

C1 Listening Comprehension - Keys

Riots

1.	What importance do security cameras have?	police investigates images
2.	What were the grounds for arrests? Mention one.	disorder/violence/looting
3.	What was the most severe consequence?	people died
4.	What event initiated the riots?	shooting (in a poor neighbourhood)
5.	How were shops involved?	people broke in
6.	How did the government respond to the problem?	it organised emergency meeting
7.	What did the Prime Minister promise to remedy?	restore order and rebuild communities
8.	What was the aim of the father of the Birmingham victim's speech?	to calm down the crowd
9.	How did the government change the public services?	with cuts
10.	According to Mr Cameron, what should schools improve?	discipline

Piano

11.	We can get a piano for... .	A. a few pounds B. thousands of pounds C. free	C
12.	Many think the piano equals	A. a challenge B. a few chords C. accompaniment	A
13.	Learning to play the piano is	A. similar to the guitar B. very accessible C. best completed through books	A
14.	Some pieces of music require	A. bands and singers B. a few cords C. all your fingers	B
15.	The woman mentions that a pianist was ... during a performance.	A. slurring B. sacked C. drunk	C
16.	Many professional musicians	A. teach themselves B. are also teachers C. study abroad	A
17.	The pianist mentioned in the text never missed a	A. note B. tune C. beat	C
18.	An evening around the piano is said to be	A. disturbing B. stimulating C. extremely pleasant	C
19.	The man says the piano is thought to be	A. outdated B. classical C. very modern	A
20.	The piano is important to children because it is	A. technological B. very convenient C. engaging	B

Transcripts

Riots

During the first week of August Britain had its worst riots since the 1980s. The problems began in London and spread to other cities including Manchester, Birmingham and Liverpool. Police are studying images from security cameras. They have arrested hundreds of people for disorder, violence and looting. Police said a 68-year-old man became the fifth person to die as a result of the violence. He was attacked during the riots. On August 4th there was a deadly police shooting of a 29-year-old man in a poor neighborhood in London. Soon after this shooting the riots began. Rioters burned buildings and cars, broke into hundreds of stores and fought with police. Prime Minister David Cameron wants advice from American cities that have fought gang violence. These cities include Boston, Los Angeles and New York. Mr. Cameron spoke to his government on August 11th at an emergency meeting. He said the violence was not political, he said it was criminal.

„Just to speak out we will not put up with this in our country. We will not allow a culture of fear to exist on our streets. And we will do whatever it takes to restore law and order and rebuild our communities.”

In Birmingham three Pakistani men were killed on August 10th. They were trying to protect businesses in their community. Hours after the killing Tariq Jahan, the father of 21-year-old victim Haroon Jahan, wanted people to be calm.

„Basically I lost my son. Blacks, Asians, whites, we all live in the same community. Why do we have to kill one another? What started these riots, and what escalated? Why are we doing this?”

Many people blamed the riots on high unemployment, slow economic recovery and cuts to public services by the new British government. Mr. Cameron blamed it on selfishness, a lack of responsibility, and poor discipline in schools and bad parenting.

Piano in home

Toner: Can I come in there, because, I think, one of the reasons of having a piano at home, and informal music making in the home has this sort of a rarified image about it. But the reality is that there's two myths associated with the piano. First of all, that the piano equals great expense, which, as you've just suggested is not necessarily true. You can pick up a piano for a few hundred pounds or euro at this stage. And also, you can even pick up a piano for free if you are determined enough. Because there are thousands of pianos out there which are not being used. And I think, if you ask around for long enough you will eventually come across one. The other myth of the piano, and I think this prevents it from becoming a more central piece, part of people's homes, is that the piano equals difficulty. But that is actually not true at all. We imagine that you have to go through eight grades of the piano, learn to read music to play the piano. If your initial aim is simply to sing a song, and accompany yourself, that is just a matter of a few chords, maybe four or five chords, which can all be learnt by diagrams. And we never consider learning a couple of chords on the guitar to be a very difficult thing. And it's very similar with the piano. Modern music books today make it very, very accessible. I mean, you know, I won't make many piano teachers happy by saying that, but if you look at sounds like, ehmm, I mean John Lennon's *Imagine*, Paul McCartney's *Let it be*, Tom Waits' *Martha*, even Coldplay's *The Scientists*, that's all the matter of just three or four, five chords in the right hand, each requiring three fingers, and maybe one base note in the left. It's actually a lot more accessible than we think.

Host: I think Susan, you've had some experiences, haven't you, where the pianist at one of your *soirées*, I don't think I'm going too far in calling them *soirées*, gets a little bit tipsy and other people have to take over.

Woman guest: Which is interesting is that I got friends who are professional musicians. And these actually, these are people a bit like Toner was saying, taught themselves, really good, good honkey-tonk players, whatever. And one of them, he'd been, his glass kept being topped up, and he didn't realize it. So he's taken more on board than he realized. And the other professional pianist said to me „He is going Sue, he is going”. And I didn't realize, Earn, the pianist, his left hand started to go, so the other pianist just took over the left hand. They when he collapsed he took over the right hand. So cool, the pianist was carried out by some other professional musicians. I guess it's not first time it has ever happened in the world of

professional music. And the other pianist who took over, never missed a beat. I think *soirée* is not quite the word for that.

Host: Sue, it's a word I am using. Do you have neighbors?

Woman guest: They come.

Woman host: They come. Ok. That's right. I mean, Toner, Susan's description of an evening around the piano, it is brilliant. It's a lovely thing to be able to do. But I guess, you do need a certain amount of understanding from those in your immediate locality, don't you?

Toner: Yes, you need to be considerate about your neighbors, but you need to be considerate about your neighbors when you are playing loud music from your stereo, as well. I think that's another thing we associate with the piano. That it's just too unwieldy, just too big, just too difficult, so it's not going to fit in with a busy 20th century, 21st century life when we are on top of each other. But it's actually an extremely modern convenience. I mean, for example, you know, one thing I noticed, I have been writing about this for years, ever since my children were born with music in the home, and despite the amount of other entertainment, technological entertainment that are available to my children, the piano can really compete, first of all, because it's always on, and that's something really important for children. They literally, they don't have to plug it in, it does not require any energy, it's just something that they can engage in, at any time of the day! And it can accommodate like much of their technology it can accommodate a thirty second fix, it can accommodate a deeper engagement.

Host: So, do you think it will last for another fifty years or so?

Toner: Well, I think we have to make a case for the piano.