

Eric Cantona has never been a stranger to controversy. Born in Marseilles in 1966, he made his debut as a professional soccer player when he was 17. Because of his fiery temperament, he was often in trouble for fighting with other players. Nevertheless, Cantona was able to continue his soccer career in England, where teams like Manchester United were happy to pay million-dollar transfer fees to acquire his services.

So it is something of a surprise that Cantona's subsequent career has mostly been in the movies as an actor and director. He has appeared in more than 15 movies. He has also starred in TV commercials, some of them for Nike, so he hasn't missed his soccer player's salary too much. In fact, he has recently been appearing as a stage actor in a play directed by his wife.

Cantona has also been in the news because he has been calling on the public to take their money out of major banks as one way of opposing the worldwide power of the financial sector. This idea has been gaining support via an Internet campaign.

A very different career change happened in the case of American style guru Martha Stewart. After obtaining a degree in history in New York, she started her career as a stockbroker. Later, she built a successful career as a business magnate. Her impressive CV includes roles as both television host and magazine publisher.

In 2004, she was convicted of lying about a stock sale and served five months in prison as well as paying a fine of \$30,000. However, she was able to benefit from her stay inside.

"The experience of the last five months... has been life altering and life affirming," Stewart said on her website. "Someday, I hope to have the chance to talk more about all that has happened, the extraordinary people I have met here and all that I have learned."

A stay in prison would normally destroy a person's reputation, no matter what great references their business contacts might give them. However, in recent years, Stewart has been successfully rebuilding her image. She has participated in the American TV series *The Apprentice* and recently received a \$2 million book deal. Incredibly she has become more successful than ever.

**NOTICE THAN EVER**

We use *than ever* to mean "than at any time before in your life".

*She's been busier than ever this year.*

**b** Choose the best title 1–3 for the article.

- 1 Five Steps to Business Success
- 2 Dramatic Career Changes
- 3 Facing Professional Challenges

Answer the questions with Cantona (C), Stewart (S) or both (B). Who...

- 1 works in the media? ⇨
- 2 made a surprising career change? ⇨
- 3 had a bad experience that he/she learned a lot from? ⇨
- 4 had difficulty controlling his/her temper? ⇨
- 5 behaved in a negative way in his/her first career? ⇨
- 6 has been involved with an online campaign? ⇨
- 7 has actively tried to improve his/her public image? ⇨
- 8 has been more successful in his/her second career than in the first one? ⇨

Find words in the article that mean...

- 1 payments made for professional advice or services (line 12).
- 2 a chosen profession (line 16).
- 3 a fixed payment given to an employee for work performed (line 27).
- 4 an academic title given by a college or university (line 40).
- 5 a written description of work experience, skills and education (line 44).
- 6 a statement about the qualities/experience of a person looking for a job (line 62).