

FILE 1

Listening 1

- Tom** So, Irena, we'd like you to take several different photos because there are so many of us here today.
- Irena** Of course. Is it Solomon's birthday today?
- Tom** Yes! I can't believe Grandad's eighty!
- Irena** Well, I suggest we do the largest photo first, with all the friends and relatives. Then we can do some smaller groups with just immediate family.
- Tom** OK, that sounds like a good idea.
- Irena** So, Solomon can sit here in the middle, with his son and daughters on each side.
- Tom** Actually, sorry, Irena. Could Grandad sit next to his best friend Darius for the first photo? Grandad had a row with my dad yesterday and they're still a little angry with each other.
- Irena** Of course. It's important that everyone is relaxed and happy.
- Tom** That might be difficult with baby Otis. He's been crying all afternoon. My sister was anxious about bringing him, but we all said he had to come. I've got one sister and two brothers, but so far my sister is the only one with a child. Umm...Otis *sometimes* smiles if he sees his favourite toy.
- Irena** It's not important that he smiles, really. But it would be good if he stopped crying. If he can have some food now, that might help.
- Tom** OK. I'll speak to my sister in a minute. She's with Aunt Tahlia right now. We've been planning this get-together for over a year. People have come from all over the world. My aunt came all the way from Miami, but her daughter Melissa lives in Australia now and she couldn't come.
- Irena** That's a shame.
- Tom** But we've got a birthday card from her and we'll give it to Grandad this evening before the meal. Hopefully, baby Otis will be asleep by then. A reggae band is coming to play later. That's Grandad's favourite. I'm sure he'll be dancing with all his grandchildren!
- Irena** It sounds fabulous! OK, if you can go and speak to your sister about little Otis, and then let's call everyone and get started...

FILE 1

Listening 2

1

- Keith** Can I get you a hot drink, James? A coffee?
- James** Umm...I'd love a cup of tea.
- Keith** No problem. So...how are you? How's the diet going?
- James** Oh, it's going well, thanks. And it's not really a diet to lose weight. I'm eating sensibly, that's all.
- Keith** Are you buying low-fat milk and yoghurt, that sort of thing?
- James** No. But I'm not eating so much sugar. It's not easy to cut down on sweet snacks!

2

- Mum** Tabitha, do you want to play with Mina in your bedroom before we eat? Dinner will be ready in half an hour.
- Tabitha** OK, Mum. What's for dinner?
- Mum** We're having your favourite – fried rice with egg, prawns, and vegetables.
- Tabitha** But Mum! Mina's allergic to seafood!
- Mum** Oh no!
- Mina** It's OK, Mrs Jenkins. I'm intolerant, not allergic. I can take the prawns out of the meal and eat the rest.

3

Phil Do you want to go out to get some lunch?

Lisa Sorry, I need to eat at my desk today! Tomorrow?

Phil No, it's Gary's birthday. He's going to bring cake and cookies to the office. What about Wednesday?

Lisa Yes, that works for me.

4

Abbey Hi, Luke. Can I call you back? I'm eating my dinner.

Luke At 9 o'clock! That's not a good time to eat a meal, Abbey.

Abbey I know, I know. But I go to the gym after college on Fridays. And it's impossible to eat earlier in the day. I normally get home at around 6.30 and eat about an hour later. Anyway, I'll call you back.

Luke OK, bye!

5

Waiter Here is your table, sir. And here is the menu. We have two special dishes this evening: goat's cheese salad, and also ravioli pasta with a crab filling.

Customer I love pasta, but I've never eaten crab.

Waiter It's very good. The crab is caught locally and very fresh. It almost tastes sweet.

Customer OK, I'll try the ravioli.

FILE 2

Listening 1

Interviewer In this week's edition of *Life Changes*, I'm talking to Jo Woodford. Jo, can you start by telling us why you changed your career? You were a successful banker, I think.

Jo Yes. People were really surprised when I left. It was a good job, and I had a great salary, but it wasn't very satisfying. I've been working for myself for three years now. To start with, I taught financial skills to young adults at university, but for the last year I've been going into schools to give advice to younger teenagers and their parents.

Interviewer And do you find this new career more satisfying?

Jo Definitely. I earn less, but I feel as though I'm making a real difference. It's incredible how many young people leave home with almost no money skills at all. Imagine, you've just moved out of your parents' house, you've arrived at university or you've started your first job, and you've never had control of money before. You've never paid a bill or had a credit card. What are you going to do?

Interviewer Umm...I think I'm going to spend too much.

Jo Exactly. I can't completely stop people getting into debt, of course. After all, bank loans to students are very important and a mortgage is a loan, too. But I can give young people vital skills. In some schools, I teach five or six classes or workshops to different ages. I can show them how to create a budget for each month. Also, and this is important, I give their parents advice, too.

Interviewer What do parents worry about the most?

Jo That's easy: online security. But I've always advised people to use banking apps as long as they follow some simple guidelines.

Interviewer For example?

