

Listening Comprehension: Mainstream vs Alternative Media

Listen to the following opinion columns and answer the questions below

Mainstream: New York Times

1. Who is Paddi Davis?
 - a. A journalist and author.
 - b. An actor.
 - c. A doctor

2. What made Paddi Davis think about her own addiction?
 - a. An interview with actor Mathew Perry.
 - b. Reading the memoir of actor Mathew Perry.
 - c. The death of actor Mathew Perry.

3. When did Paddi Davis begin to become addicted?
 - a. Never
 - b. When she discovered amphetamines at 16.
 - c. When she began drinking at 14.

4. According to Paddi Davis, what is the cause of addiction?
 - a. Emotional pain
 - b. Fame
 - c. Loneliness and isolation

5. According to Paddi Davis, what do substances do?

- a. They make you assume that's how everyone feels, but for some reason you usually don't.
 - b. They give you a sense of euphoria and superiority over everyone else.
 - c. They make you feel even more isolated.
6. What helped her overcome her addiction?
- a. Accepting how she really was without substances.
 - b. Humor.
 - c. Accepting herself and accepting that not everyone is always Ok.
7. What was ironic about Mathew Perry's role on FRIENDS, according to Davis?
- a. That he was able to perform so well while being an addict.
 - b. That the show was about friendship, yet he always felt very isolated.
 - c. That the show was a comedy, and he was struggling with depression.
8. According to Davis, what will Mathew Perry be remembered for?
- a. His battle with addiction and his amazing career.
 - b. His addictions and sudden death.
 - c. His role on FRIENDS.

Alternative: Democracy Now!

1. When is Hispanic Heritage Month?
- a. September
 - b. October
 - c. Mid-September to mid-October.

2. Why was this month chosen?
 - a. It coincides with the independence of Mexico.
 - b. It coincides with the independence of several Latin American countries.
 - c. It coincides with the independence of the US.

3. What happened this year that coincides with Hispanic Heritage Month?
 - a. A growing crisis along the US-México border.
 - b. A judge in Texas orders the removal of a barrier in the Rio Grande.
 - c. All of the above.

4. What are some of the reasons for the mass migration of Latinos to the US?
 - a. The historic interventions, the military interventions, the sanctions imposed on different, and the failed war on drugs.
 - b. Violence, impunity and corruption in their home countries.
 - c. Lack of opportunities.

5. What are some countries that have been subject to US intervention?
 - a. Guatemala, Chile, Cuba, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Venezuela.
 - b. Peru, Chile, Cuba, Belice, and Venezuela.
 - c. The Dominican Republic, Haiti, Guatemala, and Mexico.

6. What was the cancelled Smithsonian Museum exhibit about?
 - a. The role of Latinos in the civil rights movement.
 - b. The role of Latinos in salsa.
 - c. The role of Latinos in US history.

7. According to the audio, why was the exhibit cancelled?
- a. Due to visitors being more interesting in salsa.
 - b. Due to the border crisis.
 - c. Due to right wing interests.