

Preparing for listening: Focus on distractors

- 1 Match each sentence beginning 1-5 with an appropriate ending a-e.
- ① My brother was so scared he couldn't watch the film
- 2 **Although** most critics agreed that the film was her best ever
- 3 **Although** snow is now unlikely
- 4 My daughter wanted me to help her with her homework
- 5 **Whereas** in most of his other films he plays the 'baddie'
- a we can expect a certain amount of rain later on.
- b in this one he's definitely the good guy.
- ③ **whereas** I didn't find it at all frightening.
- d I was rather disappointed by her performance.
- e **but** I told her to ask her mother.
- 2 Now decide on the correct alternative in each of the following interpretations of the sentences in exercise 1. Give reasons for your answers.

The speaker in sentence...

- 1 A was frightened by the film. B was not frightened by the film.
- 2 A loved the film. B was not enthusiastic about the film.
- 3 A says it will probably rain. B says it will probably snow.
- 4 A helped his daughter. B didn't help his daughter.
- 5 A says the actor is the villain. B says the actor is the hero in the film.

The incorrect answers in exercise 2 are typical of the distractors you might find in a Part 1 Listening task. The ideas in them are similar to the information in exercise 1 but not the same. Note the use of contrast linkers, written in **bold**.

Listening:

Part 1

In this Part 1 exercise you will hear distractors of the type you met in the Preparing for listening section.

Multiple choice

You will hear people talking in eight different situations. For questions 1-8, choose the best answer, A, B or C.

- 1 Listen to this woman talking about an actor. What is her opinion of him?
- A He is handsome.
- B He is fashionable.
- C He is rude.
- 2 You overhear this conversation between two friends. What type of film are they going to see?
- A an historical drama
- B a romance
- C a thriller
- 3 You hear a conversation in a video hire shop. How long has the customer had the video for?
- A one day
- B two days
- C three days
- 4 You hear an actress talking about her performance in a play. How does she feel?
- A tired
- B disappointed
- C excited
- 5 You overhear this man talking on the telephone. Who is he talking to?
- A an old school friend
- B a work colleague
- C a relative
- 6 You hear a young woman talking to her friend about a film. Why didn't she like it?
- A It was too slow.
- B There was too much violence.
- C It was very predictable.
- 7 You hear a woman telephoning a bookshop. What is she doing?
- A making a complaint
- B making a suggestion
- C apologizing
- 8 You hear this young man talking on the phone. What does he have in common with his girlfriend?
- A They were born under the same star sign.
- B They share the same taste in music.
- C They have the same sense of humour.