

CATCHING UP WITH MICHAEL **Transcript for student feedback**



- Christina:** So, Michael, how have you been? It's been, like, forever since we've seen each other.
- Michael:** I've been good. It's, it's been a wild life-
- Christina:** Yeah.
- Michael:** But it has been forever, like-
- Christina:** Like-
- Michael:** Almost what, we really seen each other.
- Christina:** Uh, since high school.
- Michael:** I'd say that. Maybe once or twice since then.
- Christina:** Maybe.
- Michael:** A lot has changed.
- Christina:** A lot, yeah, yeah, yeah. Like, uh, yeah, I've seen you, I mean I see you on Facebook and everything, but, uh-
- Michael:** That's-
- Christina:** It, that's it. Yeah.
- Michael:** That's about the only way to keep up with people
- Christina:** Yeah, yeah, it is, yeah. So-
- Michael:** Especially when you live in another country.
- Christina:** In another country, yeah, like across the ocean, yeah.
- Michael:** Yes.
- Christina:** So what have you, um, so what have you been up to recently? Like, where do you ... Where you working? Um-
- Michael:** So I work at a helicopter company.
- Christina:** Okay, yeah.
- Michael:** Uh, we do completions on helicopters, so we get them in.
- Christina:** Mm-hmm (affirmative).
- Michael:** Um, bare bones, and then we add all the interior paint-
- Christina:** Okay, yeah, yeah, yeah.
- Michael:** Any accessories for military, police, or personal use.
- Christina:** Right, yeah.
- Michael:** And, uh-

Christina: Personal use? Like people-

Michael: Like VIPs.

Christina: People who buy helicopters?

Michael: Just the filthy rich that want them for hunting-...
Or take them to their yachts. Um-

Christina: I need a ... I need a helicopter, too, you know, be above the traffic-

Michael: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Christina: Or something like that.

Michael: We've had a couple people buy them just to take them.
You know, you spend four million dollars to go hunt-

Christina: Okay.

Michael: Hunt out of them, so.

Christina: You know, whatever.

Michael: Yeah, if you got the money...

Christina: People got that money, then, you know, the, whatever you can,
can spend their
money on whatever they wanna do, so...

Michael: Yes. If I had it, I might do it, too.

Christina: Build your ... You could build yourself a helicopter. Yeah.

Michael: I've been doing that for, uh, nine years now.

Christina: Okay, yeah, right. So, like, pretty long time?

Michael: I feel, yeah, I mean, I'm, I'm very comfortable at what I do.

Christina: Yeah, yeah.

Michael: I know all the ins and outs 'cause I guess it has been so long.

Christina: Mm-hmm (affirmative). Mm-hmm (affirmative).
Oh, yeah, right, uh-

Michael: And, uh-

Christina: And so where do you, um, you're living in Texas now?
Where you living at?

Michael: I live in, in Dallas...Fort Worth area.

Christina: Okay.

Michael: Uh-

Christina: Like, in the city or-

Michael: Outside of the city, but in the ... We call it the Metroplex, so-

Christina: Okay.

Michael: Like, it's just suburbia I guess you would call it.

Christina: Yeah, yeah, yeah, like, kind of not in the city,
but you're close enough to the city to-

Michael: It's about 30 minutes-

Christina: Not be in the country.

Michael: Outside of Dallas and 30 minutes outside of Fort Worth, so-

Christina: Okay.

Michael: Right in the middle.

Christina: All right, yeah. Is it, um, big difference from Mississippi?

Michael: Uh...A very big difference.

Christina: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Michael: Uh, just in the culture.

Christina: Yeah.

Michael: You know, Texas ... Texans love Texas, too.

Christina: Yeah.

Michael: So that's a little different.

Christina: Okay.

Michael: You get used to, you know-

Christina: Like, because they're really, like, "Yay, Texas," or-

Michael: Yay, Texas.

Christina: Oh right, right.

Michael: Big time.

Christina: Uh, okay.

Michael: And every other state doesn't matter.

Christina: Yeah. They're like ... Well, 'cause that little ... What's the ...
The slogan is what?
"Texas is like a whole other country"?

Michael: Yes.

Christina: It, and it's like a whole other country?

Michael: It is, but, you know, people are nice there,
and I met some good friends there.

Christina: Okay. Well, that's good. That's good.

Michael: And, uh, a lot of people that I met are from Texas-

Christina: Yeah.

Michael: And there's a lot, too, that are from outside of Texas that moved
there, but we all consider ourself somewhat of a Texan now, so.

Christina: Yeah, 'cause you've been there for, yeah, forever.

Michael: I figure after nine years, I'm somewhat Texan.

Christina: You got Texas license plates, so, yeah. Do you have a ...
Do you have a Texas drivers license?

Michael: I do.

Christina: Okay. Yeah, so then that counts as a Texan.

Michael: Yeah.

Christina: Uh, yeah, right, yeah, and so, okay, yeah, and so what do you, um ... So, do y-you, because I see you on Facebook, um, and sometimes, like, you're working at a bar, as well? Do you, like, do you do that-

Michael: I do-

Christina: At the same time or how does that work?

Michael: So I do the ... I do work at a bar-

Christina: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Michael: As a bartender.

