



Reading and listening Comprehension

Brotherly Love?

Michael and Ralf Schumacher are perhaps the most famous Formula One racing brothers in the world but, until recently, Ralf has always been overshadowed by his older brother. Now Ralf is winning too. So what has changed?

Many people think that the change started when their mother died. This was a very important moment for Ralf, who was particularly close to her. Others suggest that he has been affected by the criticism he has received over the years from his brother, and from the media.

Or perhaps it is simply that he is driving a faster car. 'I wouldn't attribute it all to Ralf,' Michael told the German newspaper Bild am Sonntag, 'he's finally got a car he can get something out of.'

The relationship between the two brothers may be changing on the track but it stays the same off it: very warm and friendly.

'We were fighting against each other in the last few years in Formula One and our relationship didn't change so I see no reason why it should change now,' said Ralf. 'I love my brother even if I'm battling him for the championship.'

The main difference seems to be that they discuss racing a lot less these days. 'We have been talking less about Formula One since I've been in the same league as my brother,' Ralf said. 'I'll give you an example. In Australia we went out for dinner and spent three hours together and I swear we didn't say a single word about Formula One. And that hasn't changed.'



Read and listen to the text and answer the questions.



- 1) Has Ralf Schumacher always won Formula One races?
- 2) Did Ralf have a good relationship with his mother?
- 3) What three things might have changed the way Ralf drives?
- 4) What does Michael think has been the most important factor in Ralf's success?
- 5) Do the brothers have a good relationship when they are not working?
- 6) When they go out together now, do they talk a lot about racing?

Name

Date

Intermediate Level

Section

Score



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Answer key

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- 5) Do the brothers have a good relationship when they are not working?
- 6) When they go out together now, do they talk a lot about racing?

1) No, he hasn't.

2) Yes, he did.

3) the fact that his mother died, the criticism he received from his brother and the media, and his new car.

4) His car.

5) Yes.

6) No.

