**LISTENING TEXT SEPTEMBER 2020**

**Tell the students they are going to hear Lauren Greenwood, a photographer, talking about her recently published book of photographs called Generation Wealth**

**TEXT: Read twice, normal speed, no artificial pauses.**

**Some of myphotography surrounds the cult of celebrity and the lives of the rich and famous–basically, some of the most photographed people in the world. As a fine art documentary photographer, you might ask why I choose these people—who are already so visible to the public—as the subjectsof my photos?** Well, the idea of fame, and how it’s valued, is such an important part of my work. A chapter in my book called “Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous” is important because the one percent has a disproportionate influence on everybody else. The whole point of the book is about the influence of affluence.

I actually tend to stay away from celebrities because they don’t grant me the kind of access and intimacy that I really need for the work. So, the meat and potatoes of the book is not rich people, but instead people who aspire for wealth, and not just wealth but the appearance of wealth—the idea of “fake it ‘till you make it.”

**I think that this ‘fake it ‘till you make it’ mentality, and the conspicuous display of wealth that comes with that, might be stemming from the fact that class mobility is not as achievable as it once was in the past.**There’s greater and greater inequality––wealth being more in the hands of the few than ever before. The values of hard work and humility and discretion have transformed into a culture that values bling and celebrity and narcissism. Social mobility used to mean making a contribution to your family, a contribution to your community, and achieving something that would somehow alter the world. What matters now is making the money, not how you made it—the Kardashian effect.

Takethe rapper Future; he is a crazy example of that, because Future, at the Magic City Nightclub would throw thousands of dollars into the air and ‘make it rain’ even if hepossessed nothing. Through doing this, he actually found his success. He's the one in the million who faked and made it through faking it. But I think, for a lot more people, the faking it is replacing the actual making it.

I felt like *Generation Wealth*needed to come out now. I wanted to show our way of life is unsustainable. And I mean that in every level, in terms of the environment, in terms of our communities, in terms of family, in terms of economics—none of it is sustainable if we stay on this path. But I think the scary part is that in some cases we already know the unfortunate answer to whether that change is permanent and lasting or whether it's just a temporary reaction to the situation and once the suffering stops, we just go back to how we've been living.

*Generation Wealth* documents a society that values celebrity, reality television, wealth, beauty, real estate, and the loss of ethics and morality. This is the society that elected Donald Trump for president. I wish I could say I predicted Trump’s election but I was as surprised as everybody else. I had no idea that he could actually become president but when he did, I felt like the writing was on the wall.

The objectification of women comes up a lot in my book**.**I've looked at gender before in my work.*Generation Wealth*considers how girls are sold to, and how they themselves are sold. Marketing has become much more aggressive, and I’ve been interested in the way that insecurities and self-esteem issues make girls more vulnerable consumers. What I'm really trying to do is show that insecurities sell products. With girls, their insecurities make consuming part of survival in a way. Girls learn at a young age that their bodies have value, that their bodies have currency, and so they leverage that. The most extreme example of that is prostitution.

But ultimately what I'm showing is that it leads to a kind of destruction. And I think one of my subjects, Kacey Jordan, is a really good example of that. She was a porn star who, in the beginning, saw it as a vehicle of the American dream. It allowed her to be able to buy her family stuff, to get out of poverty, and to be independent. And through her connection with Charlie Sheen, she also found the fame that she wanted.

It's the same with Jackie Siegel– the Queen of Versailles: here’s somebody who’s super smart, an engineer, went to Massachusetts Institute of Technology at a time when there weren't a lot of women there, and she decided that she could get further in her life by becoming a beauty queen to marry a billionaire, rather than by her degree. *Generation Wealth* aims to make us reflect. I sincerely hope it will.

SEPTEMBER 2020 LM 37&38/1

**You are going to hear Lauren Greenwood, a famous photographer, talking about her recently published book *Generation Wealth.* Circle the answer that is true according to Lauren.**

1. Lauren Greenwood supposes that people…
2. are surprised she wants to take photos of celebrities.
3. expect her to take photos of celebrities.
4. disapprove of her taking photos of celebrities.
5. Lauren Greenwood thinks that…
6. everyone has the same influence in today’s society.
7. there is more inequality in social classes today than in the past.
8. famous people are more interesting subjects.
9. Lauren says that celebrities…
10. are not willing to reveal their inner selvesto her.
11. just want free publicity from her.
12. are reluctant to pose for her.
13. What does Lauren feel are the values of today?
14. working hard to achieve personal fulfilment.
15. making money and self-gratification.
16. making a valid contribution to society.
17. How did the rapper, Future, achieve success?
18. He opened a nightclub which became popular with celebrities.
19. He pretended to be rich and successful.
20. He recycled money.

6. Lauren feels that…

1. change has come too late.
2. change is on the way.
3. people want change but don’t make it happen.
4. Lauren…
5. always knew Trump would be elected president of the USA.
6. felt Trump’s election was inevitable, on hindsight.
7. voted for Trump for President.

