

## Lesson 5

## Strategies in Short Conversations

## WH Word Information

WHO answer is a proper noun, personal noun, group name or other references to people

WHEN answer is an adverb (sooner or later), adverb clause (when I'm ready), or preposition of time (at 6:00)

WHY answer is a reason (because I like to)

WHERE answer is a source or place (from my mother, at home)

WHAT answer depends on the words in the question; what requires you to pay attention to every word.

What do you do?
What time is it?
What's your name?
What's your address?
What's your excuse?

I'm a dentist.
lunchtime.
Mark.
765 Riverdale
The bus was late.

HOW answer depends on the words in the questions; how requires you to pay attention to every word.

| How did you get here? | By train. |
| :--- | :--- |
| How much does the computer cost? | One thousand dollars |
| How many people attended? | About two hundred. |
| How long did the meeting last? | About three hours. |
| How often do you process the records? | Once a month. |

Note: The English sentence is like a puzzle. You must examine all the pieces to make sense of it.

## In the conversation, you will hear:

Man: Would you keep this for me until I get back?
Woman: I` m leaving in half an hour, so be fast. Man: It`s 4 now. I'll be back in 10 minutes.

In your test book, you will see:

What time will the woman leave?
(A) $4: 00$
(B) $4: 10$
(C) $4: 30$
(D) $10: 00$

Let`s analyze the choices:

Choice A 4:00

The man says that it is $4: 00$ now. But that is not when the woman is leaving

## Pay attention to the context.

## Choice B 4:10

The man will return at $4: 10$, but the woman will leave at $4: 30$ Pay attention to the context.

Choice C 4:30

This particular conversation example requires not only that you listen for facts, but that you do a small calculation to arrive at the correct answer. The woman says she is leaving in half an hour and the man tells her it is $40^{`}$ clock. Consequently, the woman is leaving at $4: 30$. Answer choice $\mathbf{C}$ most closely answers the question. Therefore, you should mark the oval (C) on your answer sheet.

## Choice D 10:00

The number 10 refers to minutes, not the hour. Be careful of the semantic associations.

More TOEIC Lesson 6/ Short Conversation Exercise

