

48 LISTENING COMPREHENSION

3. (man) *Are you coming to the party tonight?*
 (woman) *I wish I could.*
 (narrator) *What does the woman mean?*
- (A) She is coming to the party.
 (B) She might come to the party.
 (C) She will try to come to the party.
 (D) She is not coming to the party.

TOEFL EXERCISE 14: In this exercise, listen carefully to the short conversation and question in the recording program, and then choose the best answer to the question. You should remember that a wish implies an opposite meaning.



NOW BEGIN THE RECORDING PROGRAM AT TOEFL EXERCISE 14.

1. (A) The line is short.
 (B) There are not very many people in front of them.
 (C) The line in front of them is too long.
 (D) Not many people want to get tickets to the concert.
2. (A) The woman told him about the ticket.
 (B) He wanted the woman to get a ticket.
 (C) He was happy to find out about the ticket.
 (D) The woman did not tell him about the ticket.
3. (A) She is not working too many hours next week.
 (B) She doesn't have enough hours next week.
 (C) She is working too many hours next week.
 (D) She likes working so much.
4. (A) The department did not change the requirements.
 (B) She likes the new requirements.
 (C) She changed her apartment just before graduation.
 (D) She does not like the changes that the department made.
5. (A) He is going to the theater.
 (B) He doesn't have enough money.
 (C) He isn't afraid to go.
 (D) He doesn't want to spend the money.
6. (A) Harry did not prepare enough for the exam.
 (B) Harry studied hard for the exam.*
 (C) He has not heard anything about Harry.
 (D) He had a bet with Harry.
7. (A) The algebra course that she is taking is not her favorite.
 (B) She doesn't need to take the algebra course.
 (C) She has a good schedule of courses this semester.
 (D) She's good at math, but she's taking the algebra course anyway.
8. (A) He was able to find a cheap apartment.
 (B) His apartment is too expensive.
 (C) He doesn't like the apartment's location.
 (D) The apartment is cheap because of its location.
9. (A) He arrived early at the auditorium.
 (B) He got one of the best seats in the auditorium.
 (C) He was not early enough to get a seat at the front.
 (D) He prefers sitting at the back.
10. (A) He'd like to work on his social skills at the game.
 (B) He wishes he could work on his term paper for sociology.
 (C) He can't attend the game because of his schoolwork.
 (D) Sociology is less important to him than football this weekend.

SKILL 15: LISTEN FOR UNTRUE CONDITIONS

Conversations containing conditions can appear in Listening Part A. The important idea to remember about conditions is that a condition implies that the *opposite of the condition is true*.

Example

On the recording, you hear:

- (man) *Do you think that you'll be able to go to the party?*
 (woman) *If I had time, I would go.*
 (narrator) *What does the woman say about the party?*

In your test book, you read:

- (A) Maybe she'll go.
 (B) She has time, so she'll go.
 (C) She is going even if she doesn't have time.
 (D) It's impossible to go.

In this question, the condition *if I had time* implies that the opposite is true: The woman does not have time for the party, so she *cannot go*. Therefore, the best answer to this question is answer (D).

The following box outlines the key points that you should know about untrue conditions:

KEY INFORMATION ABOUT UNTRUE CONDITIONS		
Point	Example	Meaning
• An affirmative condition implies a negative reality. • A negative condition implies an affirmative reality.	If she <i>were at home</i> , she could do it.* If she <i>weren't at home</i> , she could do it.	= not at home = at home
• A past tense implies a present reality. • A past perfect verb implies a past reality.	If I <i>had</i> money, I would buy it. If I <i>had had</i> money, I would have bought it.	= do not have money = did not have money
• Had can be used without <i>if</i> .	<i>Had I had</i> money, I would have bought it.**	= did not have money

*Remember that *were* is used instead of *was* in untrue conditions: "If I *were* there, I would help."

**This has the same meaning as "If I had had money. . . ." Note that the subject and "had" are inverted.