

6a Changing your life

Vocabulary describing age

1 In some countries it is rude to ask the question 'How old are you?' Is it rude to ask this question in your country? What does it depend on?

2 We use the phrases in B to talk about general age, e.g. *He's in his mid-twenties*. Match the ages in A with the phrases in B. Which words on page 69 also describe these ages?

A 25 14 83 39 53

B early teens mid-twenties fifties
late thirties early eighties

Reading

5 Read the article about Rich and Amanda and answer the questions.

- 1 Did they do anything fun at the weekends?
- 2 What did they realize they wanted to do?
- 3 Why did they buy a campervan?
- 4 Where did they plan to travel to by container ship?
- 5 What did colleagues find difficult to understand?
- 6 What did friends think they were crazy to do?
- 7 What did Rich and Amanda start to do after they left home?

Grammar to + infinitive

► TO + INFINITIVE

- 1 *We intend to leave our jobs.*
- 2 *Let's buy a campervan to travel in.*
- 3 *It's difficult to understand your decision.*

For further information and practice, see page 166.

6 Look at the grammar box. Match the sentences (1-3) with the different forms (a-c).

- a verb + to + infinitive
- an adjective + to + infinitive
- to + infinitive explains the purpose of an action

► 45

Rich and Amanda Ligato were professional people with successful careers. Every week, they worked hard. They always intended to do something fun and exciting at the weekend but, in the end, there was never time. One day they asked themselves, 'Is this all there is?'

They realized that they wanted to stop working and to go travelling. Or, as Rich said, 'to buy our freedom'. But first they needed to save some money. Every month they lived on Rich's salary and saved Amanda's. Then they bought a campervan to travel from the bottom of South America to Brazil, and from there they hoped to get to Africa on a container ship.

Colleagues at work found it difficult to understand their decision. Even their closest friends thought they were crazy to go on this kind of journey, but finally, the day came. They left their home and started to live their dream.

7 Read about three people's future plans. Choose the correct options to complete the three texts. What is each person's stage in life?

'One day I plan ¹go / to go to university, but this year I'm working in a supermarket ²earn / to earn some money. Then I'd ³like / to like to travel round the world for six months.'

'I'm so happy ⁴retire / to retire! Some people tell me I should ⁵relax / to relax at this stage in my life, but I don't want ⁶sit / to sit at home doing nothing.'

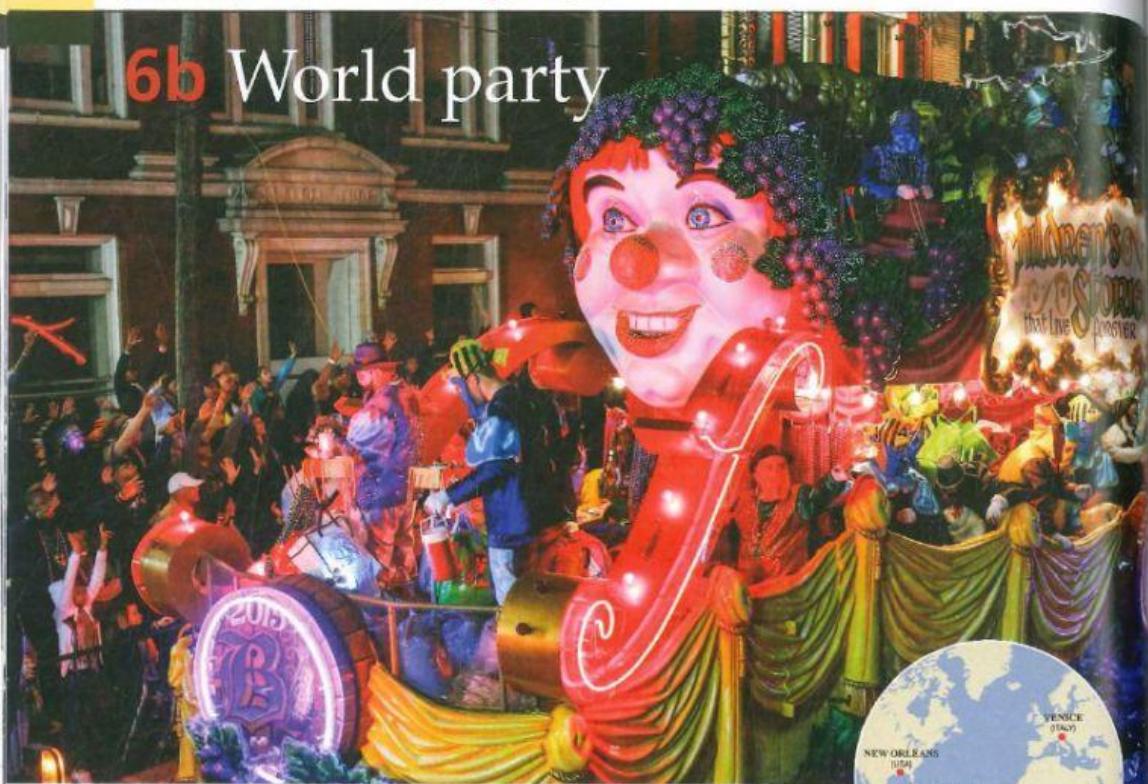
'These days it's really difficult ⁷buy / to buy a house. Me and my husband can't ⁸afford / to afford one, so we're living with his parents and saving money ⁹buy / to buy a place of our own. It's hard ¹⁰don't feel / not to feel unhappy about it.'

