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IELTS Listening – Museum Visit

M (Male Visitor):

Excuse me, may I come in?

F (Female Curator):

Yes, please do. How can I help you?

M:

I've been trying to find the photography exhibit. I went through the entire Modern Art Wing, but I kept ending up near the sculpture garden and couldn't see anything labelled "photography." Is this the right gallery?

F:

Yes, you've found it. This is the Contemporary Photography Gallery. It's tucked away a little, so you're not the first to get turned around.

M:

Good to know I'm not alone. I'm visiting from out of town and I read online that there's a new exhibit featuring urban life. Is that what this is?

F:

Exactly. The exhibit is called *City in Focus*, and it features black-and-white urban photography from around the world. It's a curated **mix of both iconic and emerging artists.**

M:

That sounds right up my alley. I'm an amateur photographer myself. Is there someone I can talk to for more detailed information?

F:

You're in luck—I'm the curator of the exhibit. I put the collection together with our director and a few external consultants. Happy to answer any questions you have.

M:

Great. First off, how long will the exhibit be running?

F:

We opened last Friday, and it will be here for six weeks—so through the end of next month.

M:

What days is the gallery open?

F:

We're open Tuesday through Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

M:

Do you have any evening hours? I'm in town for work, and I usually finish late.

F:

Yes! On Thursdays, we're open until 9 p.m. That's often the quietest time to visit too—fewer crowds.





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M:

Perfect. Is there a separate fee for the exhibit?

F:

No, admission to this exhibit is included in the general entry ticket. And if you're interested, we offer free guided tours twice a week.

M:

Really? When are those?

F:

Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2 p.m. They last about an hour, and they cover both the artistic and historical background of the pieces.

M:

Do I need to register for the tour?

F:

Not in advance. Just **arrive 10 to 15 minutes early and add your name to the sign-up sheet at the entrance.**

M:

Sounds easy enough. Can you tell me a bit more about the exhibit content?

F:

Sure. The photos are all urban-themed—city life, street moments, architecture, protests, community. We have about 60 works in total, and **each one is accompanied by a short narrative.**

M:

Any notable names?

F:

Yes, several. You'll see images by Vivian Maier, Gordon Parks, Alex Webb, and newer talents like Marisol García from Mexico and Kenji Ito from Tokyo.

M:

That's impressive. Are the descriptions detailed?

F:

They're concise, but we also provide a printed exhibition guide near the entrance. It includes expanded write-ups and artist bios. You can take one with you.

M:

Is photography allowed inside?

F:

Not in this gallery, unfortunately. Some of the works are on loan and have restrictions. However, you can purchase a high-quality catalogue in the gift shop.

M:

I might do that. Is there a digital version?





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F:

Yes, **we offer a digital eBook version as well**, which includes bonus interviews and behind-the-scenes content. You can access it via a QR code at the front desk.

M:

I saw something about an artist event coming up. Can you tell me more about that?

F:

Absolutely. Next Saturday, three of the featured photographers will be here for a panel discussion and Q&A. It starts at 5 p.m. in our event hall.

M:

Do I need a ticket?

F:

Admission is free, but spots are limited. You'll need to **register online—there's a link on our website's home page**.

M:

Great, I'll sign up for that. One last thing—do you offer any resources for aspiring photographers?

F:

We do! **We hold monthly workshops**. In fact, there's one next weekend on urban photography techniques. It's led by one of our staff photographers.

M:

Wow, is that open to the public?

F:

Yes, but **you do need to reserve a spot**. It's very hands-on—about 12 participants max. You'll go out into the city and shoot with a mentor, then **come back and review the work here**.

M:

That sounds incredible. I might just extend my trip. Is the equipment provided?

F:

You can bring your own gear, but we also have loaner cameras for beginners or those traveling light.

M:

That's thoughtful. Thank you so much for all this information. You've been really helpful.

F:

My pleasure. I hope you enjoy the exhibit—and maybe I'll see you at the panel or the workshop!

M:

I think you will. Thanks again.

