

KINSEIDO



ABC World News

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ABC

World News 16

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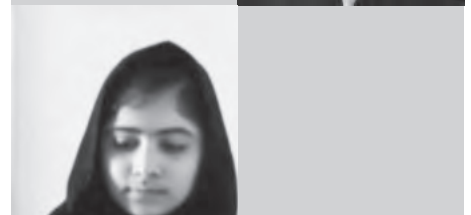
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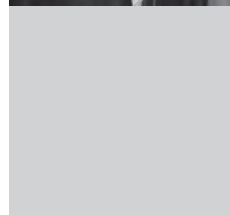
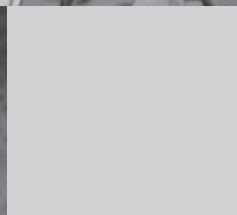
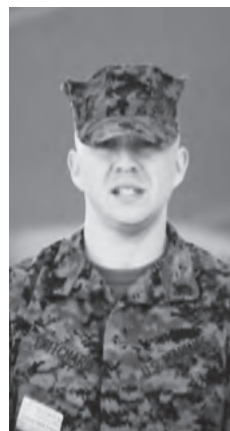
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Unit 1

Loss of Hearing

ABC News *World News Tonight* March 7, 2013



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、聴力にどのよう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、どのよう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 |

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

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.

NEWS STORY

2:15

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.



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)? 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.

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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.



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).

Dr. R. Besser: In fact, Dr. George Alexiades has to tell more and more teens their high-pitched hearing is already gone. Designer headphones 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.



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). Power tools? Ninety-eight decibels. A lawn mower? One hundred and seven. A jet taking off, 100 feet away? One hundred and forty.

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.

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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.



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). Dr. Richard Besser, ABC News, New York.

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.

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。

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?