

1 Taskers

Announcer: You are going to listen to a radio feature about *TaskRabbit*, an online job marketplace. First you will have 45 seconds to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice. While listening, match the beginnings of the sentences (1 to 8) with the sentence endings (A to K). There are two extra sentence endings that you should not use. 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.

<45 Sekunden Pause>

<akustisches Signal>

Presenter: Do you find that there never seems to be enough time in your life to get everything done, never getting to the end of your to-do list? If so, help is just a few clicks away. Welcome to *TaskRabbit*, an online odd jobs marketplace that is becoming increasingly popular. Their growing army of helpers, or ‘taskers’, will assemble your flat-pack furniture from Ikea, dig weeds out of your garden and even, if need be, scuba dive to the bottom of a lake to retrieve your lost keys – for a fee! Queuing up for tickets for a gig or booking a table at a trendy restaurant no longer means wasting hours of your valuable time, these people are ready and willing to stand in line for you. The scope of their tasks is limited only by the needs of those requesting them. ... 48-year-old Juan Diego worked as an events manager at a large restaurant chain until he was made redundant.

Juan Diego: I’ve been a tasker for six months now, and it suits me fine. I fit my work in around my wife, who works for a design company, and my two daughters. My wife used to be at home until she got this high-powered job. We were already struggling with everything, so one of us needed to have flexible hours. With *TaskRabbit* I can agree to tasks that fit in around the school run and my 15-year-old daughter’s schedule. The last job I had was to drive from Los Angeles to Oakland to pick up some documents – I guess it was a property deal the guy was doing and he needed them urgently. I was paid by the hour for the 11-hour round trip and was reimbursed for the fuel I used. *TaskRabbit* take a 30% cut, but if I take home less than \$3,000 dollars a month, I’m disappointed.

Presenter: *TaskRabbit* was founded in Boston, Massachusetts, in 2008 by CEO Leah Busque. One cold snowy night she and her partner were preparing to go out for dinner when they realised that they were out of dog food. They started talking about how nice it would be if there was a place online where they could log on and say they needed dog food and name the price they were willing to pay to outsource the errand to someone in the neighbourhood. Over dinner their plan developed and now, years later, *TaskRabbit* is active in over 50 US cities and many European cities as well. ... 26-year-old Allie Lucas works part-time as a tasker in London.

Allie Lucas: I’m a qualified accountant, but I decided to apply to be a tasker after I saw the CEO being interviewed on TV. What appealed to me was the fact that you could work as little or as much as you wanted to, and that there would be a variety of tasks. Also, you can set your own hourly rate and there’s a possibility to increase your rate as you get (hopefully) good reviews for your work. One of my specialities is de-cluttering, sorting out household

messes, but the last job I did was to arrange a party for a four-year-old. The main target market for *TaskRabbit* is busy working mothers who just need an extra pair of hands now and then – I have lots of clients who are in this situation.

Presenter: *TaskRabbit* seems to offer traditional services for the internet generation delivered in a reliable on-demand format. All taskers are thoroughly vetted and fully insured. It seems to work well for taskers too, allowing them to organise their time the way they want and make money in the gaps in their own busy lives. So, what's not to like?

<15 Sekunden Pause>

<akustisches Signal>

<Wiederholung Hörtext>

2 A former footballer

Announcer: You are going to listen to a recording about a short career in sports. First you will have 45 seconds to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice. While listening, choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for each question (1 to 8). Put a cross in the correct box. The first one (0) has been done for you.

After the second listening, you will have 45 seconds to check your answers.

<45 Sekunden Pause>

<akustisches Signal>

Presenter: January 23rd, 2015 was a big day for fans of second-division football team Cambridge United. That was the day they were due to play at home against Manchester United, 76 places above them in the Premier League. But for one Cambridge resident, Giuliano Maiorana, son of an Italian-born upholsterer, it was a very special reminder of what might have been.

As a kid, Maiorana played for the Cambridge United Junior team, but at the age of 14, they let him go, thinking he was too small to have a future in the game. He then started playing for Histon Town, a team in the local Jewson League, four or five divisions below Cambridge United. And it was here that the fairy tale started. Our football correspondent Jim Laker takes up the story.

