


2. Listening: The price of fame

 You are going to listen to an interview about the price of fame. First you will have 45 seconds to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice. While listening, complete the sentences (1–5) using a maximum of four words. Write your answers in the spaces provided. The first one (0) has been done for you. After the second listening you will have 45 seconds to check your answers.

The price of fame

0	Fans usually expect to hear about their stars'	<i>scandals/nasty stories</i>
Q1	Jeannette Walsh is an expert on the topic, because she	
Q2	The behaviour of the paparazzi even causes celebs to ... when confronted with them.	
Q3	Paparazzi claim that celebs should not complain, because they	
Q4	Not only the behaviour of the paparazzi but also their techniques	
Q5	Some stars like Paris Hilton do not struggle, but	

3. Reading: Ordinary people

Read the text below, then choose the correct heading (A–I) for each paragraph (1–6). There are two extra headings you should not use. Write your answers in the boxes provided at the end of the task. The first one (0) has been done for you.

An interview with author David DeFord about his book *Ordinary people can achieve the extraordinary – a practical guide to goal achievement*

... (0)

DeFord: It all came to me last year at a New Year’s party that I had been invited to. At some point a friend of mine asked the classic question: What’s your New Year’s resolution? I didn’t have one. In fact, I was a bit annoyed by the question itself, because I thought about all those resolutions people have around New Year’s Day but never take seriously.

... (Q1)

DeFord: I do not have any numbers to prove my theory but I would say that the top three plans for the coming year are “stop smoking”, “lose weight and exercise” and “spend more time with family and friends”.

... (Q2)

DeFord: For sure, there are some people who get their act together, stay focused and try to achieve the goals they have set themselves. The majority of people, however, are not determined enough to resist certain temptations.

... (Q3)

DeFord: Not necessarily, but I just think their approach could be different. This is actually what I talk about in my book. I have met so many people who complain about their jobs, their partners, their children or their looks. They are very passionate about the fact that they want to change. If I ask them what they are already doing to change their lives, they usually do not know what to reply.

... (Q4)

DeFord: Well, I am convinced that if you keep doing what you are doing at the moment, you will keep getting exactly what you are getting right now. If you really want to break this cycle, you need to change the way you approach your problems.

... (Q5)

DeFord: Reading my book, people might for example find an answer to the question of how to finally take control of their future, how to find their “great one thing” or how to select the right goals. They will learn about the benefits of keeping a journal and about different ways to overcome their fears and doubts.

... (Q6)

DeFord: If you want to break the – what I call – New Year’s resolution cycle, you need to focus and finally take some action. It’s all about setting yourself a goal and being determined and willing to do whatever it takes to eventually achieve it.

A	Would you say that people are not strong enough?
B	What made you write this book?
C	Would you say some people have got the wrong dreams?
D	Do you think that most people do not abide by their resolutions?
E	What are some of the issues that you address in your book?
F	What will happen if you do not change anything in your life?
G	What would you say are common New Year’s resolutions?
H	What message are you trying to send to your readers?
I	Do you have an answer for people lacking determination?

0	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6
B						

4. Reading: Binge drinking

Read the text below, then answer the questions (1–6) using a maximum of four words. Write your answers in the spaces provided. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Binge drinking

For most adults, consuming alcohol at social events and gatherings has become something entirely normal and acceptable. The occasional glass of wine or beer is something we enjoy after a bad day at work or when having dinner with our partner. It seems harmless to indulge in an alcoholic beverage every now and then. We think nothing of pouring ourselves a small drink twice a week or even every other day. After all, we are far from waking up every day feeling the urge to drink.

However, this attitude has taught our children and teenagers that it is perfectly OK to drink at certain times, such as festivities or social events. They might even assume that they will be required to consume alcohol in order to blend in with the crowd or be part of it. Although legally most countries share the consensus that teens should not drink before they reach a certain age and are mentally and physically mature enough, this age varies considerably from country to country. While America has decided on 21 as the most sensible legal drinking age, Australia allows teenagers to drink at 18 and most European countries agree on teenagers being allowed to consume alcohol at 16 years of age.

