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|  | General Listening, lesson 6 |
|  | **For these questions, click in the correct box for each speaker. There is one table for each question. You have 45 seconds to read the questions and look at the tables. You will hear the recording twice.** |
|  | **Speaker 1**  I’d always been sporty and loved all ball games but, kind of by accident, I discovered I had a real talent for running. At first, it was just part of my training programme – I was hoping to make the football team – but the more I did, the more it appealed. My mates thought I was mad, which hurt more than I'd anticipated, but by then I was into the long- distance stuff and I knew I could be really good. After I won the gold medal in the regionals, loads of big companies were suddenly keen to support me – that was probably the greatest plus. There’s been some interest from the national athletics team too, so I just need to keep training, stay injury free, watch what I eat, and …who knows…  **Speaker 2**  I played tennis at my first school, but then my family moved house. It was hard to make friends who also played.The nearest tennis courts were an hour away and driving me there and back got quite expensive for my parents. I was kind of worried it was a pain for them, but luckily they never seemed to mind. It would have been easy to let it slip and just not bother but once I was picked for the national team things changed, and becoming known on the circuit here, and especially abroad, gave me a real boost. I'm grateful that I've still got time to do even more in the sport, as long as I don't get injured.  **Speaker 3**  Yes, swimming’s a young person's sport, and the level of competition can be really tough but once you've made it, what’s so good is that it opens lots of doors. I'll have lots of choice away from the pool once I retire. Meanwhile I'm just concentrating on winning as many international medals as I can! When I started swimming seriously - the training was so hard, with early mornings and intense practice sessions – and don't ask what I could and couldn't eat, even though I didn't mind that so much. I pulled something in my back very early on, and the same problem kept returning but luckily I worked with an awesome sports psychologist who helped me overcome my fears and develop a winning attitude. |