

# Lesson 1

## Section One:

### Tapescript:

Task 1: This Is Your Life!

‘This is Your Life’ is one of the most popular programmes on British and American television. Every week a famous person is invited to a television studio, without knowing that he or she will be the subject of the programme. The compère meets the person outside the studio and says ‘This is your life!’. The person then meets friends and relatives from his or her past and present. Studio 4 is where the programme is recorded. The programme begins at eight o’clock. It’s 6.45 now and the director is checking the preparations with his new production assistant (PA). The subject of tonight’s show will be an actor, Jason Douglas. The compère, as usual, will be Terry Donovan.

Director: Let’s just check the arrangements. We’re bringing Jason Douglas here in a studio car—he thinks he’s coming to a discussion programme! The driver has been told to arrive at exactly 7.55. Now, the programme begins at eight o’clock. At that time Jason will be walking to the studio. Terry Donovan will start his introduction at 8.01, and Jason will arrive at 8.02. Terry will meet him at the studio entrance . . . Camera 4 will be there. Then he’ll take him to that seat. It’ll be on Camera 3. Jason

will be sitting there during the whole programme. For most of the show Terry will be standing in the middle, and he'll be on Camera 2. The guests will come through that door, talk to Terry and Jason . . . and then sit over there.

Director: Now, is that all clear?

PA: Yes. . . there's just one thing.

Director: Well, what is it?

PA: Who's going to look after the guests during the show?

Director: Pauline is.

PA: And where will they be waiting during the show?

Director: In Room 401, as usual. Pauline will be waiting with them, and she'll be watching the show on the monitor. She'll tell them two minutes before they enter.

PA: I think that's everything.

Terry: Good evening and welcome to 'This is Your Life'. This is Terry Donovan speaking. We're waiting for the subject of tonight's programme. He's one of the world's leading actors, and he thinks he's coming here to take part in a discussion programme . . . I can hear him now . . . yes, here he is! Jason Douglas . . . This is your life!

Jason: Oh, no . . . I don't believe it! Not me . . .

Terry: Yes, you! Now come over here and sit down. Jason, you were born at number 28 Balaclava Street in East Ham, London on July 2nd, 1947. You were one of six children, and your father was a taxi driver. Of course, your name was then Graham Smith.

Terry: Now, do you know this voice? 'I remember Jason when he was two. He used to scream and shout all day.'

Jason: Susan!

Terry: Yes ... all the way from Sydney, Australia ... She flew here specially for this programme. It's your sister, Susan Fraser!

Jason: Susan ... Why didn't you tell me ... oh, this is wonderful!

Terry: Yes, you haven't seen each other for 13 years ... take a seat next to him, Susan. You started school at the age of five, in 1952, and in 1958 you moved to Lane End Secondary School.

Terry: Do you remember this voice? 'Smith! Stop looking out of the window!'

Jason: Oh, no! It's Mr Hooper!

Terry: Your English teacher, Mr Stanley Hooper. Was Jason a good student, Mr Hooper?

Mr Hooper: Eh? No, he was the worst in the class ... but he was a brilliant actor, even in those days. He could imitate all the teachers?

Terry: Thank you, Mr Hooper. You can speak to Jason, later. Well, you went to the London School of Drama in 1966, and left in 1969. In 1973 you went to Hollywood.

Terry: Do you know this voice? 'Hi Jason ... Can you ride a horse yet?'

Jason: Maria!

Terry: Maria Montrose ... who's come from Hollywood to be with you tonight.

Maria: Hello, Jason ... it's great to be here. Hello, Terry. Jason and I were in a movie together in 1974. Jason had to learn to ride a horse ... Well, Jason doesn't like horses very much.

Jason: Like them! I'm terrified of them!

Maria: Anyway, he practised for two weeks. Then he went to the director . . . it was Charles Orson . . . and said, ‘What do you want me to do?’ Charles said, ‘I want you to fall off the horse’. Jason was furious. He said, ‘What? Fall off! I’ve been practising for two weeks . . . I could fall off the first day . . . without any practice!’

