

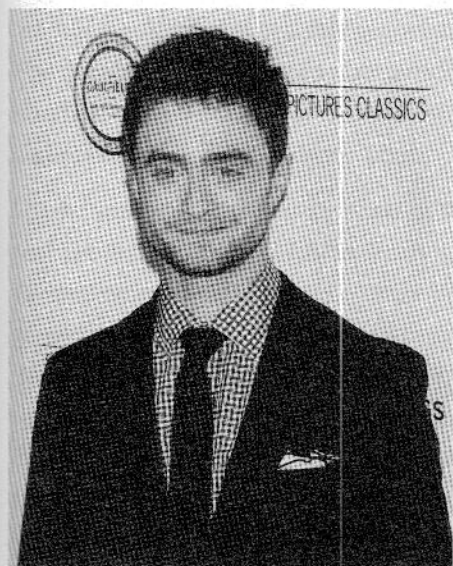
You are going to read an article about the actor Daniel Radcliffe, who played the role of Harry Potter in the films. For questions 31–36, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

Daniel Radcliffe

I first meet Daniel Radcliffe at the offices of his agent, just before he takes to the stage for an evening performance of *The Cripple Of Inishmaan*. He's wearing tight jeans, no glasses, and is a super ball of energy. He is extraordinarily polite, slim, well turned out. If you'd never seen him before, you might assume he was a children's television presenter. But at the age of just 24 he has 16 movies behind him, eight of them Harry Potter blockbusters. It feels as if he's been with us forever. The funny thing is, apart from the facial hair, he doesn't really look any different from the schoolboy wizard who made his screen debut in 2001.

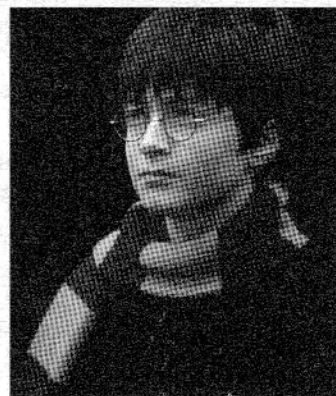
Yet over the past half-dozen years, it seems he has done everything he could to distinguish himself from Harry in the parts he has chosen to play. Radcliffe disagrees with this, saying 'I pick films based on scripts and directors and parts. I'm not interested in making films I've seen before. There's nothing more exciting to me when I read a script than originality. That's all it's governed by, there's no master plan to distance myself from Potter.'

He says he doesn't want to sound ungrateful. 'I know that Potter is going to be with me for the rest of my life, so to try to stop people talking about that any more is stupid. It's



just a fact of your life, so you can't get annoyed by it. You have to accept the fact that you were involved in this incredibly cool thing and though you might not always be happy with the work you did on it, the opportunity it has given you to make a career for yourself is amazing.'

Was he aware how much Harry would change his life when he was offered the part? 'No, I knew I was signing on for the first two, that four books had come out. Warner, the film company, genuinely didn't know at that stage if they were going to make more than one film. If it flopped, then they certainly weren't going to put up all that money again.' Did he ever consider exercising his opt-out clause? 'By the third film, I thought, if there's a time to get out, it's now; there's still enough time for another actor to come in and establish himself. For a while, I thought, if I do all of them, will I be able to move on to other stuff or should I start doing other stuff now? But in the end I decided I was having way too much fun. And actually there aren't many great parts out there for teenage boys, certainly not as good as Harry Potter.'



Nowadays, of course, he is incredibly wealthy. I ask whether he sometimes worries people might socialise with him purely because of that. He laughs, and says people are going to be sadly disappointed if they befriend him for his lavish spending. 'Anyone who is my friend knows that I don't spend money. So they can hang around with me as much as they like and they still aren't going to get anything. Haha!' But, he says, he has never had a problem with working out who to trust. 'I'm a fairly good judge of character, and I have a small but very close circle of friends. I'm not looking to recruit new friends, though I'm actually very open with people. I had a similar conversation with myself when I was about 17, the first time somebody had really betrayed that trust, and I said to myself you have two options: you either become totally insular and shut down and not let anybody into your life ever, or you can continue to be open and amiable when you meet people, and trusting, and occasionally get hurt. And I do think that is the best way.'