9 Match the beginnings of the sentences (1-6) with the endings (a-f).

- One day I intend to
- I want to take a year off
- I'd be
- In the future, I'd like to learn
- When I get older, I
- These days, it's difficult

- hope to spend more time with my family.
- happy to live in another country.
- buy my own house.
- not to take work home.
- to play a musical instrument.
- to travel overseas.

6b World party



WORLD PARTY ▶ 47

People in different countries celebrate Mardi Gras with live music, costumes, fireworks, parades and lots of good food. The most famous celebrations are in New Orleans, Venice, Rio de Janeiro and Port-of-Spain.



New Orleans, USA

Small parties for Mardi Gras began in the 1700s. By the 1800s they were huge events with masks, costumes and jazz bands. Visitors also have to try 'king cake' with its gold, purple and green decorations.

Venice, Italy

Mardi Gras is called Carnevale in this beautiful city. The first celebrations were in the 11th century and it is still a big celebration today. Visitors to the city can enjoy the costumes, candles and fireworks at night from a gondola in Venice's canals.

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The world-famous parades started in the mid-1800s, with decorated floats and thousands of people dancing to samba. People eat a famous meat and bean stew called *feijoada*.

Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

The French arrived here in the 18th century and brought Mardi Gras with them. Nowadays, everyone enjoys the parties and concerts with the famous steel drums playing from morning to midnight.

Reading and vocabulary celebrations

- 1 Which events do you celebrate in your country? When do you have parties?
When a child is born, everyone in the family comes to a big party.
- 2 Look at the first paragraph of the article. Why is the article called *World party*?
- 3 Read the article. Match the sentences (1–6) with the four places in the article.

- 1 There were no Mardi Gras celebrations here before the mid-1800s.
- 2 It has the oldest celebration.
- 3 One type of food is decorated with different colours.
- 4 One type of musical instrument is especially important.
- 5 One type of music is especially important.
- 6 People can travel to the party on a type of boat.

4 Find words in the article for these pictures.



Listening

6 ▶ 48 Listen to a report about one of the celebrations in the article. Which celebration is it about?

7 ▶ 48 Listen again. Answer the questions with Yes, No or *Don't know* (if the news report doesn't say).

- 1 Are a lot of people going to come?
- 2 Is the woman riding on the float on her own?
- 3 Is she wearing her mask when the interview starts?
- 4 Does she think she'll have a good time?