

LISTENING COMPREHENSION

7-8 классы

Transcripts

Listening Activity No. 1

Host: On 'Star Students' today we're speaking to Peter who is going to tell us about the Pomodoro Technique, a system to help manage your time. It was invented by an Italian man called Francesco Cirillo in the 1980s. He called it the Pomodoro Technique after a tomato-shaped timer that his mother used to use when she was cooking. Pomodoro is Italian for tomato. And this tomato has helped Peter become an A-grade student. Welcome, Peter.

Peter: Thanks. **Host:** Tell us about the Pomodoro Technique. What's it about?

Peter: It's about getting maximum productivity from your available time. I use it for studying, but professionals use it at work.

Host: Is it difficult to follow?

Peter: No. It's actually very simple. It's about breaking down your work into separate jobs and then using a timer to separate your time into periods of intensive work and short breaks.

Host: OK, that sounds sensible. How do you start? **Peter:** First of all, you should think about the task you need to complete. For example, writing an essay for homework. You need to think about all the stages of the task and write a clear to-do list on a piece of paper. When you are ready to start you set the timer to 25 minutes and you start working on the first item on the list.

Host: OK ... but what happens when the timer goes off?

Peter: When the timer goes off you must take a short break of between 3 to 5 minutes. One 25-minute session is one 'pomodoro' so when you have completed this you deserve a short break. You should try to move about a bit during the break. Then set the timer for another 25 minutes and keep working. At the end of the next 'pomodoro' you have another short break. As you complete the items on the 'to-do' list you should tick them off, to give you a feeling of satisfaction that you're getting the job done.

Host: OK ... I get it. Can you use any timer? Most people have timers on their phones these days, can you use that?

Peter: You could, but the danger is that then you check messages on your phone or you start looking at apps. I use my dad's kitchen timer and I make sure I switch off my phone when I'm studying. I get so much more done. In the breaks I sometimes check my phone but only if I've completed some of the items on my to-do list.

Host: Three to five minutes isn't long for a break. Is that enough time?

Peter: Well, when you've had four or five short breaks you can take a longer break, then you start again.

Host: And it works?

Peter: Yes! It works for me. It stops me wasting time. My work is much more effective when I use the timer. It's like short, intense periods of work. I actually get my homework done a lot quicker now which leaves me more free time, so for me it works really well.

Host: I think I'll give it a try. Thanks for coming in, Peter.

Peter: You're welcome. Thanks for inviting me.

Listening Activity No. 2

Conversation 1

Woman This is my current favourite. It's like a soundtrack to my life now.

Man Ah, so you've bought it at last! I thought you might.

Woman Yes. I know it's been on again and again on the radio but I wanted to own it.

Man You really should get into sharing. It's so much easier.

Woman I suppose so, but I still get a thrill having the hard copy in my hand.

Conversation 2

Woman I'm so pleased we got this. It's so much quicker than doing everything by hand.

Man True, though it is more expensive and I'm not sure it's environmentally friendly.

Woman It's better though. Everything comes out really clean and shiny. But I still wouldn't put our finest crockery in.

Man OK, I've rinsed everything. I'll stack it all inside now.

Woman So, we have to choose a programme for the wash. What do you think?

Man This one will do, it's only fifteen minutes.

Conversation 3

Man Why ever do we need new ones?

Woman Well, I'm really sold on natural materials now. I wanted some filled with real feathers.

Man The old ones were comfortable enough, I thought.

Woman You just try these and you'll feel the difference. You just sink into them. And they smell crispy clean.

Man OK. I think I'm ready to lay my head down; it's been a long day. What do you think?

Conversation 4

Man We must have loads of pairs, but however hard I search, I can never find them!

Woman Look in the drawer over there. There'll be some amongst my sewing materials.

Man Are they suitable for the job, though? They've got to be sharp enough for the carpet.

Woman Ah! Maybe not. Use the ones in the tool box then.

Man Got them. Wow, they're sharp!

Conversation 5

Woman You've really filled it up. We can't possibly get any more in.

Man Well, it's much more efficient to do a full load.

Woman And you do know that the white things have to be done separately.

Man I know what I'm doing, you know!

Woman And you have emptied out all the pockets...

Conversation 6

Man I know you say that I play my music too loudly. Well, with these you won't hear it at all. I promise.

Woman Good. I can finally finish the book in peace.

Man I know this was a bit expensive but you can adjust the volume and tone on each channel.

Woman Don't turn it up too loud though or we'll still hear the bass coming through.

Man I'm not a teenager any more! But anyway, it's got great isolation.