

Listening Exercise Prompts

Chapter 1, page 8

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

1. Amelia's family was supportive of her decision to go to the U.S.
2. Her brother already lived in California with his wife and their son.
3. He also promised to help Amelia find a job in the hotel.
4. Of course, it couldn't be a high-level position.
5. But the hotel employed a lot of people.
6. In Mexico, Amelia worked as a teacher.
7. But almost any job in the U.S. would pay her more.
8. So Amelia packed her suitcase and said good-bye to her family.
9. After a long journey, she arrived in the United States.
10. She waited excitedly for her brother at the trolley station.

Chapter 2, page 14

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

1. It surprised Amelia to see where Eduardo and Marisol lived in real life.
2. First, it was nowhere near a beach.
3. There was a sign outside the entrance of their building: *The Desert Palms*.
4. But there were no palm trees or any other trees—just a desert.
5. Eduardo led Amelia into an apartment that was small and dark.
6. The carpet was brown, or at least it was now.
7. The walls were thin and certainly didn't keep out the sounds.
8. There was only one window.
9. "You'll sleep here," said Eduardo as he pointed to the sofa in the living room.
10. "Can I open the curtain," asked Amelia, "and get some light in here?"

Chapter 3, page 20

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

1. Amelia put her suitcase behind the sofa.
2. Eduardo took Amelia on a short tour of their small one-bedroom apartment.

3. Amelia knew that her brother and his wife didn't live in a mansion.
4. But somehow she expected their home in the U.S. to be nicer than it was.
5. Amelia sat down, and Eduardo poured her a glass of lemonade.
6. "We're lucky, though," he said. "It's just our family in this apartment."
7. Marisol and Francisco arrived home from the park.
8. Amelia hugged and kissed them.
9. She was so happy to meet her nephew for the first time.
10. Then they all spent a nice evening together.

Chapter 4, page 26

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

1. Amelia finally saw the ocean and some palm trees.
2. But a big hotel soon blocked their view.
3. Amelia and Eduardo got off the bus at the next stop.
4. They entered the hotel through a side door marked *Employees Only*.
5. Amelia and Eduardo walked down a flight of stairs into a basement room.
6. Amelia noticed several other people getting ready for work.
7. But no one was wearing a bellhop's uniform like Eduardo.
8. He carried bags for hotel guests and escorted them to their rooms.
9. Amelia sat down at a table next to a vending machine.
10. Eduardo went into another room for a few minutes.

Chapter 5, page 32

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

1. Veronica hired Amelia and helped her to fill out some paperwork.
2. Then Veronica explained that they were very short-handed.
3. "A housekeeper on the third floor just quit," she said.
4. Amelia put on the black and white uniform that Veronica gave her.
5. And for the next eight hours, she helped Dolores.
6. Dolores was a very pleasant woman who knew a lot about this job.
7. She had been a housekeeper at this hotel for twenty-two years.

- Dolores spoke to Amelia above the noise of the vacuum.
- She told her where to put the shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, and soaps.
- Amelia felt like crying but stopped herself.

Chapter 6, page 38

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

- Amelia woke up on the sofa at 4:30 the next morning.
- Her whole body felt sore.
- "Being a housekeeper is hard work," she thought.
- Dolores has pains in her hands, wrists, knees, hips, and shoulders.
- Amelia looked over at her housekeeper's uniform draped over the chair.
- Veronica gave her a nametag to pin onto it.
- Amelia closed her eyes again.
- She didn't want to look at that uniform with her name on it.
- She desperately wanted to go back to Mexico.
- "It was a big mistake to come here," she thought.

Chapter 7, page 44

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

- At that moment, Amelia made the difficult decision to stay.
- People were depending on her, even if she had to make beds.
- She needed to work, and this was her job.
- So she finished cleaning Room 306.
- Then she helped Dolores clean twenty more rooms.
- Amelia thought, "This job isn't an adventure, but I'll do it."
- A funny-looking man walked down the hall.
- He picked up several complimentary bottles of shampoo, conditioner, and body lotion.
- Amelia put her hand over her mouth and tried not to laugh.
- "But in life," she thought, "there are many kinds of adventures."

Chapter 8, page 50

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

- The next eight months went by slowly.
- Amelia realized that her English wasn't improving at all.

