

# 2 B

**G** present perfect continuous  
**V** strong adjectives: *exhausted, amazed*, etc.  
**P** sentence stress, strong adjectives

## Changing your life

### 1 LISTENING

- a Answer the questions in pairs.
- If you could spend a year working or studying in another country, which country would you choose? Why?
  - What would you like to do there?
  - What problems do you think you might have?
- b Read about Karen and describe what you can see in the photos.
- c **2.6** Listen to Karen and answer the questions.
- Why did she choose Beirut?
  - Why did she want to take a year off?
  - Who is Omayma?
  - Why does Karen say Arabic is a difficult language?
  - How long has Karen been teaching belly dancing?
  - How do her students feel about an English woman teaching them belly dancing?
  - What does she like most about living in Lebanon?
- d Compare your answers with a partner. Then listen again to check.

'My name's Karen and I'm a primary school teacher. A few months ago, I decided to change my life. I took a year off and went to live in Beirut with my husband, Mike, who's an English teacher.'



### 2 GRAMMAR present perfect continuous with *for* / *since*

- a **2.7** Listen and complete these questions and answers from the interview with Karen.
- How long have you been \_\_\_\_\_ here?
  - I've been \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ since I was little.
  - What have you been \_\_\_\_\_ here since you arrived?
  - I've been \_\_\_\_\_ classes with her since October.
  - I've been \_\_\_\_\_ belly dancing for about six years.
- b Look at sentences 1–5 and answer the questions.
- Are the verbs action or non-action verbs?
  - Do they refer to single actions or continuous / repeated actions?
  - Do they refer to a completed action or one which is still happening?
- c **p.132 Grammar Bank 2B.** Read the rules for present perfect continuous for unfinished actions. Do exercise a only.

### 3 PRONUNCIATION sentence stress

**A** An important part of clear communication in English is stressing the words in a sentence which carry the information, and not stressing the other ones.

**a** **28** Dictation. Listen to five sentences. Try to write down the stressed words. Look at the words and try to remember the whole sentence. Then listen again and write the complete sentences.

**b** **29** Listen and copy the rhythm.

1 I've been living here for two years.

2 How long have you been learning English?

3 She's been working in Italy since October.

4 How long have you been waiting?

5 It's been raining all night.

6 We've been looking for a flat for ages.

### 4 SPEAKING

**a** Look at the circles, and write something in as many as you can.



A sport you play regularly (or a kind of exercise you do regularly)



Something you are learning (to do)



A friend you know very well



A magazine / newspaper you read regularly



A bar or restaurant you often go to



A thing you have which is very important for you



A club, organization, gym, etc. you are a member of



The make of car you drive



The place where you live

**b** Compare circles with a partner. Ask your partner at least three questions about the things they've written. One question must be *How long have you...?*

**A** Remember after *How long...?* with action verbs, e.g. *play*, use present perfect continuous, with non-action verbs, e.g. *know*, use present perfect simple.

How long have you been playing volleyball?

Since I was about 15.

How often do you play?

## 5 READING

- a Can you think of one way that a holiday could change your life for the better?
- b You're going to read an article about two people whose lives were changed by a holiday. Work in pairs. A read about Victoria, B about Sally.
- c In pairs, take turns to tell each other about the two women. Answer these questions.  
What is she doing now?  
What was she doing before?  
What made her change her life?  
How does she feel now?
- d Read the text that you didn't read before. Did your partner leave out any important information?

- e In pairs, try to guess the meaning of the highlighted words. Then match them with their definitions below.

### First text

- 1 of little importance \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 crazy \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 a person who looks after animals (e.g. in a zoo) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 animals like large monkeys \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 not looked after well \_\_\_\_\_

### Second text

- 6 the London underground \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 very tasty \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 asked for (in writing) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 burning brightly \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 very small \_\_\_\_\_

- f Whose life do you think has changed the most? Which of the two holidays would you choose?

## It was just a holiday, but it changed my life

Holidays can be good for your health. You lie on a beach and relax, and tensions disappear. But sometimes a holiday can change your life completely, which is what happened two years ago to Victoria Smith and Sally Gook.

