

School

School

READ



A

Listen and follow the text. Choose the correct heading (a-c) for paragraphs (1-3).

now
press
play

VOCABULARY

BREAK (noun):
A short period of
time when you have
a rest

VALUABLE
(adjective):
Very useful and
helpful

VOLUNTEER (noun):
A person who works
without being paid for it,
because he wants to do it

CHARITY (noun):
An organization which
raises money to help
people who are sick or
very poor

DISABLED (adjective):
Having a physical or
mental condition that
restricts a person in his
ability to move or use his
senses

DIG (verb):
To make a hole in the
ground

WELL (noun):
A hole in the ground
from which a supply of
water is extracted

GAPPER (noun):
A person who is taking a gap year

8D

Gap years

GAP
NEWS

Across cultures

- 1 A) THINGS YOU MIGHT DO IN A GAP YEAR B) TWO DIFFERENT GAP YEARS C) WHAT IS A GAP YEAR?

About 25% of British students take a break when they leave school. This is their 'gap year'. Most of them travel, but some stay in the UK. If they plan it well, it is a valuable experience.

- 2 A) THINGS YOU MIGHT DO IN A GAP YEAR B) TWO DIFFERENT GAP YEARS C) WHAT IS A GAP YEAR?

♦ Be a volunteer

Gap year students help charities all over the world – from environmental projects in South America to working with disabled people in the UK.

♦ Learn something

You can learn to ski in Canada, study Art in Italy, practise photography in Cuba or do a cookery course in your own town ... there are so many possibilities!

♦ Earn money

There are lots of ways to make some money at home or abroad – like fruit picking in France, building walls in Australia, digging wells in Africa or working in children's summer camps in the UK or the USA.

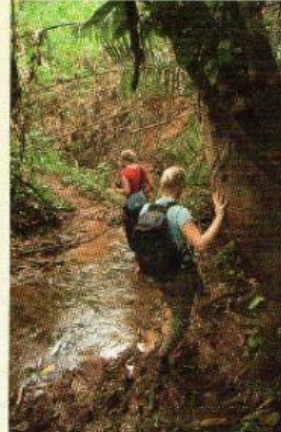
♦ Go on an expedition

There are travel companies which arrange trips specially for 'gappers'. They travel across African deserts, through South American rainforests or even to the Antarctic. This is a fantastic experience, but often quite expensive.

FRUIT PICKING



COOKERY COURSE



- 3 A) THINGS YOU MIGHT DO IN A GAP YEAR B) TWO DIFFERENT GAP YEARS C) WHAT IS A GAP YEAR?

I'm going to go travelling with some friends. We're planning everything carefully. Every week we have a meeting. We want to go to Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam. If we have enough money, we'll go for about six months. At the moment I'm working in a shop for four months, to earn money for the trip, and then we're off!

Becky Martin, Gloucester



For my gap year, I've got a temporary job in the newspaper office where my uncle works. Then I'll have some money when I go to university. I'm just doing boring routine jobs now, but I expect I'll do some more interesting things later. I want to be a journalist so this is a really good opportunity for me to get some experience.

Ben Halliday, London

STAY
AT
HOME

Teacher Florencia Segovia

B Match (1-7) with (a-g) to make sentences about the text.

1 School leavers

2. Most "gappers"

3. Volunteers

4. Photography and cookery

5. Two typical gap year jobs

6. Becky and her friends

7. Ben and his uncle

a) go abroad.

b) want to go to three different countries.

c) are fruit picking and building.

d) help people at home or abroad.

e) work in the same place.

f) don't always take a gap year.

g) are examples of skills you can learn on a gap year.

C Answer these questions.

1. What is a "gap year"?

2. Where is this trend followed?

3. What kind of things can "gappers" do in their year off?

4. If Becky saves enough money for her trip, how long will she stay abroad?

5. If you could take a gap year, how would you spend it?



LISTEN

D

Listen to Julia talking with her uncle Mick. Choose the correct options.

- 1 Julia and her uncle are talking about her *exams/future*.
- 2 Julia *is/isn't* going to university next year.
- 3 Julia *will never/wants to* go on a gap year.
- 4 *Some/A few* of Julia's friends want to travel when they are older.
- 5 Her uncle *had/didn't have* a gap between school and university.
- 6 Her uncle is a *postman/teacher* now.

now
press
play

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