

Listening

Part 4 Multiple choice

- 1 Imagine that scientists could develop an 'immortality pill' that allowed people to live forever. Discuss these questions.
- Would you take it? Why/Why not?
 - Would you want everyone to take it? Why/Why not?

how to do it

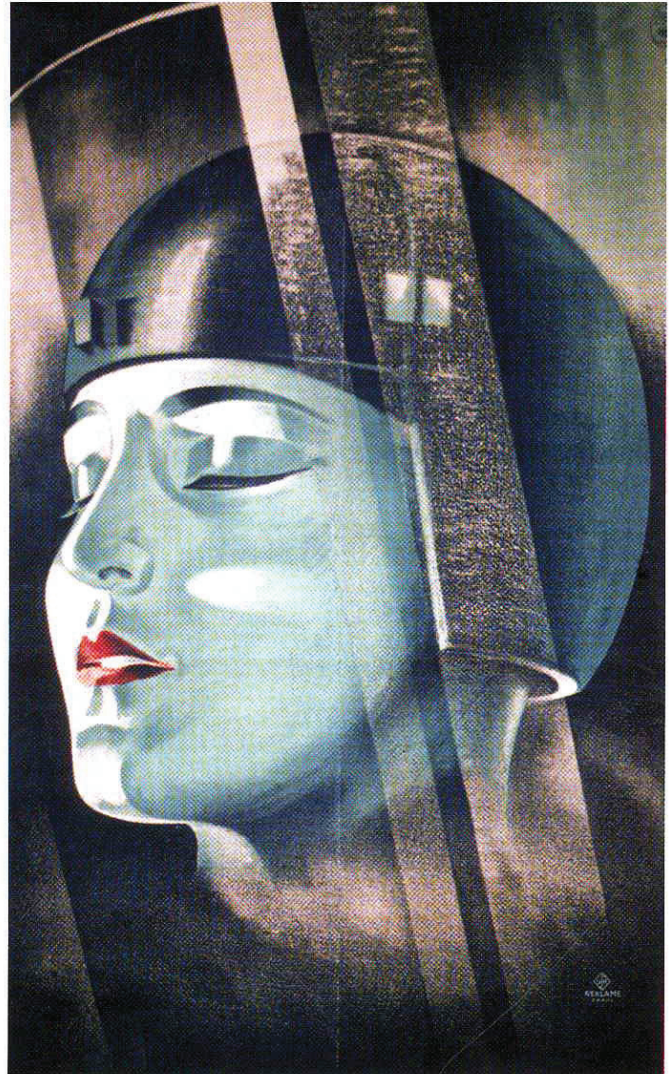
You will have one minute to look at the questions. Read as much as you can in that time.

As you listen for the first time, mark the options that you think are correct.

Use the second listening to check your answers.

- 2 You will hear an excerpt from a radio programme about living forever. Read the **how to do it** box, then listen and choose the best answers for 1–7.

- According to some scientists, technology that allows people to live for thousands of years
 - already exists.
 - will definitely exist within 30 years.
 - may exist within 30 years.
- According to the speaker, why are scientists closer to finding this technology?
 - They are beginning to understand why and how our bodies age.
 - Medical technology is improving quickly.
 - There are more old people in our societies.
- According to some people, immortality would have a negative effect because
 - we would soon use up all the earth's natural resources.
 - everybody would stop caring about the environment.
 - the earth would become very overcrowded.
- What might people have to agree to do, before being allowed to live forever?
 - suggest ways of dealing with over-population
 - not have too many children
 - not commit any serious crimes
- If you were immortal, you might find it difficult to get up in the morning because
 - you would be exhausted after thousands of other mornings.
 - you would know there were going to be thousands more mornings.
 - the technology that kept you alive might make you very weak.



- Some people say that immortality would be pointless because
 - only the very rich would be able to afford it.
 - you wouldn't use your time carefully.
 - you would only remember a part of your life.
- You might never fall in love if you were immortal because
 - the most powerful human feelings come from knowing that we will not be here forever.
 - you would get bored with everybody that you've met.
 - the technology would change the way in which your brain experiences emotions.

- 3 Discuss what age you would choose to be if you could stay the same age forever. Give reasons. Think about the following.

- appearance
- health
- daily routine
- wealth
- independence
- wisdom