



Amerikahaus English Abi Support – Listening Comprehension Practice

Read each question before watching the video. Then, during the video try to answer the questions. Listen to the video a second time and complete your answers, double-checking for their correctness.

Watch the videos here: <https://www.amerikahaus.de/veranstaltungen/videoreihe-stories-from-america/> or on our YouTube channel (amerikahaus).

You will find the answers in this second half of this document.

Radio Host from Illinois, USA

Where is Oglesby, IL?

What percentage of John's staff is currently working from home?

How does the radio station usually earn money?

What is one way Starved Rock Media has started to give its listeners a diversion?

Graduate Student from Texas, USA

What characteristics does Megan need to be successful at e-learning?

What is happening to the current workforce in the US?

How will Megan pay for her summer semester?

When did Megan move to Texas?

Musician and Videographer from Kansas, USA

What are some other jobs Kathryn has besides being a musician?

Why has Kathryn been taking cover requests?

Name two ways Kathryn is earning money during the pandemic.

What has Kathryn never done before now?



Spanish Teacher from California, USA

Does Vanessa need more time or less time to offer online classes?

Which week did Vanessa's school announce online classes?

Some students struggle with online classes. What are some of the reasons for this, according to Vanessa?

Where was Vanessa supposed to go with students for her service trip?

What did Vanessa mean when she said her summer plans are "up in the air"?

High School Band Director, Kansas, USA

What sort of equipment did the students take home in March?

How does Dan communicate with his students now?

Does Dan have his class meet as a big group online?

Who does Dan say has benefited most from this in his family?

Yoga Instructor, Kansas, USA

What other jobs does Michelle hold in this time?

How has Michelle provided students with mindfulness exercises?

Does Michelle expect people in the community to pay for her yoga classes at this time?

Why does Michelle's grocery shopping not last as long now?



German Teacher from Illinois, USA

How long has Pete been teaching for?

Who did Pete ask for help when he was getting ready to do online classes?

Which animals does Pete take care of every morning?

Why does Pete say the school closing came at a 'fortuitous time'?

BONUS: Which regional accent does Pete speak? (hint: big city)

Executive Directive for Amity Institute

How long has Amity Institute existed?

Which two ways have partner schools responded to the pandemic?

Where do teachers and interns live during their programs?

What does Amity Institute do?

Pediatric Nurse from California, USA

How long has Stephanie worked as a pediatric nurse?

How hard-hit is the hospital Stephanie works at?

What do her patients think is the best part of staying at home?

What type of building does Stephanie live in?



Behavioral Health Professional, Hawai'i, USA

Which students receive "Individual Educational Plans" with Heather?

Who does Heather provide services for now that she is working from home?

What age groups are in Heather's client list?

Name some reasons why Heather sees her situation now positively.

Teachers, Missouri, USA

Which subjects to Lindsey and Chad teach, respectively?

What do both miss most at the moment?

Has the amount of individual feedback Lindsey gives increased or decreased since going online?

What are some changes happening in Chad's field because of the pandemic?

Fulbrighter, Alabama, USA

Where did Amica work as a teaching assistant?

Why does Amica follow strict quarantine procedures?

What is so special about Birmingham at the moment?

What does Amica receive even though she has returned to the United States?



Student / Member of Oglala Lakota Nation

What does Esther want to teach her daughter someday?

Which war did Esther's father partake in?

Name two reasons Esther mentions for why reservations are at a high risk in the pandemic:

What are two qualities Esther urges people to show during this time?

Literature Professor, Florida USA

What type of virtual celebration is Martha participating in with her family?

How does Martha spend a lot of her free time?

Who did Martha see wearing N-95 masks?

How has Martha changed how she gives out vote-by-mail request forms since the pandemic?

Tattoo Artist and Engineer, Illinois USA

Is Julia already a tattoo artist?

How does Tim receive money at the moment?

How have Julia and Tim been exercising?

What are some activities this pair has been doing in the kitchen?

Ornamental Horticulturalist, South Carolina, USA

What is an easier term for Jeremiah's job title?



What is South Carolina's policy about church services during the pandemic?

Has Jeremiah been able to work remotely?

With whom does Jeremiah's grandmother live?

Director of Choral Activities, Hawai'i, USA

Where does Dr. Saplan say everything his students learn is synthesized?

What is the virtual project song about?

How does Jace make sure his pandemic life is productive and positive?

Which new hobby has Jace taken up during this time?

ER Nurse and Film Student, New York, USA

What happens if Nick gets a fever?

How does Nick describe activities that aren't possible right now?

Which big entertainment area does Nick mention being closed?

What does Nick say quarantine makes people reflect on?