Jo For example, make sure you need a password to use your phone. That way, if you've lost your phone or someone has stolen it, you still have some protection. Don't follow any links from an email or text from your bank. It might be a scam that sends you to a fake site. And don't log into your banking app using public wi-fi. So, if you're in a coffee shop or at a train station and you think 'I'll just check my account', make sure you're not connected to a public network. It's much easier for someone to steal your information that way. Instead, just go online using the normal phone network.

Interviewer I didn't know that, Jo. Thanks!

FILE 2

Listening 2

1

Mark Daniella, have you ever inherited any money?

Daniella No, I've never inherited anything. But a friend of mine recently inherited an enormous table from a great-uncle.

Mark Was it worth a lot of money?

Daniella Not really. And it was too big for his kitchen, so it's been in his garden for ages. He thought about selling it on eBay, but last week he gave it to a charity and they collected it with a huge lorry.

Mark I'm glad someone wanted it.

2

Asha Lauren, are you selling those shoes?

Lauren Yes. I've just taken photos of them and I'm putting them online this afternoon. I'm starting each pair of shoes at £1. What a bargain!

Asha But they're good shoes. I'd charge more. At least £20 for those office shoes.

Lauren I've no interest in making money from them. It's an experiment. I've never sold anything on eBay before. If it works well, I'll sell something more valuable like my old guitar. I never play it any more.

3

Ellen Tony, have you ever done any voluntary work?

Tony Actually, I've helped at the charity *Shine* for over a year now.

Ellen *Shine*? I haven't heard of it. What does it do?

Tony It's for disadvantaged children who live in this region. They come to *Shine* after school so that they're not alone until their parents come home from work. The volunteers do all sorts of activities with them: paintings, board games, tennis, music lessons.

Ellen That sounds great. But I thought you worked in the evenings?

Tony I've been answering the phones in their office one morning a week, and calling local businesses to ask for their help. Last week, I found a shop that gave us 25 tennis rackets!

Ellen Good work!

4

Wendy Hi, Carlotta. What's the matter?

Carlotta Oh, hi! I've lost my wallet.

Wendy Oh no! OK. Where have you looked?

Carlotta It's not in my bag. I've just been in the post office, but that's when I realized I didn't have it any more.

Wendy And before that?

Carlotta I've been shopping all morning. Umm...I paid for a coffee in the market about an hour ago, but then I used my credit card to buy a jumper in Zara. It must be there.

Wendy I'll come with you. And don't worry. If we don't find it, I can lend you some money to get home.

Carlotta Thanks so much, Wendy!

5

Hilda I've never been the victim of a scam. Have you, Richard?

Richard Yes. It was awful. I wanted to change my bank and I'd been visiting different bank websites. I was on a site...it looked like the real bank website, but when I clicked on a page, suddenly a message appeared. It said that I had to send the scammers £1,000 or they'd delete everything on my computer.

Hilda No!

Richard It was obvious this was a scam, but what could I do? All my files were locked: my work, my pictures. I had to co-operate. I was furious, but I transferred the money to them.

Hilda That's terrible.

FILE 3

Listening 1

- Presenter** Picture a scientist in your head...a scientist at work. Have you done it? Now, and be honest with yourself here, was the scientist a man or a woman? Today, we're discussing a long-running scientific study which explores stereotypes about scientists. Georgia Holloway, you've used the Draw-A-Scientist Test in your research. Can you tell us about its history?
- Georgia** Thank you. Well, the Draw-A-Scientist Test was first used just over fifty years ago. Researchers asked a group of young children in the United States and Canada to draw a scientist. And then they analysed the results. The same test has been used ever since. It gives reliable results across different countries and that's something that all academic researchers like.
- Presenter** And what does the test show?
- Georgia** It tells us a great deal about gender stereotypes in terms of the presentation of scientists. In that earliest study, just zero point nine six percent of the children drew a female scientist. And over time, that stereotype has not been removed. Today, young boys tend to draw male scientists and around half of young girls draw female scientists. So it's nowhere near equality. And, generally speaking, the situation gets worse as the children get older. By the time the children are sixteen, only 25% of girls draw a female scientist.
- Presenter** And these drawings show the stereotypes that are present in wider society?
- Georgia** Well, that's harder to answer. Across the decades and across the world, the same items are drawn over and over again. The stereotype of a scientist is an older man wearing a lab coat, working in a laboratory with lots of bottles and equipment around him. There has been very little change in the details of the stereotype since the project began.
- Presenter** So can we see the influence of the media here?
- Georgia** Oh, definitely. We need more variety in the presentation of science and scientists in TV drama and in the news and other factual programmes. If boys and girls think that 'only men are scientists', then that leads to the message 'only boys can do science', or 'girls don't do science'. And that affects educational and professional choices.
- Presenter** Thank you, Georgia. It's been fascinating talking to you. And in our next episode, we will be exploring ways to encourage all children to continue studying mathematics at school.

