Opportunities Serendipity

ENGLISH



Born to sing

1 Vocabulary & Pronunciation.

a Look at the highlighted words in the list below. Which syllable is stressed?

EVENTS IN YOUR LIFE

☐ be born	☐ separate
☐ marry sb / get married	☐ get a job
☐ go to primary school	☐ get divorced
☐ have children	☐ retire
☐ go to secondary school	☐ fall in love
☐ go to university	☐ die
☐ leave school	

b Number the phrases in the logical order for you.

c Listen and repeat the words and sounds.



horse

born

divorced

fall

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d Listen and repeat. Choose the words with the  sound.

more work world small walk worse

talk ball form bought four word

e What rule can you see for words with ***wor + consonant***?

2 Reading.

a Look at the photos of Bob and Ziggy Marley and read the introduction. Have you heard their music? Do you like it?

Like father like son



Bob Marley (1945–1981) is often called the father of reggae as he did more than anybody to make this kind of music popular all over the world. His eldest son Ziggy (1968–) has followed in his father's footsteps and is a very respected reggae musician.

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b Read ten facts about their lives. Decide which five are about Bob Marley **(BM)** and which five are about Ziggy Marley **(ZM)**.

1 ☐ He and three of his brothers and sisters formed a band called The Melody Makers, and they played at their father's funeral.

2 ☐ He had eleven children with several different women. However, he only married one of them, Rita Marley in 1966.

3 ☐ He has been a musician since he was ten, when his father bought him his first guitar.

4 ☐ He has lived in Miami for many years with his wife Orly, and they have three children.

5 ☐ He has won four Grammy awards for his music, including Best Reggae Album.

6 ☐ He injured his foot playing football and he later became ill with cancer. He died four years later aged 36.

7 ☐ He was born in a small village in Jamaica. His father was a captain in the British army.

8 ☐ He was born in Kingston, Jamaica in 1968 and he was 13 years old when his father died. His father's last words to him were 'Money can't buy you life.'

9 ☐ His music was very influenced by social problems in his homeland, Jamaica.

10 ☐ With his band, The Wailers, he made eleven albums. His most famous songs included No Woman, No Cry, Three Little Birds, and I Shot the Sheriff.

Adapted from a British newspaper.

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3 Grammar. Present Perfect or Past Simple?

A How long was Bob Marley a musician? B He was a musician for twenty years. A How many Grammys did he win? B He didn't win any.	1 Use the past simple to talk about a finished period of time in the past.
A How long has Ziggy Marley been a musician? B He's been a musician since he was ten. A How many Grammys has he won? B He's won four.	2 Use the present perfect to talk about a period of time from the past until now. • Compare the past simple and present perfect. Jack was married for ten years.= Jack is not married now. He's divorced or dead. Jack has been married for ten years. =Jack is married now.

a Choose the correct option.

1 He left | He has left school two years ago.

2 I lived | I've lived in Cardiff for two years, but then I moved to Swansea.

3 She lives | She's lived in Florida since 2010.

4 My sister had | My sister has had her baby yesterday!

5 I work in an office. I work | I've worked there for 20 years.

6 The city changed | The city has changed a lot since I was a child.

7 They're divorced now. They were | They have been married for ten years.

8 I met | I've met Sandra when I was | have been at university.

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b Complete with the present perfect or past simple.

1 A Where does Rob live now?
B In Madrid.
A How long ..... there? (he / live)
B For three months. He ..... there in September. (move)

2 A When ..... ? (Picasso / die)
B In 1977, in Paris I think.
A How long ..... in France? (he / live).
B For a long time. He ..... Spain when he was 25. (leave)

3 A My brother and his wife get on very well.
B How long ..... married? (they / be)
A They ..... married since 1995. They ..... at university. (be, meet)
B Really? ..... that in Paris? (be)

4 Listening.

a Look at the photo of another famous father and son, who are both singers. Who are they? What's their surname? Who do you think is more famous?



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b You are going to listen to a radio programme about Enrique. Fill in the form.

Born	
Lived with his father	
First professional name	
First album	
Fourth album	
Girlfriend	
Records sold	

c Do you think Ziggy and Enrique have been successful because of their surnames, or because they are genuinely talented? Do you think it's common for children to want to do the same job as their parents?

5 Speaking & Writing.

a Think about a famous older person who is alive. Answer the questions.

1. When was he / she born?
1. Where was he / she born?
2. What did he / she do after leaving school?
3. Where does he/she live now?
4. How long has he / she lived there?
5. What does he / she do now?
6. How long has she / he been an actor / singer etc?
7. What does he / she do in his / her free time?
8. Do you think he / she has had a good life?



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b Put the verbs in brackets in the past simple or present perfect.

Norah Jones is an American singer-songwriter and actress. She was born (be born) in 1979 in New York. Her father is Ravi Shankar, a famous Indian sitar player, and her mother is the concert producer Sue Jones. In 1986 her parents ..... (separate) and later got divorced, and Norah went to Live in Texas with her mother.

Norah ..... (be) interested in music all her life. When she was young she played the saxophone and she was in two different choirs. She ..... (go) to the University of North Texas to study jazz piano, and while she was there she ..... (meet) Jesse Harris. She started a band with him a year later, and since then they ..... (work) together on many different projects.

In 1999 she ..... (move) to New York, and in 2001 she signed a contract with Blue Note records. Since then she ..... (make) five albums, and they have all been very successful. She ..... (win) nine Grammy awards and has sold over 37 million albums worldwide. She has also appeared in several films, including My Blueberry Nights.

She has been in only one relationship, with Lee Alexander, but they ..... (break up) in 2007. She still lives in New York. At the moment she is working on a new album.



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Writing a biography- use of tenses
If you write a biography of a person who is dead, the verbs will all be in the **past simple**.

If the person is alive, all finished actions will be in the **past simple** (such as the person's early life, e.g. was born, went to university, etc. or specific actions in their life, e.g. got married, moved to another town, etc.).

However, you must use the **present perfect** for unfinished actions which started in the past and are still true now (and which might change), e.g. She has won nine Grammy awards. She has appeared in several films.

Use the **present simple** (or **present continuous**) to talk about the present day, e.g. She lives in New York. She's working on a new album.

c Write a biography of someone you know, or of a famous person, who is still alive. Write three paragraphs. Make notes before you begin.

Paragraph 1: where and when they were born, their early life (past simple)
Paragraph 2: their life as a young adult (mostly past simple)
Paragraph 3: their later life and their life now (past simple, present perfect, present simple / present continuous)

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