Ashlea Transcript

Audio Description: Ashlea, a young woman wearing active wear, walks down a suburban street with Emily her support worker. An older woman, her neighbour, waves to them from the front garden of her home and they walk up the driveway to talk to her. After the chat, Ashlea and Emily continue down the street.

**Ashlea:** I’m Ashlea. I just moved here in October and I’m quite new to the area still. My neighbour’s really nice.

Audio Description: Ashlea stands at the fridge in a light filled kitchen and brings out butter and a loaf of bread. At the kitchen bench she takes a piece of turkey from a packet and lays it onto a buttered slice of bread, then adds cucumber and avocado slices from a plastic container. In the family room she sits on the sofa and enjoys her sandwich.

**Ashlea:** Before I moved I also lived on my own. It’s a much better house now. I think it’s perfect for me cause it’s so quiet here and peaceful. I just like living here by myself. I like quiet.

Audio Description: Ashlea sprays detergent onto the bathroom mirror and carefully wipes it clean. In the kitchen she wipes the stainless steel sink. In the family room she vacuums the carpet near a bookshelf which has a number of gold trophies and photos.

**Ashlea:** I think I’m a tidy person cause I like everything in the right place and in the right spot. I vacuum quite regularly. I like having the floors clean.

Audio Description: Ashlea has her head back and eyes closed as a young woman applies mascara to her eyelashes. Her eyelids have glittery pink eyeshadow. She wears a pale pink headband with a bow. Ashlea smiles up at the makeup artist. In the background are a number of people in ballroom dancing costumes. One young woman has a floor length black and red dress with a tulle skirt. Another woman with her back to the camera has a sign with the number 171 attached to her lower back.

**Ashlea:** I’m a ballroom dancer. I’ve been dancing for a while now. I compete in dance comps. I’ve won a few awards. I hope to get lots more! I do Latin, Ballroom and New Vogue.

Audio Description: Ashlea opens her arms to her male partner in the ballroom hold. They do a quick practice. In the background are other people in costume, three of whom are in wheelchairs with their competition numbers pinned to the back.

In the ballroom, Ashlea and her partner, both now dressed in black are performing with others. At the end of the room is a large banner that says “Night of Stars National Championship. Australian Dancing Society”. Underneath the banner various people sit at tables with computers in front of them. In front of them is a table of trophies and a man and a woman sit looking down at a clipboard.

**Ashlea:** ‘Night of the Stars’ is one of the biggest dance comps. Everybody’s dressed up in their nice dresses. I had a nice pretty black and white dress for my ballroom dancing. I’ve got loads of dance dresses. Sparkly ones, lots of colours. My favourite is the pink one!.

Audio Description: Ashlea now in a sparkling black and white costume is having a medal placed round her neck by a female judge. Her partner, already wearing his, looks on proudly. Then wearing her pink dress, Ashlea receives another medal, this time from a male judge. She has her photo taken against the backdrop of other dancers. The words on the ribbon attached to the medal say: Australian Dancing Society. Ashlea is part of another photo this time with her partner and two other men wearing similar medals, with a woman dressed in black. On the ballroom floor couples in colourful costumes, blue, yellow and apricot, dip and swirl in their routines. Ashlea and her partner take to the floor. Ashlea has the number 72 pinned to the back of her dress.

Back at home Ashlea shows off her dresses and Emily examines a pink one made of sequins, and swishes the flouncy skirt.

**Ashlea:** I like planning things. I’ve been to New Zealand, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Victoria, Tasmania. I’ve travelled lots. I like traveling.

Audio Description: Ashlea and Emily sit on the carpet in the family room looking at an array of travel brochures which are spread out. They chat and both point out various places on the maps.

**Ashlea:** I’d like to study childcare because I like little babies. I think I would be a good child care worker. It’s cause I’m calm.

Audio Description: Still in the loungeroom, Ashlea sets up toys on a play mat with a mobile. She holds blue eyed baby Freddie, who smiles at her as she gently bounces him up and down. Freddie’s mum Zibby, sits alongside as the baby now lies on the play mat gazing up at the toys. Ashlea gets down close to talk and play with Freddie.

In a different scene in the loungeroom Ashlea and Emily do stretching exercises together on the floor.

**Ashlea:** I'd like to keep getting better with my dancing. My dancing keeps me confident. I do social dancing on a Friday night. I know a few people there. It’s a big dance family. It is good fun and I love it.

On the paved area in a beautiful park with a fountain, Ashlea and her dancing partner practice their routines, both wearing their black and white costumes. In a different scene indoors they practice, this time in black costumes. On the ballroom floor they dance in the competition, expertly turning and twirling.

Off the floor, Ashlea chats with other dances wearing colourful sequinned dresses.

**Ashlea:** My life is just getting so busy! Sometimes it’s exhausting, but I wouldn’t have it any other way.

Text on screen:

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