

Unit 1 – Scott

1 Pre-Listening Comprehension

A. Schema building

1. sixth
2. 70
3. one half
4. Canberra

C. Normalisation

1. Maida Vale is not far from Regent's Park.
2. Scott moved to Maida Vale just over a year ago.
3. He says Maida Vale is actually a really nice part of London.
4. It's very quiet.
5. The streets are very wide.
6. Everyone lives in mansionettes.
7. When you walk down the street, every house looks exactly the same.
8. Mansionettes are something the French are keen on, according to Scott.
9. A mansionette is basically a block of two or three-bedroom apartments.
10. Scott's address is 96 Elgin Mansions and there is another block next door called Biddulph Mansions.

2 Listening Comprehension

A. Questions

1. red bricks
2. three or two-bedroom apartments
3. four
4. a couple, Scott and another single guy
5. There is one double bedroom and two single rooms. ('there's a couple in the main room [i.e. the double bedroom] and then there's me and another um, single guy in the other single room')
6. the living room, kitchen and bathroom
7. Because the rent in London is quite expensive.

B. Gap-fill

1. Scott says he's quite lucky because he and his flatmates get on well.
2. They live like a family.
3. They share the cooking.
4. When Scott first got to London he wanted to live somewhere a bit cheaper.
5. At one time he was sharing with up to 10 people.

C. Questions

1. Australia, New Zealand and Germany ('Aussies, Kiwis, Germans')
2. Shepherd's Bush

D. Gap-fill

1. Scott says it was great fun sharing with lots of people, but it got a bit much after a while.
2. Scott says where he lives now is luxury compared to his first flatshare.
3. He isn't planning to move any time soon.
4. Scott says he certainly couldn't afford to buy a house in Maida Vale.
5. Another word for rich is 'affluent'.
6. Maida Vale is quite near St. John's Wood, which is walking distance to Lords cricket ground.
7. Scott is a cricket fan.

E. Questions

1. Little Venice
2. canals
3. in summer
4. Hammersmith
5. rowing
6. along the river/along the (River) Thames

F. Gap-fill

1. The interviewer asks if Scott is slowing down as he gets older.
2. She points out that before moving to Maida Vale, Scott used to go jogging along the river.
3. Now he spends his free time walking along the canal bank and watching cricket.
4. Scott admits he is doing less exercise than he was two years ago.

4 Further Listening Practice

A. Recognising sentence stress

1. It's certainly a term I wasn't familiar with until I came to London
2. so my address is 96 Elgin Mansions
3. Maida Vale is full of three or four-bed... three or two-bedroom apartments, basically.
4. I live in a three-bedroom one.
5. there's a couple in the main room
6. we share the living room and we share kitchen and we share bathroom
7. But er, when I first got to London obviously I was looking for something a bit cheaper, even then.
8. I certainly couldn't afford to buy a house there.
9. So yeah, it is quite a, quite an affluent area.
10. I'm certainly doing less exercise than I was two years ago.

Answer Key

B. Linking

1. I live in Maida Vale, which is not far from here at Regent's Park and the Academy...
2. It's basically a block of um, apartments, two or three-bedroom apartments, stacked on top of each other.
3. And they're often referred to as 'mansions'.
4. So your address is 96 Elgin Mansions...
5. And it's also close to an area called 'Little Venice'

C. Features of spoken English: elision and the glottal stop

1. I moved there about a year... a bit over a year ago.
2. it's actually a really nice part of London
3. And they're often referred to as 'mansions'.
4. so I don't know exactly what the definition of a mansionette is
5. most people renting in London – certainly people of my age – if they're renting tend to be sharing with someone
6. just because the, the, the rent in London is quite expensive
7. we get on well
8. I was looking for something a bit cheaper even then
9. which was great fun
10. so I think what I've got now is luxury compared to that
11. by sharing a house with a few others we can afford to rent there
12. it's also close to an area called Little Venice
13. so I tried to make the most of the river by taking up rowing and going for runs along the river
14. Regent's Park and Lords are the sort of highlights of that area.
15. I'll probably get back into running er, when the weather picks up a bit

5 Further Language Development

A. Extension exercise

1. I specifically asked for a single room, not a double.
2. I know you're not very happy being away from your family, but you've got to try to make the most of your time here.
3. Do you get on well with your mother? I always argue with mine.
4. I won't have any cake, thanks. I'm not very keen on sweet things.
5. It was a wonderful flat, but the rent was too much for me on my own, so now I'm trying to find somewhere cheaper.
6. Do you know the meaning of the Latin term 'tempus fugit'?
7. It's a beautiful day. Would you like to go for a walk?