Jim Laker: Maiorana had been playing for half a season with Histon's first team when he was told one Wednesday that a scout from Manchester United had been watching him. He wasn't expecting to hear from him for several weeks, so when on the following Saturday he was told to go up to Manchester for a trial, he thought somebody was playing a trick on him. On the Monday he set off and got stuck in traffic on the motorway. He arrived late and was told they'd been waiting for him to start training. Anyway, he did OK, and the next night he played in a match and scored a penalty. He was taken off at half time and offered a four-year contract at £200 a week.

It was a rollercoaster. Maiorana was training with the first team – players who were household names in the 1980s. Within a couple of weeks, he was playing against top

sides in live televised matches. The other young players in the team had spent years preparing for this, but to Maiorana, who was used to playing in front of 50 people at Histon, suddenly playing in front of fifty thousand felt unreal. He did well, though, and he got the full media treatment. For a while, everything was going really well – people telling him how good he was, and that he might one day play for Italy, comparing him to Maradona and other footballing greats. But then disaster struck. In a reserve match in 1991, Maiorana suffered a serious knee injury. Being only 21, he thought he had time to recover, but the injury ended his hopes of a top-class career. After surgery and a short spell playing in Sweden, he returned to Cambridge to his parents' upholstery business, where he'd worked at the age of 16.

It was a tough time for Maiorana. His dreams were shattered. In his own words, he says he found himself on the scrapheap. He cut off all ties with his former teammates. He wanted to get football right out of his brain, but it was everywhere he went. On TV, in the papers, youngsters playing in the park, in his own head when he went to sleep at night. Eventually it was the arrival of social media that helped him come to terms with his past. In 2013 his son announced that he had a surprise for him – he'd made a film of all the highlights of his father's days with Manchester United and put it on YouTube. Maiorana realised that his son wanted to show the world his dad's achievements.

These days he has no regrets. After all, if he hadn't moved to Manchester, he would never have met his wife and produced his two great kids. So, football-wise it didn't work out, but family-wise, it definitely did.

Presenter: And did Maiorana go to the match between Cambridge and Man U in January?

Jim Laker: No, he said he'd rather leave it to the regular fans. He thinks they should have the chance to see the massive clubs like Man U in action. That's what football's all about. And Cambridge managed to hold them to a nil-nil draw! But sadly, that was the end of the Cambridge dream as they were beaten three-nil in the replay.

<15 Sekunden Pause>

<akustisches Signal>

<Wiederholung Hörtext>

3 Saving the planet

Announcer: You are going to listen to four young people from around the world talking about their response to climate change. First you will have 45 seconds to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice. While listening, match the speakers with their statements (A to L). There are two extra statements that you should not use. Write your answers in the boxes provided. The first one (0) has been done for you.

After the second listening, you will have 45 seconds to check your answers.

<45 Sekunden Pause>

<akustisches Signal>

Announcer: Speaker 1 – Brian.

Brian: I see the effects of climate change every day. One minute it's 40 degrees plus, the next it's raining so heavily that our homes are being washed away. Yet eighteen months ago, our city in South Africa experienced its worst drought in a century. We were limited to 50 litres of water a day – we were just days away from day zero when the taps would run dry. That's what inspired me to become a volunteer with a project working with local communities. Climate change is a foreign topic to many residents here. We go to schools and help them to set up their own organic vegetable gardens, showing them practical skills and encouraging them to become self-sufficient for food and reduce waste. Our mission is to conserve natural resources. I want people to understand that we should care about the environment because this crisis is affecting us right now.

Announcer: Speaker 2 – Ella.

Ella: A couple of years ago, I read a post on Facebook about a movement in Bali called 'Bye-bye plastic bags'. It really sparked my imagination, so I decided to start my own campaign against single-use plastics. I managed to get our local city council interested. As a result, we now have a 'zero-plastics' policy at all street markets and festivals – things like returnable cup deposit schemes and refilling stations for water bottles and only using compostable plates.

I believe there should be a lot more focus on environmental education in the school curriculum here in England. Did you know, for example, that the production of a one-litre plastic bottle uses 180 millilitres of oil? That's one sixth of its capacity! Plastic pollution is just the tip of the iceberg, it's really closely linked to the consumption of fossil fuels and global warming.

