

### INTERMEDIATE UNIT 9

- 1 OVERVIEW:** Watch the video. Whose opinions are closest to your own?
- 2** Read Pasha's introduction and try to fill in the gaps. Then watch the video from 0:10–0:30 to check your answers.

I enjoy reading <sup>1</sup>*about* the past but I'm very happy to live in <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ modern world with all its freedom and <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ opportunities we <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. Today I'm talking <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ people about the past and how history <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ influenced our lives. Do you think life is better now than in the past?

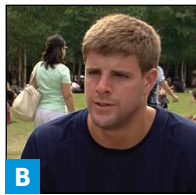


**Glossary:** *opportunity* = the chance to do something

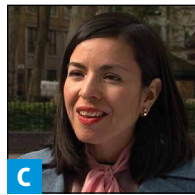
- 3** *Do you think life is better now than in the past?* Look at the people in the pictures and watch the video from 0:30–1:36. Write their answers, Yes (Y) or No (N), in the boxes.



A Liz  Y



B Kent



C Susana



D Sue



E James



F Georgie

- 4** *Why do you think life is better/worse now than in the past?* Look at the pictures of the people in Exercise 3 again and read their answers, 1–6 below. Then watch the video from 0:30–1:36 and match the answers to the people.

- 1 People had stronger values in the past and life wasn't as fast as it is now.  D
- 2 Now women have education and the right to vote.
- 3 She's a person who lives life for today, in the present not the past.
- 4 In the past, there were more great causes to believe in. People's imaginations were more fired up.
- 5 Society is much more materialistic and people forget that their health, friends and family are more important than money.
- 6 Life is better now because of improvements in technologies, the internet and medicine.

**Glossary:** *values* = ideas of right and wrong, e.g. religious, traditional  
*(great) causes* = an organisation/belief that people support and fight for  
*fired up* = excited/interested/angry  
*materialistic* = focussed more on money than things like art

**5A** If you could have lived through a different age or decade, which would you choose and why? Look at the people and read answers 1–7. Then watch the video from 1:36–2:36 and match speakers A–E to the correct response. There are TWO extra answers.



Liz



Susana



Kent



Georgie



James

- |                          |                          |                                     |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 in the 1920s           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 the eighteenth century | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 3 the Victorian era      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 4 in the 1960s           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 5 the late 1960s, 1970s  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 6 in Ancient Greece      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 7 in the 1950s           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**5B** Read the reasons the speakers give for their answers in Exercise 5A. Then watch the video from 1:36–2:36 again and tick (✓) the correct reason, a or b.

**Liz**

- 1a) The women were all beautiful.
- b) People were exploring the world.

**Susana**

- 2a) It was the Christian Dior era in fashion.
- b) Ladies all dressed fashionably in the 1950s.

**Kent**

- 3a) It was a decade of violent revolution.
- b) Music got much better.

**Georgie**

- 4a) She would like to have been a 'flapper.'
- b) She would've played jazz.

**James**

- 5a) Things were more inspiring.
- b) There are more causes to believe in now.

**Glossary:** *flapper* = a fashionable young woman in the late 1920s

**6A** In your opinion, what historical events or people have changed the course of history? Watch the video from 2:36–3:26 and circle the answers you hear.

Nelson Mandela	<u>Winston Churchill</u>	Marie Curie	the French Revolution
Princess Diana	World Wars I and II	September 11th	the Iraq War
the American War of Independence	Friedrich Nietzsche		the moon landing

**6B** Read the opinions of the people in the pictures. Then watch the video again from 2:36–3:26 and underline the correct words.



Sue

People off the top of my head would be Winston Churchill, <sup>1</sup>quite/most definitely; Princess Diana ...



James

I think the way he thought <sup>2</sup>of/about why we believe certain things, why we behave in certain ways, transformed <sup>3</sup>the way/how people live their lives.



Georgie

I think a key historical <sup>4</sup>moment/event was the moon landing because it gave people a bigger <sup>5</sup>focus/picture than just the Earth.



Kent

For me, I would say the American War of Independence, just because it helped <sup>6</sup>explain/define America as a <sup>7</sup>nation/country and created our identity, you know, to the rest of the world, which can be seen through <sup>8</sup>until/to today.



Susana

Oh, <sup>9</sup>decidedly/definitely, the September 11. The world is something <sup>10</sup>then/before, and after, September 11.

**Glossary:** *off the top of (my) head* = the first thing (I) think of

**7 THE WAY WE SPEAK:** The people in the pictures speculate about the past. Watch the video from 1:36–2:35 and complete their sentences.



Liz

- 1 If I *could* have lived in another age, \_\_\_\_\_ have lived in the eighteenth century.



Susana

- 2 I \_\_\_\_\_ loved to live in the 1950s, in all this Christian Dior era.



Kent

- 3 Coming from the United States, I would \_\_\_\_\_ say the late 60s, 1970s.



Georgie

- 4 I would, definitely, love \_\_\_\_\_ lived in the '20s as a 'flapper', drinking Martinis. That would \_\_\_\_\_ excellent, dancing to jazz.



James

- 5 The 60s was a decade I \_\_\_\_\_ to have lived in.

**8 PERSONALISATION:** Write *your* answers to the questions.

- 1 Do you think life is better now than in the past? Why?

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- 2 If you could have lived through a different age or decade, which would you choose and why?

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- 3 In your opinion, what historical events or people have changed the course of history? In what way(s)?

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