

### Task 1.1

- Wow! That was quite a storm last night! I thought our roof was going to come off like it did last time!
- Oh yes, I remember that. You had to have it repaired. Our fence was moving around in that wind, but it seemed all right when I left home this morning.
- My poor neighbours' new porch, which they were renovating, looked terrible, though.
- Well, at least they hadn't finished repairing it! That would have been awful for them!

### Task 1.2

Police have released a photo and description of the person they are looking for in connection with the traffic accident - a man of average height, middle-aged, between forty and fifty. He's bald but has a thick black beard, a moustache, a round chubby face, and a wide snub nose. He has dark brown eyes and doesn't wear glasses. At the time, he was wearing a light-coloured overcoat. If you think you know him, please phone the number on your screens.

### Task 1.3

- The electrician came while you were out. So I've put the clothes that were in the laundry basket on to wash.
- Wonderful! And I bought a new light bulb, so I changed the one in the living room lamp. The lamp wasn't broken after all. It was just the bulb.
- Let's hope the engineer comes today and mends the lift. I'm fed up with walking up all those stairs!
- But it keeps us fit!

### Task 1.4

- Where did the idea to build this house come from?
- I saw a similar construction when I was staying in a cottage with my relatives back in my home country. I saw how popular and fun it was and thought it would attract people to this residential neighbourhood on the outskirts of the city.
- And was building this houseboat difficult?
- Not really, after a life designing city skyscrapers!
- Visitors enjoy exploring the house - and posting photos of themselves!

### Task 1.5

- Hi, Barney, I'm home!
- Good. I was going to phone you to tell you I'm meeting my friends in town in thirty minutes, Mum. I've done everything you asked me to.
- OK. I hope you put all the plates and cups away in the proper cupboards in the kitchen this time!
- Probably not! Mike helped me clean the shelves and the bookcase.
- Wow! I'm impressed!
- And I'll put that bag in the bin on my way to the bus stop.
- Brilliant! Off you go! Enjoy yourself!

### Task 1.6

- So, Jenny. To save time, let's split up and meet on the ground floor at the bottom of the stairs.
- Yes, let's do that. I'm heading to the designer section. I saw they have some special discounts today, and I'd like a black belt if they're reduced.
- Last time, you found those trendy boots, I believe?
- That's right!
- I need to find a tie to go with my new shirt. None of the ones I have at home matches it.
- Good luck! See you in thirty minutes!

### Task 2

Do you fancy having a home like from a screen or a cover of a glossy magazine? You could immerse yourself in renovation and be inspired by watching home improvement programmes. In the past thirty years, they have become trendy worldwide. There's even a whole TV channel showing you around stunning buildings and sharing ideas for decorating rooms and doing up old houses and furniture. Many homeowners queuing up to appear on these programmes may prove their popularity.

And yet, are the homes that we view 'real'? Generally, there are very few personal items like family photographs or holiday souvenirs on camera. You can see no dirty cups in the kitchen sink or unwashed clothes in the utility room. Perhaps, you might spot a couple of pot plants or one or two ornaments, and that's it.

In the case of 'house-makeovers', on screen, we see three or four workers busy with renovating and decorating. In reality, it would only be possible to finish such a significant project with the participation of numerous people working around the clock. When the work was completed, they didn't need to use a vacuum cleaner or dust the furniture!

Another complaint is that in these programmes, everyone seems to own their home—no tenants or landlords in sight. In many countries, more and more people can't afford to buy a place to live because of the price of housing. So, these rental viewers can either dream that one day they will win the lottery and move into their dream house or feel even more depressed about their situation.

Just remember that TV standards are getting higher, everything has to be ideal, but in real life, many imperfect details make us unique.

**Task 3**

- In today's programme, I'll be speaking to three guests. Right now, I have my first guest sitting right opposite me. Welcome to the programme, Doctor Jarvis.
- Thanks. I'm delighted to be here.
- Now, you've just written a book to help people become more cheerful and easy-going. I know a few moody people who definitely need some help with that!
- I think we all do! Bad moods can obviously affect our relationships and even stop us from being successful in life. Being aggressive and losing your temper frequently is not a good way to behave and can lead to health problems if it continues.
- And can you share some advice to avoid this happening?
- One simple technique is to count to five before you speak. This immediately makes you calmer and perhaps even stops you from getting irritated, as you might realise that the situation isn't, in fact, all that serious after all! Breathe deeply as you count too. Tell yourself not to shout. Speak, talk it over, explain.
- My parents always taught me that it's rude to shout! So I rarely do! Now, what about those moments when we feel sad? I think we all have them sometimes.
- Move! If you can, get outside into the fresh air. If you can't stand up, then move parts of your body while you're sitting. Open and close your eyes. Open and close your mouth. Move your eyes in a circle. Next, your neck. That should help with tension. If possible, swing your arms and your legs. Or move your fingers and toes up and down. This gets your circulation going and makes you stop thinking negatively because you're concentrating on those parts of your body!
- Wow! You're right! I forgot I was here in the studio for a minute!
- If you're at home, head to the bathroom and put on some perfume, or to the garden and smell a flower. Eat a small piece of chocolate or a piece of fruit.
- What about music? That's something that definitely affects my mood.
- I think it does the same to everyone. You can find playlists with songs and music which lift your mood. Or be creative and put together your own list. You can then search for a new track to add. While you're searching, you take your mind off any problems or negative feelings.
- I have a friend with a great sense of humour. I love meeting up and chatting on the phone with her. She's so funny. Unfortunately, she's very busy, so she's not always available.
- In that case, think back and try to remember one amusing story she shared with you. And smile! Smiling is the number one way of picking yourself up. Smile, even if you don't feel like smiling! It really works!
- What about after you've had an argument with someone or have done something you're ashamed of?
- Apologise to the other person. Maybe not immediately, but when you get a chance, have that conversation and clear the air.
- Thank you so much! Your advice is constructive and valuable. And next time, the author of the book about the psychology of influence is visiting us. All right, everyone...

