

From hobby

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TO JOB



Twins Chet and Betts DeHart have achieved what many young people only dream of – they’ve made it in the fashion world. When they were just 15, they created the streetwear brand Lucid FC, which now sells worldwide.

As kids, the boys loved trainers. ¹..... Slowly, they **built up** a collection. Betts, the twin with the business brain, knew all about the trainers he wore, how many were sold and where they were being produced. ²..... He set up a YouTube channel, Sole Brothers, where he **reviewed** trainers in the twins’ collection.

While they were still at school, the twins decided to make their own trainers. They sold their collection to raise money for their **brand**, communicated with **manufacturers** overseas and finally released a shoe. Unfortunately, it didn’t sell well. ³..... The result of these conversations led to the production of a shoe decorated with a logo, which looked good and became popular.

After a couple of years, the boys decided to rename their brand Lucid FC and **launch** their first collection, which included items of clothing. While they were studying the fashion business at college, they looked for manufacturers who could make their products. ⁴..... The next challenge was to find stores to sell their products. The twins were shopping at the fashionable VFiles clothing shop when they were offered jobs and their manager later decided to stock the brand.

Celebrities were soon wearing it, too. One of their first customers, Rihanna, was wearing a Lucid FC jacket and cap at a basketball match in 2015 when someone took a photo of her. ⁵..... Today, the business continues to grow and the brothers have great plans for the future.

1. Five sentences have been removed from the text. For each question, choose the correct answer.

There are three extra sentences which you do not need to use.

- A** The boys refused to give up, however, and continued to talk to possible producers.
- B** It was immediately successful.
- C** They spent the money they earned in their part-time jobs on really good ones.
- D** Thanks to its publication, people noticed the brand.
- E** It wasn't the most attractive design that the twins produced.
- F** Meanwhile, Chet was the creative twin.
- G** He was pleased with the progress they were making.
- H** This wasn't easy, but they eventually found two

2. Read the text and choose whether the sentences are true / false

- 1. Twins Chet and Betts DeHart started their fashion brand when they were 15 years old.
- 2. Betts was more interested in the creative side of the brand, while Chet focused on business.
- 3. The very first shoe the twins released was an immediate sales success.
- 4. The twins sold their personal trainer collection to get money for their brand.
- 5. It was easy for the boys to find manufacturers when they were studying at college.
- 6. The manager of the VFiles shop offered the twins jobs and later started selling their brand.
- 7. Rihanna was photographed wearing Lucid FC clothes during a music concert.

Haroshi's skateboard **Sculptures**

Japanese artist, Haroshi, creates amazing sculptures from old skateboards.

Haroshi began skateboarding when he was 15 years old and loved it. He went every day and used many skateboards, each of which eventually broke from being used so much. Other skateboarders threw theirs away when this happened, but Haroshi didn't because they were important to him. Over time, he built up a large collection of them. While he was doing so, he learned about different types of skateboard, which not only vary in size and shape but can be built in different ways, too. By the time he was 25, Haroshi had an enormous number of old skateboards.

Keen to do something with them, Haroshi started to cut them up. As he was doing so, he noticed interesting patterns in the wood. He cut up more boards and stuck them on top of each other. While he was doing this, he realised that he could create something new from something old. The first thing he produced from the old wood was a piece of jewellery, but he later became known for his huge 3D sculptures. His ideas came from skateboarding culture, ranging from skateboarding cats to cool trainers, and a variety of other everyday subjects. Haroshi had no formal training in art, and each piece of work took a very long time because of this. What this showed was that he had a huge amount of natural talent and was keen to show his work to the world.

Haroshi's work has been seen in several exhibitions, where everything from an enormous bird to a figure of a man in pain have been on display. One sculpture, called Ordinary life, looks like a broken leg – a reality of skateboarding – and it is incredible to think that Haroshi designs and creates each sculpture from old wood. Using this material isn't the only interesting thing about his work, though. In the twelfth century, a Japanese sculptor called Unkei placed a glass ball in each of his sculptures, to show that each piece had a heart. Haroshi took this idea and does something similar in his own work. Inside each of his sculptures is a piece of broken skateboard. This, Haroshi believes, is what gives his sculptures life.

3. Read the text and answer the questions

1. How old was Haroshi when he started skateboarding?
2. Why didn't Haroshi throw away his broken skateboards like other skateboarders did?
3. What did Haroshi notice when he started cutting up his old skateboards?
4. What was the very first object Haroshi made from the old wood?
5. Did Haroshi study at an art school or have any formal artistic training?
6. What does Haroshi's sculpture called *Ordinary life* look like?
7. What does Haroshi place inside each of his sculptures to give them life?

TALKING POINTS

Which of *your* hobbies could become a job in the future?

What are the advantages and disadvantages of having a job which is also your hobby?