



A



B



C

1 Statistics show that good-looking people earn 10–15% more than plain-looking people in the same job – so it makes sense that some people want to get cosmetic surgery to improve their appearance.

2 It is theft and thieves can be punished. In fact, an American woman was fined nearly \$2 million for downloading and sharing songs.

3 Banning cars in the city centre has led to a 30% reduction in pollution levels and increased use of public transport. During the same period there has been a 10% reduction in shop sales although it is not certain that this is a result of the ban.

## SPEAKING

1 Work in pairs. Match the newspaper extracts 1–3 with the pictures A–C. Then discuss the questions.

- Which extract is for and which is against the topics discussed? Which one is neutral?
- Can you think of any other reasons for and against each idea?
- What is your own opinion about each idea?

## FUNCTION | opinions

2A ▶ 2.5 Listen to three conversations. Which speaker do you agree with in each conversation?

B Listen again and make notes. What is each person's opinion? What reasons do they give?

3A Work in pairs and complete the phrases.

## Giving opinions

I'm really <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ it.

I'm in <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ of it.

The <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ I see it, ...

## Agreeing

I suppose <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

I <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ what you mean ...

## Partially agreeing

You've got a <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ there, but ...

I agree to <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ extent, but ...

## Disagreeing

I <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ disagree.

I'm not <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ sure.

I'm still not <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

B Check your answers in the audio script on page 165. Which phrases show very strong or very weak opinions?

4A ▶ 2.6 Listen to the phrases and underline the stressed words. Then listen again and repeat.

B Add the phrases in the box to the correct groups in Exercise 3A.

I think ... Exactly! I take/see your point, but ...  
It seems to me that ... That's right. I agree.  
I don't agree with you. Fair enough, but ... I feel ...

▶▶▶ page 130 LANGUAGEBANK

5A Write the conversations in full.

## Conversation 1

A: I / favour / banning / smoking / all public places.

B: I / not / agree / you. / People / be / free to choose.

A: agree / some / extent, / but / what about the rights / other people?

B: way / see / freedom / choose / more important.

A: take / point, / but / passive smoking / can / very bad / you.

B: I / suppose, / but / banning / all places / too much!

## Conversation 2

A: I / against / too much / violence / films / because / effect on crime.

B: not / agree / you. / Thousands / people / watch films / but / only a few people commit crimes.

A: Okay. You / point / there, / but / seem / me even one person / be / one person too many.

B: know / what / you mean, / but / still / not convinced.

B Work in pairs and take turns. Practise the conversations using the prompts.

## LEARN TO | support your viewpoint

6 Look at the phrases in bold in 1–8 below. Which phrases are used:

- to give an example?
  - for facts which you have read or heard?
  - for a fact which you have read or heard when you are not sure if it is true?
- Take the case of** Mike's girlfriend; she actually had some Botox injections.
  - ... some kind of surgery, you know, **such as** liposuction to get rid of fat?
  - But **it's a well-known fact that** musicians get very little money from CD sales anyway.
  - ... spend a fortune on things **like** record companies and managers and ...
  - Apparently**, having only buses can bring in five times as many people.
  - ... **it's been shown that** buses are more polluting than cars.
  - According to** an article I read recently, file sharing's good because ...
  - For instance**, what about that woman in America?

7A Cover Exercise 6 and put the underlined phrases in the correct order.

A: <sup>1</sup>article to this according, women can't read maps and men can't listen.

B: That's just a stereotype. Men are often good at jobs that involve listening, <sup>2</sup>management in for jobs instance.

A: Yeah, you're right. <sup>3</sup>of my case the brother Take and his wife. She's a great map reader...

B: ... and your brother's good at 'female tasks', <sup>4</sup>cooking as listening or such to people – just not both at the same time.

A: Well, <sup>5</sup>well-known it's are women that fact a better at multi-tasking. It says so here.

B: No way; <sup>6</sup>'s shown it are that men been just as good. You shouldn't believe everything you read <sup>7</sup>that in like magazines.

A: I suppose not, <sup>8</sup>'s scientific based research it apparently on but.

## speakout TIP

In a discussion, either spoken or written, develop your argument by giving reasons for your opinions as well as examples. You can also refer to your reading and research by mentioning what people or books say about an issue.

B Work in pairs and discuss. Do you agree with any of the stereotypes about men/women in the conversation in Exercise 7A? Give examples and reasons.

## VOCABULARY | opinion adjectives

8A Match the adjectives in the box with opinions 1–8 below.

disturbing illegal unethical justifiable  
inevitable inoffensive sensible outrageous

- It makes me feel upset. *disturbing*
- It's a good idea – reasonable and logical.
- It's going to happen sooner or later, that's for sure.
- It's against the principles of what is right and wrong.
- If you do it, the police might arrest you.
- There's a good reason for it.
- I'm totally shocked and extremely angry.
- Maybe it bothers some people, but not me.

