

STUDENTS' BOOK · AUDIO SCRIPTS

UNIT 7 Recording 1

P = Presenter I = Ian

P: Hello and welcome back to the Focus podcast. I'm Jenny Osmond, the editor of Focus, the monthly science and technology magazine from the BBC.

He's the hugely influential author of *Blink* and the *Tipping Point*. His work is quoted by academics, presidents and your mates down the pub. And now Malcolm Gladwell has turned that deft mind of his to a new subject: the science of success. In his new book, *The Outliers*, Gladwell argues that if we want to be successful, we should think less about what successful people are like, and more about where they have come from and the opportunities they have had along the way. Now, Ian's read the book and he joins me. Now ... his new book is looking at success ...

I: Yes, and what he says is, erm, that if we think about somebody like Bill Gates, hugely successful person, and we want to learn from, from his achievements, then what do we look at? We look at what that man is like, you know, what drives him, what does he do on a day-to-day basis, how can we be more like him? Erm ... But what Gladwell argues in the new book is, is that we should pay less attention to that side of stuff, and look at where Bill Gates came from. So, how did he get to where he got to, the opportunities he had along the way. Erm ... And what he says is that Bill Gates has one thing in common with another group of very successful people, The Beatles.

P: So, what's that?

I: Well, they both practised what they do, and they practised a lot.

P: Right, so how much is a lot?

I: A lot is 10,000 hours. That's like the magic number if you're going to become world-class at anything in the world, you need to put 10,000 hours' practice in.

P: Oh, OK.

I: So, The Beatles, they, they were doing gigs, you know, like all-night gigs in Hamburg, in these little clubs, and just the number of hours that they put in on the stage, erm, allowed them to master their craft. And the same with Bill Gates. He, er, as he was growing up, got into computer programming, and through a very fortunate series of events, he was able to programme, and programme, and programme, erm, and again ...

P: Because he had access to computers at a time when these things were developing.

I: Absolutely! ... Exactly! The timing is so, so important. He happened to go to a university, erm, where he had access to er, a computer programming unit. I mean, this was back in the 60s and 70s when computers were the size of rooms and stuff. Erm, and so what Gladwell does

throughout the book is pick up on these little things that we really need to go back and look at again if we are to really understand why successful people are as successful as they are.

P: I think the 10,000 hours magic number is really interesting because, as you know, I used to play tennis professionally, and I hit a load of tennis balls when I was younger. And I'm sure, I must have done 10,000 hours' worth, you know, I must have done four hours a day, and stuff.

And I remember speaking to Martina Hingis' mum about why she thought her kid was so good, and such a prodigy, and she basically said, 'My daughter has been hitting tennis balls since the age of three and she has hit X number of tennis balls for X number of hours and it's, you know, I'm sure she's ... So once you're over that magic number of 10,000 ... yeah.

I: The same goes for people like Beethoven, erm ... It's incredible how ...

P: But at the end of the day you have to have talent.

I: You've got to have raw talent, you've got to have belief in what you can do, and you have to have the will to put those hours in ... but you also need the opportunity.

UNIT 7 Recording 4

T = Tim J = John P = Peggy

T: So what about your memory, Peggy? How good is it?

P: It's OK, which is lucky 'cos I need to remember lots of things.

J: Like what?

P: Well, I'm a sales rep for a publishing company so I'm usually out visiting schools, trying to sell books.

J: So you need to remember ... what exactly?

P: Oh, lots of things. The worst thing when I started was just trying to remember how to get to these schools in my car. I used to get lost all the time. I'm not very good at directions. Then once you're there you have to remember the names and faces of the people you're talking to. I once spent a whole hour calling this woman Sally when her name was Samantha.

T: And she didn't tell you?

P: For some reason she didn't tell me. And then there's all the product information.

J: Product information? What, the books?

P: Yes. We sell about five hundred different books and I have to know the difference between all of them. I mean, it gets easier, thank goodness, but I still make mistakes occasionally. What about you, John? You're an actor, right?

J: Yeah. The main thing I have to remember is my lines. Fortunately, I've got a good memory for words, and I don't find it that hard to memorise them. So, I mean, yeah. The other thing you have to remember when you're in the theatre is the blocking.

T: What's that?

J: Blocking? It's where you stand or move to, y'know? Like, when you say your words you might have to walk quickly across the stage. Or move in front of someone. It's all planned and er, you have to remember it.

T: Oh, I see.

J: But it's funny: for, for other things I have a terrible memory. I'm totally useless. I always forget birthdays and dates. I'm always late for things. It's just ... yeah ... luckily, I'm OK with my lines.

P: What about you, Tim?

T: I'm probably the same as all other students. At least all other history students. I have to memorise dates and also names. But it's not that difficult because you read about them so much you can't really forget them. But for other things I have a really bad memory. I can never remember jokes or films. Sometimes I'm watching a film and after an hour I realise I've seen it already. I'm completely hopeless like that.

J: Oh, me too ...

