

LPF Listening Exemplar

Pop Culture: Interview with Candice Merville

Task Description

In this task, students listened to a radio interview with Candice Merville, an actress. They then answered questions related to her career in show business.

Preparation

Before listening to the interview, the teacher played the first two exchanges between Candice Merville and asked the following questions to help activate their prior knowledge and experiences (e.g. knowledge about the social situation in which the interview was conducted, knowledge about the features of the spoken text):

- Where do you think the recording comes from?
- Who are the participants in the recording?
- What could the presenter and Candice Merville be talking about?
- What kind of language will the participants use, formal or informal English?

Learning Outcomes: ATMs 6-7

ATM 6

Understanding and inferring information, ideas, feelings and opinions in a range of texts with some degree of complexity, using and integrating a range of listening strategies as appropriate

ATM 7

Understanding, inferring and interpreting information, ideas, feelings and opinions in a range of texts with some degree of complexity, using and integrating a range of listening strategies as appropriate

Questions	When students respond to the questions appropriately, they can:
<p>1a) What does Bobby the producer think about Candice?</p> <p><i>He thinks that Candice is attractive.</i></p> <p>b) Explain your answer.</p> <p><i>When he knows Candice is coming to the radio station, he talks about her all week / he is in his best clothes / he has a haircut.</i></p>	<p>ATM 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• deduce Bobby’s attraction towards Candice Merville by using semantic clues about his behaviour, e.g. ‘has been talking about her all week’, ‘in his best clothes’ and ‘he has a hair cut’
<p>2. What does the interviewer think of Candice’s playing the role of a singer in the film?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A. He thinks that it was difficult for her to play the role of a singer.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. <i>He thinks that it was not at all difficult for her to play the role of a singer.</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> C. He thinks that it was a new experience for her to play the role of a singer.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> D. He thinks that it was a funny experience for her to play the role of a singer.</p>	<p>ATM 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• can identify the interviewer’s view through his laughter and his ‘joking’ tone when he asked Candice Merville the confirmation question ‘You play a singer?’ and establish that he does not mean it when he says, ‘That must have been difficult’ as he knows that Candice Merville is a singer and has no difficulty playing the role of one

<p>3. Mary finds the restaurant...</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A. pleasant</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. <i>unfamiliar</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> C. familiar</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> D. unpleasant</p>	<p>ATM 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> deduce Mary's lack of familiarity with the French restaurant by using semantic clues that convey her ignorance, e.g. 'never been to a posh restaurant' and 'doesn't understand the menu because it's French'
<p>4a) How does Candice Merville sound when she talks about making a film? Circle the appropriate word / expression. (You can have more than one answer.)</p> <p><i>not very keen</i> enthusiastic <i>uncertain</i></p> <p>bored disappointed <i>hesitant</i></p> <p>b) Would she make another film?</p> <p><i>She would (probably) not because she sounds uncertain / hesitant / does not sound very keen and mentions a few drawbacks about making films.</i></p>	<p>ATM 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify Candice Merville's view about her making another film through the uncertain and hesitant tone she uses when she utters the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'might' 'I don't know.' 'I'm not sure.' 'But it's hard work. It takes a long time...' <p>ATM 7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> infer Candice Merville's attitude towards making another film based on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the disadvantages she mentions during the interview, e.g. '...But it's hard work. It takes a long time...' the reservations she expresses through her uncertain and hesitant tone the choice of words that convey uncertainty, e.g. the modal 'might', the expressions 'I don't know' and 'I'm not sure'

5. Listen to the following excerpts from the interview and decide whether each of the five excerpts is a fact or an opinion given in the interview. Tick the correct box for each statement.

		Fact	Opinion
a)	... he's a wonderful person and a fantastic artist.		✓
b)	Now, Candice, your new film is going to be shown in cinemas on Friday...	✓	
c)	... there's this one scene where Sam and Mary are at a talent show, and Sam is a banker, but he says to Mary that he's a singer...	✓	
d)	But it's funny too, its very funny.		✓
e)	He's a very nice man.		✓

ATM 7

- distinguish between facts and opinions by using semantic and syntactic clues:
 - for a), understand that this is a statement of opinion as the adjectives 'wonderful' and 'fantastic' represent a subjective evaluation of Mo Lewis
 - for b), understand that this is a factual statement as it provides information on when the film opens
 - for c), understand that this is a factual statement as it describes the details of a scene
 - for d), understand that this is a statement of opinion because the adjective 'funny' represents a subjective evaluation of the film
 - for e), understand that this is a statement of opinion because the adjective 'nice' is value-laden

Tapescript

{The radio interview will begin now.}

P = Presenter **CM = Candice Merville**

P: Now, up next we have a very special guest with us here in the studio. The lovely singer, Candice Merville, is here. Welcome to Force FM, Candice, how are you?

CM: Hello there, I'm very well. How are you?

P: Fine, fine, we're all very excited to have you here. I know Bobby, our producer, has been talking about you all week – your smile, your hair style and your voice. It's very rare that you see him in his best clothes, you know. I think he's had a haircut too.

CM: *[laughs]* Oh please, please, please! He's a very nice man, he's been very kind to me.

P: *[laughs]* I'm sure he has. Now, Candice, your new film is going to be shown in cinemas on Friday. Can you tell us a little bit about it?

CM: Certainly, *Love over Troubled Water* is a love story, I play a singer...

P: You play a singer?*[laughs]* That must have been difficult.

CM: *[laughs]* Yeah, it's me and Mo Lewis, who plays Sam Mack. I play a singer called Mary. Sam's from an upper class family, and my character's family is very poor, so it's about the problems that Sam and Mary have getting together – his parents trying to separate them, his friends arguing with her friends. Finally, they manage to get over their differences and get married in the end. So, it has a serious message about how social differences don't really matter. But it's funny too, it's very funny.

P: What are your favourite scenes?

CM: Oh gosh. *[pauses – thinking]* Um, my favourite scenes. There're so many! Well, maybe my favourite scene... oh, but maybe I shouldn't spoil the story.

P: Well, don't tell us the whole thing, just some funny bits.

CM: Oh OK, well, I suppose I can tell you that there's this one scene where Sam and Mary are at a talent show, and Sam is a banker, but he says to Mary that he's a singer because he's trying to impress her. And so there's this scene at a talent show that he's entered to impress Mary, and he really can't sing at all. Oh gosh... his boss at the bank is there. So Sam gets very embarrassed. But of course, it's acted by Mo Lewis! That's probably my favourite.

P: *[laughs]* Mo Lewis losing a talent show! That I'd like to see.

CM: I know! Hilarious! But then before that, he's taken Mary to a restaurant, and she's never been to a posh restaurant, and she doesn't understand the menu because it's in French. And by the end she has to eat this big plate of snails. So that's quite funny too.

P: And so are you going to be a film star now, or will we see another album from you?

CM: Oh definitely. I'm a singer. I'll always make music. That's what I love the most. But I might make another film, I don't know. You can earn a lot of money, I suppose. But it's hard work. It takes a long time. And I like to be at home.

P: Perhaps another film with Mo? He's said he'd like to.

CM: *[surprised]* Did he really say that? Another film? I'm not sure. But um, we did a song together for the soundtrack, and that's going to be released as a single, so we're doing that. I'd love to work again with Mo. I love his new album. He's a wonderful person and a fantastic artist.

P: Not as wonderful as you, and certainly not as beautiful. Candice Merville, thank you very much for joining us this afternoon.

CM: Thank you for having me.

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