

## THEME 5 BACK TO THE PAST LISTENING SKILL (SUNSHINE)

### **A. Listen to a TV program about these three people and tick the topics they talk about. (Tapescript 28)**

- |               |                                                      |                                              |                                                       |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Jim Carey     | <input type="checkbox"/> 1. His most important roles | <input type="checkbox"/> 2. His childhood    | <input type="checkbox"/> 3. His first job             |
| Oprah Winfrey | <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Her mother and father    | <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Her future plans | <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Her university background |
| J.K. Rowling  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Her marital status       | <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Her mother       | <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Her nationality           |

### **B. Listen again and answer the following questions.(Tapescript 28)**

1. Did Jim Carey finish high school? Why / Why not?
2. How did Carey feel when no one hired him as an actor?
3. Why does Oprah Winfrey feel sad about her parents?
4. What was Winfrey's department at university?
5. Why was J.K. Rowling depressed?
6. How did Rowling's life change?

### **C. Listen to people talk about their past experiences on a radio show and tick the topics you hear. (Tapescript 32)**

- (....) a house which was bought
- (....) being lazy at high school
- (....) a quarrel with a friend
- (....) wrong choice of university department
- (....) moving to another city

### **D. Listen again and complete the chart. (Tapescript 32)**

GLORIA	GREG	DAISY
--------	------	-------

- yelled at his / her best friend
- wanted to be an engineer
- didn't study much at high school
- is an English teacher
- can't get a better job
- might have lost a friend

## **Tapescript 28**

**TV HOST (Max):** Hello, everyone. Today, I have very important guests with me in the studio. Jim Carey, Oprah Winfrey, and J.K. Rowling. Let's welcome our first guest: Jim Carrey. Hello, Jim and thanks for coming. So, here is my first question: How was your childhood?

**Jim Carey:** Hi, Max. Thanks for inviting me. Well, I had a terrible childhood. My family was very poor, so I couldn't finish high school. I wish I'd had money to go to school, but I didn't. So, I started working as a janitor to support my family. So, that was my first job. I went to work every day from 9 to 5.

**TV HOST (Max):** What about your movie career? Was it easy for you to get good parts in movies?

**Jim Carey:** Of course, not! On my first comic stand-up show at a club, the audience hated me! I wish I hadn't made too many stupid jokes back then. Also, I went to many auditions for movies, but no one hired me! I felt terrible! But now, when I look at those times, I wish I hadn't taken things so seriously. Everything worked out in the end.

**TV HOST (Max):** That's great, Jim. I'm glad everything worked out for you. Now, here is our second guest: the legendary talk show host: Oprah Winfrey!

**Oprah Winfrey:** Hello, Max. thanks for inviting me.

**TV HOST (Max):** Thanks for coming, Oprah. So, here is my first question to you: Have you had any regrets in your life so far?

**Oprah Winfrey:** No, Max, not really! I mean of course, there are things I wish I had done differently, but I don't have huge regrets.

**TV HOST (Max):** What about your childhood? How was it Oprah?

**Oprah Winfrey:** Well, Max, it wasn't all roses. In fact, my life was very similar to Jim's. My mother and father were separated and I lived with my mother. I was very sad about their divorce. Actually, I still am. I wish they'd stayed together. And, we were very poor. However, I never quit. Some of my friends with the same conditions quit. They didn't try harder. I wish they hadn't quit. Then, I got accepted to the University of Tennessee on a full scholarship. My department was Communications. I studied really hard back then because it was very important for me to graduate. And you know the rest of the story.

**TV HOST (Max):** Yes, I do. You became the most successful TV personality in the United States. Now, here is our final guest, the author of Harry Potter series, J. K. Rowling! Many people simply know you as the woman who created Harry Potter. But, most of them don't know how you struggled before you became a huge success.

**J. K. Rowling:** You're right. Before, I could finish the first Harry Potter book, life wasn't easy for me. In my adult years, I suffered a lot. First, I lost my mother because of an illness. Then, my husband left me with our daughter. Finally, because of the economic crisis, I lost my job as an English teacher. In short, I was jobless, divorced, and penniless with my daughter. I was really depressed. Every day, I told myself "I wish I'd been a different person. I wish my mother hadn't died." However, when a publishing company accepted my book, I was saved.

**TV HOST (Max):** Wow. What a change of events! Now, we have to take a short break. See you after the break!

## **Tapescript 32**

**Radio Show Host:** Good night, everyone. You're listening to WMZ FM, I'm your host, Frannie. Tonight, we'll talk about what ifs. I mean what could have been different in our lives if we had chosen different paths in life. Here is our first caller, Gloria. Tell us about your big what if.

**Gloria:** Hi, Frannie. I have just started my first job and my what if situation is about the choices I made when I was in high school. If I had been more hard working during my high school years, I could have studied at a better university. And if I had done that, I would have had a better job right now. So, sometimes I think to myself: "What if I graduated from a better university? How would my life be different?"

**Radio Show Host:** I'm sorry to hear that, Gloria. Which university did you graduate from? C'mon, don't be so hard on yourself. Anyway. Thanks for sharing. I hope everything works out for you. Here is our second caller: Greg. What is your story?

**Greg:** Hello, Frannie. It's about a fight between my best friend Ali and me. We had a huge fight about a very stupid topic. We support different football teams, so we started arguing about which team was the best. Things got a little heated and I yelled at him. And then, I left his place without even apologizing. We didn't speak for three months. Yesterday, I called him and his mother answered the phone. She told me Ali had moved to another city and bought another phone with a new phone number! Now, I feel terrible! It's clear that I hurt his feelings and now, he doesn't want to see me. I should have known better. I could have called and apologized immediately. Now, I might have lost my best friend forever.

**Radio Show Host:** Wow, that's pretty intense, Greg. I hope you two work this out soon. Here is our final caller, Daisy.

**Daisy:** Hi, Frannie. I am an English teacher who never wanted to be an English teacher. I always wanted to be an engineer. If I had studied engineering at the university, I would be an engineer now, instead of teaching English. I like my job, but my dream was to be an engineer. But, I was not very sure when I was choosing my department. You know the saying: "He who hesitates, regrets."

**Radio Show Host:** Do you still feel that way? I hope you don't hesitate when you make your decisions from now on, Daisy. I wish you the best. Alright, folks. Let's take a break with a song and when we come back, we'll have more callers.