UNIT 7 Recording 5

M = Man W = Woman

M: It's interesting: one of the most intelligent people I know is a ten-year-old boy from Egypt. He doesn't go to school and he works on a street in Cairo, in one of the touristy areas. And he sells things like small statues of the pyramids, things like that, to tourists. Now, the reason I say he's intelligent is that he can sell you something in about fifteen languages. I once spent an afternoon watching him, and it was incredible. Most of the time he uses English, but he guesses where you're from by looking at you, and then he starts speaking. He can speak just a little bit of French, Spanish, Japanese, Italian, German, etcetera. It's amazing. He knows just enough in all these languages to say hello and sell you something.

W: How did he learn the languages?

M: I asked him that and he said he learned them by talking to tourists.

W: That is quite amazing.

M: So anyway, that's my example. Like I said, he doesn't go to school but, for me, he's super-intelligent. What about you?

W: I can think of loads of people who don't have any qualifications but are able to do really difficult things. I've got a friend, for example, who built his own house. He just taught himself how to do it, bought a piece of land, bought the materials and the equipment and just did it. No qualifications, no certificates, no university degree. In my view, that's a real practical kind of intelligence.

M: I couldn't do that.

W: Let me give you another example. I've got another friend who takes parts of old cars and makes new cars from them. He does it at the weekend as a way to relax. And the new car actually works!

M: I couldn't do that either.

W: I wouldn't know where to start. And

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this is someone who left school at fifteen to do an apprenticeship. But, you know, having said that, I do think qualifications are useful in some ways. I mean, for one thing, they show that you are able to complete a course, that you're motivated and committed enough.

M: Yeah, I think that's true.

W: But I must say real life experience, travelling, going out and meeting people, talking ... I think these give you an amazing education, too.

M: Exactly. That's what I was saying. Just like the boy from Egypt.

UNIT 7 Recording 7

1 In my view, that's a real practical kind of intelligence.

2 I do think qualifications are useful in some ways.

3 But I must say real life experience, travelling and meeting people give you an amazing education, too.

4 For one thing, they show you are able to complete a course.

UNIT 7 Recording 8

T = Tracy Hackston

T: A couple of years ago, er, I learned how to scuba dive which was, um, really exciting, really good experience and when you're learning half of the, the training is in the classroom and half is er, a practical in a swimming pool. So the classroom stuff was fine erm, I found it really quite easy. I was learning with my mum and she was really worried about doing the kind of more academic stuff and passing the exam but I found that part OK. It was the practical stuff that I had trouble with and she was really lucky, she was erm, really good. But you go and you learn all the technical stuff, you know how to go under the water, how to clear your mask if you get water in it, that kind of thing. And then you have to do two dives outside in a, in a kind of reservoir or a quarry or, you know, something like that. But obviously because I'm in the UK it was really, really cold and we woke up on the morning of our dive and there was ice on the water so when we got there we were very nervous and didn't want to get into the water. But once I was in it was so freezing that I tried to go under the water but the more I tried the harder it got and then I got very frustrated and started to cry and then all my ears got blocked up and I couldn't get under. But eventually I managed it and erm, went down, passed my test, did all of the skills that you need to do. Despite the fact that I was so terrible at it I managed to pass and now, erm, now I'm passed I can go anywhere I want so I'll make sure it will be somewhere very hot. So, erm, to sum up, all, altogether it was a really difficult, really difficult challenge, I'm so glad I managed it. Erm ... For me, it was quite an achievement and, and I'm proud of myself for having done it.

UNIT 8 Recording 2

L = Lynn

L: In real life my husband and I are both artists, visual artists. We paint landscapes and portraits. Well, we've been using the website for about two years now. And about a year ago we started an artists' colony on the internet, and it's been great. There are people like us, who work in the arts but also other people. And we show our paintings, and it's brought some business for us. It's a very creative kind of community, and we love it. We really do.

R = Rick

R: There is definitely a community of bloggers. It's a very twenty-first century community, which means no one knows one another personally. Bloggers might tell you their thoughts but, er, you don't know them as people. The guy who wrote this, who says he's a fifty-year-old American university professor, might be a sixteen-year-old girl from Bombay – we just don't know. But the best blogs have a following, who are very loyal readers. These are people who log on every day. And they get really engaged in the content. Well, that, to me, is a community.

N = Nathan

N: The place where we live is very small. There's only one shop, which sells all sorts of things like food, newspapers, and everything really. There's a small school, a pub, and then not much else. Actually, our social life is based on the pub, where we have our town meetings. Anyway, when we need to buy other things we shop online. It's cheap and it saves us an hour's drive in the car. And yeah, I've bought all sorts of things there: furniture, clothes ... stuff you just can't get where we live.

A = Abbie

A: The website which I use the most is a social networking site. It's like Facebook or MySpace. I put up pictures of me and my family and I write messages – but to be honest, I use it mostly to keep in touch with friends. And the thing that I like is you go onto your friend's homepage to see what they've been doing ... and er, you, you can see pictures of all their friends. And then you see pictures of your friend's friends, and it grows and grows so you meet new people. Erm, I think it's great. I check it at least once every day.

UNIT 8 Recording 5

Conversation 1

A: I'm really hungry. Can I have some of this?

