

MIDTERM 1 B, LISTENING 1

Host: Good morning, everybody! On today's show, we're talking about traffic and accidents. This morning, on the highway, there was an accident. We saw a lot of traffic jams afterwards. I'm happy to say that no one was hurt, but it's going to be a long time before the traffic goes away. The police haven't opened the highway yet. Our first caller is ready to talk to us. Carla, did you see the accident?

Carla: Yes, I did. There were several cars, and a lot of people were shouting angrily. It was frightening!

Host: Where were you going when the accident happened, Carla?

Carla: Oh, I was driving to my office downtown. I was talking to my friend Johnny. I usually give him a ride into town.

Host: Did you call the police?

Carla: No, I didn't. I was shocked, and I left my phone behind this morning. I'm sure someone did, though.

Host: OK, thanks, Carla. What do you want to tell us today, Ben? You work for the city's transportation office, right?

Ben: Right. The city is planning to do something about the traffic and the pollution from the cars. We're working on it! There are a lot of accidents on Highway 55. People should get in touch with us if they have ideas that will help. We need people to get around town safely and quickly.

Host: OK, thank you, Ben. Thank you, Carla. If anyone missed the start of the show, we were talking about an accident on Highway 55 earlier this morning. No one was hurt, I'm happy to say, but there's a lot of traffic in the area. If you can, please find a different route. The police are working hard to get the traffic moving again. Please tune in again tomorrow at ten o'clock. We'll be talking about the new shopping mall that's opening next summer. Bye for now!

MIDTERM 1 B, LISTENING 2

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Nick: Hi, Marta! Did you have a good vacation?

Marta: Hi there, Nick. Yes, I did, thanks. It was absolutely terrific. Have you ever been to the Rocky Mountains? They're magnificent!

Nick: That's so funny. I'm going there next month with my wife. We're flying direct to Denver. The only thing is that we haven't booked a hotel yet. Do you have any advice for us?

Marta: Yes. You should definitely stay at the hostel we stayed at, Nick. It was cheap, clean, and extremely well located. There was a very good guide there, too. He was fascinating.

Nick: Was it the Rocky Hostel? That's one I saw online. I'll book a room right away!

Marta: Yes, that's the one. When we arrived, the people were really helpful. I'm sure you and your wife will love it.

Megan: The Rockies are a dream destination for me, Nick. You should go if you can. I wish I could! Are the Rocky Mountains awesome, Marta? They're so big!

Marta: Yes, they are! The kids were so surprised when we arrived ... of course, they got their phones out and started taking pictures, but I haven't looked at them yet.

Nick: It's strange. I was born in Colorado. In fact, I was raised in Colorado, but I've never been to the Rocky Mountains. My family has lived in New York since I was 17, and I didn't get a chance. It'll be great to go there finally. I don't know why I've waited so long.

Megan: Hmm. I'd like to know how much a week in a hotel costs. Maybe I could go someday, too. If it isn't too expensive, I could take my family there next summer.

Marta: You should go, Megan. There's almost no other place on earth like the Rockies!

Megan: I'll talk to Peter. He loves the national parks – all that land and space and no concrete buildings or traffic jams!

Nick: Right! That's why I want to go. I'm tired of all the pollution and trash. Look, here's a picture of
Mount Elbert on my home screen. Isn't it beautiful?

Megan: It is! Travel safely next month, Nick. Have a great time!

Nick: Thanks, Megan! See you, guys.