

LISTENING SKILLS

An interview with Leighton Meester

I. **First Listening:** Listen to an interview the actress Leighton Meester has given about her life and career. **(10 MARKS)**

**(A) Choose the best answer a, b, or c according to the text:**  
**(5 x 1 = 5 marks)**

1. *Gossip Girl* is a .....  
a. radio programme      b. TV series      c. famous film
2. Leighton Meester is ..... years old.  
a. 12      b. 22      c. 32
3. Leighton Meester is a(n) .....  
a. actress      b. singer      c. reporter
4. Until the age of 12 she used to live in .....  
a. Manhattan      b. Florida      c. New York
5. Blair had a lot of .....  
a. qualities      b. prejudices      c. insecurities

**(B) Are the following statements True or False?**  
Tick (✓) the correct answer. **(5 x 1 = 5 marks)**

	True	False
1. Leighton Meester, more or less, identifies with Blair.		
2. Reviews affect Leighton to a great degree.		
3. Acting is a difficult business.		
4. Leighton's younger sister had a health problem.		
5. Leighton Meester writes stories to relax.		

**Second Listening:** Listen to an interview the actress Leighton Meester has given talking about her life and career.

**C. Complete the passage below to summarise the text.**

Use only **ONE** word for each blank.

**(10 x 1 = 10 MARKS)**

*Gossip Girl* is the new talked-about teen TV series which has made 22-year-old Leighton Meester an **1**..... star. Leighton moved to New York at the age of **2**..... Till then she used to live in Florida.

The series is based on a **3**..... of novels about the lives of two of Manhattan's privileged high school **4**..... She plays one of those girls, Blair Waldorf. Blair is really **5**..... and everyone thinks she is terribly unkind. She's complicated but also smart and well educated. She deals with everyday problems but her **6**..... result from her insecurities. She feels all this pressure to be perfect: to be the most beautiful, the most popular and the most **7**.....

Leighton, more or less, identifies with Blair. She couldn't play a character she didn't like or **8**..... with. However, she is not affected much by reviews. The acting business is hard and discouraging. She thinks that the only way you can succeed is to figure out what **9**..... for you and what doesn't.

Recently she has been very sad because her brother was diagnosed with a serious illness. However, life goes on. In her free time, she relaxes by writing poetry, listening to music, getting her **10**..... done, and doing so many other simple things.