- 31 What do we learn about Daniel in the first paragraph?
- A He is now working in TV programmes for children.
 - B His appearance has changed considerably since his childhood.
 - C He is currently acting in the theatre.
 - D He is amused by the way he looked in his early films.
- 32 What does Daniel say about his current work?
- A He likes to make changes to the film scripts he is given.
 - B He sometimes has to accept roles he would rather reject.
 - C He finds it difficult to play roles that are not Harry.
 - D He denies he chooses roles as unlike Harry as possible.
- 33 What does Daniel appear to be criticising in the third paragraph?
- A Some of his acting in the Harry Potter films.
 - B The overall quality of the Harry Potter films.
 - C The effect of playing Harry Potter on his career.
 - D Attempts to talk to him about Harry Potter.
- 34 When Daniel was first asked to play Harry Potter
- A he thought the first film would be made on a low budget.
 - B he thought that only two Harry Potter books would be published.
 - C he had no idea how many films in the series there would be.
 - D he only wanted to be in the first film in the series.
- 35 Why did Daniel eventually decide to be in every film?
- A He thought nobody else could play the role of Harry.
 - B He was enjoying making the films so much.
 - C He never considered doing any other kind of work.
 - D He knew it would eventually lead to different roles.
- 36 How does Daniel feel about friendship?
- A He believes he knows how to choose friends well.
 - B He would like to have more friends than he has now.
 - C He finds it difficult to trust people these days.
 - D He likes to be generous to those he is close to.

You are going to read an article about the effects of electronic devices on human interaction. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A–G** the one which fits each gap (37–42). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Have we lost the ability to focus on a single task?

Daniel Goleman thinks so. Here, the bestselling science writer argues that we have become a species distracted by modern technology.

The little girl's head only came up to her mother's waist as she hugged her mum, and held on fiercely as they rode a ferry to a holiday island. The mother, though, didn't respond to her, or even seem to notice: she was absorbed in her tablet computer all the while.

Something similar happened a few minutes later, as I was getting into a shared taxi van with nine students who that night were journeying to a weekend getaway. Within a minute of taking their seats in the dark van, dim lights came on as every one of them checked a phone or tablet.

37 But mostly there was silence.

The indifference of that mother, and the silence among the students, are symptoms of how technology captures our attention and disrupts our connections. Teenagers, the future of humanity, are at the centre. In the early years of this decade their text message monthly count rose to 3,417, double the number just a few years earlier. **38** The average American teen now gets and sends more than a hundred texts a day, about 10 every waking hour. I've seen a kid texting while he rode his bike.

Digital interaction comes at a cost in face time with real people, through which we learn to understand non-verbal communication such as body language. The new generation of natives in this digital world may be skilful on the keyboard, but they can be hopeless when it comes to reading behaviour face-to-face, in real time. **39** Today's children are growing up in a new reality, one where they are connecting more with machines and less with people than has ever been true in human history.

Then there are the costs of attention decline among adults. In Mexico, an advertising representative for a large radio

network complains, 'A few years ago you could make a five-minute video for your presentation at an advertising agency. Today you have to keep it to a minute and a half. **40** ' Faced with problems like this, some workplaces have banned laptops, mobile phones, and other digital tools during meetings.

A college professor who teaches film tells me he's reading a biography of one of his heroes, the legendary French director François Truffaut. But, he finds, 'I can't read more than two pages at a time. **41** I think I'm losing my ability to maintain concentration on anything serious.'

After not checking her mobile for a while, a publishing executive confesses she gets 'a nervous feeling. You miss that moment of excitement you get when there's a text. You know it's not right to check your phone when you're with someone, but it's an addiction.' So she and her husband have an agreement: 'When we get home from work we put our phones in a drawer. **42** But now we try to get closer to each other instead. We talk.'



- A** This is why they are unaware they upset others by stopping to read a text in the middle of a conversation.
- B** If you don't, everyone starts checking for messages.
- C** After that the temptation to go online and see if I have any new email becomes impossible to resist.
- D** A few words were occasionally muttered while they texted or looked through social media pages.
- E** If it's in front of me I get anxious; I've just got to check it.
- F** In extreme cases, some sleep all day and play these games all night, rarely stopping even to eat.
- G** Meanwhile, studies show, the average time they spent talking on the phone dropped significantly.