Task 2: What Are Your Ambitions?

Interviewer: Good morning, sir. I’m from radio station QRX, and I wonder if you’d mind answering a few questions for our survey today.

David: Uh . . . sure, why not?

Interviewer: What’s your name?

David: Uh, my name is David George.

Interviewer: David, what do you do for a living?

David: I’m a professional baseball player.

Interviewer: Really?

David: Mm—hmm.

Interviewer: That’s terrific. What do you do for fun?

David: Well, I like to read the classics—you know, Dickens, Shakespeare, . . . uh . . . books like that.

Interviewer: Fabulous. And what’s the most exciting thing that’s happened to you recently?

David: Just call me Dad. My wife and I . . . uh . . . had our first baby.

Interviewer: Oh, (Yeah. A little girl.) that’s wonderful.

David: Mm—hmm.

Interviewer: Who do you admire most in this world?

David : Well , I admire my wife . . . uh . . . she ’ s terrific . She ’ s

going to be a great mother, great mother.

Interviewer: Terrific. What do you want to be doing five years from now?

David: Well, . . . uh . . . five years from now I'd like to be a father of five. I'd like to have lots of kids around the house.

Interviewer: That's fabulous.

David: Yeah.

Interviewer: Thanks very much for talking to us, David.

David: Well, thank you.

Interviewer: Good morning. I'm from radio station QRX, and I wondered if you'd mind answering a few questions today for our survey.

Suzanne: Not at all.

Interviewer: What's your name?

Suzanne: Suzanne Brown.

Interviewer: Suzanne, what do you do for a living?

Suzanne: I'm a lawyer.

Interviewer: A lawyer? And what do you do for fun?

Suzanne: I like to run.

Interviewer: Uh—huh. Running, like—

Suzanne: Jogging.

Interviewer: Jogging. And what's the most exciting thing that's happened to you recently?

Suzanne: I got to run in the Boston Marathon.

Interviewer: Congratulations. And who do you admire most in the world?

Suzanne: Oh, well, I'd have to say Martin Luther King, Jr.

Interviewer: Mmm, yes. And what do you want to be doing five years from today?

Suzanne: Well, dare I say win the Boston Marathon?

Interviewer: Wonderful. Thanks a lot for talking to us today, Suzanne.

Suzanne: You're welcome.

Interviewer: Good morning, sir. I'm from radio station QRX, and I wonder if you could answer a few questions for our survey this morning.

Adolfo: Oh, yes, yes.

Interviewer: What's your name?

Adolfo: My name is Adolfo Vasquez.

Interviewer: Adolfo, what do you do for a living?

Adolfo: I'm a dancer.

Interviewer: A dancer. And what do you do for fun?

Adolfo: I watch . . . uh . . . musical movies.

Interviewer: Musical movies. And what's the most exciting thing that's happened to you recently?

Adolfo: Oh, about six years ago I moved to United States, (Uh—huh.) and that's quite exciting for me.

Interviewer: Yes, that is very exciting. What do you—who do you admire most in the world?

Adolfo: I admire a lot . . . um . . . Sophia Loren, the movie actress.

Interviewer: I understand completely. (Mm—hmm.) What do you want to be doing five years from now?

Adolfo: I like very much what I'm doing right now, so I really would like to keep doing it.

Interviewer: Very good. (Mm—hmm.) Thanks for speaking to us today, Adolfo.

Adolfo: Okay. You're welcome.

Interviewer: Good morning, Miss. I'm from radio station QRX ,

and I wonder if you could answer a few questions for our survey.

Linda: Sure.

Interviewer: What's your name?

Linda: Linda Montgomery.

Interviewer: Linda, what do you do for a living?

Linda: Uh, well, right now I'm going to beauty school.

Interviewer: Beauty school?

Linda: Yeah.

Interviewer: Uh—huh. And what do you do for fun?

