

Reading skills practice: Interview with Henry Smiles – exercises

Check out this interview with Henry Smiles from the band *Two Direction* and complete the tasks to practise and improve your reading skills.

Preparation

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

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| 1..... to find out | a. to cut hair very close to the skin |
| 2..... to keep in touch | b. to have a good and friendly relationship |
| 3..... to get on well | c. to maintain communications |
| 4..... to sweat | d. to think, to believe |
| 5..... to shave | e. to discover, to learn |
| 6..... to reckon (<i>informal</i>) | f. to produce liquid from your skin, especially when you are hot or nervous |


CELEBRITY PROFILE #36

He's the most popular member of one of the most popular bands in the world. We met Two Direction's Henry Smiles to find out why he has so many female fans.

Let's get the basic questions out of the way first, Henry. How old are you and where are you from?
 I was born in 1996 and I'm from Harrogate in the north of England. Now I live in London.

What are your likes and dislikes?
 Well, I love music, of course, and sleeping and eating. And my dislikes? I don't like it when I'm late for things.

What are your favourite films?
Spider-Man 2 and *X-Men* were pretty cool.

Is there anything that you'd like to be able to do?
 I wish I could play the drums and the piano.

You are famous for your great hair. Would you cut it or shave it off?
 Maybe I'd shave it off for charity, if I could raise a lot of money for doing it.

Do you like social networking?
 Well, I don't go on Facebook very much, but I do use Twitter a lot. It's a good way to keep in touch with our fans.

Now the more interesting questions! Have you got a girlfriend, Henry?
 No, not at the moment. I'm single!

What kind of girls do you like?
 I like girls with a good sense of humour, who don't take life too seriously. I also like being able to call someone in the middle of the night for a chat if I need to.

Do you prefer blondes or brunettes?
 Oh, I like both! If we can have a laugh and we get on well, I don't care what colour hair they have.

Are you romantic when you're in a relationship?
 I reckon I am. I'd do anything for love!

Who did you have your first kiss with?
 My first kiss? Hmm, I can't remember very clearly, but I think it was with a girl at school when I was about thirteen.

Tell us a secret, Henry.
 I still get really nervous before a concert and have to drink herbal tea! Even today, after having done hundreds of concerts, my hands sweat and my heart beats really fast just before going on stage.

1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

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|----|--|-------------|--------------|
| 1. | The interviewer asks the difficult questions first. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. | Henry thinks punctuality is important. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. | Henry is a fan of superheroes. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. | He would never cut or shave his hair. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. | Henry thinks Facebook is the best way to communicate with his fans. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. | Being able to share a joke is important to Henry when he is looking for a partner. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 7. | Henry thinks appearance is more important than personality when it comes to girlfriends. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 8. | Henry doesn't get nervous when he performs these days. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

2. Check your understanding: multiple choice

Circle the best option to complete these sentences.

- Henry was born in _____.

a. a town in Scotland	b. London	c. a town in the north of England
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- Henry would like to _____.

a. play the drums and the piano	b. be able to sing	c. play the guitar
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- Henry uses ____ to communicate with his fans.

a. Facebook	b. Twitter	c. his blog
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- Henry wants a girlfriend who _____.

a. is passionate about life	b. can help him relax before a concert	c. doesn't mind being woken up in the night for a chat
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- Henry says his first kiss was _____.

a. really important to him	b. very memorable	c. with someone he met at school
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- Henry drinks ____ before a concert.

a. fizzy drinks	b. water	c. herbal tea
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Discussion

Who is your favourite singer or musician?