

Audioscript

Listening Comprehension.

You will hear a story about a boy from Manchester. For items 1-10 decide whether the statements marked 1-10 are True (A) or False (B) according to the text you hear. You will hear the text only once.

You now have 30 seconds to look through the items.

(pause 30 seconds)

Now we begin

Introducing David Rooney, a football fan

David Rooney looked at the clock above the fireplace.

Eight-thirty. Time for bed.

He picked up his portable radio, switched off the front room light and went up the staircase to his bedroom, leaving the hall light on because his mum would need it to see by when she came home at midnight.

David kept his radio on as he went up the stairs. He'd been listening to a football match and it was half time now.

Liverpool 1 United 1.

David always listened to football in the evenings. There was a television in the house, but most football was on satellite television and it cost £40 a month. There was no way his mum could afford that. She had to work hard enough just to put food on the table. That's what she always said.

David's mum worked in a pub in the evenings and at weekends during the day.

He didn't have a dad. Or a brother and sister.

When he'd brushed his teeth and was in his pyjamas, David looked out across the housing estate where he lived. There was a group of kids from the high school standing outside the shops. They were kicking an empty Coke can around on the floor.

David closed the curtains quickly and got into bed.

He had until half past ten to read. Then it was lights out. That was his mum's rule. And he always stuck to his mum's rules.

David picked up a book he'd borrowed from the library. An Illustrated History of United Football Club. And then he was lost in the facts and pictures about his favourite team, as he listened to the match.

David was allowed to stay up until 9.30pm. That's when matches finished usually.

An hour later David's light was off and his eyes were shut. United had drawn at Liverpool. 2-2. So he was neither happy nor sad.

This was one of his favourite bits of the day. He closed his eyes and pretended he had been at the United game, chanting with the crowd, celebrating the goals. He did this every night. This was how he got to sleep without his mum being in the house. It was something he'd taught himself.

Although he lived less than a mile from United's stadium, David had never been to see them play. That cost £50 a ticket. Too much.

Sometimes noises interrupted David's football fantasies.

The kids on the street outside.

Police cars going past with their sirens blasting.

And, sometimes, noises from next door.

David had never met his next door neighbour. In fact, he barely knew anyone in the street where he lived. But he knew some things about the old man next door.

He knew he went to bed at 10pm. Because that was the time he could hear him brushing his teeth and switching his light off.

He also knew that every Saturday – and sometimes Sunday – a posh car would arrive and the old man would get into it and be away for a few hours. That was the only time the man went out in a week.

David had asked his mum what she knew about the old man. But mum had said he was just an old man and she didn't want David talking to strangers.

You now have 45 seconds to mark your answers.

(pause 45 seconds)

Integrated listening and reading

Read the text 'Productivity and Rewards', then listen to a part of the lecture on the same topic. You will notice that some ideas coincide and some differ in them. Answer questions 11-25 by choosing A if the idea is expressed in both materials, B if it can be found only in the reading text, C if it can be found only in the audio-recording, and D if neither of the materials expresses the idea.

Now you have 7 minutes to read the text.

(pause 7 minutes)

Now listen to a part of the lecture on the same topic. You will hear the lecture twice.

Today I want to question the idea that rewards increase productivity in the workplace. Now, does this approach really work? Well, when people who have experienced a reward system were asked, we found they didn't like it. Most people, it seems, want to be paid, not encouraged through incentives. People want to be given respect for working extra hard.

In fact, I know of no controlled study that has genuinely shown a long-term improvement in work as a result of any productivity reward scheme. On the contrary, there are many studies that show productivity rewards are even counterproductive. Rewards make for less productivity rather than more.

So, why might this be true? Well, in fact, rewards actually punish. Yeah. If we compensate people for high productivity, they may perceive this as being controlled. People understand they're being manipulated and don't like it. But more importantly, people don't necessarily get the expected rewards. So the disappointment for not being rewarded is sort of the same as being punished. Think about it. The more desirable the reward you expect, the more disappointing it is if you fail to get it. Right?

Productivity schemes might even reduce the amount and quality of work. The workers' relationship with the supervisor could be damaged. Instead of trying to work collaboratively with the supervisor, an employee might conceal problems. For example, let's say you had a problem. You might be less likely to ask for help from a supervisor who can withhold rewards. To avoid a negative rating, you keep quiet. Can you see why this would tend to reduce performance rather than improve it?

You'll hear the lecture again in 45 seconds.

(pause 45 seconds)

Now listen to the lecture again

Text repeated

Now you have five minutes to finish the task and transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

(pause 5 minutes)

This is the end of the integrated task. Now you can start working on your reading task.