**Task 1.1**

- I can't find my notebook! It's not in my bag.
- You had it in the computer room. You took notes in it. And then we went outside in the break.
- Yes, and I definitely had it there because I showed Robert what I'd written and explained what we'd done.
- Yes, he missed an IT lesson because he was at the dentist.
- And I had it in my hand when... Wait a minute! I put it on the shelf inside my locker while I got my sports stuff out! I'll go and get it.

**Task 1.2**

- What's the matter, Helen? Haven't you eaten yet?
- Yes, and for once, the food in the school canteen was quite tasty!
- That makes a change!
- I had a terrible morning, though. It started off well, because Mrs Bridges, our History teacher, was in a much better mood. But then, we had Music and got the results of that surprise test I told you about. It's not fair. A big fail for me – and most of the rest of the class too.

**Task 1.3**

- Are you enjoying your new job, Mabel?
- It's great, thanks. I'm doing really well, and it's great having the extra money. It's the same salary as before, but I get paid a bonus every three months.
- I bet you miss your company car!
- I'm actually enjoying not having to drive or look for a parking space!
- What about your workmates? Do you get on well with them?
- I'm the only one in my department here, so it's totally different from my old office, which was open-plan. No more quick chats between emails!

**Task 1.4**

- I'll be away all next week.
- Have they put you on long-distance flights again?
- No. And I don't have to cover for anyone either. Someone else will do that if any of the crew are sick.
- You're not going on vacation without me, are you?
- No! We have a training course! Mind you. It is at a beautiful hotel near the beach!
- Can't I come? I'll carry your suitcase!

### Task 1.5

- Hello. It's Jacob Ransen here. I'm calling because I'm afraid I can't make my appointment tomorrow afternoon.
- Mr Ransen, yes, we rescheduled your appointment from last week because your flight was delayed.
- I know. Now I have to work different hours because my colleague has phoned in sick and I have to cover for her for the rest of this week. Double my regular hours.
- So, should I give you another appointment, then?
- If you don't mind, I'll call again once this situation is over.
- That sounds sensible. Thank you for calling.

### Task 1.6

For more than six hundred years, there has been a person who has climbed to the top of the cathedral tower in Lausanne every night. Originally, they were in charge of looking out for fires and warning the population, as well as calling out the time every hour. Then, in 1880, the city decided that no fire warnings were necessary, but the clock still needed winding up, so the person continued to shout out the time on the hour. For the first time in history, a woman will have the responsibility of climbing the tower and calling out on the hour between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m.

### Task 2

A study of British children's dreams about future jobs has produced some interesting results. The participants, 250 boys and girls aged between 7 and 10, were asked to say what they would like to do in the future. Being an engineer was popular with everyone and appeared in the top five choices, although not in the same order. The other four professions on each list, though, were different. Many girls would like to work as a doctor, but their top choice was to look after animals as a vet, whereas boys expressed a preference for number 1, being a footballer, followed by an inventor or maybe a policeman because they liked the idea of driving a car with flashing lights and protecting people.

In the past, many more children expressed a desire to follow in their parents' footsteps and have the same career in medicine or law, for example. The results this time indicate that this is now much less often the case, with only around 14 per cent saying they hoped to end up in the same profession as their parents.

Researchers were surprised and amused to be told by almost two-thirds of the children interviewed that they had no idea of what their parents do for a living.

However, most boys and girls were able to report on how their mother or father felt about their job – if they were satisfied or dissatisfied with work – and why.

In another study in the USA, adults were asked about their childhood dream job and what they were doing now. Two-thirds of those who took part had not fulfilled their childhood dream and, instead, had a different occupation. In this study, most men had wanted to become an athlete, while women had talked about a career in teaching.

