Handout 2
Scenarios for Listening Activity

Child is watching TV, and the toys are not getting picked up.

**Parent:** It’s getting late, and it’s time for bed. The rule is at bedtime, all toys must be picked up.

**Child:** I don’t want to pick up my toys. I want to finish watching this TV show.

Child wants a snack but did not finish dinner.

**Child:** I am so hungry. There is nothing to eat!

The child’s homework is not getting done.

**Child:** It’s late; I am not going to do all of this dumb homework.
Handout 2
Scenarios for Listening Activity

You pick up your child early from school to go to the dentist. You notice from his/her facial expressions that something is wrong.

**Child:** I am so glad I get to leave that dumb school early.

The child’s clothes are all over the floor, and the bed is unmade.

**Child:** I like my room this way. My friends have rooms just like this.

Parent asked child to do a household chore (mow lawn, vacuum, etc.), and the job is not done.

**Child:** (Mom/Dad), I didn’t get the lawn mowed like you asked me to.
Handout 2
Scenarios for Listening Activity

The teenager wants to stay out past curfew.

Teenager: All my friends get to stay out until one o’clock. I don’t know why you won’t let me!

Child did not get a part in the school play or has been cut from a sports team.

Child: Today, the list was up for the (play or sports team); my name was not on the list.

Report cards have been issued and your child’s grades are much lower than expected.

Child: I got an “F” in Biology.
Scenarios for Listening Activity

**You come home from a long day of work to find the kitchen sink full of dirty dishes. Your spouse/partner has been home all day with the kids.**

**Spouse/Partner 1:** Wow, the kitchen sure is a mess. What did you do all day long?

**You and your spouse/partner are discussing plans for your upcoming vacation. You prefer outdoor activities with plenty of time to relax, such as camping or going to the beach, while your partner prefers lots of activity, such as going to amusement parks and tourist attractions.**

**Spouse/Partner 1:** So, our vacation is coming up soon. Maybe we should start making some plans. I was hoping we could go camping at Scenic State Park again. What do you think?
Handout 2
Scenarios for Listening Activity

One spouse/partner would like to have more children and the other would not.

**Spouse/Partner 1:** Have you thought any more about having another child? We’re not getting any younger, you know, and I have always wanted three children.

**Spouse/Partner 2:** I’m not ready for another child. Don’t you think the children we have are enough?

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It is a Saturday afternoon and one spouse/partner starts heading out the door to clean out the garage. The other spouse/partner thought they were all going to do something together as a family.

**Spouse/Partner 1:** Where are you going?

**Spouse/Partner 2:** To clean out the garage.

**Spouse/Partner 1:** But, I thought we were going to go the pool all together, as a family. We talked about doing that sometime this weekend.

**Spouse/Partner 2:** Does it have to be now? I’ve wanted to get the garage cleaned out all week, and I don’t know when I’ll have another chance.
You and your spouse/partner disagree about how to spend your free time in the evenings. You want to have some time to relax and unwind with the newspaper or a TV show, but your partner wants to spend more time doing things together.

**Spouse/Partner 1:** Why don’t you ever want to talk to me? Every evening after the kids are in bed you disappear to the basement to watch TV or hide behind the newspaper.

You and your spouse/partner disagree about where to spend a holiday.

**Spouse/Partner 1:** Can’t we just for once spend the holiday at home and have a little time to relax together as a family without all the hustle and bustle of having to travel to your mom’s house? We can go see her on the weekend.

**Spouse/Partner 2:** You know how disappointed my mom will be if we don’t spend the holiday at her house. She looks forward to us coming and spends weeks preparing.
One spouse/partner feels it is important to save as much money as possible, because you never know when a financial crisis could happen. Doing things to help the family out, such as building up an emergency fund, are this person’s way of expressing love. The other spouse/partner feels loved when he or she receives a nice gift. He or she likes to express love for family members by buying them nice gifts and spending money on doing things together, such as taking vacations, going out to eat in restaurants, and going to sporting events or movies.

**Spouse/Partner 1**: I can’t believe you spent that much money at the mall/ballgame with Jessica/Robert. Especially after we have talked several times about needing to build up our emergency fund!

**Spouse/Partner 2**: But, that was our special time together. She/he has wanted to have a “day with Mom/Dad" for the longest time. And what’s the point of having money if we can’t spend any of it?

One spouse/partner has a habit of leaving his or her wet towel on the bedroom floor after taking a shower. The other finds this annoying.

**Spouse/Partner 1**: Do you have to always leave your wet towel on the bedroom floor after your shower? It’s bad enough that I have to pick up after the kids all the time. You’re an adult; you should be able to pick up after yourself.
It is finally date night! The two of you don’t get to go out too often because you don’t have family members nearby to watch the kids and babysitters are so expensive. You are discussing what to do.

**Spouse/Partner 1**: So, what should we do this evening?

**Spouse/Partner 2**: Well, I thought maybe we could go see the new action movie. It looks great!

**Spouse/Partner 1**: I was hoping we could do something more romantic, maybe go to a nice restaurant and then take a walk.