

1.1

Speaker 1

It's unusual for me to buy brand new clothes. I get most of what I wear from charity shops. Some people think that anyone who buys things that have already been worn by someone else can't really care much about clothes. But that's not true – you can find some pretty decent stuff in these places, even quite tasteful designer clothes that people, for whatever reason, have decided they don't want anymore. And they only sell clothes that are in good condition, often things that have only ever been worn once or twice. You get to support good causes, too, of course, because the money you spend goes to charity.

Speaker 2

Apparently, dressing smartly is supposed to increase your self-confidence, but I've never felt any different in a jacket and tie. And anyway, I'm not the kind of person who spends time worrying about what to put on in the morning. Some people take ages, umming and ahing over what to wear, but I just throw on the first thing I find in my wardrobe and that's it. Job done. To be honest, I'd be happy just wearing the same two or three T-shirts all the time. The trouble is, I only have time to do my washing once a week, so that wouldn't work. I may not be fashionable, but I'm not dirty.

Speaker 3

I get suspicious when I go into a clothes shop and see that everything is incredibly cheap. If the prices are so low, then how much are the people who made them getting paid? And what are their working conditions like? I only buy from companies that sell ethical clothing, made by people who earn a decent salary and work in a safe environment. I usually get that kind of information online – it's easy enough to find. The clothes may not be as cheap and there's not necessarily any more guarantee of quality, but at least I can be confident that no one is being exploited.

Speaker 4

I spend a lot of money on clothes. I don't really care what they cost. They don't have to be designer clothes, but they do have to make me feel good about myself. I like to know that I can get something out of the wardrobe and any feelings of insecurity I have will just disappear as soon as I put it on. Then when I get to work and someone says, 'Hey, that shirt really suits you', it gives me a *big lift*. And I never wear the same thing more than once in the same month. My colleagues have got used to seeing me in something different every day.

Speaker 5

If I want to go out and get a new T-shirt, for example, then I always have to get rid of an old one first. And I only do that when I can't justify hanging on to it anymore – either because it's so scruffy I'm too embarrassed to wear it, or it's literally falling apart at the seams. That's why none of my clothes ever end up in a second-hand shop. I replace them, precisely because they're no use to *anyone* – not just me. I've been doing this for some time now, and I've noticed that clothes used to last a lot longer; the quality's got gradually worse and I have to replace things far more often than before.

1.2

M = Man W = Woman

1 You hear two people talking about a friend of theirs.

M: How many houses has Mike got now?

W: Well, there's this one here, the flat in Brighton, the cottage in Devon, and that villa of his in Spain. So, four altogether.

M: Hmm. Easy for some, isn't it?

W: I don't know. I get the impression he's fed up with it all – always moving around. I wouldn't be surprised if he got rid of everything over here and lived in Spain permanently.

M: Is that what he's said he'll do?

W: Well, you know Mike. It's not like him to talk much about his plans. But he did say he might settle down one day – stay in one place. And you know how much he likes Spain.

2 You overhear a man talking to a friend on his phone.

M: I'm stressed out, to be honest, what with work and all the problems with the house. I need something to help me relax. ... Well, yeah, I did think about yoga, but the class is on Friday and I play squash then. And then I saw they do pilates on Tuesdays and Thursdays, which would be ideal for me. ... Yeah, I know you did. And actually, I was wondering if you could tell me what it was like, what sort of things you did. I had a quick look online, but it's always better to talk to someone with firsthand experience.

3 You hear a woman talking about her family's financial situation.

W: We just about get by, but it's a bit of a struggle. I can only get part-time work and Frank lost his job at the furniture factory last August. He's sent off loads of applications, but no luck so far. My mum and dad could probably help out, but somehow it doesn't seem right borrowing from them. They've been saving all their lives and I want them to *enjoy* their money, now they're retired. There's nothing for it but to put my car on the market and see if I can get a decent price for it. The kids'll just have to get the bus in the morning.

4 You hear a man talking about his job.

M: I don't get to wear a uniform – you know, with a cap and all, like they do at some of the other hotels, but I do wear a suit. A decent one – tailor-made – not just any old suit. Inside, at the front desk they reckon I look smarter than the boss. I'm not so sure about that, but I do like to look good for the guests – I'm the first person they see before they go into the hotel. And I've got this long black overcoat, as well – it can get pretty cold standing outside on the steps in winter, I can tell you.

5 You hear two people talking about the value of their time spent living abroad.

W: I've gained so much from these two years living abroad.

M: Yeah, me, too. I reckon we'll have no trouble finding work when we get back home.

W: I'm not sure that's true. But anyway, I was thinking more about the benefits to me as a person. I've become much more tolerant since I've been here, more willing to accept difference.

M: That's what I mean. We've grown as individuals, we're more open-minded and independent, so that makes us more employable.

W: Well, I admire your optimism. I just know that I'll miss being here.

M: It's alright, but the whole thing has made me value life at home more.

6 You hear a man talking on the radio.

M: The world today is faster and more dynamic than when our great-grandparents were alive, but as a result, life is often more stressful and unhealthy. Self-help gurus offer people the hope of finding a solution to their problems, improving their health and wellbeing, and generally making their lives better. The author of *Back to Basics* says his guide will help you achieve all these things in a matter of weeks. He's lying – the only thing it's good for is sending you to sleep, and you'd be wasting your money if you bought it and your time if you read it.

7 You hear two people talking about the village they both live in.

M: Are you enjoying it here in the village?

W: Yes, I am. I think I know nearly everyone now. When I came here last year everyone went out of their way to introduce themselves and make me feel welcome.

M: That's good. So you feel comfortable here, then?

W: Yes, I do. And the children have settled in well, too. I just get a bit nervous about the traffic sometimes.

M: What, on the main road?

W: Yes, and a couple of other spots as well. There are certain places I won't let the children go without me. Some drivers just don't slow down for them.

8 You hear a man talking about a country in which he once lived.

M: On my travels I've had to get used to eating all kinds of strange dishes, so I was prepared for their rather unusual cuisine. If I was offered something I knew I wouldn't like, I used to cover it in lemon and salt to hide the taste. And it's a hot country, so the slow pace of life and relaxed approach to work were only to be expected. What I hadn't anticipated was their way of dressing. I'm not used to being with people who take so much care over what they wear and I felt quite scruffy by comparison. Colour, style, fashion – it all mattered to them. I had no idea before I went.

1.4

1 Who do you want to speak to now?

2 Where did you go this morning?

3 When do you have to be there tomorrow?

4 Why did you say that earlier?

2.1

Hi, I'm Jack Suggs and on today's programme we're going to take a look at what's going on in the world of music. Apparently, the average person in Britain listens to around three thousand five hundred songs a year. And in the case of young adults aged between 18 and 24, that figure is more than six thousand, an average of about three and a half hours of music a day.

Music's all around us – in shops, restaurants, gyms and even in the workplace. Not so long ago, the idea of employees listening to music in offices was almost unheard of; now it's becoming increasingly common. In fact, almost as common as it used to be in factories, where many employers have got rid of it because it can be distracting, and an obvious safety risk.

In an office, though, it can be very beneficial, depending on what you're trying to achieve. According to some recent research, if the work involves creative thinking, then positive, stimulating music can help you come up with original ideas. But if it's anything that requires problem-solving, then it's better to work without any noise at all – including music, of course.

Background music can also help increase business in restaurants. There are music-streaming services that design playlists to suit different types of restaurants and their brand or image. In a study carried out recently, one such service led to an increase of roughly 11 per cent in the sales of side dishes in one establishment, and

orders of smoothies and shakes rose by 15 per cent! Restaurants have to be careful, though, because if they get the music wrong or play it too loud, they can put people off eating, and sales will fall.

And there's some really interesting research that's been done by scientists at the University of Oxford. They found out that traditional music played in Indian restaurants can make the food taste up to 10 per cent hotter. They haven't worked out exactly why this is, yet, but it seems we associate the fast beat and high-pitched, distorted sounds of Indian music with high energy, and that reflects the sensation of eating spicy food.

Now, if you like watching TV series, you may have noticed that many directors nowadays tend not to use famous musicians and composers to create the soundtracks for their work, but turn instead to relatively unknown artists – the band *Survive* in *Stranger Things*, for example, or *Mogwai* for *Les Revenants*. And they're such an important part of the process that they often compose the music before filming even begins, and so help to shape the series that's being made.

They also use technology to create their sound, so there's less need to hire large orchestras and big studios these days. In fact, there's a move away from the dramatic sounds of the orchestra towards music that doesn't stand out so much, music that's more in the background so that it won't distract the viewer.

Which is very different to what's happening with video games. Orchestras are an important element of these, and composers like Eimear Noone, are in constant demand. Eimear comes from Ireland, but has set up home in California. She's worked on games like *World of Warcraft* and *Legend of Zelda*, which are played by hundreds of millions of people, and she travels the world performing sell-out concerts of her soundtracks.

Video game music is also played on the radio. On the commercial station Classic FM, there's a very popular, one-hour programme which plays music exclusively from games. Its name, appropriately, is *High Score* and it's presented by Jessica Curry, who co-founded a game development company called *The Chinese Room* and composed the music for the game *Dear Esther*. Many classical music lovers were sceptical at first, but the first series turned out to be a huge success, so they made more programmes.

Now, on *this* programme, before we go on, you're going to hear a piece of jazz from somebody we all normally associate with rock music, and I want you to decide who it is we're listening to.

2.2

I = Interviewer M = Mike Taylor

I: Octopushing, elephant polo, or cheese rolling. Our sports correspondent, Mike Taylor, has been finding out about some of the world's strangest sports. Which is the most unusual one for you, Mike?

M: Well, it has to be chess boxing, because it's such a bizarre combination. A match starts off with a four-minute round of speed chess, followed by a three-minute round of boxing. There can be up to six rounds of chess and five of boxing before a **winner** is decided. Sounds like just a bit of fun, but when I watched two men competing on German television recently, I was amazed by their level of skill in each of these two very different disciplines. After all, boxing is such an aggressive, physical sport, whereas chess is all about using the brain. You don't expect a **boxer** to be good at chess, or a chess **player** to be good in the ring.

I: Have you found any other unusual combinations like that?

M: No, but you mentioned octopushing, which is underwater hockey – so it's an unusual setting for a familiar game. I haven't seen it played, but I've read that it's a very exciting **spectator** sport – major tournaments have TV screens that show the images captured by underwater cameras.

Apparently, you don't have to be very fit to play. But I'm not convinced – it seems physically very demanding to me. The good thing, though, is that no individual player has to stay underwater for long periods at a time. People like me who can't hold their breath for very long can keep coming up for air.

I: OK. What else have you got?

M: Well, one of my favourites is sport stacking, which involves individuals or teams building pyramids with plastic cups. It doesn't sound very impressive, nor do **competitors** need to be in particularly good physical condition. But if you watch a video of some of the best stackers, you'll appreciate just how fast they are. It's quite staggering. There are adult competitions, and I'm thinking of having a go at it myself, but most **participants** are teenagers and children, some as young as four. Mind you, in sport we're used to seeing very young competitors outdo older ones, so that's nothing new.

I: Indeed. And are there any of these sports that you definitely wouldn't want to do?

M: Yes, there are, and not because they're in any way tough or there's too much danger involved. Far from it. It's just that I find them a bit ridiculous. There's toe wrestling, retro running – that's running backwards – or even pillow fighting, which is now a sport in Japan. They all seem rather silly to me, and they're not sports I'd particularly want to do or even watch.

I: You mentioned toe wrestling. What does that involve?

M: Well, basically, competitors lock big toes and try to force their opponent's foot onto the side board of a wooden frame. I mean it's fine for kids, and a toe wrestling competition is the kind of thing you might expect them to organise in the school playground. But for grown men and women to hold a World Championship every year, and then for **organisers** to apply for toe wrestling to become an Olympic sport – well, it's too daft for words. I'm just pleased the application wasn't accepted.