**Task 3**

- Those of you who are listening to today's programme may well have heard about the vocational school in Switzerland that everyone's talking about. Welcome to the programme, Dieter.
- Thank you. Yes, we've had a lot of coverage in the press recently!
- Well, you've done a lot of amazing things – which we'd love to hear about. How did this all start?
- The principal and members of the staff decided to redesign the programme and our environment completely. We wanted to make sure that it was relevant and would prepare students for the current and future world of work. We created a project team and started by looking at the syllabus. We set up a Digital Learning Management System to check content covered, progress made and assessment.
- That's very ambitious! Did you have any outside help?
- Yes, we consulted experts from the Institute for Vocational Education but in the end, we made something that works for us, the way we teach and our students learn.
- Did you carry out any other changes?
- Oh yes! Each floor of the main building is open-plan. The furniture, which the students designed and made from recycled materials, is low and inviting. There are codes around the buildings for students to scan and find information and individual self-study areas.
- And who exactly are the students at your school?
- As well as Higher Education students in several different programmes, including business studies, logistics and technology, we have 15 to 18 who also study technology and logistics at a more basic level. When this second group comes to us, they are often teenagers who haven't previously enjoyed studying or done well at school. This study mode suits them really well. They can work at their own individual pace, and we can offer them personal support when needed. For stronger, ambitious students, it works, too, because they aren't held back by others who need more time to complete the assignments. We've had very few problems with behaviour since we changed or with absences. The attendance rate is far higher, and the atmosphere is so positive.
- What about giving grades? Do you still do exams and tests?
- Sometimes, but we use continuous assessment, and students' results are based on their participation in projects. Each part of the course content is called a 'mission' and may involve either physical or digital work or a combination of both. Students need those codes I mentioned earlier to complete the mission, so they have to move around the building to scan them. They get more information, links to explore, and solutions. Teachers are coaches, and they also deliver workshops, going into subjects in more detail.
- So, there's no going back to old ways now?
- Even members who doubted this would work have joined the project and would not want to go back to the old way of working. Everyone can see its benefits. It's been hard work, but all the effort was definitely worth it!

**Task 1.1**

- Anna, your plate's empty. Would you like some more vegetables?
- OK. But no more green beans. You gave me loads the first time.
- Did you like the way I cooked the mushrooms? I fried them with some garlic and sprinkled some parsley on top.
- They were delicious. Are there any left?
- A few, yes. Here you are. Anything else? There's quite a lot of cauliflower left over.
- I'm fine with what you've just given me, thanks.

**Task 1.2**

- I'm bored, and it's so wet and cold outside that we can't go out.
- Well, if you liked doing crosswords, like me, you might not feel that way.
- And you hate playing cards because I always win.
- Hmm. It depends on which game! Remember who won yesterday!
- Let's look in the game cupboard.
- What's in that big box at the back? Oooh, look! We haven't played that game for years. Can you remember how to play?
- The instructions are here. The board goes in the middle, and we each choose a colour...

**Task 1.3**

- We found some old photos in a box up in my grandparents' attic last weekend. There were some photos of them when they were growing up.
- Your grandpa was from a big family, wasn't he?
- Yes. All his extended family lived in the same street, including his half-sisters and brothers. And you know what? I look just like my great-grandfather! He wore thick glasses and had curly black hair too.
- What about your grandmother?
- In her childhood photos, there were only three people as she was an only child. No siblings. She got her blonde hair from her father, my other great-grandfather.

**Task 1.4**

Hi, Wendy. Thank you so much for all the help at the wedding reception yesterday. I think we got the seating arrangements right. I was a bit worried about putting all our little nieces and nephews on the same table, but they seemed to get on well, and none of them was too naughty. It's a shame that Paul wasn't able to make it in the end, but my brother-in-law always leaves everything till the last minute, which meant that when he missed his connection, that was it. Still, having all the rest of our immediate family meant a lot to us, especially seeing my great-grandmother's smile!

### Task 1.5

- Well, I have just finished chopping the celery and dicing the tomatoes. The grated carrot and the lettuce leaves are already in the bowl.
- Great, Aunt Judy! I love salad!
- I know! I made it, especially for you! And I have baked John a chocolate cake this morning.
- Your stepdad will be so happy!
- And he'll definitely be trying those biscuits. He loves everything with sugar!
- Right. Alice, your mother-in-law, on the other hand, will go for the cheese board and salty snacks.

### Task 1.6

- Hello. This is *The Seaview Hotel*.
- Good afternoon. I'm calling to enquire if your Grand Salon is available on May 16th.
- Let me check. Yes, it is. Which special event is it for?
- Well, we had our daughter's wedding reception there a couple of years ago.
- Oh yes! The McCain family! I knew I recognised your voice!
- Yes. It'll be their second wedding anniversary soon. And their first child was born two months ago. So, we'd like to book the Salon for a meal after the christening.
- No problem. Now, how many people are going to stay in our hotel?

### Task 2

There's a double treat for art lovers in London over the next few months. At *Tate Modern*, visitors can enter the Infinity Mirror Rooms and view the exhibition of Yayoi Kusama's work. You won't be looking at paintings, though. In the Mirror Rooms, you're surrounded by tiny lights and mirrors hanging above and around you. Combined with dots and a huge chandelier, this creates a unique atmosphere.

Unfortunately, the visit to these rooms only lasts around two minutes. You can't stop and gaze or wonder because the exhibition is so popular. You're in and out again before you know it. You are allowed to walk through it twice, though. As well as the Rooms, there is a sculpture by the artist, videos of her performance art and recent photographs of Kusama with different pieces of her art. In total, it takes around fifteen minutes.

If you choose tickets to see the exhibition at 11 a.m. or 1 p.m., you can buy a combined ticket and have lunch at the Museum. Or dinner, if you're heading there in the afternoon and book that option. If you have more money to spend and wish to make your visit extra special, then you could choose Kusama with champagne and enjoy a private viewing on the tenth-floor terrace with amazing views over the River Thames and the City of London.

