

LIFE ADVANCED-4B-LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Listen to the recording (track 28) and answer the questions

1. According to the presenter, why is it hard to imagine life before the internet?
☐ A. People relied too much on traditional media
☐ B. We are used to instant access to information online
☐ C. Personal communication tools were missing
☐ D. Entertainment options were very limited
2. Which invention does Martha Kay mention as once being dismissed?
☐ A. The fax machine
☐ B. Alexander Graham Bell's telephone
☐ C. The radio
☐ D. The telegraph
3. Why did a British parliamentary committee in 1878 think the telephone was useless?
☐ A. It was too expensive for mass production
☐ B. The telegraph already existed
☐ C. They thought it was only useful for Americans, not for Britain
☐ D. The technology wasn't advanced enough
4. Why, according to Martha, did people in the nineteenth century not foresee the need for a telephone?
☐ A. They couldn't afford such a device
☐ B. They already had other tools meeting their needs
☐ C. They didn't imagine improving long-distance communication
☐ D. They lacked the infrastructure to support it
5. How does Martha distinguish between different types of inventions?
☐ A. Some meet urgent needs, others make life more convenient
☐ B. All are driven by commercial profit
☐ C. Some result from accidents, others from research
☐ D. Some are resisted, others welcomed immediately
6. Which example does Martha give of an invention that addressed an urgent need?
☐ A. Television
☐ B. Remote shopping
☐ C. Vaccines against infectious diseases
☐ D. The internet
7. According to Martha, inventions like television or online shopping were originally designed to:
☐ A. Provide community entertainment
☐ B. Make life more comfortable and convenient
☐ C. Reduce costs for businesses
☐ D. Solve economic crises
8. What wrong prediction did *Time* magazine make in the 1960s about the remote control?
☐ A. It would be too complicated to use
☐ B. It wouldn't encourage people to get off the sofa

- ☐ C. It wouldn't be mass-produced
- ☐ D. It wouldn't change people's habits

9. Why does Martha say many inventions were initially exclusive to the rich?

- ☐ A. There weren't enough workers to produce them
- ☐ B. Early research and production costs were very high
- ☐ C. Governments restricted access
- ☐ D. The general demand wasn't clear yet

10. Which example illustrates how something expensive eventually became common?

- ☐ A. The landline telephone
- ☐ B. The laptop computer
- ☐ C. The mobile phone or personal computer
- ☐ D. The radio