

1983

Sounds of Culture

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SIT Graduate Institute

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SOUNDS OF CULTURE

Vera Dibov
MAT XIII

Submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the
Master of Arts in Teaching degree
at the School for International
Training, Brattleboro, Vermont

Dated: October 17, 1983

This project by Vera Dibov is accepted in this present form.

Date 10/24/83 Principal Advisor Michael Jerald
Michael Jerald

Date 10.14.83 Project Reader Dirk van Oene
Dirk Van Oene

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My sincere thanks and deep appreciation to the professional staff at SIT. I now stand with innovative approaches to effective education and with special guidance from the administration, I feel more confident as a novel English teacher.

ABSTRACT

This project is based on tape recordings taken from real life situations including recording different dialects, such as the Black American patois. Out of these tape recordings, a series of mini-lessons concentrating on discussions of cultural awareness have been developed.

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I. INTRODUCTION

This project consists of taped dialogues taken from real-life situations along with its mini-lessons related to a particular situation, which are combined and recorded in one cassette.

Each mini-lesson consists of a transcript of the taped dialogue. Since there was a lack of sophisticated recording equipment, some of the dialogues may contain a certain amount of noise interference due to natural causes, and those that were totally unintelligible, I had the original dialogue re-enacted. So the students should be forewarned about the slight amount of noise interference that was involuntarily recorded.

Before a dialogue is played to the class, the teacher will preview the vocabulary section, which is entitled Part A. Part A is a vocabulary review of the words related to the theme of the taped situation. For instance, if the lesson is on "A Doctor's Visit," then the vocabulary will be medicinal in nature. Therefore, there will probably be vocabulary that I haven't included in Part A that some students won't be familiar with. After playing the tape, time should be allotted in answering students' questions regarding the tape, which most likely will be in the range of new vocabulary, not covered in Part A, or unclear statements uttered by someone in the tape.

After Part A, the teacher proceeds to Part B, which are true and false statements. The students are instructed to listen carefully to the taped dialogue (this will be the second time they would have listened to the tape). After listening to the tape, the teacher will explain the instructions for Part B and will read each statement. The students will write either true or false after each statement is read (sufficient time should be given for the students to complete their answers). Lastly, replay the tape again and then reread each statement. After each reread statement, the students will call out the answer. After the third replay, the students will probably know the correct answer by then.

Part C is for discussion and is factual in essence, and Part D is an open forum for discussion and is designed more on eliciting students' opinions.

This is the basic outline for the operation of the tape and its accompanying mini-lessons.

FULL HOUSE RESTAURANT

LUNCH

FRESH OYSTERS	2.95	OYSTERS ROCKEFELLER	3.95
FRESH CLAMS	2.95	CLAMS CASINO	3.95
SEAFOOD SALAD	2.75	MUSSELLS MARINARA	3.25
SHRIMP COCKTAIL	4.95	FRIED ZUCCHINI	1.95
SMOKED TROUT	2.95	POTATO SKINS	1.95
		PATE DE CHEF	3.50
NEW ENGLAND CLAM CHOWDER	1.95	ONION SOUP	2.95
SOUP DU JOUR	1.75	TONTELINI IN BRODO	1.95
FULL HOUSE SALAD: SPINACH, MUSHROOMS, HEART OF PALM, BACON, & EGG	4.95		
CHEF SALAD	5.25		
HAMBURGER	3.95	FRENCH DIP	4.95
CHEESEBURGER	4.25	REUBEN	4.95
MUSHROOM BURGER ...	4.25	TURKEY CLUB	4.25
BACON CHEESEBURGER	4.50	CHEESE OMLETTE	3.95
		MUSHROOM OMLETTE..	4.25
		WESTERN OMLETTE	4.25
FETTUCINI ALFREDO	4.95		
LINGUINE WITH WHITE OR RED CLAM SAUCE	5.95		
CANNELONI	4.95		
TORTELINI GRATIATI	4.95		
FRESH FILET OF SOLE MEUNIERE	6.95	VEAL PICCATA	7.95
FISH & CHIPS, NEW ENGLAND STYLE	5.25	VEAL MARSALA	7.95
TROUT ALMOND	6.95	CHICKEN MORNAY	5.95
SWORDFISH BROCHETTE	7.25	EGGS BENEDICT	5.25
SHRIMP MARINARA	7.95	EGGS FLORENTINE	5.50
DONER KEBAP WITH RICE AND PITA BREAD	6.95		
N.Y. STRIP SIRLOIN (8 OZ.)	8.95		
ASSORTED PASTRIES	2.75	ESPRESSO	1.25
CREME CARAMEL	2.50	CAPUCCINO	1.50
CHOCOLATE MOUSSE	2.25	COFFEE, TEA, SANKA95
CANOLI	2.25		