One exclusive London hotel has decided to celebrate Kusama's exhibition and works by creating three cakes that copy Kusama's artworks. They look too good to eat. In *All My Love for The Tulips*, the chef has combined raspberry, lemon and lime with petals made from chocolate. There is another flower here too. As you bite *Flowers that Bloom at Midnight*, you'll taste coconut and strawberries on top of the sweet biscuit.

This is art at its best.



**Task 3**

- Have you read this article about trendy restaurants and how important it is for dishes to look good? It says that 69% of people aged between 18 and 35 take a photo of every dish they are served before they eat it.
- Yes. Incredible, isn't it? Taste is no longer so important for a lot of restaurant customers. Apparently, restaurant owners and chefs are hiring experts to design the decoration and lighting so that the food looks even better in photographs!
- And they have huge collections of plates to serve the food on.
- Then, there's the surprise factor. You probably have no idea how to eat some of these dishes or which cutlery to use; if smoke starts coming out as you break the top, as it did in one famous video.
- It also talked about a restaurant where, as you arrive, the waiter reminds you to check if your smartphone has enough battery! Can you imagine? I always switch off the data on my phone when I go out for a meal!
- And then, they advise you to order a selection of dishes so that when your order is on the table, your photo is more colourful!
- I suppose offering a free dessert if you share your photo and use the restaurant's hashtag is very popular! That is one reason for turning on the camera and sharing!
- It's one way of advertising the restaurant – I wonder if they check the quality of your photo before you share it!
- Restaurants and cafés pay a lot of money for a user name that's easy to recognise and remember.
- They even organise competitions for the best idea for a new dish or product!
- Do you know that it says here that among the millions of photos on social media, the food that has the most shares and likes is ice cream? Especially if it's in an ice cream cone! People think it looks good in front of an attractive background. So ice cream parlours decorate each of their walls differently to encourage customers to take lots of photos of their ice creams.
- But you have to be quick, or your ice cream will melt and end up in a mess on the floor!
- Sushi is also popular because there are so many types and ways of serving it. With all the different ingredients and colours, it makes a picture-perfect plate for a photo.
- Now, I don't know about you, but this talk about food is making me hungry! Shall we go out for lunch?
- Great! My phone's charged, so perhaps I'll take a picture or two!

### Task 1.1

- Hello, Brian. Have you come to do some shopping at the supermarket?
- No, I'm waiting for my sister Emma.
- Oh, doesn't she work in the fitting rooms at your aunt's clothes shop now? I saw her when I shopped there last month.
- Not anymore. She works here now, and it's closer to home.
- Is she at the checkout? I probably saw her when I paid.
- Not today. She's collecting the trolleys in the car park. Look! She's over there.
- Oh yes! Hello, Emma!

### Task 1.2

- Did you see the film on TV last night?
- I started watching it, but when the adverts came on, I decided to switch off and head to bed.
- Yes, although sometimes, the ads are better than the programmes! Like that brilliant one for using your cash card properly.
- Yes, but it's been around for years now. I don't know who does their ads, but they're always clever. Remember those radio commercials a few years ago?
- That reminds me. Have you seen their recent billboard campaign? They're doing a series of eight, apparently. I've seen four of them so far.

### Task 1.3

- I've just received an email from our favourite website!
- So did I, and I checked to see if they'd reduced the price on the microwave ovens or fridges, but they hadn't, so I didn't look at anything else.
- Of course, you're not interested in beauty products!
- I don't need them!
- Perhaps not! But Judy asked for some perfume for her birthday, remember? And there are some big discounts on creams and perfumes.
- Didn't she want a new watch too?
- Yes, but they don't sell the ones she likes here.

### Task 1.4

- Welcome to *Bay Hotel*, Mr Jackson. I'm glad you finally got here.
- Me too. I've had a terrible journey.
- I'm sorry to hear that.
- First, my taxi got stuck in a traffic jam on the way to the airport. And it wasn't even the rush hour. I arrived just in time to check in and then had to run to the boarding gate. Then, when I landed, my suitcase didn't appear, so I had to go and fill in a form. It's supposed to arrive on the next flight in two hours.
- I'll make sure they take it straight up to your room when it arrives.

### Task 1.5

Next year, a new hotel will be opening right in the heart of London, close to Hyde Park and Kensington Palace. The historic building was home to a luxury department store for many decades but has stood empty since it closed in 1981. As well as the hotel, which will have 110 rooms, there will be exclusive apartments, a fitness centre with a swimming pool and tennis court. Buyers interested in the apartments will need to spend at least two million dollars for the smallest apartment. The cost of staying in a hotel room is still unknown.

### Task 1.6

- Here's the perfect flight for you, Paula! I know how much you hate flying!
- Yes. I find it so boring!
- Well, with this one, you wouldn't have time for that. It takes under two minutes – or even less if the wind's blowing in the right direction!
- Where does it fly to and from?
- From one Scottish island to another. The islands are only two point seven kilometres apart!
- And how often is the flight? Once a week?
- Actually, two or three times a day!

### Task 2

Some people love shopping and don't mind having to queue up or wait for a shop assistant to be available. For others, though, shopping trips where they can avoid the crowds and look around are definitely preferable.

