Changes

Match the beginnings and endings of these phrases about people's lives.

1.	to be born **in**	a.	1965
2.	to be famous **for**	b.	handsome
3.	to be **from**	c.	Japanese
4.	to be **a**	d.	his paintings
5.	to be **Canadian** or	e.	London
6.	to be **married** or	f.	writer
7.	to be **beautiful** or	g.	poor
8.	to be **rich** or	h.	**divorced**

Which adjectives are opposites?

Which pair of adjectives refer to women and men?

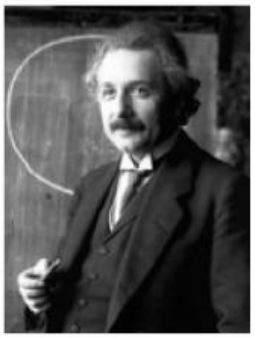
Think of one more way to end the first five phrases.

Reading

These photos show three famous people from the 20th century. Match the photos to the texts. Then complete the life story about each person using the words in the box.



A



B



C

music	scientist	Britain	1935
singer	rich	pianist	poor

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Text 1: Elvis Presley

He was a famous American _____[1]. He was famous for his _____[2]. He was born in _____[3]in Mississippi, USA. His parents were very _____[4]- it was a difficult time in the American economy.

Text 2: Albert Einstein

He was a German _____[1]. He was famous for his theory of relativity. He was born in 1879 in Germany. His father was a businessman, and his mother was a _____[2].

Text 3: Winston Churchill

He was the prime minister of _____[1]from 1940-1945 and 1950-1951. He was born in England in 1874. His parents were _____[2]and famous - his father was a politician, and his mother was the daughter of an American millionaire.

Listen and check your answers.
Do you know anything else about these people?

Language point

Study these sentences.

- Elvis Presley **was** a famous American singer.
- Albert Einstein **was** born in 1879 in Germany.
- Elvis Presley's parents **were** very poor.
- Winston Churchill's parents **were** rich and famous.

Was and ***were*** are the past tense forms of the irregular verb ***to be***.

Study the table below.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

subject	positive	negative	subject	positive	negative
I	was	was not/wasn't	we	were	were not / weren't
he/she/it	was	was not/wasn't	you/they	were	were not / weren't

yes / no questions	Was I/he/she/it famous? Were we/you/they famous?	short answers	Yes, I/he/she/it was. No, I/he/she/it wasn't. Yes, we/you/they were. No, we/you/they weren't.

question-word questions	When / Where / How long	was	I/he/she/it	famous?
		were	we/you/they	
	Who	was	he	married to?
		were	they	

Now choose the best answers to the questions.

1. In the past tense, we use **different / the same** forms of ***to be*** with ***I*** and ***he/she/it***.
2. We **make / don't make** contractions with positive sentences with ***to be*** in the past tense.
3. We use contractions with negative forms when we want to be **informal / formal**.
4. We **repeat / don't repeat** the adjective when we give a short answer to a **yes/no question**.

How are the past and present forms of *to be* different? Compare the number of forms and contractions.

4 Practice

Read the life stories of two famous African American women. Use the information to write the missing questions or answers. Write full sentences. The examples will help you.

Examples **See the question, write the answer:**

- Was Aretha Franklin from a small family? *No, she wasn't. She was from a big family.*

See the answer, write the question:

- *Where was Aretha Franklin born?* She was born in Memphis.



LIVEWORKSHEETS

Text A

Aretha Franklin was a famous singer and songwriter. She was the first woman in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. She was born in 1942 in Memphis. She was from a big family. Her parents were friends with lots of famous singers.

1. Was Aretha Franklin a famous scientist? _____.
2. _____? Aretha Franklin was the first woman in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.
3. When was Aretha Franklin born? _____.
4. _____? They were friends with lots of famous singers.

Text B

Althea Gibson was a famous sportswoman. She was the first African American woman to play tennis internationally. She was born in 1927 in South Carolina, USA. Her parents were farmers. She was the winner of Wimbledon in 1957 and 1958.



1. Who was Althea Gibson? _____.
2. Was Althea Gibson the first African American woman to play tennis in the US? _____.
3. _____? She was born in South Carolina, USA.
4. _____? Yes, they were. Her parents were farmers.

5 Writing and speaking

Read about two more famous women. Work in A/B pairs. Student A, read about Agatha Christie and Student B, read about Tove Jansson.

- **There is some information missing from your texts, and your partner has the answers. Work alone to write questions to ask your partner. Use the words you are given.**
- **Then ask and answer questions together and write the missing information in the text.**
- **After you finish speaking, show your partner the pictures on your page. Then tell your partner if you know these writers and enjoy their books.**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Student A

Read and write questions about Agatha Christie. Give information about Tove Jansson.



1. Agatha Christie was ....
2. She was ....
3. She was born in ....
4. She was famous for ..... Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple.
5. Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple were ....
6. She was married ....

Use these words to write your questions:

1. Who ...
2. Where ...
3. When ...
4. What ...
5. Who were ...
6. How many times ...

Use this text to answer your partner's questions. Speak in full sentences.

Text 1

Tove Jansson was a writer and artist. She was born in 1914. She was from Finland. She was famous for her books about the Moomins. The Moomins were little animals who lived in the forest. Jansson's parents were artists too.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Student B

Read and write questions about Tove Jansson. Use the words you are given to help you make questions. Give information about Agatha Christie.



1. Tove Jansson was a ....
2. She was born ....
3. She was from ....
4. She was famous for ..... the Moomins.
5. The Moomins were ....
6. Jansson's parents were ....

Use these words to write your questions:

1. Who ...
2. When ...
3. Where ...
4. What ...
5. Who were ...
6. Were ...too?

Use this text to answer your partner's questions. Speak in full sentences.

Text 2

Agatha Christie was a famous writer. She was English. She was born in 1890. She was famous for her books about Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple. They were very clever detectives. She was married twice.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

6 Extra practice/homework

Read the life stories of two politicians and the questions about them. Find ten grammar mistakes and correct them. Three of the sentences are correct.

1. Shirley Chisholm was a famous American politician.
2. She born in New York in 1924.
3. Her parents was from Barbados and Guyana.
4. She was first African American woman to join the US Congress.
5. She was famous helping women and children.
6. Where Shirley Chisholm's parents from?

1. Barbara Castle a famous British politician.
2. She was of the North of England.
3. She was student at Oxford University.
4. She was a Member of Parliament for the Labour party for 34 years.
5. She was famous making laws about transport safety.
6. She and her husband Ted were very interested in their nieces and nephews.
7. Barbara Castle was married?

LIVEWORKSHEETS