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A good way to practice and develop your conversation skills.



Natural Conversation

MIDDLE LEVEL

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Unit 8 Entertainment

01

Purchasing a Ticket

D ialogues

George: Hi. What shows do you have today?

Clerk: Here. Take a look at our program. Here are today's shows.

George: Oh. I'd like to watch Chicago. How much is it?

Clerk: That show costs \$12.

George: Alright. Give me 1 ticket.

Clerk: Where would you like to sit?

George: Somewhere in front.

Clerk: Okay. Here you go. That would be \$12.

George: Here. Thanks. Where can I buy popcorn and coke?

Clerk: Just over there.



S ample Phrases

Here are sample phrases and sentences you could use when purchasing and selling tickets for entertainment shows. Practice saying each.

Give more examples of phrases you could think of.

- What tickets do you have available?
- I'd like 2 tickets please.
- I'd like 4 tickets to see...
- How much are the tickets?
- Do you offer discounts?
- I'd like to avail a student discount.
 Here's my ID.
- I want to sit somewhere in the middle.
- Can I pay by card?
- How much is the cheapest ticket?
- Do you have free shows today?
- When is the next show?
- When does the next movie start?
- How much will that be?

- Which film would you like to see?Which show time?
- How many seats would you like?
- Where would you like to sit?
- Sorry. There is no more ticket.
- I'm really sorry but today's show is already fully-booked.
- We got nothing left.
- Where would you like to sit?
- How would you like to pay?
- Please enter your PIN.
- Would you like seats next to each other?
- That'll be \$24.
- Here are your tickets. Thanks.

C onversation



Clerk: Hi. How can I help you?

Mandy: Oh, hi. I'd like to buy two tickets for Divergent.

Clerk: Okay. For what time?

Mandy: 8:30, please.

Clerk: Sorry. That movie is sold out. We don't have any seats available for that show.

Mandy: What about other times?

Clerk: Let me check. Um...We do have four seats available at either 5:30 or 7:00.

Mandy: Then, may I have two tickets at 7:00?

Clerk: Sure. No problem. Are you students or adults?

Mandy: Students.

Clerk: Do you have a student I.D. with you?

Mandy: O.K. Sure. Here it is. .

Clerk: That'll be \$15, please.

Conversation Questions

- 1. Have you experienced purchasing tickets for an entertainment show? How did you do it?
- 2. How much do you usually spend for purchasing tickets for entertainment?
- 3. Which do you prefer purchasing tickets over the counter or online? Why?
- 4. Would you pay a big amount of money for a show of your favorite artist/band?
- 5. What's the most expensive ticket you've ever spent? Was it worth it?

Sample Answers

- 1. Yes, I already experienced purchasing tickets for a show. I was with my friends that time and we were about to watch the show, "Les Misérables". We queued up a long line just to catch the show. At the cashier, it was pretty fast and easy. We had a smooth transaction and we enjoyed the show.
- 2. For entertainment, I usually spend around \$37 a month. I try to be as frugal as possible so as to pay my other bills.
- 3. I prefer to purchase tickets online because they're easy and less hassle. I do not have to go to ticket offices anymore to buy tickets. Plus, if the show easily gets sold-out, it's easy to purchase tickets quickly.
- 4. It depends. If it's too expensive that I'd be in debt just to buy their concert ticket, then I wouldn't be willing to purchase that. I always have to consider priorities and reasonability before purchasing anything.
- 5. The most expensive ticket I've purchased was the ticket for Pentatonix's show. It costed \$200 for a VIP. I have no regrets. It was all worth it. I enjoyed every moment of the show. They are indeed talented individuals.



transaction n. [tran-sak-shuh n]

- the act of carrying on or conducting (business, negotiations, activities, etc.) to a conclusion or settlement

frugal adj. [froo-guh l]

- economical in use or expenditure; prudently saving or sparing; not wasteful



diomatic Expressions

fully-booked

- having no tickets, rooms, or tables left for a particular time or date

pay by card

- to pay electronically using credit/debit card or a payment card

over the counter

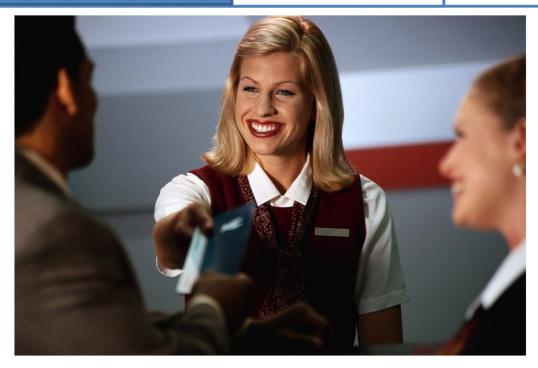
- to purchase tickets directly at a counter

VIP

- very important person

R ole-Playing

Purchasing a Ticket



Role-play the following scenarios. Use the phrases you've learned.

