CEFR SUCCESS



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IMPROVE YOUR CEFR LISTENING SKILLS – TEST 1

You will hear an interview with a woman called Amy Marties, who works as a choreographer, creating dance performances for live shows. For questions 1-6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

Q1. Amy traces her decision to become a choreographer back to
A. the advice of her first dance teacher.
B. her need to express herself through movement.
C. the emphasis placed on dance in her primary school.
D. her failure to reach a high level of sporting achievement.

Q2. Amy feels that, above all, a good choreographer is one who
A. remains in touch with the everyday feelings of dancers.
B. keeps dancers motivated during long tiring sessions.
C. has experience of appearing on stage as a dancer.
D. is able to join in with the dancing itself if necessary.

Q3. When she's creating a new dance, Amy
A. finds it easier to work directly with a composer.
B. prefers to be given clear constraints to work within.
C. keeps an open mind about how a piece might develop.
D. accepts that some of her ideas will prove to be unpopular.

Q4. In her work as a choreographer, Amy aims to
A. challenge the audience's ideas about what dance is.
B. feel that she is conveying a message to the audience.
C. thrill the audience with some cutting-edge dance techniques.
D. draw the audience's attention away from other elements in the show.

Q5. When asked about choosing dancers to work with, Amy says she
A. relies on the expertise top professionals bring to the creative process.
B. accepts the need to accommodate the feelings of sensitive people.
C. finds those with less experience an easier proposition.
D. likes to help those she has previously taught.

Q6. When she's working on a new production of a well-known piece, Amy
A. tries to build on the work of those who have gone before.
B. is aware of the need to update the ideas in a play.
C. is annoyed if people make unfair comparisons.
D. remains faithful to her usual guiding principles.

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IMPROVE YOUR CEFR LISTENING SKILLS – TEST 2

You will hear an interview in which two people called Neil Strellson and Vivienne Barnes are talking about their work as set designers in the theatre. For questions 1-6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

Q1. Neil first decided he wanted to work as a set designer when
A. he went to see plays with his parents.
B. he started studying drama at university.
C. he was asked to help out on a student production.
D. he gave up on his childhood dream of becoming an actor.

Q2. What does Neil say about working as an assistant set designer?
A. He did it because he was short of money.
B. He saw it as a way of making useful contacts.
C. He was too young to take full advantage of it at first.
D. He appreciated the chance to put theory into practice.

Q3. For Vivienne, the most important aspect of starting work on a new production
A. establishing a working relationship with the director.
B. agreeing how many scenery changes are needed.
C. feeling an involvement with the play itself.
D. doing a set of preliminary sketches.

Q4. Why does Vivienne prefer working on several productions at once?
A. She finds that it stimulates her creativity.
B. She feels it gives her increased financial security.
C. It means she can avoid going to all of the opening nights.
D. It stops her getting too involved in the problems of any one show.

Q5. Vivienne disagrees with Neil's suggestion that reviews are
A. something that set designers shouldn't take too seriously.
B. sometimes unfairly critical of the set designer's work.
C. annoying if the set isn't specifically mentioned.
D. flattering if the set is singled out for praise.

Q6. What does Neil say about designing film sets?
A. He finds it less challenging than the theatre.
B. He'd like the chance to work on a really good film.
C. He hasn't really worked out how to approach it yet.
D. He isn't sure whether he has the skills to do it effectively.

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IMPROVE YOUR CEFR LISTENING SKILLS – TEST 3

You will hear an interview with an archaeologist called Julian Radwinter. For questions 1-6, choose the answer (A, B. C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

Q1. Julian attributes his interest in archaeology as a teenager to
A. a wish to please his father.
B. his natural sense of curiosity.
C. a need to earn some spare cash.
D. his dissatisfaction with life on a farm.

Q2. What aspect of archaeology still excites Julian today?
A. the methodical nature of much of the work
B. the satisfaction of solving long-standing mysteries
C. the opportunity to use sophisticated equipment to date objects
D. the process of building up a theory around a few known facts

Q3. Julian feels that the public perception of archaeology
A. fails to acknowledge its scientific value.
B. has been negatively influenced by fictional accounts.
C. underestimates the gradual nature of the research process.
D. has tended to concentrate on the physical hardships involved.