Associate Partner at IBM, Toronto, Canada

Which field does Ali work in?

How has IBM been continuing their projects with clients?

What is something Ali thinks companies will change technologically because of the pandemic?

Where is Ali living at the moment?



Artist and Art Historian, New York, USA

Who got Linda an exhibition in Germany?

When does Sabine think her non-profit can reopen?

How does Sabine know that people care for each other nowadays?

What is happening to the Bronx neighborhood, according to Linda?

Structural Engineer, Toronto, Canada

How long has Fatima been in her current position at work?

What does Fatima say takes more time when working at home?

How will Fatima change her work schedule after the pandemic?

What is the stressful part of the work drive for Fatima?

Trainer for the Department of Defense, Nevada, USA

What type of training does Monica give?

Where has Monica been getting more food recently?

How far are active-duty military members allowed to travel?

Which ways has Monica's personal life been affected since the pandemic (name 2)?

Visual Artist, Nuevo León, Mexico

Which job did Tony lose in this pandemic?

What does Tony miss the most during this time?

What does Tony say about prescriptions during the pandemic?



Which word does Tony use to describe Mexican citizens?

Photographer, North Carolina, USA

What connection does Endia have to the Amerikahaus?

Which area of life does Endia make the focus of her photography?

How does Endia stay motivated during the pandemic?

What is some advice Endia gives to other makers?

Economist, Ecuador

Mediation practice: You want to share Alberto's video on Instagram, but you have a lot of English-speaking followers. Describe Alberto's perspective in 2-3 English sentences that you could post on Instagram, and include 3-5 hashtags to properly categorize Alberto's video.

Retail Logistics Receiving Manager, Kansas, USA

Why is TJ working overtime?

What does TJ miss a lot during this pandemic?

Why is wearing a mask at work strenuous for TJ?

What are some free time activities that TJ has been up to?

International Student Recruitment Coordinator, Kansas, USA

When did the university's students and staff start working from home?

How does Amber's international recruitment department make the experience less expensive for students?



When did Amber's university hope to go back to working from campus?

Why is Amber so excited about a window?

Business Consultant, Ohio, USA

What is Munich's sister city in the U.S. called?

How was the traffic on Ute's drive back home?

Were Ute and her husband required to go into quarantine?

When should the students from Ohio arrive in Munich?

Associate Professor of English, New York, USA

Does Charlie believe Buffalo has seen the worst of their Coronavirus rates?

How does Charlie feel about using Zoom for work? For his personal use?

Why can Charlie's son speak German?

What activities does Charlie associate with "slowing down"?

Visual Artist and Professor, New York, USA

When was "After Selma" exhibited at Amerikahaus?

Why has it been difficult for Joshua to stay positive during the pandemic?

Which problems do Black people still face in the US?

What can't people in the US turn a blind eye to, according to Joshua?



Package Engineer, Nuevo León, Mexico

What does GRUMA do?

Why is the technical support Andrés works on important during the Coronavirus pandemic?

Who was sent home from Andrés' department due to Coronavirus?

When was the last time Andrés got to see his parents?

Answers for Practice Questions

Stories from America - Radio Host from Illinois, USA

Where is Oglesby, IL?

2 hours west of Chicago

What percentage of John's staff is currently working from home?

50%

How does the radio station usually earn money?

Small market advertising

What is one way Starved Rock Media has started to give its listeners a diversion?

Project "Frontline Faces", Game "Top Ten Cartoons of All Time"

Stories from America – Graduate Student from Texas, USA

What characteristics does Megan need to be successful at e-learning?

Positivity, motivation and (self-)discipline

What is happening to the current workforce in the US?

Getting laid off, fired, and furloughed

How will Megan pay for her summer semester?

Getting government loans/funding

When did Megan move to Texas?

In December

Musician from Kansas

What are some other jobs Kathryn has besides being a musician?

Videographer, Barista, Bartender

Why has Kathryn been taking cover requests?

all her shows are canceled, to get tip money

Name two ways Kathryn is earning money during the pandemic.

Cleaning a park, tips via venmo, editing from home

What has Kathryn never done before now?

gardening, playing music every day

Spanish Teacher from Kansas

Does Vanessa need more time or less time to offer online classes?

more

Which week did Vanessa's school announce online classes?

March 13th/14th



Some students struggle with online classes. What are some of the reasons for this, according to Vanessa?
attention, concentration on one thing, distractions at home

Where was Vanessa supposed to go with students for her service trip?

