

## LISTENING TO PHONE CALLS ON CAMERA

Fill in the other side of the following phone conversation. Everywhere you see blank lines, write some dialogue that fits the script appropriately. You are giving the "on-camera" actor something to respond to. (\*Use the guidelines in parenthesis if you need help.)

**ALEX: Hey. Sorry about that. The reception here is terrible. What we're you saying?**

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(Summarize what was previously being discussed. Make up a problem/or something great that is happening to you)

**ALEX: Right. I still don't see why it's such a big deal.**

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(Explain why it is important to you)

**ALEX: Okay. I guess that is pretty important. So what are you going to do?**

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(Create a fun action. Maybe something drastic or exciting that your character wants to do)

**ALEX: No way. Don't do anything before I get over there. Okay?**

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(React however you want. Maybe ask when Alex is coming over?)

**ALEX: I'm on my way now.**

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**TAYLOR: (to self) C'mon. Pick up... (then, into phone) Hey,  
. it's me. I just saw it online and the first thing I  
did was call you.**

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(Create some big news. It can be good news, but should be shocking and important)

**TAYLOR: How did it happen?**

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(Explain how event happened or how the news got out.)

**TAYLOR: Wow. I never would've thought... Was there a reason?  
Why now?**

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(Explain a reason for this thing or why the thing happened now.)

**TAYLOR: I gotta think of a good comment to write. Should I  
tag you in it?**

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(Yes or No and why. Or maybe an idea for Taylor of what to write)

**TAYLOR: Good thinking. I call you back.**

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**RILEY: Hello. This is Riley. I think I have a missed call from this number?**

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(Explain who you are. Make your character someone they know well.)

**RILEY: Why are you calling from some random number? What happened to your phone?**

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(Explain the events that led to you losing your phone.)

**RILEY: See? That's why I didn't want to go with you. Those things are always so crazy and everyone acts so immature.**

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(Describe the best part of the night. Something for Riley to get excited about.)

**RILEY: Please. I don't care. I'd still rather be here. Cozy at home. (beat) So what's happening now?**

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(Explain why you have to go and hang up quickly.)

**RILEY: Oh, okay... Bye.**

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**MJ: Hey. This is my family's 'no-phone time' so make it quick.**

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(Describe some news that seems like a big deal.)

**MJ: Okay. So what does that have to do with me?**

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(Explain why MJ should care. Some twist that makes MJ the focal point.)

**MJ: If this is a joke, it's not funny. I don't -- I don't even know what to say.**

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(Give MJ reasons why the news is true or proof that will take away doubt.)

**MJ: No. You're right. I'm just not sure what to do about it.**

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(Give MJ some advice and details about what to do.)

**MJ: I hate it when you make sense. I better get back before I get yelled at.**

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**SAM: That's so funny. I was just thinking of you and then the phone rings.**

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(Give the details about why you two haven't been in touch.)

**SAM: Yeah... (beat) Listen, can we just let the past be the past?**

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(Explain why the events of past are too hard to let go.)

**SAM: How do you do that? You have a way of making me feel so --**

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(Name the feeling Sam is searching for and why it's appropriate to feel that way.)

**SAM: Sometimes you have to zoom out and look at the big picture. You know what I mean?**

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(Reveal a surprising secret detail from the past that Sam didn't know.)

**SAM: I, um, I gotta go.**