4:** We need to wear a lot of clothes. I wear a T-shirt, a shirt, a sweater and a big, thick coat. I wear two pairs of trousers! I also wear gloves, a hat and a scarf and I have big boots.
- James:** Shops and schools usually stay open in winter.
- Woman 5:** Life doesn't stop in winter. Shops open. The trains work every day. Sometimes the schools close but only in very, very cold weather. One big problem is our cars. They don't always start in the morning!
- James:** So, life in a cold place is different. It's sometimes difficult but not always. Wear a lot of clothes, stay inside, enjoy a lovely hot bath every day and do some snow sports. Then, life is good.

**b**  4.15 Ss listen and write the missing words, then check in pairs. Check answers as a class.

**Answers:** 1 for 2 a 3 the 4 to 5 of 6 but 7 We  
8 are 9 and 10 They

**5** Ss discuss the questions in pairs. In feedback, nominate a few Ss to share their answers with the class and have a brief class discussion.

**Homework ideas**

**Workbook:** Ex 1–6, p25