Linda: Oh, why for fun, I hang out with my friends—you know, go for pizza, stuff like that.

Interviewer: I understand. What's the most exciting thing that's happened to you recently?

Linda: Oh, this was so great! (Yeah?) Four of my friends and I, we went to a Bruce Springsteen concert. We actually—we got tickets.

Interviewer: Wonderful.

Linda: It was the best.

Interviewer: Who do you admire most in the world?

Linda: Who do I adm— I guess (Mm—hmm.) my dad, (Uh—huh.) probably my dad. Yeah.

Interviewer: And what do you want to be doing five years from now?

Linda: I would love it if I could have my own beauty salon.

Interviewer: Uh—huh.

Linda: That would be great.

Interviewer: Thanks very much for talking to us today.

Linda: Okay.

## Key to Exercises:

### Task 1: This Is Your Life!

A. Choose the best answer (a, b or c) to complete each of the following statements.

1. "This Is Your Life" is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. the most popular programme on British and American television
  - b. one of the most popular programmes on British and American radio
  - \* c. one of the most popular programmes on British and American television
2. "This Is Your Life" is a \_\_\_\_\_ programme.
  - \* a. weekly
  - b. monthly
  - c. daily
3. The programme is recorded in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - \* a. studio 4
  - b. studio 3
  - c. studio 2
4. The programme begins at \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. 6.45
  - b. 7.55
  - \* c. 8.00
5. The subject of tonight's show will be \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Terry Donovan
  - \* b. Jason Douglas
  - c. Pauline
6. Camera \_\_\_\_\_ will be at the studio entrance.
  - \* a. four



b. three

c. two

B. True or False Questions. Write a T in front of a statement if it is true according to the recording and write an F if it is false.

1. (T) The person invited to "This Is Your Life" does not know that he or she will be the subject of the programme.
2. (F) The subject can meet only friends and relatives from his or her past at the studio.
3. (F) Terry Donovan is the compère only for tonight's show.
4. (F) Jason Douglas will arrive at the studio at eight sharp.
5. (F) Jason will be sitting in the middle for most of the show.
6. (T) Usually the guests wait in Room 401 and Pauline tells them when they should enter.

C. Identification. Match each name in Column I with a description in Column II to identify the person.

Column I

- (1) Jason Douglas
- (2) Terry Donovan
- (3) Pauline
- (4) Susan Fraser
- (5) Stanley Hooper
- (6) Maria Montrose
- (7) Charles Orson

Column II

- (a) Jason's English teacher
- (b) the subject of tonight's programme
- (c) an actress who worked with Jason in 1974
- (d) the compère
- (e) a director
- (f) the person who waits with the guests in Room 401
- (g) Jason's sister

Answer: (1)—(b) (2)—(d) (3)—(f) (4)—(g)  
(5)—(a) (6)—(c) (7)—(e)

D. Complete the following résumé for Jason Douglas.

Name: Jason Douglas

Former name: (Graham Smith)

Profession: (actor)

Date of birth: (July 2, 1947)

1952: (started school)

1958: (moved to Lane End Secondary School)

1966: (went to the London School of Drama)

1969: (left the London School of Drama)

1973: (went to Hollywood)

1974: (were in a movie with Maria Montrose)

Task 2: What Are Your Ambitions?

A. Give brief answers to the following questions.

1. Where is the interviewer from ?

Answer: Radio Station QRX.

2. Why does he ask these questions?

Answer: For a survey.

3. How many people have been interviewed?

Answer: Four.

4. How many questions does each interviewee answer?

Answer: Six.

5. What are the questions ?

Answer: (1) What's your name?

(2) What do you do for a living?

(3) What do you do for fun?

- (4) What's the most exciting thing that's happened to you recently?
- (5) Who do you admire most in this world?
- (6) What do you want to be doing five years from now?

