Word on the Street
Loch Ness Scene 1 – Language Focus

Exercises
Answers are at the end of this support pack.

Activity 1
Decide if the speaker believes the events in the following sentences have a real possibility of happening or if they are unreal situations.

1. If time travel was possible, I would go back and see the fall of the Berlin Wall.
   a) real possibility
   b) unreal possibility

2. I am studying medicine. I want to become a doctor.
   a) real possibility
   b) unreal possibility

3. If I could sing, I would become a famous celebrity.
   a) real possibility
   b) unreal possibility

4. If we had money to go to Africa, we would see a lot of lions.
   a) real possibility
   b) unreal possibility

5. We are going to see a lot of lions when we go to Africa.
   a) real possibility
   b) unreal possibility

6. I am signing my record deal tomorrow. This time next year I will be famous!
   a) real possibility
   b) unreal possibility

Activity 2
Choose one of the verb forms in bold to complete the sentences.

1. If someone took / takes a photo of the Loch Ness Monster, they would make loads of money.

2. I would travel around the world if I win / won a million pounds.

3. We would be there now if we have asked / had asked for directions.

4. If I am / were you, I would call him.

5. If I become / became the president of the USA, I would forgive all foreign debt.

6. If Michael Jackson is / was alive, he would be the top-selling musician of the year.

Activity 3
Decide if the following statements are true or false.

1. We use one clause to form a conditional sentence.

2. We use 'if (past tense), would (verb)' to talk about unreal/improbable situations in the present or future.
3. If the if-clause is first, we need to use a comma before the would-clause.

4. If the would-clause is first, we need to use a comma before the if-clause.

5. We sometimes use 'If I were you …' instead of 'If I was you …'.

6. We use the same verb forms in both parts of second conditional sentences.
Answers

Activity 1
1. b) unreal possibility
2. a) real possibility
3. b) unreal possibility
4. b) unreal possibility
5. a) real possibility
6. a) real possibility

Activity 2
1. took
2. won
3. had asked
4. were
5. became
6. was

Activity 3
1. False
2. True
3. True
4. False
5. True
6. False