

# Life choices



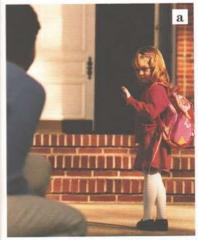
AIMS

LISTENING SKILLS

Identifying the context Predicting in notes

SPEAKING SKILLS

Part 1: Talking about familiar topics Giving extended answers PRONUNCIATION
Word linking 1
EXAM LISTENING
Section 1



# b



# Topic talk

- Look at the pictures and answer the questions below.
  - a Which life events do the photographs show?
  - b What other major events in a person's life can you think of? Which ones have you already experienced?
  - c Which milestones are particularly important in your culture?
- 2 Match the words and phrases in the box with the descriptions (a-h) below.

a place of your own	career degree	driving test	<ul><li>early retirement</li><li>family</li></ul>
gap year sabbatical	voluntary work		

### Example

- a I spend two afternoons a week at a local charity; I visit elderly people in my neighbourhood and do odd jobs for them.
- **b** I'm very nervous as I've already failed twice; I really want to get a licence so that I can be more independent.
- c We had our first child last year so at the moment I'm a stay-at-home mum it's hard work!
- d My work has given me a year off so that I can write my book; I'm also planning to travel to Australia. I'm so excited!
- e I intend to stop working by the time I'm 55; I've been working since I was 15 so I think I'm due some relaxation.
- f When I leave school I'm not going straight to university; I'd like to work for a few months to save some money and then go travelling.
- g After three years' hard work I'm finally going to graduate; my whole family is coming to the ceremony.
- h I'd like to be independent and move away from home; I'd miss my mum's cooking though!

## Technique

Using the correct collocation will make you sound more accurate in your speaking and will gain you marks in the IELTS Speaking test.



3 Match the phrases in the box in 2 with the verbs below to form collocations.
Then rewrite the sentences using the collocations. Some of the verbs may be used more than once.

change • do • get • pass • start • take

### Enumple

- Which of the life experiences in 3 have you already had? Which do you intend to do in the future? When do you hope to do them? Which do you think you never do? Why?
- The adjectives (a-g) below can all be used to describe life events and experiences. In each case decide which one is the opposite of the other two.
  - a disappointing/rewarding/fulfilling
  - unremarkable/unforgettable/memorable
  - e challenging/tough/straightforward
  - d once in a lifetime/ordinary/special
  - e trying/frustrating/satisfying
  - f dull/stimulating/exciting
  - life-changing/insignificant/momentous
- **Shich** of the adjectives in 5 have positive meanings? Which are negative? **Shich** are neither positive nor negative?
- Thich adjectives could you use to describe the events and experiences in 2?
  How would you describe some of your own life experiences?
- Complete each of the statements below with an example from your own life.
  - A challenging experience I remember was ...
  - A disappointing experience I had was ...
  - A memorable journey I took was ...
  - A life-changing decision I made was ...
  - An exciting holiday I had was ...
  - f A frustrating experience I had was ...
- Shoose one of the experiences in 8 and talk to your partner about it. Try to develop your ideas with reasons and examples.

### Exam information

Speaking Part 2 you may be asked to talk about an experience or event in the Use adjectives to describe the event and how it made you feel.