Announcer: Speaker 3 – Travis.

Travis: My involvement in climate activism started way back when I was a kid on a trip through California. The debris and garbage I saw on beaches was really scary – the scale of the problem seemed massive. Then I realised there were really simple ways to make a difference. I started to avoid plastics whenever I could and use natural or recyclable materials if possible.

I've already made several films about environmental problems and solutions and shown them in schools and colleges. Next I'm planning a road trip by electric car across the States. Along the way I'm gonna meet with green energy developers and youth activists and film their work. I've even persuaded two musicians and an actor, who are also well-known environmentalists, to join me. Hopefully my films will encourage people to make a genuine commitment to positive change.

Announcer: Speaker 4 – Ava.

Ava: Every Friday I – and, of course, thousands of other students across Australia – well, we quit the classroom and picket government offices for action against climate change. All we want is a safe climate. The evidence is everywhere! We are calling for 100% renewable energy by 2030, and no new coal, oil or gas projects.

Recently, my classmates and I got to speak with the leader of the opposition in the capital city. That at least showed that our demands are being taken seriously – but we haven't had an adequate response yet. We want to see a change in policy. You know, I've been trolled on social media, but that doesn't worry me. People say we should be in school, but striking at the weekend wouldn't have the same impact. There's a narrow window of opportunity to save the planet and it's getting smaller all the time. Politicians need to start acting if they want us to go back to school.

<15 Sekunden Pause>

<akustisches Signal>

<Wiederholung Hörtext>

4 Rewilding

Announcer: You are going to listen to an interview about a plan for Glencrombie Estate in the Scottish countryside. First you will have 45 seconds to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice. While listening, answer the questions (1 to 8) using a maximum of 4 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.

<45 Sekunden Pause>

<akustisches Signal>

Interviewer: I've come to the Highlands of Scotland to visit Glencrombie Estate. It extends over 50,000 hectares of moorland, rivers, lakes and mountains, making it one of the region's biggest estates. Even in the summer months, the peaks are covered with snow. It's a wild place, teeming with wildlife – deer, grouse, eagles, salmon and rare species, such as red squirrels and Scottish wild cats. No wonder it's a mecca for walkers and climbers – not to mention fans of country sports like hunting, shooting and fishing. But there are plans afoot that might well change things, and they're attracting quite a bit of controversy. I'm

here with the estate manager Donald Christie. First, Donald, could you tell us a bit about the history of the landscape?

Donald: Aye, yes. Well, at the time of the Romans, these mountains would have been covered with thick forest, not the open moorland that we see today. Originally there were predators like bears and wolves roaming the land, though most of them disappeared well over a thousand years ago, mainly as a result of hunting. But there are records of wolves living in Scotland until the 18th century.

Interviewer: And what sort of people lived here?

Donald: There were the crofters – they had their own small farms where they grew crops and raised a few animals. Then, in the 18th century, during the so-called clearances, these small farmers were driven out of their homes by the big landowners. The pine trees were chopped down to provide fuel for the Industrial Revolution and the area became one huge sheep farm.

Interviewer: So, these bare Scottish hillsides that we think of as natural are in fact the result of human intervention?

Donald: Indeed. In fact, it destroyed the eco-system and altered the landscape. What survived and flourished were the deer. But, of course, they eat the vegetation that would allow the trees and plants to grow up again. And because hunting deer is a very profitable leisure business, they have been allowed to multiply. But they are preventing the natural landscape from regenerating.

Interviewer: I believe you now have plans to bring back the wolves again.

Donald: Yes. Wolves would be the most natural way to keep deer numbers down since they used to inhabit the Scottish Highlands. In Yellowstone National Park in America, for example, there's been far less damage to young trees since wolves and bears were reintroduced there.

Interviewer: But not everyone agrees. Neighbouring landowners are afraid that their sheep will be killed, and climbers and walkers protest that they will be in danger of being attacked. Here's Fiona McCulluck, who represents Scottish small farmers.