- A. You and your friend are going to watch a movie. You fall in line to buy tickets. Tell the cashier you need 2 tickets for students, you prefer sitting at the back and you want the 17:45 show.
- B. You are a ticketing cashier at a theater play. A person would like to purchase a ticket. Ask him/her necessary details before handing him/her the ticket and receiving his/her payment.
- C. You bought concert tickets online but you have a problem entering the concert hall. The concert staffs won't accept your tickets because according to them, your tickets were sold by an unauthorized company. What would you do?

02

Finding a Seat

D ialogues

1. Looking for a Seat

Kiefer: Excuse me. Is this seat available?

Pete: Yes, I think it is.

Kiefer: Thanks.

2. On the Seat

Kiefer: I need to go to the restroom for a while.

Rose: Okay. Can you buy some food outside too?

Kiefer: What do you like?

Rose: Just some popcorn and drinks.

Kiefer: Alright. I'll be back in a while.



D ialogues



3. Viewing Manners

Kiefer: Excuse me, hello. Could you please be quiet? You're disturbing some viewers here.

Cassy: Ooh. Sorry. I didn't notice. I'm very sorry. I'll be quiet.

Kiefer: Thank you.

4. Talking about the Actors/Film

Rose: You know, I think this movie is underrated.

Kiefer: I think so too. It's a good movie, too bad not a lot of people watch it.

Rose: it's okay. I like to watch underrated and not so popular movies. I also like indie movies. They're very raw and non-commercialized.

Kiefer: I agree. Plus several famous actors of the now mostly started out there.

S ample Phrases

Here are sample phrases and sentences you could use when looking for a seat and while watching a movie/show. Practice saying each of them.

- Where is my seat?
- Excuse me. I think this is my seat.
- Someone is sitting on my seat.
- I'm going outside for a while.
- I need to make a call.
- I'll buy some food.
- I need to go to the restroom.
- Is it okay to bring food inside the concert hall?
- It's time for the intermission.
- Be quiet.
- Sit down. You're blocking the view.

- May I see your ticket?
- Please don't kick the seats.
- What do you think about this movie?
- What do you think about the leading man?
- I think the actress is not as good as she used to be.
- Awesome performance from the cast.
- This movie won many awards.
- This movie is so overrated.

C onversation



Lyle: Did you see the new movie, The McQuillan Story? I'm writing a movie review for the school paper.

Ariel: I went to the premiere last week. What did you think of it?

Lyle: I liked it. I thought it was entertaining, although it wasn't groundbreaking, by any means.

Ariel: You thought it was entertaining? I thought it was awful. I almost walked out.

The acting was wooden and uninspired, and the direction was amateur.

Lyle: Aren't you being too critical? It was the director's first movie and I thought his debut wasn't bad. If there was a problem, it was with the screenplay.

Ariel: Don't get me started on the screenplay! The story was so predictable and the dialogue was pretentious. This movie is going to bomb for sure.

Lyle: Oh, I don't know. I think some people may enjoy it.

Ariel: If you want to do your readers a favor, you'd tell them to skip this movie and save their money!

Conversation Questions

- 1. What are some viewing manners you know?
- 2. Are there any habits of audience that annoy or irritate you? What are those?
- 3. Is finding a seat at a concert, theater or event always hard for you? Why?
- 4. What will you do if you reserved a seat at an auditorium in advance but when you got there, someone's already occupying it?
- 5. Do you prefer to watch movies at home or at a movie theatre? Why?

Sample Answers

- 1. Some viewing manners I know are not bringing noisy kids or babies at the cinema, not using phones, not talking during the movie or making too much noise when eating and cleaning up your own mess. These are just a few of the manners when at a movie or show and mostly they're just common sense.
- 2. Yes, there are some. Noisy people, using phones and not minding others are the habits that annoy me a lot. I really feel like those people should be forced to go out for a while until they fix or settle their problems.
- 3. Sometimes it's hard to find a seat at cinemas or auditoriums when the movie/show is a blockbuster. This is because a lot of people in my town are big fans of movies and theater plays. It's our form of entertainment.
- 4. If that happens, I will tell one of the staffs in that auditorium that I reserved that specific seat and I will show a proof. Then I would say that I want to have my seat. Or in other cases, I could just politely ask the person to move.
- 5. I prefer to watch at home rather than at a movie theatre because it's cheap, comfy and convenient. I could just lie on the couch or on my bed and watch on my laptop and I can even cook some meals while watching.