Reading Exercise – File 3B – page 30, 31

c Read the beginning of an article about the book. Why did Neil Sinclair write it? In what way is it different from other books about raising children?

e Listen again and correct the wrong information.

f Do you think it's a good idea to have a book and a website on childcare especially for men? Why (not)?

COMMANDO DAD

For six years Neil Sinclair served as a commando in the army. He had been in a lot of dangerous situations, but nothing prepared him for the day when he brought his first baby home from the hospital. "I put the car seat containing my two-day-old son Samuel down on the floor and said to my wife, 'What do we do now?"

When he left the army, Sinclair and his wife agreed that he would stay at home and take care of the baby, while his wife went back to work.

"I have done a lot of crazy things, but when I put that baby down I thought: I have a tiny baby, and he is crying. What does he want? What does he need? I did not know. It was one of the most difficult days of my life."

It was at that moment that Sinclair had an idea. "I found myself thinking how much easier life would be if I had a basic training manual for my baby, like the manual you get when you join the army. I realized that somebody needed to write such a manual, and who better to write it than me? I had been a commando, but I was now a stay-at-home dad. I was the man for the job."

His book, *Commando Dad: Basic Training*, is a set of instructions that explains with military precision and diagrams how new fathers should approach the first three years of their child's life to become a first-rate father.

Adapted from The Times

Glossary
commando *noun* one of a group of soldiers who are trained to make quick attacks in enemy areas
stay-at-home dad *noun* a man who stays at home and takes care of the children while his wife goes to work

3B

d. Listen to two men talking in the park about the book and mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).

1 Miranda is older than Stephen.

2 Miranda's father slept badly the night before.

3 Stephen's father recommends sleeping pills.

4 Stephen's father hasn't read Commando Dad.

5 He likes the website because he enjoys reading about other men's experiences.

6 Stephen's father really likes the book because it helps him and makes him laugh.

7 In Commando Dad, BT means Baby Trooper and Base Camp means the kitchen.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

8 The author of Commando Dad thinks that women are only better than men when the baby is small.

LIVEWORKSHEETS