Fiona: You can't just turn the clock back and parachute in species that have become extinct. The environment has changed completely. We do not have suitable habitat for them anymore. There is nowhere where you can put them where they're not going to interfere with people and livestock. I know that in Sweden, where wolves have been re-introduced, farmers are having a hard time with wolves attacking their livestock. Some have even had to abandon farming. They'll hunt whatever is easiest to kill. If you ask me, we should be looking after the native species like the wildcat and the red squirrel. They would be in serious danger if any of these large predators were re-introduced.

Donald: That's nonsense! We can put fences around the land to keep the public and animals safe. It works in America, so why not here? Tourists travel thousands of miles to experience remote exotic places when the last great wilderness in Europe is here on our doorstep.

Wolves are not going to bother humans, whatever the fairy stories may say. And think what a tourist attraction they'd be, bringing more jobs and money to the region!

Interviewer: Well, I'm sure we'll be hearing a lot more about this subject in the future, but for the meantime, thank you very much, Donald Christie and Fiona McCulluck! And now back to the studio ...

<15 Sekunden Pause>

<akustisches Signal>

<Wiederholung Hörtext>

5 The drinkable book

Announcer: You are going to listen to a podcast episode about a water purification system. First you will have 45 seconds to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice. While listening, complete the sentences (1 to 8) 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.

<45 Sekunden Pause>

<akustisches Signal>

Presenter: Here in the West we take clean drinking water for granted. But according to the World Health Organisation, around 3.4 million people die from water-related illnesses every year. To put it in perspective, that's roughly equivalent to the entire population of Los Angeles. In many places, accessing clean water often means waiting in line for a tanker to arrive, or boiling it, which uses a lot of fuel, or else running it through a ceramic filter, which is expensive. But the unfortunate truth is, that more often than not, people don't clean it at all. Hence the statistics.

However, a project from an organisation called *WaterisLife* simplified the purification process with a clever solution – *The Drinkable Book*. It looks and sounds like something you'd keep on your coffee table, but it's actually a full-on water purification system. The book contains instructions and tips for safe water consumption, translated into a number of local languages. But the remarkable thing about the book is that each page is actually a filter that can clean up to 100 litres of water (that's around a 30-day supply). This means one book can provide a single person with up to four years of clean water.

With me today is our science correspondent Rosa James. Rosa, please tell us more about the drinkable book. What's the technology behind the system?

Rosa: Well, scientists at Carnegie Mellon University have developed this special kind of paper. It's coated in silver and copper nanoparticles, which kill bacteria.

Presenter: Isn't that the stuff that's used in some types of socks for athletes to prevent fungal infections?

Rosa: Exactly. Anyway, the paper gets soaked in various chemical solutions, then it's drained and heated at 100 degrees Celsius for a few minutes, then rinsed a couple more times. By now the paper is full of the silver and copper nanoparticles, and it's turned the rusty orange colour you can see here.

Presenter: OK. So, how does the book work?

Rosa: It's quite simple. First you tear a page out of the book and slot it into the holder that comes with it. Put it on top of a 5-gallon bucket and pour the dirty water through. It may take some time depending on how dirty the water is, but the water is ready to drink once it has passed through the paper.

Presenter: Rather like a coffee filter. But what about the silver nanoparticles? Don't they leak into the drinking water?

Rosa: A small amount do, but they're well within official limits. They've done field tests in several parts of Africa and the paper achieved 99.9% purity. And that was water containing high amounts of bacteria from recently dumped raw sewage.

Presenter: That's amazing. Now tell us a little more about *WaterisLife*?

Rosa: Sure. The organisation aims to improve the quality of drinking water in developing countries by distributing water-purifying devices – like the *Drinkable Book*. The charity is asking donors for \$50 to help produce more books.

Presenter: So how practical is this system? Isn't it very expensive?

Rosa: Well, the paper and chemicals needed to produce this are cheaper than most other water filtration systems. It doesn't require power, and it's very intuitive to use.

Presenter: And what about future plans?

Rosa: Up to now, each page has been manufactured by hand in the lab. With the help of students, they have produced thousands of sheets of filter paper. But they're hoping to move into automated bulk production soon.

Presenter: Well, thank you very much for that, Rosa! Meanwhile, if you'd like to donate, or just get some more information about this project, go to the website [www.waterislife ...](http://www.waterislife...)

<15 Sekunden Pause>

<akustisches Signal>

<Wiederholung Hörtext>