

Part 1

You will hear three different extracts. For questions **1-6**, choose the answer (**A**, **B** or **C**) which fits best according to what you hear. There are two questions for each extract.

Extract One

You hear part of an interview with a broadcaster who is talking about a series of programmes he presented about landscape painting.

1 Why did he decide to include a picture by a politician?

- A to point out how painting helps people in different ways
- B to show some interesting points about styles of painting
- C to stress that amateur art can equal professional painting

2 How does he feel about the process of drawing?

- A The activity relaxes him
- B He is ashamed of the results
- C Concentrating on it is exciting

Extract Two

You hear an amateur pilot called Gina Nesbit talking about doing aerobatics in her small plane.

3 What does Gina find hard about learning new aerobatic movements?

- A It is difficult to practise without any instructions
- B Trying out some of them makes her feel sick at first
- C She can get nervous flying the plane unaccompanied

4 What gives Gina most pleasure when taking part in competitions?

- A the relief she feels after completing a sequence of actions
- B the satisfaction of knowing she has performed accurately
- C the pride she takes in preparing as thoroughly as possible

Extract Three

You overhear a chef called George talking to a friend about his daily routine.

5 What does George appreciate most about riding a motorbike?

- A It allows him to avoid the traffic jams on the way to work
- B It reminds him of when he was a teenager
- C It gives him some time for himself

6 Which is George's favourite object in his house?

- A the kitchen table
- B the shower
- C the cooker

Part 2

You will hear an art teacher called Rosa Weston giving a talk about making mosaics - works of art that are made out of small pieces of glass and stone. For questions 7-14, complete the sentences.

Making mosaics

Rosa feels that the real experts in mosaics were the **7** _____.
Rosa says that the greatest changes have occurred in the **8** _____ of mosaics.
Until recently, modern mosaics were mostly found in **9** _____ and swimming pools.
Rosa says that the process of making mosaics calls for both **10** _____ and _____.
Most students attend what's called a **11** _____ as part of their course.
Rosa admits that making mosaics can be compared to doing **12** _____.
Rosa gives the example of ashtrays and **13** _____ as objects that are now being made using mosaics.
Rosa has even considered putting a mosaic border on **14** _____.

Part 3

You will hear part of a radio programme in which two people, Sally White and Martin Jones, are discussing the popularity of audio books. For questions 15-20, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

15 Sally feels that the main advantage of audio books is that they

- A encourage children to read more
- B make more books accessible to children
- C save parents from having to read to children
- D are read by experienced actors

16 What does Martin say about the woman who came into his shop?

- A She no longer worries about long journeys
- B Her children used to argue about what to listen to
- C She no longer takes her children to France
- D Her children don't like staying in hotels

17 Martin says that in the USA there is a demand for audio books because people there

- A were the first to obtain audio books
- B have to drive long distances
- C are used to listening to the spoken word on the radio
- D feel that they do not have time to read books

18 Sally says that authors may record their own books on tape if

- A their book has just been published
- B they want it read a certain way
- C they have already read extracts from it aloud
- D there are no suitable actors available

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19 According to Sally, successful abridgements depend on

- A their closeness to the original
- B the length of the original
- C the style of the author
- D the type of story

20 Martin feels that unabridged versions

- A are better than abridgements
- B can be too expensive
- C contain too much detail
- D are becoming more popular

Part 4

You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about starting a business.

TASK ONE For questions 21-25 , choose from the list A-H the reason each speaker gives for starting a business.		TASK TWO For questions 26-30 , choose from the list A-H the comment each speaker makes about their business.	
A careers advice	Speaker 1 21 []	A It has made a lot of money	Speaker 1 26 []
B redundancy		B It fills a gap in the market	
C family relocation	Speaker 2 22 []	C It has added variety to life	Speaker 2 27 []
D taking early retirement		D It was difficult to begin with	
E a newly discovered skill	Speaker 3 23 []	E It is lonely and exhausting	Speaker 3 28 []
F an idea in an article		F It provides little social contact	
G a disagreement at work	Speaker 4 24 []	G It is causing family problems	Speaker 4 29 []
H a friend's advice		H It has meant a lot of travelling	
	Speaker 5 25 []		Speaker 5 30 []