Tijuana

What did Vanessa mean when she said her summer plans are “up in the air”?

she can't plan / her normal vacations aren't possible

High School Band Teacher, Kansas, USA

What sort of equipment did the students take home in March?

their instruments

How does Dan communicate with his students now?

via email and zoom

Does Dan have his class meet as a big group online?

no, other teachers do

Who does Dan say has benefited most from this in his family?

his two-year-old daughter

Yoga Instructor, Kansas, USA

What other jobs does Michelle hold in this time?

life coach, health and wellness coach

How has Michelle provided students with mindfulness exercises?

sends yoga/mindfulness videos to them

Does Michelle expect people in the community to pay for her yoga classes at this time?

only if they can

Why does Michelle's grocery shopping not last as long now?

older children moved back home

German Teacher from Illinois, USA

How long has Pete been teaching for?

47 years

Who did Pete ask for help when he was getting ready to do online classes?

his students

Which animals does Pete take care of every morning?

wildlife, dogs, cat

Why does Pete say the school closing came at a 'fortuitous time'?



Germans didn't risk health coming

BONUS: Which regional accent does Pete speak? (hint: big city)

New York accent

Executive Directive for Amity Institute

How long has Amity Institute existed?

over 50 years

Which two ways have partner schools responded to the pandemic?

sent home or online teaching

Where do teachers and interns live during their programs?

with host families

What does Amity Institute do?

exchange programs for teachers / foster intercultural understanding

Pediatric Nurse from California, USA

How long has Stephanie worked as a pediatric nurse?

4 years

How hard-hit is the hospital Stephanie works at?

not hard hit

What do her patients think is the best part of staying at home?

spending time with family

What type of building does Stephanie live in?

a condo(minium)

Behavioral Health Specialist, Hawai'i, USA

Which students receive "Individual Educational Plans" with Heather?

students with special needs

Who does Heather provide services for now that she is working from home?

students and parents

What age groups are in Heather's client list?

5-18 years old

Name some reasons why Heather sees her situation now positively.

Lighter workload, still can exercise, no longer thinking of quitting job



Teachers, Missouri, USA

Which subjects to Lindsey and Chad teach, respectively?

history, law

What do both miss most at the moment?

face-to-face lessons

Has the amount of individual feedback Lindsey gives increased or decreased since going online?

increased

What are some changes happening in Chad's field because of the pandemic?

criminal law, employment law

Fulbrighter, Alabama, USA

Where did Amica work as a teaching assistant?

Taiwan

Why does Amica follow strict quarantine procedures?

her mom is a nurse

What is so special about Birmingham at the moment?

epicenter of outbreak in Alabama

What does Amica receive even though she has returned to the United States?

her grant money/her scholarship/her stipend

Student / Member of Oglala Lakota Nation

What does Esther want to teach her daughter someday?

bead work art

Which war did Esther's father partake in?

Vietnam war

Name two reasons Esther mentions for why reservations are at a high risk in the pandemic:

mental health, high unemployment, few medical resources, food scarcity

What are two qualities Esther urges people to show during this time?

positivity and resilience

Literature Professor, Florida USA

What type of virtual celebration is Martha participating in with her family?

bar mitzvah

How does Martha spend a lot of her free time?

with the local Democratic Party club



Who did Martha see wearing N-95 masks?

poll workers (election workers)

How has Martha changed how she gives out vote-by-mail request forms since the pandemic?

by mail instead of at door / sends postcards now

Tattoo Artist and Engineer, Illinois USA

Is Julia already a tattoo artist?

Not yet. She is an aspiring tattoo artist

How does Tim receive money at the moment?

Through unemployment benefits

How have Julia and Tim been exercising?

Yoga, pull ups, walking dog

What are some activities this pair has been doing in the kitchen?

Cooking and baking

Ornamental Horticulturalist, South Carolina, USA

What is an easier term for Jeremiah's job title?

Professional gardener

What is South Carolina's policy about church services during the pandemic?

They can still meet in large groups

Has Jeremiah been able to work remotely?

No, he has not

With whom does Jeremiah's grandmother live?

Jeremiah's older sister

Director of Choral Activities, Hawai'i, USA

Where does Dr. Saplan say everything his students learn is synthesized?

In choirs/ensembles

What is the virtual project song about?

Hawai'ian monarch, overcoming diversity

How does Jace make sure his pandemic life is productive and positive?

Staying scheduled and structured

Which new hobby has Jace taken up during this time?

Baking/Cooking



ER Nurse and Film Student, New York, USA

What happens if Nick gets a fever?

Stays 2 weeks at home

How does Nick describe activities that aren't possible right now?

"off the table"

Which big entertainment area does Nick mention being closed?

Broadway

What does Nick say quarantine makes people reflect on?

