

LISTENING – TAPESCRIPT

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

You will hear a radio programme in which Kathryn Blundell, who lives in London with her husband Miles and their two children, Aisha and McKenzie, will discuss her family life.

(Kathryn talking)

Miles goes to Paris every Tuesday, leaving our south London house at 6am. It's always hectic – last minute packing, never enough socks – so it doesn't have the emotional dignity it deserves. It's only when he's gone that I'm missing a piece of the jigsaw. The kids miss him too, but his absences are short and we're busy enough to make it OK.

I'm a self-employed journalist and my earnings are not steady. Miles is in demand as an engineer, so last year we decided he should find a job that paid more to give us financial security. He started his new job in July 2013. The upside is that he gets the challenge he craved, but the cost is he's abroad for three days a week.

I was upset to begin with, but could also see it might be good to have time apart. There's something romantic about absence, although that fades when faced with a suitcase of dirty washing every week.

We soon got into a routine with daily catch-ups on Skype. It makes us have the kind of face-to-face conversations that don't always happen at home.

Sometimes, the places he stays have unreliable WiFi – then the kids and I pass my mobile around. Miles always calls me before bed, so he's still the last person I speak to every day.

I often feel like I have two lives – while he's away, I'm the master of my own little universe; and when he returns, I'm a regular wife. Each has its pros and cons. There's a slower pace at home when he's away, which suits me.

Practical do-it-yourself-type things suffer, when he is gone. Miles wants to enjoy being at home at the weekends, but we still have things that need doing – like the half-built shed propped up in my study.

I think this arrangement is hardest on Miles. While I'm at home with my comforts, he's stuck in a not-posh hotel. I send him notes and pictures so he's always up to date with family news and knows we're thinking of him.

For me, it's tricky juggling work and parenting. But I'm used to this life now and it's taught me one thing, it's that as long as you have the same goal and focus on the positives, you can make anything work.

Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku, 25. ročník, krajské kolo 2014/2015, kategória 2B –

riešenia a úlohy

KEY

READING

1.F, 2.T, 3.F, 4.T, 5.F, 6.F, 7.T, 8.T, 9.T 10.b)

10 points

VOCABULARY

1. I

6. dependable

2. I

7. persuasive

3. C

8. competitive

4. C

9. bore

5. I

10. outward

10 points

GRAMMAR:

1. by/at

2. of

3. who

4. on

5. at

6. any

7. being

8. about

9. such

10. up

11. to the possibility of losing

12. (the) costs to / (the) costs at

13. resulted in / has resulted in

14. controversy caused by / controversy that was caused by

15. at the expense

15 points

LISTENING

1. F

2. T

3. F

4. T

5. F

5 points

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riešenia a úlohy**

R O L E – P L A Y

STUDENT

An international magazine is doing a project to find out which extracurricular activities are most popular for secondary school students: competitions related to academic subjects, debate tournaments, sports competitions, or something else. You are meeting with the magazine's editor-in-chief to discuss what you and your peers do outside of class. Give your ideas and suggestions giving examples from your friends and your school. The magazine will sponsor the school whose extracurricular activities seem to be most varied and interesting.



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R O L E – P L A Y

TEACHER

You are the editor-in-chief of an international magazine that is doing a project to find out which extracurricular activities are most popular for secondary school students: competitions related to academic subjects, debate tournaments, sports competitions, or something else. You are interviewing students from various secondary schools to find out about the real-life activities at her/his school – you wonder if what's happening today is similar to what it was like when you were in secondary school. Your magazine will sponsor the school whose extracurricular activities seem to be most varied and interesting.

You start: So, tell me about your school's activities.

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riešenia a úlohy**

PICTURE STORY

Based on the two pictures below, create a story in which you describe Robert's life in the United States, from the moment he landed in Boston to study there until the graduation ceremony at Harvard University. Describe his four-year experience in general OR describe one particular situation during his university studies. (Robert was born in Prague and finished his secondary education there.)



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Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku

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