Answer Keys

Part 1

1. A 2. C 3. C 4. B 5. C 6. B

Part 2

7. Greeks 8. design 9. public libraries 10. time, motivation (in either order)
11. weekend workshop 12. puzzles 13. soap dishes 14. chests of drawers

Part 3

15. B 16. A 17. B 18. B 19. C 20. D

Part 4

21. B 22. G 23. C 24. E 25. F
26. D 27. A 28. F 29. C 30. B

Tapescript

The part of the text containing the answer is underlined with the question number given in square brackets []. Points that are crucial to understand are *written in italics*. If you still struggle with CAE Listening, please refer to [Listening tips](#).

Part 1

Extract 1

Interviewer: Why did you decide to include a painting by a famous politician?

Man: I wanted to remind viewers that amateur painting has its own purpose, that scores and scores of people paint for themselves as that politician did. And I liked his daughter's explanation that it helped to give him some respite from the pressures of public life. I thought that was important to focus on [1], so that we weren't just talking about painters as professionals who had really cracked it and who taught us things about their technique.

Interviewer: You draw yourself, don't you?

Man: Yes, I've always liked it though I'm afraid my attempts aren't very good, so I keep them purely for my own amusement. The intensity of drawing is always a great thrill [2], i can't say it's a relief, which it obviously is for some people. You have to use your eyes to look more carefully at a scene than you would if you were just out for a walk, or even if you were taking a photograph as an amateur. There's something about drawing that forces you to see things and think about them

Extract 2

Interviewer: I've only ever been up in a plane once where the pilot turned the plane over in an aerobatic display and I've never been more scared or felt sicker. Do you get that sinking feeling too, Gina?

Gina: I'm very fortunate in that I don't. This came as a pleasant surprise to me because I do get terribly seasick. I find that what is routine and what I'm used to doing isn't frightening. Learning some of the new manoeuvres, though, can be quite daunting because this is a single-seater plane. So, the first time I do anything new, I'm on my own [3] except for the guidance of my coach, who's on the ground.

Interviewer: What's the real thrill for you of performing these difficult manoeuvres in competitions?

Gina: It's exciting of course, but ultimately the reward comes from knowing that you've done it with precision [3].

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It involves an unusual combination of mental preparation, physical preparation and skill. It's not as difficult as you might first think to fly the sequences of movements. What is difficult is doing it to a high enough standard to avoid the faults the judges are looking out for.

Extract 3

Fran: I'm exhausted. It took an hour to drive five kilometres! George: You should do what I do and use a motorbike.

Fran: Is it much quicker?

George: It is a bit, because you avoid some queues. The great thing is, when I put on my helmet, I'm shut away, you know, in my own little world [5] and that means I arrive feeling quite calm. I started riding a motorbike where I grew up in the country because there weren't any buses.

Fran: So is that your most prized possession? I was asked recently what my favourite thing at home was. As a chef I imagine yours is something in the kitchen, your cooker perhaps.

George: The one at the restaurant is fantastic because it was specially designed for me. It's hard to say here. My family love the kitchen table, where they chat for hours. Given the late hours I work, I hardly participate in that. No, my workplace is so hot and sticky that what I long for is a shower when I get home [6]. I feel the stresses of the day disappear with the water. Odd thing to choose, isn't it?

Part 2

Man: I'd been teaching art for about ten years when I went on holiday to Greece. While I was there, I became really interested in the art of making mosaics and decided to include this in the courses I run. Many people assume that the Romans invented mosaic, but it was the Greeks who were the true craftsmen [7]. And they, in turn, probably picked it up from the Sumerians. But it was the Romans who brought mosaics to Britain. And, apart from the introduction of nylon backing to hold the tiles together, the techniques themselves haven't changed much over five thousand years. It's the designs which have undergone a really radical change [8]. In the recent past, modern mosaics have been restricted to the walls of public libraries and the odd swimming pool [9], and, by and large, it looked as if the true art of the mosaic could well disappear. Fortunately, that has not happened.

