

LISTENING

1. You will hear a radio interview with a young actor. Listen and put these ideas in the order that you hear them.

- a winning an Oscar
- b acting in a school play
- c how fans want to remember child actors
- d others kids being jealous of child actors

2. Listen again. Are the statements true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Baz was five when he acted in his first film.
- 2 Baz wasn't upset that he didn't get film parts when he was a child.
- 3 Photographers and fans follow film stars around.
- 4 Baz won an Oscar for his first film.
- 5 Baz is worried about his future.



OSCARS
NOMINATIONS

Famous for a day

Do you know who Brett Cohen is? He's famous – but not for the reason you might think. He isn't a pop star or an actor; he isn't a politician or a writer. In fact, he just goes to university every day, like millions of other young people around the world.

'I've been dreaming of this moment for years!' screams one girl as she sees him walk by. Another, crying and laughing at the same time, calls out, 'Do you want to marry me?'

When asked why he is so important to them, a group of teenage girls all agree that, 'We feel better by looking at his picture and just knowing he's alive.'

The funny thing is that Brett Cohen is a nobody. This is a stunt he has been planning for months with a group of friends. He guessed that if he was surrounded by photographers and bodyguards as he walked through New York, people would think he was famous.

The important point is that Brett never said he was famous – he let people think that he was to see how they would behave. Walking around the city for three hours, he was photographed with over 300 girls eager to have their picture taken alongside him.

Fooling them was an experiment, he says. He wanted to test the public's fascination with celebrities – and to see how it would feel to be famous for a day. Brett says it was fun for a while, but his face started aching with smiling at everyone. To end the stunt, he had to hide in a hotel.

'Do you fancy doing that again?' I asked him. He shivers a little as he answers that he doesn't like being famous and is much happier just being himself. Maybe fame isn't everything after all.

1. Read the text and answer the questions.

- 1 Is Brett Cohen a famous actor?
- 2 What did the girls do when they saw him?
- 3 Who did Brett walk around New York with?
- 4 What did people believe when they saw Brett?
- 5 Did Brett enjoy the experience of being a celebrity?

2 Are the sentences true (T), false (F) or don't know (DK)?

- 1 Brett told a few people that he was famous so they would tell their friends.
- 2 Brett ended the experiment by hiding in a hotel.
- 3 Brett is studying Sociology at university.
- 4 The public is fascinated by celebrities.
- 5 Brett spent two weeks 'being a celebrity'.

3 Choose the best options.

- 1 Brett Cohen is a celebrity / an ordinary person
- 2 One girl wants to take Brett's photograph / marry Brett
- 3 Brett was accompanied by photographers and his friends / bodyguards
- 4 Brett's day of fame was for a film / an experiment
- 5 Brett prefers being himself / being famous

