Unit 5.1: Fear Factor

LISTEN

E **2.3 LISTEN FOR MAIN IDEAS** Read the opinions below. Then listen to an academic discussion between a professor and two students in a seminar class. Write the name of the student who gave each opinion in the space: Mina (the female student), Mateo (the male student), or both.

OPINIONS	STUDENT
• There are more fear-based stories in the media than before.	
• The world is actually safer than it used to be.	
• The media focus on stories about people's fears to make money.	
• Media stories about fear can change people's behavior.	
• The world is more dangerous than it used to be.	

F **2.4 LISTEN FOR DETAILS** Listen to segment 1 and take notes about the numerical details you hear. Then use your notes to add an abbreviation and/or a number to each statement.

1. Apparently, up to _____ of stories on local television news in the U.S. are about crime.
2. Although murder rates fell 20%, the number of media stories about it rose _____%.
3. Steven Pinker's book *The Better Angels of Our Nature* has _____ pages.
4. In his book, Pinker says violent acts in schools have declined _____% since the 1990s.
5. Pinker also says that in the last 15 years, murder rates have gone down in _____ of countries for which there is trustworthy data.
6. The female student argues that a media story with _____ views can generate more money from advertising than a less popular story.

LIVEWORKSHEETS