

**Listening: The Filter Bubble – part two – exercises**

Listen to the speaker continue talking about a book called *The Filter Bubble* and do the exercises to practise and improve your listening skills.

**Preparation**

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–f next to the numbers 1–6.

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1..... to keep up to date       | a. a computer program that searches the internet and gives you a list of results (e.g. Google, Baidu or Yahoo) |
| 2..... to keep your eyes open   | b. people who share your opinions and interests  |
| 3..... like-minded people       | c. to not get the opportunity to do something good   |
| 4..... a search engine          | d. to know about, to be conscious of   |
| 5..... to miss out on something | e. to be watchful and alert  |
| 6..... to be aware of           | f. to maintain your knowledge of the most recent information   |

**1. Check your understanding: multiple choice**

Circle the best answer to these questions.

- Social media sites can often decide to ...
  - stop us from seeing things.
  - show us information from only one website.
  - show us false information.
- The results of the same internet search by two people ...
  - will always be the same.
  - can be completely different.
  - can come in a different order.
- In Eli's example about two friends typing 'Egypt', one friend got ...
  - information about buying a property in Egypt.
  - information about travelling to Egypt.
  - information about Egyptian food.
- Some search engines record information about ...
  - what we look at.
  - how much time we spend online.
  - other search engines we use.

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5. The speaker thinks that sometimes it can be helpful to have ...
- a. online shopping.
  - b. more than one search engine.
  - c. personalised information.
6. The speaker thinks it is important for everyone ...
- a. to understand how the filter bubble works.
  - b. to know the filter bubble exists.
  - c. to stop using certain search engines.
7. The speaker suggests ...
- a. using different search engines that don't filter information.
  - b. using software that prevents filtering.
  - c. using the search engines for short periods of time.
8. The speaker finishes by advising us ...
- a. to learn more about different kinds of search engines.
  - b. to learn more about how the internet functions.
  - c. to find out what changes are taking place next.

## 2. Check your vocabulary: gap fill

Write the word to fill the gaps.

1. Two people can type the same word into a search \_\_\_\_\_ and get different results.
2. Personalised information makes online shopping easier and it helps us to connect with like-minded \_\_\_\_\_.
3. But let's stop and think. Aren't we going to \_\_\_\_\_ out on a lot of really interesting and fresh information?
4. Whatever you think about the filter bubble, I think we all need to be \_\_\_\_\_ that this is happening.
5. For now, just try to make sure that you keep your eyes and ears \_\_\_\_\_ and learn as much as you can about how the internet works.
6. Things change very quickly, but we should all try and keep up to \_\_\_\_\_ and learn more about how the wonderful worldwide web actually works!

### Discussion

Is it important to know about the filter bubble?