B: Help yourself.

Conversation 2

A: Come on in.

B: Thanks.

C: Have a seat.

Conversation 3

A: Hi.

B: What a day! I'm so tired!

A: I'll make you some coffee. Put your feet up.

Conversation 4

A: Can I just quickly use your phone?

B: Be my guest.

Conversation 5

A: Welcome!

B: Thank you. What a nice room.

A: Make yourself at home.

UNIT 8 Recording 6

Conversation 1

W = Woman M = Man

W: Hi Dave. Sorry. Do you mind?

M: Sorry?

W: We don't smoke in the house.

M: Oh, sorry about that. I didn't know.

W: That's all right. It's no problem.

Conversation 2

M1 = 1st man M2 = 2nd man

M1: So they've invited me to dinner at their home.

M2: Wonderful. And they're also from Morocco?

M1: The same as you. From Morocco.

M2: That'll be great.

M1: So, do I need to bring a dish? Like, bring some food?

M2: No, it's not necessary. You can bring a small gift if you want but you don't need to bring food.

Conversation 3

M = Man W = Woman

M: Hello?

W: Hello?

M: Hi, I'm Richard Davies. From Exeter? I'm here to visit your offices.

W: Ah hello.

M: I'm a bit early. Is this a bad time?

W: Umm.

M: I can come back later.

W: I wasn't expecting you so early. Can you come back in ten minutes? I just need to finish some work here, then I'll be able to show you around.

M: Of course. Sorry about that.

W: Not at all. It's fine.

Conversation 4

W1 = 1st woman W2 = 2nd woman

W1: So, I walked into your parents' house but I forgot to take my shoes off. Did I do something wrong?

W2: Oh, I see.

W1: My shoes weren't dirty or anything but I still felt really bad.

W2: It's OK – I'll tell my parents you forgot. Don't worry about it.

W1: I don't know. Should I call them up to apologise?

W2: No, it's nothing. You really don't have to apologise.

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Conversation 5

W = Waiter C = Customer

W: Excuse me sir, would you mind putting this on?

C: What?

W: Put on your jacket. In this restaurant you have to wear a jacket.

C: My apologies. I didn't realise.

Conversation 6

W = Woman M = Man

W: So this American family are going to stay with us for Thanksgiving.

M: For what?

W: For Thanksgiving. You know, people from the United States celebrate it.

M: So what's the problem?

W: Americans always eat turkey on Thanksgiving, don't they? But we're vegetarians – we never eat meat. So, well, what should we do?

M: Um ... if I were you, I'd tell them the problem, and maybe they can cook a turkey while you and your family just eat something else.

UNIT 8 Recording 7

Extract 1

W = Woman M = Man

W: We don't smoke in the house.

M: Oh, sorry about that. I didn't know.

W: That's all right. It's no problem.

Extract 2

W = Woman M = Man

W: I wasn't expecting you so early. Can you come back in ten minutes? I just need to finish some work here, then I'll be able to show you around.

M: Of course. Sorry about that.

W: Not at all. It's fine.

Extract 3

W1 = 1st woman W2 = 2nd woman

W2: It's OK – I'll tell my parents you forgot. Don't worry about it.

W1: I don't know. Should I call them up to apologise?

W2: No, it's nothing. You really don't have to apologise.

UNIT 8 Recording 8

B = Ben Jacques S = Sharon Hills

B: So Sharon, erm, imagine you had to start a brand new community. Er ...

S: Yes?

B: I know it's a difficult question, but ideally where would it be?

S: Erm, I'd probably choose somewhere quite warm, so yeah, so you didn't have any issues of flooding, or you know, too much snow to deal with something like that. And then I'd choose another place most people would probably choose, not an island ... erm ...

B: Where ... where exactly?

S: But, I think, hmmm ... somewhere in

France, I don't know why.

B: Oh somewhere in France? OK and, and who would be there: the French only or a mixture of people?

S: No, I ... well, it would need to be a mix of people and they'd need to be able to help one another.

B: In what way?

S: Well, erm ... I'd like to take one person who's an expert in one field, another person who's an expert in another field, so you have – you know – arty people, erm, manually skilled people, erm ... good orators, good writers.

B: Ah, so a whole range of skills ...

S: Exactly!

B: ... all going into the melting pot.

S: Yes, but, I wouldn't have too many people to start with, although if it's too small a group then I suppose you risk, erm, falling out. But I think if you keep that group fairly small to begin with then you can draw up your own special laws, you know, to govern yourselves.

B: Would it need laws do you think ... this, this utopian society?

S: Mmmm ... well, ideally there'd be no laws but because people are human I think you would probably have to come up with some ground rules yes.

B: What would be the most important one?

S: Oh! Erm, I think, erm ... not to physically hurt somebody else I suppose.

B: Right, so pretty much like we have at the minute ...

S: Yes, I suppose ...