FILE 3

Listening 2

1

- Interviewer** Excuse me, what do you think of the new parking rules in Oslo?
- Nathan** It's complicated. They're building more cycle lanes and I'm happy that it's easier to cycle in the city centre now. But what about the shops? If they remove most of the parking spaces, people will decide to stop shopping here.
- Interviewer** According to the city council, making things more difficult for drivers is the best way to get cleaner air in the city centre.
- Nathan** I agree. But, like I said: it's complicated.

2

- Nico** Excuse me. Sorry, but I've never seen an electric motorbike before. Can I ask how it feels to ride one?
- James** It's great! It was a little strange at first because it's much quieter than a normal bike. But it's certainly as fast as yours.
- Nico** That sounds good. How much did it cost?
- James** Ah...yes, unfortunately they're still much more expensive than petrol bikes. But I'm sure the price will come down in the next two or three years.
- Nico** Oh dear. I think I'll have to keep my old motorbike for now.

3

- José** What's your favourite city, Jess?
- Jess** Well, one of the most interesting places I've been to is Melbourne.
- José** I haven't been there. Isn't it famous for street art?

File Tests Audio Scripts

- Jess** It does have amazing street art. Personally, I think it's one of the best cities in the world for culture. There are music concerts and art shows everywhere. I even went to a gig on a tram! The band played during the tram journey. I'll send you a video. It was the coolest thing!
- José** Thanks. It doesn't sound very relaxing though.
- Jess** OK. What's your favourite city to relax in?
- 4**
- Ben** Are you enjoying your new journey to work?
- Maggie** Well, walking to work during the rush hour can be frustrating. But I'm saving a lot of money and driving was stressful. Actually, by the time I get to work I've done a good amount of exercise. On the whole, I think it's had a positive effect on my work day.
- Ben** Isn't it a bit dirty and smelly walking next to all those cars and lorries?
- Maggie** The traffic can be noisy, but the most annoying thing is the people. There are too many people trying to walk and text at the same time. They don't look where they're going.
- Ben** Did you know, there's a city in China with a 'mobile phone lane' for people to walk more safely when they use their phones.
- Maggie** It makes sense!
- 5**
- Mum** Did you have a lovely day at the London Transport Museum?
- Jody** Yes! We drove a bus!
- Mike** It didn't move, Mum. But you could move the steering wheel. They had some really old buses and you could go inside them.
- Jody** And old trams.
- Mike** The buses were better than the trams.
- Jody** No, they weren't.
- Mike** I thought they were. And even the café looked like a Tube train.
- Jody** Mum, it showed you how they built the Tube. There was a model with little men and little tunnels. It was amazing.
- Mike** They said it was one of the most dangerous jobs at that time. That bit was really interesting.
- Mum** I'm glad you enjoyed it.

FILE 4

Listening 1

- Aaron** Well done, Francesca. That was a great concert, I really enjoyed it. The children are so lucky to have this singing group after school. Oliver loves it!
- Francesca** Thanks. Oliver did really well. They all did. I know they were nervous about performing in front of all these people, but they've worked hard and they've really improved in the last couple of weeks. I love playing the piano for them and seeing the confidence they get from a performance.
- Aaron** Have you played the piano for a long time?
- Francesca** Not at all. I'm a singer really, not a musician. I only started playing the piano three or four years ago.
- Aaron** Can you give me the name of your piano teacher? I'd love to be able to play, but I don't even know how to read music. I'd have to start right at the very beginning.
- Francesca** Actually, I taught myself. It was surprisingly easy, using online tutors and watching videos. Even learning to read music wasn't that difficult.
- Aaron** That's incredible! I tried to learn Russian online, but it was a disaster. If things got too difficult, I would just stop and do something else. I need a teacher to stop me getting distracted.
- Francesca** Well, you do need discipline to succeed with the piano. You'd probably have to practise three or four times a week. But you don't have to read music to make good progress.
- Aaron** I wish you could teach me. I promise I'd practise.
- Francesca** I don't think I'd be a very good piano teacher. But do you enjoy singing?
- Aaron** Oh yes. Well...I can sing in tune and I'm definitely loud. Why?

File Tests Audio Scripts

- Francesca** The children's choir has been such a success that I'm starting a singing group for adults once a week. Are you free on Thursday evenings?
- Aaron** That sounds like fun. I'll give it a go! But please don't make me sing in front of Oliver. He'd be so embarrassed!

FILE 4 Listening 2

1

- Millie** Is it rude to listen to music on a bus in the UK? When I was coming to meet you, the woman in front of me kept turning around and staring at me. I had my headphones on.
- Zak** Listening to music isn't rude. Were you sitting in the seat for elderly or disabled passengers?
- Millie** No, of course not! And I didn't have my feet or my rucksack on the seat next to me.
- Zak** Perhaps your music was just a bit loud. Don't worry. It's very easy to offend some people. And the woman shouldn't have been staring at you. It's rude!

