

Mid term test 1A LISTENING 1

Sam: What is it like to be bilingual?

Ramona: I don't know how to answer that. It's just natural.

Sam: I can't imagine being able to switch between two languages.

Ramona: Well, for me and my brothers that's how it's always been. If we're talking to our dad we speak Spanish. You know, he's from Costa Rica. And our mom is American, so we speak to her in English.

Sam: Wow, that sounds cool. What language do you dream in?

Ramona: Everybody asks me that. I don't know. I guess it depends on who I'm thinking about or talking to in the dream.

Sam: It's very impressive to be able to speak two languages.

Ramona: I don't think it's such a big deal. I remember when we were kids we used to get some words mixed up. You know, make sentences with a mixture of the two languages.

Sam: That must have been funny.

Ramona: I guess it was. But as we got older it became easier.

Sam: Do you feel like you belong more to one country than the other?

Ramona: I don't know. I think I feel that I belong to both. When I'm in the States, I feel like I'm from here. Well, that's because I *am*! But when we go to Costa Rica and I'm with my dad's side of the family, I feel like I belong there.

Sam: Do you have much family there?

Ramona: Yes, we have a big family. So in some ways I have more connections, more family ties with that country.

Sam: I can understand that. I have some family in Italy, but I don't feel Italian because we never go there. According to my mom, I have a lot of Italian cousins, but I have no idea who they are.

Ramona: You don't speak Italian?

Sam: No! Not even my mom speaks Italian. I mean, she does of course. But she's never spoken to us in Italian. It's a shame, I know.

Mid term test 1A LISTENING 2

Presenter: We've got an action-packed month in our town, with lots of great events and classes for the whole family.

For those looking for something new, there's a ceramics workshop. If you think ceramics is an old-fashioned hobby for middle-aged people, think again! The Bold Street Art Center offers one-day workshops for 14- to 18-year-olds, and they're worth checking out!

The first thing you notice when you arrive at the workshop is its friendly, laid-back atmosphere. It's held in a brightly-lit room. The workshops are suitable for all levels and abilities, and you can make all sorts of things, from mugs and bowls to jewelry.

The instructor, Pete, is a well-known twenty-six-year-old local artist, who's very patient and really encourages you to be creative. The workshop is very informal, and there are plenty of laughs, especially when things go wrong! In fact, it's important to have a good sense of humor!

Participating in a ceramics workshop is a fantastic experience. Don't be discouraged if you think you're not "artistic" enough. Give it a go!

If you prefer to be outdoors, then beginners' organic gardening may be for you. The course is for 10 weeks from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m every Saturday. It's held in the community garden behind the school, and there is free parking in front of the school.

You can choose what you want to grow, as long as it is produce that is seasonal for this time of year. At the end of the course the class organizes a "farmer's market" at the garden to sell the produce. There's also a cooking competition using the vegetables you grow.

This is a great course for making friends and taking care of your health.