

LISTENING SKILLS – Caroline and Martin –

Pre-Listening

You will find six groups of phrases and word(s), which will appear in the listening. So, before getting into the activity check for understanding.

ONE

Example: a) Leicester	5	1) I assume
b) performances		2) A fixed amount of money paid for each month's work, regardless of the hours
c) I guess		3) Did you get extra money for that?
d) ridiculously long days		4) Entertainments such as plays, ballets, and opera
e) Did you get overtime for that?		5) A city in the East Midlands of England
f) a set contract		6) A small experimental theatre-not the main theatre
g) a set salary		7) A fixed contract, i.e.; the number of hours per working week were fixed
h) the scenery backstage		8) The painted pictures on backdrops on stage used to represent where the action is taking place
i) The Royal Opera House in Covent Garden		9) Stupidly/unreasonably long working days
j) the studio theatre		10) A historic building which is home of the Royal Opera

TWO

a) It varies through the week		1) Always
b) Without fail		2) I usually get up at around 8
c) The hours have shifted much more toward the evenings		3) It changes during the week
d) It depends on what I'm supposed to be doing		4) It varies according to what I have to do
e) I tend to get up about 8		5) Martin now tends to work later hours than before

THREE

a) The Tube		1) (in this case) He prefers to stay in bed and do nothing than get up
b) That's a hassle		2) a time when the people involved in a play, ballet, opera, etc. practice before they give their first official opening performance
c) the rush hour		3) The colloquial name of the London Underground train system

d) He's lazy !	4) the busy time of day when lots of people are travelling to, or from, work
e) a rehearsal	5) something which causes difficulties or stress

FOUR

a) The cut-off time is about 2.30	1) a place in a factory or other place of work where the employees can buy food or drink, generally at lower prices
b) An hour's break	2) the open area of Covent Garden which is often used by street performers hoping to make money
c) the canteen	3) the time we have to stop work is around 2.30
d) your maintenance	4) the canteen is only available to people who work at the Royal Opera House
e) in-house	5) an hour free from work
f) The Piazza of Covent Garden	6) the work Martin does to keep the lights, tec. In good working order

FIVE

a) It depends how crowded it is as well	1) if our shows finish around five past 10
b) steps	2) a programme or film made using drawings or computer-generated images (CGI)
c) if our shows come down about five past 10	3) you take steps one after the other when you walk
d) we normally make it back to Walthamstow for 11 o'clock	4) it depends on how many people are there – it takes longer to walk if there are lots of people in the streets
e) (a) cartoon	5) we normally manage to get back home at 11 o'clock

SIX

a) Barely	1) Here Caroline is being sarcastic- She didn't have a good time
b) Or recovering from doing an overnight shift	2) or getting back to normal again after working all night
c) last Saturday it was fun	3) Hardly-ever
d) the set	4) you can't relax because your head is spinning
e) you're buzzing at the end of a nightlike that	5) the scenery on the stage, i.e., the painted backdrops
f) grab sleep where you can	6) try to take the chance to have a sleep whenever you can