2

- Pavel** Cath, I've been invited to a colleague's wedding next month. Is it polite to give money as a gift at a British wedding?
- Cath** Well, it's a little impersonal, but no one would complain. Do check the invitation carefully though.
- Pavel** Why?
- Cath** Well, if you're invited for the wedding ceremony, you will probably need to dress very formally. But if you're only invited for the evening party, you can dress more casually.
- Pavel** OK...
- Cath** And if you do dress formally, don't take off your jacket straight away. You're not allowed to take your jacket off until the bride's father takes his jacket off. Usually when everyone sits down to eat.
- Pavel** How confusing!

3

- Tourist** Can you explain the rules for tipping in the UK? Should we always leave something?
- Tour guide** Good question. Well, if you're in a restaurant, check to see whether it's included in the bill. If it isn't, then your waiter will help you add something – usually between 10 and 15% – to your card payment. But in lots of smaller UK shops, like cafés and most pubs, you will see a jar for cash tips.
- Tourist** So if there's a jar, we leave cash there?
- Tour guide** Yes, that's right. It's not common, but you do occasionally see them in taxis, too.

4

- Ryan** George, turn your phone off, the concert is about to start.
- George** I'm just waiting for Harry to email me about the work agenda for tomorrow.
- Ryan** Check it later.
- George** It's OK, the auditorium lights are still on. And I want to video the conductor coming out and bowing.
- Ryan** George, you are so embarrassing, turn your phone off now!
- George** OK, OK.

5

- Prisha** Michael, are you happy with your mobile network?
- Michael** Err...I guess. I have a pay as you go contract, and the networks are all quite similar for those.
- Prisha** I want to change network because I've seen a really good deal. But I have a monthly contract that lasts for twelve months. Do you think I'll be allowed to keep my number?
- Michael** Oh yes, the phone company has to let you do that. But it will be very expensive to leave the contract early. You ought to wait until the end of the year and then shop around for the best deal.
- Prisha** OK. I'll just have to wait for another three months.

FILE 5

File Tests Audio Scripts

Listening 1

- Interviewer** I'm in rural Scotland at the end of the UK's first Starman triathlon. Evie, it's 2.30 a.m. How did you find swimming, cycling, and running at night?
- Evie** Scary! I've done five triathlons before and I was looking for my next challenge. Scotland is hours from where I live. But the idea of a race that started at midnight was very exciting.
- Interviewer** How did you prepare?
- Evie** Well, I'm from a flat part of England and I don't usually run in hills or mountains. So I did some hill training. To be honest, when I was preparing for the race my biggest concern was getting lost. But I should have thought more about the mental preparation needed to race in the dark. There were moments, especially during the swim and the run, when I felt quite scared. Can I just say a huge thank you to all the marshals?
- Interviewer** Ah yes, there were over a hundred volunteers working as marshals.
- Evie** Yes, their main job was to keep us on the course. The running section was out in the countryside, so it was very easy to get lost. All of the racers and marshals were wearing head torches – you know, little lights around our heads to help us see the way. But the marshals also had first-aid equipment. I saw one racer who had tripped and injured his knee. The nearest marshal helped him straight away and called for a race car to collect him.
- Interviewer** And how did your race go? Did you manage to finish in a good time?
- Evie** Well, I was hoping for around one and a half hours. But swimming in the dark was so frightening and exciting that I completed the swim in 25 minutes! That's my personal best. But of course, that was way too fast and then my run was dreadful. My final time was one hour forty-two minutes.
- Interviewer** Are you disappointed?
- Evie** Not at all! The atmosphere here has been amazing. Lots of the competitors were actually teams, with three racers in each team, and they've all been having so much fun. Some of the team times were great because they could use all of their energy on just the swim, or the cycle, or the run. Maybe I'll join a team next year and concentrate on improving my run time.
- Interviewer** Well done, Evie! Go and get some rest.
- Evie** Thanks.

FILE 5

Listening 2

1

- Chip** Hi, Mark. Can you give me Rosie's phone number?
- Mark** Rosie Shah? Well, I do have a number, but it's quite old. I haven't spoken to her for over a year.
- Chip** I thought she was your flatmate?
- Mark** No, she was going out with Damon, from the flat, for a while. But they broke up and I haven't seen her since then. She started going out with someone from her work, I think.

2

- Miles** Wow, that was a really fast finish.
- Jessica** Oh, thanks. I'm Jessica. Nice to meet you.
- Miles** Hi, I'm Miles. Are you training for the 10 kilometre run next month?
- Jessica** Um...I didn't know about that. Actually, I've just moved here from York. I heard about this running group, and it sounded like a good way to get to know new people.
- Miles** Oh, it's a really nice group. We usually go to the café now or just sit and talk for a while. Come on, I can introduce you to some people.
- Jessica** Great! Tell me more about the race next month.

3

- Woman** How well do Hayley and Roman know each other? They look close.
- Man** It's a funny story. They've worked in the same company for three years, but they didn't know each other well until quite recently. Then one day, they got stuck in the office lift together for an hour. When they finally reached the ground floor, Hayley asked Roman to go out with her. And now they're engaged!

Woman That's brilliant!

4

Lewis Hi, Mum. Happy birthday!

