



### **LISTENING ACTIVITY: KHALED HOSSEINI**

**Objective:**

- Understand words in context from an oral text
- Fill in the gaps with missing words and sentences from an oral text
- Answer complete questions related to a video about Khaled Hosseini

Khaled Hosseini's novel, *The Kite Runner*, has become an international publishing phenomenon and a modern classic. This tale of childhood innocence betrayed, set against three tragic decades in the history of Afghanistan, gave readers around the world an insight into the human truth behind the headlines. This unforgettable book is the product of Khaled Hosseini's own life experience. Born in Afghanistan, his family fled to the United States when the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in 1979. In the U.S. Khaled Hosseini became a successful physician, but he longed to tell the world something of the life he knew before his country was consumed by war. He rose at four o'clock every morning to work on *The Kite Runner* before a full day of seeing patients. Following the enormous success of his first book, a second novel, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, soon joined it on the bestseller lists. In addition to his thriving literary career, Dr. Hosseini now serves as a special envoy for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, assisting displaced persons in war zones around the world.

<http://www.achievement.org/autodoc/podcasts/artpodvid-4-hosseini>

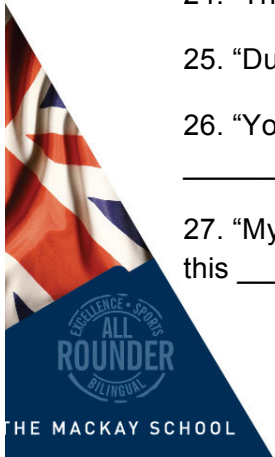
#### **TASK 1: Fill in the gaps.**

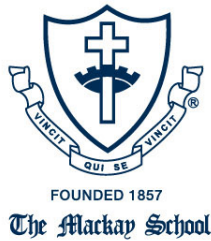
1. "... whether I'd prefer to be \_\_\_\_\_ or a \_\_\_\_\_"
2. " I don't have a good answer for that. I've yet \_\_\_\_\_ a writer who chose to write."
3. When I was a kid what I actually wanted to be was \_\_\_\_\_."
4. "Can you please take me to \_\_\_\_\_ so I can meet this amazing \_\_\_\_\_?"
5. "Clint may speak \_\_\_\_\_ on the screen, but there is a thing called \_\_\_\_\_. So I hate to break it to you."
6. "Interestingly, I never told \_\_\_\_\_ I eventually became \_\_\_\_\_ which was a \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_."
7. "This was in the 1970s, a time of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in Afghanistan."
8. "A lot of people had a \_\_\_\_\_ time placing \_\_\_\_\_ on the map."
9. "Growing up in Kabul in the 1970s, I never heard a \_\_\_\_\_."





10. "I feel very \_\_\_\_\_ to have \_\_\_\_\_ Afghanistan at that time."
11. "While we were in France, Afghanistan \_\_\_\_\_."
12. "First, with a very \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ cup in April of 1978. That saw the murder of the Afghan president."
13. "You feel \_\_\_\_\_ being abroad and getting \_\_\_\_\_ of what's going on back home and hearing \_\_\_\_\_ of friends and family \_\_\_\_\_ who have been in, prisons who have been killed."
14. "Have gone missing and nobody knows their \_\_\_\_\_."
15. "In fact, up to this day none of the then \_\_\_\_\_ people in my family have gone back to \_\_\_\_\_ with the exception of myself"
16. "He applied for \_\_\_\_\_, we packed our \_\_\_\_\_ and move to the \_\_\_\_\_ in the fall of \_\_\_\_\_."
17. " First, get a proper \_\_\_\_\_ family car."
18. "Second, hang a \_\_\_\_\_ of Ronald Reagan in our \_\_\_\_\_."
19. "Eventually, he became a \_\_\_\_\_."
20. "My mom became a .... was a \_\_\_\_\_ at Denny's for a while."
21. "Their message to us was: Ok, we're doing this \_\_\_\_\_ and it's OK. But, you have to make \_\_\_\_\_ yourself and you have to go to \_\_\_\_\_. You have to have an \_\_\_\_\_ and have to make us \_\_\_\_\_."
22. "In the spring of \_\_\_\_\_, I saw a \_\_\_\_\_ report about the \_\_\_\_\_ banning the sport of \_\_\_\_\_. That led to a \_\_\_\_\_ which I wrote pretty much on the \_\_\_\_\_."
24. "The story was discovered by my \_\_\_\_\_."
25. "During the writing of the novel, \_\_\_\_\_ happened."
26. "Your book in some way , will help change \_\_\_\_\_ perspectives about \_\_\_\_\_."
27. "My dream is that one day, I'll come here and there will be another \_\_\_\_\_ writer at this \_\_\_\_\_."





**TASK 2: Answer the following questions**

1) Why did he want to be an astronaut?

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2) Why did his family and him have to flee to the United States?

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3) What car did his father buy?

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4) Why was Ronald Reagan his father's hero?

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5) How did he get to write the kite runner short story?

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6) How did 9/11 influence his writing?

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