A GAP YEAR

1 Warm up

Lots of young people take a gap year before they go to university, or even while they are studying. Match the things that they often do on a gap year with the reasons for doing them.

1. volunteer for a charity
2. volunteer with children
3. travel alone
4. travel with a friend
5. learn a language
6. learn how to drive
7. do an unpaid work placement or internship
8. get a job

a. so I can buy a car
b. so I can go travelling
c. to become more independent
d. to get experience
e. to help animals
f. to make money
g. to share the adventure
h. to teach them new skills

Answer these questions

1. Are gap years common in your country?
2. What are the benefits of taking a gap year?
3. Have you done a gap year, or do you want to do one?

2 Listening

Cousins Sophie and Neil are talking at a family party. Listen to their conversation and decide if the sentences are true or false.

1. Sophie is planning to help an animal charity.
2. Sophie wants to buy a car.
3. Sophie is hoping to do a work placement.
4. Neil has plans to travel with a friend.
5. Neil wants to get a job.
6. Neil is planning to learn Portuguese.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Listen again and choose the words that you hear to complete the sentences.

1. ... **I have studied / I'm studying** biology at the moment.
2. So, **I'm going to take / I'll take** a year off university to find out more about that kind of work.
3. **I'll start / I'm starting** there next week.
4. If I get the place, I'm **going to go / going** with the vets on their farm visits.
5. **We're going to / We'll** save all our money until we have enough for the trip.
6. ... **we're leaving / ... we leave** sometime in the new year.
7. I'm **studying / going to study** politics at university.
8. Now, I can see some food on the table, so it looks like **we're going to eat / we'll eat.**

4 Practice

Use the correct form of the verb in brackets to complete these sentences. You can use present simple, present continuous, *be going to + verb* or *will + verb*. Be ready to explain your choice.

1. I _____ someone about a job on Friday. (see)
2. I think you_____ working with children. (enjoy)
3. If you want to speak to John, you'll have to go outside. He _____ the car. (clean)
4. Look at those big clouds over there. It _____ (rain)
5. She_____ how to surf. It's something she's always wanted to do. (learn)
6. The bus _____ at 8:30, so hurry up! (leave)
7. They _____ a dog but they haven't decided what kind yet. (get)
8. We _____ coffee with our best friends tomorrow. (have)

LIVEWORKSHEETS