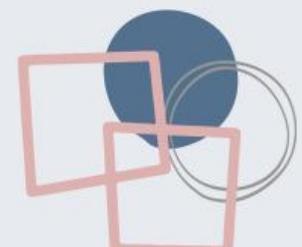




LISTENING



Listen to Rosa speak to her teacher Kurt and answer the questions

1. What is Rosa learning to play?

2. What's her ambition?

3. Fill in the blanks with the words from the audio

Rosa: I'd like to get your opinion on something

Kurt: Sure.

Rosa: The state piano competition next year. Do you think I'm up to it?

Kurt: You could be.

Rosa: Meaning?

Kurt: You'll have to do a lot of work if you want to do well in the _____.

Rosa: I _____ so. But how much work?

Kurt: Well, I guess your decision is about more than just a competition. You need to think about what you want to do with your _____.

Rosa: Well, _____ I do with my life - like, my job- I'd really like it to _____ playing piano.

Kurt: How much do you want it?

Rosa: Well, I ... it's kind of a dream for me.

Kurt: Kind of?

Rosa: Well, no. I really do want it.

Kurt: OK. Well, you have about three _____:

You become a piano teacher like me. Or you could become a _____ musician, playing piano for bands, _____.

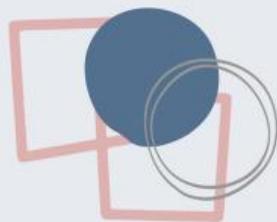
But if you do that, you'd have to play all kinds of music, not just classical.

And the third option is the difficult one: _____ a concert pianist. That means you're aiming really high.

Rosa: Do you think it's aiming too high?

Kurt: Not _____. You've got talent, no doubt about that, but it's a commitment, a major commitment. Hours and hours of practice and you have to _____ a lot of pressure. And if you want to go for the state competition, you're more or less saying you want to become a concert pianist.





Rosa: I understand. So what would it _____?

Kurt: You're _____ to go to college next year, right?

Rosa: Yeah.

Kurt: Well, for starters don't.

Rosa: Really?

Kurt: Wait a year; devote _____ to the piano. You'll need that level of preparation. Maybe get a part-time job for money, but your _____ should be the piano.

Rosa: I'll need to think about it, ask my parents.

Kurt: Good idea. And just be _____ of the fact that, well, it's a long journey.

Rosa: What do you mean?

Kurt: Well, there'll be times when your _____ goal seems a long way off, and it feels like you're going nowhere.

Rosa: Sure.

Kurt: Doesn't sound like a problem now, but when it's _____...

Rosa: So what do you do?

Kurt: Well, you need to have a lot of mini goals _____ the way. I mean, keep your eye on the main goal, but _____ that are _____ as you work your way toward it.

Rosa: Anything else?

Kurt: Discipline, self-control. No matter how good you are, you'll get _____. You can't let it get to you. You must stay positive even if you know you could have done better. If you give in to negativity, it'll _____ you.

Rosa: You make it sound like some kind of _____ game.

Kurt: To a large extent, it is.

Rosa: OK. But tell me. Did you ever think about becoming a concert pianist?

Kurt: Sort of. But I never really _____. Sometimes I wish I had.

Rosa: Why didn't you?

Kurt: Stage fright mostly; I'm _____ of performing in front of large groups. Now that I think about it, it's something I _____ have _____, learned to manage.

Rosa: You play so beautifully.

Kurt: Thank you.

Rosa: You could have been a big star.

Kurt: I'm not sure about that! I'm happy being a teacher, trying to make other people stars!