Mum Thanks, Lewis. I've just spoken to your brother, too. Do you remember when you used to bring me breakfast in bed for my birthday when you were little boys?

Lewis Of course. We used to argue about who would carry your present. In fact, we fought and argued all the time.

Mum I remember. Sometimes I used to feel like a referee not a mother! I'm so glad you both get on now.

Lewis Me too. But we're 22 and 24 now, not little boys. And we do have a lot in common. You, for example!

5

Leo Hi, guys. Where are you watching the match later?

Tomas We're not watching the match.

Albert No. Definitely not.

Leo What's going on? No football? Is this a superstition that you guys have?

Tomas No, we've made a decision. Football on TV is too dangerous.

Albert We shout at the TV. We shout at each other. It isn't fun at all.

Tomas When our team played last month, we had an argument about a referee's decision and didn't speak to each other for two days.

Albert This is the right thing to do, for our friendship.

Leo OK...Do you want me to text you when anyone scores?

Albert and Tomas Yes, yes, please.

FILE 6

Listening 1

Now, if your partner or a friend changed their hair style, would you recognize them? Of course you would. But would you recognize the last person who served you in a shop if you saw them in a photo? That's not so easy. In fact, although most people are very good at recognizing people they know well, we're not so successful with the faces of strangers.

Researchers recently completed a study where people were shown two photos. The photos showed two people who looked similar. But were they the same person? Well, eighty percent of the time people gave the correct answer. You might think that's fine. But there are some locations where 'fine' isn't good enough.

Let's think about airport security. If 20% of fake passport photos managed to beat the security system, there would be serious problems. Of course, technology can help us here. We know that humans tend to focus on particular facial features – we usually concentrate on the eyes and mouth but not the nose. And we're better at observing details, like the eyes, rather than the whole face. Recognition software does not have this focus. But members of the public will always feel safer if airport security checks are completed by humans.

And we can't rely on technology as the only solution. Software that was installed two years or even one year ago will soon be out of date. And the criminals are innovative. As early as 2010, one man successfully boarded a flight wearing a realistic face mask. In the past, the biggest challenge came from plastic surgery. Today the threat comes from image software which blends, or mixes, two faces together: one face belongs to the criminal and one face does not, but when they're mixed together the result is completely realistic and can allow the criminal to obtain a real passport using the other person's name. Security software finds these very hard to detect. On the other hand, when human workers were trained to notice the mixed photos, they had more success.

One more potential solution is the use of so-called 'super recognizers'. Super recognizers are people who are far better than average at recognizing faces. Police in London already employ a team of super recognizers and researchers are optimistic about using super recognizers at airports, too. But if only 1% of people around the world have this ability, personally I don't see how they can all be persuaded to work in airports. Do you?

FILE 6

Listening 2

1

Mel Is this picture of you?

Lars Yes, that's me.

Mel Why are you wearing that crazy costume? Was it for a party?

Lars No, I was an extra in a science-fiction film!

Mel Wow! Did you get paid?

Lars Not much, but yes. Actually, I worked in a few films while I was at university. That one was really hard work because of the make-up.

2

Darcy Look at this picture from the Oscars.

Jenna Oh my goodness. She looks amazing, doesn't she?

Darcy Yes, that suit is so stylish.

Jenna She always wears the most modern clothing.

3

Jez Come and see this picture from the new *Mission Impossible* film.

George I don't think that's real, do you?

Jez I do, yes! I know the films use a lot of special effects, but Tom Cruise always does a lot of the action scenes himself.

George No way. I expect the scene was shot with someone else and then they used a computer to add him in.

Jez I'm going to check online.

4

Abi Do you recognize this ballet dancer? I think she dances with the English Royal Ballet.

Mai Yes, she looks familiar. Didn't we see her in *The Nutcracker* when it was on at the cinema?

Abi Oh yes. So she's English.

Mai Yes, she's English and Kenyan. Her name's Francesca something.

Abi Of course! Francesca Hayward, and she dances in London, but she was born in Nairobi.

5

Justin Do you know anything about this film?

Noah No, but the poster doesn't look very exciting. Is it a historical film? The picture's in black and white.

Justin No, it's a thriller.

Noah Really? The man's body language is really negative. It looks sad.

Justin Apparently he's the hero. It's had very good reviews. Would you like to go and see it?

Noah OK, let's try a moody thriller.

