

Listening 2022

Part A

A: Dad, can I go to this swimming school in the summer?

B: Swimming school? Sure, that sounds fun. When is it?

A: It's in August, but there are four different weeks. You have to sign up for one. Here's the paper.

B: Ah, I see. Well, remember that we're going to be at your grandparents' that first week. And last year, you didn't finish your summer homework before school started, so I think you should keep that final week open so you can finish everything on time this year.

A: Okay. So, one of these two weeks?

B: Yes, but I think this one would be better because you'll be tired after visiting grandma and grandpa. They need your help cleaning up their house and yard this summer.

A: Ah, that's right. Okay, so this week will be best then, right?

B: I think so. And which of these classes were you thinking of taking? One for skills and techniques might be good.

A: Well, I just want to have fun in the pool, so I was hoping to take this one.

B: Well, if you're sure, I guess that's okay. But I really think you should start from the basics because you really don't swim all that often.

A: I know how to swim, Dad. Those classes would be too boring.

B: Okay, well, if that's what you want. So, now you just need to pick a time. Afternoons and evenings may not work because your mom wants to save those for family time this summer.

A: Okay. I don't mind getting up early but this one is only an hour, and I want to swim for more than that. Can I do this one here?

B: Sure, sounds like a plan.

Part B

So, you have Mr. Sanchez 1st period. He makes you run a lot in class, and he gives homework, so some students don't like him. The homework will be things like doing morning stretches or something like that. But he usually gives it just once a week, so it's not too bad.

For 2nd period, you have Mrs. Tanaka. She gives a lot of homework, mostly reading, so you'll be busy. That's why many students say it's the toughest 9th grade class. There's a final report, too. Mine was on Asian explorers in the 15th century, and I got an A on it.

Next you have Ms. Miller. She's really kind, maybe the kindest teacher at the school. She does give a lot of homework, but less than Mrs. Tanaka does. And you'll have to read novels, write book reports, and there's a poetry project. You have to write original poems for that. She doesn't accept late projects, though. That's the only thing she's strict about.

For 4th, you have Mr. Smith. His class is fun because there's lots of lab work. He also brings in small animals and plants for students to look at. His class is usually the most popular one in the 9th grade, and the best thing is he doesn't give homework.

Part C

Okay, class. Let's get started on today's lesson. As you know, we've been discussing recent trends in farming, particularly, we learned how there has been a great decrease in the number of people working on farms over the last 150 years or so. And if you can remember, we saw that today there are 90 percent fewer farmers than there were a century ago. Do you remember how much of the population worked on farms back then? That's right, nearly half. This is mostly true for the developed world. Basically, as technology and society developed, people moved from farming into other industries, and this was mostly for economic reasons.

Today, however, we're going to discuss something that is on the increase. Now, when we talk of farming, we usually think of the countryside, you know, some place away from the hustle and bustle of the city. But interestingly enough, we are seeing more and more farms being built within cities. Sometimes these farms are on shared community land, where people living in the area can grow some vegetables for themselves. Sometimes these farms are in factories that grow vegetables or fruit for local markets. And sometimes these are on rooftops. Have you heard of these before? They are farms built on the unused tops of city roofs. Isn't that interesting? Now, in addition to bringing fresh fruits and vegetables to city populations, all three of these kinds of farms also provide jobs, a sense of community, and often improve the environment.

Anyways, we're going to talk about all three of these types of city farms today, but first, I want to focus on the second one that I mentioned and then after that, get to the community and rooftop ones.