

Vocabulary

Phrasal verbs and expressions



1 Find these phrasal verbs and expressions (1–10) in the article. Try to work out their meaning from the context. Then match them with the definitions (a–j).

- 1** big break (line 7)
 - 2** ended up (line 12)
 - 3** ticked all the boxes (line 16)
 - 4** came along (line 18)
 - 5** run out of (line 26)
 - 6** go on (line 26)
 - 7** to throw myself into (line 32)
 - 8** counting on (line 46)
 - 9** came up against (line 48)
 - 10** came across (line 54)
-
- a** be able to depend on something
 - b** continue to do something
 - c** faced something challenging
 - d** occurred as the final result of something
 - e** arrived or appeared
 - f** found unintentionally
 - g** an opportunity that leads to something successful
 - h** consume until nothing is left
 - i** start to do something with enthusiasm
 - j** satisfied all the requirements



Read and underline the main idea in each of the questions (1–6). Do not read options A–D yet.



- 1 What do we learn about Dennis in the first paragraph?
 - A He had to learn climbing skills to become a wildlife photographer.
 - B Becoming a photographer fitted in with the interests that he already had.
 - C He won a competition where the prize was a trip to North America.
 - D Becoming a photographer allowed him to continue his adventures in the Rocky Mountains.

- 2 When Dennis first became a professional photographer, he
 - A worked alongside famous photographers in remote areas.
 - B identified an area of photography that nobody else was doing.
 - C struggled to capture images of wildlife in their natural habitats.
 - D had to learn how to use new types of camera equipment.

- 3 Why does Dennis compare his time in the mountains to a walk in the park in line 36?
 - A to illustrate that the job of a photographer takes you to a variety of different places
 - B to show that he's often in dangerous national parks
 - C to highlight that both require similar amounts of preparation
 - D to demonstrate how comfortable he felt in that environment

- 4 After Dennis had been in the Himalayas for a while
 - A he was worried about being attacked by the snow leopard.
 - B he stopped thinking about the troubles he'd had.
 - C he realised that the daily life of a leopard was difficult.
 - D he started seeing things that weren't really there.

- 5 What does the word *they* refer to in line 67?
 - A snow leopards
 - B filmmakers
 - C conservation groups
 - D local people

- 6 In the final paragraph, Dennis says that the biggest disadvantage of his job is
 - A waiting to take photographs in bad weather.
 - B not always getting the photos that he wants.
 - C not spending time with the people he's close to.
 - D not being able to take many holidays.

View from the top

Dennis Eames is famous for the photos that he has taken of animals in some of the remotest parts of the world.

Mountaineering was his first passion, where he learnt how to climb as well as how to survive in tough conditions. He
5 found himself getting more and more fascinated with the unique wildlife and documenting what he had seen on camera. His big break came when he received first prize for a photograph he had taken of a grizzly bear in the Rocky Mountains in North America. He was soon approached by
10 an international magazine to photograph animals that live in mountain areas. His first job was to return to the Rocky Mountains to document the lives of grey wolves. 'I ended up searching for them high and low and got some great photos
15 of the deer that they hunt, too. I soon realised that being a wildlife photographer ticked all the boxes: travel, adventure and climbing.'

He's now a world-renowned photographer and has had his work exhibited in numerous galleries. 'I came along at the right time,' he says. 'When I started, there were a number
20 of people who were known for their work in the jungle or the desert, but I realised that there weren't any skilled climbers among them. So I became the person who took pictures of wildlife high up. It was as if all these animals and birds were waiting to be photographed in their natural
25 habitats. The technology was very different then. You could easily run out of film, but with digital cameras you can go on taking photos until you get the right shot. You can also take the photos straightaway without waiting for the right light, as most cameras adjust for
30 this automatically.'





'I think the root of my success was that I was able to throw myself into the job straightaway. Unlike most climbers, I was a keen photographer, and unlike most photographers, I was a keen climber. I've spent so much time in the mountains it feels like a walk in the park. As long as you have the right experience, prepare well and know how to source food to eat and water to drink, you'll normally get the shots you're after. I have had a lot of successes and a few failures – one time I was in Yosemite Park to photograph bobcats at night and I forgot to take a camera that would take photos in the dark.'

When Dennis visited the Himalayas last year to photograph snow leopards in their natural habitat, he wasn't counting on it being an easy affair. As well as the danger of trying to photograph a big cat close up, he also came up against difficulties connected with spending a long time at high altitude and in freezing temperatures, all of which were extremely challenging. Spotting snow leopards can be hard enough, so much so that they are known as 'the ghost of the mountains'. Finally, after three weeks, he came across the tracks of one of these animals in the snow. He was able to follow it across the mountain ridge and take photos of it living its daily life. He says that at this point he forgot about all the problems he'd had and started to enjoy the experience of being so close to a snow leopard.

Looking ahead, Dennis would like to return to the Himalayas to make a documentary on how hunting and the destruction of the places where snow leopards live by the local population has led to these animals being close to extinction. Teaming up with filmmakers and conservation groups, he hopes to educate local people about the risks they face and hopefully raise money for animal welfare charities.

In general, Dennis says he has no regrets about turning his hobby into a job. 'I've been lucky enough to have some fantastic experiences, but sometimes you can be waiting for hours in dreadful conditions for the perfect shot and nothing happens! This can get you down, but the great photos and experiences make it all worthwhile.' He says he doesn't mind the hardships of spending most of his time up a mountain, but he thinks it's frustrating that the time he spends away means that he doesn't get to see his friends and family as often as he would like. For example, he will miss New Year celebrations this year as he has an assignment to film wildlife in Ecuador.





Complete the sentences with the correct form of a phrasal verb or expression from Exercise 1.

- 1 The new members of the climbing club were complete beginners, but to their credit they the practice activities with open minds and learnt the techniques very quickly.
- 2 Because of the intense competition to become a professional footballer, a lot of promising young players having to find alternative careers.
- 3 Having looked at the draw for the next round of the national trophy, it looks like we'll the reigning champions if we win our next match.
- 4 Until their new developer, the computer games company was struggling to produce games that had global appeal.
- 5 When training for a half-marathon, it's important that you're well prepared. If not, you will of energy early on in the race.
- 6 In team sports, you need to be able to your teammates for support when you need it.
- 7 The biggest advantage of people turning their hobby into a job is that they can doing the things they enjoy and get paid for it.
- 8 It may be true that some people are destined for greatness in business, but on closer inspection they've usually benefited from a along the way.
- 9 As a travel writer, Mo experiences new and unexpected things. He regularly cultures that are different to anything he's seen before.
- 10 There are some very good personal trainers out there, but it's unlikely anyone will and be exactly what you're looking for.





Work in pairs. Ask and answer the questions.

- 1** Have you come up against any difficulties in your life recently?
- 2** What sort of activities do you find it easy or difficult to throw yourself into?
- 3** What career would tick all the boxes for you?
- 4** Have you come across any interesting art or music recently?