

THE ROAD TO SUCCESS

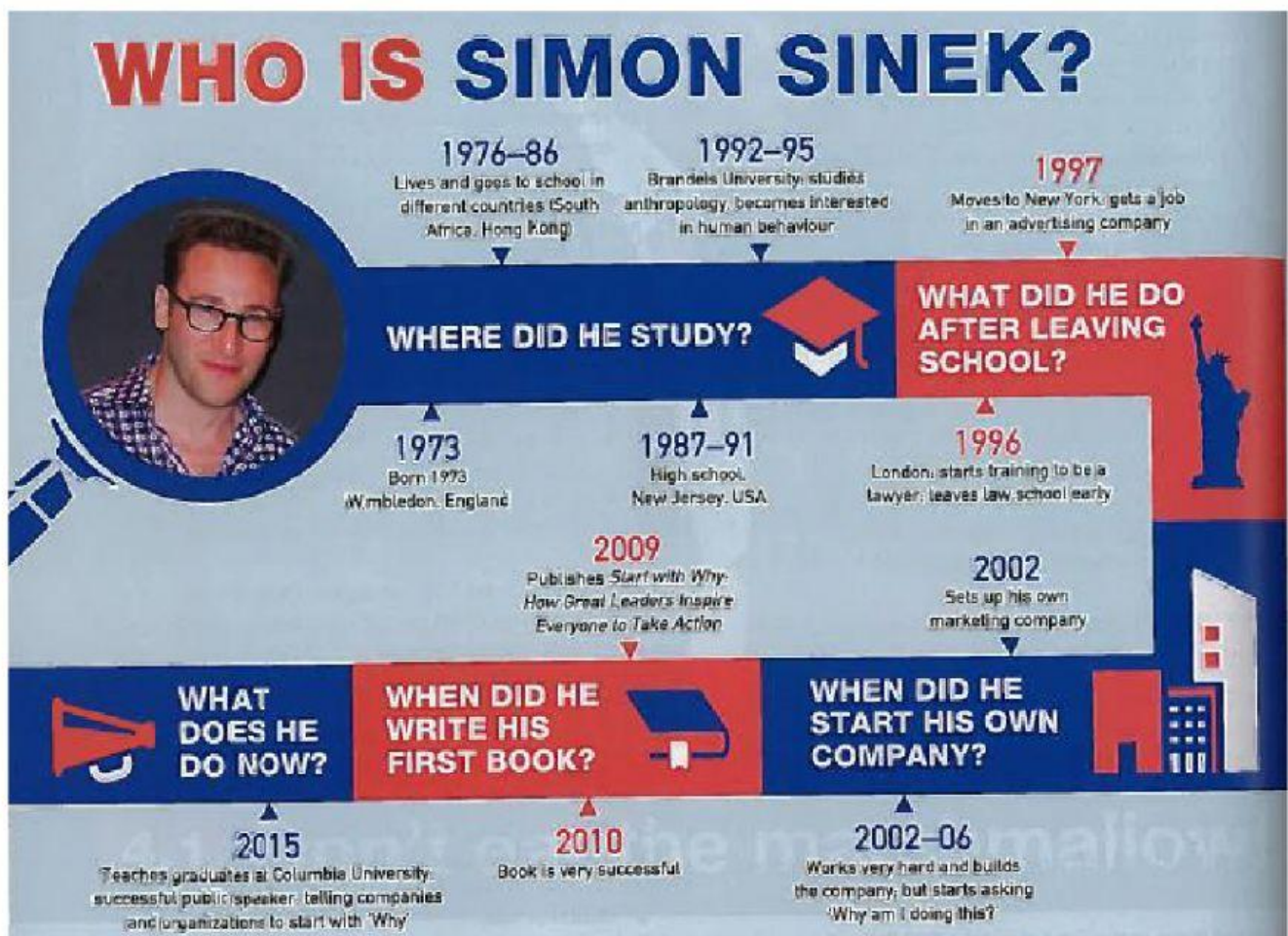
1. Work in pairs. Discuss which of these statements you agree with.

