

# Oxford Living GRAMMAR

upper-intermediate listening scripts

## Unit 1

- A What's the matter?  
B I'm fed up with my job.  
A Why, what's wrong with your job?  
B Well, for one thing, my boss is always criticizing what I do.  
A Oh, right.  
B Also, one of my colleagues, Neil, is a bit strange.  
A What do you mean?  
B Well, this happened on Monday morning, right? He comes into the office and starts pointing at something out of the window behind me. But he doesn't say anything.  
A And?  
B I turn round to see what he's looking at, but there's nothing there. When I turn back to my desk, he's gone. But there's a piece of chocolate cake on my desk.  
A Oh, that is a bit strange! But nice! He sounds OK to me.

## Unit 2

- A How was your flight?  
B It was pretty awful, actually.  
A Oh dear, why was that?  
B We landed in a sandstorm.  
A That doesn't sound too good! What happened?  
B Well, we were approaching Riyadh when the plane started to shake.  
A Scary!  
B It was. It seemed to last forever.  
A So what happened?  
B Well, the pilot made several attempts to land. In the end, everything was fine, but everyone on board looked really scared.

## Unit 3

- A You look a bit stressed. Are you OK?  
B No, not really. I've been trying to work out what's wrong with my computer. It's driving me mad!  
A What's the problem?  
B I can't open email attachments.  
A Has this ever happened before?  
B No, this is the first time it's happened.  
A Hmm ... It's probably connected with your internet browser.  
B Oh, really? I have changed it recently.  
A That's probably it, then. Can you remember what you just did?  
B No. I've clicked on so many different buttons now, I've got myself completely confused.  
A Don't worry. I'll get my friend Tina to help. She's really good with computers.

## Unit 4

- A Good afternoon. Thank you very much for coming to the interview today.  
B Well, thank you for inviting me.  
A I see from your application that you've never worked in a shop before. Is that correct?  
B Yes, but I have worked on a market stall.  
A I see. What kind of market stall?  
B It was my uncle's antiques stall – selling old paintings, jewellery, coins, things like that.  
A Do you remember the first time you made a big sale?  
B Yes, I persuaded a lady to buy a very valuable painting.  
A How did that feel?  
B Amazing. I'd never experienced anything like it before. I loved it!  
A Marvellous! I think you are a natural salesperson!

## Unit 5

- A Good morning. Can I help you?  
B Yes, I'm interested in going on one of your Guided City Tours.  
A Which one are you interested in?  
B The Mystery Tour.  
A OK. I'll just have a look on the computer for you.  
B Will it take long?  
A No, just a few seconds. Ah, here we are. The next Mystery Tour is at 10 o'clock tomorrow night.  
B Ten o'clock at night! But it will be dark then!  
A Of course. All the best Mystery Tours take place at night. You never know, you might see something interesting.  
B I'll probably be too scared to look!

## Unit 6

- A Have you cut the grass yet? The guests will be arriving soon.  
B No, not yet. I was just about to start when the phone rang.  
A Oh, who was it?  
B Ellie.  
A Is she OK?  
B No, not really. She's got to stay late at work to write a report.  
A Oh no, poor Ellie. How long is it going to take her?  
B She thinks she'll have finished it by nine o'clock.  
A Nine o'clock? That means she won't get here till about ten.  
B I know. Some of the guests will probably be leaving by then.

## Unit 7

- A** Good morning. Can I help you?  
**B** Yes, I was just wondering if it would be possible to change the room we're in?  
**A** Yes, I'm sure that will be OK. Could I ask why you want to change, though?  
**B** It's very noisy when we're sitting on the balcony in the morning.  
**A** Ah, yes. That's because there are some roadworks going on at the moment.  
**B** It sounds as if they're digging up the whole road!  
**A** I think they're going to be finishing in the next few days.  
**B** I see. But would you be able to find us another room, please?  
**A** Yes, Room 8 is free. It's at the back of the hotel. That should be much quieter for you.  
**B** Thank you. The noise has really been bothering us, you know.  
**A** I'm so sorry about that. I hope you find Room 8 much more pleasant.

