



Teaching Listening with Authentic Audio Texts

Annie McDonald

annie@hancockmcdonald.com

Outline

- 1 Using authentic texts
- 2 Setting the context
- 3 Understanding speech: a decoding
 - b meaning building
- 4 Summary & postscript

1 Using authentic texts

Characteristics ?

In a wa- in a... no, I would argue that no, individually they don't really have cognition, but as a colony, they do.

So how do they... t- tell us a little bit abou- about their intelligen- do... now here's an important question; Do ants have an individual intelligence or is it entirely a group thing?

2 Setting the context

Schematic Knowledge

World Knowledge

Speaker Knowledge

Schematic Knowledge

Apparently ...



APparently eh, mice Viking mice sailed as far as Greenland

3 Understanding speech

a decoding

b meaning building

3a Decoding

i words ii phrases iii grammar

i Decoding words

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name



Harold

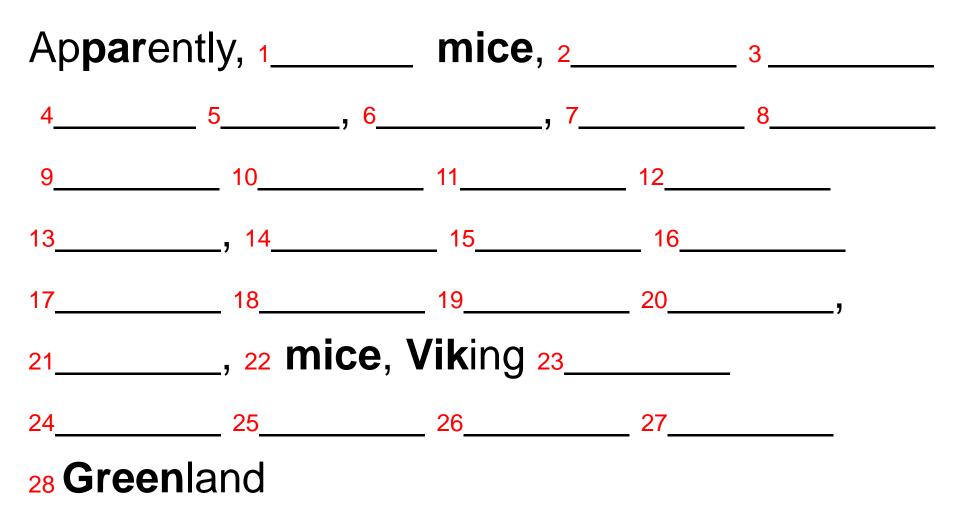
ii Decoding Phrases

There's a **bad moon** on the rise



bathroom on the right

Complete cloze



Complete cloze text

Apparently, eh mice, eh according to a report, eh, let me just get this absolutely right, it's from a a Scientific American story, eh, mice, Viking mice sailed as far as **Green**land

Mis-transcription game

¹ sail does far ²lep me juss get this ^³they look tut thee ya ⁴which wa zabada thousand ⁵all over the wood ⁶mice fum new kay an Norway

iii Decoding Grammar

All of the other reindeer





The same word?

according to a report from a a Scientific American Which was about a thousand

they compared that DNA with that of known was that eh these

all over **the** world mice from **the** UK and Norway to **the** Viking

its from a a Scientific American from mice DNA mice from the UK and Norway

3b Meaning building Dealing with unknown words Dealing with general meaning Following meaning a predicting content b understanding reference

Understanding specific information Identifying the main points

Dealing with unknown words

Listen and complete the gaps with a word or part of a word. Can you guess, more or less, what they mean?

- 1 ... they looked at the eh, what's called the DNA from mice skeletons ...
- 2 ... dating right back to the Viking _____ which was about a thousand to twelve hundred years ago ...

Dealing with general meaning: dictagloss

Apparently, eh mice, eh according to a report, eh, let me just get this absolutely right, it's from a a Scientific American story, eh, mice, Viking mice sailed as far as Greenland

Following meaning: predicting content

What type of information do you expect to hear next?

- 1 which was about a thousand to ehm ...
- 2 they compared that DNA with
- 3 what they realised was ...

Following meaning: understanding reference (1)

and ehm, they compared that DNA with that of known Viking mice from the UK and Norway, and what they realised was that eh these Viking mice travelled all over the world everywhere Vikings went, mice went with them.

Following meaning: understanding reference (2)

and ehm, they compared that DNA with that of known Viking mice from the UK and Norway, and what they realised was that eh these Viking mice travelled all over the world everywhere Vikings went, mice went with them.

Understanding specific information

- 1 What was the name of the research journal?
- 2 In which university were the researchers based?
- 3 When were the Vikings around?
- 4 Where were the two groups of mice from?

Identifying the main points

Listen again. Make notes on these sections of the story.

- 1 The research topic (abstract)
- 2 The information source (citation)
- 3 Authority of researchers
- 4 Research methods
- 5 Results
- 6 Resumé

Viking Mice Audio Script Apparently, eh mice, eh according to a report, eh, let me just get this absolutely right, it's from a a Scientific American story, eh, **mice**, Viking mice sailed as far as Greenland according to Elena Jones of Uppsala University in Sweden and her colleagues, they looked at the eh, what's called the mitochondrial DNA from mice skeletons or **mouse** skeletons on Iceland and Greenland, dating right back to the Viking heyday which was about a thousand to ehm, twelve hundred years ago, and ehm, they compared that DNA with that of **known** Viking mice from the UK and Norway, and what they realised was that eh these Viking mice travelled all over the world everywhere Vikings went, mice went with them.



- Activate various types of background knowledge (schematic, world, speaker)
- Include tasks related to the listening process (both decoding and meaning building)
- Use sections of the audio script to illustrate, provide support, develop strategies and build confidence
- Mediate difficulty through task rubrics to create level

Finally, even for experts, listening is a complex process

The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind. The answer is blowin' in the



The ants are my friends, they're blowin' in the wind ...





Teaching Lissening with Authentic Audio Texts

annie@hancockmcdonald.com http://hancockmcdonald.com