

**English for International Business**  
**LISTENING LOG ASSIGNMENT**

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**WHAT:** A log is like a journal or diary – a written record of activities, thoughts, feelings, etc. In this case, you will be keeping a log of things you listen to *about business*, i.e. hear on TV, video, radio, or in live presentations. You should sample a varied mix of things--i.e., do not listening to the same radio show or TV drama each week.

**WHEN/HOW MUCH?** This is a weekly assignment, due Thursdays. Your first log is due Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup> and then *every* Thursday *except Thanksgiving* until December 8<sup>th</sup>. Thus, you are responsible for a total of 8 logs this term.

**WHY:** This is a multi-purpose assignment. It is designed to:

- 1) Get you to listen regularly in English, thereby helping you to improve your listening comprehension and develop your vocabulary;
- 2) Expose you to current business issues and developments covered by locally available media while allowing you to follow your own interests; and finally, but perhaps most importantly, to
- 3) Individually practice some important specific skills and strategies, like connecting spoken and written English, note-taking, understanding meaning from context, listening for main ideas, using relevant details as evidence or illustration, summarizing, and expressing opinions.

**HOW:** Obviously, the first thing to do is to start regularly listening—to radio or video (online is best because you can repeat). Focus on a specific story or broadcast you find interesting. Taking notes is essential. You might want to listen to several different things throughout the week before you decide which specific thing to write about to hand in.

**HAND IN:** The log write-up you turn in has **4 required parts**; you should:

1. **identify** precisely what you're writing about, i.e., show, when, where; title of story, source, date—formatted like a proper reference or citation. For example: "The Geography of Thought" Talk of the Nation, NPR, March 3, 2003; retrieved online 3/5/07 at [www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=1180660](http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=1180660)
2. **vocabulary:** focus on **no more than** 6 key terms (key because they are important for understanding this story); for each one:
  - identify the grammatical form (n, v, adj, adv) being used here
  - give the meaning being used here, and
  - write another sentence using the word or expression.For example:  
**attribute** (n.) characteristic, e.g., Do you think the attributes of people and objects are fixed or flexible?
3. **summarize** briefly what you've seen/heard (one paragraph should do the job), and conclude with a

4. **personal reaction**, which may be an expression of opinion, feelings, questions, confusion, etc.

Both your summary and reaction should be expressed in a coherent paragraph.

**WHEN:** Logs are due weekly, on Tuesdays, starting this coming Tuesday.

Remember, you're responsible for a total of 5 (by July 17<sup>th</sup>, the end of Week 8).