

Listening and Reading

Time: 1 hour 15 minutes

LISTENING

Task 1

For items **1-10** listen to the talk about Bogota, the capital of Colombia, and decide whether the statements (**1-10**) are **TRUE (A)**, or **FALSE (B)** according to the text you hear. You will hear the text **TWICE**.

Task 2

For items **11-15** listen to the conversation. Choose the correct answer (**A**, **B** or **C**) to answer questions **11-15**. You will hear the text **only ONCE**.

11. Diana's trip to Birmingham was

- A. fine.
- B. too short.
- C. horrible.

12. Diana had to come back by

- A. bus.
- B. carriage.
- C. high-speed rail.

13. When Ethan heard Diana's story, he was

- A. shocked.
- B. feeling nervous.
- C. feeling pity.

14. How did Diana know about the transport problems?

- A. She went to the station.
- B. She called to check the timetable.
- C. She was told at the ticket office.

15. On her way to Birmingham Diana DIDN'T

- A. leave the train.
- B. have to wait for the train.
- C. have a seat on the train.

INTEGRATED LISTENING AND READING

Task 3

Read the article below, then listen to a talk on the same topic. You will notice that some ideas coincide and some differ in them. Answer questions **16-25** by choosing **A** if the idea is expressed in **both** materials, **B** if it can be found **only in the reading text**, **C** if it can be found **only in the audio-recording**, and **D** if **neither** of the materials expresses the idea.

Now you have 10 minutes to read the text.

Craig Ashton has been living in St. Petersburg for more than 15 years. He fell in love with Russia and the city on the Neva, learned to speak the language fluently, worked as an English teacher in a school, translated computer games, runs a popular blog about his life in Russia, and even wrote a book in Russian.

Onion-domed cathedrals, tanks on Red Square, cabbage and potato soup, and a smile only on (very) special occasions — this is pretty much all this guy from Manchester, England, knew about Russia before 1999.

Later, Craig decided to study Russian at the University of Exeter, which is when he realized just how “beautiful and incredibly difficult” the language is. He came to Russia for the first time in 2002 with a group of fellow students on their year abroad. He fondly recalls his first impression, when a woman called Lyubov Serdechnaya met them at St. Petersburg airport. He was amazed that in English her name literally translates as 'Love Heartly'. True to her name, she cared for them like a mother. Back then it was difficult for him to communicate with Russians; his vocabulary was too small. He also knew nothing about himself: “I didn't know who I was or what I wanted. But after my first year in Russia, I knew I had to live there. All my Russian friends have asked me why I love Russian. Sometimes with an ‘Are you mad?’ tone of voice, which saddens me. As if the Russian language isn’t wonderful or important. As if it’s not spoken by hundreds of millions of people. Incidentally, Craig says that on his blog, which boasts more than 30,000 followers, the most popular posts are the ones about his various trials and tribulations with the Russian language.

First, Russians struck Craig as rude, but then he realized that this is not the case. “Russians tend to be more direct and frank about subjects the English would prefer to ignore. An elephant in the room is less likely to be ignored and spades are often just called spades.” Craig told us.

Craig also liked the way the Russians do business. For example, when working as a school teacher, through acquaintances he found a job as a translator of computer games.

Back in England, this would have been impossible, he says. He would have had to submit a resume and attend an interview, but here he was hired immediately. In general, Craig says that Russians are strong people who live by the principle of "do what you must and come what may."

Now listen to a talk on the same topic and then do the tasks (questions 16-25), comparing the text above and the interview. You will hear the text TWICE.

16. Craig's first time in Russia was when he was an Exeter student.
17. Craig opted for Russian at the university because hundreds of millions of people speak it.
18. Craig's book is published in his mother tongue.
19. The book is based on Craig's blog posts.
20. Craig's first trip to Russia was a positive experience.
21. Craig is amazed by Russians' honest straight speaking.
22. Craig's book is appropriate for family reading.
23. Craig thinks people abroad don't like Russian people.
24. Craig likes the way he once got a job in Russia.
25. Russian caused Craig some suffering and unpleasant experience.

READING

Task 4

Read the text and answer questions **26-40** below.

Reimagining fashion sustainably

(A) Over her career the esteemed designer and creative director of *Mother of Pearl*, Amy Powney has become an environmental force for change in her own right. Her foot in the door of fashion came differently to most. She joined London fashion house *Mother of Pearl* in 2006 and started out sweeping the cutting room floor; eventually, she rose through the ranks to become its creative director. Amy has recently taken on

yet another challenge in her tireless quest for sustainability: releasing a docufilm, *Fashion Reimagined*. The film focuses on the years after Powney won the *Vogue Designer Fashion Fund* in 2017, which she used to create a collection called *No Frills*.

