VOCABULARY

LEARNING AND EXPERIENCE

1 Write one word in each gap to complete the texts.

The **best** advice **I've** ever **received**

AHMED SAEED WAHABI
(POLITICIAN)

'When I was growing up, we would get five newspapers every day from all sides of the political spectrum. I asked my father why we needed five newspapers and he said 'so we can see everyone's point of view'. This had a profound [1]_____ on me. Now, whenever I face a tricky situation, I look at it from the other side's point of view. This helps me understand the issue fully and take [2]_____ of the opportunity in front of me.'

RICHARD HALLIDAY
(INVESTOR)

'When I was [3]_____ the ropes, I met a legendary billionaire investor. I asked him the secret of his success and he said, 'I'm not a smart guy. I just read everything: trade magazines, financial news, annual reports, even the footnotes in annual reports. That's why I know more than 98 percent of people on Wall Street.' He was right. Now I read everything. Once you have all the information, you can [4]_____ your instincts.'

CLARE NICHOLAS
(CEO)

'When I first became a high-level manager, I was on a steep [5]_____ curve. A colleague said to me, 'I see you in meetings. You're very intelligent, but you don't know enough about the industry. Don't be too proud to ask if you don't understand something.' I followed his advice. When you're finding your [6]_____ it's better to ask than to bluff.'

GRAMMAR

HYPOTHETICAL CONDITIONAL: PAST

2 Circle the correct options to complete the text.

Regrets – just a few

President Theodore Roosevelt once said, 'The only time you really live fully is from thirty to sixty. The young are slaves to dreams; the old [are] servants of regrets.' Indeed, it's often claimed that young people wish they [1]_____ the things they did and old people regret not doing the things they didn't do.

A very informal poll among friends and acquaintances for this column reveals that people generally regret [2]_____ (more) children, choosing the wrong career and missing out on the man or woman of their dreams. Then there are the odd, individual cases.

A close friend said, 'I wish [3]_____ become a vegetarian earlier. [4]_____ I done so, over the years I'd have saved about 400 chickens, 50 pigs and 30 cows.'

Another pal said, 'If I [5]_____ such an idiot when I was eighteen, I'd never have had this tattoo done. Imagine spending your whole life with a picture of your ex-girlfriend on your arm. If only it [6]_____ Mother Teresa or someone who deserves to be there!'

I spoke to an ex-professional footballer whose career was cut short by injury. 'If I'd been smarter, I [7]_____ put all my eggs in one basket. I [8]_____ at least finished school. Aged twenty-seven, I had no qualifications apart from kicking a ball.'

Of my elderly contacts, about half wished [9]_____ followed their passion instead of taking the safe option. One grandfather-of-fifteen said, 'I might [10]_____ a good actor, but at the time I had a big family to support and acting isn't a secure profession. So I became a bank clerk and spent the rest of my life cashing other people's cheques.'

As an antidote to all this doom and gloom, another friend cheerfully said, 'Regrets? If only we [11]_____ how good life is.' Then he told me that people should make lists of all the friends they've had, the places they've seen, the things they've enjoyed. 'I wish everyone [12]_____ the good things in life!' he said and drained his cup of tea in one gulp.

1 **a)** hadn't been doing **b)** hadn't done **c)** are doing **d)** have done
2 **a)** to have **b)** of not having **c)** not having **d)** not to have
3 **a)** I was **b)** I'm **c)** I've **d)** I'd
4 **a)** If **b)** Had **c)** Have **d)** Should
5 **a)** hadn't been **b)** had been **c)** didn't be **d)** not been
6 **a)** were **b)** was being **c)** 's been **d)** wasn't
7 **a)** didn't **b)** wouldn' **c)** wouldn't have **d)** would have
8 **a)** have **b)** must have **c)** would **d)** 'd have
9 **a)** they'd **b)** they **c)** they did **d)** they'd been
10 **a)** have been becoming **b)** have become **c)** had become **d)** become
11 **a)** realise **b)** can realise **c)** realised **d)** are realising
12 **a)** has appreciated **b)** is appreciating **c)** appreciates **d)** would appreciate

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3 **Match 1–8 with a)–h) to make sentences.**

1 We wouldn't have got here so early had we
2 They would have lost the match but
3 Supposing you'd been offered a part in that film,
4 Tom wouldn't be sitting here right now if
5 If only the Johnsons had never
6 Imagine you'd really lost your ticket, how would
7 I think all of us regret
8 I really wish I

a) would you have accepted?
b) you have got home?
c) not being nicer to Mandy.
d) hadn't said those things to Mum.
e) I hadn't pulled him through that window.
f) for Thomson's goal at the end.
g) known you weren't going to be here until 6.00.
h) bought that house, they wouldn't be in debt now.

4 **A** 2.1 **Listen and complete the sentences with the words you hear. Some words are contractions.**

1 I _____ _____ _____ more when I was younger.
2 If _____ _____ _____ met that crazy man!
3 If I'd had more talent, _____ _____ _____ famous.
4 I wouldn't be here _____ _____ _____ to my parents.
5 If it wasn't for you, _____ _____ _____ about that flat.
6 _____ _____ _____ the scholarship, would you have gone?

B **Practise saying the sentences to yourself at full speed.**

C **Write six sentences. Include the words you wrote in Exercise 4A. Say your sentences aloud, making sure you say the contracted forms.**

I wish I'd studied English at school because I need it for my job.

VOCABULARY PLUS

METAPHORS

5 **Sentences 1–8 each have a word missing. Complete the sentences with the words in the box.**

at	downhill	for	go	ideas	of	~~regurgitate~~	to

regurgitate

1 I hate exams in which you just have to ~~regurgitate~~ the teacher's ideas.
2 Although she was at the peak her career, she decided to take a year off.
3 My tennis has gone as I've got older.
4 I was a crossroads in my career so I had to make a move.
5 I find a lot of his theories rather hard swallow.
6 When I joined the company, my boss said, 'You'll far.'
7 This report says human cloning is only a few years away. Hmm, that's food thought.
8 He emails me with these ridiculous half-baked on how to improve the business.

LISTENING

6 **A** **Look at the photo. What can you guess about this woman's life?**



1 Is she rich or poor?
2 Does she have a family?
3 Where is she from?
4 Do people like her?
5 What did she teach herself to do?

B 2.2 **Listen and answer the questions above.**

C **Write questions for answers 1–6. Then listen again to check.**

1 _____
When she was six years old.
2 _____
He was a tailor.
3 _____
Five.
4 _____
One year.
5 _____
She thought it was a hoax.
6 _____
Eight hundred.

D **Match the underlined words and expressions from the recording with the definitions a)–f). Read the audio script on page 74 to help you.**

1 'she'd sailed to Brazil at the age of six with nothing but the rags on her back'
2 'cars, the new playthings of the wealthy'
3 [She was] 'a prolific producer of babies'
4 'She had an iron will'
5 'she turned into the neighbourhood fairy godmother'
6 'don't wash your dirty linen in public'

a) great determination
b) laundry
c) imaginary person who makes your dreams come true
d) material that is in very bad condition (ripped or out of shape)
e) toys
f) extremely productive

LIVEWORKSHEETS