B. Fill in the following chart with answers that each interviewee gives to the questions.

	Interviewee 1	Interviewee 2	Interviewee 3	Interviewee 4
Question 1	David George	Suzanne Brown	Adolfo Vasquez	Linda Montgomery
Question 2	professional baseball player	lawyer	dancer	student at school
Question 3	read classics—Dickens, Shakespeare	running—jogging	watch musical movies	hang out with friends—go for pizza
Question 4	had his first baby	got to run in the Boston Marathon	moved to the US	went to a Bruce Springsteen concert
Question 5	his wife	Martin Luther King, Jr.	Sophia Loren	her dad
Question 6	be a father of five in five years	win the Boston Marathon	do what he's doing right now	has her own beauty salon

## Section Two:

### Tapescript:

In Your Own Words

Announcer: And now, at 10.50 it's time for In Your Own Words, in which we interview people with unusual stories to tell. Here to introduce the programme is Patricia Newell. Good morning, Patricia.

Patricia: Good morning, and good morning everyone. With me in the studio now is this morning's guest, Trevor Cartridge. Good morning, Trevor.

Trevor: Good morning, Patricia.

Patricia: Trevor, you have one of the most unusual stories I've ever heard. Yet, nowadays, you seem to lead a very ordinary life.

Trevor: Yes, Patricia. I'm a dentist. I live and work in London.

Patricia: But at one time you used to have a different job?

Trevor: Yes, I was a soldier.

Patricia: A soldier?

Trevor: That's right.

Patricia: And how long ago was that?

Trevor: Oh, about two thousand years ago.

Patricia: That's right. Trevor Cartridge believes that he was a soldier in the army of Julius Caesar. He remembers coming to Britain with the Roman army two thousand years ago. Trevor, tell us your remarkable story . . . in your own words!

Trevor: Well, funnily enough, it all began because I wanted to give up smoking.

Patricia: Give up smoking!

Trevor: Mm, I used to smoke too much and I tried to give up several times, but I always started smoking again a few days later. In

the end I went to a hypnotist. He hypnotised me, and I stopped smoking at once. I was delighted, as you can imagine.

Patricia: Yes?

Trevor: That made me very interested in hypnotism, and I talked to the hypnotist about it. He told me that some people could remember their past lives when they were hypnotised, and he asked if I wanted to try. I didn't believe it at first, but in the end I agreed. He hypnotised me, and sure enough, I remembered. I was a Roman soldier in Caesar's army.

Patricia: You didn't believe it at first?

Trevor: I didn't believe it before we tried the experiment. Now I'm absolutely convinced it's true.

Patricia: What do you remember?

Trevor: Oh, all kinds of things, but the most interesting thing I remember is the night we landed in Britain.

Patricia: You remember that?

Trevor: Oh yes. It was a terrible, stormy night. There were a hundred or more of us in the boat. We were all shut in, because the weather was so bad and most people were sick, because it was very stuffy. There was a terrible smell of petrol, I remember. Lots of men thought we should go back to France. It wasn't called 'France' then, of course.

Patricia: And there was a smell of petrol?

Trevor: Yes, it was terrible. The weather got worse and worse. We thought we were going to die. In the end the boat was pushed up onto the sands, and we climbed out. I remember jumping into the water and struggling to the beach. The water was up to my shoulders and it was a freezing night. A lot of men were killed by the cold or drowned in the storm, but I

managed to get ashore.

Patricia: You did?

Trevor: Yes. There were about ten survivors from our boat, but even then our troubles weren't over. We found a farmhouse, but it was deserted. When the people read the newspapers, and knew that we were coming, they were terrified. They took all their animals and all their food, and ran away into the hills. Of course, there were no proper roads in those days. Well, we went into the house and tried to light a fire, but we couldn't even do that. We always kept our matches in our trousers pockets, so naturally they were all soaked. We couldn't find anything to eat, except one tin of cat food. We were so hungry, we broke it open with our knives, and ate it. We found a tap, but the water was frozen. In the end we drank rainwater from the tin. We sat very close together and tried to keep warm. We could hear wolves but we didn't have any weapons, because our guns were full of seawater. By the morning, the storm was over. We went on to the beach and found what was left of the boat. We managed to find some food, and we hoped there was some wine too, but when we opened the box all the bottles were broken.

