

T2

Unit 1, Listening and Speaking, exercises 2 and 3

Briony: In the studio today we have a friend of mine, Angus Macpherson. Angus goes to my high school but in his free time he also does MOOCs. Tell us more Angus.

Angus: Hi Briony. These courses are now over ten years old. The great thing about them is that they're free, and you can learn so many different things. I'm doing a course on 'How to learn' with the University of California and I've got millions of classmates from all over the world.

Briony: Wow! So, are MOOCs for young people too?

Angus: Sure! One of the most popular courses is on Python – this is a language for computers. This course is great for young people who like computers and gaming and want to know more about programming.

Briony: What about a course for those of us who don't like maths?

Angus: The Khan Academy for example has courses in almost everything. History lovers can learn about France in 1789 or Japan in the 19th century. There's even a beginner's course on art history where you watch videos, read articles, post ideas and do exercises.

Briony: That sounds like hard work. Is there anything easier?

Angus: Well, you love art so you could try 'How to make a comic book'. The first thing you do is think about your story. Then you learn how to write capital letters with a pen and also how to draw great pictures.

Briony: That's the perfect course for me! Thanks Angus.