

# Unit 5.1: Fear Factor

## LISTEN

**E**  **2.3 LISTEN FOR MAIN IDEAS** Read the opinions below. Then listen to an academic discussion between a professor and two students in a seminar class. Write the name of the student who gave each opinion in the space: Mina (the female student), Mateo (the male student), or both.

| OPINIONS                                                         | STUDENT              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| • There are more fear-based stories in the media than before.    | <input type="text"/> |
| • The world is actually safer than it used to be.                | <input type="text"/> |
| • The media focus on stories about people's fears to make money. | <input type="text"/> |
| • Media stories about fear can change people's behavior.         | <input type="text"/> |
| • The world is more dangerous than it used to be.                | <input type="text"/> |

**F**  **2.4 LISTEN FOR DETAILS** Listen to segment 1 and take notes about the numerical details you hear. Then use your notes to add an abbreviation and/or a number to each statement.

1. Apparently, up to  of stories on local television news in the U.S. are about crime.
2. Although murder rates fell 20%, the number of media stories about it rose  %.
3. Steven Pinker's book *The Better Angels of Our Nature* has  pages.
4. In his book, Pinker says violent acts in schools have declined  % since the 1990s.
5. Pinker also says that in the last 15 years, murder rates have gone down in  of countries for which there is trustworthy data.
6. The female student argues that a media story with  views can generate more money from advertising than a less popular story.