

# ■ ■ ■ Traditions, trends and lifestyles | ?

In some listening tasks, you have to complete sentences using a certain number of words. You need to listen carefully to what the speaker is saying about the topic and separate the **main idea** from the **supporting details**. The words you need to complete the gap can either be the main idea or supporting details.

## Understanding the main idea and supporting details

**1** Listen to a young woman giving a talk about New Year customs in Scotland. Tick the statement that best matches the main idea of what she says.

- 1 The majority of Scots prefer to attend New Year celebrations outdoors.
- 2 There are a variety of customs associated with New Year in Scotland.
- 3 Many New Year customs are no longer as fashionable as they once were.

**2** Listen again and tick the details relating to New Year customs in Scotland that are mentioned.

- |                                |                                       |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a the gifts people give        | d the time people stop celebrating    |
| b the guests that are popular  | e the foods people prepare especially |
| c the types of dance people do |                                       |

**3** Listen once more and complete the following sentences using a maximum of four words.

- 1 According to Scottish tradition, the ideal person to be a 'first-footer' is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 In Scotland, if your house is dirty or messy at New Year, it \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 The speaker says the song *Auld Lang Syne* is recognised by people \_\_\_\_\_.

## Working with vocabulary

**4** Complete the sentences with the correct expressions. The first letter has been given.

- 1 If you want to attend the traditional Valentine's Day masked ball this year, you have to pay i\_\_\_\_\_ a\_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 People in many cultures believe that failing to observe customs and traditions will b\_\_\_\_\_ serious c\_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 In my country, people believe that New Year is the perfect time to s\_\_\_\_\_ your d\_\_\_\_\_ and move forward leaving conflicts behind.
- 4 Customs linked to family often r\_\_\_\_\_ the huge respect people have for their elders in many places.
- 5 It's nice that in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, so many people still choose to k\_\_\_\_\_ traditions u\_\_\_\_\_.

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2i7np9

## KEY

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**1**

**Statement 2** is the correct answer.

**2**

**a, b, c** should be ticked.

d is wrong because nothing about the time the celebrations end is mentioned

e is wrong because the speaker doesn't say that the shortbread or traditional biscuit is prepared especially – it may also be bought in a shop.

**3**

**1** a dark-haired man, **2** is (considered) bad luck, **3** across the entire world

**4**

**1** in advance, **2** bear/bring serious consequences, **3** settle your differences, **4** reflect, **5** keep traditions up