FILE 7

Listening 1

- Cara** Here's an interesting question for you, Sachin. If you were the head teacher of a primary school, what new lessons would you introduce?
- Sachin** Oh...err...anything at all?
- Cara** Sure. But remember, we're talking about children between five and eleven.
- Sachin** Well, lots of different subjects. I think children get bored of studying the same things all the time. Why should they only study maths and history, and that sort of thing? They could do music editing, or engineering, or cookery – more practical things like that. And no homework at all.
- Cara** Oh, come on, Sachin, that's ridiculous. If they don't have homework, they won't practise what they've learned. And the parents would be really unhappy. They like to know how their children are progressing.
- Sachin** Ah, but that's only because parents like to compare their children: 'My son is cleverer than that child...'. In fact, if I was head teacher, I wouldn't have any exams either. Too much competition is bad for young children.
- Cara** Perhaps. But I have to say, I completely agree with you on the topic of cookery classes. That's something I'd add if I were in charge of a school. I think cooking's a vital practical skill that even very young children can learn and enjoy. If everyone learned to cook at school, that would give us healthier adults, I'm sure.
- Sachin** I agree. What was the food like at your primary school?
- Cara** Oh well, the lunches for vegetarians weren't great. If I was at primary school now, I expect the food would be better.
- Sachin** I know! The school could have one day each week when all the food is vegetarian. That's a great idea, don't you think? If I were a head teacher, the kids would love me!

FILE 7

Listening 2

1

- Ben** Alistair, this is amazing. It's much bigger than your last flat.
- Alistair** Yes, and if I lived on the top floor, I'd have a view out to the countryside. It only takes five minutes to cycle out of town. I'm going to visit all the little villages. Come out into the garden.
- Ben** Oh, this is lovely. You only had a tiny patio in your old place. And it was so noisy from the traffic.
- Alistair** Yes, this is much better. So the old flat is that way, to the south. And if you stand on this bench and look west...
- Ben** ...you can see hills and green fields. I love it!
- Alistair** Thanks.

2

- Janis** What's wrong, Kat?
- Kat** I really love living with you guys, but look at this kitchen!
- Janis** It's fine. There are a few dirty plates and mugs...
- Kat** If I didn't do the washing up every day, it would still be there next week! We have very different ideas about cleaning.
- Janis** But you don't want to move in with your parents while you save money for a mortgage?
- Kat** No, you're right. I prefer to pay rent here and have a space that's my own, where I can have my own style and do what I want. But the downside is this kitchen!
- Janis** Come on. Let's do it together.

3

- Martina** If you could live anywhere you liked, Josh, where would you choose?
- Josh** Well, my dream house would be in the countryside. How about you?

File Tests Audio Scripts

- Martina** Yes, I think I'd like that, too. I grew up in the suburbs, so I'd like to live somewhere either very busy or very quiet. If I lived in the countryside, I'd like a cosy cottage with a view of the sea.
- Josh** That sounds nice. But if I lived in a small cottage, I'd soon want more space. I'd like a modern house, but in the countryside.
- 4**
- Annie** Does this old table belong to the person who rents here now?
- Lettings agent** Yes, it does. The current resident is a student and she will take all the furniture with her.
- Annie** That's good. I have my own furniture. I'm only renting a flat for six months while I get to know the city. Then I'll buy my own place.
- Lettings agent** I understand. Well, if I moved here, I'd live on this street. Some of the ground-floor flats, like this one, have basements.
- Annie** Is that usual for this town?
- Lettings agent** Actually, no. But several of the houses in this street have them. The student is using it as a gym area, but I'd have a bedroom down there.
- Annie** That sounds wonderful. Can we go and see it now?
- 5**
- Cary** Honestly, if I stay living at home any longer, I'll go crazy.
- Becky** I thought you got on well with your parents.
- Carly** I do. And I used to love being at home, but I need more privacy now. If my mum walks into my room without knocking one more time, I think I'll argue with her.
- Becky** That's not good.
- Carly** But I can't afford to rent my own flat. Can I sleep here for a few weeks while I decide what to do?
- Becky** You can stay here for as long as you like. I have a spare room and you can pay me rent. We'll be flatmates.

FILE 8

Listening 1

- Interviewer** Today, on *The Career Path*, I'm talking to Aidan Cumiskey. Aidan designs beautiful wedding rings and has just opened his first shop. Congratulations, Aidan!
- Aidan** Thank you.
- Interviewer** Designing jewellery is a new career for you. Please can you tell us how you got started?
- Aidan** Well, I've always worked in the fashion industry. My previous job was at Kelly's, the chain of department stores. I'd been with them for eight years and I'd been promoted several times. Finally, I was in charge of choosing the women's clothing in all of the stores.
- Interviewer** That's a job with plenty of responsibility.
- Aidan** Certainly, and with a good, steady salary. But I wanted to really express myself. Designing jewellery was a hobby of mine, but I didn't have any business qualifications or any experience of running my own company. On the other hand, I *did* have the support of my wife, Mikaela. We both like taking risks, and Mikaela said I should follow my dream. So, one day, I told my boss I was leaving and that was it. I was an entrepreneur!
- Interviewer** So you resigned...and then what? What did you do next?
- Aidan** Luckily, I soon found an investor who put £10,000 into the business.
- Interviewer** That's interesting. What did you spend that money on?
- Aidan** Oh, mostly on metal and small diamonds for the wedding rings. That was three years ago. I began selling on my own website two years ago, and now here we are in my first actual store! I'm so proud of how the company has grown.
- Interviewer** One final question. Who in business inspires you?