(B) *Fashion Reimagined* follows Amy, as she tries to create clothes that are exceptional – they are organic, traceable, socially responsible and considerate of animal welfare; produced in the smallest geographic region possible; and using minimal water and chemicals as well as being nice to wear. The film is also a personal story about a young woman who began her life in rural Lancashire, raised by activist parents, off-grid with no electricity in a caravan. “It’s a very different sort of family and education to most people who enter the fashion industry,” Powney says. “I was bullied at school for wearing second-hand shell-suits. And for many years, I didn’t talk about this part of my life, it felt like it was at odds with the industry and even frowned upon. Now, I cherish that upbringing and shout about it loudly. It made me who I am today and informs everything I do, both personally and at *Mother of Pearl*. It gave me a grounding and respect for the natural world.”

(C) While studying fashion at Kingston University, Amy read Naomi Klein’s anti-consumerism book *No Logo*, that opened her eyes to the exploitation embedded in the fashion sector. It completely pivoted her in her brain about where she was and where she wanted to go as a professional. Amy decided then and there that she wanted to be a designer that produced ethical garments. Her graduating collection was focused on organic and ethical designs, topics that barely featured in the fashion conversation in the mid 2000s. For this reason, the professors and examiners were baffled by Amy’s graduation work. At the time activist designer Katherine Hamnett, along with just a handful of other pioneering labels, were the only brands talking about this and working in this way. She became Amy’s first real hero within this space, and she has followed what she does ever since.

(D) *Fashion Reimagined* follows the 'field to fashion' journey by examining a garment's whole supply chain, to really delve into how our clothes are made as a normal cotton shirt will travel to five different countries before being bought. Powney puts her own brand under the microscope, to highlight the importance of transparency. “It’s not an easy job to map out every stage and make the right ethical choice at each point, but this is what a brand needs to do if they want to be truly sustainable,” she says.

(E) The reasons a more ethical industry is an urgent necessity are, on the whole, well known. But it doesn’t hurt that the film reminds us. Peppered throughout are statistics that highlight fashion’s impact on our planet: if the fashion industry were a country, it would rank third for carbon emissions after China and the United States. About how rampant overconsumption has become? We buy three times as many clothes as we did

in 1980. And wear them for half as long. Plus the industry's impacts on human beings: only 2% of the people who make our clothes earn a living wage.

(F) "For brands to say they are sustainable because they are using more natural or organic fibres is just greenwashing, the entire supply chain needs to be taken into account," Powney says. "It's a huge undertaking and that is why transparency is so important: the consumer needs to see where a brand is achieving, and where it needs to improve. *Fashion Reimagined* urges shoppers to take matters into their own hands: do your research, don't believe everything you read and question your place in a changing world. You've got to be accountable for every purchased item. "I don't think people know what it takes to make their clothing or that, quite often, their clothes are more well-travelled than they are," says Powney, "I'm hoping it will be informative and encourage people to rethink their approach to their wardrobes or how they produce things. If I can change one person's mindset then the work we do and the film has succeeded."

(G) Amy also admits that in order for fashion to operate in a more sustainable way, there needs to be greater legislation, which takes time. For now, it's up to the brands themselves to self-regulate and do their bit to help the planet, and there is no handbook on how to make a brand sustainable. Powney realizes that at a time of overwhelming newsfeeds, scary statistics and an uncertain future it's not easy to stay hopeful and positive. "The issues are huge and I do have bleak days when I feel like we are not making any difference at all, and we are definitely not moving fast enough," she says. "However, as a mother of two small children, I have to be hopeful, I have to strive to ensure they will have a safe and happy future. When I doubt myself, I always refer back to my favourite quote: 'I always wondered why someone didn't do something about that, then I realised I was somebody'."

Questions 26-40

In which part of the text is the following mentioned?

- 26. Meticulous attitude to following one's principles
- 27. Feeling downbeat and cheerless now and then
- 28. Restricted living conditions lacking in conveniences
- 29. General unawareness of the full process of garment making
- 30. Making a confused and puzzled impression
- 31. The route an average garment follows to reach the customers

- 32. An increase in the amount of purchased garments
- 33. Providing false information about a company's environmentally friendly products
- 34. Overall unique attributes of the produced garments
- 35. A necessity in enacting laws concerning the fashion industry
- 36. Toxic effects of clothes manufacturing and production
- 37. A source of inspiration in a career choice
- 38. The striking career progress one has made
- 39. Encouraging consumers' responsibility in buying clothes
- 40. A significantly altered attitude to one's background

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