UNIT 9 Recording 2

1 Jeans are worn by people all over the world.

2 Mobile phones are being designed especially for teenagers.

3 Teenagers have always been influenced by the media.

4 A great film about a teenage vampire was made in Sweden.

5 In the past, children were seen as mini-adults.

6 In the future, people will be prevented from smoking until they are twenty-one.

7 In Mexico, a party called quinceañera is held when a girl reaches the age of fifteen.

8 Many of the computer games of the future will be designed by teenagers.

UNIT 9 Recording 3

1 Yeah, I grew up in the 90s. Erm, for me film and music are two important aspects of my life, and it was a fantastic decade for both of those.

In terms of films, there were some ah excellent ones that came out, erm, my favourites being *Forrest Gump*, *Pulp Fiction*, and *The Shawshank Redemption*. In terms of the music ... probably the most famous bands of the time was Oasis and Blur. Ah, one of the most memorable moments of the 90s was Euro 96 ... obviously the football tournament. I was lucky enough

to go to the opening ceremony myself. Obviously, as we was entering the end of the millennium the celebrations towards the end of the nineties were huge as were the actual celebrations on the night. Tony Blair was elected, erm, so he was the first sort of Labour government for, for a long time. Um and also Mother Teresa died, sort of Mother Teresa was, erm, the famous charitable missionary.

2 Ah, the 70s, well they were wonderful I think if, if I'm asked were they was it a good decade or a bad decade, personally I have to think it was a good decade to grow up in. I think it's very lucky I think of it as a very lucky experience when generally the world that I lived in, which was London and England, which was the post-war period and therefore an era of a certain amount of erm, restriction was all ending and things were freeing up and that happened just at the time that I was leaving home and finding my own independence. It all seemed as though it happened at the same time. Erm, technology was er, changing and improving, um, everything seemed to be developing and getting better in many ways. The fashion was getting rid of short hair and regimented kind of looks, erm, individuality was very much the order of the day. Great people were emerging in the arts. John Lennon, for example, was an icon for me I think as a creative artist with a message as well in his work. Great artists in film, Scorsese, *Taxi Driver*, Spielberg, *Duel* these were emerging artists of tremendous skill and artistry but they were just starting out then when I was.

3 I was a teenager in the 80s and I remember thinking that um I didn't like a lot of the fashion and the music from back then but now it's obvious in retrospect that I did quite like it. I love looking back on like a nostalgia trip at the way we used to dress and how much hair gel I used and how much hair spray the girls used, and er, now in the 2000s there's sort of a trip back into that time you know, girls are wearing big earrings again and geometric patterns of their clothes. Erm, the music in the 80s became quite computerised sounding, quite electronic and er, disco faded away, although we did still have soul although people like Luther Vandross and Billy Ocean, erm, making soul music. Er, New Romantic was another style that came out in the early 80s where the men started wearing lots of make-up and had big shoulders and small waists and erm, there was Madonna was a big trendsetter for girls and er, at one point she cut her hair really short in the mid 80s and almost like a boy's, and then all the girls started cutting their hair short, too. Erm, I wasn't very fashionable myself, I used to spend most of my money on records not clothes. Erm, there were some good films around in the 80s too things like *Back to the Future* with Michael J Fox, *Desperately Seeking Susan* with Madonna, *ET*, *Police Academy*

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... Um, I'm gonna be forty this year and I reckon my birthday party is going to be a big nostalgia trip back to the 80s.

UNIT 9 Recording 4

W = Woman M = Man

W: What about this first one? Who was once kidnapped in France?

M: I have no idea. Maybe Isabelle Allende?

W: It was Chaucer. I think he worked for the British government.

M: Did he? I didn't know that.

W: OK, what about the next one? Who was messy?

M: Umm ... probably Machiavelli.

W: It was Karl Marx.

M: Oh really?

W: And the third one: who was stopped by the US government from entering the States?

M: I'm not a hundred percent certain but it might be Chaplin. I read somewhere that he had some political views that they didn't like in the States. I'm fairly sure it's Chaplin. Is that right?

W: You're right. It was Chaplin.

M: Yeah, I read something about that.

W: OK, number four. Who played the violin?

M: I haven't a clue. I'll guess it was Galileo.

W: It was Einstein. He was a very good violinist, apparently.

M: Was he? That's interesting.

W: Number five.

M: It's definitely not Mandela. Ermm ... Joan of Arc?

W: Didn't you see that film about Che Guevara and his friend travelling across South America on their motorbikes?

M: I don't think I did, actually.

W: Yeah, Guevara was a medical student ...

M: Oh yes, I knew that. I just couldn't remember.

W: Who went on a road trip with his friend?

M: Ah, that's right.

W: And the last one?

M: Umm, well I'm sure it isn't Picasso. Oh, it's da Vinci. He invented lots of stuff but never actually produced any of it, like ... um ... oh I can't remember, but I know he was an inventor as well as an artist.

W: Correct. It was da Vinci. He invented the parachute.

M: Oh yeah, I was just about to say that!