## Unit 8

- A** Ready?  
**B** Sorry?  
**A** Are you ready?  
**B** I don't know what you're talking about.  
**A** We're meeting Seb and Mandy at the train station in ten minutes.  
**B** They're not coming now, are they?  
**A** Yes. Why, what did you think?  
**B** I thought it was tomorrow.  
**A** No, today. They're bringing a friend with them.  
**B** Who?  
**A** Mumtaz. You've met her before, haven't you?

## Unit 9

- A** Would you like this piece of chicken? It's a bit burnt on the outside, I'm afraid.  
**B** Thank you. I'm sure it'll taste fine.  
**A** Is it OK? You must tell me if it isn't. I really want everyone to enjoy themselves today.  
**B** You mustn't worry so much! Everything's going to be fine.  
**A** You're right. I should just relax and enjoy myself.  
**B** Oh, wait a minute. This chicken's still pink in the middle. It's not cooked properly.  
**A** Let me see. Oh no, you're right. You mustn't eat it like that!  
**B** I know. You'll have to cook it a bit longer.  
**A** OK, I will. I'm just thinking ... I gave another piece of chicken to that man over there. I'd better go and tell him.  
**B** Yes, you should. You don't want anyone to get ill.  
**A** Fantastic. I'm looking forward to it already. Actually Tim and I aren't together any more.  
**B** I'm really sorry to hear that. Especially as it was me that encouraged you to ask him out.

## Unit 10

- A** Thanks for coming to see me!  
**B** That's OK. Where shall I put these flowers?  
**A** Oh, I'm not quite sure.  
**B** Shall I put them here for now and ask a nurse for a vase later?  
**A** That's a good idea.  
**B** It's very hot in here.  
**A** I know. I'd really like some fresh air.  
**B** Maybe we could go for a little walk together. There's a place you can sit just outside here.  
**A** No, I can't do that. They're not letting me walk around yet.  
**B** Oh, I see. Would you like me to open the window a little?  
**A** Yes, please.

## Unit 11

- A** I think we really are lost. I can't believe we didn't bring our phones with us!  
**B** I know. We're going to be late for the meal.  
**A** I don't recognize this road at all.  
**B** Shall we turn round and go back the way we've just come?  
**A** I don't think that would help. I think we should just keep going until we find Cliff Street.  
**B** Can't we just ask someone for directions?  
**A** There's no one around to ask!  
**B** Well, we could always knock on someone's door and ask.  
**A** I suppose we could.  
**B** I really think we should, or we'll never get there on time.

## Unit 12

- A** I just can't understand it. Where are they?  
**B** Don't worry. They'll be here soon.  
**A** Why aren't they answering their phone?  
**B** Who knows? There might be a problem with their phone, or it could be that our line has a fault.  
**A** I can feel myself getting more and more annoyed about this.  
**B** Yes, I can see you're getting stressed, but you need to calm down.  
**A** Maybe, but when they get here I'm going to ask them to explain exactly why they are so late.  
**B** They may not want to tell you.  
**A** What do you mean?  
**B** I don't know. They might be having some personal problems, for example.  
**A** I suppose you could be right.

## Unit 13

- A** Do you fancy coming with me to the new exhibition at the art gallery?  
**B** Not really.  
**A** No?  
**B** No. I was made to walk round endless art galleries when I was a child.  
**A** Were they classical paintings?  
**B** Mostly, but I remember seeing some quite modern stuff, too.  
**A** Well, the exhibition I'm talking about is sculpture, video installations and some conceptual stuff, too. What do you think?  
**B** No, it really doesn't sound like my kind of thing.  
**A** Are you sure? There's a really good café there.  
**B** No, you won't persuade me to go, not even with the promise of coffee and cakes!

## Unit 14

- A Where have you been?  
B I got stopped by the police on the way home.  
A Why?  
B I was riding my bike without lights.  
A You've got lights on your bike, haven't you?  
B Yes, but they're broken.  
A How did that happen?  
B They got damaged when I crashed my bike.  
A Oh, right. But that was ages ago!  
B I know, I know. Look, I didn't like being stopped by the police, but it has made me realize that I must get my lights sorted out.  
A Well, that's good then. Don't put it off any longer.

