To recognize fact and opinion in a text, it’s important to know what makes a fact and what makes an opinion. Facts are details such as numbers, data, evidence, and the results of studies and surveys. Opinions change from person to person and are often introduced by verbs such as feel, believe, and think.

**A. Read the blog post and choose Fact or Opinion.**

**Julio’s Blog**

Talent or Hard Work—Which is Better?

April 27

I’ve been reading about this subject a lot, and a study I recently read goes against what I’ve always believed. I used to think that hard work was better than talent. If you think about it, that’s what people want to believe. When we believe that, it gives us hope that if we work hard, we can be anything.

Well, the study I read on talent versus hard work, by Kell, Lubinski, and Benbow, followed more than 2,000 people who scored very highly on a college entrance exam. These people fell into two groups: those that scored better than 99.1% of all test takers, and those that scored better than 99.9%. As the researchers followed these students through life, the 99.9% group were three to five times more likely to earn a doctorate degree, publish literary work, or secure a patent for an invention. The students who were talented performed much better than the others. So now, I’ve changed my mind. I feel that talent is very important. I want to know what other people think. Share your thoughts below!

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**B. Complete the statements.**

**Direct Speech**

1. “Frankie has potential in soccer.”
   - Reported Speech:
   - He said that ________.

2. “She ________.”
   - Reported Speech:
   - He said that ________.

3. “I’m practicing the guitar.”
   - Reported Speech:
   - She said ________.

4. “________.”
   - Reported Speech:
   - He said ________.

5. “You’ve lost the competition.”
   - Reported Speech:
   - She said ________.

6. “________” I said to my friend.
   - Reported Speech:
   - He said ________.

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**C. 10.1 Listen to these dialogues and complete the second speaker’s words in reported speech.**

1. Fran’s coach told her that ________
2. Helen said that ________ a great song.
3. Harry admitted that ________ in the competition.
4. Helen told Igor that ________ that routine before.
5. He said that ________ a chess champion.
6. She explained that ________ in public.

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**VOCABULARY**

**Choose the correct answer.**

1. Juan and Jesus are ________.
   - talents / identical twins
   - He can’t tell them apart.

2. Susie has such great ________ as a singer. She has already won so many awards.
   - potential / talent

3. What’s your ________ about what’s behind Marco’s success? He’s not a good performer.
   - theory / opinion

4. Benny really showed ________ as a musician, so his parents signed him up for musical lessons.
   - theory / potential

5. Joshua has an incredible ________ of memory. He can tell you what someone said in a conversation and be right nearly all of the time.
   - theory / memory

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**GRAMMAR**

**Complete the tense changes and the rules that follow. Use the examples to help you.**

1. “Maria sings well.”
   - Direct speech tense: simple present
   - Reported speech tense: ________

2. “They’re practicing the violin.”
   - Direct speech tense: simple present
   - Reported speech tense: ________

3. “You’ve appeared on TV before.”
   - Direct speech tense: present perfect
   - Reported speech tense: ________

4. “I didn’t play well yesterday.”
   - Direct speech tense: simple past
   - Reported speech tense: ________

5. “You’ll perform one song for us.”
   - Direct speech tense: future with will
   - Reported speech tense: ________

6. We use quotation marks for ________ speech.
7. In reported speech, the verb tense in the noun clause changes to the ________ form.

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**LESSON 1**

**Artists—Born with Talent?**

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LESSON 2

LISTENING

IDENTIFY ATTITUDE

When we identify attitude, we listen for the speaker’s positive and negative opinions to understand how they feel about things. We listen for words and phrases often used to describe attitude, such as love, enjoy, good, bad, etc.

A 10.2 Listen to this street interview and answer the questions.

How does Donna feel about …

1. … TV talent shows?
   a. She loves them.
   b. She thinks they’re fine.
   c. She hates them.

2. … TV in general?
   a. She really enjoys it.
   b. She doesn’t like it at all.
   c. She’s not a huge fan.

B 10.3 Listen to two more street interviews and choose the correct word or phrase.

