

LV5 - UNIT 2A – LISTENING AND VOCABULARY

LISTEN AND COMPLETE THE BLANKS WITH THE MISSING PHRASES WITH GET

I = Interviewer C = Corinna V = Victor

I: My guests today are the popular social media stars Corinna Wells and Victor Galan. You've probably read their posts or seen their updates, so, let's **1**....., Corinna and Victor. What's it like to travel the world for a living?

C: Well ... that's a good question. Overall it's great ...

V: It's a great job ... You **2**..... and you know no two days are alike. Plus of course you're your own boss.

C: And we **3**..... a lot of amazing stuff.

V: ... like scuba diving and bungee jumping and stuff like that ...

C: And we've just **4**.....Thailand, which was amazing.

V: But there are some downsides ...

C: Yeah ...We've been travelling nonstop for two years now ...

V: Yeah, that's quite exhausting.

C: It's not easy to make enough money to live.

I: So how do you make money?

C: Well, basically companies pay us to promote their products in our social media posts. Usually we just include the product in the photo but sometimes we mention it, too.

V: Yeah.

C: It's mostly stuff like sun cream, drinks, clothes or sometimes it's actual holiday resorts.

I: Really? And how do you find those companies?

V: You have to hustle.

I: Hustle?

V: Yeah, you know, you've got to find work. Work doesn't find you. Advertisers don't **5**.....you, you have to **6**..... them.

C: You have to **7**.....

I: Oh, so you actually pitch for work?

C: Oh, yeah, yeah. Absolutely. We send a lot of emails to companies but we're lucky if we hear back from one in ten.

V: Yeah.

I: So when we see a photo of you on the beach looking all relaxed, it's not really the truth?

C: Not really. You have to remember that we were only there to take that photo. We didn't have time to enjoy it.

I: So, can I ask a really rude question. How much do you get paid?

C: Oh, well, it really depends.

V: Yeah, on average we get about 500 euros for a post.

C: Which sounds like a lot of money, but you've got to remember it takes a lot of work to organize that deal. And we've just lowered our prices. There's a lot of competition.

I: You've lowered your prices? So how much do you earn a month?

V: Well, in the last month we've probably earned about four thousand euros.

C: But again, you've got to remember that most of the money goes back into the business.

V: Yeah, we've probably spent five thousand!

C: Yeah, I mean travel isn't cheap and we have to pay for everything, like hotels, flights, meals ...

V: Other social media influencers earn much more but then you need literally millions of followers.

I: But you've seen some great places, right?

C: Oh yeah, yeah, sure, sure. I was a graphic designer before I started this. I liked my work, but I didn't love it. You know, I used to **8**..... late most days. It wasn't a very exciting lifestyle. Then I met Victor on holiday and we just decided ...

V: ... we decided to keep travelling!

I: Do you still enjoy travelling together?

C: For the most part – yeah.

V: Sometimes we **9**.....

C: But you still have to look like you're having the time of your life in the photos. We've learnt to fake it. We have to look perfect!

V: Yeah but you **10**.....with the whole perfection thing ...

C: I DO NOT! It's what our followers expect! If we start posting photos where we look like we're not having fun ...

I: OK, OK, so ... what's the plan now?

C: Well, we've been talking about what to do recently and ...

V: I haven't seen my family for a long time.

C: We've been to hundreds of different places – and they're all beautiful but they start to blend into one.

V: So we're like thinking of taking a break. Going back to the UK for a while.

C: After two years of holidaying we need to **11**.....

I: So, stopping travelling for a while?

V: Yeah. Our friends don't **12**..... They think we're mad.

I: It seems to me that your life on social media looks perfect but you sound a bit disillusioned. Is it all fake?

C: Yes and no. Like, when we first **13**....., going on holiday was fun. But now it's all we do and it's become a bit ... unreal.

V: And I guess we've been **14**..... even more recently.

C: I always wanted to travel but what I've realized is that if you want to travel, you need a home to travel from. I sometimes **15**.....I've lost my home, and I've lost myself. I'm not sure what's real and what's for show.