## Unit 15

- A Wait for me!  
B Well, hurry up! Megan's party's going to start soon.  
A How old is she going to be?  
B Seventeen.  
A Is she going to move out and get a place of her own?  
B No, she's going to carry on living at home.  
A But I expect she'd like to learn to drive. She'll be old enough to try for her driver's licence.  
B Oh yes, she's been saving up for lessons for a while.  
A I could take her out in the car sometime, see how she gets on.  
B That's a good idea. Now come on, we really must get going.

## Unit 16

- A Shall we get down to work? We need to do some more on this project.  
B I think I'm ready. Shall we begin with the photos?  
A Yes. Oh dear ... Actually, I'm not feeling very well.  
B Oh dear. It sounds like you're coming down with a cold.  
A Yes, I think I am.  
B Do you feel up to carrying on with the meeting?  
A No, not really. In fact, I think I need to go home. I'm so sorry.  
B Don't worry about it! It's not your fault.  
A Thanks.  
B Now, go home and look after yourself, OK?

## Unit 17

- A How was your meal out with Barb and Dan?  
B It was a bit of a disaster. I was talking to Nina about it earlier.  
A Oh, she didn't say anything to me. What happened?  
B The service at the restaurant was terrible.  
A Really? I'd heard it was quite a high-class sort of place.  
B So had I. That's why I suggested going there.  
A So, what was the problem?  
B Well, I really wanted fish, but the waitress explained that they hadn't had their usual delivery of fish that morning.  
A Oh, right.  
B So I asked for a pizza, but she said the pizza oven was broken.  
A Oh dear. And fish and pizza are the only things you eat! I imagine you weren't very happy.

## Unit 18

- A Agh!  
B What's up?  
A I've got really bad cramp in my leg.  
B Poor you. If you put something cold on it, that should help. Here, try this.  
A OK. Ah yes, that's better. Thanks.  
B Do you often get cramp like that?  
A No, not really. It's just started happening recently. I've tried stretching my leg when it happens, but that doesn't seem to help.  
B You have to be careful if you stretch the muscle when you've got cramp.  
A What do you mean?  
B You should stretch the muscle really slowly, or else you might damage it.  
A Really? I didn't know that.

## Unit 19

- A Boo!  
B I wish you'd stop doing that!  
A Did I make you jump?  
B Of course you did!  
A Ha ha!  
B It's not funny! If you did that when I was holding a hot drink, I might spill it everywhere.  
A Sorry! I won't do it again.  
B It's OK, I don't mind really. It's just a bit early in the morning for practical jokes.  
A It's not that early. It's quarter to nine.  
B Is it? It's time I got dressed and ready to go, then.

## Unit 20

- A Right, I really must go home now!  
B Yes, of course. You look as tired as I feel.  
A I am quite tired. I'm sorry I can't stay any longer. It's a shame we couldn't finish the living room today.  
B No, it's fine. Even if we worked all night, we wouldn't be able to finish. There's just so much to do!  
A That's true. It is a big job.  
B If I'd realized how long it was going to take, I would have asked Lewis to help, too.  
A What about Stella? Perhaps she could give you a hand tomorrow. Shall I ask her?  
B Yes, if you could. Thank you.  
A OK, I will.  
B If I was richer, I would have paid a professional to do the job. But if I was rich, I probably wouldn't live in this tiny flat!

## Unit 21

- A What have you got in this bag? It's really heavy.  
B Just my books for college.  
A What subjects have you got today, then?  
B Maths, Economics, and Geography.  
A What are you learning about in Geography at the moment?  
B The Philippines.  
A Is that in South East Asia?  
B Yes, in the western Pacific Ocean.  
A It's made up of lots of islands, is that right?  
B Very good. But do you know what the capital city is?  
A Yes, I do actually. It's Manila.

## Unit 22

- A Hello? Hello?  
B What are you doing out there? Are you OK?  
B Who's that?  
A I need a hand. Can you come out for a minute?  
B What on earth is that?  
A It's an antique mirror.  
B Explain yourself, please!  
A I got it from the hairdresser's. They were getting rid of it. I found it out in the street.  
B So you just helped yourself to it?  
A Not really. I asked the shop manager and she said I could take it. So, what do you think? Do you like it?  
B Hmm. I like the mirror itself, but I'm not sure about the frame.  
A Well, let's put it up on the living room wall and see.

