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2nd Edition

Breakthrough PLUS



Student's Book
Miles Craven



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Focus »	personal achievements
Grammar »	past tenses: simple past and past continuous, present perfect simple and continuous
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Get talking!

- 1 Discuss the pictures with a partner.**
Who are these people? Where are they? What's happening?
- 2 What qualities does a person need to be successful? With your partner, continue the list.**
A successful person needs to be: determined, hard-working ...



Conversation

- 1**   **01 Listen and read.**

- Melissa:** Hey ... I didn't expect to see you here. Surely you haven't won anything, have you?
- Stephanie:** Actually, I have. I've won the Citizenship Award, for community work.
- Melissa:** Oh, I was wondering what that was for. I've never heard of it.
- Stephanie:** It's for helping other people. I've been working hard all year, teaching kids in my free time.
- Melissa:** Hmm. How, er, special. Well, I've won the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award!
- Stephanie:** Really? What did you get that for? Being outstandingly selfish?
- Melissa:** Very funny. No, I started my own company after graduation. Actually, it's been going very well. I'm a millionaire now, you know!
- Stephanie:** No, I didn't know that.
- Melissa:** It's so important to recognize real achievement, don't you think?
- Stephanie:** Yes, I agree, but being successful doesn't just mean making a lot of money.

- 2 Practice the conversation with a partner.**

Language box



I **started** my own company after graduation.
I **didn't know** that.
I **was wondering** what that award was for.
Have you won an award?
I've **been working** hard all year.

Grammar reference » p.102

★ Challenge!

Do you think success always makes people happier?
Tell your partner.

Vocabulary

1 Complete the text using these verbs.

cope with do make show succeed

To ¹ _____ well in life, you need to ² _____ determination. You have to ³ _____ setbacks, and learn that everything you do can ⁴ _____ a difference. It's not easy, but you can ⁵ _____ against the odds if you believe in yourself.

2 Complete the phrases using these verbs.

achieve make overcome take win

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 _____ a prize / an award / a competition | 4 _____ a risk / action / responsibility |
| 2 _____ difficulties / your fears / a problem | 5 _____ your ambition / success / a breakthrough |
| 3 _____ progress / a sacrifice / a profit | |

3 Choose a verb from exercise 1 or 2. Work with a partner. Can your partner remember any matching words or phrases?

A: Overcome B: Er ... a problem

Real life exchange

1 Before you listen, complete the conversation using the correct past tenses. Work with a partner.

- A: So, what's your greatest achievement so far in life?
 B: Well, I ¹ _____ any awards or anything, I'm afraid.
 A: No, but you ² _____ well on your final exams last year, didn't you?
 B: I guess so. And I ³ _____ hard since then, in my new job.
 A: See? You ⁴ _____ quite a few things really.
 B: Hmm. Actually, I ⁵ _____ about taking a vacation.
 A: Ah! So that's what you ⁶ _____ in the travel agency when I ⁷ _____ you yesterday!

2 03 Listen and check. Then practice the conversation with your partner.

Strategy: Exclamations

1 Complete the statements using these exclamations.

Ah! Huh? Ouch! Phew! Shh! Ugh! Wow!

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 _____ What a relief. | 5 _____ This tastes awful. |
| 2 _____ That hurts. | 6 _____ What did you say? |
| 3 _____ That's amazing. | 7 _____ Now I understand. |
| 4 _____ Please be quiet. | |

2 04 Listen and check. Then practice the exclamations with a partner.

Grammar activities » p.102

 05 Pronunciation » p.122

Communication activity

Student A » p.84

Student B » p.94

In your words

1 Congratulations! You are a successful language learner. Ask and answer these questions with a partner.

How long have you been learning English?
 What do you enjoy most about studying English?
 What do you find most difficult?
 What problems have you overcome to reach this level?
 How has learning English helped you in your life?
 Have you been doing anything recently to improve your English?
 Have you ever been to an English-speaking country?
 Can you speak any other languages?



2 Write notes about something you have achieved (for example, passing your driving test). Tell your partner about this achievement.

Something that I've achieved that's important to me is passing my driving test. It was last year and ...

Something I've achieved ...

What was it?
 When was it?
 Details:
 How did you feel at the time?
 How has this achievement changed your life?



3 Write a sentence about a success you enjoyed. It can be true or false. Then make a group and tell your classmates. They must ask questions and decide if your story is true or false.

A: *When I was 14, I won a national tennis competition.*

B: *Really? Where was that?*

C: *How long have you been playing tennis?*

★ Challenge!

Is there anything that you haven't achieved yet, but would really like to achieve in the future?
 Tell your partner.

One day I'd really like to see the pyramids / be a professional baseball player ...

Listening

1 🎧 06 Listen to Harriet, from the U.S., talk about achieving an ambition. Answer the questions.

- 1 What has she been doing for the past year?
- 2 Does she think it's been a successful year?

2 🎧 06 Listen again and answer the questions.

- 1 Where did she visit first?
- 2 How many countries has she been to so far?
- 3 What was she doing when she hurt her ankle?
- 4 What's the biggest fear she has overcome?
- 5 What two sacrifices has she made?



