

## Listening 18: Lesson 5C, Exercises 4 and 5

**Speaker 1** I don't really see what the fuss is all about. What harm do advertisements do? I don't think they ever really persuade anyone to buy anything. Most people pay no attention to them. You can usually skip them, or just press the mute key on your keyboard. No, I don't think ads are intrusive at all. And actually, come to think of it, I like it when I see an ad for something that I'm interested in pop up on the screen. So they are providing a useful service in my opinion.

**Speaker 2** It's all part of the surveillance culture that's developing in this country. We're on CCTV wherever we go. You walk down the street, there's a camera there; you walk into a store, there's a camera on you there. There was a time when people's lives were really private, but nowadays we leave a trail wherever we go – even when we're sitting at home in front of our computers!

**Speaker 3** Companies that gather personal information about you look after the data; they store it safely and don't share it without your consent. Anyway, it's not like the information is very sensitive, is it? And I've got nothing to hide. So these companies know my email, my date of birth, what websites I visit ... So what?

**Speaker 4** Nowadays everyone expects everything on the Internet to be free. But companies like Google and Facebook have to make money; there's nothing wrong with that. And they use the information we give them for legitimate purposes, so I'm happy to sacrifice my privacy for the service they provide. In effect, we're paying for the use of these sites with our personal data.

**Speaker 5** I think Internet privacy is a real issue and very worrying. Advertisers are targeting young children and teenagers and encouraging them to spend money, often on unhealthy things like sugary drinks and junk food. It's going the same way as TV advertising. And it's been a real struggle to control advertising on children's TV, hasn't it? The Internet clearly needs regulating and there need to be tough laws to protect our personal data and to stop companies advertising products to children and young people.

**Speaker 6** I don't mind too much that big organisations know lots of stuff about me. For me, the problem is that I don't really trust them to keep the information safe. I'm not saying they'll necessarily be careless with it or – worse – give it away, but I don't think they should hang on to it even if they want to. You often hear about websites getting hacked into and lists of passwords being stolen. There are people out there, hackers, with the skill to break into the most well-protected databases. That's a serious worry.

### Listening 19: Lesson 5F, Exercises 3 and 4

**Girl** I think the hotel in the second photo would be the best option because I think it looks cosy and comfortable – much more so than the others. I should imagine that it's a very friendly hotel as well, and not too big and impersonal.

I wouldn't choose the first hotel because it looks too modern. It doesn't look very comfortable to me. Judging by the décor, I'd say that it's the kind of hotel businesspeople would use. I don't think it'd be very suitable for families. I think my mum would hate it!

The reason I wouldn't go for the third hotel is that it looks rather ordinary. If we're going away for a fun weekend with my family, I'd like to stay somewhere a bit more special. So, my choice would be the second hotel.