Christina: Yeah.

Michael: Um, on weekends, but it's a every once in a while-

Christina: Okay.

Michael: Like, maybe at least two times a month, maybe four times a month, but it was just a extra thing to where I was actually ... I don't, I, I don't know if I should say this

Christina: Yeah.

Michael: But I was at the bar-

Christina: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Michael: As a patron.

Christina: You can say that, yeah.

Michael: And they asked me, you know, the bartender, she said, "Would you like to bartend?" I said, "You know what? I'll try it." Uh, I just got out of this-

Christina: May as well, yeah.

Michael: Eight-year relationship that was not very good, so-

Christina: Okay, yeah.

Michael: It was a good way to get out and meet people and-

Christina: Yeah, right.

Michael: Kind of-

Christina: That's right. Yeah, you, you know, the best way to, I guess, meet a lot of people is, like, if you're working in a social situ-, like a bar-

Michael: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Christina: You're gonna meet a bunch of people, so.

Michael: And I have met a lot of people, a lot of good people.

Christina: Yeah.

Michael: Some crazy ones, but-

Christina: Well, yeah, you know, it's a bar, so.

Michael: It's a good way to get you out and talking 'cause I'm actually pretty shy-

Christina: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Michael: And quiet and keep to myself a lot, so.

Christina: Yeah.

Michael: It was a life-changing thing that I really enjoy doing.

Christina: Okay.

Michael: I just don't do it very often.

Christina: Don't do it very often. It's just, like, a side thing.

Michael: But it's kind of, you know, it sounds cool to say that you're a bartender.

Everybody likes us.

Christina: Yeah, they're like, "Oh, you must be a pretty cool guy to hang out with."

Michael: Yeah.

Christina: 'Cause you, you know, you're the guy that people pay money to talk to, so.

Michael: Yeah, they think I ... Yeah, exactly.

Christina: Right, yeah.

Michael: And they think I can make any drink in the world, which is not true.

Christina: Oh, yeah. Do they ask you for, like ... Has, has anybody ever asked you for a drink, and you're like, "I don't know what that is."

Michael: Uh, yes. It happens quite a bit, but-

Christina: Oh, yeah.

Michael: Nowadays, though, we have cell phones. You just turn around real quick and Google it.

Christina: And Google it. What is this cocktail, and then you're like, "Okay, I can make it." And so do you, um, so, like, like, can you do the fancy shaker stuff or, or no?

Michael: I can't spin ... I don't do the spinning bottles or nothing.

Christina: Yeah, okay.

Michael: I've tried that, but-

Christina: It's just like-

Michael: It turned out horrible.

Christina: With, like, liquor all over the floor.

Michael: Luckily, it was plastic bottles to try with or there would have been glass everywhere.

Christina: Okay, yeah, so it's just pretty straight-up bartending, cocktail stuff.

Michael: B-, yeah, yeah, that's it.
Christina: Okay. That sounds cool. Yeah.
Michael: Lot of talking, so.
Christina: Yeah, right. That's a big part of the job, I guess, yeah.
Michael: It is.

Bonus: **Meet Michael**

Christina: Okay. Okay, Michael, so tell me a little bit about yourself.
Michael: Uh, I'm a southern boy from Mississippi.
Christina: Yeah, right.
Michael: S-, been here till I graduated high school-
Christina: Uh huh.
Michael: Went to the Marine Corps-
Christina: Yeah.
Michael: Spent five years in the military. Then I got out and, uh, moved around the country a little bit-
Christina: Mm-hmm (affirmative).
Michael: And ended up in Dallas as a helicopter mechanic.
Christina: Okay, right, awesome. And, um, so, how do we know each other? Like, what is our relationship?
Michael: Oh, well, we- Basically grew up together from the time we can remember-
Christina: Forever, like-
Michael: Went to junior high together and high school together-
Christina: High school and, yeah, I think we've known each other since we were, like, two.
Michael: I would say that, maybe even (laughs)-
Christina: Before, right.
Michael: Since we can remember.
Christina: We just didn't know it. Yeah, right. Okay, and do you speak any other languages?
Michael: I do not. I'm still learning English, so.
Christina: Okay, well, you know, uh, you can never finish learning English. So, um, okay, and for somebody who is learning English, and they have to come and talk with Americans, um, any advice for somebody who has to do that?
Michael: Yes. I would say, uh, do not get nervous, don't worry about speaking it as proper as what you would hear.
Christina: Yeah.

Michael: Um, I-

Christina: They probably speak better than a lot of Americans actually.

Michael: They probably do, but don't get so focused on saying it exactly the way it should be said or, because I do that with Spanish and I, I, in, tend to get intimidated and-

Christina: Yeah.

Michael: Not wanna speak it.

Christina: Yeah.

Michael: And, uh, I know I'm giving the advice, but I need to take the advice, too, but-

Christina: Yeah.

Michael: You know, just try your best and don't get so nervous. If you don't say it the correct way, you'll eventually get it right.

Christina: Yeah, and people will probably understand-

Michael: And people will understand you.

Christina: You anyway. Yeah, and if they don't, they kind of try to help you and they figure it out. Yeah, right. Okay, great. Thank you.