ACHIEVEMENT

Vocabulary in Action

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

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

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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

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

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

LIVEWORKSHEETS