

PROGRESS TEST FILES 1–3
Listening 1

Emily Nowadays, people think nothing of going to foreign countries for their holidays. Last year I went to Sweden and Mexico, and I'm going to visit Morocco for the first time soon. I'm really looking forward to it. But, for ordinary people, travelling is quite a recent thing. My grandparents never went abroad in their whole lives. And as for my parents, although they travel a lot now, before they were in their thirties, they had only been abroad once – to France for their honeymoon. But perhaps it'll all change again. I was reading a newspaper the other day, and it said that planes use more fuel and produce more pollution than cars or trains. According to the article, we should put up fuel prices and make flying more and more expensive. They argue that we have to cut down on the number of flights and close airports in order to save the planet. And this will mean that fewer people will be able to afford to fly. So, my advice is that you try to get on a plane and see the world before it's too expensive! Otherwise, you'll be like my grandparents.

PROGRESS TEST FILES 1–3
Listening 2
1

Faye Do you think you eat well, Jack?
Jack Er ... I don't know really. I know I should eat more fresh fruit and vegetables and cook at home. But I can't find the time to shop or cook. I work late hours so I stop anywhere that sells fast food during the week. Erm ... I suppose I don't eat as well as I should.

2

Laura What's Harry like?
Bob Well, he's not what you think. He looks very confident, but he isn't at all. He's quite shy and insecure at first. But, once you get to know him, he's quite talkative and funny.

3

Marty How long have you been living here in Barcelona, Jenny?
Jenny Oh, it feels like ages. A couple of years maybe. Actually, no, I first got here in the autumn of ... er ... oh, it must be three years ago. Wow! Doesn't time fly?

4

Rose You aren't going to wear that at the interview, are you, Tony?
Tony Well, yes. I was thinking of wearing it with my new tie.
Rose But Tony, you can't wear a black shirt at a job interview. And you can't wear that tie – it's too colourful. You must wear a plain white shirt and a simple tie with only one colour. How about that dark blue one?

5

Jim Have you always been able to sing, Sophie?
Sophie Oh, no, not at all. Until I was in my mid-twenties I had a terrible voice. But then I moved to York, and I wanted a hobby. So I started lessons. I've been having lessons for eight years now.
Jim Ah. I see. Well, I think you're fantastic.

PROGRESS TEST FILES 4–7
Listening 1

Jason If I could be anyone in the world, I'd like to be my cousin, Fernando. You could say that he's my hero, but the truth is that I'm just really jealous of him because he's so talented. I don't know him that well, but I try to follow his career. He looks like a pop star or something, but, in fact, it's fast cars that are Fernando's great love. He competes in racing competitions all over Europe, but mostly in France, Portugal and Spain, which is where he was born. He's won a couple of important races, and he's got lots of money, a beautiful girlfriend, and he's also still really young – I think he's about twenty-two, not much more.

When I was a teenager, my family and I used to visit Fernando and his brothers on the coast. He was very small, but even then he was very brave and ambitious. He used to do really dangerous things, which we older kids were never confident enough to do. Of course, what he does now is really dangerous, and I asked him once if he ever felt nervous or scared before a race. He told me that he only ever thought of winning.

PROGRESS TEST FILES 4–7
Listening 2
1

Cindy Have you kept in touch with old friends from school, Peter?

Peter Well ... it's strange who you keep in touch with, isn't it? Jack was probably my best friend at school, and we used to live together when we were at university, but then he went abroad – to Australia – and, well, I haven't seen him for ages. Joe, on the other hand, was in the same class but never a great friend, but we've been neighbours for years so I see him all the time.

2

Will Harriet, what would your dream house be like?

Harriet Well, I like the countryside and the mountains but I wouldn't want to live there – and I don't like little cottages or dark, old houses. So, it would have to be bright and spacious and by the sea. I'd like huge windows and a balcony.

3

Charles Do you have much free time now you've started your new job, Sue?

Sue Well, quite a lot, actually. I work longer hours – too many, some would say, but I don't have to travel so far to work so I actually get home earlier and less tired.

4

John Hi Diane.

Diane Hi.

John So, did Nick call?

Diane Yes, he did. He asked me if I wanted to go away with him for the weekend.

John Hmm, and?

Diane Well, I told him I'd think about it. I'd really like to go but I've got a lot of work on at the moment.

5

Mr Green Madam. Could you tell me if this is your handbag?

Mrs Brown No, mine has a leather handle and is a bit smaller than that one. In fact, although they are both the same colour, this one looks new whereas mine is very old.