ABC World News
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TVニュース英語とは
最近のTVニュースに現れた略語

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Unit 1
Loss of Hearing

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Before You Watch the DVD

PREVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What effect can listening to loud music through earphones have on hearing?
   ——イヤホンで大きな音の音楽を聞くことは、聴力にどの様な影響を与えますか。
2. What changes are doctors finding regarding loss of hearing in the U.S.?
   ——アメリカでは難聴に関して、どの様な変化が起きていると医師たちは感じていますか。

WARM-UP EXERCISES

A. Vocabulary Check: Choose the correct definition for each of the words below.

1. to ruin ( )  a. a tool or machine
2. to ensure ( )  b. to damage; to destroy
3. rustle ( )  c. to shrivel; to become weak
4. device ( )  d. a crunching sound
5. to wither ( )  e. to make certain; to guarantee
D. Sawyer: And we turn next to a story affecting every American family. Here’s the question: Are your earphones ruining your hearing? Right now, tonight? Are millions and millions of Americans walking around, listening to music, but ensuring they will not be able to hear as well (1.)? Tonight, the mayor of New York says it’s time to send out an alarm. And ABC’s chief medical editor Dr. Richard Besser is stepping in.

Dr. R. Besser: Thirty years ago, people in their 20s could all hear the rustle of leaves, the drip of a raindrop, the babble of children. Now, for one in five of them, those sounds are gone, forever.

Dr. G. Alexiades, Neuro-otologist, NY Ear & Eye Infirmary: Normally, people were coming in, in their 50s and 60s with hearing loss, and now, that has shifted into (2.).

B. Fill in the blanks with appropriate expressions from the Vocabulary Check above. Change the word form where necessary.

**NEWS STORY** 2:15

1. The fall leaves ( ) and fell to the ground.
2. To ( ) that the project is successful, be sure to get enough people to help.
3. The new parents bought a special safety ( ) to monitor their baby’s breathing.
4. The campers got scared when they heard a ( ) in the bushes outside.
5. The garden we planted was ( ) by the neighbor’s dog.
**Dr. R. Besser:** In fact, Dr. George Alexiades has to tell more and more teens their high-pitched hearing is already gone. Designer head-phones are big business, high ticket must-haves. But for hearing loss, earbuds may be the most destructive. Some context, music devices can produce about 115 decibels of sound. Earbuds add five decibels more. Eighty-five decibels (3).


Could I talk to you for a minute?

So, how loud is the music? I went out with a decibel meter.

Coming in about 95.

**Pedestrian 1:** Oh.

**Dr. R. Besser:** A hundred and five. Whoa, 109.

**Pedestrian 2:** Oh, my god.

**Dr. R. Besser:** Here’s (4.). When strong sound vibrations hit your ear, the problem, deep inside the cochlea, are fragile hair cells. They turn vibration into sound messages to the brain. Blast them with loud sounds and some wither. If the loud sound is brief, they recover. But if it lasts too long or happens too often, they die. And (5.).

**Dr. G. Alexiades:** If you get to 100 decibels, I would limit that to about one hour a day.

**Dr. R. Besser:** My advice? Never go higher than three quarters of your top volume. And (6.).

Dr. Richard Besser, ABC News, New York.
send out an alarm 「警鐘を鳴らす」 chief medical editor 「チーフ医療エディター:医療関係（ニュース）編集長」 stepping in 「(登場して)リポートします」; 出番です」 babble 「おしゃべり声: こどもの片言」 hearing loss 「聴力損失」 high-pitched hearing 「高音域帯（高い音）の聴力」 Designer headphones 「デザイナー（ブランドものの）ヘッドホン」 high ticket must-haves 「高額な必携品（マストアイテム）」 earbuds 「(耳に差し込む)小型イヤホン」 Some context 「場合によっては」 decibels 「デシベル〈音の大きさの単位〉」 Power tools 「電動工具」 Coming in ～ 「(数値が) ～になる: ～を示す」 cochlea 「(内耳の) 鹿牛 (かぎゅう)」/kʌ(ou)klɪə/」 hair cells 「有毛細胞」 Blast ～ with loud sounds 「大きな音で(有毛細胞)を破壊する」

After You Watch the DVD

EXERCISES

A. Listen to the CD and fill in the blanks in the text.

B. Mark the following sentences true (T) or false (F) according to the information in the news story.

( ) 1. Twenty percent of people in their twenties are showing signs of hearing loss.
( ) 2. Hearing loss is less severe when earbuds are used.
( ) 3. Damage to hearing begins at 85 decibels.
( ) 4. People are now showing greater hearing loss because of increased use of power tools and lawn mowers.
( ) 5. Hearing loss is related to the loss of hair on the head.
( ) 6. According to the doctor, it is important to be careful about both the volume and the length of time when listening to music.

C. Translate the following Japanese into English. Then listen to the CD and practice the conversation with your partner.

A: Michael!!
B: What, Mom?
A: I’ve been calling you for ten minutes! 1. ________________________________
_________________________! You’re going to damage your ears.
B: It’s not that loud. You can’t hear it, can you?
**A:** That’s not the point. I just saw on TV that if it’s over 100 decibels, 2. —but you listen to that thing all day long!

**B:** Okay, Mom. 3. if it makes you happy. What did you want, anyhow?

**A:** Gee, I can’t remember.

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1. その音楽のボリュームをさげなさい！
2. 一日に一時間に制限するべきです。
3. イヤホンを外しますよ。

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**D. Summary Practice: Fill in the blanks with suitable words beginning with the letters indicated.**

The sight of people listening to music through headphones has become commonplace. Now, doctors are weighing in on the potential damage to (h 1) and what they have to say is frightening. Dr. George Alexiades reports that, while it used to be common for people in their (f 2) and (s 3) to exhibit hearing (l 4), he is now getting a lot of patients in their (t 5) and (f 6), and even some in their (t 7) who have lost their (h 8)- (p 9) hearing. According to Dr. Richard Besser, one of the reasons may be the popular (e 10), which increase the sound by (f 11) decibels. Damage to hearing can start as low as 85 decibels, but the people he checked with his decibel (m 12) weighed in at 95 and 109 decibels. Do that for too long and the fragile (h 13) (c 14) inside the (c 15) wither and may never grow back, thus triggering hearing loss. Headphones may be a (m 16)-(h 17) for a lot of young people, but users should be aware of the danger.
E. Discussion: Share your ideas and opinions with your classmates.

1. What are your favorite sounds? Would you miss not being able to hear the rustle of leaves and the sound of raindrops?

2. Is this issue of hearing loss from earphones being discussed in Japan? Are you personally concerned about it?

3. This news story focuses on one negative consequence of listening to music through headphones. What are other potential problems? What are some good points about using headphones?