

TEST 4 PAPER 1: READING Part 2 (questions 9-15)

Part 2

You are going to read an interview in which a woman talks about her experience of being on a reality TV show. Seven sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A-H** the one which fits each gap (9-15). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

What show did you go on and why?

The TV show I went on involved holding a dinner party for 4 people I'd never met before. There were 5 of us and we held a dinner party in each of our houses on consecutive nights, so we had 5 dinner parties in one week. It was exhausting but a lot of fun. It's a competition where you can actually win quite a lot of money and there is quite a competitive atmosphere. At the end of each evening you have to give a score for the evening and the person with the highest score at the end of the week wins. I didn't win unfortunately but that wasn't my only reason for going on it, although of course it would have been nice. I watch it every week and I wanted to be on it myself just to see what it would be like to be on the other side of the camera. I thought it would be fun and I knew I could do it better or at least as well as most of the people I'd watched. For me it was much more about the food and trying to impress with my cooking skills than just getting on TV.

Was the experience what you expected?

It was actually very different from what I had expected. I hadn't realised what it would be like to have a camera crew with me while I was preparing everything and how much they wanted to see of my house. It felt strange but they were very nice and friendly and made me feel comfortable. In fact they really made me laugh while I was trying to cook and be all serious. I knew they would be with me all the day I was hosting the meal but they wanted to see me every other day as well and ask me lots of questions on camera about the

other people and what I thought of their food. The other people were the biggest surprise; I know seeing how we all get on and the different relationships that form is a big part of the show but I was still surprised by the other individuals who had been chosen to take part. What shocked me was how critical everyone was. I'm quite a polite person and very optimistic so I always try and find the best of a situation. The first night was a bit of disaster as the host got really behind on the timing and we had to wait ages for the main course and then when it came out it wasn't cooked properly. I tried to compliment her on the vegetables and the presentation and told her how wonderful the starter was but the others were just saying things like 'I'm sorry, I really can't eat this,' and 'Well, it's OK, but it isn't that great, is it?' The poor woman was nearly in tears. Fortunately my evening went well and although I'm sure they had plenty of criticisms to make they did it behind my back rather than to my face so there was a much pleasanter atmosphere.

What did it feel like when you watched the programme on TV?

It was really strange to see myself on TV but it was fascinating seeing how they had edited everything and put it all together. I watched it with a big group of friends and I kept wanting to tell them about all the bits that had been cut out. In a way the programme doesn't give a realistic portrayal of what really happened as they tend to choose the most shocking and embarrassing parts to put in but I guess that's what makes good television; it has to be entertaining.

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Would you say it was a positive experience?

It was definitely good fun and yes I think it was positive. **14** I felt under an enormous amount of pressure the whole week knowing that the camera was watching my every move. The day I had to cook I felt very nervous and stressed, it's bad enough entertaining but when you know you're being filmed it's a hundred times worse. But at the end of the evening I felt a great sense of achievement. Nothing awful

happened and I think they liked my food and I was able to relax a bit more after my evening. **15** I always feel sorry for the people who have to go first because as well as doing all the cooking you have to worry about introducing everyone and you have no idea what to expect. Overall I came second so I didn't win the money but felt that was quite respectable. I feel more confident cooking for other people now and I still watch the programme and enjoy it too!

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| <p>A They must have had about 6 or 7 hours of footage from each of the 5 days and yet all you see is about 25 minutes.</p> | <p>E I'm not really an exhibitionist so I would never go on a show like <i>Big Brother</i> but with this there was a point to it; it wasn't just about people watching us do very ordinary everyday things.</p> |
| <p>B I'm glad I did it even though I didn't love every minute of it.</p> | <p>F I was also surprised by how much time they wanted to be with me.</p> |
| <p>C Everyone else made really interesting dishes and we all got on really well.</p> | <p>G I did it because I love cooking and entertaining and I'm a huge fan of the show.</p> |
| <p>D There were a real mix of personalities and there was one person in particular I am very happy I'll never have to see again.</p> | <p>H I went second which was much better than going first as I had at least met all the other people before they arrived on my doorstep.</p> |