8. You can share my umbrella if you like. It's big enough for two.
9. In which part of Paris do you live? Perhaps I know it.
10. When we go away we always get the people next door to feed our cat.
11. At my last job there were nearly 20 of us crammed into one small office the size of my living room.
12. Our flat is walking distance from the tube, so we hardly use the car during the week.

B. Phrasal verbs

1. My parents took up golf when they retired.
2. Do you get on well with your brother?
3. I didn't open a book all summer, so it's going to be hard to get back into studying again.
4. As soon as the weather picks up I'm going to start cycling to work.
5. At last! I've been looking for that sock for ages.

C. Colloquial English

1. I can't really afford that much. Have you got anything a bit cheaper?
2. We're very lucky because our flat is walking distance from where we work.
3. You look exactly the same as when we were students! You haven't changed a bit.
4. I left home a bit over a year ago, but I still miss my family.
5. I don't really like living out in the suburbs, but it's all I can afford, so I'm trying to make the most of it.
6. The party was great fun, but I had to leave early to get the last bus home.
7. The snow looked beautiful at first, but it got a bit much after a while.
8. I'm at bit busy at the moment. Can I call you back?
9. I don't see the problem! Most people my age stay out late on Friday nights. Why should I be any different?
10. At one stage I was thinking of giving up university and getting a job, but I'm glad I didn't.

Unit 2 - Ingse

1 Pre-Listening Comprehension

A. Schema building

1. False – Norway became independent from Sweden in 1905.
2. True
3. True
4. False – Norway is the world's third largest oil exporter after Russia and Saudi Arabia.

C. Normalisation

1. Bergen is the second biggest city in Norway.
2. Bergen is surrounded by seven mountains.
3. In 1916 a fire destroyed a lot of buildings in the old town.
4. Bergen used to be famous for its fishing/fish industry.

D. Anticipating the next word

1. 'all the cities in Norway are small compared to England'
2. 'In 1916 we had a big fire so all the old houses, they burnt/burned'
3. 'Now for us in England, salmon is the most expensive fish'
4. 'A marvellous view, yeah, especially in the winter when the leaves, leaves are off the trees'
5. 'Do you go to the seaside at all in the summer?'
6. 'We tend to spend more time at home or inviting friends for a meal or for a drink'

2 Listening Comprehension

A. Questions

1. salmon
2. wild
3. It's an island.
4. England, Denmark and Iceland
5. cruise liners and cabin cruisers

B. True/False

1. T (Interviewer: Do you live in the centre of the town? Ingse: No, I live outside.)
2. F (She took the funicular – a type of cable car.)
3. F (She lives on the second floor – the very top of the building.)
4. T (She says the view in winter is marvellous when the leaves are off the trees because she can see further.)
5. F (She says 'We get spells of snow. Like for a week.')
6. T ('It's a rainy city.' 'Famous for its raining, yeah.')

C. Gap-fill

1. It takes Ingse 45 minutes to drive to the nearest ski resort.
2. At the ski resort you can do downhill or cross-country skiing.
3. Ingse says it is not expensive to go skiing in Norway.
4. Ingse says cross-country skiing is like walking, but with skis on your feet.
5. The interviewer asks if it's warm enough to go to the seaside in the summer in Norway.
6. Ingse says a fjord looks like a lake, but the water is salty.
7. This is because a fjord occurs when the ocean makes its way into the countryside.
8. Cruise liners from England and the Mediterranean often enter the fjords because the water is very deep.
9. In summer the mountains near Bergen don't have any snow.
10. Bergen is unique in having a glacier so close to the coast.
11. In June and July it's possible to go skiing on the glacier in the morning and then swimming/swim in the fjord in the evening.

D. True/False

1. F Ingse says 'I haven't been here (i.e. to England) for a while now'.)
2. F ('the beer is what is er, the worst thing for tourists, of course')
3. T
4. F ('a takeaway pizza')
5. T (Ingse says 'a few years back we could go to England... and buy really cheap stuff. But I think the prices are levelling out.')
6. T ('What we do, we meet at each other [sic – other's] places rather than going out.')
7. F ('It's lively in town. I don't mean it's dead because it's expensive.')

4 Further Listening Practice

A. Recognising individual words in a stream of speech

1. All the cities in Norway are small compared to England.
2. And actually one of the mountains is an island.
3. nowadays we also get the small cabin cruisers
4. but we don't get as much snow as up in the mountains
5. the water is not as salty as out in the ocean
6. How much would that be in England?
7. a few years back we could go to England or other places and buy really cheap stuff.

Answer Key

B. Intonation practice

1. And er, nowadays we also get the small cabin cruisers. [down]
2. we don't get as much snow as up in the mountains [down]
3. Do they still do fishing now in Bergen? [up]
4. It's a rainy city. [down]
5. You can go where you like. [down]
6. Are there any islands out at sea? [up]
7. Do you have good views? [up]
8. Can you go skiing in Bergen? [up]
9. How much is a pound, now? [down]
10. What about er, something like a pizza? [down]

C. Contractions

1. They're starting off with cod now, but it's mostly salmon, yes.
2. we don't get as much snow as up in the mountains
3. But it's salty water.
4. Because they're very, very deep.
5. I haven't been here for a while, now.
6. And a pint, which isn't a pint any more...
7. It's a long time since I've done that...
8. And then one evening, we're at my house...

5 Further Language Development Practice

A. Extension exercise

1. Bonn is quite a small city compared to Hamburg.
2. I find Mumbai very stressful because you're surrounded by people all the time.
3. Do you still go rock climbing these days, or have you stopped?
4. We don't eat much beef because it's so expensive, but sometimes we'll get a small fillet steak for a treat.
5. The blue tit is now the most common bird in England. You can see them in nearly every garden.
6. I think Swiss chocolate tastes much better than American chocolate.
7. Yesterday we went for a walk down to the harbour and booked a fishing trip for this coming Sunday.
8. We used to live on the 10th floor of a block of flats in Camden Town, but then we bought this house when we decided to start a family.
9. The view from this window is wonderful in autumn when all the leaves on the trees in that wood over there change colour.
10. You can tell Valentina's got loads of money. She always goes on expensive holidays and you never see her in the same outfit twice.
11. Do you think it will be warm enough just to wear a T-shirt, or should I wear a jumper over it?

12. Before you dive into a swimming pool, it's a good idea to check first how deep the water is.
13. On Friday evenings we prefer to stay in rather than going out because everywhere's so crowded.
14. I'd love to come to Italy, but I really can't afford it at the moment. I've just heard I've got to pay out nearly £5,000 to get the roof repaired.

B. Prepositions

1. She's got a beautiful house in the country surrounded by fields.
2. London is very expensive compared to/with Berlin.
3. In the centre of the ring there was a tiny diamond.
4. We live on the ninth floor, which is fine so long as the elevator is working.
5. How much did you pay for your train ticket?
6. Please make yourself feel at home.
7. Shall we go out for dinner? I'm too tired to cook.
8. Sam lives in a block of flats overlooking a canal.
9. What about Sean? Would he like to come with us, do you think?
10. They put the wind farm miles out at sea, so it wouldn't spoil the view from the beach.

C. Transformations

1. I can smell (burnt) burning! Have you left something under the grill again?
2. I can remember this (build) building going up!
3. Police are investigating the (disappear) disappearance of two hitchhikers.
4. This used to be a really (industry) industrial area when I was growing up.
5. The one disadvantage of living in Bath is that it's very (hills) hilly.
6. This soup is really (tastes) tasty. How did you make it?
7. Her dissertation is on population (grew) growth in southern Europe.
8. It seems that in Eastern Europe (farmed) farming is becoming less and less popular with younger people.
9. It was only when the Queen (stand) stood up that I realised she's even shorter than I am!

Unit 3 - Anne

1 Pre-Listening Comprehension

A. Schema building

1. the Olympic Games
2. 1400
3. Minoan
4. Heraklion

C. Normalisation

Interviewer: Um, you, you said when we met that um, you came to Sissi last 1) year and you fell in 2) love with it

Anne: Mmm.

Interviewer: and you decided to 3) stay, so how, how did that actually happen?

