

TASK 1

Read the texts and match them with the suitable heading from the list. There are five extra headings.

THE QUEENS OF SOUL

Text 0

Heavily pregnant with her second child, Mpho Skeef is juggling her music career with family life. 'It is hard,' says the 29-year-old. 'There are times when I just want to stay at home and be a mum and chill out, bake and play with Plasticine. But I can't always do that because I'm trying to fit in writing music and looking glamorous.'

Text 1

There aren't many soul singers of note who can claim their singing career was kick-started in a church choir. Alice Russell, who has recently collaborated with some of the top British hip-hop bands and is now on tour in the USA, was encouraged by her choirmaster father at the age of eight to join up and find her voice. Russell's voice has flourished into something extraordinary, sweet and delicate on the surface but with remarkable depth and power beneath. She sings with a band of her own and has wowed audiences around the world.

Text 2

'I get a lot of stick for being a white Scot singing soul,' singer-songwriter L-Marie chuckles in her thick Glaswegian accent. 'People don't know what to expect when I traipse onto the stage and introduce myself. I did a festival in London and you could almost see the disbelief on people's faces – like "what's going on?". As soon as I start singing, though, it's about the music, rather than my colour or where I'm from.'

Text 3

Born to hippy parents, Bembe Segue lives in West London with her two children (the eldest is 21). When asked her age she just giggles enigmatically, 'Music keeps you young.' Segue has been dubbed the 'queen of broken beat' and is best known for her genre-crossing style. 'I could be arrogant and say my sound is just Bembe but I describe it as organic – it comes from soul, drum'n'bass, jazz and hip-hop, with a lot of Latin and afro rhythms.'

Text 4

'People always say they love the fact that I've got a soulful voice, but sound British,' says London born-and-bred Tawiah. One of the first people to sit up and take notice of her vocals was ultra-hip New York DJ, Mark Ronson, who invited Tawiah to join his band. 'He needed singers for his live shows but couldn't find anyone he liked who could sing in an English accent until he heard me performing at the Jazz Café.'

Text 5

Born in Berlin to a British father and Yugoslav-Hungarian mother, Natalie Williams spent her teenage years 'immersed' in soul music before moving to London to study music and drama. Williams, like other white soul singers, sometimes feels that as a white woman singing soul music, she has to work harder to prove her worth. 'It's been a struggle from day one because at the end of the day it is black music. I used to do a lot of gigs in 'urban' clubs where I would get some really nasty looks from some of the more traditional fans. And, I've been told on several occasions that I shouldn't have a white band. That really bugs me and there's no way I'll change it.'

HEADINGS

A - NOT ONLY HOW YOU SING BUT HOW YOU SAY IT

B - PROFILE DOESN'T BRING FINANCIAL SUCCESS

C - DIVINE INSPIRATION FOR SOUL SINGER

D - STANDING UP FOR ONE'S CONVICTIONS

E - MULTICULTURAL INFLUENCES ON SOUL

F - THE VOICE OVERCOMES THE SCEPTICISM

G - SOUL IS SOMETHING YOU JUST CAN'T LEARN

H - VERSATILE SOUL SINGER CREATES OWN STYLE

I - ~~IT'S ABOUT FINDING A BALANCE~~

J - ONLY BLACK SOUL SINGERS ARE SUCCESSFUL

K - SINGING ANGEL BECOMES INTERNATIONAL HIT

TEXT	HEADING
0	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

TASK 2

READ THE TEXT AND FOR SENTENCES 1-5 CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

THE MOST POWERFUL WOMAN IN HOLLYWOOD

On the morning of 5th September 1932, the Hollywood producer Paul Bern was found dead on the floor of the house he shared with his new wife, the then popular actress Jean Harlow. The housekeeper rang Harlow, one of MGM's most glamorous stars, who was staying with her mother, and her mother, in turn, knew just who to call: not the police, not an ambulance. She called Howard Strickling, MGM's head of publicity.

Strickling spoonfed stories to the gossip columnists. When actors were hired at MGM they were immediately sent to Strickling's office, where he would ask, after hearing their life story, 'Are you holding anything back? Is there anything embarrassing in your past that we should know about? If you tell me now, I can make sure anything like that stays out of the press.' Contractually speaking, the film studios in those days virtually owned the stars who worked for them and stage-managed their lives, and when that wasn't possible, their lives were rewritten with happier endings. Strickling, in the words of his biographer, 'was as likely to arrange a wedding as cover up a death.'

Although film studios no longer own their stars, publicists still wield the power in Hollywood and one of the most powerful is Pat Kingsley. She is feared by the press and revered by her clients. Stories of her techniques are legendary. Believing overexposure to be one of the prime risks of celebrity, she will drastically curb the number of interviews her clients give, she will demand that her stars appear on the cover of magazines or not at all, that they have the right to veto over writers and photographers, that they get copy approval, and often she herself will be present throughout the interview. In short, she will ensure that nothing escapes her control. If she doesn't like what a writer or magazine has done with one of her clients, she is reputed to forbid access to all of her other clients for ever more – and she represents everyone (or did until recently). In the past 18 months she has been fired by Tom Cruise in favour of his fellow Scientologist sister (resulting in outlandish behaviour that vindicates, to most eyes, Kingsley's conviction in exercising restraint.)

