

LISTENING – AUDIOSCRIPT

You will hear an interview with Charlene Chua, a renowned illustrator. Fill in the missing words in the sentences below which summarize the interview. Use only words you have heard. (The number of missing words is given in brackets). You will hear the recording twice.

Interview with Charlene Chua – an Illustrator

Charlene Chua is a renowned illustrator from Singapore, currently living in Ontario, Canada. Most of her work is oriented towards advertising, newspaper and magazine editorials, and children's books.

You were born in Singapore and now live in Ontario, Canada. How did you get there? What is your story?

I was born and raised in Singapore. I lived there for over 25 years. My husband is Canadian; he was working in Singapore when I met him. I always wanted to leave Singapore, so shortly after getting married we planned to move back to Canada. We originally wanted to go to Vancouver because it was nearer to Asia, but after researching the cost of living and job prospects, we decided that it would be better to try Toronto instead. Toronto seemed to have better rental rates at the time and was the centre of business for Canada.

I'm always happy to meet people who are great at their work and learned by themselves. Any advice for people who want to learn to do what you do, particularly vector art?

I think that regardless of the art you want to create, you should always work on your drawing and painting skills first. The tool you eventually use to make the art can be learned through just using it more, but if you don't have good fundamentals, then no matter what medium, it won't be as strong as it could be. I am still learning about how to use colour and texture, mostly outside of Illustrator.

To learn to create art, you should get familiar with using the Pen and Pencil tools, as well as using the Pathfinder tools to create additional shapes. Illustrator treats things as shapes, so you have to get used to working with a lot of pieces and grouping them together to help make things easier to edit.

I have not checked online for tutorials for a long time, but I think these days there are many good websites with tutorials to teach you how to use the software. I would suggest picking a tutorial with a subject that interests you, and then try to follow it.

You have worked as an illustrator in an agency like The Gate Worldwide. What do you think are the advantages of working in an agency as opposed to freelancing for an illustrator? How about the disadvantages?

Well, the main advantage of being employed is a steady paycheck. It's much easier to plan for things when you know that you'll be paid on a regular basis. Working in an office gives you the opportunity to meet new people and make friends. The biggest downside is that a lot of your creative energy goes into creating work on the behalf of your employer. There are many restrictions and as a graphic designer, you don't really have much say in what the final result will be. It's not easy to explain to a client why something will not look good if you make the change they requested. It can be somewhat frustrating and unfulfilling, and it takes a lot of effort to want to do even more creative work when you get home.

You are working with Erika, the agent who represents you. What are the advantages to having an agent?

An illustrator's agent is like a business partner. The agent usually represents a number of illustrators and their job is to find new business and secure jobs for the illustrators. A good agent is good at helping an illustrator build business and also frees the illustrator from having to deal with every new project enquiry. I used to have to spend a lot of time answering emails or queries from people who did not really have projects for me to do. An agent can also offer insight into the industry that may help the illustrator. Because they deal with clients more regularly, they could have a better understanding as to the particular trends of the year.

Source: <https://talkillustration.com/interview-illustrator-charlene-chua/> - adapted

A N S W E R K E Y

READING:

1. vulnerability
2. safety controls
3. stolen password
4. communication devices
5. elections

6. tap
7. plugged into the internet/Internet
8. nuclear arsenal
9. deactivation, control (*in either order*)
10. espionage, sabotage (*in either order*)

10 points

VOCABULARY:

1. d
2. c
3. anxieties
4. unquestionably
5. assumption

6. destructive
7. overwhelmingly
8. pessimistically
9. fragmentary
10. imperfections

10 points

GRAMMAR:

1. which
2. off
3. to
4. by/with
5. if/though
6. no
7. where
8. for

9. whose
10. what
11. Since
12. there
13. yet/still
14. have any objection to me/my watching
15. it not been for Paul's advice I would/I'd

15 points

LISTENING (award 1/2 a point if all words in the statement are correct)

1. Asia
2. rental rates
3. good fundamentals
4. additional shapes
5. software

6. steady paycheck (paycheque)
7. creative energy
8. frustrating, unfulfilling (*in either order*)
9. project enquiry/inquiry
10. insight

5 points

40 points

ROLE – PLAY

STUDENT:

A week ago, you borrowed your friend's computer to finish a school assignment and you were very careful while using it. But now your friend is calling you and blaming you for breaking the computer. Your friend wants you to pay half of the repair bill. But you don't have much money, and you don't think it's your fault that the computer is broken. Be polite but assertive in giving arguments why you can't share the repair bill. Your friend speaks first.

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ROLE – PLAY

TEACHER:

A week ago, your friend borrowed your computer to finish a school assignment. Soon after you got your computer back, you noticed that it was broken and it didn't work at all. You are sure it's your friend's fault. Give your friend a call and ask them to pay half of the repair bill. You speak first.

PICTURE-STORY

Based on the image below, create a story about two college students who became friends while attending school during the pandemic. They had to cope with some problems throughout that difficult period, including when school was closed and they were separated. Eventually, they finished their studies and became even closer to each other. They decided to stay together and start their own company.



Source: <https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/happy-college-friends-protective-face-masks-1802659099>

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