

**SÈRIE 3****Part escrita: Hope for the no-hopers**

1. *Possibilities:* Council-run dormitories / a shelter to sleep, ... / Open Schools / a few teachers / drug counsellors / staff to patrol the streets at night looking for children in need.
2. *Possibilities:* Corruption / lack of money / political will / competence / coordination / continuity
3. The drug sniffers are the easy ones to rescue. There are other groups of young drug injectors who will reject all offers of help.
4. A
5. B

**Part oral: The Power of a Hobbit****Introduction**

In this radio programme you are going to hear the following words. Read and listen to them. Make sure you know what they mean.

Shire	comtat	condado
Quest	expedició de cavallers a la recerca de quelcom màgic	empresa caballeresca en búsqueda de algo mágico
Middle Earth	Terra Mitja	Tierra Media
Rooted	arrelat	enraizado/a
Dwarf	nan	enano

Ready?

Now read the questions on the next page.

Read them carefully before listening to the radio programme.

Presenter: It's December 2001. The first film of the trilogy of The Lord of the Rings is being shown in cinemas all over the world. Tolkienmania has reached everywhere. Almost everyone these days knows that the film is based on a book written by John Ronald Reuel Tolkien, which was already popular before the films were even planned. Recently, thousands of English readers voted it the best book of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. But what is it that made this book about the little hairy men so famous?.

In our programme tonight, we have an unexpected visitor. An actor will play the role of Frodo Baggins, the main character in the film. He will answer our questions as if he were the real Frodo, the hobbit who inspired Tolkien's story

Presenter: Good evening, Mr Baggins. Thank you for visiting us tonight.

Frodo Baggins (F.B.): Good evening. It is a pleasure to be here with you.

Presenter: You are probably the person who lived closest to Mr Tolkien during his work as creator of the so called "Trilogy of the Ring". Do you think he expected his story to be so successful?

F.B. : He wrote *The Lord of the Rings* for one very simple reason. He wanted to create a tale that his children might enjoy. And writing it gave him pleasure. He had been developing those stories in his mind for years. The

first book in the series, *The Hobbit* is the kind of story he wanted to tell his children as they sat by the fire on a winter evening.

Presenter: How did he meet Bilbo, your uncle?

F.B. : He had met my uncle, Bilbo Baggins, in one of his journeys to the Shire, where Hobbits live and where he used to spend his holidays. Tolkien imagined a story in which my uncle would set out in a quest for a treasure in the Lonely Mountains. My uncle and some dwarves.

Presenter: And it's in this story where the famous Ring appears for the first time, isn't it?

F.B. : Yes, that's right, he found the Ring in a cave on his way to the Lonely Mountains.

Presenter: And later, when Mr. Bilbo Baggins decided to retire, he handed the ring over to you. And that's where you first appear!

F.B. : In *The Lord of the Rings*, the book that follows *The Hobbit*, I am the one who is to save the world from the evil of Sauron, the enemy of the many races which inhabit the Middle Earth.

Presenter: Why does he want the Ring so badly?

F.B. : He knows that this Ring, which he himself created, will allow him to have all the other races under his command. So I must take it to the place where it was created, and destroy it there before Sauron gets hold of it.

Presenter: Why do you think *The Lord of the Rings* is so popular?

F.B. : *The Lord of the Rings*, is a fantasy book. It deals with some of the deepest aspects of human nature. In it we see love, friendship and sympathy, as we, the little hobbits and the other members of Frodo's group, try to help each other even if it is at our own risk.

Presenter: But this is not all. We see the dark side of men as well.

F.B. : Yes, true. We see greed when people try to use the Ring for their own benefit. And we also see hatred, fear, envy..., all those elements which are deeply rooted in the hearts of people and which can be found in many of the episodes of the story.

Presenter: Maybe this is why identify ourselves so well with the characters of the book.

F.B. : Yes. Many of us can easily see ourselves reflected in Boromir, with his greed to possess the Ring, and then with his heroic suffering when he defends me from the Orcs with his own life.

Presenter: Certainly, there's very much to choose from. You can be a hero or a villain.

F.B. : In any case, there will always be a good reason for you to go back to Middle Earth and to visit your hairy friends, the hobbits. Be assured of that!

Presenter: We would be delighted to go on this exciting trip to the world of fantasy, Mr. Baggins. And I regret to say that our time is over, and that we must say good night to you, Mr. Baggins. I'm sure there are hundreds of questions which our audience would like to ask you. Will there be a second chance to speak to you?

F.B. : We could replace my uncle Bilbo's motto "There and back again", with this one "Here and back again". I will certainly be delighted to return to this program.