## Unit 23

- A Auntie Enid's going to be 80 soon.  
B I know. We should do something really nice for her birthday.  
A We could organize a party for her.  
B But we do that every year!  
A That's true. Let's think of something different, then.  
B We could take her out somewhere.  
A To a restaurant you mean?  
B I was thinking of somewhere like the beach.  
A How far is it to Brighton from here? It's nice there.  
B It's about a hundred and twenty miles. Maybe we should think of something else.

## Unit 24

- A How are you feeling?  
B Not great. This is the first long-haul flight I've ever been on.  
A Do you feel sick?  
B No, I'm just a bit bored.  
A I know what you mean. And there's nothing to see out of the window, is there? Is it just cloud?  
B Actually, I think we might be over the cloud now.  
A Can you see anything?  
B Yes, I think we're flying over ice fields.  
A Really?  
B Look. It's amazing! The ice is much bluer than I ever imagined it would be.

## Unit 25

- A Can I help you?  
B I hope so. I've lost my bag.  
A OK.  
B And I think maybe I left it here.  
A I see. When?  
B About twenty minutes ago. I'm really worried someone might have stolen it.  
A Yes, of course.  
B And if that's the case, I need to act fast. It's got all my credit cards in it.  
A OK, just slow down a minute. What does it look like?  
B It's made of leather and it's sort of greenish-blue. Have you seen it?

## Unit 26

- A Are you OK?  
B I'm wondering when the next bus into town is going to show up.  
A You won't get a bus today. It's Sunday.  
B There are no buses on Sundays?  
A That's right. But it's not too far into town. You can walk. Where exactly do you want to go?  
B Nowhere in particular. I just want to have a look around the town centre.  
A Are you here on holiday?  
B No, I'm here on business, but I'm not working today so I thought I'd explore the town a bit.  
A I suggest you cross over this road and walk through the park into town. It's the nicest route.  
B Thanks. I'm looking forward to wandering round the old town, I've heard it's very attractive.

## Unit 27

- A What's the matter?  
B You nearly crashed into that red car!  
A No, I didn't!  
B You did! You weren't concentrating on the road.  
A Are you saying I'm a bad driver?  
B I'm not accusing you of anything. I just want to feel safe in the car.  
A Well, it sounds like you're blaming me for something that didn't even happen.  
B Hang on! There's that red car again! What's the driver doing?  
A I don't know. Can you see?  
B Looks like he's in a bit of a temper. Let's stay well away from him!

## Unit 28

- A What are those pictures?  
B Some of the photos I took on holiday.  
A Can I see them?  
B Of course. That's why I've put them up on screen.  
A That place looks nice. Is that where you stayed?  
B Yes, that's my friend Carla's house, where we stayed. Carla's someone I know from work.  
A And who's that?  
B That's Carla's husband, Bruno, who I hadn't actually met before.  
A He looks nice.  
B He is. And he's a brilliant chef. He cooked for us every night, which was great.

## Unit 29

- A Hello. Do you realize what time it is?  
B It's half past nine, I know. I'm really sorry I'm late.  
A Lessons begin at nine o'clock. Why are you so late?  
B I didn't have enough money to get the bus.  
A Why not?  
B Because I gave it to someone in the street.  
A Who did you give it to?  
B I don't know who it was, just an old man. He said he needed some money to buy some food.  
A Well, that was rather foolish of you to give your bus fare away to a complete stranger.  
B I'll stay late after school to make up for the time I've missed.

## Unit 30

**A** Did you go to the seaside yesterday?

**B** Yes. The weather wasn't great, though. It was quite rainy.

**A** Did you just stay in the car?

**B** No, not having driven all that way!

**A** What did you do?

**B** I got out and went for a walk along the beach.

**A** Was it cold?

**B** Freezing. After five minutes I couldn't feel my fingers any more!

**A** Oh dear!

**B** Having got so cold, I headed straight for a café for cake and hot chocolate!