R1 Question 10 Listen to the following talk about coffee growing in Nicaragua, and then indicate which statement – A, B or C – best completes the sentence by putting a tick in the appropriate box.

You will hear the talk twice.

V1 “Hello, I am speaking to you from the beautiful Matagalpa Mountains of Nicaragua. I have come here to find out about coffee farming, in these magical forests in the clouds, high up above the rest of the world. I’m here to see the coffee plantations, and to taste some coffee with a group of farmers. This group of farmers is known as a ‘coffee cooperative’, that is, they all work together. Their coffee beans are organically grown; pesticides and chemicals aren’t used or even needed up here, on top of the world in these mountains.

The coffee is wonderful too, just like its surroundings. The scenery on the road into the coffee mountains is stunning. I stopped at every turn to look at and admire the lush green view. I passed iguana sellers and parrot sellers. Then I drove through a landscape of many changing colours, and soon saw the evergreen coffee plantations at the top of the Matagalpa Mountains. The rich red coffee berries shine among the green leaves on tall bushes.

For ten years, groups or cooperatives of farmers have been farming coffee here. The quality of the coffee beans is always good. Farmers are always given a fair price for their good quality coffee beans. Coffee buyers support the farmers’ local community projects too. Water is the main project. The coffee-buying team has provided local people with wells, wherever they can find a water source. The team also helps to strengthen the farmers’ homes against the weather, and provide education for their families. The next project is the building of a clinic for the coffee cooperatives, with free medicine and a doctor funded by the coffee company.

Next time you drink a cup of coffee, take a moment to think of these lovely mountains in Nicaragua. Consider how the production of coffee beans is an advantage to people in all parts of the world – excellent coffee for the drinker, and a better standard of living for the coffee grower at the top of the Matagalpa Mountains.” **

Pause 00’30”

R1 Now you will hear the talk again.

Repeat from * to **
Pause 00’30”