

## Focus on ... Negative and limiting adverbials

**A** Read the stories. Complete the sentences with the correct adverbial expressions. Use *not only*, *it was only*, *never before* and *little did*.

- 1** Amira couldn't believe that no one had turned up to her exhibition to support her. <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ was it the first time she'd shown her work in public, but it was also an opportunity that not many recent graduates were given. In fact, <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ had someone as young as Amira been exhibited in the main gallery.

She'd given up hope that anyone was coming and turned to leave. <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ when she finally heard the sound of her mother's voice that she realized that someone had come to support her. <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ was her family there, but ...

- 2** João was waiting anxiously for the phone to ring with the news. <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ when he'd finally calmed his nerves that it did, and he couldn't believe what he was hearing. He'd got the job! <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ had he been offered such an incredible opportunity. <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ was he going to travel to some of the most spectacular places in the world, he ...

- 3** Hamza had been working on getting his business off the ground for some time. He'd just started to become profitable but was struggling to take it to the heights he knew it could achieve. <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ when Hamza stumbled across an article online about an investment opportunity for a business like his, that his fortunes began to change. <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Hamza knew that one conversation would change his life forever. <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ did he get an investor on board, but he also ...