

Skills practice: Listening & reading comprehension

Listening

Listen to five people talking about appearing on a talent show. Match the speakers (1–5) with the statements (a–f). You do not need one of the statements.

- a The speaker was annoyed by the other people on the show. _____
- b The speaker felt satisfied with his/her own performance. _____
- c The speaker was surprised by the amount of technology. _____
- d The speaker felt nervous about taking part. _____
- e The speaker was upset by what the audience said. _____
- f The speaker was pleased with the result of the show. _____

Reading

Read the blog and choose which sentence (a–f) fits each space (1–5) in the text. You do not need one of the sentences.

Lola's Blog

Monday March 31st

Well! Today was the big day! The auditions for the school play, Romeo and Juliet, took place in the school hall after lessons finished this afternoon, and loads of people turned up. I was so scared that I nearly turned round and ran away. But my friend Mick was with me and he persuaded me to stay. I really want to be in this play. Luckily, not everyone there wanted to audition. 1) _____ I waited nervously for half an hour and then I finally went up on the stage to do my speech. It was very scary and I was all sweaty when I finished! It was such a relief to walk down the steps into the hall again – even if my legs were shaking! 2) _____ But it's no good. I'm too worried. I hope I get the part! I really do!

Wednesday April 2nd

You won't believe it! Miss Davis has given me the part of Juliet! Yesss! She posted a list of the cast for the play on the noticeboard and also on the school website. I'm playing Juliet and Gareth Lodge is playing Romeo. He's going to be really pleased, too. 3) _____ It's nice to know people care about me! I just hope I can do the part well. It isn't easy and there are lots of lines to learn. I've never done a Shakespeare play before, so it will be really interesting. I'm very excited.

Saturday June 7th

I can't believe it! The last two months have gone past so quickly. We've had lots of rehearsals and tonight is our first night. I've been panicking all week! 4) _____ Everyone forgot their lines, including me – right in the middle of a big, romantic speech! And the lights went out just before the fight scene, so the boys couldn't see who they were fighting! But Miss Davis has spent all day checking the lights and the stage so it should be ready for this evening. I'm going to relax now and then go through my lines one last time. 5) _____ It's been such a lot of fun and I would really like it to be a success tonight. Wish me luck! More about how it goes tomorrow.

- a I've been home now for an hour and I've been trying to do some homework.
- b I've been worrying about it for ages.
- c I hope I don't get an attack of nerves when I'm waiting to go on stage.
- d I've had lots of emails and messages today saying congratulations and good luck.
- e A lot of friends who had come to give support or even just to watch.
- f The final rehearsal, which was last night, went very badly.