Presenter: We're looking forward to that, Mr Baggins. Thanks again, and good night.

**Claus de resposta**

1	C
2	C
3	A
4	B
5	A

6	B
7	C
8	C
9	B
10	A

**SÈRIE 2****Part oral: A Cinderella Writer**

## Introduction

In this TV programme you are going to hear the following words. Read and listen to them. Make sure you know what they mean.

Cinderella	Ventafocs	Cenicienta
fiasco	fiasco, fracàs	fiasco, fracaso
wizard	bruixot	brujo
ban	prohibir	prohibir
struggle	lluita	lucha

Ready?

Now read the questions on the next page. Read them carefully before listening to this TV programme.

### **A CINDERELLA WRITER**

An interview with J.K. Rowland

Presenter: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to Pen Club, the radio programme in which we talk to some of the best-selling writers of our day. Tonight in the studio is Joanne Rowland. Hello, Joanne!

J.K.Rowland: Hello, Nick!

Presenter: Dictionaries define "Cinderella" as a woman whose beauty or abilities have not been recognized, or who becomes rich and successful after a period of difficulty. This is clearly the case of J.K.Rowland. Only five years ago she was unemployed, friendless and living on social security. Today she is one of the wealthiest women in Britain, and she is also one of the most successful writers in the world. Ms Rowland, would you first tell us something about your life story?

J.K.Rowland: Well, there is nothing much to say. I was born in Bristol in 1965 and grew up in the south-east of Wales. Since I was a little girl, I enjoyed writing tales, sometimes secretly. I went to Exeter University and I got a degree of French literature. I worked for Amnesty International for a while and then became a teacher of English in Portugal. I married a TV journalist, got a divorce, and then came back to Britain, settled down in Edinburgh... and started writing the Harry Potter stories. I wrote them sitting at a table in a café while Jessica, my baby girl, was sleeping.

Presenter: Sounds like a fairy tale. How much of your own childhood did you put into your books?

J.K.Rowland: Er ... yes ... definitely many of the characters and places in the stories are drawn on people, places and events of my early life. To writers childhood is a most important source of memories and inspiration. I think it was Edna St Vincent Millay, the American poetess, who wrote that "Childhood is the kingdom where nobody dies".

Presenter: Beautiful words. Tell me, how did the idea for Harry Potter come to you?

J.K.Rowland: You wouldn't believe it. It all happened during a train journey in 1990 from Manchester to London. I was delayed for four hours !! You see... sometimes a small change in your plans can be creative and funny.

Presenter: Tell us about your first book.

J.K.Rowland: It was a fiasco at first. I'd sent the manuscript of *Harry Potter and the Philosophers' Stone* to many publishers, but only a small one, Bloomsbury, accepted to bring it out in June 1997. It was a printing of only 1,000 copies, but then something wonderful happened: schoolchildren started to talk about a boy wizard and made him famous, and that's how newspapers, publishers and the media became interested in my book.

Presenter: Why do you use initials for your first and middle names?

J.K.Rowland: Well, it was the publishers who persuaded me to call myself J.K., as they thought a woman's name might discourage boy readers from buying these books.

Presenter: Your books are currently read worldwide, in 40 countries and 18 languages. What do translators say about your books?

J.K.Rowland: I really don't know. I guess theirs must be a pretty hard job as I use a lot of school expressions and terms I have made up of my own, "wizard wheezes" ... "gobbledegook" and so on. I don't know how the Chinese translators like it.

Presenter: How do you feel when you hear the four Harry Potter stories you have published so far are banned in the States and in Canada?

J.K.Rowland: I wouldn't say they are being banned. It is true that they are being questioned in some places. Anyway, my stories don't make teenage readers take a real interest in witchcraft, black magic or Satanism. That's rubbish! The story of Harry Potter is the classic struggle between good and evil, between a hero and the forces of darkness... it's just like Superman or Batman...

Presenter: Any scoops about the books to come up next to *The Goblets of Fire*?

J.K.Rowland: This is top secret, Nick. I mustn't say anything about them.

Presenter: Please...

J.K.Rowland: OK, Nick... just a couple of things. Harry falls in love ... one of his closest friends is murdered... Well ... these stories are not going to be exactly romantic or scary but pretty dark, with lots of suspense, action ... and fun.

Presenter: What is your greatest ambition? To win the Nobel prize for literature?

J.K.Rowland: Why not? No, I'm joking. I'd love to see Jessica be a grown young woman, cheerful, free from worries. I'd love to keep on helping kids from around the world to fight against poverty and injustice. That's all.

Presenter: That's really something. Well, Joanne, thanks very much indeed for joining us in Pen Club tonight. Good luck!

J.K.Rowland: My pleasure.