TRANSKRYPCJA NAGRAŃ
POZIOM ROZSZERZONY

Zadanie 4.

Interviewer: Today in the studio my guest is Warren Forman, a storm chaser. Warren, the first question from a listener: why is it OK for storm chasers to get close to a tornado, but not for ordinary people?

Warren Forman: The answer is simple. Ordinary people don't have enough knowledge so for them it's downright dangerous. Storm chasers have been collecting information for years, so they usually know how close they can get and where the safe places are. However, even an experienced storm chaser can't be sure which way the tornado will go and how fast it is going.

Interviewer: So, how many tornadoes have you followed? And have you ever been in real danger?

Warren Forman: Well, at first I kept a detailed record but I gave up counting at more or less a hundred. I know we are considered to be crazy risk-takers, but this image is not true about everyone. I've always preferred to stay on the safe side. At the beginning of my career I was simply scared. You know, any time you're near severe weather, things happen, for example, storms change intensity. Today I'm not scared any more but I'm conscious of their nature and that's why I have reverence for their power.

Interviewer: From your book we learn that you're one of the few who survived a brush with the most powerful F-5 tornado in Oklahoma in 1991. Can you tell us something more about it?

Warren Forman: Just being that close to it was really a nerve-wracking experience. This one passed in front of me very, very close. The tornado was huge and resembled a sandstorm.

Interviewer: In your book you emphasize how important it is to record tornadoes through film or photography and keep local weather services up to date with their movements. Why?

Warren Forman: Because then you can see them coming. You can be warned for days in advance, so people can take precautions. I'm looking forward to the day when tornadoes could be predictable, but I doubt if it will happen soon. The latest research sees many scientists experimenting with lasers but the outcomes of their research are quite random so, in my opinion, we won't be able to foretell any time soon exactly when or where a tornado will strike.

Interviewer: Thank you very much for talking to us.

adapted from www.metro.co.uk

Zadanie 5.

Speaker 1.
One day, at the restaurant where I work, the fire evacuation siren went off all of a sudden. We were all sure it was a test, but from the tone of our manager's voice we could tell that it was something serious. Following protocol we ordered all the customers to go to the fire evacuation point. While we waited there, some of our ever so loyal customers decided to take the opportunity to run off without paying the bill. After a while, our manager informed us that the alarm was just a mistake.

Speaker 2.
One day, I was passing the restaurant I work at and I decided to pop in and say hello to my workmates. I was having a chat with my supervisor when I saw one of our waitresses having some trouble with a customer. This man was really giving her a hard time, yelling and insulting her to the point where she started to cry. I got angry. "Hey, back off! She's only doing her job!" I shouted. The look on the man's face was priceless. My supervisor explained that it was considerate of me to come to her rescue like that, but if I had been in uniform at the time, I would have been in big trouble. Fortunately, it was my day off.

Speaker 3.
One night, I was having a meal in a restaurant when two women walked in dragging five children along with them. The women started chatting and didn't pay attention to what their kids were doing. And the kids ran wild. Finally, I stood up and said that the children were ruining everybody's meals and that we'd had enough. The women's reaction was appalling. They just told me it wasn't my business what their kids were doing. So I walked back to my table, grabbed my meal, took it over to the women's table and deposited the plates in front of them along with the bill. I said they were now responsible for paying it and left.

Speaker 4.
I worked as a bartender at a nice restaurant on the waterfront in a summer resort town, and one day I went to a table to deliver four standard salads. As I was handing out the fourth salad, the woman that received the first one commented excitedly, "There is a frog in my salad!" Everyone just laughed a little, but sure enough a baby frog jumped right out onto the table. Of course I quickly replaced the salad and just hoped she wasn't going to complain to the manager. You can imagine my surprise when I discovered that she'd left a $10 tip for me! Something like that happens only once in a lifetime!

Speaker 5.
I once ate at one of those Japanese restaurants where the chef prepares food on a grill in front of customers. The chef wanted to impress the customers with his juggling skills. He'd toss large wooden salt and pepper shakers into the air, quickly catching them and throwing them up again. Suddenly he lost control of one of the shakers and it flew directly towards my father-in-law. Miraculously, it missed him by a small margin. And my father-in-law just said "It's good you haven't been playing with knives. I'd like to talk to the manager!" The chef turned red with embarrassment.

adapted from www.dinnersfromhell.com

Zadanie 6.

As you probably know, the London Marathon is taking place this Sunday. It's an incredibly popular event so to avoid huge crowds of runners participants are drawn in a lottery. As usual I applied, and as usual had no luck, the fourth time in a row. I was in good company, though. Hundreds of others were also rejected. It shows you must be really lucky to take part. And when I don't run, I always watch the television coverage. I cry every time the first runners complete the course. The participants are both elite athletes and amateurs. And we shouldn't forget first-timers who run wearing funny costumes, for example dressed up as famous film characters. Such participants are the best promotion of the event as they attract the media. The event is obviously popular among long-distance runners but is also well known as a charity event which helps to raise funds for a range of important causes.

A few years ago I decided to turn my attention towards more demanding events such as the six-day marathon in the Sahara Desert. For me, such endurance events, which demand a lot of strength and determination, are addictive. Nothing, no scorching sun, or even a cloud of volcanic ash obscuring the skies, can beat the compulsion to do them. I feel great even if I'm beaten and the last to cross the finish line. And it doesn't matter that there is no cheering crowd along the route and little chance that the event will be reported worldwide. It's the feeling of achievement in accomplishing something that demanding which counts.

I have learnt repeatedly that appearance is no measure of fitness. A few years ago, I found myself starting the marathon alongside a stick-thin 80-year-old man. I thought to myself that at least I wouldn't be the very last person crossing the finish line. And you'd never guess. Some time around mile six he gently overtook me, smiling and waving at his many supporters along the route! With tiny, feather-light steps he drifted into the distance far ahead, breezing past us all. I wanted to congratulate him but I couldn't find him anywhere when I finally crossed the finish line myself.

Many people ask me for advice when they are about to start running marathons. Here are a few things I've learnt. First of all, I relax every part of my body and keep my chin down a bit. That's what expert runners advise. Then I listen to my body, adjust my speed accordingly and enjoy myself. Sounds obvious? But you'd be amazed how many people shoot away from the start line. They're soon out of breath. Every muscle is tense, and by mile ten they feel pain round their stomach and feel that they've pulled all their muscles. A marathon course is more than 26 miles long so I find it meaningless to rush the first third.

Many people believe that finishing a marathon is an unachievable goal. We amateur marathon runners think otherwise.

adapted from The Joy of Marathon Running, The Guardian.