II. RESTAURANT

DIALOGUE

(Two people are looking at a menu)

Waiter: Can I place an order?

Fred : Can we have a bottle of Chardonay?

Waiter: Chardonay.

Fred : Combination platter.

Waiter: Two?

Fred : No, one and couscous.

Waiter: Alrighty.

Fred : Would you like to try some babakanush?

Vivian: What is that called?

Fred : Babakanush, compliments of Ray.

Vivian: Well, how do you eat it? Oh, with bread.

Waiter: It's babakanush. It's baked eggplant, baked in the shell and scooped out and chopped and mixed with tahini and lemon juice with a little fresh parsley.

Fred : Exactly!

Vivian: It's great!

Waiter: Would you like any dessert or anything like that? Coffee?

Vivian: Coffee? What kind of coffee do you have?

Waiter: Turkish and American blend.

Vivian: It's on the house, right? Then I'll have some Turkish coffee.

Waiter: Turkish coffee. You, sir?

Fred : I'm fine.

Waiter: Anything else I can help you with?

Fred : No, thank you.

Waiter: Would you care for your check?

Fred : Please.

Waiter: Here you go and thank you very much and have a nice evening.

EXERCISES

A. Vocabulary:

compliments of Ray
scooped out
it's on the house
dessert

place an order
waiter service
menu

B. Based on the information given in the dialogue, write true (T) if the following statements are correct, or write false (F) if they are incorrect.

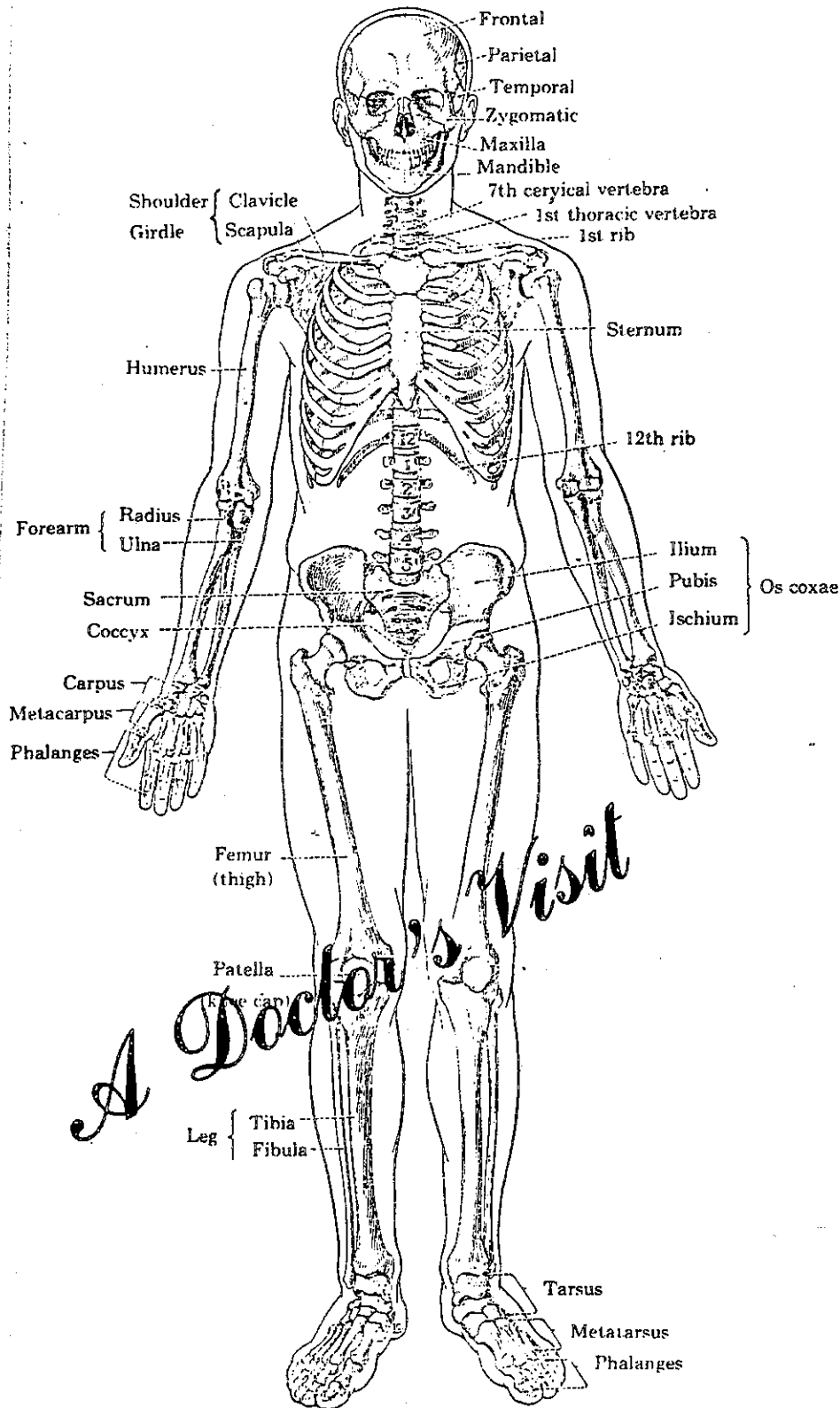
1. Couscous is eggplant baked in the shell.
2. Babakanush is an Indian curry.
3. Bottle of Chardonay is French perfume.
4. The customer ordered Haitian coffee.
5. The customer also ordered dessert.
6. "Compliments of Ray" means "Greetings from Ray."
7. The first thing the waiter says is "Would you like any dessert or anything like that?"
8. Babakanush is eaten with a spoon.