Themselves, how they distract themselves, loneliness

Associate Partner at IBM, Toronto, Canada

Which field does Ali work in?

Management Consulting and Technology

How has IBM been continuing their projects with clients?

Collaborating remotely, changing project priorities

What is something Ali thinks companies will change technologically because of the pandemic?

Cyber security, patching up weaknesses in infrastructure

Where is Ali living at the moment?

With his parents

Artist and Art Historian, New York, USA

Who got Linda an exhibition in Germany?

Her friend in Kassel

When does Sabine think her non-profit can reopen?

Middle of the year

How does Sabine know that people care for each other nowadays?

Ask "How are you" and mean it

What is happening to the Bronx neighborhood, according to Linda?

It is being gentrified

Structural Engineer, Toronto, Canada

How long has Fatima been in her current position at work?

3 years



What does Fatima say takes more time when working at home?

Communicating with colleagues

How will Fatima change her work schedule after the pandemic?

Work from home more often

What is the stressful part of the work drive for Fatima?

The commute

Trainer for the Department of Defense, Nevada, USA

What type of training does Monica give?

How to use electric health records system

Where has Monica been getting more food recently?

Local restaurants (takeout/delivery)

How far are active-duty military members allowed to travel at the moment?

50 miles from base

Which ways has Monica's personal life been affected since the pandemic (name 2)?

Fiancé home more, online birthday parties, friends from far away have more time to talk, postponed May wedding attendance, visit back home to Virginia

Visual Artist, Nuevo León, Mexico

Which job did Tony lose in this pandemic?

Translator for New York company

What does Tony miss the most during this time?

Going outside, social interaction

What does Tony say about prescriptions during the pandemic?

Can't go to doctor to get them

Which word does Tony use to describe Mexican citizens?

Resilient

Photographer, North Carolina, USA

What connection does Endia have to the Amerikahaus?

Had a photograph exhibit there February 2019

Which area of life does Endia make the focus of her photography?

Employment discrimination, prejudice toward women and minorities, diversity inclusion in corporate America



How does Endia stay motivated during the pandemic?

Focus on home, food, shelter, and staying connected to family

What is some advice Endia gives to other makers?

Focus on the things and people that fill you up and bring you joy

Economist, Ecuador

Mediation practice: You want to share Alberto's video on Instagram, but you have a lot of English-speaking followers. Describe Alberto's perspective in 2-3 English sentences that you could post on Instagram, and include 3-5 hashtags to properly categorize Alberto's video

Answers may vary.

Retail Logistics Receiving Manager, Kansas, USA

Why is TJ working overtime?

Making sure people have essential items in stock

What does TJ miss a lot during this pandemic?

Social contact, seeing family and friends

Why is wearing a mask at work strenuous for TJ?

Warm, job is physical

What are some free time activities that TJ has been up to?

Working out, motorcycle rides, and calling family/friends

International Student Recruitment Coordinator, Kansas, USA

When did the university's students and staff start working from home?

Starting in mid-March

How does Amber's international recruitment department make the experience less expensive for students?

Online conferences and guidance instead of traveling, students also don't have to travel

When did Amber's university hope to go back to working from campus?

May 3rd

Why is Amber so excited about a window?

At her university office she doesn't have one / She has always wanted a window at her office



Business Consultant, Ohio, USA

What is Munich's sister city in the U.S. called?

Cincinnati

How was the traffic on Ute's drive back home?

Very light / no traffic

Were Ute and her husband required to go into quarantine?

No, it was voluntary

When should the students from Ohio arrive in Munich?

June 18th

Associate Professor of English, New York, USA

Does Charlie believe Buffalo has seen the worst of their Coronavirus rates?

No, hospitalization rates keep growing.

How does Charlie feel about using Zoom for work? For his personal use?

He thinks it's weird, not the same.

Why can Charlie's son speak German?

His son's mother is German.

What activities does Charlie associate with "slowing down"?

Cooking meals, spending time with family, appreciating living in the moment/living simply.

Visual Artist and Professor, New York, USA

When was "After Selma" exhibited at Amerikahaus?

2017

Why has it been difficult for Joshua to stay positive during the pandemic?

People of color have been dying at a higher rate than other people due to COVID-19

Which problems do Black people still face in the US?

Police brutality and racist vigilantism

What can't people in the US turn a blind eye to, according to Joshua?

Racial injustices and problems

Package Engineer, Nuevo León, Mexico

What does GRUMA do?

Produces corn flour



Why is the technical support Andrés works on important during the Coronavirus pandemic?

Helps food production

Who was sent home from Andrés' department due to Coronavirus?

Those with conditions that make them vulnerable

When was the last time Andrés got to see his parents?

Two months ago