I: Alright. And which of the sports you've seen is the most impressive, would you say?

M: Well, probably the Man Versus Horse Marathon, which takes place every July in Wales. Human **runners** race cross-country against **riders** on horseback for 22 miles – that's around 35 kilometres – and on two occasions in the last forty years, a human **contestant** has won. Now that's not as astonishing as it might seem – horses are fast in short races but not so good over long distances. But it does seem a little unfair that the human victories are not mentioned in the same breath as some of the world's more famous sporting achievements. These people are heroes, but they're virtually unknown outside Wales.

I: Yes, it's the first time I've heard of the race. You're a runner, aren't you, Mike?

M: I was, but I damaged my knee when I was skiing and had to stop. I was a real enthusiast – used to run for a couple of hours after work every evening – but even then, I wouldn't have beaten a horse, that's for sure.

I: There's no shame in that! Right, thanks Mike. Time now for ...

3.1

Hi, my name's Paul and I'm going to talk to you about the world robotics championship, RoboCup, which I've been looking into on the internet for a project I'm doing. The competition is usually organized in a different country every year, though it's been held no fewer than four times in Japan, which is where the first event took place in 1997. The first time it was hosted here in Australia was in 2000 in Melbourne.

Now, RoboCup is short for Robot Soccer World Cup, and actually, the ultimate aim of the event is to encourage the development of robots which can beat the Football World Cup champions by 2050. Well, good luck with *that*, guys! But there are other

challenges, too – including RoboCup@Home and RoboCup@Work in the adult competition, and the OnStage and Rescue categories in RoboCupJunior, which is for kids up to the age of nineteen.

Let me just explain a little bit about the OnStage event. That's where teams get the chance to show what their robots can do through a stage show. And that can be anything from storytelling to a dance or a theatre performance ... or apparently, even a magic show, though I didn't find any videos of that one on the internet. The robots generally wear costumes and their designers can be part of the show, too. Many of the performers I saw were dressed up as characters from films, but the star of the video I enjoyed most was a robot in a penguin costume. It was great fun and the audience loved it.

But there's also a serious side to the whole thing. For example, all the teams have a technical interview with the judges, and each member has to answer questions about the part they played in the design and programming of their robots. And the competition rules are really strict. Points are taken off if a robot moves outside the area that's marked out on the stage, or if a team goes over the time limit. They have a total of five minutes for their performance, which includes setting it up and introducing it, and then an extra minute to clear up – so no more than six minutes altogether on the stage. It's all very quick, so there's no chance for the audience to get bored.

I saw some videos of some of the other events, as well, like RoboCupSoccer, which is pretty impressive. What amazed me most about it is the fact that there are no radio signals, or remote controls or any other kind of communication from the designers – all the robots are autonomous. They all communicate with each other and make their own decisions about what to do ... *almost* like human players – except the ones I saw kept falling over for no apparent reason, which was quite funny to watch.

I have to say, though, there was some pretty good passing of the ball, but none of the teams had what you could call a solid defence. Sometimes a robot would kick the ball from one end of the pitch to the other, and the other team just stood by and watched as it went into the goal! But hey, it's good entertainment and a great way for the public to learn about the latest developments in robot technology.

For me, though, RoboCup@Home seemed the most educational event. For this one, designers *have to* interact with their robots, and the only way they can do that is by voice. A kind of apartment is set up in the venue and the robots have to follow their designers' spoken instructions to perform a number of different tasks. I saw them do things like open the curtains in the bedroom, or go into the kitchen and get something like a bottle or a cup and take it back to the designer who was in the lounge.

This kind of thing might become a reality in the home in the future, so it's really interesting to see robots doing things in this context.

3.2

Speaker 1

Next year we're starting lessons at 10, rather than 9 every day. The head says teenagers need more sleep than adults, and they'll be more receptive during class if they come in an hour later. It's a fairly radical idea and it's attracting a lot of attention from the press. I just think it's another one of the head's schemes to get publicity for herself. She clearly has her own interests at heart rather than those of the kids. Perhaps I should have spoken out at the consultation meeting, but she's got the support of the whole teaching staff, and they don't seem to care that her motives are all wrong.

Speaker 2

I'm really fed up with our head of department. We all are. **As well as** having absolutely no interpersonal skills, he has a habit of making changes without bothering to find out what anyone else

thinks first. He told us in a meeting last week that we're going to be using a different coursebook for Year 8 next term, and he's ordered three class sets already. I'm not saying that a change wasn't necessary – I think we're all a bit tired of the book we're using at the moment – but I do think he could have let us have some say in the matter before going ahead. It's no way to run a department.

Speaker 3

Until now, a student's end-of-term report consisted of a mark for each subject, followed by a summarising comment from the tutor. With the new system, each subject teacher has to write a comment as well – and since I teach maths to **as many as** two hundred students every year, it'll take me absolutely ages. The head says the tutor's comment isn't enough to give parents a full picture of how their child's getting on, but I think it's fine **as long as** it's carefully written. Most parents won't read the comments anyway – they're just interested in the marks. It's a waste of time **as far as** I'm concerned, and I know the majority of my colleagues feel the same.

Speaker 4

The situation in Year 10 is not much better than it was before. Mixing up the classes like that – splitting up the troublemakers – is a step in the right direction, but it doesn't go far enough. They're still there, and they're still causing disruption to lessons. The head should have asked the parents to come in and got the kids to make certain guarantees in front of them, made them promise to improve their behaviour and so on. Then if the promises aren't kept, expel them from the school. We told her that, but she said expelling them would just create problems for other schools. She needs to be much tougher.

Speaker 5

There's some building work going on outside the music room. The windows are double glazed, but they're not thick enough to keep out the noise, so I've been moved to a room on the other side of the school. I've changed rooms many times before, but never to one as bad as this. The ceiling's high and the acoustics are terrible for the piano. Plus I have to shout to make myself heard, so my throat is suffering. And then the sun streams in during the afternoon and sends the kids to sleep. I'm telling you, **as soon as** the work's finished, I'm moving straight back to my old room.

3.3

- | | | |
|----------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1 change | 4 home | 7 clearly |
| 2 time | 5 continually | 8 disappointing |
| 3 loud | 6 compare | |

3.4

robot without annoyed decide fear during space aware

4.1

W = Woman M = Man

- 1 You hear a man talking to a friend about a TV series he is watching.

W: Enjoying the new series?

M: Well, yeah, it's OK. The writers have done a great job with the storyline. It draws you in, makes you want to keep watching – like a book you can't put down. It's a shame about the actual script, though – I mean, the actors do their best with their lines, but they all sound very unnatural. And people are saying good things about the music, but I really don't understand why they've used modern songs in a series set in the 1920s.

W: So you're not a fan then?

M: I wouldn't say that. I watched three episodes in a row last night.

- 2 You hear a woman reviewing a book on the radio.

W: All too often we are told that the author 'takes us on a journey', but the phrase is entirely appropriate for this, the first volume of Gray's memoirs, since each chapter is named after a different European location where she lived out a particular stage of her colourful life. At times it reads like a novel set against a background of huge political change across the continent. But this is the story of a life in which fact is stranger – and far more absorbing – than fiction. The map at the beginning of the book is a useful addition, by the way, as many of the place names may be unfamiliar to you.

- 3 You hear two friends talking about a film they have just seen.

M: I thought the pace dropped a bit half way through the film, but apart from that it was really good.

W: Yeah, it was great. You never expect a sequel to compare well with the original, but in many ways this one was better, more entertaining.

M: Especially the bits with those twins. I haven't laughed so much in ages.

W: Yeah, I didn't laugh out loud like you – I never do – but I know what you mean.

M: Definitely a candidate for an award or two.

W: Right. But it's true, the director could have speeded up the action a bit in the middle.

- 4 You hear a man telling a woman about a storytelling course he attended.

W: So what made you decide to do a storytelling course?

M: Well, a friend of mine who did it last year recommended it to me. She thought I might enjoy it – and she was right. It was great fun, really laid back and everyone was very supportive. It gave me the courage I needed – and the self-belief – to be able to stand up and speak in front of a group of people.

W: So are you going to be leaving us to take up a career as a storyteller, then?

M: No, I like working here too much.

W: Ha-ha! That's a good story.

- 5 You overhear a woman calling a bookshop.

W: Hello, yes, it's about a book I bought in your shop last week. A Katharine Adams novel. I just wanted to point out that there were one or two pages missing ... No, no, there's really no need to apologise. I mean it's not as if it was the last page or anything. And I got the gist of what was happening without the pages. I just thought you ought to know so you can check the rest of your stock, or talk to the publishers or something ... That's OK ... Yes, pages 60 to 63...

- 6 You hear a man talking to a friend about a story writing competition he won.

W: Hey, I saw you on the telly last night, talking about your competition win. You kept that quiet.

M: Well, yeah, it was a bit of an ordeal, to be honest.

W: Why's that?

M: Well, it's a live chat show, so I was worried I might make a mess of it.

W: But you'd already been on national radio.

M: Yeah, but I didn't have to say much then – just read the story out. That's much easier than talking about yourself in front of millions. And anyway, I wasn't surrounded by all those celebrities when I was on the radio. It was just me and the other three finalists in the studio with the presenter.

7 You hear two friends talking about an actor in a play they have just seen.

W: The actor who played the grandfather looked familiar. Did you recognise him?

M: Yeah, I did. I've seen him in one or two of those period dramas on telly. He usually plays much younger characters, though – he can't be much older than forty.

W: Well, make-up did a good job, then – he looked very convincing.

M: Yeah, he did, and his movements and gestures were really authentic. He's a natural.

W: Right, but I did think he tried a bit too hard with the voice. He mumbled a lot, so it wasn't easy to make out what he was saying sometimes.

M: Yeah, I had trouble understanding him, too.

8 You hear part of a talk by a writer.

W: Now, you're all avid readers, so you know all about the wonders of books. Your bookshelves are probably full of novels – some of them mine, hopefully! – and it's likely you started reading from an early age. So it may surprise you to know that until I was fifteen I had never actually read a book from beginning to end. My parents didn't read, and nor did I. Then one day, a local writer came to my school and read extracts from her latest novel – and I was hooked. I bought the book and when I'd finished it, I knew exactly what I wanted to do in life.

4.2

- 1** Did you know Mahershala Ali won an Academy Award for *Moonlight*?
- 2** The book is a psychological thriller called *Autumn in London*.
- 3** For the role of the climate change campaigner, the make-up department gave the actor wrinkles using prosthetics.
- 4** The muscle-bound action hero climbed up the cliff in pursuit of the villain.

5.1

Hello, my name's Mike Swift and I'm here today to talk to you about the City College and the different vocational courses we run there.

Now, until fairly recently we had four different faculties at the college, but with the addition of the Creative Skills faculty last year, there are now five altogether.

We're really proud of this new faculty. There are workshops for glass production, ceramics and textiles, as well as a state-of-the-art photography studio and the college's very own radio station, which broadcasts every weekday to the local area. The star attraction, though, is the television studio – the only one of its kind in a further education college in this region.

I think it's worth mentioning that most of the first group of students who were on our media courses last year have already found jobs in the business. There's one working as a camerawoman, for example, quite a few sound or lighting engineers, and even, in one case, a radio producer – which is pretty good going for a twenty-one-year-old! No presenters as yet, but you never know ...

Now, the biggest building in the college is the Faculty of Leisure and Health, which offers over 200 courses in anything from sports coaching or alternative therapies to catering or cake decoration. But the fastest growing courses in this faculty are those in the Events Department, with more and more students hoping to go into careers as exhibition organisers, concert promoters or wedding co-ordinators.