Anne: Um, it, it wasn't so much Sissi. I fell, I fell in love with 4) Greece a long time 5) ago – my 6) husband and I did. And we came on lots and lots of 7) holidays and we always said that we would 8) retire to Greece, we always 9) planned to do that.

2 Listening Comprehension

A. True/False

1. T ('The people are so beautiful here um, and that just made us decide we were going to make a go of it.')
2. F ('I don't live in Sissi now, but I live not too far away...')
3. T ('I can knock off in the... at lunchtime')
4. F ('I can knock off in the... at lunchtime and go to the beach')
5. F (He does a jeep safari, some guiding work and a couple of pub quizzes.)
6. T ('It's a seven... six, seven-month period um, that you get paid.')
7. F (She says a lot of the reps that come out from the UK, go back [i.e. to the UK] and take temp jobs in offices and things like that over the winter.)
8. F (She says they go back to the UK and work in offices.)

B. Gap-fill

1. The interviewer says it must be quite hard for Anne to make the money from the seven months she works last through the winter months.
2. Anne says she and her husband live like the villagers during the winter.
3. They pick olives with their friends in the winter.
4. The people in the kafeneion don't pay them, but they do feed them.
5. When they're picking olives, Anne and her husband go to the kafeneion to eat every night.
6. They eat with the family.

C. Questions

1. prices
2. around the harbour
3. nine euros
4. sandwiches
5. in Newcastle
6. for nine years
7. a big river
8. in the Bass Museum

4 Further Listening Practice

A. Recognising individual words in a stream of speech

1. and we always said that we would retire to Greece
2. it's still got that fishing village feel
3. I thought I would get on with the people that holidayed here
4. I live in a traditional village up the road... and it's just such a lovely lifestyle
5. I still have time to socialise and enjoy the sun and the life...
6. he works in the tourist industry as well
7. We pick olives in the winter with our friends...
8. our cost of living is minimal in the winter
9. I used to work in the museum...

B. Recognising sentence stress

1. we came on lots and lots of holidays
2. I've got no regrets.
3. I live in a traditional village up the road.
4. and he works in the tourist industry as well
5. I'll go right through to the end of October
6. We pick olives in the winter with our friends, and they don't actually pay us, but they own the kafeneion, so they feed us.
7. every night we're expected to go down to the Café Neon and we eat with the family
8. So our, our cost of living is minimal in the winter...

C. Weak forms: 'to', 'for' and 'of'

1. So you've got to make enough money, basically, in the summer to, to get you through the winter...
2. a lot of the reps that um, that come out from the UK, they will go back
3. if they want to come back, which a lot of them do...
4. we're expected to go down to the kafeneion and we eat with the family
5. we don't have to make a massive amount
6. we can eat there, even when we pay, um, for sort of nine euros
7. Anne: my husband and I lived in Burton-on-Trent.....
Interviewer: Oh. Right.
Anne: for, for nine years

Answer Key

D. Linking

1. I live not too far away
2. I wanted to work here
3. but it's so lovely
4. and things like that
5. It sounds strange...
6. if you're on the coastline

E. Some features of a Midlands accent

a) The glottal stop

1. I don't live in Sissi now, but I live not too far away
2. Love it.
3. so I can get away from the holiday resort bit
4. It is just a, a short-term contract.
5. if they want to come back, which a lot of them do
6. we get food when we're out picking anyway
7. and we eat with the family

b) an' instead of and

1. we came an' holidayed on, in Sissi an' just loved it...
2. We were going to try and do it now an' not when we retired.
3. Um, an' it's just such a lovely lifestyle.
4. I still have time to socialise an' enjoy the sun an' the life...
5. nine euros with drinks an' food an' meze

c) Pronunciation – cup /ʌ / and put /ʊ /

and just loved it
 I live in a traditional village up the road
 at lunchtime
 it's just such a lovely lifestyle
 enjoy the sun
 that come out from the UK
 we're very much village people
 they have bumped the prices up a little bit
 all my family live up, up north

5 Further Language Development Practice

A. Extension exercise

1. I fell in love with Christophe the first time I saw him.
2. I've got another 12 years until I retire. I could stop sooner, but then I'd get a smaller pension.
3. When I was a kid, I begged my parents to let me have a kitten, but we couldn't 'cos my mum was allergic to cat fur.
4. You're getting very wet. Would you like to share my umbrella?
5. We get on really well with our neighbours. We always stop and have a chat when we see each other out in the garden or in the street.

