

Listen to the speaker continue talking about a book called *The Filter Bubble* and do the exercises to practise and improve your listening skills.

### Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–f next to the numbers 1–6.

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1..... to keep up to date       | a. a computer program that searches the internet and gives you a list of results (e.g. Google, Baidu or Yahoo) |
| 2..... to keep your eyes open   | b. people who share your opinions and interests  |
| 3..... like-minded people       | c. to not get the opportunity to do something good   |
| 4..... a search engine          | d. to know about, to be conscious of   |
| 5..... to miss out on something | e. to be watchful and alert  |
| 6..... to be aware of           | f. to maintain your knowledge of the most recent information   |

### 1. Check your understanding: multiple choice

Circle the best answer to these questions.

1. Social media sites can often decide to ...  
a. stop us from seeing things.  
b. show us information from only one website.  
c. show us false information.
2. The results of the same internet search by two people ...  
a. will always be the same.  
b. can be completely different.  
c. can come in a different order..
3. In Eli's example about two friends typing 'Egypt', one friend got ...  
a. information about buying a property in Egypt.  
b. information about travelling to Egypt.  
c. information about Egyptian food.
4. Some search engines record information about ...  
a. what we look at.  
b. how much time we spend online.  
c. other search engines we use.
5. The speaker thinks that sometimes it can be helpful to have ...

**Listening skills practice: The Filter Bubble – part two – exercises**

- a. online shopping.
- b. more than one search engine.
- c. personalised information.

6. The speaker thinks it is important for everyone ...

- a. to understand how the filter bubble works.
- b. to know the filter bubble exists.
- c. to stop using certain search engines.

7. The speaker suggests ...

- a. using different search engines that don't filter information.
- b. using software that prevents filtering.
- c. using the search engines for short periods of time.

8. The speaker finishes by advising us ...

- a. to learn more about different kinds of search engines.
- b. to learn more about how the internet functions.
- c. to find out what changes are taking place next.

**2. Check your vocabulary: gap fill**

Write the word to fill the gaps.

1. Two people can type the same word into a search \_\_\_\_\_ and get different results.
2. Personalised information makes online shopping easier and it helps us to connect with like-minded \_\_\_\_\_.
3. But let's stop and think. Aren't we going to \_\_\_\_\_ out on a lot of really interesting and fresh information?
4. Whatever you think about the filter bubble, I think we all need to be \_\_\_\_\_ that this is happening.
5. For now, just try to make sure that you keep your eyes and ears \_\_\_\_\_ and learn as much as you can about how the internet works.
6. Things change very quickly, but we should all try and keep up to \_\_\_\_\_ and learn more about how the wonderful worldwide web actually works!

**Discussion**

Is it important to know about the filter bubble?