Now, thanks to a new feature on a popular app, you can find out how busy stores and shopping centres are. Opening the app on your smartphone, you can now scan how busy a particular area of town is. You can even zoom in on a shop and see how many people are inside. If you are not familiar with a shopping centre, you can check the directory of stores on the app and find your way around much quicker.

If you like buying your groceries online before popping to the shop to pick up your order, then you can set the app to tell you when your order is ready to collect and when your pick-up time will mean a shorter wait.

Holidaymakers can also benefit from using the app, which can inform them of the best time to visit a museum or tourist attraction. The same is also true for places like train stations and airports, allowing passengers to find a quiet place in the departures area to relax before or between flights.

If you fancy eating out and need to stick to a certain price range, the app utilises reviews collected from customers who have visited restaurants and cafés, so you can find matches to your needs. There is also information regarding services and facilities like outdoor seating, takeaway or delivery, so finding suitable places should be no problem.

**Task 3**

- You know I've always liked unusual holidays, far away from your typical tourist destination, right?
- Yes, like that time you headed off into the jungle with a guide!
- Well, this time, I was even more adventurous! I saw an advert on a website for something I'd never done before but always fancied doing. Getting lost!
- What? That sounds awful to me! Where did you go?
- To Morocco. I had no idea where I was going. They kept it a secret till the last minute. I met the representative from the travel company at the airport, and when he gave me the tickets for the flight, I discovered I was travelling to Morocco.
- But how can you pack for a holiday like that?
- Well, you know me. I always travel light, but I also carry essential tools with me – look what I've got in my backpack pocket right now! And I did know that I'd be going abroad, so I had my passport with me, of course! And, I had kind of an idea it would involve survival skills, as they'd sent me a training programme I had to do and some of the exercises and activities were quite demanding!
- But how do they decide where to send you?
- You have to answer a series of questions on their website. They offer five different types of destinations – on the coast, at the North or South Pole, in the jungle, desert or mountains. You can choose which area you'd like to get lost in and tell them how much money you have to spend, and when you'd like to go, of course.
- I bet it was expensive!
- I have to admit that it wasn't cheap, but it was definitely worth it! It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and I certainly will never forget it!
- So, what exactly happened on the trip?
- A local guide met me at the airport and drove me to my destination, the desert near the Atlas Mountains. All I was given was a paper map, 3 litres of water, a torch, a compass, dried food, two GPS trackers and batteries. No sleeping bag or tent. I was allowed a phone, but without a phone or internet connection. Just so I could take photos.
- And you were all alone? Nobody else went with you?
- No. That's the whole point. You have two days to find your way to your destination.
- And what happens if you don't get there on time, have an accident or get hurt?
- There's a button you can press on the tracker in emergencies. And I guess they'd come and search for you if you didn't arrive within five or six hours after the arranged time.
- And then, what exactly did you do for the next two days?
- Walk a long, long way! Climb up and down a two-thousand-foot mountain. I saw some fantastic views along the way. It's a shame I couldn't stop for too long, but I have taken some beautiful photos to remind me of everything I saw.

### Task 1.1

- I'm not sure I want to watch the next programme.
- But you love combat sports! This week, it's all about boxing.
- Yes, but from what I saw in the trailer, it seems to be about training behind the scenes. The boxers were at the gym, lifting weights.
- Well, I guess they have to build their strength and keep in good shape.
- I just hope they show some actual fights. Otherwise, I'll change channels.
- I'm sure they will. Those boxers have won so many medals.

### Task 1.2

- We have tickets for the new modern art exhibition. You've been, haven't you?
- Yes! I went to the preview.
- And what did you think?
- There were some clever works by a young sculptor - lots of animals, like lions.
- What about paintings? I usually like them because I'm into painting.
- There was a collection of some self-portraits of the artist in different styles. Some are more impressive than others; I have to say. I actually found a fantastic exhibit outside on the museum grounds. There's a statue of my favourite conductor. It looks so real.

### Task 1.3

- Hey, what happened to you? Why's your arm bandaged up?
- I fell over badly at the last hurdle and went down hard on my right side. They sent me off to a hospital in an ambulance. At first, they thought I'd broken something.
- Oh dear! And how bad is it?
- When I fell, I put my hand down first, you see. But the x-ray didn't show any fractures. I sprained my wrist, but my whole arm aches from my shoulder downwards, an elbow included.

### Task 1.4

Next weekend will see the release of a film based on a true story – the life of Mercedes Gleitze. In 1927, she spent over fifteen hours swimming across the Channel from France to the United Kingdom. She'd tried – and failed this swim eight times before. On that day, she was wearing a new, waterproof Rolex watch, and an advertisement appeared on the front page of an influential newspaper, celebrating Mercedes' and the watch's success. The film also covers her other swimming records. In recent years, Mercedes' story was almost forgotten, but, in addition to this film, there is now a plaque on the wall outside the house in Brighton where Mercedes grew up.

### Task 1.5

- You're back! How did it go?
- I'm really not sure. I mean, I had to play a few pieces of music on the piano and guitar- strange because they were a total mixture of styles - rock, pop and even classical.
- I wonder why? I've heard most of their tracks, and they are all very modern.
- We spoke about the other instruments I play, but they didn't ask me to play them. And thankfully, this group doesn't need me to move around the stage. Learning those dance moves for that music festival was a nightmare!
- Well, let's hope they ring you for their concert tour.

