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Generations

Unit map

Vocabulary

Stages of life
Life events
Attitude (adjectives)
Noun and adjective endings
Exchange programmes

Word Skills

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Grammar

Past tense contrast
used to

Listening

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Vocabulary Builder

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1A

Vocabulary

Ages and stages

I can talk about the different stages of people's lives.

- 1 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Can you answer this famous riddle from Sophocles' play *Oedipus the King*? Explain your answer.

'What creature walks on four legs in the morning, two legs in the afternoon, and three in the evening?'

- 2 **1.07 VOCABULARY** Number the stages of life in the order that people reach them. Then listen and check.

Stages of life be an adult be a centenarian be an infant be a toddler
be a young child be elderly be in your teens be in your twenties be middle-aged

- 3 Match some of the phrases in exercise 2 with the pictures below of the woman at different stages of her life.

In picture A, she's an infant.

- 4 **VOCABULARY** Check the meaning of the life events below. At what age are they most likely to happen, do you think? Put them in groups A–E. Compare your answers with your partner. Do you agree?

Life events be born be brought up (by) become a grandparent
buy a house or flat emigrate fall in love get divorced get engaged
get married get your first job go to university grow up have a change of career
inherit (money, a house, etc.) learn to drive leave home leave school
move (house) pass away retire settle down split up start a business
start a family start school

A Before you are 20

B From 20 to 40

C From 40 to 60

D Over 60

E At any age



- 5 **1.08** Listen to four people talking about their backgrounds and their families. Circle the correct answers (a–c).

- 1 Bilal's dad
 - a was born in the UK.
 - b is going to have a change of career.
 - c wants to study law.
- 2 Sandra's family
 - a have owned a number of farms.
 - b sold the first farm and bought a bigger one.
 - c have owned the same farm for many years.
- 3 Charlotte's mum
 - a brought up her daughter in France.
 - b isn't married.
 - c has been married twice.
- 4 Callum's parents
 - a inherited and ran a successful family business.
 - b didn't have a good education.
 - c left Britain many years ago.

RECYCLE! Past simple

Remember that there are no rules for the affirmative forms of irregular verbs (e.g. *go – went*), and that the spelling changes with some regular verbs (e.g. *stop – stopped*, *carry – carried*).

We form the past simple negative with *didn't* and the interrogative with *did*. (The verbs *be* and *can* are exceptions.)

➔ **Vocabulary Builder** Noun plural forms: page 121

- 6 **1.08** Read the **Recycle!** box. Complete the sentences with the past simple form of the verbs below. Then listen again and check.

be buy emigrate fall get get grow up
leave move not go not leave not retire start

- 1 My grandparents _____ from Pakistan in the 1960s.
- 2 She _____ home until last summer, when she _____ married.
- 3 I _____ in the village where my family has lived for generations.
- 4 They managed to save quite a bit of money and eventually _____ a small farmhouse with some land.
- 5 They _____ in love, _____ engaged after a week and were married a month later.
- 6 I _____ brought up by my mum after she _____ back to the UK.
- 7 They _____ school at sixteen and _____ to university.
- 8 They _____ a successful business and _____ until they were in their seventies.

- 7 **SPEAKING** In pairs, ask and answer about your family and your ancestors. Give extra information where you can.

- 1 How long has your family lived in your home town?
- 2 Did any of them emigrate from another country? From where? When? Why?
- 3 Did any of them move from another part of your country? From where? When? Why?
- 4 Did any of your ancestors or members of your family emigrate to another country? Where to? When? Why?
- 5 Are you related to anyone famous? If so, who?

How long has your family lived in your home town?

We've been here for about ten years.
Before that we lived in Swansea.

