

## Life changes

## Listening and exercise

**OLIVER**

"I used to work such long hours that I \_\_\_\_\_ enjoy life. I was like a robot. Get up. Go to work. Go back home. Sleep. I had no personal life. I started \_\_\_\_\_. I decided that I wanted to have more free time. So, I told my boss that I was going through some personal issues and that I needed \_\_\_\_\_. She agreed. Now, I have time to do everything I want. I don't have as much money but I'm much, much happier."

**LOUISE**

"Jasmine is three weeks old today. I remember a month or so ago, thinking that I would back to work \_\_\_\_\_. Now, I know that's not going to happen. I just can't \_\_\_\_\_. I'll miss my colleagues, of course, but work will pay me an allowance for a year, so I've decided to take that."

**KAREN**

"I've worked as a singing teacher for ten years and I've had some really good success stories but I felt that I had gone as far as I could go in that career and I wanted a change. I didn't just want \_\_\_\_\_. I wanted to do

something completely different. That's why I applied to do this engineering course. It's challenging definitely but I really love it."

**SAM**

"For the last nine years I've done the responsible thing. I got a well - paid job close to home, so that my wife didn't have to work and I could be home by half past four \_\_\_\_\_ . It's worked but I really began to hate work. Now, the kids are older so, after some discussion, my wife agreed I could get a job I loved. Even though I would be home much later and earn less, \_\_\_\_\_ . It's great.

**OSCAR**

"My wife and I both have really good jobs which we really enjoyed, but we really saw our kids and they started \_\_\_\_\_. We began to think we were being selfish. Together we were earning far more money than we needed. So, we decided that I would give up work \_\_\_\_\_. It is not easy, but now we spend a lot of time together and it's good for all of us.""