Patricia: So what happened?

Trevor: We waited. Finally another boat came and took us away, and we joined the other soldiers. I remember going into the camp, and getting a hot meal, and clean clothes. It was wonderful. We were given our pay, too. I remember the date on the coins, 50 BC. It was an exciting time.

Patricia: And did you stay in Britain?

Trevor: Oh yes, I was here for five years, from 50 BC to 55 BC. I

enjoyed my stay in Britain very much.

Patricia: And then you went back to Rome?

Trevor: I can't remember anything after that.

Patricia: Well, Trevor Cartridge, thank you for telling us your story, in your own words.

### **Key to Exercises:**

A. Choose the best answer (a, b or c) for each of the following questions.

1. When does the programme "In Your Own Words" start?

\* a. 10.50.

b. 10.15.

c. 9.50.

2. What is the programme about?

a. Patricia will tell stories about some unusual people.

\* b. Some people are invited to tell their unusual stories.

c. Anyone can be invited to talk about themselves in their own words.

3. What does Trevor Cartridge do?

\* a. He is a dentist.

b. He is a soldier.

c. He is an announcer.

4. Where does he work and live?

a. In Paris.

b. In Rome.

\* c. In London.

5. What is Trevor's story mainly about?

a. How he gave up smoking.

b. How he became interested in hypnotism.

- \* c. His experience as a soldier in the army of Julius Caesar.
- 6. Where did Trevor live two thousand years ago according to his story?
  - a. In Britain.
  - \* b. In France.
  - c. In Italy.

B. True or False Questions. Write a T in front of a statement if it is true according to the recording and write an F if it is false.

1. (F) When Trevor decided to stop smoking, he gave it up at once.
2. (T) Trevor became interested in hypnotism because a hypnotist helped him give up smoking.
3. (F) The hypnotist told Trevor that hypnotism could also help him remember his past life and, of course, Trevor believed him immediately.
4. (F) After being hypnotised, Trevor could only remember the night he landed in Britain as a soldier of the Roman army.

C. Fill in the following chart with information about the journey the Roman army made according to Trevor.

Designation: D Company

Number of men: (one hundred or more)

Journey from (France) to (Britain)

Means of transport: (boat)

Weather conditions: (stormy)

Food: (cat food)

Drink: (rain water)

Condition of weapons after landing: (useless)



Fighting: (none)

Equipment lost or damaged: (boat lost, guns full of water, supplies of wine lost)

Soldiers killed or wounded: (about ten survivors, all others drowned or killed by cold)

D. Point out what is not true in Trevor's story.

Answer: The following did not exist in Roman times:

petrol, newspaper, matches, trousers,  
tinned food, taps, guns, wine bottles.

50 BC could not appear on a coin.

50—55 BC is counting backwards.

E. Fill in the blanks according to what you hear on the tape.

1. It was a (terrible), (stormy) night. There were a hundred (or more of us) in the boat. We were all (shut in), because the weather was (so bad) and most people were (sick), because it was very (stuffy).
2. We thought we were going to die. In the end the boat was (pushed up onto the sands), and we all (climbed out). I remember (jumping into the) water, and (struggling to the) beach. The water was (up to my shoulder) and it was a (freezing) night.
3. Finally another boat (came and took us away), and we (joined) the other soldiers. I remember (going into the camp), and getting (a hot meal), and (clean clothes). It was wonderful. We were (given our pay), too.

## Section Three:

### Study Skills: How to Predict?

When you listen to a person speaking your own language, in many situations you can be one step ahead of the speaker. You can very often predict what that person is going to say next—perhaps not always the exact words, but at least the main ideas. Have you ever found yourself finishing other people's sentences for them? This is often something we do without even thinking about it.