C. For Discussion.

1. List some food items in your country's typical menu.
2. What are some kinds of specialty foods, or foods unique to your country, that restaurants serve?
3. Describe one of the native or specialty dishes in detail.

D. Issues.

1. What is the appropriate behavior in your country in a typical restaurant?
2. Can women and men, not related to each other, eat in a restaurant together?
3. Are restaurants in your country mostly for special occasions or a regular type of activity?



A Doctor's Visit

ANTERIOR VIEW OF HUMAN SKELETON

III. DOCTOR'S VISIT

DIALOGUE

(Scene: Kaiser Hospital. A knock on the door)

DOC: Ms. Dibov?

DIB: Yes.

DOC: Hi, I'm Dr. Shriner. How are you?

DIB: Ok.

DOC: Is this your first time here?

DIB: Yes, here in D.C., but I spent alot of time at Kaiser in San Francisco.

DOC: Alot of time?

DIB: Just for urinary tract infections.

DOC: Then you have a history of urinary infections?

DIB: Yes, since I was 19.

DOC: What kind of prescriptions did they give you?

DIB: Gantrisin and Gantanol, but I prefer Gantrisin because Gantanol does not do a good job like Gantrisin. But today, for the past week, I have been having leg cramps and aches.

DOC: Is it cramping or is it achy?

DIB: What's cramping?

DOC: Cramping is usually very painful and usually the muscle is like a ball.

DIB: No, it's tense and achy.

DOC: Let's take a look at your leg...feel this side and the other side; feel any difference? Your muscle on this side feels more tense. It feels like a muscular spasm. I would put a heating pad on the muscle.

DIB: You don't think I need a bone marrow specimen?

DOC: No, I don't think any one would want one.

DIB: How do you know if you have bone cancer?

DOC: You can have a pain and you can have pathological fracture in the area.

DIB: What is a fracture?

DOC: A fracture is, for instance, let's say that you bump your leg and let's say you ended up with a fracture, that is called a pathological fracture meaning that you should never have gotten a fracture with that kind of trauma. Sure if you fell out of a window you are allowed to have a fracture, but not with a usual bump.

DIB: And that can be because of fragile bones. And how do you know if you have a fracture?

DOC: You have severe pain and can't walk on the leg; can't walk at all. I can give you a muscle relaxer, but between you and me I think you can work it out with some heat.

DIB: How long can this last?

DOC: It takes a couple of weeks. Now do you want some gantrisin?

DIB: Yes, please.

DOC: I'll give you 50 and only take it for ten days.

DIB: Ok, thank you. Bye.

DOC: You have a good day.

EXERCISES

A. Vocabulary:

prescription	bone marrow specimen
urinary tract infection	pathological fracture
cramps	bump
muscular spasm	fragile
bone cancer	couple of

B. Based on the information given in the dialogue, write true (T) if the following statements are correct, or write false (F) if they are incorrect.

- ___ 1. Ms. Dibov spent alot of time at Kaiser Hospital in San Francisco because of heart problems.
- ___ 2. Cramping is usually very painful.
- ___ 3. A good way to relieve muscular cramps is taking a cold shower.
- ___ 4. One way a person can have a fracture is by falling out of a window.
- ___ 5. A muscular spasm can usually last a couple of days.
- ___ 6. Gantrisin and Gantanol heals leg cramps.
- ___ 7. One symptom of bone cancer is a pathological fracture.

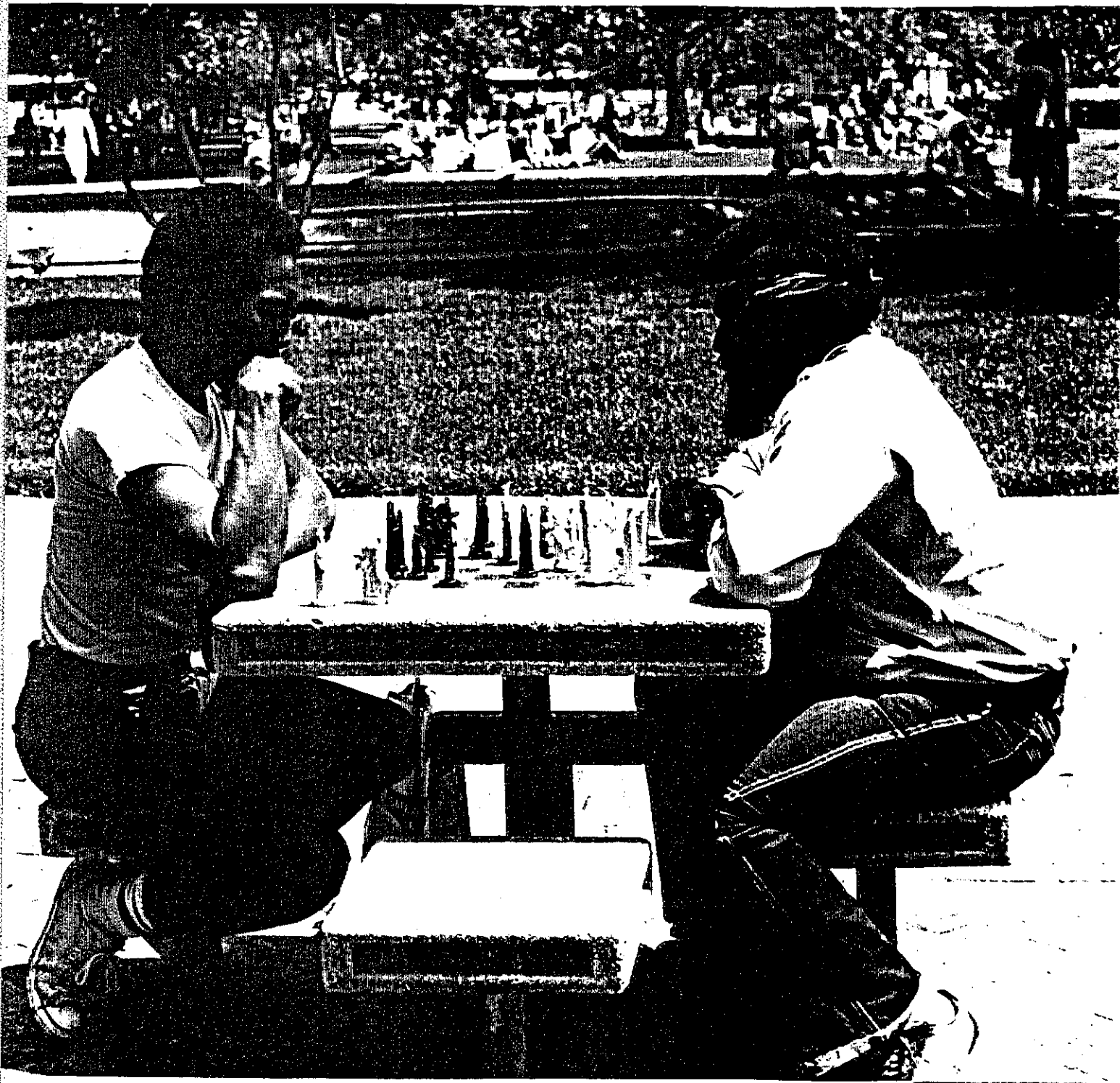
C. For Discussion:

1. Are there many women doctors in the medical profession in your country?
2. How are medical payments made in your country?
3. What kind of questions or attention would you get from a doctor?
4. Do women doctors treat medical problems for men as well as for women?

D. Issues.

1. Would you go to a hospital or doctor's office in your country with these symptoms?
2. Do you feel that the general public in your country knows enough about the importance of routine physical exams?
3. Should the patient in this dialogue have gone to the doctor or were her symptoms not very important?

Black Dudes



Playin' Chess

IV. BLACK DUDES PLAYIN' CHESS

DIALOGUE

(BD = Black dude)

BD : Hey, Leroy, what's happenin'?

BD : I like to see him play knight with his back turned.

Girl: You should watch this guy, he's very good.

BD : Has he been winnin' all the time?

Girl: Uh, uh--a winning streak.

BD : Alright, who go next?

Girl: You already lost!

BD : I'm gonna lose again until I beat him!

BD : After I beat him, I'll beat you.

BD : You ain't gonna beat me, man.

BD : Watchatalkin' about, man?

BD : You can't beat that man!

BD : You got the pieces--whe' yo pieces at? I'm gonna strangle you for about an hour.

BD : I told you, you gotta wait a year--one year.

BD : I don't hafta wait no year.

BD : Anybody I beat, gotta wait one year.

BD : Your first time you played in your life, takes one game to at least get to know the individual.

BD : That's why you have to wait one year because it ain't over.

BD : How long you've been playin' man?

PRO : Since I was 4.

BD : Watchagonna do with a man just comin' out of the cradle?

BD : You just said you gonna beat him, then you gonna beat me.

BD : I'm gonna do the best I can. I've been playin' chess since I was 13. Sacrifice! This man does play. Wow! Sacrifice! He is mean! He is mean! He's mean! I'm tellin' you man (he's watching a game between a professional (PRO) and another black dude).

BD : Hey, Nick, I got a player for you now boy. I'm tellin' you.

BD : Oh yeah, come on over.

BD : Bet all yo' money--bet it all!

BD : I'll bet all night.

BD : Well you can bet on it.

BD : Who that playin' blindfolded?

BD : He beat me blindfolded.

BD : Who did? (another guy pointing to the PRO) Are you the one who played blindfolded?

Girl: He's the one!

PRO : I can't play chess!

BD : I don't want to go nowhere near that man!

BD : You shouldn't, knowing you.

BD : That's the way I play all the time--blindfolded! You got a rating? What is it?

PRO : Over 2200.

BD : He's a master, no wonder he can play blindfolded!

EXERCISES

A. Vocabulary:

winning streak
 pieces
 comin' out of the cradle
 bet all yo' money
 to play

playin' blindfolded
 rating
 master chessplayer
 black dudes

B. Based on the information given in the dialogue, write true (T) if the following statements are correct, or write false (F) if they are incorrect.

1. "He beat me blindfolded" means that someone physically hit him.
2. The PRO, who was playing chess blindfolded, has been playing chess since he was four years old.
3. The man's name, who was playing chess blindfolded, is Emory Tate.
4. "Over 2200" means that the person is a master chessplayer.
5. "I don't want to go nowhere near that man" means that person has a disease.
6. A master chessplayer can play blindfolded.
7. "Bet all yo' money" means that the guys were gambling at a horse race.
8. "Black dudes" are something you wear.

