

## Listening skills practice: My favorite things

Listen to the speakers describing their favorite things and do the exercises to practice and improve your listening skills.

### 1. Preparation: matching

Do this exercise before you listen. Match the verb with the correct noun and write a – g next to the numbers 1 – 7.

- |                                   |                 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. take                           | a. a designer   |
| 2. listen to                      | b. your scooter |
| 3. watch                          | c. a business   |
| 4. stroke                         | d. films        |
| 5. park                           | e. photos       |
| 6. make it as (=be successful as) | f. the cat      |
| 7. set up (=start)                | g. music        |

### 2. Check your understanding: matching

Match the speakers with their favorite things. Write a – e next to the numbers 1 – 5.

- |              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 1. Speaker A | a. a tablet         |
| 2. Speaker B | b. a sewing machine |
| 3. Speaker C | c. a scooter        |
| 4. Speaker D | d. a set of knives  |
| 5. Speaker E | e. a cat            |

### 3. Check your understanding: gap fill

Do this exercise while you listen. Write the word to fill the gaps.

1. My favorite thing has to be my new tablet. It's really light and quite \_\_\_\_\_, so I take it with me everywhere. I'm always writing to friends and it's big enough to do college work on it too. It takes really good \_\_\_\_\_, and I play games and listen to \_\_\_\_\_ on it as well, of course. I often download \_\_\_\_\_ onto it, and watch them in \_\_\_\_\_. My mum says I'm \_\_\_\_\_, because I'm always on it. I even read things on it at breakfast time. I'm not allowed to at \_\_\_\_\_ time, though. I have to be \_\_\_\_\_ and talk to people then. "Welcome back to real life," my mum says.

2. My favourite thing? Does my \_\_\_\_\_ count as a thing? She's not really a thing, but anyway. She's a really \_\_\_\_\_ little cat. I've had her since she was \_\_\_\_\_ months old. You know how some cats are really \_\_\_\_\_ and hardly talk to you? I know cats don't really talk, but you know what I mean. Well, she's not like that at all. She's really \_\_\_\_\_ and comes up to me as soon as I get home, purring away like mad. She makes a lot of \_\_\_\_\_ for a tiny thing. She loves being stroked and comes and curls up next to me when I'm on the \_\_\_\_\_. She's great \_\_\_\_\_.

3. My new scooter! It's quite small, but \_\_\_\_\_, and just what I needed for getting around the \_\_\_\_\_. I used to have quite a long walk to the \_\_\_\_\_, then a longish walk at the other end to get to \_\_\_\_\_. But now I can just whiz there on my \_\_\_\_\_. And there's no problem parking, there's always \_\_\_\_\_ for it. You have to be \_\_\_\_\_ with the cars and \_\_\_\_\_ – they don't always see you – and when it rains the surface of the road is \_\_\_\_\_, it gets really slippery. But in general it's perfect for me, and I can fit a \_\_\_\_\_ on the back too – I've got an extra \_\_\_\_\_ for a friend. It's great. Riding along makes me feel so free.

4. This might sound a bit old-fashioned, but my sewing \_\_\_\_\_ is my favorite thing. I'm studying \_\_\_\_\_ and love making things, as well as designing them. I also love \_\_\_\_\_ myself and often buy second-hand clothes – everyone loves the "vintage" \_\_\_\_\_ at the moment – and then I adapt them to my \_\_\_\_\_. It's much easier using a machine to do that than doing it by \_\_\_\_\_. I do alterations for my mum and my sister too. If I don't make it as a \_\_\_\_\_, I suppose I can always set up my own alterations and customizing \_\_\_\_\_. Customizing clothes, by taking things off and adding things on, is actually very \_\_\_\_\_, so I wouldn't mind that.

5. My set of Japanese knives. That sounds a bit sinister, doesn't it, but I'm not a \_\_\_\_\_ or anything. They're chef's knives and the best ones come from \_\_\_\_\_. Cooking is my new hobby. I got into it when I started watching Masterchef on TV. Then I went to an evening \_\_\_\_\_ for beginners, and I haven't looked back since. I try and have a \_\_\_\_\_ for between four and eight \_\_\_\_\_ every two or three \_\_\_\_\_. That gives me something to work towards and I always do new \_\_\_\_\_ so they can try them out and give me feedback. It's quite an \_\_\_\_\_ hobby if you use good \_\_\_\_\_, but now my friends help towards the \_\_\_\_\_. They still get a good \_\_\_\_\_ for a very low price.