

PRACTICE

Exercise 1. For each question, choose the correct answer.

My life as an actor *by Tanya Robinson*

My mother is an actor and my father is a musician. When I was sixteen, I started to work as an ice-cream seller in our local theatre but I always wanted to be an actor. But neither of my parents wanted me to act. They wanted me to go to university and get a job that pays lots of money.

When I started primary school, my school didn't teach drama. My mother didn't have time to teach me and she said that I couldn't have lessons at a drama school for children. What she didn't know was that one of my friends had a drama teacher come to her house and her parents let me do the lessons with her.

When I went to secondary school my drama teacher, Mrs Burton, said: "I have never seen such a good actor at your age. You could be famous one day." It was the first time someone made me believe that I could do what I wanted to do.

After secondary school I went to drama school. My parents were still not happy with my decision. My father said: "In the future you will wish that you had listened to us." This made me feel very sad as I wanted my parents to be happy for me. I almost changed my mind but I knew acting was the right thing for me to do.

Now of course I am famous. I have worked hard but I have also been lucky. Now my whole family agrees that I made all the right decisions when I was younger and my parents are very happy for me.

1. What did Tanya's parents hope she would do?
 - A. become an actor
 - B. get a job in a university
 - C. have a job that would make her rich

2. Tanya had her first acting lessons ____
- A. from her mother.
 - B. with a friend.
 - C. at her primary school.
3. Mrs Burton told Tanya ____
- A. to believe in herself because she is good.
 - B. that she will never become a good actor.
 - C. that she should only be an actor if her parents agree.
4. Tanya's father ____
- A. made her feel bad about having acting lessons.
 - B. made her change her plans.
 - C. made her feel happy about her decision.
5. What does Tanya say about her family now?
- A. They don't think she is a good actor.
 - B. They are angry that they were wrong.
 - C. They are pleased that she did what she wanted to do.

Exercise 2. For each question, choose the correct answer.

13-year-old Alessandra talks about her favourite chatroom, Teen-Age

I joined a chatroom called Teen-Age last month. A classmate read about it in a magazine and told me all about it. She said it's a really great way to make friends with people in other countries. And she was right!

Everyone on the chatroom is a teenager. We share information about home life, music and films. Friends that I chat to often ask me about school life in Britain. One friend in Spain sometimes asks me to write the words of English songs for her. My favourite thing is finding out how to prepare food people eat in different countries.

Some of my friends on Teen-Age live on the other side of the world, so when I chat to them at lunchtime, it's nearly midnight where they are. My parents like it that I have international

friends, but they get upset if I'm chatting to people all evening. They always want me to finish my homework first.

Chatting to people online is different from chatting to people at school. Some people at school aren't very friendly and don't want to talk much, but everyone I've met on Teen-Age is really nice. It's easy to talk about problems with them and they usually give good advice.

Many of my schoolfriends have joined several chatrooms, but I won't ever do that. I like the online friends I have now, so I'll keep using Teen-Age. If I have friends in different chatrooms, it'll be too hard to chat to them all.

1 How did Alessandra find out about the chatroom?

- A. from a magazine
- B. from someone at school
- C. from a friend in another country

2 What does Alessandra like doing best on the chatroom?

- A. learning new dishes
- B. talking about music and films
- C. finding out about schools around the world

3 What does Alessandra say about her parents?

- A. They worry that she is chatting online while she is at school.
- B. They think schoolwork is more important than chatting online.
- C. They don't understand why she goes on the chatroom every day.

4 What does Alessandra say about chatting to people online?

- A. She never tells them about problems.
- B. She gives them advice when they need it.
- C. She thinks they are very kind.

5 Alessandra thinks that in the future she will ____

- A. try other chatrooms.
- B. stop using all chatrooms.
- C. continue to use Teen-Age.