16 At the Circus

Discover Grammar

A **In Las Vegas, U.S., some international artists are performing in a show. Listen and read the interviews.** 36



Michael Kanu from Senegal – tightrope and aerial dancing

Is it easy to be a circus performer?

It depends. Sometimes it's difficult to learn new routines, but it's fantastic to perform in front of an audience. It might look easy, but it's difficult to do well. I love performing, so it's fun to be onstage.



Olivia Chen from China – juggling

Do you like touring, or is it better to stay in one city?

I like touring, because it's interesting to visit new places. I like traveling. But my husband prefers being in one place, because it's tiring to travel all the time.

Selcuk Akpek from Turkey – acrobatics

What do you like most about being in the circus?

I love being part of this "international family": we come from all over the world, and we are great friends. When I first arrived, I couldn't understand much. My English wasn't very good, and it was hard to understand lots of different people, but now it's fine. This is the best job in the world.



B **Read the interviews again. Find these adjectives and underline them.**

difficult fantastic interesting tiring hard

Now complete the phrases from the interviews.

1 It's difficult *to learn new routines.*
2 It's fantastic _____
3 It's difficult _____
4 It's interesting _____
5 It's tiring _____
6 It was hard _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

C **Read the interviews again. What do you think about their lives? Tell your partner.**

I think it's _____ to be a circus performer because …

… you can visit new places.

… you travel all the time.

… you have to do lots of training.

… you might get hurt.

Learn Grammar

A **Read and learn.**

It's + Adjective + Infinive

Use *it's* + adjective + infinitive to give your opinions or to say what you think.

It's nice to meet you.
It's easy to learn how to juggle, but it's difficult to do it well!
They speak so quickly, it's impossible to understand them!

Use this pattern with adjectives such as *difficult, easy, hard, possible, impossible, right, wrong, nice, kind, clever, silly.*

Use this pattern in questions, negatives, and with different tenses:

Questions:	*Is it hard to walk the tightrope?*
Negative:	*It isn't easy to perform seven nights a week.*
Negative:	*It isn't nice to fall over in front of the audience!*
Past:	*At the beginning, it was impossible to learn all the steps!*





LIVEWORKSHEETS

B **Listen and read the interview. Anita is the star of a new musical show called *Spaceship!* Then complete the text with the infinitives in the box.** 37

to be to do to have to meet to miss to tell



Hi Anita. It's nice [1] _____ *you. Congratulations on the show!*
Thanks. It's a dream come true! It's hard [2] _____ you how excited I am.

Do you get nervous onstage?
Yes. I've tried out for lots of other shows. Sometimes you are too short, too tall, your hair is the wrong color, or they don't like your voice. It's impossible [3] _____ perfect for every part. But then I got lucky! Wow! *Spaceship*! is great. It's fun [4] _____ things with your friends, and the other actors are my friends now.

Do you sometimes wish you were at home on the weekends?
Yes, I do. I love playing volleyball, and I can't play on my school team because of the show. It's disappointing [5] _____ birthday parties. But it's nice [6] _____ the chance to do this.

C **Underline the adjectives in the interview. The first one has been done for you.**

D **Read the interview again. Match the two parts of the sentences.**

1 It's nice	a to be perfect for every part.
2 It's disappointing	b to meet you.
3 It's impossible	c to miss birthday parties.
4 It's fun	d to have the chance to do this.
5 It's hard	e to do things with your friends.
6 It's nice	f to tell you how excited I am!

