

EVOLVE LEVEL 6, Unit Quiz 12A

- Julie** Hello, everybody. I'm very excited because today our guest is ... soccer star... Lionel Messi! Well, almost. In fact, we have Tony Robertson, who works as a Messi lookalike.
- Tony** Hi, Julie.
- Julie** So, when did you first realize you looked like Lionel Messi?
- Tony** I'm not into soccer, but my sister is, and watching Messi playing for Barcelona, she thought he looked like me. I just laughed. Then I posted a photo of myself on Facebook and many people commented on the similarity. A friend reposted my photo next to Messi's and the post went viral. Two weeks later, an agency called me, I had an interview and got paid to appear at someone's wedding. I couldn't believe it!
- Julie** How did your life change?
- Tony** When I realized I could make a living full-time doing this, I decided to take it seriously. To build up my body, I trained for hours and hours at the gym. Lionel has an incredible physique and I never really appreciated how much work it takes to get the muscles and abdominals he has. It sounds superficial, but it's taught me that if you work hard you can achieve anything.
- Julie** Are there any disadvantages of the job?
- Tony** The work is really irregular. I might make two or three appearances one week and then nothing for a month. If Lionel changes his hair, I have to change mine ... and I do spend a lot on nice clothing, but I can afford it now.
- Julie** And why do companies pay for a lookalike?
- Tony** Well, although everyone at an event, such as a conference, knows I'm not the real Messi, I make a refreshing change to a normal host and, of course, everyone wants to have their photo taken with me!
- Julie** Thanks, Tony. It's been fascinating.