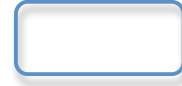


LISTENING COMPREHENSION



PART ONE

You will hear a radio interview with a person who is blind. For questions 1 to 8, choose the most suitable answer.

1. What does James Powell's understanding of the visual world come from?

- A The visual concept acquired before going blind.
- B His sense of special awareness.
- C His knowledge of how other people behave.
- D His understanding of the way people react to him.

2. A major problem for blind people, in James opinion, is how to

- A get round and about.
- B interact effectively with other people.
- C recognise when they are being addressed.
- D conduct a conversation.

3. James wants to dispel the misconception that blind people

- A develop their sense of hearing to compensate for not seeing.
- B don't know what's going on when in large groups of people.
- C rely on a sharp sense of where the objects are placed.
- D are unaware of light and colour.

4. To help sighted people in their attitude towards the blind, how does James behave?

- A He talks about the difficulties he encounters.
- B He behaves naturally in all situations.
- C He tries not to overreact in stressful situations.
- D He never draws attention to his disability.

5. What is James's views of the education he received?

- A Constructive
- B Bitter
- C Accepting
- D Dismissive

6. James went to a school where

- A sighted and non-sighted were taught together.
- B the blind children spent part of the day doing special lessons apart from the other pupils.
- C all the children had some disability.
- D the disabled children had separate lessons but joined the other children for certain activities.

7. What is James's job?

- A He's a computer programmer.
- B He's a writer.
- C He trains people to use computers.
- D He trains people to teach those who are blind.

8. As James gets older, he

- A gets satisfaction from different areas of his life.
- B finds it easier to cope with his disability.
- C improves his skills in some areas.
- D sees that he needs an emotional escape.

PART TWO

You will hear a radio item about solo performers. For questions 9-16 choose the best answer, A, B, C or D

9. What do we know about the presenter from her introduction?

- A She was unsuccessful as a solo performer.
- B She has often wondered why people perform solo.
- C She regrets having been a solo performer.
- D She admires people who perform solo.

10. What does Guy find particularly difficult?

- A Concealing from audiences how tired he is.
- B Varying the form of his performance.
- C Getting the audience to participate.
- D Being able to carry on until the end of the play.

11. Guy's main motivation for performing solo is to

- A keep himself in work for a while.
- B revive the art of story-telling.
- C develop a unique style of acting.
- D play a lot of different characters.

12. When Stu is doing his act, he

- A is unsure whether he will make the audience laugh.
- B prefers certain types of audiences to others.
- C comes into close contact with the audience.
- D chooses his material while he is performing.

13. Stu doesn't work with other people because

- A he kept falling out with them.
- B they weren't as motivated as him.
- C it got in the way of what he wanted to achieve.
- D he felt he was taking too much responsibility.

14. What does Stu say about getting encores?

- A It doesn't happen so frequently to him any more.
- B He has started to take it for granted.
- C It no longer reflects how good a performer is.
- D He is no longer sure how to react to it.

15. Clare says that before she started performing solo, she was

- A nervous.
- B self-confident.
- C pessimistic.
- D brilliant.

16. Clare uses Glenn Gould as an example of

- A how difficult performing solo can be.
- B how much solo musicians differ from solo actors.
- C how self-contained solo performers can be.
- D how much audiences enjoy solo performances.