8. According to Lauren, today…

1. marketing aims to make girls feel secure.
2. marketing aims at improving girls’ bodies.
3. marketing convinces girls their bodiescan be merchandise.

9. Kacey Jordan became a porn star because…

1. she met Charlie Sheen.
2. she wanted a fast route to money and independence.
3. she didn’t think she had an alternative.

10.Jackie Siegel…

1. had professional qualifications but couldn’t find a job.
2. entered a beauty competition but lost.
3. chose to marry a very rich man rather than pursue a career.

11.The car industry is selling more and more hybrid or electric cars.

**SALE**

There is an…………………………………………………………………………………………… of hybrid or electric cars.

12. I’m sorry I lost my temper. It was unreasonable of me.

**WISH**

I………………………………………………………………………………………………my temper.It was unreasonable of me.

13. I thought Alice was looking very sadlast night. Perhapsshe wasthinking about something bad.

**MIGHT**

Alice ………………………………………………………………… about something badlast night. She was looking very sad.

14. Look at the mess you have made in the kitchen! Clean it up!

**HAD**

You………………………………………………………………………………………the mess you have made in the kitchen.

15. I usually go to the gym three times a week. It’s part of my weekly routine.

**USED**

I…………………………………………………………………..to the gym three times a week. It’s part of my weekly routine.

16.“That TV series is excellent. I would watch it if I were you, Josephine”, she said.

**JOSEPHINE**

She recommended……………………………………………………………………………… that TV series as it is excellent.

17. Although she isn’t able to read the music, she can play the piano very well.

**SPITE**

In…………………………………………………………………………….read the music, she can play the piano very well.

18. It’s time you left as you risk missing the last bus home.

**REALLY**

You………………………………………………………………………………………… as you risk missing the last bus home.

19. Don’t tell me you bought me a present! It’s not my birthday but thank you.

**NEEDN’T**

You……………………………………………………………………………………………… . It’s not my birthday but thank you.

20.The dog started barking as soon as the burglar entered the house

**SOONER**

No………………………………………………………………. the house……………………………. the dog started barking.(2 gaps)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| If we’re talking about culture that makes people happy, we have to start with the works of PG Wodehouse. He was better at it than any other writer in history.  Some authors may want to expose all the …………………. in the world | **JUST** |  |
| or elevate us with their psychological ………………….. . | **SIGHT** |  |
| Wodehouse, in his words, preferred to spread “…………………. and light”. Just look at those titles: *Nothing Serious, Laughing Gas, Joy in the Morning*. | **SWEET** |  |
| With every sparkling joke, every well-meaning and innocent character, every …………………. struggle with angry swans, | **FARCE** |  |
| every utopian ………………….of a stroll around the grounds | **DESCRIBE** |  |
| of a friend’s …………………. home, he wanted to whisk us far away from our worries. | **STATE** |  |
| Writing about being a …………………. in his autobiography *Over Seventy*, Wodehouse said | **HUMOUR** |  |
| “We are merrymakers. When we see a person who is …………………., we cheer him up.” | **SET** |  |
| As PG Wodehouse himself said, his first and …………………. aim was to spread joy. | **FORE** |  |
| My own introduction to this supreme merrymaker came via the television series adapted from some of his most …………………. stories about a young, upper class gentleman | **LOVED** |  |
| and his …………………. manservant. | **PASSIVE** |  |
| Hugh Laurie starred as the moneyed bachelor who seemed to care about nothing except good food, drink and …………………. socks, | **FASHION** |  |
| but who always came to the aid of the …………………. old schoolmates who were even more stupid than he was. | **NUMBER** |  |
| What really makes Wodehouse so …………………. is the prose: | **ADDICT** |  |
| the phrases which appear to float along so …………………., but which came about because he would, he said, “write every sentence 10 times”. What Wodehouse writes is pure word music. | **EFFORT** |  |

These are the 10 m/c if the listening isn’t used.

She is a keen gardener. She can often be found………………………….to her plants in the garden.

A tending B looking C caring D watering

She has the most annoying habit of contradicting everything you say. It’s …………………. Irritating.

A totally B highly C wholly D ever

He ……………………………………himself from worrying about the future

A can’t help B can’t bear C can’t stand D can’t save

Certain words like ‘wicked’ become popular for a while but then they fall out of……………………………

A mode B favour C generation D time

Some peoplebecome …………………………when they feel offended and fight back.

A withdrawn B unconcerned C ruthless D aloofIsuppose ruthless is the answer but am not keen…have you got another one? Don’t really understand why you don’t like it but have changed it.

It has been proven that small children need 10 …………………sleep to function well.

A hour’s B hours’ C –hour D hourly

Sometimes, when something goes wrong, it can actually ………………. to be a blessing in disguise.

A turn round B turn out C turn up D turn down

Your reasoning is …………me. I simply can’t follow your logic.

A beyond B further C past D outwith

When you are in trouble you should……………………out for help.

A reach B ask C watch D stretch

I wish ……………………………… affairs programmes weren’t broadcast so late in the evening.

A today B current C actual D present