### Task 1.6

- Interesting. That film we went to see in August has lost loads of money.
- You mean that action film? I told you that hero's acting was terrible.
- Yes, but some people just love everything he does, despite the terrible reviews all his movies get.
- We only saw that one because we couldn't get in to see the premiere of the science fiction film, remember?
- Yes, and that's what happened. That film sold out every time, but the action film only attracted very small audiences.

### Task 2

The biggest difference between acting on a stage in a theatre and appearing in a film is definitely the audience. In the theatre, although the performance is live, with spectators present, they tend to be at quite a distance from the actors. So, actors have to exaggerate their gestures and expressions so that even from the back row, it's clear that the character is sad or amused. Whereas in a film, the camera can get really close up, so gestures and expressions should be more natural and subtle. Otherwise, the actors look awkward and not at all sincere.

In a play, actors have only one chance to get it right, and there may be no microphones. This is why the whole cast needs to take extra care with their voices and make sure to memorise their lines. Film stars can speak at average volume, as there are microphones everywhere. Some famous film stars have to repeat a line or a scene multiple times because they keep making mistakes.

There will be numerous rehearsals before a play or musical starts running because everything has to be as perfect as possible in the actual performance. Sometimes, one of the lead actors may get ill, so they usually have an understudy in the cast who knows their part and can step in. This is not necessary for films because they can shoot other scenes while they wait for the star to return. If there are dangerous scenes or special effects in the film, a stuntman or woman will probably do them instead of the star. Also, scenes are not always come in the same order that they will be in the film, which might be a little confusing, as the actors might not know the whole plot unless they read the whole script.

**Task 3**

- Miranda, you're the captain of the university basketball team this year.
- That's right. We have a really strong team this season.
- Yes, you seem to be winning all your matches. Just been a single defeat so far. I believe you've just passed the halfway point of the season.
- Yes. Unfortunately, we've had a few injuries in the team recently, but that also gives younger, less experienced players a chance to participate.
- So, have you picked your team for the tournament this weekend?
- I'm still waiting to hear if two team members have recovered from their injuries. One of them was able to train with us today, which is promising.
- I have to admit that I know very little about basketball. I imagine you need to be tall to play.
- Well, that's usually an advantage, but not all players are tall. Fitness is essential. During each match, we run a lot! Speed is important too. Getting back to defend if you miss a shot is a must. But what can often make the difference between an average player and a star is their mentality - being confident, motivated and positive.
- I believe you are also quite a skilled tennis player.
- At my college, we were encouraged to try various sports. It was only when I turned fourteen that I decided to concentrate on basketball. I still play tennis in the summer, but just for fun, not professionally.
- And congratulations, Miranda. I heard you'd been selected to play for the national team at the Olympics!
- Yes. I was over the moon when I got the call. I'll be travelling there with two teammates, which is another reason to smile. It's the first time our country has ever qualified for the games, so the whole national team's so excited.
- And nervous, too, I imagine.
- Of course. But our experience in the world championships two years ago was brilliant training for the Olympic Games and helped us prepare mentally.
- Well, Miranda, I wish you the best of luck! I hope next time I interview you, you'll be wearing an Olympic medal!
- That would definitely be a dream come true!

**Task 1.1**

- Are you feeling all right, Annie? You look a bit pale.
- That's because I'm still recovering from the flu. I was in bed for five days last week. I started sneezing on Monday afternoon. Then during the night, I had a high temperature. It went up to 39,5°.
- Did you get a bad cough too? I had one for four days. Even cough syrup didn't seem to help.
- Mine affected my nose and my head, not my throat.

**Task 1.2**

- Hi Charlie, how are you?
- Just a second. I can see you're talking, but I can't hear you. I think it should work now. Say something.
- Can you hear me now?
- Yes! Loud and clear.
- Great. We don't need to switch our cameras on. Let's use the chat.
- OK. I've just clicked on it, and it's open.
- Brilliant. Now, can you see any spelling mistakes in the text?
- Yes. Mr Billsborough's name. I'll type it in for you. Oh no! I'm typing, but nothing appears. I think I need to change the batteries on my keyboard!

**Task 1.3**

I was so annoyed with myself earlier. I wasted so much time for nothing! Right. I needed to print some copies of the document for my school assignment. I couldn't send it by email because it needed to be signed. I turned on my laptop and opened the file to print and spent ages, but it just wouldn't print. So, I gave up, saved a copy and ran down to the photocopy shop to print it out. Then, when I got back to my desk, I realised that the printer plug was on the floor, so, of course, it wouldn't print!

**Task 1.4**

- Hello, Ben. How's your father? I saw him the other day. He's lost loads of weight.
- Yes, around 12 kilos!
- Did the doctor tell him to go on a diet after his heart problems?
- Well, yes, but he hadn't really started on it before they took him to hospital.
- Oh, I didn't know he'd been in hospital. What happened?
- At first, they thought he had a virus, but the doctors decided it was something he'd eaten. He couldn't eat for over a week. The good thing is that now he's started, he wants to continue. He's even talking about joining a gym!



