

Finding the library

Listen to a conversation about the university library to practise and improve your listening skills.

Before listening

Do the preparation task first. Then listen to the audio and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–f) with the vocabulary (1–6).

Vocabulary

1. registration
2. a library
3. a lecture
4. headphones
5. an office
6. a lecture theatre

Definitions

- a. a place where people can use or borrow books, newspapers, CDs, etc.
- b. something you wear over ears to listen to music
- c. the process of writing down students' information at start of the academic year
- d. a big room with many seats where students listen to teachers
- e. a room or building where people work
- f. a talk to teach many people about a subject

Tasks

Task 1

Write a number (1–4) to put the events in the order you hear them.

_____ The librarian gives the student an application form.

_____ The student asks someone for directions.

_____ The student asks to borrow some books.

_____ The librarian explains the rules.

Task 2

Complete the sentences with the words from the box.

fifty	off	office	card
quietly	food	six	two
			lecture

1. The big building is the theatre.
2. The library is next to the registration
3. You need a library if you want to borrow books.
4. You can take out books.
5. You can keep library books for weeks.
6. For every late day, you have to pay pence.
7. Mobile phones must be switched and you cannot have
or drink.
8. Please speak in the library.

Discussion

Do you have a local library? How often do you go there? What do you do there?

Transcript

Student: Hi. Excuse me.

Student B: Yes?

Student: Where's the library?

Student B: The library? It's next to the registration office.

Student: Ah ... sorry, I'm new. Where's the registration office?

Student B: No problem. See the big building over there?

Student: Yes.

Student B: OK, so that's the lecture theatre. Next to that, on the right, is the registration office. And next to that is the library.

Student: I see. Thanks!

.....

Student: Hello?

Librarian: Hello.

Student: Is this the library?

Librarian: Yes, it is. Quiet, please.

Student: Oh, sorry. Thank you.

Librarian: Can I help you?

Student: Er, yes, please. I want to borrow some books. What do I need?

Librarian: You need a library card. Here's the application form. You can take up to six books maximum today.

Student: OK. Six books.

Librarian: Yes. You have two weeks to read the books. Then you bring them back.

Student: And if I'm late?

Librarian: For every day you are late there is a fee of fifty pence.

Student: OK, 50p a day. Anything else?

Librarian: Mobile phones must be switched off in the library. You can bring your laptop, but please use headphones to watch videos or listen to music.

Student: OK, great.

Librarian: And you can't bring food or drink.

Student: No food, no drink. And ...?

Librarian: And please speak quietly! People are working here.

Student: Oh! Oh, OK. Thank you.

Librarian: You're welcome.

Answers

Preparation task

1. c
2. a
3. f
4. b
5. e
6. d

Task 1

1. The student asks someone for directions.
2. The student asks to borrow some books.
3. The librarian gives the student an application form.
4. The librarian explains the rules.

Task 2

1. lecture
2. office
3. card
4. six
5. two
6. fifty
7. off | food
8. quietly