- a. *Going to university isn't right for everyone.*
- b. *It's never too late to change career.*
- c. *You can't be happy in life if you're not happy with your work.*
- d. *It's not what you do that's important in your career, it's why you do it.*

2. Look at the infographic about the career of Simon Sinek. Answer the questions.

- a. What was his first job and what does he do now?
- b. Which ideas in exercise 1 are true for him?

3. Read the text in the GRAMMAR BOX. Answer the questions.



PAST SIMPLE AND PAST CONTINUOUS

Simon Sinek was born in England in 1973. As a child, he **lived** and **went** to school in different countries. He **graduated** from High School in New Jersey in 1991. Sinek then **went** to Brandeis University to study anthropology.

While he **was studying**, he **became** very interested in human behaviour. In 1996, he **started** studying law in London, but he decided that he didn't want to be a lawyer and so he **didn't finish** law school. He **left** London and **moved** to New York, where he **got** a job in an advertising company.

- 1) Which verbs describe the main events of Simon Sinek's life in sequence, one after the other.
- 2) Which verbs describe a background action in progress when another event took place?
4. Complete the rest of Simon Sinek's story. Use the correct form of the past simple and past continuous.

In 2002, Sinek 1) _____ (set) up his own company. He 2) _____ (work) hard and 3) _____ (build) the company. But while he 4) _____ (work) so hard, he 5) _____ (not/feel) happy. Then he 6) _____ (ask) himself the question 'Why am I doing this job?' When he 7) _____ (find) the answer – 'to inspire other people in their work' – his whole life 8) _____ (change). In 2009 he 9) _____ (publish) a book about his ideas, *Start with Why*. The book

10) _____ (be) very successful and now Sinek talks about his ideas to different organizations.

5. Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- a. I _____ interested in journalism while I _____ communications at university.
- b. We _____ to Manchester because the cost of living in London _____ up and up.
- c. He _____ for the interview but he _____ the job.
- d. I _____ my job because I _____ the company.
- e. He _____ us while we _____ an important discussion.
- f. Their living room ceiling _____. Luckily, they _____ in the room at the time.

6. Complete the sentences in your own words. Then compare your sentences with a partner.

- a. I decided to change job because...
- b. I met a lot of interesting people when...
- c. I took a part-time job while...
- d. ... when I was travelling
- e. I studied English when...

GRAMMAR PAST PERFECT

7. Read the description of a singer, Yvonne Cortez.

What was her first job? What does she do now?

Yvonne Cortez had a talent for singing from an early age. She is now a professional singer. But her career was not straightforward. She left school at seventeen and got a job as a door-to-door salesperson.

8. Listen to an interview with Yvonne Cortez. Answer the questions.

- Why didn't Yvonne go to college after she left school at seventeen?
- Did she hope to become a professional singer at that point? Why? / Why not?

9. Read the sentences in the GRAMMAR BOX. Answer the questions.

PAST PERFECT

- Why did you decide to leave school at seventeen?
- Well, I guess like a lot of kids, I **had studied** for long enough. I **had done** some concerts at school and a lot of people **had said** I was good.

I **hadn't thought** about it as a career.

So, I took a job as a door-to-door salesperson.

- 1) Look at the underlined verb and the verbs in **bold**. Did these actions happen before (B) or after (A) Yvonne left school?

- 2) Which tense is used to talk about events before the main event (Yvonne leaving school)?
- 3) How is this tense formed?

10. Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- a. When I went to university, I **didn't decide** **hadn't decided** what future job I wanted.
- b. When I got my first job, I knew a little about work, because I **had** **had had** part-time jobs as a teenager.
- c. I got to work an hour late on my first day, but luckily my boss **didn't arrive** **hadn't arrived** yet.
- d. I never thought about 'having a career'. I just **took** **had taken** jobs that interested me.
- e. I decided to apply for a summer job picking fruit because my brother **did** **had done** it before and loved it.

SPEAKING MY CAREER PATH

Work in pairs. Make a timeline of your own education and working life up to now. Then describe the events to your partner and the reason for your career path.

*When I was studying at university, I started writing for the university newspaper. I **hadn't done** any journalism before, but I really liked it.*