These are great courses, because if you decided to change careers at any point in the future, most of what you've learnt

would still be useful to you. Organisational skills, for example, are important in a whole range of jobs, and so is good team management – knowing how to deal with a group of people who work under your supervision.

And there's something else about this type of course which makes it so attractive, and which is common to courses in some of the other faculties, too. During the second term, the college organises work experience in local venues and businesses. You get a chance to find out what it's like to do the job for a few weeks – and you get paid, too, so that can't be bad!

Now, some of you, I'm sure, will be interested in working in IT. Well, we offer over eighty different information technology courses, some of them in the faculty of building and engineering – like CAAD, for example, which stands for 'computer-aided architectural design' – but the majority are taught in the business faculty.

Computer games development is a popular choice and can lead to employment as a games developer working in design, programming, art or animation. But competition is high and the entry requirements are quite strict. We're looking for exam passes in at least five subjects, including English, and we particularly want to see good grades in maths. Computer science is also a big advantage of course.

Incidentally, if you're not sure what course to take, the college does have a student support service, which will help you choose the right one. You can arrange for an interview with the careers advice team before you apply, or else you can go to our online site and click on the Study Options heading for lots of helpful information and tips.

Now before I go on, I ought to mention that most of our courses last for just under a year – from September to June – and they're either full-time courses, meaning five days a week, or part-time, which are just one or two days a week. But we do also have a number of evening courses, which usually run for five months.

And that brings me onto the different qualifications you can achieve on the various courses ...

5.2

I = Interviewer D = Deborah Chilton

I: Few of us would admit to actually enjoying doing the housework, so trying to ensure our teenage children do their fair share is no easy task. Deborah Chilton, the author of a new parenting book, *The Stress-Free Guide to Bringing up Teenagers*, is here to give us a few pointers. Deborah, where do we start?

D: Well, as you say, it's not easy, but being aware of what we're trying to achieve and why, is key in all this. Getting teenagers to contribute to housework has so many benefits. It's an ideal way of teaching them what it means to belong to a family and a community. They also learn to take on more responsibility as they approach adulthood, and they pick up some useful skills on the way, too. Knowing all this motivates and encourages parents to see their goals through.

I: Right. And at what age should teenagers begin helping out with the housework?

D: Long before they reach adolescence. Teenagers are naturally resistant to being told what to do, and suddenly asking them at fourteen or fifteen to take on chores when they've never done anything to help before – well, let's just say it doesn't meet with a very positive reaction. Parents often fail to take advantage of the fact that young children are quite happy to make their bed, tidy their room, lay the table or wash the dishes. So get them started early and you'll find it easier later on.

I: And what sort of things can teenagers do?

D: Cleaning, washing, ironing. Anything, really. Planning and cooking a meal each week is excellent training, and teaches teenagers how much time and effort goes into putting food on the table. Whatever they do, just be sure to explain to them carefully how to do it first. My son once almost tried to wash the toaster in the sink while it was still plugged in!

I: Oh dear!

D: Yes. Teenagers will make mistakes, and that's part of the learning process. But it's best to try and avoid them before they actually happen.

I: Indeed. And what if your teenage son or daughter decides not to do a chore? What then?

D: Well, it's a good idea to make their contribution something that's important to *them* as well. That way, if it's not done, they're the ones to suffer. So for example, if they don't do the washing, they won't have clean clothes for a party; if they don't do the shopping, they can't eat. They'll get the idea eventually.

I: So you wouldn't consider threatening them with punishments?

D: Only as a last resort. Punishments tend to cause bad feeling and resentment and can worsen the situation. If things don't get better, sit down together and remind them of their duty to other family members and the need to work as a team. And for the same reasons, don't give financial rewards for completing chores. Housework is an obligation, rather than a choice, and no one gets paid for doing it.

I: Hmm. If only we did! So, housework has to be done, and that's it.

D: Yes, but there's still room for some negotiation. Understandably, teenagers like to feel they have at least some say in the matter. So whilst the chore itself is not negotiable, when it is carried out might be. In fact, rather than say to your teenage child 'could you load the dishwasher?' – to which they could answer 'no' – ask them instead 'would you like to load the dishwasher before or after the film?' That way there's an element of choice, and the job gets done sooner or later.

I: Very clever. I like that.

D: Yes, and I would just like to say, that although domestic duties can be a pain, they can also be a welcome distraction. Teenagers generally have a lot on their minds, whether it's schoolwork, friendship problems or boyfriend/girlfriend issues. Vacuuming the carpet, cutting the grass and cleaning the car provide an alternative focus and help take a teenager's mind off his or her daily concerns.

I: Certainly. And that's a very positive note to finish on.

6.1

Speaker 1

Before Paul started school, he used to come round to us every morning while his mother, Lynda – my daughter-in-law – was at work. He had almost limitless energy and at times he was rather difficult to control. We only had to look after him for four hours each day, but it completely wore us out. His mother would tell us off for letting him watch too much television – she said Paul needed to work his energy off in the park or on long walks. Easy for her to say, but we weren't getting any younger and watching television was a useful survival strategy. I remember arguing with Lynda on more than one occasion about this.

Speaker 2

I shared a flat once with someone who used to get annoyed about the silliest of things. We got on fine at the beginning, probably because we hardly ever saw each other – he had an evening job in a bar and I worked during the day in a supermarket. When I got to know him better, though, I realised

just how difficult he could be. Things had to be done his way and his way alone. He was obsessive about tidiness and he couldn't bear it if I left anything lying on the floor. He'd also tell me off for cooking food that made the house smell. I had to move out in the end. I couldn't stand it.

Speaker 3

Julie was a friend as well as a colleague. I looked up to her and admired her self-belief and quiet determination. It came as no surprise when *she* was promoted to senior manager and I wasn't. I didn't think it was unfair or anything. She deserved it. Of course I was disappointed, but I got over it quickly enough. But Julie was now my boss and it soon became clear that she wasn't good at managing people. She bullied and shouted, and upset most people in the department, including me. To her credit, she realised she wasn't suited to the job and she asked for a transfer. But I haven't spoken to her since she left.

Speaker 4

My brother, Phil, and I always used to get on very well, despite having very different ideas and opinions about things. Recently, though, something's come between us that's changed all that. The money we inherited from our grandmother wasn't divided equally between us. She left me more because I'm married with two children and Phil's single. At least that's what she said in her will. Understandably, I suppose, Phil thinks it's a bit unfair and feels hard done by. We haven't exactly fallen out with each other, but there's certainly a tension between us that wasn't there before.

Speaker 5

We split up around about this time last year, just before he went off to India. I'd always been very tolerant and understanding – I knew how much John's work meant to him and I'd put up with the situation for as long as I could. But we both realised these long periods of separation weren't good for the relationship. Not being able to make any plans for the future inevitably caused friction, so we decided to end it. We still see each other from time to time, and it's good because there's not the same tension between us that there used to be.

6.2

W = Woman M = Man G = Girl

1 You hear a woman on the radio talking about her father.

W: I always got on very well with my mother. I felt I could turn to her for advice, share confidences with her, because she understood my problems. With my father it was different. I found it difficult to talk to him, and when we did speak you could feel the tension between us. I think it was partly because I take after him so much – I inherited my lack of confidence from him for one thing – and I blamed him for my own weaknesses.

2 You overhear a man talking about a former teacher.

M: After the first lesson we all thought he was a bit mad. But he was just different. Most of the other teachers in the school were really serious and uninspiring. They'd speak, we'd take notes and that was about it. It was deadly dull. But Hilton-Dennis would jump around the room, waving his arms about and jabbering away in Italian at us. He seemed to really enjoy what he was doing, and I took to him almost straight away. He managed to communicate his passion for the subject and he got a lot of people interested in learning the language.

3 You hear a woman complaining about one of her employees.

W: I'm going to have to have a word with Simon again. If it's not one thing, it's another.

M: Is Simon the scruffy one?

W: Yes, he is. That's not what worries me, though. He doesn't have any contact with the public, so I don't mind what he looks like.

M: So has he been rude again?

W: No, we managed to sort that one out. I took him aside a couple of months ago and had a long talk with him. He's been quite pleasant since then. But I need reliable people who turn up on time and he's been late for work three times this last fortnight. I'm beginning to regret taking him on.

4 You hear part of a radio programme in which a man is giving advice.

M: Unfortunately, there's not always a direct relationship between hard work and good performance at school. Think how demotivating it must be for a young person to spend hours on homework and then get low marks for their trouble. Something like that can seriously affect their self-esteem and their confidence. So they may look for other ways to feel good about themselves. Let's imagine they come to you and say they want to have their nose pierced or get a tattoo done. Would you let them? Maybe not, but perhaps you should at least consider their motives for wanting to do so.

5 You hear two people talking about a friend.

W: I've asked Lucy to choose a restaurant to go to for her birthday.

M: Oof! Good luck with that. You know how long it takes her to come to a decision on anything.

W: I know. She never seems to be able to make up her mind. And then she wonders why we all lose our patience with her.

M: It might be better just to book a place yourself and tell her where we're going.

W: Well, yeah, but that's a bit unfair. It's *her* birthday, after all. She might get upset.

M: Lucy? No. When have you ever seen her in a bad mood?

W: True. Perhaps you're right.

6 You hear a girl talking about her tennis coach.

G: Like all coaches, he's got his good and bad points. I like the fact that he comes over and corrects me if he sees I'm doing something wrong, like the way I hold the racket or hit the ball. I appreciate that, it's really helpful. But I guess he can come across as a bit aggressive sometimes. He gets angry and shouts a lot if he thinks you're not trying. That doesn't bother me too much – he just wants to get the best out of us. But I don't see why we have to spend ten minutes at the beginning of each session running round the tennis court. It's important to be fit, but we could do all that in our own time.

7 You hear a man and a woman talking about a person in a photograph.

W: It's a lovely photo. She looks so relaxed and cheerful – as if she's really enjoying it all.

M: Yeah, it's my mum's favourite. She's had it framed and it's up on the wall in her living room. She was starting to think she might *never* see her daughter in a wedding dress, so it's got pride of place above the telly. Beth doesn't like it though.

W: Why not?

M: She says you can see all her wrinkles. She's a bit sensitive about her age.

W: Oh dear. So, anyway, do you think there'll be a photo of you above your mum's telly one day? Little brother in a wedding suit?

M: Don't you start!

8 You hear an elderly woman talking to a man about her new neighbours.

M: So how are the new neighbours?

W: Well, I must say I'm quite pleased so far. It's early days, of course – they've only been there for a couple of weeks. But they do seem better than the last ones. All those weekend parties. Such an unpleasant family.

M: Have you invited them round yet?

W: Well, no, I haven't had a chance. You see, they've asked me to go to their house on two occasions already – and one of those was for lunch.

M: That's very sociable of them.

W: Yes, it is, isn't it? As I say, I'm rather pleased. They've even offered to come and cut my grass for me.

7.1

Hello, my name's Joy Townsend and I'm here to tell you about the bookshop called *More than books*, which my husband and I started up recently. We had originally planned to open it in June, but we had to get the builders in, and they didn't start work till the end of May, so it wasn't until the middle of July that we were actually able to welcome our first customers.

We're in a main shopping street, on the ground floor below a lawyer's office, and to give you an idea of the size of our premises, let me just say there's enough room to fit a small supermarket in there, although before us it was actually a shoe shop. Unfortunately, they had trouble meeting the cost of the rent and decided to close the business.

Anyway, the point is, we have the space to do more than just sell books. Towards the front of the shop, for example, is a small café area, which I'll tell you about in a minute, and at the far end we've had a little stage set up, for which we've got a programme of events and activities planned. Again, more about that later.

As a bookshop, we want to appeal to all types of readers, so we sell a wide range of books, both fiction and non-fiction, including an impressive selection of children's books. And in the shop window, rather than having recently published books on show, we display some of our bargain books – ones that we're offering at a discount or that belong in our 'three for the price of two' deal. The idea, of course, is to catch the attention of shoppers and encourage them to come in.

