



### Segment 2 (Units 1–4)

#### *What seems to be the problem?*

Genre: Situation comedy

Viewing Time: 2:27

#### Culture Notes

Doctors in the U.S. occasionally joke with their patients, though the doctor in this comedy segment is clearly going “over the top” and making jokes out of every part of the conversation: joking about “giving away French fries,” using comical sounds (“ding ding”), employing sarcasm (“They don’t give stethoscopes away to just anyone”), and playing tricks (“Here’s your bill . . . \$500.”).

#### Language Notes

The doctor uses several idiomatic expressions in the segment. *What seems to be the problem?* is the typical question that doctors ask their patients at the beginning of an appointment. *See this stethoscope? You think they give these to just anyone?* is the doctor’s way of assuring the patient that she is qualified. It means that since someone gave her a stethoscope, an instrument that symbolizes medicine, she must be a doctor. *Ding-ding-ding! We have a winner!* is an expression used at the end of TV game shows when the presenter rings a bell and declares a winner. It means here that the patient has discovered the cause of his problem.

#### Vocabulary for Comprehension

Preview the vocabulary with your students.

hiccup: *a sound made by a sudden repeated stopping of the breath*

merry: *cheerful and happy*

severe: *very bad, serious*

stethoscope: *an instrument used by doctors to listen to someone’s heart or breathing*

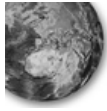
#### Answer Key

*Previewing* (Answers may vary—as long as they are appropriate guesses, accept them for now.)

1. They are a doctor and a patient.
2. They are in a hospital.
3. The doctor is funny; the man is worried.
4. Mr. Seaver keeps on hiccupping.

#### *In-Depth Viewing*

1. F      2. T      3. T      4. F      5. F      6. F



### Video Script

**Doctor:** OK, Mr. . . . Seaver! How are you?

**Mr. Seaver:** Oh,—HICCUP!—not very good.

**Doctor:** So, what brings you to our merry little hospital? Is it the large order of fries we're giving away with each and every stomach flu this week?

**Mr. Seaver:** Huh?

**Doctor:** So, besides not having a sense of humor, what seems to be the problem?

**Mr. Seaver:** I have the—HIC! . . .

**Doctor:** Stomach pain? Severe headaches? You want some water for those hiccups?

**Mr. Seaver:** Water doesn't—HICCUP!—help! Nothing—HIC!—helps. That's why I'm here.

**Doctor:** Mr. Seaver, do you usually come to the hospital for a case of hiccups?

**Mr. Seaver:** I've—HIC!—had them off and on for—HICCUP!—three days now! I can't—HIC!—get anything done! I can't—HICCUP! . . .

**Doctor:** Hmmmm, yes. I see your problem. Let me ask you, Mr. Seaver . . . BOOGA! BOOGA! BOOGA! BOOGA!

**Mr. Seaver:** What's the—HICCUP!—matter with you? HICCUP! Are you crazy?

**Doctor:** I'm trying to scare you.

**Mr. Seaver:** Well, you did! HICCUP!

**Doctor:** No, you know—scare away the hiccups?

**Mr. Seaver:** Are you—HICCUP!—really a doctor?

**Doctor:** Sure I am. See the stethoscope? You think they give these to just anyone? . . . You said you've had the hiccups for three days?

**Mr. Seaver:** That's right. HIC!

**Doctor:** Can you think of something that happened to you around then that started this?

**Mr. Seaver:** No. Not—HIC!—really. Oh, I did—HICCUP!—get fired from my job.

**Doctor:** Ding-ding-ding! We have a winner!

**Mr. Seaver:** Wait, but how would that—?

**Doctor:** Well, Mr. Seaver, you're angry, right?

**Mr. Seaver:** No . . . see . . . HICCUP! I don't think so. HIC! I actually didn't like my job very much.

**Doctor:** OK. Fine. What do I know? I'm just the doctor. Here's your bill.

**Mr. Seaver:** \$500? \$500! You are crazy! You're out of your mind! If you think I'm paying \$500 for—whatever it was you just did . . . think again!

**Doctor:** Mr. Seaver?

**Mr. Seaver:** What?!

**Doctor:** Your hiccups are gone.

**Mr. Seaver:** Oh. Wait, they are! Doctor, you're a genius!

**Doctor:** I told you, they don't give these to just anyone.

**Mr. Seaver:** Thank you! Thank you so much! Uhm . . . I don't really have to pay that \$500, do I? That was just part of the cure, right?

**Doctor:** Of course it was. I'm so glad everything worked out there, Mr. Seaver. Well, I've got to get to another patient.

**Mr. Seaver:** HICCUP!