**Victoria Smith**, six years ago, was working as a manager at Next, a British chain store. Then she went on holiday to Borneo...

'It was a working holiday,' said Victoria, 'where you could study orang-utans in the wild – I have always been interested in apes, so I thought it would be fun.' The holiday was wonderful, and when Victoria came home she found it very difficult to return to her old life. 'Suddenly the problems in the store just seemed so trivial.' Although everybody told her she was mad, she decided to go back to university and study biology. Four years later she became a chimpanzee keeper.

For the last two years Victoria has been working at Monkey World, a centre in south-west England which looks after apes which have been ill-treated. Many have been rescued from laboratories and circuses all over the world. She works long hours, and the pay isn't very good, but she loves it. 'Apes are like a big family, each with their own personality.'



'I feel I've been doing something important.'



'Suddenly I knew there was a different life waiting for me.'

**Sally Gook** wakes up every morning to a deep blue sky and blazing sun. For the last two years she has been living on the tiny Greek island of Lipsi, which is only 16 square kilometres in size and has a population of just 650.

But until a few years ago she lived in London. 'I was working for American Express and I had a good social life and earned a lot of money. But I had to get up very early every morning, often in horrible weather, and get a train and the tube to work.'

Then one day she and a friend decided they needed a relaxing holiday, and they came to Lipsi. 'I loved it – the people, the mountains, the sun, and the delicious food. Suddenly I knew there was a different life waiting for me here.' A few months later she applied for a job at the travel company which had organized her holiday.

Since then she has been living on Lipsi and working as a tourist guide. Her boyfriend, who is Greek, is a farmer. Sally said, 'I've only been back to London once, and I can't imagine ever living there again.'

*Adapted from the British press*

## 6 VOCABULARY & PRONUNCIATION strong adjectives

a Write synonyms for the strong adjectives.

### Strong adjectives

- The island's **tiny** – only 16 square kilometres.
- The food in Lipsi was **delicious**.
- Her father's **furious**. She crashed his car.
- I'm **terrified** of flying. I never travel by plane.
- I've been working all day. I'm **exhausted**.
- It's going to be **boiling** tomorrow – about 40°!
- Can I have a sandwich? I'm **starving**.
- The flat's **enormous**. It's got five bedrooms.
- I'm not going to swim. The water's **freezing**.
- Your car's **filthy**. Why don't you wash it?
- That's a **great** idea! Let's do it.
- This book's **awful**. I can't finish it.

### Normal adjectives

- = very small
- = very tasty
- = very \_\_\_\_\_
- = very \_\_\_\_\_
- = very \_\_\_\_\_
- = very \_\_\_\_\_
- = very \_\_\_\_\_
- = very \_\_\_\_\_
- = very \_\_\_\_\_
- = very \_\_\_\_\_
- = very \_\_\_\_\_

b Cover a. Complete the responses with a strong adjective.

- Are you hungry? Yes, I'm starving.
- Was your mother angry? Yes, she was \_\_\_\_\_.
- Is her flat small? Yes, it's \_\_\_\_\_.
- Are you tired? Yes, I'm \_\_\_\_\_.
- Is the floor dirty? Yes, it's \_\_\_\_\_.
- Are you afraid of spiders? Yes, I'm \_\_\_\_\_ of them.

c 2.10 Listen and check. Are the strong adjectives stressed? Listen again and repeat.

d Communication Are you hungry? Yes, I'm starving! A p.116 B p.119.

## 7 GRAMMAR present perfect continuous (for recent continuous actions)

a Look at the pictures. How do the people look? What do you think has been happening?



b 2.11 Listen and check. What have they been doing? Complete the sentences.

- Sharon and Kenny \_\_\_\_\_.
- The man \_\_\_\_\_.
- The man and woman \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

c p.132 Grammar Bank 2B. Read the rules for present perfect continuous for recent continuous actions. Do exercise b.

d Look at the adjectives and imagine that you are *exhausted*, *filthy*, etc. Think of an explanation for each one. Then in pairs, invent a short dialogue using each adjective.

exhausted filthy furious  
very stressed very red

Hi. You look exhausted.  
What have you been doing?

I've been working in the garden.