



Transcripción completa Pista 2 (Capítulo 16)

Part 2

You will hear a professional scuba diver called Mark Jeffries talk about cave diving. For questions 9–18, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

You now have 45 seconds to look at Part Two.

PAUSE 45''

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Man:

When I was twenty-two, my friends and I went on a sun and sand holiday in the Caribbean to celebrate the end of our studies at university. We wanted to do something new and exciting, and came across a scuba diving school that had introductory diving courses for eager tourists, like us. I loved the experience so much, that I never quite made it back home to England, except to visit. I stayed on the islands and became a professional scuba diver.

At first, all I did was take tourists out on the same type of experience that had captivated me. But soon I discovered there was a lot more to scuba diving than tourism. I did a few more training courses, diving at night or in shipwrecks, and eventually chose cave diving as my specialty.

Diving in a cave is a completely different experience from diving in the sea. For one thing, there is little to no natural light. Visibility tends to be much better, because the sediments on the bottom tend not to be disturbed by the waves and the currents that are constant in the sea. But the water is usually very, very cold. This is why we usually wear thick wetsuits with hoods and boots, like other divers who dive in equally cold waters. There is, however, some equipment used especially for cave diving. Lamps, of course, are important, but even more important than lamps are ropes, long ropes. Imagine you start swimming into a cave, and as you go along, it starts dividing into different passages. If you don't have a rope, you might decide to always take the passage on the right, so that you can find your way back out, but this limits what you can explore.

Tying a rope to the entrance of the cave and taking the rest with you, leaving a trail leading out of the cave will make sure that you can get out, no matter which way you decide to go when you are inside.

Another important thing to consider is the amount of air in your tank. A normal tank, used by an experienced diver holds about an hour of air. But an inexperienced diver might use up the same amount of air in half that time, so you need to know what your air use is before making decisions about how long to spend inside the cave.

It would be logical to assume that you should spend half of your air time swimming in, so that you have the other half to swim out. But the safety guidelines for cave divers say that you should only swim in for a third



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of your air. This might seem an excessive precaution, but you don't want to find yourself without air, and 100 metres from the entrance to the cave.

Leaving double the amount of air for the return swim is sensible in case you run into trouble on the way out. You might get lost or disoriented and take longer to make decisions. Your rope might break or get tangled, slowing you down as you swim out.

When you dive in open water, if you run out of air, all you have to do is swim up. And no matter where you surface, there is good breathing air everywhere above you. You might have to swim quite a long way on the surface to get back to your boat, but you'll be able to breathe just fine. On the other hand, if you run out of air in a cave, there is nowhere to go for air. So you see, giving yourself a third of your tank as reserve makes a lot of sense if you are a safe and careful diver.

PAUSE 10"

Now you will hear Part Two again.

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TAPE REPEAT

PAUSE 5"

That is the end of Part Two.