

LESSON 1



Pakikinig Listening **Artista ng Bayan** People's Artist

As you know, it is important for any language learner to develop listening skills. Listen to the following audio recording/video (43 seconds) entitled “**Bienvenido Lumbera, Artista ng Bayan**” (*Bienvenido Lumbera, Artist of the People*) on Philippine National Artist for Literature Bienvenido Lumbera, poet, playwright, scholar, and teacher.

This can be accessed through the CD of this book (filename: inter tag lesson 1) or through this website: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z79oFhGWL1Y>. For those using the website, you have to listen only to the first 43 seconds of the video, although you may want to challenge yourself and listen to all 6:54 minutes.

The audio/video talks about the life of Bienvenido Lumbera. Before listening, study the following vocabulary words: **makata** (poet); **pambansang alagad ng sining** (national artist); **malikhaing pagsulat** (creative writing); **daluyan** (conductor; source from which something flows from); **pampolitikang pakikihamak** (political struggle); **nakapaglimbag** (was able to publish).

Listen to the recording twice or thrice. Make two lists: on the left side of your paper, write down the words you understood; on the right side, the words you did not understand. Look up the meaning of these words. Then listen to the audio/video for the third or fourth time. I understand that the audio exercise might feel very intimidating for a beginning intermediate learner. However, you just need to plod through these audio exercises to improve your skills in listening to “authentic” texts.

1. What three words in Tagalog/Filipino were used to describe Bienvenido Lumbera as a National Artist? What do these words mean in English?
2. When did he start publishing?
3. As a writer, what language did Bien use during the early stages of his career?
4. What poem did Bien write, signifying that he had discarded bourgeoisie themes in favor of topics that had social significance?