UNIT 9 Recording 6

L = Lili Lowe

L: OK, well, someone whose work really influenced me is Gabriel Garcia Marquez. I like his short stories, but I fell in love with his novels, particularly *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. That book really made its mark on me. Anyway, erm, well, Marquez is a Colombian writer. I think he was born in 1928. He's a Nobel Prize winner – he won the Nobel Prize in Literature – and his books have been translated into dozens of languages. Erm ... He's one

of the best-known writers in the style of what's called magic realism. This means he writes kind of realistically but there's magic, I mean magical things happen in his books, like ghosts appear and kind of crazy things happen. I'm a big fan of that type of writing. Anyway, his novels are kind of funny but it's black humour or satire. He invents all these amazing, unforgettable characters, like um, corrupt officials and devoted lovers, vicious policemen and stupid revolutionaries, and through it all you're laughing at the characters but you also see their world is falling apart. I haven't read his work in Spanish, only English, erm, but the style is brilliant. His dialogue is fast and funny and he writes amazing descriptions of places and people. And, um, well, it was finding Marquez's work as a teenager that really made me become a reader.

UNIT 10 Recording 2

I My favourite food city is ah Hiroshima, in Japan ... Umhmm ... Ah they've got all sorts of food. They've of course got the really famous sushi that everyone thinks about when they think of Japanese food, but they've got so much else to offer. Ah, Hiroshima's really famous for its okonomiyaki which is like a cross between a pancake and a pizza ... and it's kind of egg and like a flour mixture with cabbage and noodles and meat and sometimes cheese. It's really good. One of my favourite restaurants is a place called, ah, Daikichi, which specialises in grilled chicken you can get grilled chicken with cheese, grilled chicken with plum sauce, ah and a really good soup with rice and ginger in it. I'd love to take you to Daikichi, you'd love it. They do good beer, too. Erm, but also you can get tempura in Hiroshima, which is like prawns and vegetables deep fried in a really light, fluffy batter ... it's really good. And then, ah, you have also the informal restaurants that are called Izakaya where you go with a group of friends and you order lots of dishes and everyone shares and eats from the middle of the table so it's a great way to try lots of different kinds of food. Actually I know a really good Izakaya that I should take you to.

2 Well, my favourite food city would be Madrid. I lived in Madrid, in Spain for around ten years on and off and the quality of the food is, is wonderful – it's sensational. Spanish people always say that, ah, Spanish food is the best in the world and I always argued while I lived there, that, er, I felt there was a lot more variety of food in the UK, but when I moved back to the UK I really started to miss the richness, the quality of food in Spain. I think my favourite restaurant in Spain was a tiny little, um, Galician which is a part in the north west of Spain, seafood restaurant in a small little bar, it was a very, it wasn't posh or expensive, it was cheap and basic but just served the most wonderful seafood followed

by lots of white wine and er, a great Tarta de Santiago, a great pastry dessert, afterwards. Another great thing, obviously about Spanish food which you'll've heard of is 'tapas' where everyone gets together on a Sunday lunchtime before lunch to have a few bites to eat and, and a few beers together and it's a lovely social atmosphere and it's nice to go out and try a variety of different food. I tried once, ah, pig's ear, which I have to say was possibly the worst thing I've ever tasted [laughs], but generally the quality was sensational.

UNIT 10 Recording 4

Conversation 1

W = Woman M = Man

W: Is there anything I should know for when I arrive at the airport?

M: Yes, watch out for the taxi drivers who tend to hang around outside the airport. Most of them aren't licensed, so you shouldn't really use them.

W: OK.

M: If you do use one, make sure you find out how much the journey is supposed to cost. Don't get in until you've agreed the price with the driver, or else you could find that you have to pay three or four times the amount you should pay for the journey. W: Oh right. That's good to know.

Conversation 2

M = Man W = Woman

M: Hi – I'm going to Heathrow tomorrow, and my plane leaves at 3p.m. Latest check in time is 1.40. What time do you think I should leave central London?

W: For Heathrow? Well, you'd better leave plenty of time, because often there are delays on the tube. Are you going on the tube or the train?

M: The tube, I think.

W: The tube? If I were you, I'd allow about an hour and a half. So, if you want to be at the airport at 1.30, then you'd better leave at about twelve o'clock.

M: OK. That's great. Thanks.

Conversation 3

M1 = 1st man M2 = 2nd man

M1: Be careful when you take trips into the jungle in the north. Generally, there are a lot of mosquitoes there, so remember to take mosquito nets, and insect cream. It's a good idea to wear long trousers, and shirts with sleeves in the evening. And don't forget to take your malaria tablets.

M2: Oh yes, I must remember those.

M1: And whatever you do, don't drink the water, or you'll get a bad stomach.

M2: Oh, I didn't know that.

M1: Yes, always be sure to boil the water first, or drink bottled water. You have to be careful when you eat raw food, too, like fruit, if it's been washed in water.

M2: OK.

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Conversation 4

W1 = 1st woman W2 = 2nd woman

W1: We're going there on holiday, and I've heard that there's a lot of street crime. Is that true?

W2: Not really no. I mean, it's like any big city. You need to watch out for groups of young children on the streets. They try to distract you, and then sometimes take your bag.

W1: Oh. Right.

W2: It's not very common, but don't walk around the city obviously carrying money in a big money belt or anything.