People often ask me why I prefer to spend hours teaching my students to stick tiny squares onto tiles when I could be doing something else. And it's certainly the case that the process demands both time and motivation [10] on occasions. It can even give you a really bad headache! But, in fact, there's something very therapeutic about it. I think it has something to do with breaking things up and then reconstructing them.

For every course I teach, we have jars and jars of brightly coloured glass, odd bits of china, broken plates and dishes, and most people just can't wait to start sticking them onto larger stretches of concrete. For the beginners, we produce mosaic packs, which contain all the essentials you need and explain clearly how to go about things. Each course includes a weekend workshop, which is attended by the majority of students [11], and it's actually a wonderful way of relaxing. I'm often asked if I do puzzles, and it's not such a silly question as it sounds because it's a very good comparison of skills [12]. Some people do get a bit scared, faced with all that choice, but that's why the mosaic packs are so popular. But I try to teach people to be inventive as well.

If you look around yourself, there's plenty of evidence that the art is enjoying a revival. Not only do you see mosaic ashtrays and soap dishes [13], but you can actually now find them decorating underground station walls. Now, I'm not suggesting that you start pulling your own home to pieces and replacing everything with mosaics, although I often find myself looking at chests of drawers and thinking, 'Hmm, just a border, perhaps! [14]' Still, my reply to my over anxious students is, 'All right, I know it takes hours, but, after all, it's a labour of love, and

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you have something which will give you pleasure for a long time afterwards.’ Now if you’re interested in trying out the effect in your own home...

Part 3

Interviewer: And today our subject for discussion is audio books. We have two guests in the studio - Martin Jones, who owns an audio bookshop, and Sally White, whose job it is to abridge - or shorten - books for the audio market. Now, I was amazed to find out just how popular it has become to listen to books on tape. What do you think is the reason for this, Sally?

Sally: Well, people are often very short of time. If you commute each day and have to spend, say, an hour in the car... then you can listen to part of a tape... and then go on where you left off. And many people like to listen to audio books while doing monotonous household chores, like ironing or dusting. However, I suspect that it's when people are trying to drop off at the end of a busy day that greatest use is made of them. I suppose it's like being read to as kids.

Interviewer: Yes, and in fact these audio books have also become popular among children. I often listen to them with mine. I suppose the fear here is that children will become lazy... I mean it's much easier to listen to a story than read it yourself.

Sally: Yes, of course it is, but I'm not sure this will necessarily put children off reading. I don't know... but the great thing is that they can listen to books which are far too difficult for them to read [15]. It may mean, of course, that busy parents are tempted to put on a tape rather than take the time to read to their kids. But then, I'm sure many would actually prefer to listen to professionals rather than tired mums and dads...

Interviewer: What do you think, Martin?

Martin: Well, I'd like to tell you about a lady who came into this shop just last week... and she was telling us about these family driving holidays to France, which used to be a disaster with the kids in the back making a row, not being able to understand French radio. And she swore she would never take them to France again. Then she discovered audio books and suddenly the journeys there are a joy [16].

Interviewer: Now I hear that audio books are even more popular in the States...

Martin: Yes, it's certainly a huge, huge market in the States although I don't think audio books started there. Maybe it's because there's a tradition here in the UK from radio of spoken words being an acceptable medium, whereas in America, of course, it's a different story. In the main, Americans don't seem to get as much drama or stories on the radio, so they're going out and getting audio books. And the principal attraction is that they need something to listen to because of the time they spend on the road - places are so much farther apart [17]. An audio book passes the time...

Interviewer: And what are the reasons for sometimes asking the author to do the reading rather than employing a professional?