6. Roast beef and Yorkshire pudding is a traditional Sunday lunch in Britain.
7. I run my own business so I can choose my own hours. I nearly always begin work at 8 and then knock off at around 4.
8. I think you're working too hard – you look exhausted!
9. The tourist season in Greece lasts from May to October.
10. I got paid £200 a week when I started work in 1995.
11. According to the contract I only get four weeks' holiday a year, but they definitely said I'd get five weeks during the interview.
12. My best friend's sister is going to France this summer to pick grapes on a vineyard.
13. My Spanish is minimal so I'm going to have some lessons before we go back there on holiday.
14. Kim's parents live in a massive house in the centre of Seoul. It's got five bedrooms and four bathrooms.
15. I was both in Athens, but my family moved to Kefalonia when I was a toddler and so I was brought up there.

B. get and got

1. I'm sorry, I can't come out tonight. I've still got lots of revision to do.
2. When I was younger I never used to get on with my parents, but I do now.
3. I got called in to see the manager yesterday.
4. I just don't know how I'm going to get through all this work.
5. It was tough changing careers in my 30s, but I've got no regrets.
6. Let's go out! I've just got paid for that project I did last month.
7. We try to get away to our country cottage every other weekend.
8. It was a really tough interview, but I got the job.

C. Colloquial English

1. Barnet is just another suburb of London now, but it's still got that village feel.
2. It was the most expensive holiday we've ever had, but it was worth it.
3. There's a nice cafe just up the road if you fancy a cup of tea.
4. Here's your pocket money. Remember you've got to make it last all week!
5. We don't really like doing the tourist bit. We prefer to get off the beaten track.
6. Don't work too hard!
7. There's a cinema not too far from where we live, so we go there at least once a month.
8. I've just treated myself to new boots, gloves and a woolly hat, so I'm really geared up for winter now.

Unit 4 - Jill

1 Pre-Listening Comprehension

A. Schema building

1. Golden State
2. gold
3. west
4. Mexico

C. Normalisation

1. London
2. Iranian
3. the Iranian gentleman's childhood nanny
4. She walked.
5. the Albert Bridge
6. 'beautiful'
7. California
8. American
9. a year

2 Listening Comprehension

A. Gap-fill

1. Bonsall is in northern San Diego County.
2. The ranch Jill lived on had a swimming pool.
3. When she got there, Jill's boss was planting fruit trees and mulberry bushes.
4. He was trying to recreate a garden from his homeland.
5. The ranch was out in the country, so Jill had to learn to drive.
6. The ranch was about 10 miles from the coast.
7. The nearest seaside town was called Oceanside.
8. It has miles of sandy beaches.

B. True/False

1. T ('I'd have one day off a week')
2. F ('he would give me a lift into Oceanside' i.e. Her boss used to take her in the car.)
3. F ('and er, spent all day on the beach, in the sea...')
4. F ('it's quite chilly')
5. T ('It's [i.e. San Diego is] about 45 minutes further south.')

C. Gap-fill

1. San Diego is a big city, but it has a nice downtown area with a lot of shops and restaurants.
2. Balboa Park is where you can find all the museums and art galleries.
3. Jill says you could spend days going around Balboa Park.
4. She used to take a book, lie on the grass for a while and then go in and have a bit of culture.

