

LISTENING COMPREHENSION – High school cheating scandal (6 min)

You are going to hear a recording about an incident where high school students were trying to steal the answers for their final exams from the teachers' room in Hanover High School.

I) Before listening, read the list of vocabulary and the two expressions below:

cheating	if you try to pass a test in a way that is not allowed
to conspire	to plan something illegal
to fail a student	to give him a bad mark
to suspend a student	to ban a student from school
to be charged with criminal trespass	to have to go to court after doing something illegal entering a place illegally
a lookout	the person who warns others who are doing something illegal
appropriate	the right thing to do
the principal	the headmaster of the school
to have a point	to say what's right
disciplinary reactions	the punishment you get (from your parents or school) after doing something wrong
to be grounded	not to be allowed to go out (<i>Hausarrest haben</i>)
the SAT	the final tests in the USA (\approx <i>Matura</i>)
prosecutor	district attorney (<i>Staatsanwalt</i>)
misdemeanor	a "light" crime (like walking across the red lights)
felony	a very "hard" crime (like killing or robbing)
theft	stealing
pending before the court	(<i>vor Gericht anhängig</i>)
remedies	(here:) disciplinary measures
attorneys	lawyers
dismiss the charge	to close the case before it comes to court
power and privilege hold no sway [with the prosecutor]	the prosecutor doesn't make a difference between normal people and celebrities
an Ivy League community	an area where most people are highly educated and rich

II) Now listen to the recording twice, taking notes while listening:

First, try to explain the three statements below in your own words; then summarize the text, answering all the questions below IN YOUR SUMMARY!

- "What we're here to do is to teach young people to become responsible adults. Not confronting this [incident] would not do that." (principal)
- "He doesn't really have a social life." (mother)
- "The charges, which are misdemeanor charges of trespass, could be elevated to felony trespass." (prosecutor)

1. What did the students do and how did the school react?
 2. Does the mother think that it was right to call the police? Which other solutions does she suggest? How has she punished her son?
 3. Why is the mother afraid of going to court?
 4. According to the prosecutor, why did the case come to court? Is cheating a criminal act?
 5. Does the prosecutor just want to show the students that money alone can't save you from criminal charges?
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