### Task 1.5

- I'm trying to access a website for work, but I'm not having any luck.
- Has the WI-FI stopped working again, maybe?
- It can't be that because I've been checking my emails, and there was no problem there.
- Have you changed your password or something?
- No. And I'm sure it's right because I wrote it down when I created it.
- Let me have a look. I know what's wrong! It's your antivirus programme. You need to change the settings to allow this page to open.

### Task 1.6

- Good afternoon. I'm calling to make an appointment. My name's Mary Blackwell.
- Good afternoon, Ms Blackwell. Have you finished the course of antibiotics the dentist gave you?
- I'll have finished them tomorrow. The infection seems to have gone away.
- That's good.
- So, I'm ready to have my filling whenever the dentist can see me.
- What about Friday afternoon at 5 p.m.?
- That's fine. I just hope my tooth won't hurt afterwards!
- I'm sure it won't, Ms Blackwell.

### Task 2

Listening to podcasts is becoming more and more popular. It's something to do when you're travelling, working out at the gym or even preparing for an important exam.

Podcasts can be downloaded onto a device so that you can listen to them anywhere, even if you don't have an internet connection. They are meant to educate and entertain listeners and are generally cost-free. And in these modern times, when we spend so many hours looking at a screen, they offer a welcome break for our eyes. Studies have shown that podcasting stimulates both sides of the brain – the left and right hemispheres. Hearing information apparently improves memory and makes us react emotionally. We use our imagination more than when we're shown images.

A quick search for a podcast on a particular topic will produce numerous results. The most popular podcasts are often by comedians and are often heard or shared over and over again. News and sports podcasts are also near the top of the list, and listeners, who want to find out about health issues, frequently look for podcasts about them. The top podcasters have millions of subscribers and have recorded thousands of podcasts. They're podcast stars, and many of them were not well-known before they began podcasting.

Yet, in fact, making a podcast is easy because very little equipment is needed. All you need is a quiet space, a microphone and a laptop. Headphones are helpful too. There are free downloadable programmes which you can use to edit your recording. Of course, if you're serious about a career in podcasting, then you can invest in some expensive devices, but at the end of the day, the content of the podcast is more important than the sound quality.

**Task 3**

- Margaret, thank you for joining us today. Tell us about yourself and your work.
- Well, for the past twenty years, I've been in a wheelchair after a road accident. I used to work as a computer programmer for an IT company. One day, about five years ago, I saw an advertisement for a disabled user tester. I filled in the form, applied and was offered work.
- And what exactly does your job involve? What do you do?
- It depends. I'm paid by the hour for each product or project. Sometimes, it means checking how accessible a building is. Perhaps, a hotel, a restaurant or a shopping centre. On other days, I might be testing a piece of new equipment or technology.
- I see. And what are you working on at the moment?
- Well, I can't tell you all the details, but it's an app which helps disabled people when they are travelling. I'm on a team of testers with different disabilities, including blind and deaf people. It's fascinating – both the work and the members of the team.
- What is your favourite piece of technology?
- My digital assistant! I'm not allowed to give them any publicity by naming the brand, but being able to tell about mine. It helps me to light on and off. Turning the volume down on the TV saves me from having to push myself around so much, especially at the end of the day when I'm very tired. It even saved my life when I fell out of my wheelchair and couldn't get up off the floor. I was able to tell my assistant to phone for help. Oh, and online shopping, which, of course, is not really a piece of technology! It has made everyone's lives so much easier, and even more so for disabled shoppers like me. Although, I still enjoy a trip to the shops now and then – the disabled-friendly shops, that is.
- And would you say that there has been a big improvement in how much people with disabilities are taken into consideration for product design?
- Definitely! Partly because architects and building companies are now required by law to make any new building accessible. Even older buildings have had wheelchair ramps, and other facilities for disabled people added. At least here in our country, they are. Although, this is not the case in some other countries, unfortunately. And exciting things are on their way. And I'm so proud to be able to play my small part in making life easier for all disabled people.
- I'm not surprised! Thanks to you and your hard work, this world is a better place – for everyone!

**Task 1.1**

- The Canadian flag consists of two red stripes on both sides of the flag and a white square in the middle where there is a red leaf from a maple tree.
- Well, both the Canadian flag and the USA flag, the Stars and Stripes, have appropriate names as they tell you exactly what's on them!
- Just by looking, it's not easy to guess what the British flag is called, although the Union Jack is very famous for its design and colours!

**Task 1.2**

- Hi, Andy. Have you been ill this week? You weren't here when I returned to work after a few days with a high temperature.
- No, nothing like that. I was stuck in a pub with my friends after a concert!
- Did the electricity go off there as well? I had none for a few hours.
- Yes, we had no power all night, but we had lots of warm clothes, and the pub gave us some great food. It was a lot of fun. What stopped us from leaving were the huge snowdrifts. The roads were closed for two days!

**Task 1.3**

- Have you heard the weather forecast for tomorrow?
- No, I haven't. What did it say?
- It'll be very chilly first thing in the morning, with temperatures below zero again.
- Well, it's freezing cold out there tonight. There'll be a thick frost again. But at least it's dry.
- At the moment. After lunch tomorrow, temperatures will rise by a few degrees, but...
- What? Not more snow and sleet like last week?
- No, but the television said there'll be a storm with winds and heavy downpours.
- Well, I'm glad we're not going out anywhere after work.

