

UNIVERSIDAD SIMON BOLIVAR
INSTITUTO DE LENGUAS EXTRANJERAS, ILE
LISTENING ACTIVITY-LEVEL 4

BEFORE YOU LISTEN

EXPLORE YOUR IDEAS Do you think the first child in a family has different personality traits from those of siblings who are born later? Explain your answer.



LISTENING COMPREHENSION

A  **4:10** **LISTEN FOR MAIN IDEAS** Read the statements. Then listen to all three parts of the discussion. Choose the statement that best expresses the main idea of the discussion.

- ☐ First-born children are often too critical of themselves.
- ☐ Children in the same family usually have personalities that are determined by order of birth.
- ☐ Children usually have personalities that are determined by genes.

B  **4:11** **LISTEN FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION** Read the exercise. Then listen to each part of the discussion again separately. Complete the exercise as you listen.

Part 1: Check True or False for each statement.

	True	False
1 Brian is usually dissatisfied with himself.	☐	☐
2 Brian obeys rules.	☐	☐
3 Brian does most things well.	☐	☐
4 Brian's mother thinks her husband pushed Brian to be successful.	☐	☐
5 Brian never liked being with adults when he was growing up.	☐	☐

Part 2: Complete each statement by circling the correct information.

- 1 Annie is (the middle child / the "baby").
- 2 Annie had (a lot of / only a little) time with her parents before her younger sister was born.
- 3 Annie is jealous of (Brian / Brian and Lucy).
- 4 Annie (breaks / obeys) rules.

Part 3: Circle the answer to each question.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 How old was Annie when Lucy was born?
a 13 years
b 13 months | 3 What did Lucy do to the dining room wall?
a She painted it.
b She washed it. |
| 2 What does Lucy like most?
a making other people laugh
b laughing at other people | 4 Why does Lucy drive her older siblings crazy?
a She pays too much attention to them.
b Others pay too much attention to her. |

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Listen to the conversations. Then circle a word or phrase to complete each statement.

- 1 Andy is feeling (down / happy).
- 2 Mollie is (an extrovert / an introvert).
- 3 Greg is (an extrovert / an introvert).
- 4 Millie thinks (genetics / the environment) is the most important factor in personality development.
- 5 Vera thinks (genetics / the environment) is the most important factor in personality development.

B Complete the paragraph with the correct prepositions.

Extroverts don't worry¹ talking in public. They believe² being honest, and they get bored³ being alone. They may talk⁴ staying home and reading a book, but when they do, they complain⁵ having no one to talk to. They object⁶ being by themselves.

C Complete each personal statement with a gerund or infinitive phrase.

- 1 When I want to stay healthy, I avoid
- 2 I really enjoy on Saturdays and Sundays.
- 3 I wish other people would quit in the movies.
- 4 Two things I can't stand are and
- 5 On weekends, I dislike
- 6 If the weather is bad, I don't mind
- 7 Tomorrow I would really like
- 8 If I want to do well in this class, I need
- 9 Tomorrow I plan
- 10 I think most people are afraid of
- 11 I think people are usually excited about
- 12 Too many people complain about
- 13 My family worries most about

D Complete each statement. Circle the best answer.

- 1 John is such (an extrovert / an introvert). He doesn't like to talk about himself a lot.
- 2 Our usual pattern of behavior is our (personality / environment).
- 3 Another word for characteristics is (nurture / traits).
- 4 Many people believe that (self-criticism / birth order) affects personality development.
- 5 The nature-nurture controversy is an argument about the origin of the (environment / personality).