**a) Read the following extract of a piece of news**

## *Catherine Pierce works in the charity sector.*




I lost my sight unexpectedly when I was in my teens. Adjusting to the changes in my life was a slow and difficult process. I graduated a couple of years after my peers and have since worked for a social care charity.

The organization has a great "equal opportunities policy"; it was also helpful in supporting my needs from the application process to my first week in the job. For me, working for a charity is an opportunity to offer others at a disadvantage a new, better life – the support I received after losing my sight, and while at university, was fantastic. The job has given me the opportunity to learn various skills and to meet new people; I'm optimistic about what the future may bring.

These experiences are, on the whole, positive, but they are also evidence that employers need to improve their understanding of blindness and think about how they put diversity policies into action.

One of the interviewees told me she once went for an interview where the company's offices were not on the ground floor: "I arrived at the office block, I had to make my own way to the fifth floor; there was an elevator, but if the company wanted to show their commitment to disability, maybe they should have sent someone down to the lobby to meet me?". A little effort, such as this, could do wonders for how "disability-friendly" an organization is perceived.

**b) Report the following sentences:**

- "I graduated a couple of years after my peers"

- "Employers need to improve their understanding of blindness"

LIVEWORKSHEETS