

Part 1

1 C Man: I don't like that feeling of being cocooned that seems to appeal to some people, you know, that kind of pretending that the rest of the world doesn't exist,

Woman: But I have to admit that I also like to keep in touch with what's going on wherever I am

2 B Woman: so the actual travel part is hardly the main attraction.

3 A I don't particularly like the monotony of a gym routine.

4 C You have to fine tune your driving to suit any car, that's the key

5 B Man: The nine finalists will all get the chance to attend the glittering National Book Awards dinner in London.

6 C Woman: The real secret is to keep your time frame nice and simple.

Part 2: Trekking in the Himalayas

7 adventurous

8 October/November

9 race

10 pudding

11 sleeping(-)bag

12 rewarding

13 translator

14 guest(-)house

Part 3

15 B People wrongly tend to assume that comedians will be prone to depression. It's probably because the comedian is always finding humour in everyday misery, that's how comedy works.

16 C Audiences laugh at comedians because those around them are laughing too. It's a social thing. according to Provine. And so, as a stand-up comedian, all I do is break their collective tension. I lift the audience up and then drop them.

17 C That's how I came to join the debating society, and that kind of got me noticed because I have a way with words as well with numbers. And before I knew it, I was writing for the university newspaper as well, doing orientation meetings for new students — I loved anything with an audience — you see, I couldn't help myself.

18 D so I started dabbling in stand-up comedy — just testing the water in various clubs at first I hustled and gigged wherever possible, gradually building up my act and always on the look out for the next opening.

19 A It's certainly where I think I'm best, and TV can't capture that somehow

20 B dominate the stage. People think I'm older than I am actually, which also helps — people feel uncomfortable if comedians look too young or vulnerable.

Part 4

21 F I'd read about mine in an online magazine — a proper write-up by someone who'd done it, not an advertisement

22 E I took the advice of my boss

23 C The tutor on last year's course had recommended it

24 D Then one evening I got talking to a chap on the train who'd just done one. He made it sound so good

25 H Anyway, my ex-flatmate who's a travel agent had done it and it had certainly helped her

26 D but I've noticed that I am being given a few different things to do in the office now •)

27 A I came away feeling much better equipped to face the demands of my job, more self-assured.

28 C I think the people I work with were really impressed actually when I suggested using them,

29 B And I was right, Thanks to that certificate, I've got an interview for a job at a higher grade next week!

30 H but I was also put into a group with some really high- powered recruitment consultants. It was through them I found the new job I'm starting...