C. For Discussion.

1. Is chess played in your country? Is it a popular game?
2. What kinds of sports do people in your country play?
3. What kinds of hobbies or physical activity do women perform in your country?

D. Issues.

1. Do you believe that chess is a competitive test of intelligence?
2. When playing games in your country--do you put more emphasis on development of mind or body?
3. Do you feel chess is an important international competition? Why do you feel it is or is not?

4. Do you have sports facilities (such as chess boards that are available to the public) provided by the government?
5. Which sports are acceptable to be played outdoors in full view of the public?



A Wedding Reception



V. A WEDDING RECEPTION

DIALOGUE

(The newly married couple, Alex and Sue [referred to as A&S below], just arrived at the reception.)

MARY: Congratulations!

A&S : Thanks!

MARY: So, Sue, you finally got hooked, after 28 years of waiting and six months of dating.

SUE : I'm surprised I did. It took alot of energy to persuade Alex to marry me.

ALEX: Oh, Sue, I had to persuade you to MARRY ME!

MARY: When are you going on your honeymoon?

SUE : We can't go now because I must return to work tomorrow and Alex has classes.

MARY: You're lucky, Alex! Sue works to keep you in school!

ALEX: Yeah, I agree, I have it made!

MARY: Sue, I want to tell you that your wedding dress is sensational! Where did you get it?

SUE : No where...I designed it and my mother made it.

MARY: It looks better than a store-bought wedding dress. By the way, how was your wedding?

SUE : We didn't have a traditional wedding in church. Instead, we went to a justice of the peace.

ALEX: If Sue hadn't had that glass of wine, I don't think we would have gotten married.

SUE : Alex! You were just as nervous as I was.

ALEX: Well, we tied the knot, didn't we?

* * *

(Later at the wedding)

MARY: I think it's a great idea having this reception on a yacht. I would never have thought of such an idea!

KAREN: It was Sue's idea, you know.

MARY : Where would you like to have your reception?

KAREN: Maybe, I would like mine in the country.

MARY : That's a nice idea. How about this one: exchanging marriage vows on top of a mountain peak?

KAREN: I might not have any energy left after I climbed to the top!

EXERCISES

A. Vocabulary:

congratulations
got hooked
to marry
wedding dress
wedding
traditional

Justice of the Peace
tied the knot
honeymoon
reception
exchange marriage vows

B. Based on the information given in the dialogue, write true (T) if the following statements are correct, or write false (F) if they are incorrect.

1. Sue "got hooked" after 34 years of waiting.
2. Alex and Sue can't take a honeymoon now because Sue works and Alex has classes.
3. Alex doesn't work.
4. Sue bought her wedding dress in a store.
5. Alex and Sue had a traditional wedding in church.
6. The reception was held on a yacht.
7. Karen would like her reception to be in the country.

C. For Discussion.

1. Describe a wedding reception and traditional activities one might experience in your country.

2. Where are receptions usually held in your country?
3. Is there an average age when people get married in your country?
4. What are the pre-marital customs (such as an engagement) before a couple gets married?

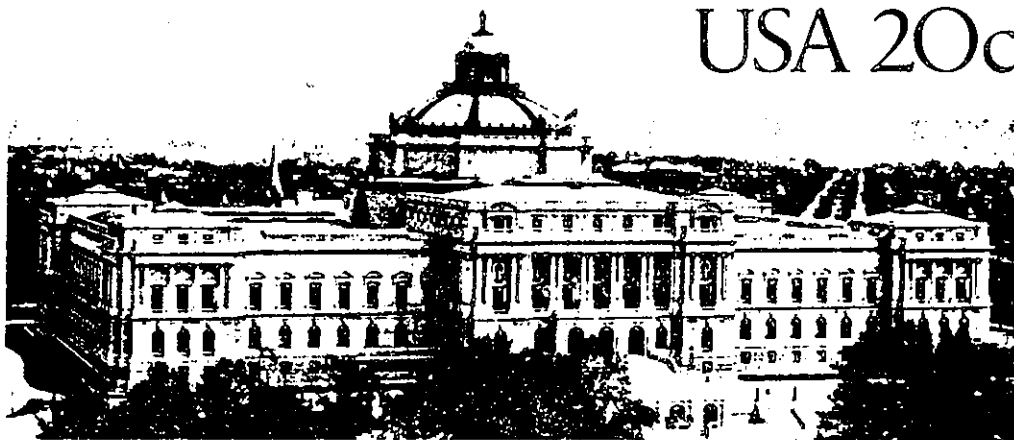
D. Issues.

