

Listening 39: Lesson 10A, Exercise 3

- Paul** Hey, Cathy, have you heard what they're saying about the future of rock music?
- Cathy** No, tell me.
- Paul** Well, this article says that rock music is on its way out. There's no future for it.
- Cathy** How can they possibly say that? I love rock music!
- Paul** It says that last year there were only three rock songs among the top 100 best-selling hits in the UK.
- Cathy** But that's a disaster! So what is everybody listening to if it isn't rock?
- Paul** Hang on. Let me look at the figures. Here they are. The most popular music seems to be erm ... hip hop and R 'n' B. Erm ... 47% of the top-selling tracks belong to this category. Next comes pop with 40%, and then dance with 10%. Like I said, rock has only 3% of the tracks on the list.
- Cathy** But surely someone out there must be listening to rock. The radio stations are full of it, and rock bands are always going on tour.
- Paul** Yes, but it's the old bands that are doing well on tour, isn't it? Some people still want to see them live. Bands like Bon Jovi and U2, who've been around for years. Rock music is still popular with the over forties, but it's young people who aren't so interested in it.
- Cathy** Well, I, for one, am going to carry on listening to my favourite rock bands. By the way, have you heard the latest album by The Strokes?
- Paul** No, I haven't. Is it any good? I love that band!
- Cathy** Yes, it's excellent. Wait a minute. I'll put it on, so you can hear it.

Listening 40: Lesson 10C, Exercise 4

- Susie** Hi Callum! How are you? How was your summer?
- Callum** Hello Susie. Yeah, it was good.
- Susie** You went to a music festival, didn't you?
- Callum** Yeah. Yeah, I did.
- Susie** What was it like?
- Callum** I didn't really enjoy it, to be honest. I should have known it was going to be a disaster when I had such problems getting the tickets.
- Susie** Oh, dear. What went wrong?
- Callum** Well, the main problem was getting there in the first place. We wanted to be green and all that, so we decided not to take the car. We got the train to the nearest station and then there was supposed to be a bus to pick us up and take us to the festival site. Unfortunately most of the other festival goers had had the same idea as us, so there was a huge queue. It was really late by the time we got to the campsite.
- Susie** But you saw some good bands though, didn't you?
- Callum** That was the other problem. After watching all the bands my brother wanted to watch in the pouring rain, we went to the main stage to see my favourite band. When we got there, we found out they'd cancelled at the last minute.
- Susie** Why did they do that?
- Callum** The lead singer was ill. He had a throat infection or something. I was so fed up, I can tell you.
- Susie** Oh, poor you! Does that mean you won't be going to any more music festivals?
- Callum** Not at all. Actually, I'm thinking of going to the V Festival next year. Do you want to come? The headline acts are the Arctic Monkeys, Eminem, and Plan B and Rihanna are also playing ...

Listening 41: Lesson 10F, Exercise 2

- 1 Let's go to an outdoor music festival this summer.
- 2 What did you think of that new DJ?
- 3 Do you fancy watching the school orchestra next Friday?
- 4 Have you ever seen a male voice choir?
- 5 They've put on a new interactive exhibition in the science museum.
- 6 Why don't we go to the ballet?

Listening 42: Lesson 10F, Exercise 4

I'm going to choose the exhibition in picture 1. I'd really love to see this exhibition. I love that kind of painting. The technique is amazing! It's so detailed and so realistic. And it's really useful for me to see this kind of exhibition because I'm studying art at school and I have to write essays about the history of art.

I wouldn't opt for the sculpture exhibition in picture 2. It looks a bit strange! I wouldn't say I was a real fan of modern art in general, actually, because I don't understand it. Some of my friends like Damien Hirst and other modern artists, but it's not really my thing. I prefer older art, like in picture 1.

Listening 43: Get Ready for your Exam 5

Presenter Hello and welcome to *Career Opportunities*. On today's programme we'll be talking to people who have jobs in the retail industry. First to join us is Caroline Bates, who's a personal shopper. Caroline, what exactly is a personal shopper?

Caroline Bates Well, a personal shopper is someone who is actually paid to shop. They can be hired by individuals, companies or retailers themselves to find all kinds of different products. These can range from clothing and furniture to food and presents for employees. Some personal shoppers specialise in specific items while others do a variety of different things.

Presenter So, what's the secret to being good at the job?

Caroline Bates Um, well, you mustn't limit yourself to only looking for things that appeal to you. You have to be open to looking for things that suit your clients' tastes, not just your own. You also need to know how to shop within a set budget.

Presenter Caroline, tell us about your own job. Who do you work for?

Caroline Bates Well, I'm actually a 'personal shopping consultant'. I work in the women's clothes section of a large department store on Oxford Street.

Presenter So who are your clients? And what happens in a typical meeting with a client?

Caroline Bates Well, most of them are women, obviously. I meet the client in our special suite and we discuss what kind of image they want to project. Then, I go down to the shop floor and collect some items for the client to try on. Together we talk about the outfits, and when we're both sure that we're happy with the look, I take them off to the beauty department, where they have their face made up. And that's it, really.

Presenter So, what sort of qualities does a personal shopper need, Caroline?

Caroline Bates Well, first of all, you need a lot of experience in sales. Your appearance is also important – it is your best advertisement – and you must be an outgoing sort of person, very friendly and confident. You also need to have a lot of patience and tact. You don't want to upset your client!

Presenter No, I'm sure. Caroline, thank you for joining us.

Caroline Bates My pleasure.