Once they're in, they're usually captivated by the smell of coffee coming from the café area, and in particular, by the sight of our homemade cakes, which have become the talk of the neighbourhood, by all accounts. People are hearing good things about them, and coming in to try them for themselves. We're now also thinking about offering a range of fresh salads, which could be an attractive option for office workers during the lunch period.

As I mentioned, we have a number of events and activities programmed. Coming up the week after next, for example, is jazz guitarist, Dave Simmons, who lives in the area and has kindly offered to play a set for us free of charge. Then two weeks after that, folk singer Angie Davies, a personal friend of mine, is coming all the way from her home town of Bristol to perform for us.

We've already had a poetry reading, which was very well attended. In fact, it caught us by surprise and we didn't have enough seats for everyone. That was last week, and we're hoping that just as many people come to the book presentation at the end of *this* week.

Our most successful events so far, though, have been the storytelling sessions for children. We pay a professional group called *Magic Words* to come in every now and again to entertain the kids. The sessions are not cheap, but the shop is always full, and the mums and dads buy lots of books.

And finally, we've set up a reading group, which meets on the first Tuesday of every month. The theme for discussion since September has been 'loneliness', but that will change in January to a topic of the group's choice. A total of three books are suggested for each topic, and they can be purchased from us at a reduced price.

All of this, then, is helping us to attract customers, but we've also decided to advertise. We couldn't afford to pay for radio advertising, and we weren't convinced a leaflet campaign would be very effective, so we've taken out an ad in the local newspaper. It wasn't cheap, but we're hoping it will turn out to be money well spent. We'll see.

7.2

I = Interviewer H = Holly

- I:** With me today is Holly Ridge, who's writing a book about village life in the modern age. What's the title of your book, Holly?
- H:** If only I knew! I just can't seem to **come up with** one which will both reflect the content, and encourage people to buy the book. My editor suggested *Twenty-first-century village life*, but that didn't sound very inspiring. We'll need to agree on one soon, because the publisher is currently **putting together** its autumn catalogue, well in advance of the publication date.
- I:** So what for you is a typical village, Holly?
- H:** Well, I'm not sure there is one. People usually imagine a pleasant square or green, with a pretty church, picturesque old cottages and a slow pace of life. This is not entirely wrong and does go some way to describing villages. But it doesn't take account of what **goes on** in each one. What you see are just the stages or film sets, but the stories played out on them are all very different. Each village has its own personality, its own peculiarities, and functions in its own particular way.
- I:** But there are certain types of village, aren't there? Commuter villages, for example.
- H:** Yes, that's right. People who work in large cities are bound to be attracted to villages which are within reasonable travelling distance. Some locals will tell you that a large influx of commuters has changed the appearance and nature of their village, **turning it into** a small town. 'Commuters have different priorities,' they say. 'They don't contribute to the life of the village.' This may or may not be true, but more worrying is the fact that their arrival **pushes up** house prices, which become so expensive that the original inhabitants, young families in particular, have to move away.
- I:** And that's also a problem with second-home ownership, isn't it?
- H:** Well, yes, the buying of houses for use as second homes can have a more devastating effect on some villages. They might be lively, busy places at weekends and in the holidays, but they'll be empty the rest of the time – almost like ghost towns. Only the older residents remain, so there is no longer that mix of generations, which is so beneficial for the life of the village. And shops, health centres, libraries and village schools are forced to close.
- I:** And are there any ways of preventing this?
- H:** I think there are, yes. Let's not forget that villages are places for people to live in, so the important thing is to make people want to come and live in them. And to attract a range of people, you need a range of housing, from the picturesque old cottages I mentioned before, to more affordable, modern houses. That might change the look of a place, make it less appealing to the eye, but it will help to keep it alive, so it's a price worth paying.
- I:** The Localism Act could help with all of this, couldn't it?
- H:** Certainly, yes. The Localism Act makes it possible for ordinary people to **bring about** improvements in their community. It gives them legal powers to get more homes built, provide better local services or stop a school closing. It's a lengthy and complex process, but basically, residents **draw up a**

Neighbourhood Plan of what they want to accomplish, and submit it to the local council. The council can either **turn it down**, or approve it, in which case it goes to a referendum for all the residents to vote on. And if at least 50% vote in favour, the plan is activated.

- I:** Very interesting. Now, I know you live in a village, Holly. Is it doing well?
- H:** Yes, it is. It's in very good health. It's just outside the commuter belt, but we have both a primary and a secondary school and one or two shops and cafés. I enjoy living there. It helps that I've **set up** a small gardening business, so that puts me in contact with others, and I know most people in the village, at least to say hello to. I'm on friendly terms with everyone.
- I:** Sounds ideal.

8.1

H = Hotel manager W = Woman M = Man

- 1** You hear a hotel manager talking to his staff.
- H:** As you know, it's been a difficult season for the hotel. The level of occupancy has been unsatisfactory, and with nearly half our rooms empty each week, we're running at a loss. Unfortunately, we have no control over the weather and it seems likely that the situation will only get worse in the coming weeks. It'll probably come as no surprise to you to hear, then, that some of you on the temporary staff will, I'm afraid, have your contract terminated. Those affected will be asked to come to my office later this morning and I'll provide anyone who requires it with a reference.
- 2** You hear a married couple talking about a campsite they stayed at.
- W:** That campsite just outside Florence was good.
- M:** Yeah, it was. We never actually went in to the city, though, did we?
- W:** No, we should have done, it was so close. But I couldn't pull you and the boys away from the pool.
- M:** Oh come on – you spent just as much time there as we did. And then there was the sauna, the gym ... and that games room was great for the kids.
- W:** Yeah, there was plenty to do. We'll have to go back there.
- M:** But on our own, when the boys have grown up, and we can have some peace and quiet.
- W:** Right. And see Florence, too.
- 3** You hear two people talking about a place they have just visited.
- M:** I'm really pleased we did the guided tour. You don't normally get to see *that* side of things.
- W:** It was amazing sitting in the director's box. I felt just like royalty.
- M:** Yeah, it was great. I was really impressed with the trophy room, as well. All those cups on display – I've never seen so much silverware in one place.
- W:** Shall we come back tomorrow night? It's only an exhibition match, but I'd love to see what the place looks like with people in it. It was weird seeing it empty.
- M:** OK. It'll be a great way to finish the holiday.
- 4** You overhear a woman leaving a voicemail message for her friend.
- W:** Hi, Alison. Really sorry to hear you can't come away with us to Brighton next month. Steve just told me. He was a bit upset, I think – he was looking forward to seeing you again. Anyway ... you and I are seeing each other next week, aren't we? I can't remember if we said Wednesday or Thursday. I've just agreed to go and visit my parents on Wednesday, so

if that's the day you and I are meeting up, I'll have to phone them and rearrange things. They won't mind, but can you just remind me what we decided? Thanks. Bye.

5 You hear two people on a plane talking about the airline they are flying with.

W: It says in their magazine they're one of the 'World's Most Improved Airlines'.

M: I saw that. But it doesn't say what's better. I mean, there's definitely still room for improvement in the way they speak to people – like that poor woman just now whose cabin bag was too big.

W: Yeah, I felt really sorry for her.

M: Hmm. Sometimes they're in such a hurry to get you on the plane and up in the air on time they forget to be nice. Still, credit where credit's due – they *are* efficient and I have to say, it's good to see the days of dried-out meat and sad-looking salads are gone.

W: Definitely.

6 You hear a woman talking about tourists in her town.

W: I shouldn't complain really. I mean, the whole economy of this town is based on tourism and if they stopped coming, then a lot of people would be out of work and struggling to make ends meet. But I wish they'd show a little more respect. Loads of them have music blaring out of their cars during the day, and then in the evening, you get big groups of them coming into the centre for the nightlife. And they don't seem to care that we can't get a decent night's sleep with them making such a racket.

7 You hear two tourists talking about their tour guide.

W: Come on. Let's get back to the coach. We don't want to upset the guide.

M: Yeah, she really lost her temper with that couple this morning.

W: Hmm, and they were only a couple of minutes late. But apart from that, she's alright. She seems to know what she's talking about.

M: Well, I checked what she said about the cathedral on my phone and she got one or two things really wrong.

W: Yeah, but you can't believe everything you read on the internet. Anyway, she puts things across well. She'd make a good teacher.

M: As long as everyone pays attention.

W: Right. She wouldn't bother to explain things twice.

8 You hear a man talking about a beach he recently visited.

M: Now, normally I prefer a beach with fine sand, you know, so it's not painful to walk on. This one, though, had small stones – well, more like pebbles, actually – and I don't remember the brochure saying anything about *that*. But anyway, we bought ourselves a pair of flip-flops each at one of the shops next to the beach, so that didn't matter too much. And then we spent most of our time there in the water. It was just like being in a warm bath. I could have stayed there all day.

8.2

Speaker 1

There's a cycle path that goes right round the city, and various shorter ones within it. Now, these paths are up on the pavement rather than in the road, so it's pedestrians, not motorists, that have to be careful they don't wander onto them. Some people don't seem to understand this, and walk along them as if they had every right to. I really think the authorities could do more to inform pedestrians, to make them aware of how it works. Every day I cycle to work and every day I get shouted at by people who still haven't caught on that it's me that has right of way, not them.

Speaker 2

Mine's a folding bike, so I get off the train, put on my helmet and head for the office. I *could* take the bus or the underground, but there's no pleasure in that – they both get so crowded. On the bike I feel the wind in my face and a sense that the city's mine – I can go where I want, when I want. I know I shouldn't, but I can even get up on the pavement to avoid traffic lights or go the wrong way down one-way streets. And of course, cycling is just so healthy – I've never felt fitter. Some say it's risky too, but I find motorists tend to go more carefully when cyclists are around.

Speaker 3

A year or two ago, someone in the town hall came up with a nice idea to promote cycling in the city. On the first Sunday in every month, a number of the main streets in the centre are closed to traffic for two hours and given over to bicycles. It's gradually grown in popularity, and there's a real festival atmosphere now, with thousands of cyclists of all ages turning out every month. It's a start, and it's certainly helped to get people out on their bikes. But there's still a long way to go. We need a whole series of additional measures to make our roads more cycle-friendly.

Speaker 4

Sometimes you come across some really nasty drivers in the city. I can be cycling along, minding my own business, when some car or van comes right up close to me, almost touching my back wheel. It's really dangerous – sometimes I lose my balance and nearly fall off. It seems to be worse in the evening. I've got my bike lights, my luminous cycling jacket, my reflective cycle clips – so they can see me all right. But they seem to resent me being there and get impatient if they have to slow down for me. I get beeped and shouted at all the time – it's very unpleasant.

Speaker 5

It's more a recreational activity here than a means of transport. People don't generally use a bike to get about the city. They might spend a Sunday morning cycling in one of the big parks in the suburbs, or on the cycle path that runs alongside the river. But they won't ride a bike in the centre to get from A to B or to go to and from work. It's just not an attractive option, given the quality of the air here. We're in the middle of a huge industrial area, and many pedestrians wear face masks. So people are hardly likely to expose themselves to more danger by cycling in amongst the traffic.

9.1

I = Interviewer A = Alan Stanford

I: In the Talkabout studio today we have a ghost walk guide. Local man Alan Stanford takes groups of people round the town on guided tours, telling ghost stories about the historic buildings which are said to be haunted. Sounds like an interesting job, Alan.

A: Oh, it is, it's fascinating. I've been a tour guide before but mostly abroad and never here in my own home town. I wouldn't call myself an expert, but I've learnt quite a lot about our local history since I started doing this a couple of years ago. Plus, of course, I get to dress up in period costume and tell lots of ghost stories in character. Acting and storytelling have always been in my blood, so I'm really just doing the things that come most naturally to me. I have a great time.

