

4 READING

- a Read the interview. Write the questions in the correct place.

Did you have a favorite teacher?

Where did you go to school?

Did you ever behave badly?

What's the most important lesson you learned at school?

What did you want to do when you left school?

What subjects were you good at?

My schooldays

DAVID SUCHET, actor, played Hercule Poirot in the TV series of Agatha Christie murder mysteries.

Interview by Tim Oglethorpe



1 Where did you go to school?

Grenham House, a boarding school in Kent, and Wellington School, a private school in Somerset.

2

One thing my schooldays did teach me was the importance of teamwork. At boarding school, I was an outsider and I was really, truly unhappy there. When I started playing sports at Grenham House, I became a member of a team, and I felt a lot better about myself. Like sports, acting is also almost always a team event, and you rely just as much on other people as they do on you.

3

Yes, I did. My brother and I both went to the same school and sometimes, we used to break the rules. In private schools at that time, a common punishment used to be "the cane": a long stick that the teacher used for hitting naughty boys.

4

Well, I wasn't very academic at all, really, and I was very bad at math. Luckily for me, I was really good at sports and that's the only reason they accepted me at Wellington. I was on the school rugby team, and I also played tennis. I played at Wimbledon once, in the junior tournament, and I got through to the second round.

5

Although I was good at sports, I never really considered taking it up professionally. Once I left Wellington, I wanted to become an actor, and I didn't play as many sports when I left school.

6

Yes, my favorite teacher was Mr. Storr, coach of the school tennis team, and also my English teacher. One day, when I was 14 or 15, I had to read in class. After the class, he said to me, "The way you read suggests you might enjoy acting. Would you consider playing Macbeth in the school play?" That was the beginning of my acting career, and I've never looked back since.

- b Read the interview again. Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).

- 1 He thinks it's important to work together with others. T
- 2 David didn't always enjoy his first school. —
- 3 David wanted to be a tennis player when he left school. —
- 4 He and his brother used to behave well. —
- 5 In the past, a teacher could hit students with a stick. —
- 6 David didn't use to be a very good student. —
- 7 He only got into Wellington because he was good at sports. —
- 8 Mr. Storr taught math and coached the tennis team. —

- c Look at the **highlighted** words. Use your dictionary to look up their meaning and pronunciation.

5 LISTENING

- a **iChecker** Listen to two people talking about language learning in schools. Were Tony and Amy good at languages when they were at school?

- b **iChecker** Listen again and **circle** the correct answer.

- 1 Amy studied Japanese / French the longest.
- 2 Amy can remember one language more than the others because she practiced it on vacation / studied it in college.
- 3 Adults remember some numbers / some adjectives from their language classes.
- 4 According to Tony, some people are too busy / too uncomfortable to speak a foreign language.
- 5 Spanish / Arabic is more popular than French.
- 6 In the future, schools will offer fewer languages / make younger students learn languages.

10C Mr. Indecisive

1 GRAMMAR *might* (possibility)

- a Max and Sam are telling a colleague about their plans for next weekend. Complete the text with *might* and a verb from the box.

be eat go have invite make rain take

"We feel like doing something special next weekend, but we haven't decided what to do yet. It ¹ might be sunny, so we ² _____ for a walk by the river on Saturday. We ³ _____ lunch in a restaurant, or we ⁴ _____ some sandwiches with us.

On the other hand, it ⁵ _____, so we won't be able to go out. In that case, we ⁶ _____ some friends for dinner on Saturday. We ⁷ _____ dinner ourselves, or we ⁸ _____ out, we're not sure. Everything depends on the weather, really."

- b Complete the sentences with *might* or *might not* and a verb from the box.

be come fail get go go-out have miss

- 1 I'm really tired so I might not go out tonight.
- 2 Miguel doesn't speak English, so he _____ the job with the American company.
- 3 If you have a temperature, you _____ the flu.
- 4 My parents _____ to our party – they're thinking of taking a vacation then.
- 5 I haven't seen Johnny with Vanessa for a long time. They _____ together anymore.
- 6 If the taxi doesn't come soon, we _____ the train.
- 7 We love skiing, so we _____ to the Rocky Mountains for our next vacation.
- 8 Sue hasn't practiced much so she _____ her driving test.

2 VOCABULARY word building: noun formation

- a Complete the chart with the correct noun or verb.

| Verb | Noun |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ¹ <i>choose</i> | choice |
| confuse | ² <i>confusion</i> |
| decide | ³ _____ |
| ⁴ _____ | death |
| educate | ⁵ _____ |
| ⁶ _____ | election |
| imagine | ⁷ _____ |
| ⁸ _____ | information |
| invite | ⁹ _____ |
| ¹⁰ _____ | life |
| opt | ¹¹ _____ |
| ¹² _____ | organization |
| ¹³ _____ | success |

- b Complete the sentences with verbs or nouns from a.

- 1 After the death of my grandfather, my grandmother came to live with us.
- 2 I made the right _____ to continue studying when I graduated from high school. I loved college.
- 3 They're going to _____ all their friends to their party.
- 4 _____ at school depends on how hard you work.
- 5 We're sorry to _____ passengers that the 4:30 train to Chicago is delayed.
- 6 He _____ to study history instead of geography at school.
- 7 Can you _____ a world without electricity?
- 8 The documentary was about the _____ of the author F. Scott Fitzgerald.