**Task 1.4**

- Hi, Judy. What's the matter?
- Toothache. The doctor's just given me some painkillers and antibiotics. The dentist can't do anything with my tooth for a few days.
- Oh no! When did this start? I hope not when you were on holiday.
- Luckily not. And this time, there were no bees. I have to be so careful as I'm extremely allergic to them.
- So, what are those red spots on your legs?
- Mosquito bites. They're annoying but nothing serious, as fortunately, I don't have any reaction to them.

### Task 1.5

So, I'm here, right at the heart of the demonstration. Thousands of people have come along today to protest about the increases in the prices of food and energy, which have risen by nearly eight per cent in the past twelve months. Businesses and public services have shut all day, and only a small number of trains and buses are running as workers are on strike. There has been no violence as far as I have seen. All peaceful protests, which is a relief after last month when vandals destroyed the city centre.

### Task 1.6

- Hey, did you watch that film on TV last night? It was hilarious! Lots of criminals commit different stupid crimes and get caught.
- No. My parents wanted me to watch the documentary about that famous corruption trial. It was so boring! People are just giving evidence all the time.
- I hope they release some more of that thriller series soon. The one we watched together in the holidays.
- Yes, I wonder what's going to happen next. There's been a train hijacking, smuggling and now kidnapping. What more can happen?

### Task 2

My name's Doctor Myra Chambers, and I represent the Glass Recycling Organisation. The last time I spoke to you, you may remember that we were just about to launch our new programme for increasing glass recycling, asking the public to help cut down on waste by returning glass items.

I'm delighted to say that the response has been impressive. Unlike other countries around the world where bottle return has either disappeared completely or decreased, in South Africa, we have seen a huge increase in the number of returned bottles since the start of the campaign.

Across the country, we now have over four thousand bottle banks. All the large supermarket chains collect bottles and jars for us. There are also glass banks outside most shopping centres, in the city streets and in car parks.

People can even make money by collecting glass. Our organisation does not pay for glass, but there are companies called 'buy-back centres' that do pay for the return of jars and bottles. And we are not just talking about the jars and bottles we have at home. Some collectors pick up bottles from bars and restaurants to earn cash from returning them.

Nowadays, all new glass that is produced in South Africa contains at least 40% of recycled glass. Only 20% of glass ends up in landfills, which is very good to hear. All in all, 65% of all goods in South Africa are recycled, which is positive news, although we can always do more. To date, we have increased the level of glass recycling, but we'd like the figure to grow even more. Every little thing we can do to help future generations on this planet is worth doing.

**Task 3**

- On today's podcast, I'll be speaking to Professor James from the University of York. We'll be discussing the differences between British and American English. Welcome to the Language Podcast, Professor James.
- Thank you for inviting me to take part.
- Lots of subscribers have sent us questions for you to answer. The popular question is - why are there so many differences between American and British spelling?
- Well, a quick, general answer is that British English has tended to keep the same spelling, or at least similar spelling, to the language where the word came from. Lots of words in English come from French. 'Theatre' and 'centre' have kept their original 'r-e' endings at the end of the words in British English, whereas in American English, they are written as 'e-r'. This is the way they're pronounced and is obviously similar to other words like 'father' or 'mother'. This difference has been around for a long time - probably since 1755 when a man called Johnson wrote and published the Dictionary of the English Language. About 30 years later, Noah Webster established many spelling rules in his American Spelling Book, which was very popular in the USA. And in 1828, the American Dictionary of the English Language appeared. The work of these two men had a powerful influence on spelling in both nations.
- I see. And are there any more typical features?
- American spelling tends to make words shorter. 'C-o-l-o-r' instead of 'c-o-l-o-u-r', 'program' spelt 'p-r-o-g-r-a-m', seven letters instead of nine letters in British English - 'p-r-o-g-r-a-double m-e. And it's more rules-based, like, for example, the endings of past verb forms. Of course, there are words which are completely different. People in the US might live in an apartment, whereas in the UK, you live in a flat. With the strong influence that American culture has on the world, you'll probably find far more examples of American spelling than British English in the press and on the internet. There's a tendency to accept both versions of words in international exams and publications.
- Now, you've just written a book about etymology. What exactly is etymology?
- Etymology is the study of the origins of words. Where they first came from. The English language, like any language spoken in the world, changes and grows. Although many words have been part of our language for many years, new words are added all the time. There are lots of new words beginning with 'e' - email, e-book, e-shopping, for example. Or, existing words take on new meanings - like 'mouse', which we still use to talk about a small animal, but of course, it's also a very frequent word for that important piece of computer equipment.
- There are lots of new words I love that are made from two words put together. 'Brunch', for example. It's the ideal way to eat on a Sunday morning when you get up late and don't have time to eat both breakfast and lunch!
- That's right! The word to describe these combinations comes from French - portmanteau. And portmanteau is spelt the same in both British and American English! Yes, I had a 'staycation' this year! We stayed home but didn't work at all and did things we'd normally do on vacation!