Sally: It depends. Obviously the author is the one who's closest to the book and they may have a particular interpretation of the book that they are anxious to portray [18]. Most authors will have already done public readings of their books anyway as part of their promotional activities at the time of publication, so they've probably read parts of it already. Otherwise, professional actors are used. We're very lucky in Britain to have such a wealth of actors who can bring the story alive completely.

Interviewer: Now, Sally, your job is to abridge books especially for the audio market. I suspect a lot of people would say that you shouldn't mess about with what an author has written.

Sally: No, I don't agree. Most of the abridgements these days are really extremely good. Abridgers interpret the story in the way they believe the author has written it. But the point about abridgements is that one's adapting it to

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create a new version of the story so it will inevitably be different to the original. Now, obviously some books are easier to abridge than others...

Interviewer: Yes. I'd imagine a thousand-page volume by Charles Dickens must be a bit of a nightmare...

Sally: Well, what we do is to trim the excess off so it's more to do with the way they write [19]. Beryl Bainbridge, for instance, writes so beautifully and sparsely that it's harder to cut into her than Charles Dickens with his pages of detailed descriptions. This is probably the case with any kind of book [19].

Martin: We shouldn't forget that many books are not abridged before being taped. I would say that these have now grown to account for about twenty per cent of the audio market [20]. So, yes, some people do prefer to listen to the whole book. We've got Anna Karenina that has just come on the market. It's on twenty-four tapes - so, you can imagine how long it is!

Interviewer: Twenty-four tapes? How long is a tape?

Martin: Well, each tape is about ninety minutes and the whole set comes to ninety pounds. Though it's a lot of money, we're talking about a lifetime's listening, which is really something, isn't it?

Interviewer: Well, thank you both very much... and now...

Part 4

Speaker 1: I'd never really considered starting my own business until last year. My friends were always on at me about what a good idea it would be, but I couldn't see the point. It wasn't as if I didn't have a good job - but then when there was talk about reducing the workforce, and I was offered a lot of money to leave [21], I thought, 'Why not try setting up on my own?' I suppose I realised that I really didn't have that much to lose. There were the usual initial problems of course [26], most of them financial, as I struggled to get things off the ground. But I don't regret my decision.

Speaker 2: Although I know a lot of people are forced into this position through redundancy or whatever, in my case it all started when I fell out with my boss [22] about a sales plan. He was so patronising and suddenly I felt I just couldn't take any more. Next day, I went back and handed in my resignation. The thought of having my own business had always been at the back of my mind, I suppose, and this seemed the perfect moment to go for it. My wife had mixed feelings at the time but she can hardly complain now - we've never been so well off and can now look forward to a comfortable retirement [27]! It's such a relief not having someone looking over my shoulder the whole time.

Speaker 3: My husband had always liked the idea of rural life, and when a job in a village school came up he felt it was a chance he couldn't miss. The move to the country [23] was difficult for me, though, because it meant having to give up my position in a really good company. I could've commuted but it would have taken hours every day. There were no businesses like that in the area. So it was a case of setting up on my own or going into early retirement. I couldn't have managed without a computer and access to the Internet. I must admit that I miss my colleagues [28] - but I make sure I see them if I'm in London.

Speaker 4: The idea came to me after we'd had a lot of work done on our house. It left us really hard up and I found I was having to do a lot of the making good myself to keep costs down. Although I was a complete novice, friends who came round commented on what a great job I'd done [24] and kept on at me to do up their places. It was a bit of a leap in the dark because I was trained as a careers adviser, but I've managed to persuade a friend of mine who does have some experience to come in with me, and here we are with our own little decorating company. Although I've yet to make my fortune, every job brings a fresh set of challenges to overcome [29], which is something I never had before.

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Speaker 5: We've spent several years trying to bring up children and have careers at the same time, so we knew how little time working people had to do mundane jobs like making a dentist's appointment or cleaning the car. So when I read a feature about a company in the US which you could call to do these everyday tasks [25], I thought, 'What a brilliant idea!' Within a year we'd set up our own company and our feeling was right - there certainly is a great demand for this type of service [30] in the UK as well. It shouldn't be long before we start making a real profit.