

3.02 Listen to four people talking about cultural events. Match sentences A–E with the speakers (1–4). There is one extra sentence.

- 1 Last weekend I went to a gallery in London with my parents. There was a big exhibition of modern art on that they wanted to see. I really wasn't particularly keen to go as I'm not a big fan of modern art, but I like to keep an open mind and was prepared to revise my opinion. So I went along with them. The artist, who's already quite famous, had created some sculptures using everyday objects from around her home. My parents loved it, but although one or two of the sculptures were quite interesting, I didn't really understand what the artist was trying to say. I'll think of an excuse if my parents ask me again.
- 2 Last summer I went to a music festival with a group of friends. It was the first time I'd been to a festival. I wasn't planning on going but a friend had a spare ticket. Anyway, I was really looking forward to it. Unfortunately it rained most of the time and the field we were camping in turned into a sea of mud! I didn't mind that really, but I thought the music would be better. The bands weren't particularly well known and the one band I was looking forward to seeing cancelled at the last minute. Despite that, we've agreed to go again next year.
- 3 Last month I went to the theatre with my family. We saw a play called *An Inspector Calls* by J. B. Priestly. We're studying the play at school. It's a bit boring and I'd already seen it a couple of times on DVD, but mum convinced me that it would be a good idea to see it again. Anyway, it was as bad as I'd feared. It was a local amateur theatre company and the acting was pretty awful. I suppose it didn't do me any harm though. Seeing a live performance at the theatre has helped me to get to know the play a bit better.
- 4 I hardly ever watch or listen to musicals – maybe about once a year, if that. But last weekend I went to see *Mamma Mia!* in London. I'm a big ABBA fan and I'd been meaning to go and see it for ages. I asked lots of friends to come along, but only two agreed. Anyway, I booked really good seats right at the front. It was an amazing experience! As I expected, the music was fantastic, as were the singers and dancers. I'm going to go again, but I need to find someone else to go with as my friends weren't so impressed by it.

This person:

- A thought that they might change their mind about something. ____
- B was persuaded to go to the event by someone else. ____
- C was disappointed with the experience, but is planning to try it again. ____
- D was surprised by how good the event was. ____
- E organised the outing to the event. ____

RECYCLE! Articles

- a We use *a / an* when we mention something for the first time, but *the* when we mention it again.
- b We use *a / an* to mean 'per' or 'in each', e.g. *once a day*.
- c We use *the* i) when it is clear what we are talking about, ii) with superlatives and iii) in certain phrases, e.g. *go to the cinema*.
- d We do not use an article i) when we make generalisations, or ii) in certain phrases after prepositions, e.g. *at home, by bus, at university*.

Read the **Recycle!** box. Complete the sentences with *a / an, the* or – (no article). Then listen again and check.

Speaker 1

- 1 I'm not a big fan of ____ modern art.
- 2 I didn't really understand what ____ artist was trying to say.

Speaker 2

- 3 It was ____ first time I'd been to a festival.
- 4 ____ field we were camping in turned into ____ sea of mud.

Speaker 3

- 5 Last month I went to ____ theatre with my family.
- 6 I'd already seen it ____ couple of times on ____ DVD.

Speaker 4

- 7 I hardly ever watch or listen to ____ musicals – maybe about once ____ year, if that.
- 8 I booked really good seats right at ____ front. It was ____ amazing experience!