

Overview

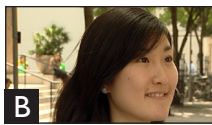
Watch the video podcast. What do the people talk about? a) working b) learning c) education

1 Read Hina's text and watch the video podcast from 0:10-0:26. Delete the extra words. Watch the podcast again to check your answers.



I have a ¹~~part~~/full-time job but I like ²learning/studying new things in my ³free/spare time. At the moment, I ⁴study/'m studying Spanish. I'm enjoying it but I ⁵find/'m finding it quite difficult. Today we ⁶ask/'re asking people about ⁷studying/learning new things.

2 Look at the people below and read questions 1-8. Watch the video podcast from 0:26-2:44 and write answers A-F to the questions.



Who ...?

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1 ...sings in a choir | <u> E </u> |
| 2 ... is learning to play golf | <u> </u> |
| 3 ...is studying part-time after work | <u> </u> |
| 4 ...didn't enjoy learning to drive | <u> </u> |
| 5 ...is finding it difficult to learn Arabic | <u> </u> |
| 6 ... studied Mandarin Chinese a few years ago | <u> </u> |
| 7 ...is learning Swahili | <u> </u> |
| 8 ...thinks Sanskrit is more difficult than Latin | <u> </u> |

Glossary: *choir* = a group of people who sing together; *Arabic* = the language of Arab people; *Mandarin Chinese* = one variety of the Chinese language; *Swahili* = a language from East Africa; *Sanskrit* = a classical language of India; *Latin* = the language of Ancient Rome

3 What are they learning at the moment? Look at the people below and read their answers. Then watch the video podcast from 0:26-1:40 and complete the answers.



- I'm learning to speak another language, actually.
- I've been learning to _____ the guitar for about 50 years now.
- The courses I _____ are training courses for leadership.
- I'm learning to _____ and _____ in evening classes for adults.
- I've just learnt how to _____ a lot of kayaking.
- I'm learning how to _____ a website.

Glossary: *particularly* = more than usual; *pretty* (adj) = quite

4 What was the most difficult thing they've ever learnt? Read the answers in the box. Then watch the video podcast from 1:40-2:44 and number the answers in the order you hear them. Notice the pronunciation and practise saying the words/phrases.

patience	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	French	<input type="checkbox"/>	playing the trumpet	<input type="checkbox"/>	courage	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arabic	<input type="checkbox"/>	learning Spanish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sanskrit	<input type="checkbox"/>	learning capoeira	<input type="checkbox"/>

Glossary: *patience* = able to stay calm and wait if necessary; *capoeira* = a Brazilian art form with music, dance and martial arts; *trumpet* = a musical instrument; *courage* = not being afraid/ showing that you are afraid

5 Look at the people below and read the sentences about them. Then watch the video podcast from 0:26-2:44 and underline the correct answers in *italics*. Watch the podcast again if necessary.



- 1 She's learning to speak *Chinese/*Spanish.
- 2 Learning *Spanish/*Arabic is very difficult for her.



- 3 Learning yoga was quite *easy/*hard for her.
- 4 One of the most difficult things she's ever learnt is *dancing/*capoeira.



- 5 She studies painting and drawing in the *mornings/*evenings.
- 6 She learnt Mandarin Chinese *last year/*a few years ago.



- 7 He's learning to play the *guitar/*the imbirá.
- 8 He thinks *patience/*courage is the most difficult thing he's ever learnt.

The way we speak

6 Look at the people below and read what they say about difficult things they've learnt. Watch the video podcast from 1:40-2:44 and complete their sentences.



1 Learning a language is *particularly* difficult for myself.



2 I found it really, _____ difficult.



3 Learning to drive was _____ difficult thing.



4 It's difficult by _____ standards.



5 I think I found French very _____ at school.



6 That was pretty _____.

Glossary: *half-marathon* = a run of about 21 kms

Personalisation

7 Write your answers to the questions.

1 Are you learning any new things at the moment? What are you learning? Are you enjoying it?

2 Have you studied or taken any courses recently? What were they? What did you think of them?

3 What's the easiest thing you've ever learnt?

4 What's the most difficult thing you've ever learnt?

FUN FACTS



Students in Japan are using Barack Obama's speeches to learn English. To find out more, go to the BBC link below:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/language/wordsintheneeds/2009/02/090223_witn_obama.shtm

BBC