5. Sometimes she'd take a picnic or go for a walk and look at all the sights.

D. Questions

1. She lost a lot of weight.
2. shorts, vests and T-shirts
3. jeans and jumpers

4 Further Language Development Practice

A. Extension exercise

1. These trousers are a bit loose, so I'm just going to fetch a belt. I don't want them falling down in the middle of my speech.
2. The stream's too deep to wade across, but there's a little bridge a bit further on, so we can cross there.
3. We had a wonderful holiday, but the beach was a bit disappointing. They said it was sandy, but when we got there it was really stony because they'd had a storm and all the sand had washed away.
4. I love my brother dearly, but sometimes he drives me mad!
5. Can you look after the children while I pop out to the shops?
6. His parents both worked so he had a nanny when he was a little boy.
7. It's quite refreshing to run cold water over your wrists on a hot summer's day.
8. We've got a flat in London and a little cottage in the country, about 10 miles from the sea.
9. I've got the opportunity to go and work in Russia for a year, but I'm not sure I want to go.
10. I really like this jacket, but it doesn't fit me very well. The shoulders are a bit too wide and the sleeves are too short.
11. When I was a boy a group of us used to play football in that park every Saturday morning.
12. They say you need to spend days going round the Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg, but we've only got an afternoon free, unfortunately.
13. Sarfraz is in the middle of planting potatoes in the garden. Shall I get him to call you back?
14. That's a gorgeous coat! Where did you get it from?
15. You look fantastic! Have you lost weight?
16. I was an accountant by profession, but then I began painting 20 years ago and now I make a living doing that.

B. Colloquial English

1. They've got a beautiful house in the country, right by a river.
2. You don't have to go yet. In fact why don't you stay the night? We've got a spare bedroom.
3. Are you allowed to eat pork in your culture?
4. Let's go and see the sights first, and then we can go and have lunch somewhere.
5. My grandmother loved dancing, even in her old age.
6. Why don't we try that new Sri Lankan restaurant for a bit of a change?
7. Why don't we stop here? It's a lovely spot for a picnic.
8. It's a bit chilly. Shall I put the fire on?
9. Basically he chose the wrong career path when he was 18 and he's never been happy since.
10. Why don't I give you a lift as it's raining?
11. He used to be an accountant by profession, but then he retrained as an osteopath in his 40s.

C. Transformations

1. I decided on a career in (nurse) nursing when I was about 17.
2. She's very (thought) thoughtful — she never forgets anyone's birthday.
3. Economic (grow) growth has been slowing in recent months.
4. The wind's coming from a (south) southerly direction, apparently.
5. Normally they serve (refreshing) refreshments at half-time.
6. How much do you (weight) weigh now?
7. My cousin became a (profession) professional tennis player at 17.
8. Hurry up! You need to make a (decided) decision.
9. We haven't moved yet, (actual) actually.
10. Have you (planting) planted those tulip bulbs yet?

Unit 5 - Barbara

1 Pre-Listening Comprehension

A. Schema building

1. False – They reunited in 1990.
2. True
3. False – Germany has a population of 82.5 million and the UK has a population of 61 million.
4. True

C. Questions (Normalisation)

1. 'nice' and 'quiet'
2. 120,000
3. Catholic
4. the church

2 Listening Comprehension

A. Gap-fill

1. Paderborn has had a university since 1970.
2. There are quite a lot of computer firms in Paderborn.
3. Nixdorf used to be the biggest computer company in Germany.
4. Paderborn has the world's largest computer museum.
5. Recently a palace belonging to King Charles I was excavated near the cathedral, which is in the city centre.
6. A market is held regularly around the cathedral.
7. There has been a market there since the Middle Ages.
8. The market takes place every Wednesday and Saturday.
9. You can buy vegetables and fruit at the market, as well as other things.

B. True/False

1. F ('everything you get from the, the region')
2. T ('the region, it's really very much countryside')
3. F ('countryside – very flat')
4. F ('a lot of farmers living around')
5. F ('lot of farmers living around and, and they all bring their products [sic – produce] to the market')
6. T ('I love to do that.' 'it's great fun to be there')
7. F ('you won't save money')
8. F ('After that you have... well, a coffee at the café.')

4 Further Language Development Practice

A. Extension exercise

1. We have a saying in English: 'The early bird catches the worm.' What do you think it means?
2. Moscow is now said to be the most expensive city in the world.
3. I think the euro symbol looks too much like the dollar sign.
4. This inn has been here since the Middle Ages.
5. You must have been shattered when you finished last in the Marathon.
6. My grandmother is very open-minded – you can talk to her about anything.
7. Considering he's got so much money, you'd think he'd have a more impressive house.
8. This region of France is very famous for its cheese and its wine.

B. Colloquial English

1. I'll just have a little bit of cake, please, 'cos I'm supposed to be on a diet.
2. I live in Walthamstow which is quite famous for its William Morris Gallery.
3. I'm trying to save money this month 'cos I owe a lot of money on my credit card.
4. It's a very built-up area, but there are quite a lot of trees around, which is nice.
5. Munich is my favourite city in the world.
6. I'll just have a sandwich, thanks. I'm not very hungry to be honest.