I: And how about those who actually go on the tours? Do they get frightened?

A: Well, obviously these are ghost walks, so it wouldn't be much fun if there wasn't a bit of fear involved. Not too much, of course – we often have children in the groups, so we have to be careful. But people expect to be scared, and they'd be disappointed if they weren't, so we aim at least to give them

goose bumps, and perhaps even a little fright – after which **they all laugh nervously** and enjoy the release of tension.

I: And how do you achieve that, giving them a fright?

A: Well, the mark of a good storyteller is the ability to hold an audience's attention, and that's not too hard to do when the subject is ghosts. You take the listeners into your confidence, create the right mood, make them feel safe with you. Then, just at the right moment, when they're least expecting it, you change the tone, give a shout or let out a scream. And they nearly jump out of their skin!

I: Right, yes. And does it work every time?

A: Well, it does with most audiences, people who've been thinking about the ghost walk all day, maybe all week, wondering what's going to happen. **These people usually respond extremely well.** Some of the groups we get, though, come along as part of a surprise event. People like these haven't had time to reflect on what they're coming to, they haven't been given the chance to look forward to it, and the effect isn't the same. They don't normally have such a good time, unfortunately.

I: You mentioned dressing up and acting before. Do you have a variety of characters that you play or just one?

A: Oh no, there are several. There's Lord Warwick, for example, a wealthy noble; the old sea dog Jake Redburn; John Simpkins, who's a servant ... none of them actually existed, of course, they're all fictitious. The choice of character I play often depends on the route we take and the stories to be told, or also perhaps how I'm feeling that night and the type of audience I'm expecting. As with all acting, it adds a sense of truth to the whole thing, makes it more credible. So the audience becomes engaged in the tour and responds in a more positive, sometimes more frightened way.

I: One question, I have to ask you, Alan. Do you believe in ghosts?

A: **Regrettably, I have to say that I haven't seen any on the walks,** or had any other paranormal experiences to impress you with. Some people in my audiences have said they have, and so have some of my friends, and I wouldn't dare dispute that or suggest they're imagining things. Ghosts are real for those people who say they've seen them, and who am I to say they haven't? The most I can say is that I have no personal evidence they exist.

I: And of the stories that you tell on your ghost walks, do you have a favourite?

A: Well, I particularly like stories which involve smells that some buildings are said to give off when ghosts are around. I don't want to give away too much here on the programme, but the one I enjoy telling most of all is about an old woman called Florence Hardcastle, who haunts the town hall. When she appears every now and again, the place absolutely stinks. Now at first, some people thought it was a problem with the rubbish, but if you want to find out the real reason, you'll have to come along on the ghost walk.

I: We're curious now, Alan.

9.2

Hi, I'm Sally Hurst and I've just got back from Arizona, where I spent two weeks in the Superstition Mountain Range, near Phoenix. Besides being known for its luxury desert golf courses, the area also attracts enthusiasts of more energetic outdoor activities like rock climbing or mountain biking. And I was lucky enough to go hiking when I was there. There are miles of paths and the scenery is absolutely spectacular.

As you'd expect, it can get quite hot in the desert. It's late spring now, of course, and that's not unbearable. Autumn isn't too bad either, but I'd certainly advise against going there in summer.

Temperatures can reach the high forties – and that's more than a little uncomfortable for most.

The reason I went there was to research some of the legends and mysteries of the area for a radio documentary. The very origin of the name, 'Superstition Mountains' is itself a bit of a mystery. One theory says they were given their name by sixteenth-century Spanish settlers, some of whom inexplicably vanished when they went exploring there. But the more likely explanation is that it came about in the nineteenth century, when it was discovered that the local Pima Indians were frightened of the mountains. Farmers in the area attributed this fear to superstition, and they decided to give that name first to one mountain, and then the whole range.

Perhaps the most talked about mystery in the area is that of the so-called, 'Lost Dutchman's Mine', which is supposedly somewhere in the Superstition Mountains. Far from being Dutch, however, the owner of the gold mine in question, Jacob Waltz, was in fact German, or Deutsch in his native language. Waltz arrived in the United States in November 1839, and spent virtually all his life there prospecting for gold, firstly in North Carolina, then Georgia, California and finally Arizona. When he passed away in October 1891 he took the secret of his mine with him to his grave.

You see, apparently Waltz had found what was believed by some to be the richest gold mine in the world. But he didn't give away its location to anyone, and it's a mystery which remains unsolved to this day. According to one estimate in the late nineteen seventies, up to eight thousand people a year attempted to locate the mine. Even now, people still haven't given up searching, despite the ban on mineral prospecting in 1983, and many continue to head for the region to look for the gold.

Waltz left a few clues, but without revealing very much. In one of them, for example, he says, 'The rays of the setting sun shine into the entrance of my mine', but that could be just about anywhere.

I did a lot of my research for the documentary in a museum; The Superstition Mountain Museum. It's full of information on the Lost Dutchman's Mine, including a whole set of maps which are thought to show its location – not that that's been of any use to anyone! So far, anyway.

And I saw another exhibit on the mine in a museum in nearby Goldfield. Now Goldfield was a prosperous mining town at the end of the nineteenth century, but when the gold ran out, everyone left and now it's a ghost town. It's become a popular tourist attraction as well, of course, with museums, rides and shows, but it's still quite impressive, nevertheless.

Now you may have seen a film that was made in 1949 about the Lost Dutchman's Mine entitled *Lust for Gold*, starring Glenn Ford in the role of Jacob Waltz. But here's another piece of trivia for you: in 1960, actor Walter Brennan recorded a song on the subject called *Dutchman's Gold*. We're going to play it to you right after the news.

9.3

M = Man W = Woman

M: It was very dark as I slowly walked down the hallway. It was so windy that the whole house was shaking. There was a loud crack of thunder. I walked into the kitchen and sat down in the dark. My uncle was missing. I was scared.

W: How awful! What happened next?

9.4

1 a How embarrassing.

b How embarrassing!

2 a Really?!

b Really.

- 3 a That's ridiculous.
b That's ridiculous!
- 4 a That's amazing.
b That's amazing!
- 5 a What a nightmare!
b What a nightmare.

10.1

I = Interviewer J = Justin Blakelock

- I: With us today is local crime writer, Justin Blakelock. Justin, perhaps I should begin by asking you why you decided to write crime fiction rather than any other genre?
- J: Whenever I'm asked that question, people think I'm going to say it's because I've always loved reading crime novels. Well, I have, but I'm actually much more of a science-fiction fan than anything else, and that's the kind of thing I was writing when I first started out as an author. But then my editor – an ex-policewoman curiously enough – saw elements of crime writing in my work and she gently pushed me in that direction.
- I: And was it her idea to set your novels here in Brighton?
- J: No, that was mine. Firstly, because I love the place so much and despite the crime theme, I do try to show it in a positive light. But also, even though I'm writing fiction, I want my stories to be as real and accurate as possible. And because I grew up in this area, because I know it so well, it makes sense for me to set them here. There are too many novels that lack credibility because they're set in fictional places, or they're set in real places which are not accurately described.
- I: You show two versions of Brighton in your books, don't you?
- J: That's right. To the visitor, Brighton seems a very peaceful city. It has this gentle, calm exterior – the very solid seafront buildings and pleasant shopping streets. But like many other cities it has its darker, more criminal places – the rundown buildings and areas that the tourist rarely sees. And that's also true of many of the characters I create. At first, they seem to be very gentle, very pleasant people, but there's something darker, more criminal hiding below the surface.
- I: And how about your protagonist, Detective Inspector George Trent? He's a little more straightforward, isn't he?
- J: Yes, yes he is. He does have the occasional moment when he surprises everyone – if not, he'd be too dull. But essentially, what you see is what you get with George. He's very scruffy, slightly overweight, and completely disorganised. He doesn't worry about things like dressing up or combing his hair – he thinks he's good enough as he is; he's very comfortable with the way he looks. And that's really what makes him such a likeable character, I think.
- I: Yes, he's not attractive, but he's very human, isn't he? Now, Justin, you have a very popular website. Can you tell us about that?
- J: Yes, sure. Well, the original idea behind the site was to get my name out there more and promote my books. But it gradually evolved into a blog – usually articles aimed at crime writers who were just getting started. And then other established authors began reading and commenting on my posts, and now it's effectively become a forum, a kind of debating club.
- I: Can you give us an example of the kind of advice you give?
- J: Well, I've just posted a list of things you should remember to include in a crime novel. So for example, make sure your detectives have enough paperwork to keep them busy. Real detectives have loads to do, so your fictional ones should be doing their fair share too. To be honest, it's the kind of thing writers ought to pick up themselves by watching what goes on in a police station. There's absolutely no substitute for that.

But it's good to compare notes and for every ten pieces of advice I give, you can read twenty more in the comments from other writers who've done their own research. It's a support service, a secondary source.

- I: And a very useful one. Now Justin, your last book, *Western Road*, is currently being made into a film. You must be delighted.
- J: Yes, I am. More or less. The American producers wanted to move the action to Chicago, but I made it a condition that it had to be filmed in Brighton with British actors. I only wish I'd insisted on having more control over the script. It moves too fast for my liking. But that's the film world for you – what can you do?
- I: Not much, I guess.

10.2

Speaker 1

The neighbours had some kind of party last Thursday night, and the noise was terrible. I had to **go round** at two in the morning to complain. I told them my wife and I couldn't get to sleep, and their music had woken up our two teenage daughters, who both had an exam in the morning. I **made up** that bit about my girls – they'll sleep through anything. Plus it was the last week of school, so there was no way they had any exams. But it did the trick; they were quiet after that, and the next day they put a card through the door apologising for the disturbance.

Speaker 2

In the days before online booking, I once queued up overnight to get a ticket for a David Bowie concert. I was only fifteen, and because I didn't want my parents to worry, I told them I was going to a sleepover at my friend's house. When I got the ticket, though, I was so excited I showed it to my mum, and **owned up to** lying about the sleepover – told her the whole truth. Funnily enough, she said she was sorry I'd felt I'd had to lie to her and told me she'd have let me stay out all night if I'd just asked her. I hadn't expected that – I thought she'd be really angry.

Speaker 3

A mate of mine was always getting into trouble at school, and they'd told him that if he put another foot wrong, he'd be expelled. So of course, when someone reported him for smashing a light in the toilets at breaktime, he insisted he was innocent – said he hadn't been anywhere near the toilets. I didn't want him to get **kicked out**, so I **backed up** his story, and said that he'd been with me, in the library. Trouble was, the idiot had left his mobile on one of the sinks, so they knew it was him. He got expelled and I got suspended for a week.

Speaker 4

My neighbour **came over** a few weeks ago. She said she'd **run out of** flour and asked if she could borrow some. It was a Sunday afternoon and the shop on the corner was closed and she wanted to bake a sponge cake for her kids. Well, I did have some, and under normal circumstances, I'd have been more than happy to lend it to a neighbour in need. But she'd never done me any favours; in fact, she'd been positively unfriendly to me on occasions. So I said I was sorry, but no, I didn't have any flour, and if she hurried, she might catch the shop down in the town before it closed.

Speaker 5

When I was about five or six, I took a pair of scissors out of a kitchen drawer and cut off a big chunk of my hair in front of my friends. I'm not sure why – maybe I was just **showing off**, trying to make myself look big. I kept being asked the same question: 'Have you cut some of your hair off?' My mum, my dad, the hairdresser ... And I kept saying 'no'. I said it so many

times I almost believed it in the end. I thought I'd **got away with** it, but my mum told me recently she'd always known what had happened.