Nevertheless, the fact that teenagers want to be part of the adult world by drinking alcohol does not automatically mean that they will do so in a way that will harm them in a mental or physical way. Depending on how responsibly their role models, for example older siblings or parental figures, handle alcohol consumption, they will be more or less likely to lose control. Addictive behaviour of any kind, be it connected to alcohol, drugs or medication, that is displayed by a family member may result in similar problems faced by the teenagers born into such families. Thus, young adults who never learn to limit their consumption habits to small doses tend to overdo it, especially when they go out in larger groups.

This lack of control seems to be on the rise among teenagers in particular, as increasing numbers of binge drinking incidents in European countries indicate. Binge drinkers cause their blood alcohol levels to rise enormously within very short time by downing virtually litres of alcohol within a few hours. The problem occurring here is twofold, with the latter issue being the more problematic one. Not only do young adults drink more, but they also prefer hard liquor to more traditional drinks such as beer or wine. Since most teenagers have little to no experience with the number of drinks they can safely consume, consequences ranging from suffering from a bad but relatively harmless hangover the next day to ending up in hospital at the end of a night out are likely to be the result. No matter whether they were trying to impress their peers or to escape from the real world for a little bit, they might regret having made this choice.

0	Where do adults commonly consume alcohol?	<i>at social events/gatherings</i>
Q1	According to the author, which frequency of alcohol consumption do most people still see as normal?	
Q2	How do teenagers feel about drinking alcohol because of the example they are given?	
Q3	What do most countries agree on concerning teenage alcohol consumption?	
Q4	What has the biggest impact on teenagers' control of drinking?	
Q5	Which ability do teenagers with alcohol problems lack?	
Q6	What is the biggest problem connected to binge drinking?	

5. Language in use: Pets are the better doctors

You are going to read a text about pets. Some words are missing from the text. Use the word in brackets to form a word that fits in the gaps (1–9). Write your answers in the spaces provided at the end of the text. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Pets are the better doctors

It is common **(0)** ... **(know)** that owning a pet has a positive influence on your life. The time you spend caring for it usually helps you relax and its **(Q1)** ... **(condition)** love improves your self-esteem. Pet owners are less susceptible to **(Q2)** ... **(depress)** as well as sleeping disorders and are more satisfied with their private lives. However, what you might not have known is that your cat or dog can be a live-in warning signal in terms of health or **(Q3)** ... **(nature)** disasters.

Scientists have recently discovered that many pets seem to have the **(Q4)** ... **(able)** to detect severe illnesses long before human doctors can. Even though they are not **(Q5)** ... **(entire)** sure about the reasons, research seems to suggest that the human smell changes when we suffer from diseases that might harm us or even be lethal. Thus, pet owners should remain sensitive to **(Q6)** ... **(behave)** changes in their animals. Although there is no reason to be hysterical about it, sudden shifts in the pet's **(Q7)** ... **(day)** routine should not go unnoticed.

This is also true in terms of natural disasters. According to many pet owners living in areas where tornadoes, hurricanes and earthquakes hit **(Q8)** ... **(frequent)**, animals tend to behave strangely shortly before such events. They seem to display nervousness and try to stay close to their owners for **(Q9)** ... **(protect)**. Thus, if we experience changes in our pets' attitudes and moods and we cannot determine a reason for them, it might be wise to consult a doctor or be on the lookout for upcoming dangers.

Prime Time 7

0 knowledge
Q1 _____
Q2 _____
Q3 _____
Q4 _____

Q5 _____
Q6 _____
Q7 _____
Q8 _____
Q9 _____

7. Writing: Cultural diversity

Recently you have read an article in a big Austrian newspaper about an African American who was denied access to a restaurant by the owner due to his skin colour. Since you despise discrimination, you decide to write a **letter to the editor** of this newspaper in which you protest against such actions. In your letter, you should:

- discuss why cultural diversity is valuable and important for a country
- analyse which consequences discrimination can have
- suggest how we can reduce prejudices and prevent discrimination

Write about **250 words**.