Listening (Script)

N = Narrator

N: One. You hear a girl talking to a friend about an activity camp she went to.

A: So how was the activity camp?

B: I was a bit anxious when my parents left me there as I didn't know anyone, but I got into the swing of things quickly - I even went on a zip wire! It looked terrifying but the instructors were so helpful. I felt such a buzz after I'd done it that I wanted to do it again straightaway. It was your kind of thing!

A: Cool!

B: You should try it – plus you'd get to know new people. Most evenings we made a campfire and sat around it and sang songs. I even learned to play a song on the guitar!

N: Two. You hear part of an interview with a travel agent.

A: It's really important to do your homework before a holiday – online is an excellent way - and find out about your chosen destination. You can discover less obvious tourist spots and good places to eat in advance. That will make your holiday more memorable.

B: And when should you travel?

A: It's usually cheaper to travel during the week.

B: What's your top travel tip?

A: There are apps to help you get the most from your holiday. The residents really appreciate it when tourists try to speak their language so download an app that tells you what things are in that language or that can translate words.

N: Three. You hear a boy talking about his part-time job.

A: So how's the job going?

B: Well, it was hard working in the café at first as it was just so busy - there were so many customers. But I expected that, and soon managed to cope with the pressure - and the customers liked me.

A: That's great!

B: I hadn't realised how important teamwork was – I discovered that employers really like that. I really improved my communication skills. I usually worked with one other waitress and she taught me a lot of quick tips to save time. I'm hoping to work in the café again this summer. It pays well and the people who work there are really nice.

N: Four. You hear a girl talking about the place she lives in now.

A: Are you glad you moved here?

B: In the city we lived in a flat above a shop that was open 24/7. It was noisy, especially at weekends, but I got used to it. I was always popping in to buy chocolate. Now we live in a remote village I can't do that. I really appreciate how silent it can be, especially at night. I can sleep with the window open and breathe the fresh country air. I love it here, though I wish I could hang out with my friends. It'd be great to do some of the things here with them – stuff like hiking and cycling.

N: Five. You hear two friends talking about the sports they do.

A: It's great that you can work out at home on your own. I have zero motivation if I do that!

B: Have you tried this app? It lets you plan your own fitness routine.

A: I've tried different apps but none have worked. I prefer going to a class where I can work out with other people.

B: I'd rather do it at home and achieve my own goals. I feel embarrassed when I make the wrong moves in classes.

A: I've started going to Zumba. The atmosphere is relaxed so it's not a problem if you make a mistake. It's fun and we listen to some really great bands so it's not so hard to keep going.

B: I have to have my favourite songs on my MP3 player when I'm working out. It keeps me motivated.

N: Six. You hear two friends talking about social media.

A: I think social media is a good way to stay connected with friends, especially those you don't see often. It lets you see what's going on.

B: Well, I don't think we learn much by looking at what people post online. I don't think it's a true reflection of reality.

A: People generally give a positive picture of their lives on social media, about who they've seen and what they've been doing, and that may not be exactly accurate.

B: People only tend to post about parties they've been to and holidays, and life's not always like that!

A: But they also post about what they've done at the weekend. I find that interesting.

N: Seven. You overhear two school friends talking about a restaurant project at school.

A: So it looks like the school restaurant project is actually going to happen!

B: Yes, it's great, isn't it? We'll be able to cook our own dishes using food from the school garden.

A: I just hope that everyone who's excited about it now will actually help out when it opens. There's a lot of work involved in running a restaurant. It's not just the cooking! There are all the vegetables to prepare and then there's the washing up!

B: I think most people will be willing to help a bit. Some of the teachers said they'd help out and do things like waiting on tables and the washing up. Do you want me to ask my friends if they'll help with the preparation and some of the cooking?

N: Eight. You hear a boy leaving a message on a friend's phone.

A: Hi, Steve. My parents really want me to babysit my little sister this weekend but it's the school concert on Saturday and I really don't want to miss that! Do you know of anyone who would be able to do it for me? I would have asked you but I know you're going to be playing in the concert. Perhaps one of your friends might be free? I can't think of anyone myself, so perhaps you could ask around. It would be for this Saturday from seven thirty till about eleven in the evening and they would of course get paid. Can you let me know by tomorrow? Thanks!