1. Garry’s favorite talent show is a singing contest / a dance contest.

2. Garry’s sister was on a talent show and she came in first / second.

3. Garry’s believes that the talent on talent shows has improved / gotten worse compared to the past.

4. Vero believes that talent shows help / harm people.

5. Vero laughs / is not happy when she sees people without talent on TV.

6. Vero prefers to watch sci-fi series / love stories over talent shows.

VOCABULARY

A Choose the correct answer.

1. Gregory was disappointed because the director turned / kept him down at the audition.

2. How was the opening night of your play? Did a lot of people turn / fill up?

3. Can I borrow a pen so I can keep / fill out this form?

4. The director loved Miguel’s performance and asked him to turn / come back next week.

5. She was singing the wrong lyrics to the song, but she just kept / stayed on singing.

6. My daughter is really talented so we want her to come / keep on dancing.

7. Sometimes the producers turn / keep people down after just a couple of minutes of singing!

8. I hate this theater. I am never going to come / stay back!

9. Why do they always make these forms so difficult to turn / fill out?

10. If your friends don’t show / fill up soon, I’m watching the movie without them.

B Write one word in each gap.

If they don’t like your audition, they probably won’t ask you to come _____________.

She filled ____________ the application wrong and asked to have another one.

Paula gave a great performance at her audition, but they turned her ____________ anyway.

If you miss one of your dance steps, don’t worry about it. Just try to keep ____________ dancing.

I think I did well in my audition today. I hope they call me soon to ask me to come ____________ for another round.

GRAMMAR

A Choose the correct answers to complete the rules.

1. The tense changes in reported questions are the same as / different from the tense changes in reported statements.

2. We use … in reported yes/no questions.

3. We use … in reported information questions.

B Choose the correct words for the reported speech.

1. He asked, “Do you enjoy dance class?” → He asked if she enjoyed / does she enjoy dance class.

2. I asked, “How long have you been performing?” → I asked how long had they been / they had been performing.

3. She asked, “Where is the lead performer?” → She asked where was the lead performer / the lead performer was.

4. I asked Tim, “Have you seen the new talent show?” → I asked Tim whether he / had / has seen the new talent show.

5. Raul asked, “Who is coming to the play?” → Raul asked who was coming / came to the play.

6. He asked, “Do professionals make the costumes?” → He asked did / if professionals made the costumes.

C Write the six questions from this dialogue as reported questions on the lines below.

Emilio: Hey, Rosa. Did you hear about the talent contest?

Rosa: I did. I enrolled, and I’m very excited about it. I’ve already starting practicing.

Emilio: Great! What are you practicing?

Rosa: I’m putting together some poems, and I want to read them for the audience. Will you enter the contest?

Emilio: I’m not sure. I can play the guitar, but I don’t think I’m very good.

Rosa: Have you taken lessons? There are some great schools out there.

Emilio: I haven’t taken lessons. Where is a good music school?

Rosa: There’s one on Elm Street, near my house. I know a teacher there, Mr. Sanchez. Well, he goes by Manny.

Emilio: Oh, thank you! Fridays are the best. Let me know if that’s OK.

Rosa: I’ll text you as soon as I find out. See you later!

1. Emilio asked Rosa ____________

2. Emilio asked Rosa ____________

3. Rosa asked Emilio ____________

4. Rosa asked Emilio ____________

5. Emilio asked Rosa ____________

6. Rosa asked Emilio ____________

D Each reported question has an error. Find the error and correct it.

1. “Who are your favorite comedians?”
   He asked who are my favorite comedians.

2. “Is your dad performing in a magic show?”
   She asked me was my dad performing in a magic show.

3. “Have you decided to go to the audition?”
   She asked am I feeling confident.

4. “What theaters has Rebecca performed in?”
   I asked what theaters has Rebecca performed in.

5. “Did they turn up to Jose’s show?”
   He asked have they turned up to Jose’s show.

6. “Why aren’t you feeling confident?”
   She asked why am I not feeling confident.
LESSON 3

LISTENING

A 10.4 Listen to this dialogue and choose True or False.