W1: Of course.

W2: The most important thing is to remember to hold on to your handbag, and things like that, but no, there isn't really much crime. On the whole, it's a pretty safe city.

W1: That's useful, thanks.

needs to find a permanent way to keep this beautiful and historic city for future generations. We have an opportunity now to save this city, and we must, before it's too late.

UNIT 10 Recording 5

- 1 Watch out for the taxi drivers who tend to hang around outside the airport.
- 2 Make sure you find out how much the journey is supposed to cost.
- 3 Don't get in until you've agreed the price with the driver, or else ...
- 4 You'd better leave plenty of time.
- 5 If I were you, I'd allow about an hour and a half.
- 6 Be careful when you take trips into the jungle.
- 7 Don't forget to take your malaria tablets.
- 8 Whatever you do, don't drink the water.
- 9 You need to watch out for groups of young children on the streets.
- 10 The most important thing is to remember to hold on to your handbag.

UNIT 10 Recording 7

R = Rob Hustin

R: One place that I think everyone should have the chance to see is Venice. But the problem is that this beautiful and charming city is slowly sinking. Ever since the fourteenth century engineers have tried to work out a way to stop the floods in Venice, but so far nobody has managed. Sometimes there are as many as forty floods per year between March and September, and Venice is actually sinking at a rate of two and a half inches every decade. It's very possible that your grandchildren, and their grandchildren will never have the chance to see this fragile city. Everyone should have the chance to enjoy the city, to walk across its famous bridges, through its ancient squares. There are no cars in Venice, and many people think it helps this to be one of the most romantic cities in the world. So, can it be saved?

Well, they are trying. Barriers are being put in to try and stop the water getting too high. This is viewed as a temporary measure, although they should last a hundred years, so the problem is finding a permanent solution. If you want my advice, go there while you still can, and then together we can put pressure on the government to spend the money it

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7.1

- 1
He's very gifted.
She's really skilful.
- 2
He has an aptitude.
I'm hopeless at this.
- 3
He thinks he's useless.
She has a talent.
- 4
They say he's an expert.
She has great ability.

7.2

- A: Sidis was the greatest genius in history.
B: William Sidis? A genius.
C: Probably the greatest mind of the twentieth century.
D: They say his IQ was between two hundred and fifty and three hundred. That's off the scale.
E: A genius.
F: William Sidis? Great brain, difficult life.
G: Sidis? Genius.

Was William Sidis the most intelligent man who ever lived? If so, why isn't he famous? Why isn't his name known like the names of Einstein, Leonardo, and Charles Darwin? What can his life teach us?

William James Sidis was born on April 1st in 1898. That's right: April the first, April Fool's Day. His parents were Boris and Sarah Sidis, Russian-Jewish immigrants who had settled in New York. They were both passionately interested in education. Boris was a psychologist who taught at Harvard University and Sarah used to read Greek myths to her son as bedtime stories.

It soon became clear that their son was something special. Aged six months, William said his first word: 'door'. At seven months, he pointed at the moon and said 'Moon'. At eighteen months, William could read *The New York Times*. And aged three, he reached up to a typewriter and wrote a letter to a shop called Macy's, asking them to send him some toys! At six, he could speak Russian, French, German and Hebrew.

All of this took place at home, but soon he made newspaper headlines. He passed the entrance exam to one of the United States' best universities at the age of eight. Then, aged nine, he gave a lecture on mathematics at Harvard University. Attended by maths professors and graduate students, this lecture put Sidis on the map. He began attending Harvard University two years later, at the age of eleven.

Now that he was in the public eye, things began to go wrong for William Sidis. The media was fascinated by him. Journalists followed him around and wrote articles about this young genius. Not surprisingly, Sidis began to feel like an animal in a zoo, with everyone watching him.

He wasn't interested in becoming famous, nor in becoming an academic. He just wanted to live a quiet, private life. He tried. He went from job to job, publishing only one book of any academic interest. But everywhere he went, whatever he did, people eventually learned who he was, and the press kept writing about him. In 1944, he died aged 46, almost forgotten.

Since his death, many stories have been told about Sidis. Some said that his genius burned out like an old light bulb. His sister said Sidis knew all the languages of the world and that he could learn a language in a day. None of this was true. Even his IQ – which was supposed to be between 250 and 300 – was just a guess. No intelligence test has been invented to go to that level of genius.

So what can we learn from his life? Firstly, not all childhood geniuses will produce great things as adults. They may think great thoughts or do incredible calculations, but many of them just do normal jobs and find happiness in that way. Secondly, Sidis spent much of his time and energy running away from fame. Unless they want to be Hollywood stars, people need to be left in peace. That's how most geniuses do great work.

7.3

Conversation 1

- A: We really need to stop this. In my view, it's getting out of control. For

example, she watched TV for six hours yesterday. Six hours!

- B: I must say that's a lot.
A: It is a lot. She needs to get out more.
B: And when she's not in front of the TV, she's on the internet.
A: That's what I was saying. She's always in front of a screen.

