

Listening 1

Listen to the recording and tick the right alternatives.

1. Which continent has the speaker NOT lived in?
a. ___ Asia. b. ___ Europe. c. ___ South America.
2. How many different languages has the speaker learned?
a. ___ Five or six. b. ___ Three or four. c. ___ One or two.
3. How long did the speaker live in Spain?
a. ___ Two years. b. ___ Ten years. c. ___ Most of his life.
4. Which two things does the speaker do to learn a new language?
a. ___ Go to classes and speak to people. b. ___ Speak to people and use a dictionary.
c. ___ Watch TV and listen to the radio.
5. Why does the speaker think watching game shows is useful?
a. ___ Because of the pictures. b. ___ Because contestants are always winning.
c. ___ Because the language is repetitive.
6. What does the speaker say about using newspapers?
a. ___ It was easy to learn a lot of new words quickly. b. ___ A lot of things were happening in the country. c. ___ Other people sometimes explained new words to him.
7. Which thing was the most useful in mastering the language?
a. ___ Talking to people in public places. b. ___ Writing things down. c. ___ Reading books.
8. What does the speaker say about talking to people in the street?
a. ___ Preparation was necessary. b. ___ The embarrassment made it a failure.
c. ___ People reacted negatively.
9. How does the speaker assess his knowledge of Spanish now?
a. ___ He still struggles a lot. b. ___ He can converse easily. c. ___ He can only write messages.
10. Why were colloquial expressions a problem for the speaker?

a. ___ They took ten years to learn. b. ___ They were never written down. c. ___ They were often unnoticed.

Listening 2

Listen to the text and fill in the gaps in the summary. Use no more than 3 words in each gap.

1. _____ allows us to embrace unfamiliar circumstances, brings excitement, opens up new possibilities and leads to unexpected discoveries.
2. It is just as important as _____ in determining how well students do at school.
3. A good example is what happened one day in _____ to Michael Faraday.
4. He was playing with a _____ when he suddenly saw how he could generate electricity.
5. There are _____ theories to explain why humans are such curious creatures.
6. When we become curious, our brains release a chemical called dopamine, which makes the process of learning more pleasurable and improves _____.
7. Curiosity is currently under the biggest threat that comes from _____.
8. We accept the images of people that _____ provides us with, and believe them enough not to communicate to people live.
9. Computer _____ find out what we like and push more of the same stuff back to us, meaning we end up inside our own little bubbles.
10. Perhaps the solution of this problem is to rely less on the _____ of our age.