



# 8d Listening skills

**1** a) You will hear a radio documentary about a country's climate. Before you listen, check these words in the Word List.

- unpredictable variations • depressions
- anticyclones • spinning clockwise
- ocean current • high/low pressure
- subtropical climate • vessels

b)  Listen to the radio documentary and decide if these sentences are *True* or *False*.

- 1 Japanese weather can always be easily forecast. ....
- 2 Palm trees need help to grow in southern Japan. ....
- 3 The very cold and strong winds in Japan come from Russia and the Arctic. ....
- 4 No ships can move in the frozen seas of northern Japan. ....

**2**  Listen again and choose the correct answers A, B or C for questions 1-6.


- 1 Subtropical climates are characterised by ...
  - A different seasons.
  - B warm weather with some extended periods of heavy rainfall.
  - C heavy showers of rain daily.
- 2 Heavy rain in southern Japan is caused by ...
  - A its proximity to Russia.    B anticyclones.
  - C depressions.
- 3 The climate in northern Japan is ...
  - A very wet.                            B the same as China.
  - C colder than southern Japan.
- 4 What are ice-breakers?
  - A A type of sea ice.
  - B Ships which push other boats through the ice.
  - C Ships which make a passage for other boats through the sea ice.
- 5 The Gulf Stream is ...
  - A another name for the Black Stream Current.
  - B a warm ocean current which flows to the UK.
  - C a warm ocean current which flows around southern Japan.
- 6 Why do coral reefs exist in Japanese waters?
  - A The Black Stream Current brings warm water from Taiwan.
  - B The Black Stream Current cools the sea temperature so coral can grow.
  - C Because of the subtropical climate of southern Japan.

**3** Compare weather conditions in Japan to your country's.



**4** You will hear five short stories about natural disasters. Before you listen, check these words in the Word List.


- surrounded • erupt • lava
- ash • unsettling • stinging
- regenerate • captivated
- dazzling

**5**  Listen and match the speakers (1-5) to the sentences (A-H). There are three extra sentences you do not need.

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Speaker 1 |  |
| Speaker 2 |  |
| Speaker 3 |  |
| Speaker 4 |  |
| Speaker 5 |  |
- A We knew how to protect ourselves.
  - B It made me think how I could help.
  - C We were cut off for a couple of days.
  - D It was very scary to see it coming towards me.
  - E He was determined to save his town.
  - F He was very lucky to survive.
  - G I had to spend some time in hospital.
  - H There was no one close by to help him.

## Pronunciation – Homophones

**6** Homophones are words which sound the same but they have different meanings and spelling. Match the homophones.

 Listen and repeat.

- |   |       |   |        |
|---|-------|---|--------|
| 1 | raise | a | knight |
| 2 | dear  | b | whole  |
| 3 | night | c | know   |
| 4 | no    | d | deer   |
| 5 | hole  | e | rays   |