Conversation 2

- A: For me, Elizabeth is the best. She would be really good in this job.
B: Why do you think so?
A: For one thing, she has the right qualifications. For another, she obviously really wants the job.
B: Yeah, that's very clear. I think the other woman ...
A: Hayla.
B: Hayla. She would do a good job, too.
A: She would, but having said that, she already has a good job. You can see that Elizabeth is really hungry for this position.

Conversation 3

- A = Presenter B = Mr Dyson
A: Mr Dyson, in your presentation you said that the arts in many schools weren't getting enough attention. Can you explain?
B: Yes, the reason I say this is that funding has been cut for arts subjects. There just isn't enough money. Let me give you an example. A school I visited last month wanted to do a play in the little school theatre, but there was no money for costumes, for music. So in the end there was no school play, and the theatre was closed for the whole summer term.
A: And this is a money issue?
B: I do think we could solve a lot of the problems if the government recognised the arts as it recognises maths or science or reading, yes. Like I said, money isn't everything, but it's part of the problem.

8.1

Elise

- E = Elise I = Interviewer
E: I live next door to my parents, who are on one side, and my brother's family, who are on the other side.

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- I: Right.
E: It's really, really useful. They're the perfect neighbours.
I: In what sense?
E: Well, I like the situation because we help each other. For example, if I need a babysitter for my kids, it's no problem.
I: And you see each other a lot?
E: We work together in the family business so we see each other every day. And I guess the whole extended family, which is eleven of us including the children, we eat together maybe once or twice a week, always on Sundays and sometimes during the week. So, yes, we do see each other a lot.
I: You never get fed up with the family?
E: No, I think this situation is quite normal in a lot of countries, maybe like Italy. It certainly is for our family. We've always lived in the same town. I've lived here all my life, and we always wanted to live side by side. I hope our children continue the business and live here, too.
I: And what about your husband? Does he like being so close to your family?
E: Um, I've never asked him actually! Yeah, course he does! I think.

Marc

M = Marc I = Interviewer

- M: We don't have any neighbours. Our nearest neighbours are a couple of cows that live in a field about ten miles away.
I: Are they good neighbours?
M: Fantastic! Very quiet! No, we really are completely isolated.
I: So how come? I mean, was this your dream?
M: Well, it wasn't at first. We were living in Paris, which is a great city, but it's kind of big and we got tired of crowds of people, and all the noise and using public transport. So about ten years ago, we bought an old farmhouse in the middle of nowhere. It's not a functioning farm, but it has an internet connection and me and my wife both work online. And we just love the peace and

quiet.

- I: So the cows aren't yours?
M: No, they belong to a farmer about ten miles away!
I: And isn't it a bit lonely out here?
M: We love it. We never see our neighbours, apart from the cows, which is just fantastic for us as we're a bit antisocial. Actually, you're the first person we've seen this year!
I: Oh, sorry to interrupt your peace!
M: Not a problem. Just don't stay too long!

8.2

- 1 traffic lights
- 2 high street
- 3 housing estate
- 4 sports centre
- 5 industrial estate
- 6 car park
- 7 supermarket
- 8 language school
- 9 shopping centre
- 10 one-way street
- 11 terraced houses
- 12 outdoor market
- 13 gift shop
- 14 primary school

8.3

- 1 The website which we built is too slow.
- 2 Those people who are always working don't enjoy life.
- 3 The ratings site, which I check every day, is growing fast.
- 4 Those students who do online courses love studying.
- 5 Near my flat, where you're staying, there's a supermarket.

9.1

- 1 If I'd known you were coming, I would've waited.
- 2 If I'd waited, I would've been late.
- 3 If I'd been late, I would've missed the show.
- 4 If I'd missed the show, I would've wasted my money.
- 5 If I'd wasted my money, I would've been angry.

9.2

Hello, and welcome to 'Fascinating

Facts!' Today we're going to take a look at some those 'modern' inventions which turn out to be ... well, not quite so modern at all!

Let's start with toothpaste. So you think, 'hmm, toothpaste – when was that invented?' A hundred years ago? Maybe two hundred? But we find that actually, toothpaste has been around for sixteen hundred years. People from Egypt used it, and then the Ancient Greeks and Romans used it. Was it the same as modern toothpaste? Definitely not. Ancient Greek toothpaste used ingredients like crushed bones and oyster shells.

OK, another invention for you: biological weapons. Again, you think, 'biological weapons – must be a twentieth-century invention'. Wrong again. Biological weapons have been used for over three thousand years. Probably beginning in Ancient Greece, it was common for one side to poison their enemy's water supply during a war. Some generals would even throw dead bodies at the enemy or into the enemy's river. One leader called Hannibal even put poisonous snakes into pots and threw them onto an enemy's ship. In the eighteenth century, one way American Indians were killed was through using infected blankets given to them by the Europeans who were colonising America.

Next topic: football. Just how old is the game? The answer is, we don't really know. But we do know that forms of it were played in China over two thousand years ago. And it also seems that the game developed by chance in different parts of the world. Wherever European explorers went, they discovered that native people already played some kind of football: Aborigines in Australia, the Inuit in Greenland, Japan and the Americas. So I suppose it really is the people's game.