11.1

Hi everyone. I'm Craig Stephens. You may know me from *Weather Watch*, a science programme I used to present on children's television aimed at helping younger viewers understand basic aspects of meteorology. But I originally started out in this country as the weather presenter on a TV programme for farmers. That's actually what I do now, but for a different channel. The programme goes out at 9 o'clock on Sunday mornings, so you may not have seen it. I'm generally known by colleagues and viewers as the weatherman, but officially, someone like me who presents the weather is called a broadcast meteorologist. It's not quite as catchy, though, is it?

I first got interested in the weather as a teenager, when I was on a family holiday in the Rhône valley in France. We spent three weeks in summer travelling and sleeping in a tent, but in one particular small town, my parents decided it was far too windy to camp so we rented a holiday apartment next to the campsite we'd intended to stay in. The wind, known as the Mistral, blew for three days non-stop and gave us all a nasty headache. It was really quite irritating. I read up about it later and found out that in winter the wind is much colder and stronger, reaching speeds of 130 kilometres an hour. It can be quite destructive, causing damage to crops, and even buildings.

I was fascinated by all this and started reading about other winds as well, like the Levante in Spain, the Föhn in the Alps or, in the Adriatic, the Bora, whose name comes from the Greek mythological figure of Boreas, the North Wind. My favourite name for a wind, though, is the Simoom, an Arabic word which sounds nice, but translates as 'poison wind'. This one blows in the Sahara Desert, and often reaches temperatures of 55 degrees, overheating the body and causing heatstroke. So, not so nice.

Anyway, how did I manage to turn this interest into a career? Well, first of all I decided to apply for a degree in meteorology. And to get accepted, I had to do well in my final exams at school. I was worried I wasn't going to get the grade I needed in maths, but as it turned out, it was physics I struggled with and my result was not quite good enough for me to get on the course. So, I did a gap year and retook the exam the following June – and success! I got into university. But anyway, during that year out, as well as working in a coffee shop, I also volunteered in hospital radio. That's when I had my first ever taste of presenting. I had to do mundane things, as well, like clean the studio or make the tea, but I was given some really useful training in presentation techniques and even got to read the news and weather. I loved it – I was hooked!

After graduating, I applied for jobs abroad in television. America was my first choice, but nothing came up, and it was a TV network in Canada that gave me my big break. I worked as part of a team preparing weather reports and forecasts, both for the television presenters and for the website. It was a great experience and I learnt so much from the people I worked with.

For one thing, I really liked the style of the presenters there, and it's one I try to use myself. There was nothing formal or overdramatic about it. It was conversational and they spoke to their audience as if they were a group of friends. Sometimes, though, it's not so easy to do this. When we give the weather forecast, we're dealing with a lot of information, and what many people don't realise is that most of us don't read from a script. So, it can be a bit nerve-racking if you trip over your words or forget what you want to say next.

11.2

W = Woman M = Man

1 You hear a woman talking about litter.

W: If I was in local government, I'd make sure something was done about the mess on the streets. It's an absolute disgrace. Local people need more help to keep them clean, and that help has to come from the authorities. There aren't enough litter bins, for one thing, so the pavements outside my premises are covered with paper, drink cans and cigarette butts. Before I open up in the morning I have to spend about ten minutes sweeping it all up. I wouldn't sell anything if I didn't.

2 You hear an environmentalist talking on the radio about a current project.

M: Some species of plants were close to extinction here. People would come out for the day to the countryside, see all these beautiful flowers and pick them, without realising the effect this was having. If we hadn't made this a conservation area and limited the number of people coming in, then we'd have no flowers at all. The challenge we now face is to ensure the *survival* of the project – and there's no guarantee of that. As expected, the new government has shown little interest in the environment and the Minister has even suggested she might cut the funding for projects like this one.

3 You hear this woman talking to her friend about her holiday.

M: So what was it like?

W: Marvellous. Just what we were looking for.

M: What? Loads of lovely sandy beaches?

W: If we'd wanted that, we'd have gone to one of the other islands – and had to put up with all the crowds of sun worshippers and horrendous traffic.

M: So weren't there many tourists where you went?

W: Well, there were quite a lot more than we expected really. But it didn't matter, because with the ban on private cars, everywhere was so wonderfully quiet and peaceful. There were buses and taxis, but because the island's so small, we walked most of the time.

4 You hear two people talking on the radio about the use of cars in their town.

M: The council wants to introduce a supplementary tax on car owners. Fine, but if we're serious about reducing pollution and easing traffic congestion, we need to reduce speed limits on the main roads coming into town and keep all cars out of the centre.

W: That's all very well, but if you stopped cars from coming into the centre, shop and restaurant owners would be unfairly affected. Likewise, the council's plan would penalise those responsible people who leave their cars at home and use public transport to get about town. Forcing drivers to slow down seems the only reasonable option.

M: But it's not enough on its own.

5 You hear a man talking on the radio.

M: Violent storms swept across the south coast last night, causing widespread damage to property. Torrential rain and gale-force winds lashed seaside towns and several people had to be evacuated from their flooded homes by rescue services. Train services were severely disrupted by the extreme weather conditions this morning and thousands of commuters were forced to find alternative transport to the capital or else stay at home. In Worthing, a high-sided lorry parked in a lay-by was blown over by the strong winds, causing serious traffic delays on the A27. The vehicle was empty at the time and there were no injuries.

6 You overhear this conversation between a woman and her neighbour.

W: Hello, Peter. Have you got a minute?

M: What's the problem, Jill?

W: Well, my garden's in a terrible state. I lost quite a few plants last night.

M: It wasn't our cat, was it? I do apologise. I really don't know what to do about him.

W: No, it's alright, it was the wind. Didn't you hear it? It was blowing a real gale. Uprooted all my roses and blew down most of the fence.

M: Oh, I'm sorry to hear that.

W: Not to worry. I'd be very grateful, though, if you'd give me a hand to clear up the mess.

M: Of course. I'll just go and put a jumper on.

7 You hear two people talking about a boy.

M: I think we should all get together and decide what we're going to do. I can't put up with it any more.

W: Neither can we. The noise of that boy's music makes the whole building shake. My husband says it's just like being in an earthquake.

M: Of course, it's the parents' fault, but it's no good talking to them. They're no better than he is.

W: And his teachers can't control him, either. Apparently, he's as rude to them as he is to all of us.

M: So, let's have a meeting of everyone in the street and we'll decide how we're going to deal with this.

8 You hear a woman being interviewed about an environmental issue.

W: Climate change is having a devastating effect on these islands. Cyclones are far more frequent than before and rising sea levels are causing severe coastal erosion. Our aim is to persuade people in wealthy nations to put pressure on their governments to take action and help prevent this situation from arising. The average person, however, sees the islands as a paradise and not a priority, and fails to understand that what goes on in their own country is affecting people thousands of miles away. Meanwhile the impoverished islanders can do little except continue to move further and further inland.

11.4

- 1** The crunchy crisps were delicious.
- 2** She thinks this is my first attempt at the exam, but actually it's my fifth.
- 3** The average width of the lake is over ten kilometres; the maximum depth is unknown.
- 4** Please leave the tests on the desks.
- 5** We take pride in the strength of our products.

12.1

Speaker 1

It was a fairly inexpensive restaurant on the edge of the city, but low prices are no excuse for poor hygiene. We'd decided to get away from all the people and noise in the centre, where tourist restaurants charge tourist prices, and try something more local, more authentic. The reviews we'd read spoke about the genuine home-cooked food and the size of the portions, with only one or two negative comments about having to wait a little too long for the food to arrive. What they didn't mention were the sticky tables that hadn't been wiped, the stained cutlery and the filthy floor. We just ordered a main course, and left as soon as we could.

Speaker 2

My partner and I went to a new vegan restaurant that had just opened in town. We weren't expecting very much from the food, but everything we ordered was surprisingly tasty. There wasn't a massive amount of variety on the menu but, to be honest, I'd rather have just a few decent things to choose from than a huge number of dishes, some of which might not be particularly well cooked. What spoiled it, though, was the large group of people on the table next to ours, all talking at the tops of their voices. Neither of us could hear what the other was saying, so we had to shout most of the time.

Speaker 3

The only time I've ever made a complaint about anything was when I went for a meal once with my parents. I told the waiter the meat in my stew was chewy, and should have been left in the oven longer. My dad said he thought I'd been rude to the waiter, but my mum told me I was right to complain. Her attitude is, if something's not right, then kick up a fuss, make a noise about it, otherwise nothing will get changed. As it was, the waiter said he couldn't change it, but he wouldn't charge for my dessert. So I ordered the most expensive one on the menu!

Speaker 4

Recently, we treated ourselves to dinner in a five-star seafood restaurant. We'd heard several negative things about the place before we went: the food was overpriced, the waiters were too formal, you didn't get much on your plate ... But we're not big eaters and we felt like spoiling ourselves, so we ignored the warnings and booked. Well, the food was to die for; the crab, the mussels, the seabass – absolutely delicious. And whoever said the portions were small was lying. We just wished they'd been a bit quicker about bringing the food out. They certainly weren't in any hurry, and we'd run out of things to say to each other by the time the main course arrived.

Speaker 5

My wife and I are both quite fussy eaters, so if we eat out, there have to be plenty of dishes to choose from. Unfortunately, the restaurant in the hotel we stayed at with our walking group offered hardly any choice at all – just a few starters and a couple of mains – so we only ate there once. We had no complaints about the food we actually ordered, and the service was second to none. In fact, most of the people from our group liked the place so much they had dinner there every evening. We might have come across as antisocial, but we preferred to eat in some of the other restaurants in the area.

12.3

I = Interviewer N = Naomi Price

I: On Health Matters today we have personal trainer Naomi Price. Naomi, what exactly does a personal trainer do?

N: Well, my main aim is to improve people's quality of life and overall health. So besides helping them develop their fitness, strength and posture, I also work on their diet and lifestyle habits. Of course, each client has their own specific, individual goals, so before we do anything I carry out a needs analysis in order to establish exactly what it is they want to achieve. This includes asking them about their eating habits, their injury history and any medical complaints or conditions, such as high blood pressure. Then basically, I design exercise routines and give advice on nutrition in response to the information they give me.

I: And what reasons do clients have for coming to see you?

N: Oh, there's a wide range. I get a lot of clients, especially older ones, who simply want to lose a bit of weight or lower their cholesterol levels. I also have a large number of younger clients who've been injured while doing sport and want to get

back to full fitness – that's my area of expertise. I also help one or two people train for marathons and triathlons, but mostly it's people who just want to improve their all-round fitness and as a result, their general self-confidence.

- I:** And I imagine it's important to build up a good relationship with your clients.
- N:** Yes, it is. I'm not one of those fitness instructors you sometimes see in films shouting orders at people to do fifty press-ups or run ten times round the park. Certainly, clients have to be dedicated and prepared to work hard when they're with me, but I also want them to enjoy exercising as well. So it's important, I think, for trainers to keep it light-hearted, introduce an element of playfulness into their sessions. There's usually a fair amount of laughter in mine.
- I:** Now, your workplace is your garage, isn't it, Naomi?
- N:** Well, yes, what used to be my garage. I don't park my car there any more – it's full of equipment. There's a rowing machine, two treadmills, two exercise bikes and loads of weights and things. I've also got a massage table, but that's in my lounge, where it's warmer. And then with some people I go to the park or a nearby wood to run or simply to add a bit of variety to the classes. Clients appreciate that – they've told me that other local trainers they've been with always hold their sessions inside.
- I:** You haven't always been your own boss have you?
- N:** No, I used to work in a gym. The good thing about that was I learnt a lot from watching the other gym instructors and their interaction with the clients – both good and bad examples. I also got experience of working with a lot of different clients, but the trouble was, I rarely had the chance to build up long-lasting relationships with them. The client list was different every month – someone would join the gym in April, say, and by June they'd be gone.
- I:** And is that why you left?
- N:** It wasn't the only reason. I was getting tired of working on Saturdays, for one thing – I'd only had two or three Saturdays free in over a year. But it was the whole sales thing that I was least happy about. When they told me I had to persuade people to buy things with the gym's logo on it, that's when I made the decision to resign. I didn't feel comfortable pushing T-shirts and baseball caps, or things like protein supplements, which most people take without needing to. It just wasn't my style.
- I:** Are you pleased you became self-employed?
- N:** Oh, yes, I've got so much more freedom, and so far, touch wood, things are going really well. I thought I might have to put adverts in the local newspaper to get business but those clients I brought with me from the gym tell all their family and friends about me and those people tell all their friends ... and so it goes on. The power of word of mouth.
- I:** Let's hope your success continues, Naomi. Thank you for coming in to the studio.

