

# ACHIEVEMENT

## Vocabulary in Action

### A Match the phrasal verbs 1–10 with the definitions a–i.

1 waltz through	<input type="checkbox"/>	a be a success (for a business/trend/etc.)
2 pan out	<input type="checkbox"/>	b manage to succeed, but only just
3 go up against	<input type="checkbox"/>	c (of a plan/project/etc) fail, not be a success
4 take off	<input type="checkbox"/>	d succeed in passing a test/exam/etc without any effort
5 knuckle down	<input type="checkbox"/>	e begin to work hard/try harder (after a period of not working hard/trying)
6 pull (sth) off	<input type="checkbox"/>	f face a very difficult obstacle/opponent/situation
7 fall through	<input type="checkbox"/>	g succeed in achieving sth difficult (a project/plan)
8 scrape through	<input type="checkbox"/>	h stop giving attention to sth/sb you are sure will fail
9 write (sth/sb) off	<input type="checkbox"/>	i go the way you had planned

### B Complete the sentences with the correct form of the phrasal verbs from exercise A.

- 1 I'll never win a prize for my abilities in maths, but I can just about \_\_\_\_\_ an exam.
- 2 Up until now you've done very little revision or preparation for your exams and if you don't \_\_\_\_\_, you'll find yourself kicked out of college at the end of this term.
- 3 Georgia is the best chess player on our team, but she'll be \_\_\_\_\_ some of the top players in the country, so I don't know if she'll manage to win the tournament.
- 4 We were planning to buy new sports equipment for the school gym, but our plans \_\_\_\_\_ when the local council refused to give us the funds.
- 5 The Hatton Garden thieves thought they had \_\_\_\_\_ the perfect burglary, but images on CCTV in the local area allowed the police to identify them.
- 6 Why are you so worried about your history exam? It's your best subject – you'll \_\_\_\_\_ it!
- 7 Jenna's small clothes design business really \_\_\_\_\_ after a Hollywood actress wore one of her dresses on the red carpet.
- 8 Their plan to televise a well-known novel didn't \_\_\_\_\_ when the author refused to sell them the rights to his book.
- 9 Suzie was upset because she felt her teachers were only interested in the best students and that they had \_\_\_\_\_ her \_\_\_\_\_ long ago.

### C Circle the correct words. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.

- 1 I sincerely hope you fulfil your **ambition** / **dream** / **record** of becoming a brain surgeon.
- 2 A sudden **surge** / **rise** / **increase** in demand meant that the factory workforce had to work overtime to fulfil the orders which were flooding in.
- 3 Nina has **advocated** / **achieved** / **accomplished** so much since she started out strumming her guitar and writing songs in her bedroom!
- 4 After 30 years in the business, Joseph is at the **top** / **head** / **peak** of his profession.
- 5 Our **goal** / **objective** / **aim** is to open a branch of our store in every major town around the country.
- 6 Callum has an incredible **drive** / **will** / **perseverance** to succeed and I'm sure he'll be a partner in the law firm where he works before he's thirty.
- 7 If you want to **achieve** / **reach** / **attain** your goal of becoming a professional athlete, you'll need sound financial backing and a top-class manager.
- 8 His success as an actor has **reached** / **exceeded** / **surpassed** all our expectations.
- 9 Never in my wildest **dreams** / **hopes** / **wishes** did I think I'd get this job.
- 10 I think it's sad that so many young people today want to **imitate** / **aspire** / **emulate** footballers rather than politicians or scientists.

## D Complete the sentences with these verbs. The words in bold will help you.

do get go hit (x2) lose make meet procure set spearhead

- I believe that if you set **yourself goals** in life, you're more likely to succeed, both financially and career-wise.
- I'm going to have to pull an all-nighter if I want to hit **the deadline**.
- Turn the power off and on and then press the 'restart' button; that should do **the trick**.
- Our manager knows he was in the wrong, but he won't admit it because he doesn't want to face.
- Eric is prepared to do the lowliest of jobs in the company in order to get **a foothold** in the publishing business.
- Just because he's your uncle, that doesn't mean he's obliged to do **a job** for you, you know!
- Jo is running **the campaign** to encourage people to cycle into town instead of driving.
- Medical researchers have made **a breakthrough** in their quest to find a cure for Hodgkin's Disease.
- Laura, a new-comer on the tennis scene, really hit **the ground running** when she beat the current champion in her first tennis match of the season.
- Since Martin changed schools, he's been going **from strength to strength** and should do well in his exams later this year.
- After coming last in the talent contest, Thomas hit **rock bottom** and it took him ages to come out of the depression.

## E Complete the sentences with these words. The words in bold will help you.

credit · dismal · overnight · recipe · remarkable · rise · strongest · turn-up · unbelievable · useful

- Unfortunately, his attempt to start a business was a turn-up **failure** and ended in bankruptcy.
- Putting Ryan in charge of sales is a turn-up **for disaster** – you know how incompetent he is!
- Leicester City's triumph in the 2015–2016 football Premiere League was a turn-up **achievement**.
- The meeting was productive and all the team members made strongest **contributions** to the discussion.
- James Fernandez became an overnight **success** when his song became a massive online hit.
- The reality star's **precipitous** rise **to fame** was followed by an equally sudden downfall.
- Winning a prize in the photography competition was a turn-up **for the books** and ultimately led to her pursuing photography as a career.
- Aidan is a turn-up **to you both**; he's one of our top students.
- With a new management team, this organisation has made an unbelievable **turnaround** over the last year and is set to make a profit next year.
- As we're in agreement over who **the** strongest **candidate** is, shall we invite Mr Peters to join our firm at the earliest opportunity?