

SB p. 24-25 Listening - Multiple Matching

1a Read the extract from a magazine article about photo manipulation.

Until relatively recently, we accepted that everything we saw in a photograph was true. We know now, of course, that this is not always the case. Most of us are aware of how photographs can be digitally altered, or 'retouched' and it can be fun to do ourselves. But when retouching is used for commercial purposes – to alter a model's appearance in a magazine advertisement, for example – many people feel cheated. The now common practice of photo manipulation to change features such as skin complexion, body shape or hair colour makes a lot of people angry.

“alterada” en el sentit de fer-hi canvis

Speaker 1 ▾

Speaker 2 ▾

Speaker 3 ▾

Speaker 4 ▾

Speaker 5 ▾

- A It can be dangerous.
- B It is done in response to a demand.
- C It does not improve a person's appearance.
- D It is acceptable because people are aware of it.
- E It encourages people to become healthier.
- F It is something celebrities have a right to.
- G It used to be a lot worse than it is now.
- H It is fine if it doesn't go too far.

Speaker 1 D 1

Speaker 2 2

Speaker 3 3

Speaker 4 4

Speaker 5 5

Speaker 1: *people know it's happening ...
Everyone knows that retouching goes on, so there's nothing dishonest about it.*

People are aware → everybody knows

Nothing dishonest about it → it is acceptable, it is ok.

Speaker 1

It's part of our lives today, isn't it? No one's really hiding anything – people know it's happening. When I buy a magazine and look at the photos of celebs and models, I know full well that they've been digitally altered. People can't look that perfect, can they! And surely, it's not just me. Everyone knows that retouching goes on, so there's nothing dishonest about it. As far as I'm concerned, it's fine. People should moan about something else!

short for 'celebrities'

collocation

queixar-se

'so perfect' in spoken language, for emphasis

question tag, for emphasis

A	It can be dangerous.	Speaker 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
B	It is done in response to a demand.	Speaker 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	F 2
C	It does not improve a person's appearance.	Speaker 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	3
D	It is acceptable because people are aware of it.	Speaker 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	4
E	It encourages people to become healthier.	Speaker 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	5
F	It is something celebrities have a right to.			
G	It used to be a lot worse than it is now.			
H	It is fine if it doesn't go too far.			

Speaker 2: *I think it's only fair ... But we've all got a job to do. If theirs is to look good in magazines, then the more help [famous people] get the better.*

Theirs → refers to 'celebrities', 'famous people' (anaphoric reference)

'have a right to' → it's only fair ('only' used for emphasis)

Speaker 2

If I were one of those people on the cover of a magazine, I'm sure I'd want a bit of retouching to look fit and healthy – particularly when you're getting on a bit! Quite honestly, I think it's only fair. Famous people have their photos everywhere and we're looking at them all the time. I know people say that if they want the publicity then they have to accept everything that goes with it. But we've all got a job to do. If theirs is to look good in magazines, then the more help they get the better!

Comma missing: ... they get, the better.

Notice the position of the preposition at the end, as it is required by the expression 'have a/the right to'

'on' the cover, not 'in'

'to get on a bit' → *començar a fer-se gran*

- A It can be dangerous.
- B It is done in response to a demand.
- C It does not improve a person's appearance.
- D It is acceptable because people are aware of it.
- E It encourages people to become healthier.
- F It is something celebrities have a right to.
- G It used to be a lot worse than it is now.
- H It is fine if it doesn't go too far.

Speaker 1 1

Speaker 2 2

Speaker 3 B 3

Speaker 4 4

Speaker 5 5

Speaker 3: that's what people expect to see. ...
Our readers don't want to see models with black bags under their eyes because they had a late night! Or a spotty face! ...
People have always liked to look at good-looking people

in response to a demand → what people want to see

I know we're seen as the bad guys here, but really, we're only doing what our readers want. We're producing the best-looking pictures that we can because that's what people expect to see. So, if anyone, they're the ones to blame. Our readers don't want to see models with black bags under their eyes because they had a late night! Or a spotty face! And if we make an actor's face a little slimmer – that's not going to hurt anyone is it? People have always liked to look at good-looking people – think of all the film stars in the past. And quite honestly, if we're talking about making people look good – maybe we should be talking about banning make-up!

Ulleres / ojeras

superlative of 'good-looking'

To be the one to blame → to be responsible for something (negative connotation)

Question tag – comma before 'is' missing

- A It can be dangerous.
- B It is done in response to a demand.
- C It does not improve a person's appearance.
- D It is acceptable because people are aware of it.
- E It encourages people to become healthier.
- F It is something celebrities have a right to.
- G It used to be a lot worse than it is now.
- H It is fine if it doesn't go too far.

Speaker 1 1

Speaker 2 2

Speaker 3 3

Speaker 4 H 4

Speaker 5 5

Speaker 4: I don't object to a bit of retouching here and there, but frankly some of the pictures are so unrealistic ... Magazine artists need to limit themselves and accept that they can't go over the top and change people's appearance to the point that they no longer look human.

To go too far / go over the top (*passar-se*) → ≠ a bit of (moderately)

Speaker 4

Sometimes you just have to laugh! I look at some of these photos and think – you must be joking! No one has a neck that long or legs that skinny! It gets a bit ridiculous at times. Personally, I don't object to a bit of retouching here and there, but frankly some of the pictures are so unrealistic. I mean, they have to be believable, don't they? Magazine artists need to limit themselves and accept that they can't go over the top and change people's appearance to the point that they no longer look human.

This 'to' is a preposition: object to a bit of retouching (to + Noun Phrase) / object to getting a bit of retouching (to + V-ING → Noun Phrase)

- A It can be dangerous.
- B It is done in response to a demand.
- C It does not improve a person's appearance.
- D It is acceptable because people are aware of it.
- E It encourages people to become healthier.
- F It is something celebrities have a right to.
- G It used to be a lot worse than it is now.
- H It is fine if it doesn't go too far.

Speaker 1 1

Speaker 2 2

Speaker 3 3

Speaker 4 4

Speaker 5 A 5

Speaker 5: *all the eating disorders that young kids are suffering from ... Photo manipulation simply makes it all worse and puts young people at risk.*

Eating disorders → type of illness (i.e. anorexia, bulimia)

Speaker 5

For me, it's all about the fact that most people today are obsessed with appearance and how we all look. There's something in the newspapers nearly every day about all the eating disorders that young kids are suffering from, and why is that? Because many of them want to look like the people they see in the magazines. Photo manipulation simply makes it all worse and puts young people at risk. I'm well aware that the magazines want to sell more copies – it's a business for them. But I think they should behave more responsibly.

Notice the preposition.

Notice the collocation.

'well' is used here for emphasis