

**Listening skills practice: My favourite things – exercises**

Listen to the speakers describing their favourite things and do the exercises to practise and improve your listening skills.

**1. Preparation: matching**

Do this exercise before you listen. Match the verb with the correct noun and write a – g next to the numbers 1 – 7.

- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| 1..... take   | a. a designer   |
| 2..... listen to  | b. your scooter |
| 3..... watch  | c. a business   |
| 4..... stroke (= move your hand<br>gently over something) | d. films        |
| 5..... park   | e. photos       |
| 6..... make it as (= be<br>successful as)                 | f. the cat      |
| 7..... set up (= start)                                   | g. music        |

**2. Check your understanding: matching**

Match the speakers with their favourite things. Write a – e next to the numbers 1 – 5.

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1..... Speaker A | a. a tablet         |
| 2..... Speaker B | b. a sewing machine |
| 3..... Speaker C | c. a scooter        |
| 4..... Speaker D | d. a set of knives  |
| 5..... Speaker E | e. a cat            |

### 3. Check your understanding: gap fill

Do this exercise while you listen. Write the word to fill the gaps.

1. My favourite thing has to be my new tablet. It's really light and quite \_\_\_\_\_, so I take it with me everywhere. I'm always writing to friends and it's big enough to do college work on it too. It takes really good \_\_\_\_\_, and I play games and listen to \_\_\_\_\_ on it as well, of course. I often download \_\_\_\_\_ onto it, and watch them in \_\_\_\_\_. My mum says I'm \_\_\_\_\_, because I'm always on it. I even read things on it at breakfast time. I'm not allowed to at \_\_\_\_\_ time, though. I have to be \_\_\_\_\_ and talk to people then. "Welcome back to real life," my mum says.

2. My favourite thing? Does my \_\_\_\_\_ count as a thing? She's not really a thing, but anyway. She's a really \_\_\_\_\_ little cat. I've had her since she was \_\_\_\_\_ months old. You know how some cats are really \_\_\_\_\_ and hardly talk to you? I know cats don't really talk, but you know what I mean. Well, she's not like that at all. She's really \_\_\_\_\_ and comes up to me as soon as I get home, purring away like mad. She makes a lot of \_\_\_\_\_ for a tiny thing. She loves being stroked and comes and curls up next to me when I'm on the \_\_\_\_\_. She's great \_\_\_\_\_.

3. My new scooter! It's quite small, but \_\_\_\_\_, and just what I needed for getting around the \_\_\_\_\_. I used to have quite a long walk to the \_\_\_\_\_, then a longish walk at the other end to get to \_\_\_\_\_. But now I can just whiz there on my \_\_\_\_\_. And there's no problem parking, there's always \_\_\_\_\_ for it. You have to be \_\_\_\_\_ with the cars and \_\_\_\_\_ – they don't always see you – and when it rains the surface of the road is \_\_\_\_\_, it gets really slippery. But in general it's perfect for me, and I can fit a \_\_\_\_\_ on the back too – I've got an extra \_\_\_\_\_ for a friend. It's great. Riding along makes me feel so free.

4. This might sound a bit old-fashioned, but my sewing \_\_\_\_\_ is my favourite thing. I'm studying \_\_\_\_\_ and love making things, as well as designing them. I also love \_\_\_\_\_ myself and often buy second-hand clothes – everyone loves the “vintage” \_\_\_\_\_ at the moment – and then I adapt them to my \_\_\_\_\_. It's much easier using a machine to do that than doing it by \_\_\_\_\_. I do alterations for my mum and my sister too. If I don't make it as a \_\_\_\_\_, I suppose I can always set up my own alterations and customising \_\_\_\_\_. Customising clothes, by taking things off and adding things on, is actually very \_\_\_\_\_, so I wouldn't mind that.

5. My set of Japanese knives. That sounds a bit sinister, doesn't it, but I'm not a \_\_\_\_\_ or anything. They're chef's knives and the best ones come from \_\_\_\_\_. Cooking is my new hobby. I got into it when I started watching Masterchef on TV. Then I went to an evening \_\_\_\_\_ for beginners, and I haven't looked back since. I try and have a \_\_\_\_\_ for between four and eight \_\_\_\_\_ every two or three \_\_\_\_\_. That gives me something to work towards and I always do new \_\_\_\_\_ so they can try them out and give me feedback. It's quite an \_\_\_\_\_ hobby if you use good \_\_\_\_\_, but now my friends help towards the \_\_\_\_\_. They still get a good \_\_\_\_\_ for a very low price.

**What's your favourite thing?**

Why is it important to you?

**Vocabulary Box**

Write any new words you have learnt in this lesson.