

8 What's in a number?

LISTENING

1 8.3 Listen to eight conversations in which people are talking about things they have found difficult. Which situations are NOT mentioned?

- A fixing a problem with a van
- B learning lines for a performance
- C getting a job
- D training a dog
- E changing a light bulb
- F cleaning ink on some clothes
- G changing a work schedule

2 8.4 Listen again and choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

- 1 You hear a girl telling a friend about being in the school play. How did she solve her problem?
 - A She passed her part to someone else.
 - B She asked the other actors for help.
 - C She spent more time going over her lines.
- 2 You hear a boy talking to his tutor about his course at university. What does he say about the new workload?
 - A It is unexpected.
 - B It is similar to last year.
 - C It isn't well organised.
- 3 You hear a woman talking about her job. Why does she think she was successful?
 - A She did well in all of the tests.
 - B She didn't get stressed.
 - C She had lots of support.

4 You hear a man talking about cooking a special dinner. Why did he have to start again?

- A He lost the original instructions.
- B He was unable to make the first dish.
- C He changed his mind about what to cook.

5 You hear a girl telling a friend about her dog. How did she feel about training it?

- A angry that the dog wouldn't listen to her
- B unsure about giving the dog instructions
- C determined to show her parents that she could do it

6 You hear a man talking to a friend about a bike ride for charity. What does he say about giving up?

- A There was no choice.
- B He made the decision early in the ride.
- C He was relieved he could stop.

7 You hear a boy telling his aunt about choosing a university. What is he worried about?

- A not spending time with his brothers
- B missing out on the campus experience
- C going to a university with a bad reputation

8 You hear a woman telling a friend about a problem at work. How does she feel about it?

- A afraid that it is affecting her health.
- B concerned that her boss might think badly of her.
- C sorry that it has affected her family life

Extend

3 Complete the sentences with these words from the listening. There are three extra words you do not need.

adopted begged cleared dipped enrolled homesick nonstop reckoned

1 We didn't buy a cat from a shop. Instead we one from the animal shelter.

2 My sister my parents to buy her an expensive toy, but they kept saying no.

3 I really miss my family. I didn't expect to feel this when I moved abroad.

4 James has studied all weekend. He needs to take a break.

5 I can't believe you haven't on the course yet. There might not be any more places.

4 Put the words in the correct order to make expressions (1–4) from the listening. Then match them with their meanings (A–D).

1 a / It / walk / was / in / park / the

A rather difficult

2 hard-going. / It / quite / was

B help someone

3 hand. / gave / a / She / me /

C very easy

4 bit / a / getting / It's / much / all

D becoming impossible to deal with

