

## 2c Develop your listening

### Introduction

The goal of this lesson is for students to understand an interview. To help them achieve this, they will focus on understanding linkers.

### Warm-up

Ask Ss if they have heard the term *gap year* and what they think it means. Take the opportunity to pre-teach the word *volunteer*.

### Culture notes

A **gap year** is traditionally the year between finishing school and starting university. Students usually work (often as volunteers) and travel around and become more mature before they start university. Others may need to retake exams so they can go to the university they want. Recently older adults have started taking **career breaks**, where they take a break from paid work to travel or volunteer.

1 Look at the photos and discuss what is happening and where they are. Then put Ss in pairs to discuss the questions. After a few minutes, elicit answers.

### Answers:

2 A gap year is usually a break in your studies. A career break is usually when you stop working for a period of time in order to do something else.

2 2.7 Tell Ss they are going to listen to two people being interviewed. They should read through the questions, then listen and make notes. Go through the answers as a class.

### Answers:

- 1 They are describing what they did in their gap years.
- 2 Rob went travelling and Sally worked

### Audioscript 2.7

**Interviewer:** Today, I'm going to be speaking to two people, Rob and Sally, about their gap years. So, Rob, let's start with you, why did you decide to have a gap year?

**Rob:** Well, um, I think it's for several reasons, but the main one is because I love travelling! I went to Mexico City first. I found it a bit too busy, so I decided to go somewhere a bit smaller.

**Interviewer:** So, did you just have a holiday in Mexico, or did you work?

**Rob:** I got a job in the second place I went to, Cancun, working with the local diving centre, and that was OK for a while. However, after a few months, I wanted to travel again and I left the job, and Cancun.

**Interviewer:** Ah, OK. And where did you go to next?

**Rob:** Brazil! I loved it there. Obviously the beaches, and I really loved the music there! Have you heard of a kind of music called Forró?

**Interviewer:** I haven't actually.

**Rob:** It's amazing. It's a kind of folk music, and it's so good to dance to.

**Interviewer:** It sounds really interesting! OK, now Sally, tell us something about your gap year.

**Sally:** Oh, well, my gap year was very different from Rob's! I decided to stay at home and work.

**Interviewer:** Oh, right, and why did you decide to do that?

**Sally:** Actually, I had to. My family are not super rich, so I had to work to save some money to pay for my university course.

**Interviewer:** And did you enjoy that?

**Sally:** Hmm, it was OK. I liked the people I worked with, but the work itself was pretty boring.

**Interviewer:** So, overall, do you feel a gap year is a good thing?

**Rob:** Yes! It was a great chance to see the world before I went to university.

**Sally:** You're lucky, Rob! I only took a gap year because I couldn't afford my course. I didn't get the chance to go travelling like some people!

3 Go through the Focus box as a class, reading each section and discussing examples. When you finish, ask Ss to answer the question. Ask them to check in pairs before class feedback.

**Answer:** Linkers help us predict what is coming next.

4 Ask Ss to work alone to complete the statements. Monitor and help. When they finish, put Ss in pairs to read their sentences to each other. In feedback, nominate a few Ss to report on one of their partner's answers.

5a 2.8 Ask Ss to listen carefully and circle the linking word they hear.

**Answers:** 1 but 2 so, because 3 however 4 and

### Audioscript 2.8

- 1 The couple I stayed with were OK most of the time. I really liked the man but ...
- 2 I worked in an office for ten years, so I decided to take a career break because ...
- 3 My experience living abroad was really great for the first six months. However, ...
- 4 I loved the amazing countryside and ...

b Ask Ss to listen again and then work in pairs to predict how the speaker might continue each sentence.

c 2.9 Tell Ss to listen and see if they were right. You may need to listen twice and pause the audio the second time. Go through the answers as a class and see how well they predicted.

**Answers:** See audioscript.

### Audioscript 2.9

- 1 The couple I stayed with were OK most of the time. I really liked the man but I don't think the woman liked me so much.
- 2 I worked in an office for ten years, so I decided to take a career break because I was bored of my job.
- 3 My experience living abroad was really great for the first six months. However, in the second part of the year I got homesick, and I decided not to continue.
- 4 I loved the amazing countryside and I really liked the people.

6 2.7 Tell Ss they are going to listen again to the two people talking about their gap year. They should read through the questions and underline the question words, then listen and try and answer them using the linkers to help.

**Answers:** 1 loves travelling 2 go somewhere smaller  
3 wanted to travel again 4 (Forró) music 5 no  
6 to save money and pay for university 7 it was boring 8 no

7 Put Ss in pairs to discuss. When they finish, have a whole-class discussion and see what ideas they have, whether anybody has had a gap year or is planning to do so.

### Homework ideas

**Workbook:** Ex 1–2, p13