Still, no one who relies on celebrity interviews to keep their circulation up dares to cross Pat Kingsley. If you have ever read an interview with say, Al Pacino or Jodie Foster or, in the past, Nicole Kidman, Julia Roberts or Tom Cruise, and found it somewhat unrevealing, you have Kingsley to thank. It would be hard to overstate the reach of Kingsley's invisible touch. For instance, many of her clients have come to rely on her opinion so extensively that they ask her advice on scripts they are sent. Another example: the work of Kingsley's company is 30 per cent corporate – they represent big companies like American Express, Reebok, Cadillac, among others, and their aim is to fuse their entertainment contact with their corporate clients. So, for example, their film star clients are driven to the Oscar Awards in Cadillacs; for Tom Cruise's film, *Minority Report*, Kingsley arranged for it that Cruise would walk into a shopping mall in which the shops and advertisements that were seen all belonged to her corporate clients. Her influence may be subliminal, but that's why it works – on all of us.

When I told one of my Los Angeles friends I was coming to meet Pat Kingsley, she gasped and said: 'Here that's like saying you're coming to meet the Queen.' All this was rather awe-inspiring and with some unease I waited for Kingsley to arrive. She eventually walks into the room. At 73, she has greying ash-blond hair, a well-meaning look in her eye and a leisurely Southern accent that seems in its lilt, conspiratorially sly. Kingsley, of course, plays down her power. She believes that stars can't be manufactured any more and she says that it is all based on the quality of their work, and that is something she is not responsible for. When I suggest that some excellent actors don't get the attention they deserve, meaning that there is more in the publicity aspect than she is letting on, she replies sympathetically, 'That's always been the case and always will be. Some of our best actors still struggle mightily to get work.'

0. The first person to be informed of Paul Bern's death was

- a) Howard Strickling.
- b) Jean Harlow.
- c) Jean Harlow's mother.

1. In the 1930s, film studios

- a) controlled the public image of film stars.
- b) made sure that film stars' lives were made easier.
- c) would organise the weddings and funerals of film stars.

2. The reference to Tom Cruise illustrates that

- a) Pat Kingsley is unpopular in Hollywood.
- b) Pat Kingsley doesn't get enough publicity for her clients.
- c) Pat Kingsley's methods are justified.

3. The secret of Pat Kingsley's success is that she

- a) uses subtle techniques.
- b) runs different businesses.
- c) controls many companies.

4. At the prospect of meeting Pat Kingsley, the writer feels

- a) admiration.
- b) apprehension.
- c) excitement.

5. The writer is of the opinion that Pat Kingsley

- a) does not take into account how good an actor is.
- b) isn't completely honest about the power she holds.
- c) underestimates the power of publicity.

0	1	2	3	4	5
B					
✓					

TASK 3

Read the text and complete each space with **ONE** suitable word from the list

KENYA BISHOP LEADS ANTI-EVOLUTION FIGHT

The world's most important collection of human fossils may (0) -----
be hidden from public view — if religious leaders get their (1) -----
In a move that has (2) ----- scientists, senior clergy are insisting
that bones and skulls (3) ----- exhibited in Nairobi's National
Museum of Kenya should be removed from display to prevent young Africans from
being corrupted.

'It's creating a big (4) ----- against Christians that's killing our
faith,' said Bishop Boniface Adoyo, who is leading the hide-the-bones campaign.
'When children go to museums they'll start believing we evolved from apes.' Not
(5)-----, the bishop's remarks have infuriated scientists who
consider the museum's collection to be (6) ----- anywhere else in
the world. Its fossils include those of a 4 million-year-old ape-man, the 1.5
million—year-old (7)----- of the Nariokotome boy, the most
complete skeleton of an ancient human (8) found, and a series of other bones
that (9)----- crucial phases of our evolutionary past.

Many of these fossils were discovered by palaeontologists Louis and Mary Leaky in
areas around Lake Victoria and Lake Turkana and are generally (10) -----
as providing stark demonstrations of how our species was (11) -----
by natural selection. Their son, Richard Leaky, and his wife have continued this
tradition of fossil-hunting. They too have been dismayed by the bid to (12) -----
----- the museum's fossils. 'The church is being ridiculous,' said Richard
Leaky. 'Its leaders are out of (13) -----'. Evolution theory is

accepted across the world. This is scientific history and Kenya has the best examples of it. Globally, few can match that claim to (14) -----.'

(15) -----, it is this display that African evangelists say they find offensive, because it promotes Darwin's theory of evolution. As a (16) -----, they are demanding that the display (17) ----- removed or at least shunted to a less prominent (18) -----'. 'When museums put it out there that man evolved from apes, (19) ----- they are affecting many people who are Christians, who believe God created us,' says Bishop Adoyo, the chairman of the Evangelical Alliance of Kenya, which (20) ----- to represent churches of 25 denominations with nine million members.