Ready for Listening

0.1

M = Man W = Woman

- You hear a man talking about the use of mobile phones in restaurants.
M: Selfies, of course, are commonplace, or else waiters are handed a mobile phone and asked to take a group photo. It's almost part of their job – another task to add to what they do already. But as many people in restaurants now use phones to take photos of their *food* and then post them on social media, chefs have come to realise the importance of how that food will look in those photos, the way it's arranged on the plate, and indeed, the type of plate on which it's served. Nowadays, appearance is just as important as taste.
- You hear two friends talking about a concert they went to.
M: It's a shame we were such a long way from the stage.
W: We didn't have a bad view, though. And the screens helped. I'm just surprised he didn't do much stuff from his new album. But anyway, that's fine by me – it's always good to hear all the old favourites, isn't it?
M: And he did them all – one after the other. He hardly paused for breath.
W: Yeah, actually, I thought he could have spoken more with the crowd in between each song – got more of a rapport going.
M: Well, it's a big venue.
W: Right, but that doesn't mean you can't interact with your fans.
- You hear a man talking on the radio about a sport called pickleball.
M: The attraction of pickleball for many older people like myself is that you don't need to run around quite as much as you do in some other racket sports, and you don't have to hit the ball with such force. The ball's made of plastic, you see, with holes in it, and the racket, or rather paddle, you hit it with is very light. I took up the sport when I was in my late fifties. I wasn't enjoying tennis anymore – I had a shoulder injury and my knees were giving me problems – so a friend of mine persuaded me to give it a go.
- You overhear two students talking about the temporary job they are both doing in a factory.
W: Ten to nine. Nearly finished for the day.
M: Thank goodness. I've been up since five.
W: What were you doing up so early? We don't start our shift till twelve.
M: I'm working mornings for my dad at the market as well. I don't earn enough here. I mean, it's not the best-paid job in the world, is it?
W: It's not bad for what we do. It's easy work. Very monotonous, though ...
M: You can say that again. Packing boxes really is *not* my idea of fun.
W: And working at the market *is*?
M: At least there's more variety. And the people there are interesting.
W: Oh thanks!
- You hear a woman reviewing a biography on the radio.
W: It's a remarkable read, reminiscent of a rags-to-riches story, where office boy rises up through the ranks to become president of the company. Only in this case, Evans spent several years treading the boards in repertory productions up and down the country, appearing in the odd TV commercial and being chosen for small parts in now forgotten dramas on

the small screen. His twisted features and rough voice made him easy to cast as unscrupulous businessmen, gangland villains or boxers. And like his characters, he often fought with other members of his profession, including his agent, who tried, unsuccessfully, to force him into roles which were not suited to him.

6 You hear a man talking about his new doctor.

M: My last doctor used to keep everyone waiting for ages. You could be sitting there for anything up to an hour, wondering when you'd finally get to see him. With this one, you're in and out in three minutes! You certainly couldn't criticise *her* for not being punctual. On the other hand, she doesn't give you much of a chance to explain your symptoms in detail. I really do think she'd get a more complete picture of the problem if she didn't do everything in such a hurry. Anyway ... I really should be going – I don't want to be late for my appointment.

7 You hear two people talking about their local supermarket.

M: I like shopping in Savemore. It's a good little supermarket and they always seem pleased to see you in there.

W: Yeah, you're certainly made to feel welcome. It makes a nice change. Though I'm not sure Savemore is the right name for it – it's not the cheapest place to buy food.

M: Maybe, but it's very convenient and they have very good meat and fish.

W: Well, yeah, but there's a fairly limited selection when it comes to the basics, like tinned food or dairy products. I like to have a bit of variety when I'm shopping – a good choice with lots of different brands. Savemore doesn't really offer that.

8 You hear two people talking about a foreign language film they have just seen with subtitles.

W: Good film. Shame about the subtitles.

M: Yeah. I couldn't keep up. There wasn't enough time to *finish* some of them.

W: I know – they disappeared almost as soon as they came on the screen. Maybe they did that so we wouldn't notice the mistakes.

M: What – spelling mistakes?

W: No, once or twice they got the meaning completely wrong. They translated some of the Spanish really badly.

M: Well, not knowing any Spanish ... Anyway, I had a different problem. The writing was too small for me and I didn't have my glasses.

W: Pff. It's a wonder you knew what was happening.

M: I didn't!

0.2

Hello, my name's Helen Wells and I work at the zoo in the exotic bird show.

Actually, most people – including myself – refer to the free-flight display as a 'show', because of its entertainment value, but the zoo prefers to call it a 'demonstration', to emphasise the educational aspects. The birds get to reveal their amazing skills as they fly from one trainer to another, sometimes just centimetres above the audience's heads.

People also learn about where the birds live, what they eat and how they behave, as well as the dangers they face from illegal trafficking and, worst of all, perhaps, habitat loss. Huge areas of the forests they live in are being cut down every day. It's a serious problem.

We work with different parrots, like macaws, cockatoos and parakeets, but also hornbills and toucans. You wouldn't think it, but toucans are incredibly agile birds, despite that huge beak of theirs. A popular part of this year's shows was when I had to

throw a grape into the air and one of the toucans would catch it in mid-flight. It was pretty spectacular.

The kids, especially, enjoy the displays, and we always get a few of them to come out and interact with the birds. They're not all thrilled about having a huge macaw perched on their shoulder – it's a bit too close for comfort – but they're normally happy to have one on their arm, feeding out of their hand.

The shows are enjoyable for us trainers, too. It's great working with an audience, and I love talking to people afterwards. They're always very interested in the birds and ask lots of questions. So you have to be a fairly sociable person if you want to be a trainer; if you're quiet and reserved you won't find the job nearly as interesting.

You also have to make sure you know exactly what's supposed to happen at every moment during the show, and who's supposed to be doing what, and when. There are usually six trainers altogether, and good team work is essential. If you're not in the right place at the right time to receive a bird from another trainer, for example, then the bird can easily get anxious, and even fly away.

That's happened a few times over the last couple of years. They always turn up sooner or later, usually on a nearby roof or tree, and they fly back down when you call them. Last month, though, a cockatoo flew to the top of a fountain in the middle of the zoo and decided he wanted to stay there. It took us a long time to persuade him to come down.

Apart from the displays, trainers have to carry out several other duties. We train the birds, of course, but also clean out their cages, prepare their food, check their water and also record their weight every day. If it's too low, it might mean the bird is suffering from some kind of illness and we need to bring the vet in.

Training the birds is very rewarding work. You get to develop a really strong bond of trust and affection with them, even over the course of a summer holiday. And because of these close relationships, cleaning out their cages can often be really entertaining. The birds fly onto your shoulder, sing to you, imitate different sounds – anything to get your attention!

All in all, it's a great job, even though it's not particularly well-paid. I had to work most weekends, as well, this summer, which I didn't mind too much, but I wasn't very happy about all the overtime we were asked to do – a little too often for my liking. It made for very long days and I didn't get much time to relax. Still, I'm not planning on leaving the job anytime soon – I just love what I do.

0.3

Speaker 1

I spent one summer working in a kiosk on Brighton seafront. We sold ice creams, teas, coffees, snacks – that kind of thing. There's a lot of tourism in Brighton so we were always busy. Sometimes the owner had to go away for a day or two, and he'd leave me in charge of everything. I don't ever remember him saying 'thank you' or 'well done' when he got back, and he certainly didn't pay me any extra money. But it was really satisfying and I think I managed quite well. At least, no one complained about me telling them what to do.

Speaker 2

Probably the most rewarding holiday job I've ever had was teaching English to a group of Italian students on a residential course in Exeter. As well as the classes, there were trips to London, Bath and even up to York – at least, for the students, anyway. The teachers stayed behind, and I used the free time to prepare my classes. Not that it helped my classroom skills much, though – I was never going to be a great teacher, no matter how much preparation I put in. But the students were grateful for everything we did and the feedback afterwards was really positive. Made it all worthwhile.

Speaker 3

I picked up a lot of useful techniques from a restaurant job I did one summer in the French Alps. I was mostly just chopping up food, but I was fascinated to see how all the dishes were put together, and occasionally I got to help out. I knew a little bit about cooking before I went, but I had a much better idea by the time I left. I was actually supposed to be there to improve my French, but we were all foreigners and only the waiters and waitresses really spoke the language. And I rarely got the chance to talk to them – our breaks never coincided.

Speaker 4

When I worked at Düsseldorf airport, I was part of a small team responsible for packing those trolleys they sell drinks and snacks from during a flight. The job itself was pretty boring, and the money wasn't that good either, but I do remember looking forward to breakfast and lunchtimes. Not just for the food – which was brilliant – but because we'd all sit round this huge table with loads of other airport workers, having a chat and a bit of a laugh. There were all sorts of nationalities. Those who could, spoke German, but I never got the chance – everyone wanted to try out their English with me.

Speaker 5

I spent one summer picking fruit in Europe; strawberries in Denmark, pears and plums in Germany, then figs in Greece. The work wasn't particularly well-paid, but it had its advantages. The only responsibility I had was to myself. The more I picked, the more money I earned, but if I didn't feel like working hard, I didn't have to. The real bonus, though, was the fact we'd usually start really early – about five in the morning – and then knock off around midday before it got too hot. We still did a full day's work, but it meant I was able to go off and see a few sights in the afternoon, get to know the places.

0.4

I = Interviewer S = Steve Muir

- I:** I'm talking today to Steve Muir, who's passionate about roller coasters. Steve, tell us what first got you interested.
- S:** Well, I remember as a small boy, looking up at this huge wooden construction shaped like a wave, hearing the clicking of the chain as it pulled the cars to the top of the lift hill, then the riders screaming their heads off as they hurtled round, and the whooshing noise of the train as it hurried by. There was a kind of music to it all, and it made me think, 'I want to do that one day.'
- I:** And now that you do it, what is it about roller coasters that gives you your biggest thrill?
- S:** Oh, it has to be the feeling of weightlessness you have when your whole body gets lifted up, and there's nothing for a while but air between you and the seat. Airtime, it's called, and it's what coaster fans look for in rides, and expect them to have.
- I:** Sounds scary.
- S:** Yeah, it can be quite frightening the first time you experience it, but you've got over-the-shoulder restraints or lap bars to hold you in, so you're not going to fly off.
- I:** Glad to hear it. Now, you travel a long way to go on roller coasters, don't you?
- S:** Yes, I do. I was in the States this summer, actually, on a roller-coaster coach tour. I was supposed to be going on a beach holiday, but I was told by a friend who'd already booked for the tour that someone had dropped out – they'd had their visa application turned down, I think – and I jumped at the chance. I knew that if I didn't apply that same day, someone else would get the place. These tours are really popular.
- I:** And what did the tour consist of? Where did you go?

S: We all met up in New York and from there we went to New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, stopping at theme parks along the way. The first park of the trip, Six Flags Great Adventure in New Jersey, was out of this world. They've got some brilliant roller coasters. And they opened just for us before the general public were allowed in, and then stayed open after everyone else had left.

I: So it was a long day.

