

Section 3

JEANNE: Hi Thomas, how are you enjoying the course so far?

THOMAS: Yeah, I think it's good.

JEANNE: Remind me – why did you decide to study sports science? Didn't you want to be (1) when you were at school?

THOMAS: Yeah – that was my goal, and all my classmates assumed I would achieve it; they thought I was brilliant.

JEANNE: (2)

THOMAS: Mm, I thought I could win anything. There was no one who could run faster than me.

JEANNE: Exactly – so what happened? Did your mum and dad want you (3).....?

THOMAS: Not at all. Perhaps they should have pushed me harder, though.

JEANNE: What do you mean?

THOMAS: I think I should have practised more.

JEANNE: What makes you say that?

THOMAS: Well, I went out to Kenya for (4) to train ...

JEANNE: Really! I didn't know that.

THOMAS: I was chosen to go there out of loads of kids and run with some of the (5)..... And ... I was so calm about it. I just kept thinking how fortunate I was. What a great chance this was! Everyone back home was (6) But once we started competing, I very quickly realised I wasn't good enough.

JEANNE: That must have been (7)

THOMAS: I thought 'this can't be happening'! I was used to winning.

JEANNE: I'm sorry to hear that.

THOMAS: It's OK. I'm over it now and I think it's much better to (8) and this one has such a variety of (9) It's going to be good.

JEANNE: Oh, I agree – I chose it because of that.

THOMAS: So Jeanne – have you thought of any ideas for the discussion session next week on (10)

JEANNE: We have to cover more than one sport, don't we?

THOMAS: Yeah.

JEANNE: You know – we always think technology is about the future, but we could gather some ideas about (11)

THOMAS: Look at early types of equipment perhaps?

Uh, I remember reading something about table tennis bats once – how they ended up (12)

JEANNE: Cos they were just wooden at first, I'd imagine.

THOMAS: Yeah. In about the 1920s, a factory was making (13) for something like horse harnesses.

JEANNE: Really!

THOMAS: Yeah – and someone realised that it'd make (14) for the wooden bats.

JEANNE: So what about cricket – that's had (15) Maybe the pads they wear on their legs?

THOMAS: I don't think they've changed much but, I'm just looking on the internet ... and it says that when (16) came in, in 1978, the Australian batsman who first wore it was booed and jeered by people watching because it was so ugly!

JEANNE: Wow, players have to protect themselves from (17)! I mean everyone wears one now.

THOMAS: Mm, unlike (18)

JEANNE: Well, unless you're a professional, but you're right, (19) don't wear a helmet.

THOMAS: Hey, look at these pictures of original helmet designs. This one looks like (20)

JEANNE: Yet, the woman's laughing – she's so proud to be wearing it!

THOMAS: It says serious cyclists (21) from all the hard exercise.

JEANNE: I guess that's why they have (22) in them now so that the skin can breathe more easily.

THOMAS: OK, so we've done helmets. What about golf balls or better still golf clubs – they've changed a lot.

JEANNE: Yeah – I remember my great grandfather telling me that because a club was made (23), it would easily break and players had to get another.

THOMAS: There's no wood at all in them now, is there?

JEANNE: No – they're (24)

THOMAS: The same must be true of hockey sticks.

JEANNE: I don't think so because players still use wooden sticks today. What it does say here, though, is that when the game started you had to produce a stick yourself.

THOMAS: I guess they just weren't being manufactured. So, one more perhaps. What about football?

JEANNE: Well, I know the first balls were made of (25)

THOMAS: Yeah, they covered them with (26) that were stitched together, but ... the balls let in water when it rained.

JEANNE: Oh, that would have made them much heavier.

THOMAS: That's right. You can imagine (27) when the ball was headed.

JEANNE: How painful that must have been!

THOMAS: Yeah, well, I think we can (28)