Speaking

1 Complete each statement with the name of someone famous, or someone you know personally. Make notes, then tell a partner.

Think of someone who ...

- _____ has won an important award or prize.
- _____ made a lot of sacrifices to become successful.
- _____ has really made a difference to other people's lives.
- _____ had to cope with several setbacks before he or she achieved success.
- _____ has been trying hard to be successful, but hasn't made it yet.
- _____ was successful once, but isn't anymore.

Notes



2 Make a group. Ask and answer these questions with your classmates.

- Who is the most successful person you know?
- How important to you is it to be successful?
- Which of your ambitions have you achieved so far?
- How do you cope with setbacks and problems?

★ Challenge!

Complete this sentence in three different ways. Then make a group and discuss your ideas.
Success is ...

Listening

Skills tip

As you listen, try to notice any common themes or ideas and ask yourself what underlying message the speaker is trying to express.

Skill: Understanding the main idea

- 1**  **07 Listen to four people answer a different question. Write the number of each question (1–4) next to the correct person.**

- 1 What has been your greatest achievement so far?
- 2 What does success mean to you?
- 3 What's your greatest ambition?
- 4 What's the biggest problem you've ever overcome?

- 2**  **07 Listen again. Note the key words and phrases that help you identify each topic.**

★ Challenge!

Ask and answer the questions (1–4) with a partner.



A

Celine ☐

B

Andrea ☐

C

Howard ☐

D

Lee ☐

- 1** Before you watch, discuss with a partner the advantages and disadvantages of traveling abroad with friends.

- 2** Watch the video. Jake is talking about a trip to Europe. Answer the questions.

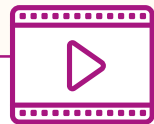
- 1 How long did Jake travel around Europe for?
- 2 How many people went on the trip?
- 3 How many places did they visit?
- 4 What problem does he mention?
- 5 Why would Jake recommend traveling to Europe?

- 3** Watch again. Write T (true), F (false), or N (not in text) for each statement.

- 1 ____ Going to Europe was a long-time ambition for Jake.
- 2 ____ Sometimes he found it difficult to communicate.
- 3 ____ The problem he mentions occurred in Poland.
- 4 ____ He thinks this kind of trip is not suitable for everyone.
- 5 ____ He plans to go back to Europe very shortly.

- 4** Have you ever taken a trip abroad with friends? Would you like to travel around Europe? Tell a partner.

Viewing



Video vocabulary

entire (*adj.*) whole, complete

in a heartbeat (*phr.*) almost immediately, without hesitation

literally (*adv.*) actually, really (for emphasis)

turn (your ankle) (*v.*) to twist or sprain (your ankle)

understanding (*adj.*) sympathetic, willing to forgive

Reading

Skill: Scanning

Skills tip

Scanning means quickly finding information in a text. Always check what information you need to find **before** you start reading. While you read, look only for the information you want to find.

Before they were famous

They might have found success, fame and fortune now, but did you know Tom Cruise was delivering newspapers before he was an actor, and Madonna was working at Dunkin' Donuts? Even famous designer Ralph Lauren started as a salesman, selling gloves. Read on and find out what some more of today's big names were doing before they were successful.



Today, she is perhaps one of the most famous and talented actresses in the world ... but when her mother was diagnosed with breast cancer, **Nicole Kidman** temporarily dropped out of school. At the age of 17 she was working as a massage therapist to help support her family.



Have you heard of Dell Computers? Hard-working owner **Michael Dell** is now a multibillionaire, but at 12 he was washing dishes in a Chinese restaurant for \$2.30 per hour, and at 16 he was selling newspapers.



Scottish singer **Susan Boyle** shot to fame after appearing in the TV show *Britain's Got Talent* in 2009. Her first performance quickly became an online sensation, and was viewed over 120 million times. The song she sang reached number one in 28 countries. Since then 'SuBo' has toured around the world, but before she found success she was unemployed, and worked as a volunteer for a local charity.



Oprah Winfrey came from a very poor family and had an incredibly tough childhood. Her first job was working in a grocery store. While still at high school, she started work as a news reader for a local radio station. Today, she is a multibillionaire, and one of the most successful and famous women of all time. In 2013, she was given the highest civilian honor in the USA: the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

1 08 Read the celebrity magazine article to find who ...

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 once worked in a Chinese restaurant. | 6 has been working hard since a very early age. |
| 2 became a star with help from the internet. | 7 used to sell items of clothing. |
| 3 worked as a teenager because a family member was sick. | 8 worked in the restaurant industry. |
| 4 sold fruit and vegetables. | 9 used to deliver newspapers. |
| 5 has won a medal. | 10 was an unpaid helper for an aid organization. |

2 Find three things Oprah Winfrey and Michael Dell have in common.

3 Close your book. What can you remember? Tell a partner.

Oprah Winfrey used to work in a grocery store.