S: That's right. But it gave us loads of time to try out all the rides. That day I discovered El Toro, probably my favourite ever wooden coaster, and one of the fastest. You travel at over 70 miles an hour and there's airtime on almost every hill. But what made it for me was at the end of the day, when the ride operators turned off all the lights, so we could hardly see as we went round. It was great. I rode it about fifteen times altogether, and I only ever got off to change places.

I: And do you have a favourite steel roller coaster?

S: Oh yes. Maverick in Cedar Point, the last park on our American tour. The first drop's around 35 metres, which is not much by today's standards – but height can be deceptive. Maverick is very fast-paced and there's an intensity that lasts from start to finish, with sudden changes of direction that catch you by surprise. It's definitely a coaster you have to learn to ride. And the more I rode it, the more I liked it.

I: So what now? Do you have any further trips planned?

S: Well, I've got to travel to Abu Dhabi for work soon, so I'll be going on Formula Rossa again when I'm there, the fastest roller coaster in the world. People complain about the queues, but the last time I went, the longest I had to wait was about ten minutes. I was only going to stay for a morning, but because it was empty, I made the most of it and it was dark when I left. Anyway, most of the park's covered, so if I do have to queue, I'll be out of the heat.

I: Well, good luck with that Steve.

Ready for Speaking

0.5

I = Interlocutor S = Silvia L = Luca

- I:** Good morning. My name is Paul Flint and this is my colleague Tanya Smith. And your names are?
- S:** Silvia.
- L:** My name is Luca.
- I:** Can I have your marksheets, please? Thank you. Where are you from, Luca?
- L:** From a small town near Milan. In Italy.
- I:** And you, Silvia?
- S:** I'm from Santiago, in Spain. I have lived there all my life. I live there with my older sister and my parents. Next year is my last year at school. When I finish I ...
- I:** Thank you, Silvia. First, we'd like to know something about you. Luca, what sports are you interested in?
- L:** Er, I play basketball, and, er, I go swimming.
- I:** How often do you play football?
- L:** Once a week. I'm in a team and we play every Saturday morning.
- I:** And Silvia, what do you like doing in your free time?
- S:** Well, when I'm at school, I don't have much free time because I have to study a lot, but I like hanging out with my friends, watching films and series. And I also go to a class of street dance twice a week. I have been dancing since I was eight – I love it, especially when we perform in a show.
- I:** Luca, what would you like to do in the future?

- L:** I want to go to university to study economics.
- I:** Why?
- L:** Er, well, it's a subject I enjoy at school, I find it interesting, and I think it's the kind of degree which would make it possible to get a job. I'm not sure what job I will do, but I can decide that later.
- I:** Silvia, where did you spend your last holiday?
- S:** Oh, I went to Ireland with my family. We spent some days in Dublin – it's a very nice city – and then we rented a car and travelled to many different places. The countryside in Ireland is beautiful and we did many long routes, er, walks, long walks. And we were very lucky because in two weeks it only rained on one day.
- I:** Luca, do you prefer spending time with your family or friends at the weekend?
- L:** Well, as I said, I play basketball on Saturday morning, but I like to spend the rest of the weekend with my family. I have two brothers and we are all very close – we enjoy doing things together, especially eating. My mother is a wonderful cook, and my father too.
- I:** Thank you.

0.6

I = Interlocutor S = Silvia L = Luca

- I:** In this part of the test, I'm going to give each of you two photographs. I'd like you to talk about your photographs on your own for about a minute, and also to answer a question about your partner's photographs. Silvia, it's your turn first. Here are your photographs. They show children learning new skills. I'd like you to compare the photographs and say why it might be useful to learn skills like these. All right?
- S:** Yes ... er ... in the first picture there is one woman, a teacher, in a classroom with some children, who are learning Chinese, I think, whereas in the other one ... er ... there is one man and only one boy. They are at home in the kitchen, not a classroom, and the man is probably the father, not a teacher. Er ... what else? Yes, in both pictures the children are doing something while they are learning, they are not just listening. Er ... here they are drawing or writing something, whereas in this one the boy is doing the cooking. He is holding the spoon with his father.
- Er ... well ... both skills could be useful for the future. These children maybe will use the language for the work, perhaps if they want to do business in another country, or perhaps if they just want to travel there for a holiday or something. And if you can speak more than one foreign language it will be easier to find a work ... a job. And learning cooking is very important, because everybody has to eat, and maybe he will live on his own and have to cook all his meals. Also, cooking is good fun, especially when you cook for your friends or your family.
- I:** Thank you. Luca, what new skill would you like to learn?
- L:** Well, I want to learn how to make bread. My father always makes very good bread, and I have a friend at university who makes it as well, and he says he can teach me. I like good bread very much, but it is not always easy to find, or it is very expensive.
- I:** Thank you. Now Luca, here are your photographs. They show people spending time on boats. I'd like you to compare the photographs, and say what you think the people are enjoying about spending time on these different boats. All right?
- L:** OK. In this picture I can see a group of tourists, maybe friends, who are looking at a waterfall, well, several waterfalls actually, and the water is very agitated ... very rough, so they are all wearing these orange rescue jackets in case they have a problem. Er ... this girl here is smiling and she looks as if she is

enjoying herself. And in the other picture, it's a family in a boat in a city or a town. It's a river, I think, and the water is quite calm. They may have hired the boat or they could be the owners.

Er ... what are they enjoying? Well, in the first picture, I imagine they like the fact that there is some risk and a bit of danger, and the feeling they have when the boat moves up and down. It's like when you are at a fairground and you might get wet, so it's fun. This one doesn't look so exciting, but it's probably quite relaxing for them. I expect the little boy is enjoying sitting on the roof of the boat. They might be happy that they can see the town from the river and not the road, and there aren't any traffic jams.

- I:** Thank you. Silvia, which of these boats would you prefer to spend time on?
- S:** I would definitely prefer this one. The one with the family looks a little boring – I have done this sometimes with my family, and maybe when I was younger it was OK, but now I like more exciting things. I think it would be fun to be wet when you are doing this, especially with your friends. It's a little bit dangerous but not very much, and you have a nice experience which you can tell everyone when you go home. I also think ...
- I:** Thank you.

0.7

I = Interlocutor S = Silvia L = Luca

- I:** Now, I'd like you to talk about something together for about two minutes. Some people think that teenagers who go to school should also do some part-time work. Here are some of the things they think about and a question for you to discuss. First you have some time to look at the task.
- Now, talk to each other about whether it's a good idea for teenage schoolchildren to do part-time work.
- S:** OK. Let's talk about having less free time. As I said before, I have to study very hard, and I don't have very much free time. If I had to work *and* study as well, then I would have nothing of free time, and I would not be able to see my friends or relax. Is it the same for you, Luca?
- L:** Yes, it is, and especially next year when I have my final exams. A job would not be possible during the week because I also have a lot of schoolwork. And if I had to work at the weekend, I would probably have to give up basketball, and I would not like to do that.
- S:** Yes, and you mention schoolwork. In my school I have exams every month. If I had to work, then I know my notes would not ... I mean, my marks would not be very good. I think the effect on schoolwork can be very negative. What do you think?
- L:** I agree. It depends on the work, but some jobs could make you too tired to do your best for school. Like standing all day in a shop for example, or doing some type of physical work.
- S:** Yes, but it's true there are some jobs we can do which are not so hard, like helping younger children with their homework. I did this last year for the daughter of my mother's friend. She was having problems with her maths and I helped her.
- L:** Right. And babysitting is another job which is not difficult. I haven't done this, but I have a friend who sometimes looks after his young cousin on Saturday night, and it doesn't have a negative effect on his schoolwork.
- S:** OK, let's look at the others. They are more about the positive things of having a job. I think gaining work experience is very useful. It's good to do something which is not only studying and doing homework all the time. If not, you don't have any idea about work. Do you agree?
- L:** Yes, I think so, too. And it can be good for your curriculum. If you want to find a job in the future, you can say that you have

some experience. It's not very easy to get work experience, so if you can say 'I have done this' or 'I have done that', it's an advantage.

S: Yes, and working can teach you to become more responsible. You maybe have to make decisions that you don't normally make.

I: Thank you. Now you have about a minute to decide what you think is the most important reason for teenage schoolchildren to do part-time work.

S: Well, I think there are two important reasons – gaining work experience, which we talked about before, and also becoming more responsible. In some jobs, like the ones we mentioned, babysitting and teaching, you are the person in control, so you have to make the decisions.

L: Yes, that's right. That's the point you made earlier. You are in charge. And this is something teenagers like us don't normally have the chance to experience. This helps you to grow up a little, and become more ... er ... more ... mature. So, yes, I think maybe we agree that this is the most important reason for doing some work, becoming more responsible.

S: OK. Good. I don't think, for example, that learning to manage money is a very important reason. We wouldn't earn very much money with a part-time job. Maybe you save a little, but probably you spend most of it. But that is not managing money.

L: No, we still depend on our parents for food, and we don't have to pay for our house or flat yet. But, actually, maybe one reason for doing a part-time job which we haven't talked about is just to earn some extra money. That's why most teenagers ...

I: Thank you.

0.8

I = Interlocutor S = Silvia L = Luca

I: How easy is it for young people to get part-time work in your country?

S: It is very difficult, I think. There are many unemployed at the moment so there are not a lot of jobs – for young people, for old people ... I don't know anyone who has a part-time job. Er ... as I said before, I don't have time now, so I have not tried to find a job.

I: Luca?

L: Er ... Yes, it is the same in my country. But I think if you really want to find a part-time job, there is always something – my friend, for example, who does babysitting, or you can take people's dogs for walks, that kind of thing. Maybe you don't get much money, but I think if you want to work, you can find something.

I: Is it better for young people to get a full-time job after they leave school or should they go on to further education?

S: Well, I think it's very important to go to university. If you want to get a good job *you have to study*. *Nowadays, many young people goes to ...* go to university or do some other education after school, so if you don't, then it will be difficult to find a job.

I: Luca?

L: Well, I agree with that up to a point. But not everybody who has a degree will find a good job. Many of them have to work in restaurants or shops, that kind of thing, because there are not enough jobs for engineers, or biologists or whatever. Some students ... some graduates ... have to go abroad, just to work in a hotel.

S: That's true, but you still should to ... should try to continue to study. I think it's important.

L: But not everybody is able to study, or interested in studying. So, it depends. For some people it is better to get a job immediately after school. Better than wasting time. And

money. It is not cheap to go to university, and not everybody can afford it.

I: How well do you think schools prepare young people for the world of work?

L: Can I start?

S: Yes, yes, of course.

L: Well, I think we have to study too many subjects, and learn so many facts, so it is very stressful. If I want to study economics, I don't understand why I have to learn so much history or philosophy, for example – this is not going to help me when I have to work.

S: It's the same for me. I want to study biochemistry, but I have to spend so much time learning dates and names for history. And for science, for chemistry, biology and physics, we never go into the laboratory. Well, sometimes, but not very often – we don't do many experiments. That is not good preparation if I want to be a scientist.

L: Yes, school is not very practical. Always learning lots of facts, and then forgetting them immediately. In my opinion, school should be much more practical.

S: I agree, yes. I don't think it prepares us very well.

I: What do you think it would be like if you never had to work?

L: Me? Well, I don't really know, but I imagine it might be a little boring. Maybe it sounds like a good idea, but I don't know what I would do all the time. I could travel maybe, but I cannot spend the life travelling all the time. Er ... What do you think, Silvia?

S: Yes, I agree. Er ... maybe if you don't have to work, it's because you have a lot of money, but money doesn't always make you happy. I think if you have a job that you like, this is the thing which will make you happy. I think it's important to work.

L: Yes, if you have a job which ... er ... satisfies, which is rewarding, that is better than not working. Of course, if you don't like your job, then maybe you would prefer not to work.

I: Thank you. That is the end of the test.