

## LISTENING TEST and ANSWERS (1 point)

### CHOOSING A PROFILE PICTURE

#### Introduction

In this recording you are going to hear some new words. Read and listen to them. Make sure you know what they mean.

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*a profile photo* – unha foto para o perfil dunha rede social / una foto para el perfil de una red social

*to stretch* – estirar / estirar

*a shot* – unha foto / una foto

*background* – fondo / fondo  
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Here is the beginning of the recording.

**Voice over:** You're listening to the internet's favourite podcast with Kate Williams and Sam Jones.

**Kate:** Hi Sam!

**Sam:** Hi Kate! I'm sure that this week's podcast is going to be popular. We're talking about something that lots of our listeners worry about: their profile photo.

**Kate:** Yes, because your profile photo is more than just a picture. It's the first thing that people notice about your social network page, and the first information they have about what kind of person you are.

Here is an example of a question:

**What does Sam say that lots of listeners worry about?**

The correct answer is: 'They worry about their profile photo.'

**Ready? Now read the rest of the questions before listening to the interview.**

**Now write the correct answers. Remember to write in complete sentences.**

## Questions

1. Complete the following sentence from the recording.

It's the first thing that people notice about your social network page, and the first information they have about **what kind of person** you are.

2. What's the most popular type of profile photo?

**The 'photo in the mirror' shot is the most popular.**

**The 'photo in the mirror' shot.**

3. Where do most people take a 'photo in the mirror' shot?

**Most people take it in their bathroom mirror.**

4. Why has Kate been researching social network sites?

**She's been researching social network sites to find out what makes a really good profile photo.**

**To find out what makes a really good profile photo.**

5. What kind of picture does Kate suggest for people who don't have a pet?

**She suggests using a picture of you in your personal space.**

6. Complete the following sentence from the recording.

The things on your shelves and the posters on your walls will give people an **idea of the things** you're interested in.

7. Complete the following sentence from the recording.

Or, if the background to your photo shows some posters on the wall, then viewers of your page will **immediately know what** sports, types of music, or films you like.

8. What does a picture of you in an exotic location tell people about you?

**It tells people that you're adventurous and open-minded.**

**That you're adventurous and open-minded.**

9. Sam says he's not a big traveller. What kind of profile picture does Kate suggest for him?  
She suggests a picture of him doing an activity, such as playing a musical instrument or painting.

A picture of him doing an activity.

10. Complete the following sentence from the recording.  
However, make sure you frequently do the activity that **you choose to show** in your profile picture.

### Recording script

**Voice over:** You're listening to the internet's favourite podcast with Kate Williams and Sam Jones.

**Kate:** Hi Sam!

**Sam:** Hi Kate! I'm sure that this week's podcast is going to be popular. We're talking about something that lots of our listeners worry about: their profile photo.

**Kate:** Yes, because your profile photo is more than just a picture. It's the first thing that people notice about your social network page, and the first information they have about what kind of person you are.

**Sam:** In fact, it says a lot about you and it has a big influence on the image you present to the world. What kind of photo have you got, Kate?

**Kate:** A MySpace shot.

**Sam:** You've got a MySpace *what*?

**Kate:** A MySpace shot. You know, when you stretch your arm out, hold your camera above your head and take a picture of yourself.

**Sam:** I must say I expected something more original from you!

**Kate:** Well, I'm going to change it because I've discovered that MySpace shots don't say anything about you. But it's only the second most popular type of profile photo.

**Sam:** And what's the first?

**Kate:** The 'photo in the mirror' shot. You must have seen lots of these, where people take photos of themselves in a mirror.

**Sam:** I have indeed. Most of them seem to be taken in people's bathroom mirrors and you can see things like toothbrushes, toothpaste, shaving cream, the dirty washing basket ... I've never been able to understand why people want to show these things to the world!

**Kate:** Me neither, and that's why I've been researching social network sites to find out what makes a really good profile photo.

**Sam:** OK, so what kind of pictures can people take that will tell the world something interesting about them?

**Kate:** Well, just a simple picture of you holding your pet tells people something about you – you're an animal lover! It shows you're not afraid of showing your emotions and most people will get a positive image of the person in the picture – unless they don't like pets, of course!

**Sam:** That definitely sounds better than the MySpace and mirror shots, but what can you do if you don't have a pet?

**Kate:** Then use a picture of you in your personal space. The things on your shelves and the posters on your walls will give people an idea of the things you're interested in. For example, a person with lots of books appears to enjoy reading and people will think that they're intellectual! Or, if the background to your photo shows some posters on the wall, then viewers of your page will immediately know what sports, types of music, or films you like.

**Sam:** And what about more active pictures?

**Kate:** Well, the outdoor or holiday picture is a good one. A picture of you in an exotic location tells people that you're adventurous and open-minded.

**Sam:** Sounds good, but I'm not a big traveller.

**Kate:** Then you need a picture of you doing an activity such as playing a musical instrument or painting. If you're more active or sporty, then use a picture of you rock climbing or scuba diving. However, make sure you frequently do the activity that you choose to show in your profile picture. Otherwise, you might find yourself chatting to people who are really into it and it could be quite embarrassing if you haven't got a clue about what the activity involves!

**Sam:** But if you're scuba diving or something like that, nobody can see your face.

**Kate:** It doesn't matter. In fact, some of the better profile pictures don't include the person at all.

**Sam:** How does that work?

**Kate:** Well, if you're into green issues, a picture connected to the subject will tell people that you're concerned about the environment. It will give the impression that you're responsible and thoughtful, and that you're into discussing important issues rather than talking about yourself.

**Sam:** OK, Kate, let's listen to what our listeners' opinions on the ... *[fades]*