Study guide



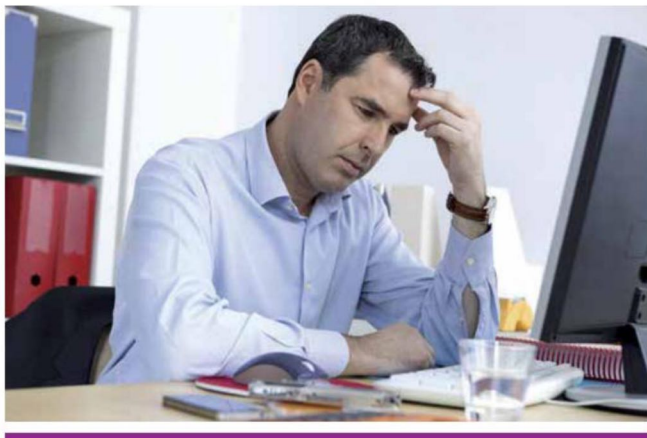
Writing about someone you admire

- 1 Think of someone you admire.
my mother / my best friend / Nowac Djoković
- 2 Say why you admire this person.
hard-working / very supportive / famous
- 3 Say why you think this person is successful.
happy and healthy / has a good job / has won a lot of competitions

Writing

1 Write about someone you admire. Choose someone famous or someone you know. Look at the Study guide to help you.

Someone I admire is my mother. I think she's ...



Get talking!

- 1 Discuss the pictures with a partner.**
What can you see? How do these people feel?
- 2 When you have a problem, do you discuss it with your friends or your family? Who do you go to most often for advice? Tell your partner.**

Language box



If I **have** a problem, I always **ask** my friend for advice.
 If you **ask** him, he'll **help** you.
 If I **don't do** anything, nothing **will happen**.
 If you **explained** the situation, he'd **understand**.



Grammar reference » p.103

Conversation

- 1**   **09 Listen and read.**

Robert: You know that if I have a problem, I always ask you for advice.
Helen: Yes. What is it this time?
Robert: It's about my job at the bank. I've been working there for three years now, and I haven't had a promotion. Not even a pay raise. I'm really disappointed.
Helen: Well, times are hard, you know. It's probably the same for everybody.
Robert: No, at least two people in my department have had a promotion this year.
Helen: Well, maybe you're just not very good at your job!
Robert: Hey, that's not fair. I work really hard.
Helen: Yes, yes. I know. I was only joking. Do you get along well with your boss?
Robert: Who, Tony? Yes, he's great.
Helen: So why don't you speak to him about it? I'm sure if you explained the situation, he'd understand.
Robert: I suppose I could do that. It's not really his decision though.
Helen: No, but if you ask him, he'll help you. He can contact whoever is responsible.
Robert: Hmm. Yes. Maybe you're right. I guess if I don't do anything, nothing will happen.

- 2 Practice the conversation with a partner.**

★ Challenge!

What do you think of Helen's advice?
 Would you ask your employer for a pay raise?

Vocabulary

1 Complete the text using an *-ed* or *-ing* adjective formed from these verbs.

astonish embarrass irritate reassure satisfy

A long time ago I decided not to have a cell phone. People are always ¹ _____ if I tell them, and I know some of my friends find it ² _____ because they can't contact me easily. However, I am ³ _____ I made the right decision. I don't feel ⁴ _____ because I don't have a cell phone. I honestly feel my life is better without one. Anyway, isn't it ⁵ _____ to know that life without a cell phone is possible?

2 Circle the correct adjectives. Then ask and answer the questions with a partner.

- 1 Who is the most *amused* / *amusing* person you know?
- 2 When you think of the future, what makes you most *worried* / *worrying*?
- 3 When was the last time you felt *exhausted* / *exhausting*?
- 4 What's the most *terrified* / *terrifying* experience you've had?
- 5 What types of movie are you *interested* / *interesting* in?

3 Make statements using *-ed* or *-ing* adjectives from these verbs.

annoy depress disappoint discourage fascinate frustrate

I get annoyed when my train is late.

Real life exchange

1 Before you listen, complete the conversation using verbs in the first or second conditional. Work with a partner.

- A: So, did you decide what to do after you graduate from college?
 B: No. If I ¹ _____ for a job soon, it ² _____ too late.
 A: Well, there's nothing wrong with taking your time.
 B: That's true. Maybe if I ³ _____ some money, I ⁴ _____ on vacation.
 A: Good idea. But it ⁵ _____ better if you ⁶ _____ a job first.

2 11 Listen and check. Then practice the conversation with your partner.

Strategy: Expressing opinions

1 Complete the expressions using these words.

ask at all concerned point right totally

- 1 As far as I'm _____ ...
- 2 I agree with you up to a _____.
- 3 I think you're _____.
- 4 I don't agree _____.
- 5 I _____ agree.
- 6 If you _____ me ...

2 12 Listen and check. Which expressions are used ...

- 1 to give your opinion? 2 to disagree? 3 to agree? 4 to partly agree?

3 Make a group and discuss this question. Use the expressions above.

If you had children, would you control their access to the internet?

Communication activity

Student A » p.85

Student B » p.95