Right. Central heating. It's been a wonderful thing for us in cold countries and helps us get through the winters. But most of us don't realise it's a very old invention. Once again, the Ancient Greeks were the first in Europe, over two thousand years ago, although there was a similar system in Korea. Both of these

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civilisations had pipes and controlled fires under the floors to keep the buildings warm. In England, one of the first examples of central heating was in the 1830s. A rich banker installed it in his house so that he could grow grapes in England's cold weather!

The final invention we're going to look at today is the good old umbrella. If we look at a number of ancient sculptures from Egypt and Persia, which is now called Iran, it's clear that the umbrella has been around for a long, long time, certainly more than two thousand years. Interestingly, it seems that only kings or very important people had umbrellas in these sculptures. So they were a symbol of high social class. But what were they for? In Europe we tend to think of umbrellas as things to protect us from the rain. But historically, they protected people from the sun. And later, they became a fashion item.

9.3

- 1 The Institute is given almost a million euros a year.
- 2 One day a cure for cancer will be discovered.
- 3 The files were stolen last year.
- 4 These famous photos were taken at the end of the war.
- 5 The President hasn't been told about the plan.
- 6 The missing people have been found.
- 7 All flights going out of Paris were cancelled.
- 8 The paintings are cleaned once a year.

9.4

- 1
A: Marisa had her baby yesterday.
B: Did she? What wonderful news!
- 2
A: I'm doing an online project about Second Life.
B: Oh really? That's interesting.
- 3
A: His cousin was an Olympic boxer.
B: Was he? Wow!
- 4
A: My sister doesn't eat meat.
B: Doesn't she? OK, I'll cook fish.

- 5
A: The King of Italy? There isn't one! Italy is a republic.
B: I was just about to say that.
- 6
A: I love Lady Gaga!
B: Do you? I think she's crazy.
- 7
A: The inventor of the internet? It was Tim Berners-Lee.
B: Oh yes, I knew that. I just couldn't remember.
- 8
A: My parents have never been here.
B: Haven't they? When are they going to visit?
- 9
A: Jake was the number one student in the country.
B: Really? I didn't know that.
- 10
A: John's got the car. We'll have to travel by bus.
B: Will we? Oh, that's annoying.

10.1

- P = Presenter A = Amy J = Jay-Jay
- P: In 2007, one city decided to take a stand against climate change. Two point two million people across Sydney switched off their lights for an event that would become known across the world as Earth Hour. Earth Hour quickly went global, spreading across the world, and in 2010, thousands of cities in 128 countries took part. Global landmarks like the Eiffel Tower in Paris, the Egyptian Pyramids, New York's Empire State Building, and Sydney Harbour Bridge all plunged into darkness, as millions of people around the world switched their lights off to protest against climate change.
- Organisers say that they want to demonstrate what people can do to reduce their carbon footprint and save energy, and thus draw attention to the problem of climate change. However, critics describe the event as meaningless. In today's programme, we're asking what you think. Can Earth Hour really make a difference? Is it a

good way to raise awareness about the problems the world is facing? Have you taken part in the switch-off? First on the line, we have Amy. Amy, can you tell us what you think?

- A: I think Earth Hour is a great idea. It's a really simple way for people to show that they care about the environment, and want something to change.
- P: So, did you do anything for Earth Hour last year, Amy?
- A: Yes, I did. I was at home with my two children, who are eight and thirteen years old, and we switched the lights off at home, and had our dinner by candlelight.
- P: And how did you find that? What did the children think?
- A: It was brilliant. The children loved it, and we enjoyed a really quiet hour, with no television, or music. We talked, actually. And we'll be doing it again this year, definitely.
- P: Thank you, Amy. Thanks for calling. Now, we've got Jay-Jay on the line. Jay-Jay, what do you think of Earth Hour?
- J: I think it's a complete waste of time. I can't believe it.
- P: Wow. And why is that, Jay-Jay? What's the problem?
- J: I don't understand how anybody can think that turning off your lights for one hour is really going to make any difference. It's just a way for people to do something which makes them feel better. They turn their lights off for an hour, and then they think they have done something about climate change. And then they can carry on as they were before. What we need is for people to really change how they behave, every day, not just for an hour. They need to use less electricity, not drive around in their cars everywhere. We need governments to make big changes, and turning your lights off ... well, it's just silly.
- P: But don't you think, Jay-Jay, that it is a symbol, a gesture that helps to get people around the world thinking about the problems?
- J: Yes, you're right. But the main problem is not to get people thinking about it, but to get people

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to actually change the way that they live, and that's not easy.

P: You're right about that. I suppose ...

10.2

- 1 Gina refused to come with us.
- 2 He promised to call me later.
- 3 They decided to go out for a meal.
- 4 They agreed not to go on holiday this year.
- 5 She warned us that the restaurant was very expensive.
- 6 They invited James to go to the theatre with them on Friday.
- 7 The teacher explained that the children grow vegetables in the garden.
- 8 He recommended buying our fruit at the market.