



Unit 4 – Exploring and experimenting

Task 10 Perfectionism

Announcer: Listen as Maya talks about her sister, Renee.

Maya: When I was a kid I thought it was really important to study at the university, but I think doing an apprenticeship is actually a lot better for me. I have more time to spend with my friends and much less stress. I know that I'll have a good job in my future if I continue to work hard. My younger sister Renee is a perfectionist. She can't understand how it can be fun to just play sports and make music "badly". She thinks that I'm just wasting my time with my friends. Renee spends all her time studying and practicing her violin. She used to study ballet, too - but after she broke her leg she knew she could never be a professional dancer and gave up. I love my sister, but I wish she could just enjoy herself sometimes. I bet she could have a really good time taking dance classes for fun ... or even act in a play. Giving up on perfection is really hard, but it's part of growing up. Sometimes, it is really hard to give up on something that you hoped would give you an opportunity for success. It can hurt to find out that you are not good enough at something. When that happens, you have a choice to make: either go back to trying hard to improve or look for something new to do. You might discover that your talents lie somewhere else.