- In fact, she rarely used it.
- She spoke only Spanish to Eduardo and his family.
- She spoke only Spanish to Dolores and most of the other housekeepers.
- There was just one word that she practiced repeatedly: "Housekeeping!"
- Guests asked for familiar items, like bath towels or drinking glasses.
- One afternoon, a hotel guest opened her door.
- She motioned for Amelia to come into her room.
- For Amelia, this was a good opportunity to practice her English.

Chapter 9, page 56

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

- Brandon looked at Amelia curiously.
- "Are you my new nanny?" asked Brandon.
- "I guess so," said Amelia, smiling. "At least for a few minutes."
- "What's all of this stuff?" Brandon asked.
- "Those are things I need for the rooms," said Amelia.
- She looked seriously at her watch. She was already behind schedule.
- Brandon picked up and opened many bottles of shampoo.
- Mrs. Howard nonchalantly came out of her room wearing her sunglasses and a large hat.
- "We're going out to the pool now, Brandon," she said.
- "Would you be a dear," she said to Amelia, "and bring me a diet soda?"

Chapter 10, page 62

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

- "Guests at this hotel expect good service," she said.
- "Bring her a diet soda and after that, style her hair and give her a manicure."
- Amelia hurriedly walked down the hall and took the elevator to the lobby.
- Then she walked out the north side of the hotel where the pool was.
- Amelia approached an employee at the snack bar.
- Amelia definitely wasn't going to pay for Mrs. Howard's soda, too.
- Amelia held the diet soda in one hand and shaded her eyes with the other.

8. Across the pool, she saw a woman in a yellow bathing suit.
9. She was lying facedown on a lounge chair.
10. Amelia suddenly had a very bad feeling.

Chapter 11, page 68

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

1. Amelia dropped the diet soda and jumped straight into the water.
2. She dove deep down and grabbed the child under the arms.
3. Then she swam up and pulled him to the surface.
4. Two men helped pull Amelia and the child out of the water.
5. As Amelia had feared, the child was Brandon.
6. And now he wasn't moving. "Call 911!" Amelia yelled.
7. Then she quickly turned Brandon on his side.
8. After a few seconds, she was very relieved to hear him cough.
9. She didn't need to do CPR—cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
10. He was breathing independently.

Chapter 12, page 74

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

1. Later, Amelia went to Mr. Medina's office.
2. She helped him fill out an accident report.
3. The hotel wasn't responsible for what happened to Brandon.
4. There were many signs posted around the pool.
5. It was Mrs. Howard's fault that Brandon almost drowned.
6. "But thank goodness you saw him," said Mr. Medina.
7. "That was almost a terrible tragedy."
8. Mr. Medina spent a few more minutes talking to Amelia in English.
9. He asked about her education and work experience in Mexico.
10. He asked her about her career ambitions.

Chapter 13, page 80

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

1. Amelia was chosen as Employee of the Month at the next staff meeting.
2. She received a plaque and some flowers.
3. Her picture was taken to display in the hotel lobby.

4. A representative from the fire department presented her with a special award.
5. "Your response to an emergency saved a child from drowning."
6. "This community thanks you."
7. Mr. Medina led two very special guests into the room.
8. They had returned to the hotel to thank Amelia in person.
9. Brandon gave Amelia a picture he had drawn by himself.
10. It showed Amelia and Brandon swimming happily together in the hotel pool.

Chapter 14, page 86

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

1. It had been eleven months since Amelia left Mexico.
2. And at this point, she seriously considered going back.
3. She thought about it while tossing and turning on the lumpy sofa.
4. "I've worked hard as a housekeeper for nearly a year now," she thought.
5. "I think I've had almost enough of this adventure."
6. Amelia decided to give her notice soon.
7. Mr. Medina asked Amelia to meet with him in his office.
8. At the end of her shift, Amelia went to Mr. Medina's office and sat down.
9. "I'd like to offer a new service for our guests' children."
10. "I'd like to provide arts and crafts, exercise, and even water safety."

Chapter 15, page 92

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

1. On Saturday, Amelia, Eduardo, and Marisol had an appointment.
2. They met with the manager of a new apartment building.
3. It was located closer to the hotel—only a forty-minute bus ride away.
4. It was in a much nicer neighborhood.
5. And there was a good elementary school for Francisco nearby.
6. The apartment manager shook their hands warmly.
7. The apartment was bright, clean, and quiet.
8. They decided to sign a lease immediately.
9. Amelia walked into her bedroom and opened the curtain.
10. She saw two big green palm trees growing on a pretty little hillside.