

## Listening 32: Lesson 7C, Exercises 3 and 4

- Speaker 1** This year I got more than one Valentine. Three, in fact. The best one was definitely from my boyfriend. He didn't write his name on it, but I recognised his handwriting. The next one was from my dad! It was a jokey one, and it was very funny. He didn't write his name either, but I know it was him. The third one is a mystery. I've never had a secret Valentine before.
- Speaker 2** There's this girl I really like in my class. I'm quite shy when I speak to her, so she probably doesn't know that I like her. I'm not really into Valentine's Day and all that, but I sent her a card. In fact, it's the first Valentine's card I've sent. I didn't sign my name on the card, so she still doesn't know. I watched her in class yesterday. She showed my card to her friends. Then she looked at me and smiled. Did she guess the card was from me? I don't know.
- Speaker 3** I sent two Valentine's cards this year – one was to a boy that I know. I spent a long time making it. Then I wrote a poem in it. I didn't want to buy a card. I wanted it to be different, because I really like him. I hope that he likes me too. He sometimes stops and talks to me. It's usually about homework or something. He didn't send me a Valentine though. The other one I sent was to my granddad!
- Speaker 4** There's this girl in the year below me who seems to like me a lot. The card I got might be from her. I think I know her handwriting. I feel terrible because I don't feel the same way about her. She's nice, but I only like her as a friend. I really like her sister, though. The card could be from her, but it probably isn't.

## Listening 33: Lesson 7F, Exercise 4

- 1 What do you recommend we see?  
You should go to the museum. It's very interesting.
- 2 Are there any festivals or carnivals on at the moment?  
No, not until March.
- 3 How much does it cost to get in?  
It's £10 for adults and £8 for children under 16.
- 4 Can you show me where that is on the map?  
Yes, it's here, next to the museum.
- 5 Is there a taxi rank nearby?  
Yes, there's one near the bus station.
- 6 Is the Old Town near here?  
No, you'll need to take a tram to get there.

- IO Of course. And the map, too.
- Girl Thank you very much.
- IO You're welcome. Enjoy your stay.

## Listening 34: Lesson 7F, Exercise 5

Information officer Good morning. Can I help you?

- Girl Yes, I'm visiting the city for a few days, and I'd like some information about places to visit.
- IO Certainly. I recommend you go and see the castle. It's very interesting.
- Girl I'm not really into castles ...
- IO Do you like art? There's an excellent art gallery in the main square.
- Girl Yes, that sounds interesting. Is it far from here?
- IO I'll show you on the map. ... It's here. You can take a number 41 bus from opposite this information office.
- Girl OK, thanks. What else do you recommend?
- IO This weekend there's a big carnival. That's usually a lot of fun.
- Girl I'm afraid we're only here for three days. We won't be here at the weekend.
- IO Well, there's the cathedral, of course – that's very popular with tourists.
- Girl What are the opening hours?
- IO Nine to five on weekdays and Saturdays. And 2.30 to 4.30 on Sundays.
- Girl How much does it cost to get in?
- IO It's £8.
- Girl Is it £8 for students too?
- IO Um, let me see. I've got a leaflet about it here. ... No, it's £6 for students.
- Girl Great, I'm a student. Can I take the leaflet?

### Listening 35: Get Ready for your Exam 5, Listening

Hi, I'm Paula Hausman and I'm here today to tell you something about my job as a wedding coordinator.

Planning a wedding can be quite stressful anyway, but when you are doing it in a foreign country and mixing traditions it can be even harder. So I help foreigners living in New York to bring their own traditions to American weddings.

My first wedding was my best friend Petra from Slovakia. She was marrying Hans, a Norwegian guy, and they asked me to help with the plans. A lot of Petra's and Hans's family and friends came from Slovakia and Norway for the wedding. The beginning of the day was organised according to Slovak traditions. The bride thanked her parents for her upbringing and then they left to go to the ceremony in a decorated horse-drawn carriage to the sound of folk music. The reception was really fun. In Norway, every time the bride leaves the room all the women line up to kiss the groom and then when the groom leaves all the men kiss the bride. Big Norwegians all desperate to kiss little Petra was a really funny sight.

My next wedding was a Swedish-Israeli couple. Their marriage was lovely because they combined the traditions of both countries. It's customary in Israel to have the ceremony in the late afternoon when the first star appears in the sky. So they did that, but also the Swedish relatives dressed in traditional Swedish wedding outfits and taught everyone the traditional Swedish wedding dance. It was a marriage of people and cultures.

In Turkey, the night before the wedding, the bride is decorated with henna tattoos on her hands and her guests dance and sing traditional Turkish songs. So when Burcu married Jakub here in Prague, we organised a traditional 'Henna' night for her. The wedding itself was quite Czech: the male guests kidnapped the bride, as is customary in the Czech Republic, and then the happy couple broke a plate and swept it up together, a tradition that's meant to bring happiness and unity to the newly married couple.

So what skills do you need to be a successful event organiser ... ?