

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Read

a What is the woman's job? What kinds of things does she have to do? Read the magazine article quickly to find the answers.

b  Read the article again and listen. Answer the questions.

- 1 Why does Alex love her work?
- 2 Which job did she not do? Why?
- 3 Alex's work is dangerous, but she isn't worried. Why not?

c Find words in the article with these meanings.

- 1 A normal job with regular hours: a n.....-to-..... job
- 2 Very frightening: t.....
- 3 The opposite of *dangerous*: s.....
- 4 Really hate something: can't s..... something
- 5 Get money from a job: e..... money

d Would you like to be a stuntman or stuntwoman? Why / Why not?

It was really terrifying ...

Alex Smithson doesn't have a normal job. She's a stuntwoman in Hollywood movies.

'I did a nine-to-five job for five years, but I hated working in an office so I decided to become a stuntwoman. I much prefer having this job. It's very exciting and I really like doing the stunts,' she says.

What kinds of things does she have to do?

'Well, in action films for example, I often have to jump out of exploding cars or burning buildings. In the thriller *Steel Wings* I had to stand on a plane flying over the mountains. It was really terrifying, but great, too.'

Does she worry about the danger?

She knows she could end up in hospital, but she never thinks about it. 'Of course the work is dangerous. But I don't mind being in dangerous situations and there are lots of people on the film set who check that

everything is safe. I don't want to die in a stunt, and the director doesn't want me to die either.'

What's the most terrifying job she remembers?

'Once they asked me to get into a hole full of snakes. Of course they weren't really dangerous, but I absolutely hate snakes! I refused to go in! I can't stand looking at pictures of snakes, so you can imagine how I felt near real ones!'

Does she ever want to stop?

'No!' Alex says. 'I know that one day I'll be too old, but right now I enjoy doing what I do, I earn a lot of money and I hope to continue for a long time. I can't imagine doing anything else!'

2 Grammar

Verbs + *-ing* / verbs + infinitive

a Find these words in the text on page 52. Write the verb that follows each one.

1 hated	working	7 refused	
2 decided		8 can't stand	
3 prefer		9 enjoy	
4 like		10 hope	
5 don't mind		11 imagine	
6 don't want			

b Write the verbs from Exercise 2a in two lists.

+ *-ing*
hate

+ infinitive
decide

Can you add these verbs to the lists?
agree learn love offer promise