Aidan I've always admired Vera Wang, the wedding dress designer. She was a highly successful fashion journalist, but she decided to change career. She only started designing dresses when she was 40. She used her experience in one area to go in a completely new direction. Standing still is never a good idea in business...or in life, I think.

FILE 8

Listening 2

1

Tanya Excuse me, Kris, can I speak to you for a moment?

Boss Tanya, yes, come in. Is there a problem?

Tanya That's what I wanted to ask you. I asked to work longer hours over the next couple of months, but my manager said 'no'.

Boss I'm sorry, Tanya, but we don't have the budget to offer anyone extra work at the moment. It's not your fault, it's a decision across the whole company.

Tanya I see.

Boss It's not an ideal situation and I hope things will improve next year.

2

Interviewer What would you say has been your greatest achievement in your current job?

Sam Well, I helped to set up a new IT system when we moved to a larger office. It was a complex project.

Interviewer Did anything go wrong?

Sam I think that's always likely to happen with a large project, and the details did change over time. But I'm good at listening to people and I'm not afraid of improvising. It's something I'd love to do again, actually.

3

Business owner After five years, our international sales will be worth one million pounds. But we need your knowledge of the beauty market to get us started.

Dragon I like your idea, but I'd want 50% of the shares in exchange for the money.

Business owner That simply isn't possible.

Dragon Then I'm out.

4

Tom Have you found an investor yet, Eva?

Eva Er, no, not yet. But actually I like keeping the business small. I can be more creative and I'm very happy working by myself. How's your job going?

Tom Oh, I have the opposite problem, actually. There are too many people in my company. I don't mind meetings, but we can't agree on anything. Then I have to do overtime in the evenings so I can finish the real work.

Eva Hmm. It's not easy to make decisions in large groups. Can you make a list of what you're responsible for, and what you're not? Then ask your boss if you can miss the meetings that aren't in your main area.

5

Clyde Hello. Who can I speak to about applying for a job here?

Shop manager I can help you. Are you looking for a permanent position?

Clyde No, just over the summer.

Shop manager We do look for more workers during July and August. Please follow me, I'll give you a form to fill in.

Clyde Do you need my CV?

Shop manager No, you can write all the information on the application form. And we might ask you to come in for a short interview.

FILE 9

Listening 1

Nadia Hiya, Rashed.

Rashed Oh, there you are, Nadia. Wow! You've got a lot of bags.

Nadia I know! Are you finished? I'd really like to go back to the hotel. There are so many shops here, there's almost too much choice. And if I don't get some rest, I won't give a good presentation tomorrow. I'm exhausted!

Rashed Actually, can we wait another 10 minutes? My phone is inside one of those ChargeBoxes over there. I want to wait for it to have a full battery.

Nadia Oh, look! I've never seen one of those before. I've heard of them, because we have them in the UK, and I think they're in other European cities, too. But there aren't many of them. How long does it take to charge up your phone?

Rashed Oh, it's the same as at home. My phone has been plugged in for 20 minutes, so it should be fully charged soon. There are quite a few of these ChargeBoxes in Dubai, particularly in shopping centres. They're very simple to use. You just plug your device in, take a key, and carry on shopping. And it's completely free, so...why not?

Nadia It's free? That's surprising in a shopping centre! I suppose the boxes encourage shoppers to spend more time here – and more money, of course. Well, if I'd known you were going to need 10 more minutes, I'd have stayed in that shoe shop on the second floor.

Rashed OK, you go back there. I'll go outside by the fountain for a few minutes. I'll collect my phone and then meet you back here in, say, 15 minutes.

Nadia OK. See you shortly.

FILE 9

Listening 2

1

Receptionist Reception, can I help you?

Patrick Hi. Does the hotel have any spare computer equipment for guests?

Receptionist Is there a problem with the wi-fi in your room, sir?

Patrick No, I've just tried to plug in my laptop and I've forgotten my charger.

Receptionist I'm sorry, sir. We have lots of adaptors but no chargers. If you come down to Reception, I can direct you to the nearest computer store.

2

Nisha What's wrong?

Dave I can't work out how to change this photo.

Nisha Give me the mouse, let me show you. Have you uploaded the photo to your desktop?

Dave Yes. It's just there, see.

Nisha OK, so now we go to System Preferences, here. And we click here. There you go!

Dave Ah! Now my son's drawing is the background for my computer. Thanks.

3

Said Carla?

Carla Yes?

Said This train journey is 45 minutes long. Are you going to play that game for the whole time?

Carla Oh. Ummm. OK, I've stopped. Actually, you're lucky. I had too many games on my phone before, but now I only have one or two. I deleted most of them because it was annoying my boyfriend.

Said I can see why!

4

Nell

Gus, have you ever used a password manager?

Gus

I don't really like the idea of keeping all my passwords online. What if someone got through the security of the password manager site? They'd have everything: my bank details, my photos...

Nell

So how do you remember your passwords? Please don't tell me you only have one simple password that you use for everything.

Gus

Oh no, they're complicated, with lots of different numbers and letters. They're all on the second page of my work diary.

Nell

You wrote them down? You're crazy!

5

Wei

How was the presentation in Geneva, Kate?

Kate

Good, in the end. But there was a problem at the venue, which was a bit stressful.

Wei

What happened?

Kate

The internet wasn't working and the latest version of my talk was stored online. I did have an earlier version on a memory stick, so I used that.

Wei

Well done. But I'm sure you'd have been fine even without the memory stick.

Kate

Yes, I agree. If I hadn't brought the earlier version, I'd have given the presentation anyway. I don't mind speaking without notes.

FILE 10

Listening 1

Interviewer

Please welcome to the stage Goran Magnusson. Goran, this is your fourth crime novel set in Reykjavik, Iceland. Detective Bjornson has plenty of experience, but he's up against a different sort of killer this time, isn't he?

Goran

Yes. I wanted to set Bjornson a new challenge. He's solved murders before, of course, but this story involves new problems for him to overcome.

Interviewer

I was interested in the setting for this story, which is in the sailing community of Reykjavik. The victim's body is found inside a yacht in a sailing club. Did you have to do much research?

Goran

Yes, I liked the idea of the sailing club. It's a place where lots of different types of people mix: wealthy business people, athletic adventurers. And there are lots of murder weapons! It was a good opportunity. The victim, and possibly the murderer, are expert sailors, but I know very little about boats. I spent quite a lot of time finding out more before I could plan the evidence and the clues for my story.

Interviewer

I don't want to give too much of the plot away, but Detective Bjornson quickly identifies a main suspect, doesn't he?

Goran

Yes – too quickly. Bjornson realizes that the murderer is someone who knows about sailing because of the way the victim was killed. To begin with, he suspects the victim's business partner. But then he finds a hidden photograph and letters at the victim's house and discovers the victim had a secret relationship. So then this unknown woman becomes a main suspect, too.

Interviewer

Hmmm. Your stories don't tend to involve emails and online histories, do they?

Goran

Ha! No, I prefer more physical clues. I suppose my stories don't accurately copy modern police techniques. My readers want to escape from everyday life.

Interviewer

I was certain that the secret girlfriend was the killer, but...the murder remains unsolved at the end of the story. When is part 2 going to be in our bookshops?

Goran

You'll have to wait until next year, I'm afraid.

Interviewer

Well, we're looking forward to it, aren't we, everyone? Many thanks, Goran Magnusson.

FILE 10

Listening 2

1

Philippa What do you think is the most iconic book cover?

José Hmm, that's a really difficult question. There are so many great covers. The book cover for *The Godfather* was so successful that it was used as the poster for the film, too.

Philippa I didn't know that.

José Yes. It's by the artist Neil Fujita. What do you call people who draw letters and pictures using computers?

Philippa They're called graphic designers, aren't they?

José That sounds right. I'd quite like to be a graphic designer.

2

Arjun Here we are, Chloë. This is the Great Court in the British Museum. It's my favourite place in London.

Chloë Wow! The glass ceiling is even bigger than I imagined. There's so much light even though we're inside.

Arjun I know. The Reading Room is over there. And through all of these other doors are collections of objects from around the world.

Chloë Can we visit the other rooms later? I want to stay here in the Great Court.

Arjun Of course. The roof was only built in 2000. There are over three thousand panes of glass above our heads. And every single one is different. That's incredible, isn't it?

Chloë Yes. I love the way the modern part of the building and the old part of the building go together.
Arjun Me too.

3

Saliyah Guess what! We won the prize!

Milo That's such great news. My wife is a world-famous chef!

Saliyah Not yet! Perhaps in a few years' time. But the restaurant is widely considered to serve the best Arabic food in town. For a chef who didn't go to cookery school and learned everything on the job, that's something to celebrate, isn't it?

Milo Yes, it is! Congratulations!

4

Sam Do you remember the news story about the thief who stole a bucket of gold from a van in New York?

Cora Yes, he was a professional thief, wasn't he?

Sam That's right. He took things from cars and vans, but he never used a weapon or hurt anyone. The video of the robbery was everywhere on social media. But the police soon identified him and released his picture.

Cora And they never caught him, did they?

Sam Not in New York. The New York police thought the suspect had returned home to California – and they were right. Local police arrested him there. But he was only sent to prison for a few months and the gold was never found.

5

Bella I love shopping in second-hand shops, don't you?

Louise Yes, but you have to know what you're doing. I don't expect to find designer dresses and handbags, for example.

Bella My aunt found a Mary Quant mini skirt in a second-hand shop once. Imagine that!

Louise I'm not sure I would want to wear a skirt that short. But the story of Quant's career is fascinating.

Bella I agree. Quant was one of the first people to make designs especially for younger people. Those girls must have felt so rebellious and free. And she taught herself to sew, didn't she?

Louise I think you're right. I know that her shop used to play loud music and stay open late. People went there to have fun as well as to shop for clothes.

Bella And her designs were worn by the coolest female musicians of the 1960s.

Louise Fashion and music. My two favourite things.