B Work in pairs and take turns. Student A: give one of the opinions above. Student B: close your book and reply using one of the adjectives.

A: It's going to happen sooner or later, that's for sure.

B: Yes, it's inevitable.

C Which of the adjectives in Exercise 8A can be made into their opposites by adding/removing a prefix?

## SPEAKING

9A Work in pairs and choose three topics to discuss.

- Everyone should be paid exactly the same amount for any job they do.
- What you wear is not important.
- Exams are a waste of time.
- University should be free for all.
- Friendship is more important than love.
- It's unethical to buy extremely cheap clothes from developing countries.



B Work in groups and discuss the questions.

- Do you agree or disagree with each statement? Why? Give at least two reasons.
- Which adjective(s) from Exercise 8A can you use to say how you feel about each topic?

## DVD PREVIEW

1 Work in pairs and discuss. Which ways of completing the statement do you agree with?

Money can't make you happy ...

- but doing a job you love can.
- What a silly thing to say! Of course it can!
- but you can't be happy with no money. You need a certain amount.
- but shopping does make me feel good.
- and neither can any objects or possessions.
- but I would still like to be very, very rich!

2 Read the programme information. What do you think the scientists will say in this episode?



## The Happiness Formula

People in many countries are far wealthier than fifty years ago but happiness levels have declined. As people have recognised the failure of consumerism to deliver happiness, scientists have taken an interest in what it is that does or doesn't make people happy. This six-part series explores their findings. In tonight's instalment, presenter Mark Easton finds out why the work-and-buy ethic has failed us, and what the science of happiness says about how we should change our way of life.



## DVD VIEW

3A Watch the DVD. What is the scientists' main point about how we should change our life?

B Work in pairs. Explain the connection between each pair of words.

- |                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 consume               | purchase                   |
| 2 status                | designer label             |
| 3 being in the rat race | being stuck on a treadmill |
| 4 increase              | diminish                   |
| 5 assumption            | evidence                   |
| 8 suspect (adj)         | unreliable                 |

C Watch again and answer the questions.

- 1 What is the significance of '£10,000 a year'?
- 2 The reporter says 'the science of happiness suggests we should do the opposite'. The opposite of what?
- 3 Professor Jackson talks about 'assumptions that we have to re-examine'. What is one assumption he mentions?

D Work in groups and discuss the questions.

- 1 What do you think has stopped people from being happier as they have become wealthier?
- 2 What do you think people can do to change their situation?

speakout a happiness survey

4A Work in pairs and discuss. Which are the three most important 'ingredients' of happiness in the box below? Which three are the least important?

a life partner peace and quiet a nice car  
free time friendship sport or exercise  
money future plans good food music

B ▶ 2.7 Listen to a man answering questions about happiness. Which topics from Exercise 4A do they talk about? Which are the most important for him?

C Listen again and tick the key phrases you hear.

## keyphrases

[Could I/Do you mind if I] ask you some questions?

Which is the [most/least] important for your happiness?

What would you say is missing from your life?

Which would you find the [easiest/hardest/most difficult] to live without?

Are you more or less happy than you were five years ago?

How happy would you say you are, on a scale of one to five (five being very happy)?

5A Work in pairs and prepare a short happiness survey using the key phrases.

B Talk to other students and ask your questions. Make notes on their answers.

C Summarise your findings to the class.

writeback tips for being happy

6A A website asked its readers for tips for being happy. Work in pairs. Read two of the responses and discuss which you agree with.

## Don't read the news or watch TV

The news is filled with negative images and stories and each one contributes to your stress levels, making you feel more depressed. Following the news can also take up a great deal of your attention. Instead, use the time to do something you enjoy, such as cooking a meal, phoning a friend or going for a walk.

## Get a pet

Studies have shown that people who have a dog or cat are happier and live longer. A pet can give companionship that, for some people, is almost as good as having a partner. Be realistic about what type of pet would be most suitable for you and for your accommodation. Remember, if you choose a dog you'll have to take it for walks, whereas a cat is more independent.

B Work in pairs. Use the headings below to make notes on three tips for being happy.

Tip: Do something new every day.

Why this helps: simple concept – keeps your brain alert – raises your energy levels – stimulating – makes you feel happier

How to do it: get off the train/bus a stop early and walk home – speak to someone you don't know – do a new type of puzzle

C Write about your tips for the website (120–200 words). Use one paragraph for each tip.

D Read other students' tips. Whose tips would work best for you?

