

LISTENING – TAPESCRIPT

SIMONE JELLEY – EDIBLE-FLOWER FARMER

My name is Simone Jelley and I'm an edible-flower farmer. I used to work as an advertising photographer for Queensland newspapers, but when I was made redundant in 2013, I decided to try my hand at edible-flower farming. I've always loved taking photos of food and nature, and when the Australian fine-dining sector began incorporating edible flowers and wild-foraged elements into dishes, I saw an opportunity. I now run a five-acre edible-flower farm called Pretty Produce, based in Canungra, in Queensland's Scenic Rim region. It's a picturesque location, with a steady supply of water from nearby Lamington National Park. I supply chefs, cake makers, and cocktail mixologists around the world with my produce. Despite economic turbulence, a lot of people still spend money on life events, such as weddings and birthdays. The experiential market is a big one for me.

I work seven days a week, and my working days can be up to 16 hours long. It gets hot very early in Australia, so some jobs need to be done before the heat becomes too intense. It's best to do all physical activities, such as watering and transplanting plants and mulching, early in the day. Most of my day is taken up with pressing edible flowers and other vegetable garnishes that I've collected from the field. I go to the post office every day at 4 p.m. to send my flowers around the world. I then deal with admin before continuing to press flowers until late in the evening. Flowers are so versatile. Some flowers, violas and pansies, for example, are vegetative, which means they have a leafy feel that's like lettuce. Calendula, for example, has anti-inflammatory effects and can be easily incorporated into salads, desserts, or vinegars, while dahlias can be eaten like potatoes.

I'm currently designing my own website because I'd love to share my knowledge and inspire others to grow their own edible-flower gardens. I've made a list of around 350 edible-flower species, and I've created what's called edible-flower palate profiles so that chefs can learn how to incorporate edible flowers into their dishes. I also make sheets and books of pressed flowers in my studio. I used to work as an artist and graphic designer, so I feel as though I'm going back to my roots when I get commissioned to make pressed-flower serving boards.

In this industry, your heart really must be in your work. The hours are long and you're always having to develop new products. But the rewards just keep on growing – literally!

Source: Spotlight 13/2024, pages 22/23, adapted

KEY

READING:

1. wildlife
2. turning point
3. female, anti-poaching (*accept the reversed order*)
4. lifelong, multi-generational (*in any order*)
5. knowledge, education (*in any order*)
6. transformative
7. moral, ethical (*in any order*)
8. celebrity admirers
9. non-violent
10. rural

10 points

VOCABULARY:

1. turned into
2. turned down
3. simplicity
4. concise
5. empowers
6. unnecessarily
7. mistrust (***not*** distrust)
8. facilitation
9. enhancement
10. outdated

10 points

GRAMMAR:

1. up
2. each
3. like
4. out
5. to
6. is
7. there
8. above
9. everything/it
10. out
11. as
12. isn't
13. any
14. being made to work hard (by their boss)
15. (that) I hadn't left her

15 points

LISTENING

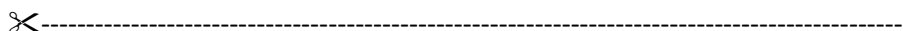
- 1.T, 2. F, 3. F, 4. NG, 5. T

5 points
40 points

ROLE – PLAY

STUDENT:

Your classmate has asked you to help them write an essay about the pros and cons of Artificial Intelligence. It is true that you like this topic, and you have been using AI a lot. Also, your English is advanced and writing essays is your hobby. But it is not fair to use your friendship in this way. Try to persuade your friend that they should write it themselves and come up with their own ideas. Try to show them that they are underestimating their qualities.



ROLE – PLAY

TEACHER:

You have been asked by your English teacher to write an essay about the pros and cons of Artificial Intelligence. You don't feel confident writing about this topic. Moreover, your English language skills are insufficient for such a difficult topic. Ask your classmate to help you with this essay as they know a lot about AI and their English is outstanding. You are surprised that they do not like the idea.

PICTURE-STORY

Based on the image below, create a story of a successful student whose passion was creating websites. Gradually, his creativity and excellent IT skills made him popular among companies which hired him to improve their websites. In your story, describe his professional and personal development and some obstacles he had to overcome before he set up his own company.



Source: <https://www.istockphoto.com/photo/young-asian-programmer-working-at-office-gm1372353160-441479822>

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