1. If you are single, would a reception be a good place to meet girlfriends or boyfriends? Where else would you be able to make new friends?
2. Is it common for women to work while their husbands go to school in your country? How are the responsibilities, such as child rearing, household duties, finances, etc., handled between husband and wife?
3. Do you think the older customs are better than the modern customs (such as living together before getting married), or vice versa? Why?
4. What are your feelings concerning couples who marry outside their religion or race?

Tour Through The

Library of Congress

USA 20c



VI. TOUR THROUGH THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

DIALOGUE

(Tour Operator, referred to below as T.O., is speaking to a group of Tourists, referred to as T.)

T.O.: We'll all have a look around together and if you have any questions, I'll answer them. Tell me what you want to see?

T. : Everything!

T.O.: Well, there are three buildings--180 acres total. Let's start at the top and work down.

On the sales desk out there, there is a calendar of events and that will tell you what concerts and what's happening throughout the summer. We have literary programs, poetry programs and so on, so you can pick up the program for the month.

The photographic exhibit you just walked through is one we get every year at this time and the photographs, taken by the White House press photographers who cover, as you saw, lots of things other than the White House and so in the Spring time they have a competition among themselves and the best photographs go on display in the library.

(T.O. strolls into the Reading Room)

And in this particular reading room, it is one of 17, and it deals with, what you expect to find in a library, namely books, and it deals with about half of the books in the library, which is about 10 million, and you can't get law books in here, they are in the law library.

T. : How do you get a book out of the library?

T.O.: Ummm, you go to the catalogue and order it. You don't go to the bookshelves and browse--anywhere! We're talking about 530 miles of bookshelves and we are quite convinced that we'll never see you again!

T. : What isn't there anybody using the reading room?

T.O.: Well, it's not surprising--it's 9 o'clock in the morning and by noon it will be pretty well filled. We get on an average day about 2,000 book requests

--not people, just books. So it is being used and that's just in this reading room. There are other people listening to music in the music room; other people looking at maps in the map room, and so on.

T. : Do I have to go to a separate building to order a book not found in this particular reading room?

T.O.: We don't say you have to go to that building for that book particularly, because there are vertical and horizontal book carriers, 2-1/2 miles out of this building moving the books between the floors. You can order a book on any floor in the building without carrying it physically from one floor to another. You can't have someone running up and down the stairs 2,000 times to get 2,000 books-- it would be ridiculous!

T. : How many people manage the bookshelves?

T.O.: There are about 100 people who stay on the various floors. It takes 100 people to cover 500 miles of bookshelves. They are busy all the time because they make sure the reading shelves are in order; they get the books off the shelves and put them back on the shelves.

Alright, let's go to the Madison Collection...

EXERCISES

A. Vocabulary:

calendar of events
photographic exhibit
catalogue
book requests
to order
pick up

browse
book carriers
vertical/horizontal
to cover
get off/put on
get out

B. Based on the information given in the dialogue, write true (T) if the following statements are correct, or write false (F) if they are incorrect.

___ 1. The Library has a calendar of events that occur during the summer.

- _____ 2. The White House press photographers take pictures of only the White House and the President and his wife.
- _____ 3. The reading room deals with only about half of the books in the library.
- _____ 4. You can get a book out of the library, but it must be returned within a week to the library.
- _____ 5. On an average day, the reading room gets about 2,000 book requests.
- _____ 6. If you want a book, you must carry it yourself.
- _____ 7. It takes 100 people to cover 500 miles of book shelves.

C. For Discussion.

1. Does your town have libraries free and open to the public, or anything similar?
2. How do you order books from your local library?
3. How would you find the books you want in the library?

D. Issues.

1. When was your city's library opened? What is its history?
2. Does your library offer other services, such as providing the public with newspapers from foreign countries, establishing a music room where people can listen to music, etc., other than dealing with books?
3. What kind of books do you like to read?
4. What subjects, or specialty, are offered in your library?