

SENIOR UPPER INTERMEDIATE 2023

NAME:

1- READ. WRITE TRUE OR FALSE.

Interview in Istanbul: life on the road

Mike and Sibel live together in a van. They park wherever they feel like: beaches, mountainsides, fields. Sibel was employed as a manager in a five-star hotel in Istanbul in Turkey, but she gave up her job after meeting Mike. I interviewed them after watching Mike's fire show on Istiklal, a prime venue for street performers in Istanbul.



Nick: Why fire?
Mike: I've always been afraid of fire, actually. A couple of years ago I was working as a contact juggler and business wasn't great. Anyway, I saw this unbelievable fire act, a guy called Raul Mendoza, and I was immediately hooked! So I followed his act and practised, I don't know, eight, nine hours a day, then decided to give it a go myself. I was pretty nervous at first, but it really drew the crowds, so I carried on!
Nick: So, Sibel, when you met Mike, you had a job?
Sibel: Yes, I managed a hotel for five years. It was a good career for me.
Nick: So why did you leave?
Sibel: I fell in love! I broke up with someone after three years and I was sad, so my friends suggested we go into town to watch Mike, an American street performer, who was giving a fire show. You know, I was a very tough manager. But after

7 Despite the lack of a monthly pay cheque, Mike maintains a regular way of life.
8 Mike and Melek would both like to stop travelling in the near future.

4 Do you think you would enjoy the alternative lifestyle Mike and Melek describe? Why?

I met Mike I became a much nicer person! And I found I couldn't do my job any more. I realised Mike's life was more beautiful than mine, more adventurous. In comparison, everything I did seemed pointless. But it was very scary to think of giving it all up.

Nick: And was it the right decision?
Sibel: You know, I felt like I'd been sleeping and then I woke up. I feel like now I have the opportunity to do whatever I want in life.
Nick: How do you deal with the insecurity of making a living from street performing?
Sibel: Actually, I disagree with the question! I mean, if ordinary people lose their job, they don't consider moving because they're not used to doing that. But if Mike cannot work here he will go to another place. People will always have time for street performers, so it's more stable, I think, than other jobs.
Mike: When you're receiving a pay cheque every month, everything happens on a schedule. That's a particular system that you get used to and rely on. This is a much looser system. The money comes in, but you don't always know when. Things are up and down, it could rain, there could be no money this day or that day, so you can't plan in the same way. It's a different lifestyle.
Nick: And what about the future?
Mike: Well, actually, we'd like to start a family so I'm keeping an eye out for a nice little farm in the mountains.
Sibel: Yeah, I do want to settle down and have children but there's no hurry! I have a lot of plans!

A-MIKE HAS ALWAYS LOVED FIRE

B-HE USED TO WORK IN A HOTEL.....

C-HE WISHES HE HAD A FAMILY.....

2- VOCABULARY: WRITE 4 EXAMPLES ON EACH CATEGORY

FEELINGS 2B	CRIME 3B	BOOKS 4B	IDIOMS 4D	MONEY 84

3- ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS

A- how long have you been living in your city? 59

B- what are you getting used to do now?

C- what will you be doing on new year's eve ? 43

4- CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION

A-I WOULDN'T HAVE PARKED IN THE STREET IF ITHERE WERE CAR THIEVES IN THE AREA.

1- HAD KNEW 2- HAD KNOWN (27)

B-HE PROTESTED.....HIS PUNISHMENT. A- ON B- AGAINST (29)

C- WHICH ONE GIVES REASON ? A- DUE TO B- WHEREAS (37)

D- I AVOIDABOUT POLITICS . A- TO TALK B- TALKING (49)

E- I WISH I.....TO ENGLAND LAST YEAR. 1-HAD GONE 2- WENT (65)