E **Rewrite the sentences using *It's* + adjective + infinitive.**

1 Working in the circus was fun.
It was fun to work in the circus.

2 Training every day was hard.
_____

3 In the beginning, remembering everything was impossible.
_____

4 Being part of a team was nice.
_____

5 Dressing up in a costume was fun.
_____

6 Performing day after day was difficult.
_____

7 Making children laugh every day was incredible!
_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

F **Correct the mistakes.**

1 It's difficult ~~for~~ learn fire-eating.
difficult to learn

2 It nice to perform every night.

3 It not interesting to stay in one city all the time.

4 I think it's nice to wearing a different costume for each new show.

5 It isn't hard for stay with the circus—it's the best job in the world for me!

6 It was interesting for travel to different cities each month.

G **Write the questions.**

1 Being onstage is scary.
Is it scary to be onstage?

2 Learning your lines is difficult.

3 Missing parties is disappointing.

4 Meeting newspaper reporters is fun!

5 Saying what you miss the most is hard.

6 Having the chance to do this is nice.

H **Change the sentences from affirmative to negative.**

1 It's difficult to work with your friends.
It isn't difficult to work with your friends.

2 It's scary to try something new!

3 It's easy to learn lines.

4 It's interesting to talk to reporters.

5 It's fun to miss school each week.

6 It's possible to be in every show.

Let's Write!

I **Imagine that you work in the circus. Choose an act that you want to do for example tightrope-walking, fire-eating, or juggling. What do you do every day? What is your life like? Write about it.**

Is it easy to be a circus performer?

Do you like touring, or is it better to stay in one city?

What do you like most about being in the circus?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Module 8 Review

A **1 Read Amy's email to her friend Tulai in Turkey. Underline all the sense verbs.**

Hi Tulai,

I went to Disneyland near Tokyo with my family last weekend. It was a great trip, but I didn't enjoy the flight there.

My brother and I felt scared when the plane started to take off. We thought the noise of the engines sounded strange, but when the plane was in the air, the engines sounded normal. The flight was only an hour, but it felt very long. We wanted to arrive as quickly as possible. On the coach journey from the airport to Disneyland, our parents looked very tired, and they soon fell asleep. When the coach arrived at Disneyland, our parents looked refreshed again after their sleep. We went to our hotel and unpacked quickly. There were some flowers on the table in our room. They looked beautiful, and they smelled fantastic. Then we went to Disneyland and spent about five hours on the different rides and other activities. At night, everything looked so bright, and the music sounded great. I'll tell you more and send some photos in my next email. I have to go.

Bye for now,

Amy

2 Read the email again and circle the adjectives.

3 Write the word which follows each sense verb.

1 My brother and I felt _____.
2 The noise of the engines sounded _____.
3 When the plane was in the air, the engines sounded _____.
4 The flight felt very _____.
5 Our parents looked very _____ and soon fell asleep.
6 Our parents looked _____ again after their sleep.
7 The flowers looked _____ and they smelled _____.
8 At night, everything looked so _____.
9 The music sounded _____.

HOTspot **Why do you think Amy and her brother were scared when the plane took off? What is your favorite way to travel? What do you like about it?**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

B **Read the interview. Match and write the questions in the box with the answers.**

Do you practice a lot? Is it easy to be a musician?
Do you like touring, or is it better to stay in one place?

1 _____

For me, yes, I love it. It's my dream job! Sometimes it's difficult to learn new music, but it's wonderful to perform in front of an audience.

2 _____

Yes, every day. It might look easy to play an instrument, but it's difficult to do well. So you must practice, practice, practice!

3 _____

Yes, I really like it. It's interesting to visit new cities. Last year, we went on a short tour around Southeast Asia. It was fascinating to see other countries that are so different from mine!

HOTspot **Do you play a musical instrument? What do you like about it? Do you like listening to songs in English? Do you think it's a good way to learn? Tell your friends which songs you like!**

C **Reorder the words to make sentences.**

1 fun / it's / work / in / orchestra / to / the It's fun to work in the orchestra.
2 isn't / to / it / easy / learn _____
3 difficult / is / well / do / it / to _____
4 fun / was / it / travel / to / overseas _____
5 was / visit / to / it / fascinating / Japan _____

D **Match the questions and answers.**

1 Is it fun to be onstage?
2 Was it interesting to try different food?
3 Was it hard to understand people?
4 Is it nice to travel overseas?

a Yes, it was really interesting. I like to try new things!
b Yes, it is. I love traveling and seeing new places!
c Yes, it is. I like performing.
d Yes, it was. I couldn't speak their language!



LIVEWORKSHEETS