1. Delia is feeling positive about the challenges in her job. [True / False]
2. Mateo has had some bad experiences in his career. [True / False]
3. Delia says she can’t finish pieces because she runs out of ideas. [True / False]
4. Mateo suggests not putting a lot of energy into a big event if you’re not an experienced designer. [True / False]
5. If you want to become a famous singer, and you’ve got what it takes, then you need a bit of luck to be successful. [True / False]
6. You need a bit of luck to be successful. You’ve got to be hungry for success. [True / False]

LISTEN TO TAKE NOTES

When we listen to take notes, we write down pieces of important information that we hear in a talk. We often don’t write in complete sentences. Instead, we write only the most important information. So, if you hear something like Michelle’s goals were to own a record company and sign some great bands, your notes might look like: Michelle’s goals: own a record company, sign great bands.

B 10.4 Listen to the dialogue again and choose the correct answers to complete the notes.

**Being a successful fashion designer**

- Never give up on yourself!!!
- Dream big, and create fashion that pleases people / inspires you
- Set your sights on a goal, e.g. 2 set a work time limit / spend time on one piece
- Go in the right place at the right time and spend time in your work studio / attend many events
- What you know is important, so 4 focus that into your work / expand your knowledge
- Be hungry for success: do every kind of show you can / focus on a big show

**Progress Check**

- I can role-play an audition for a TV talent show.
- I can report what my classmates say about succeeding in the music industry.
- I can talk about my talents and abilities.
- I can write an informal email.
- I can use reported speech in statements.
- I can learn about where talents come from.
- I can learn idioms and sayings connected to success.
- I can use reported speech in questions.
- I can learn about success in the music industry.
- I can talk about my talents and abilities.
- I can use reported speech in statements.
- I can report what my classmates say about succeeding in the music industry.

**WRITING**

A Read the email. Choose the correct purpose for each numbered part of the email (1–4).

1. Hi Mona,
   1. I’m writing to see if you’re available for a show I’m putting on. I need someone who really knows set design, and I think you’d be perfect! I really loved what you did for Townsend Street Theater’s production of Mamma Mia. We start work in two weeks. Can you let me know if you’re up for it, when you get a chance?
   2. Many thanks for your email. I appreciate your praise for my work at the Townsend Street Theater. I would love to work with you on your new show. I am available in two weeks. Please inform me of any details that I should know about.
   3. Looking forward to hearing from you!
   4. Mona

   1 signature / informal greeting
   2 reason for replying / reason for writing
   3 formal punctuation / informal punctuation
   4 informal closing / signature

B Read the reply to the email in A. Choose the best informal style for rewriting the numbered items.

1. Dear Mona,
   1 a To whom it may concern, 2 Hi Mona,
   2 a I’m so glad you loved my work in Mamma Mia!
   3 a Let me know all the details when you get a chance.
   4 a Yours truly.
   5 a Talk to you soon,
   6 a Thank you for acknowledging my previous work.

   3. Many thanks for your email. 2 I appreciate your praise for my work at the Townsend Street Theater. I would love to work with you on your new show. I am available in two weeks. Please inform me of any details that I should know about.

   1 signature / informal greeting
   2 reason for replying / reason for writing
   3 formal punctuation / informal punctuation
   4 informal closing / signature

**VOCABULARY**

A Complete the sayings with words and phrases from the box.

be hungry take/your heart / set your sights who you know

1. Don’t settle for a small role in an average play at a little-known theater. ____________ big!
2. Sometimes, to be really successful, you have to ________ for success.
3. Winning a talent show can take hard work. If you ________, set on winning, you should practice every day until the show.
4. You may know a lot about acting, but you don’t know anyone in the business. And as they say, it’s not what ________ you know, it’s ________ you know.
5. If you want to become a famous singer, and you’ve got what it takes, then ________ on it.
6. You need a bit of luck to be successful. You’ve got to ________ be successful. You’ve got to ________ at the right time.