The more you can predict, the easier it becomes to understand—in a foreign language too. In fact, you will probably be surprised at how much you can predict in English. Train yourself to predict as much as possible. Do this consciously.

There are many things which can help you to predict while you are listening, for example:

1. how much you know about: the topic  
the situation  
the country in which the language is spoken
2. intonation, for example: When presenting a list, rising intonation signals that more items will follow and a falling intonation signals the end of the list: 'I'd like to buy some eggs, cheese, tomatoes and a cake.'
3. signals such as: 'I'm afraid that . . . ' (signals something negative will follow) 'There's one point I'd like to make. . . ' (signals an opinion will follow)

The phrases in group 3 are called semantic markers. They serve as signals for the meaning and structure of the lecture or text. They tell us how the ideas are organized. There are many other semantic markers in English, which are classified here accord-

ing to their function.

1. The markers used for listing, such as:

firstly	thirdly
in the first place	my next point is
secondly	last/finally
2. Markers that show us the cause and effect relationship between one idea and another:

so	because
therefore	since
thus (we see)	
3. Markers which indicate that the speaker or writer is going to illustrate his ideas by giving examples:

for instance	let's take . . .
for example	an example/instance of this was. . .
4. Markers that introduce an idea which runs against what has been said, or is going to be said:

but	and yet
nevertheless	although
on the other hand	
5. Markers which indicate that the speaker or writer is about to sum up his message, or part of it:

to summarize	it amounts to this
in other words	if I can just sum up
what I have been saying is this	
6. Semantic markers used to express a time relationship:

then	previously
next	while
after that	when
7. Markers used to indicate the relative importance of something:



workaholic.

7. A: Had your brother been nervous about it himself?

B: Well, he didn't say, but possibly (pause) he had been.

### **Key to Exercises:**

#### Task 1: Learning to Predict

Listen to the following sentences. When you hear "pause", stop your recorder and guess what the speaker is going to say next. Discuss your answer with your classmates and then let the speaker finish his or her sentence.

1. Answer: trying to write a letter

Reason: The speaker's question suggests he needs a quiet surrounding to do something.

2. Hint: the first speaker is a guest complaining about the conditions of Room 43 which is a single room. The second speaker is a hotel clerk who suggests that the guest move to a double room.

Answer: is the only single room available at the moment

Reason: The phrase "I'm afraid" often suggests a negative or unsatisfying answer.

3. Answer: Where on earth did you get it?

Reason: The second speaker's surprised tone shows that the money is out of her expectation and she must be curious about how it is gained.

4. Answer: You mustn't discriminate against someone just because they are married.

Reason: The word "but" suggests an opposite meaning.

5. Answer: I wouldn't mind being a prince.

Reason: The man's questioning tone shows he doesn't agree

with the woman.

6. Answer: I'm not a workaholic.

Reason: The word "but" suggests an opposite meaning.

7. Answer: he had been.

Reason: "But" and "possibly" both give some hint.

## Task 2: Dictation

### The Knowledge

Becoming a London taxi driver isn't easy. In order to obtain a licence to drive a taxi in London, candidates have to pass a detailed examination. They have to learn not only the streets, landmarks and hotels, but also the quickest way to get there. This is called 'The Knowledge' by London cab drivers and it can take years of study and practice to get 'The Knowledge'. Candidates are examined not only on the quickest routes but also on the quickest routes at different times of the day. People who want to pass the examination spend much of their free time driving or even cycling around London, studying maps and learning the huge street directory by heart.

### The Underground

Travelling on the London underground (the 'tube') presents few difficulties for visitors because of the clear colour-coded maps. It is always useful to have plenty of spare change with you because there are often long queues at the larger stations. If you have enough change you can buy your ticket from a machine. You will find signs which list the stations in alphabetical order, with the correct fares, near the machines. There are automatic barriers which are operated by the tickets. You should keep the ticket, because it is checked at the destination.