Q4. How does Julian feel about his current research post?
A. He regrets having relatively few opportunities to travel.
B. He wishes his colleagues would take it more seriously.
C. He admits that the problems can get him down.
D. He suggests that it is relatively cost effective.

Q5. What does Julian hope to show as a result of his current research?
A. population levels in England in different periods
B. the length of time certain villages have existed
C. how wider trends affected local communities
D. the range of ancient agricultural methods

Q6. Julian's project on humour in archaeology aims to
A. celebrate an otherwise unrecorded aspect of archaeologists' lives.
B. compare archaeological findings with anecdotal evidence.
C. create a database of jokes connected with archaeology.
D. make archaeological reports more widely accessible.

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IMPROVE YOUR CEFR LISTENING SKILLS – TEST 4

You will hear an interview with a young film director, Lauren Casio, who is talking about her life and work. For questions 1-6. choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

Q1. Lauren was encouraged to follow a career as a film-maker because her teachers
A. could see that she had potential.
B. found her early attempts highly original.
C. were impressed by her level of motivation.
D. appreciated her ability to work within a budget.

Q2. How does Lauren respond when asked about critics of film school?
A. She thinks they would benefit from going to one.
B. She defends the record of the one that she attended.
C. She agrees that it's less useful for certain types of work.
D. She regrets that it is the only option for poorer students.

Q3. Lauren didn't start making full-length feature films sooner because
A. she wanted to be sure of her ability first.
B. she had a bad experience with an early attempt.
C. she wasn't lucky enough to have the opportunity.
D. she didn't manage to find the financial backing she needed.

Q4. What does Lauren say about the characters in her films?
A. She tries to surprise her audience with them.
B. She likes them to fit into well-defined types.
C. She accepts that the men may be more interesting.
D. She sets out to make them as complicated as possible.

Q5. How does Lauren feel now about the film *Hidden Valley Dreams*?
A. She regrets the setting she chose for it.
B. She regards it as being far from perfect.
C. She's surprised that it's proved so popular.
D. She wishes she'd spent more time on the plot.

Q6. How does Lauren feel when she goes to give talks in schools?
A. unsure whether to reveal her humble background
B. worried that she might give the kids unrealistic ambitions
C. slightly uncomfortable with the idea of being a role model
D. concerned that she may not command the respect of the students

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IMPROVE YOUR CEFR LISTENING SKILLS – TEST 5

You will hear part of an interview in which two racing cyclists called Greg Marton and Lina Derridge are talking about the different sports they have taken part in. For questions 1-6. choose the answer (A. B. C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

Q1. When talking about teenage ice hockey, Greg reveals that
A. he now wishes he'd trained harder.
B. he's sorry that he let his father down.
C. he resents the pressure he was put under.
D. he accepts that he lacked the drive to succeed.

Q2. What led Greg to take up rowing?
A. He followed up a suggestion made by friends.
B. He was frustrated by his performance as a runner.
C. He was told that he had the physical strength for it.
D. He was disappointed not to get on to a degree course.

Q3. What does Lina say about her initial failure to make the national rowing team?
A. She feels that she wasn't treated fairly.
B. She admits that she was mostly just unfortunate.
C. She disagrees with the way the selection process operated.
D. She recognises that she should have attended training camps.

Q4. What does Lina suggest about her move to California?
A. She saw it mainly as a way of furthering her career.
B. She was motivated by her desire to try a new activity.
C. She needed convincing that it was the right thing to do.
D. She wanted to concentrate her energies on work rather than sport.

Q5. Greg and Lina agree that cycling and rowing both require
A. a commitment to a team effort.
B. a tolerance of intense pain.
C. a willingness to take risks.
D. a good sense of timing.

Q6. According to Greg, why should cyclists include rowing as part of their training?
A. They might find it as enjoyable as he does.
B. They would develop a similar set of muscles.
C. It might help them to avoid injury in accidents.
D. It provides a break from the monotony of cycling.

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ANSWER KEYS

TEST 1

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6
B	A	C	B	C	D

TEST 2

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6
C	D	C	A	B	A

TEST 3

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6
B	D	C	D	C	A

TEST 4

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6
A	B	A	D	B	C

TEST 5

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6
D	A	B	C	B	C

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