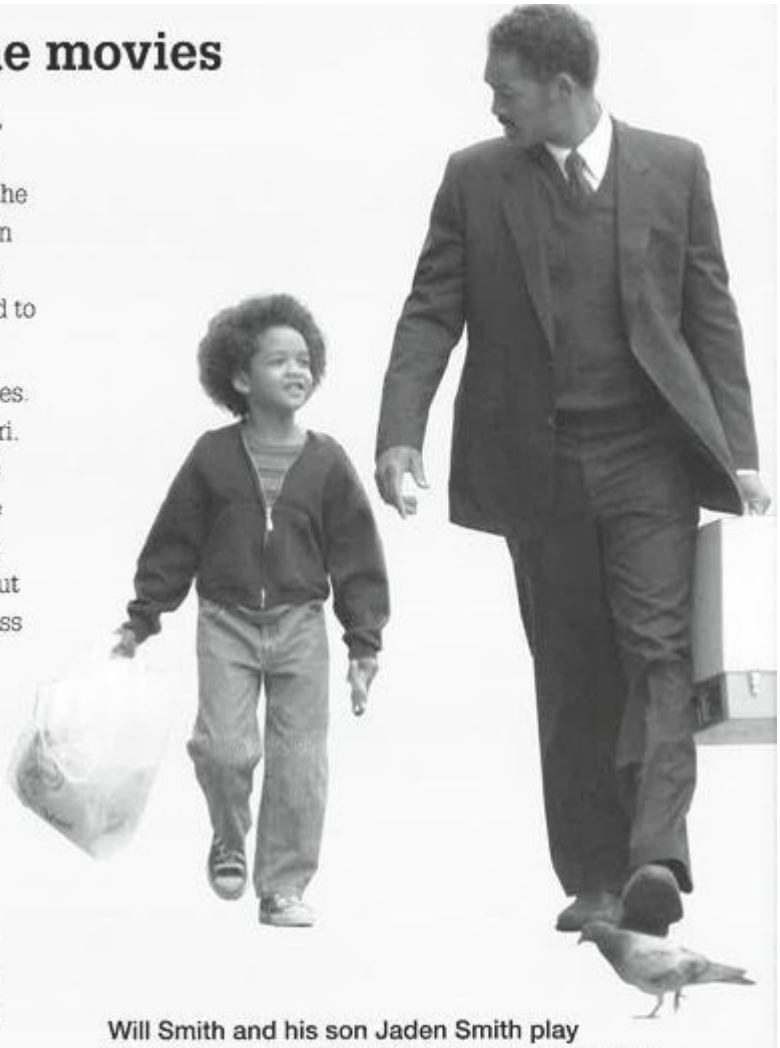
From Milwaukee to the movies

1 Chris Gardner was born in Milwaukee, USA, in 1954. His family was poor and he had a tough childhood. When he grew up, he joined the US Navy and later became a salesman. He fell in love with a woman, and in 1981 they had a son named Chris Junior (Jr). However, Gardner had to look after Chris Jr on his own.

2 One day, Gardner met a man named Bob Bridges. Bridges was rich and drove an expensive Ferrari. He told Gardner he worked in San Francisco as a stockbroker. Gardner decided then to change his career. He quit his sales job and spent time training to be a stockbroker. He worked hard but had little money. He and Chris Jr. were homeless for about a year. They slept at the office, in parks and at airports. Slowly, he saved enough money to rent an apartment.

3 In 1987, Gardner started his own stockbroking company from his apartment. The company was successful and he eventually became a millionaire. Gardner wrote a book about his life and his struggle with being homeless. The story became a film in 2006 starring Will Smith as Gardner and Smith's son, Jaden, as Chris Jr.



Will Smith and his son Jaden Smith play Chris and his son in *The Pursuit of Happyness.*

1 Read the article. What is it mainly about?

a a rich man who became homeless

b a salesman who became an actor

c a poor man who became rich

2 Put the events in Chris Gardner's life in the correct order (1–6).

a He had a son. _____

b He started his own company. _____

c He wrote a book about his life. _____

d He and his son were homeless. _____

e He became a salesman. _____

f He met a stockbroker. _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS