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More information



Talented



- Talk in groups. Find out:
 - what each person in your group does.
 - how they spend their spare time.
 - some things they're good at.
- Read the article on p7 about what makes people successful. Circle the correct options.
 - The best soccer players tend to be born at the beginning / end of the year.
 - 2 Ericsson believes people become successful mainly through practice / natural talent.
 - The real reason people give up doing things is that they have no enthusiasm / talent for them.
 - Sports coaches prefer players born earlier in the year because they're more talented / mature.

3 Read again. Find out:

- the three things that make up 'deliberate practice'.
- what Ericsson's research suggests students should do, and why. 2
- 3 why January-born players are chosen for teams.
- four ways in which the January-born players benefit from being chosen.

VOCABULARY

Routes to success

Specific goals? Set specific goals.

Match the verbs with the correct endings to make expressions from the article.

your interests feedback have the will to succeed 2 specific goals 8 follow 9 3 receive training concentrate on results 10 4 talent high self-esteem have possess put in experience a lot of practice build up

Test each other. Take turns to say the endings in 1–10 and remember the verbs.

SPEAKING

- Talk together. Use expressions from 4 and your own ideas.
 - What does it take to do these things, in your opinion?
 - play a sport to a high standard
- be an excellent musician manage people effectively
- succeed in business
- speak a foreign language fluently
 be a good teacher
- Think of someone who is very successful. How did they succeed?
- In what ways have you been successful? How do you explain your success?

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1.1

A Star Is Made

by Stephen J. Dubner and Steven D. Levitt

If you examined the birth certificates of every soccer player in a World Cup tournament, you would find an unusual tendency: elite soccer players are more likely to have been born earlier in the year than later. If you then examined the European national youth teams that supply many World Cup players, this tendency would be even more noticeable. In recent English teams, for instance, half the elite teenage soccer players were born in January, February or March. In Germany, fifty-two were born in the first three months, with just four players born in the last three. What might account for this?

Swedish-born Anders Ericsson, a psychology professor at Florida State University, is leader of a group of scholars trying to answer an important question: when someone is very good at something, what actually makes them good? Early experiments by Ericsson suggested that the best way to learn was a process known as 'deliberate practice'. This is more than

simply repeating a task. Rather, it involves setting specific goals, getting immediate feedback and concentrating equally on technique and results.

Ericsson and his colleagues therefore began studying expert performers in a wide range of pursuits, from soccer and surgery to piano playing and software design. They've come to a rather startling conclusion: practice really does make perfect. What we call 'talent' is highly overrated, as expert performers are nearly always made, not born. The research also suggests that when it comes to choosing a life path, you should do what you love. People often give up trying to do things they don't like, telling themselves they simply don't possess the talent. But what they really lack is the will to succeed and to put in the deliberate practice that would make them better. Ericsson's conclusions, if accurate, suggest that students should follow their interests earlier in their schooling to build up experience and receive meaningful feedback.



The insights of the researchers can explain the riddle of why so many elite soccer players are born early in the year. Since youth sports are organised by age group, teams have a cut-off birth date. In the European youth soccer leagues, the cut-off date is December 31. So when a coach is assessing two players in the same age group, one born in January and the other in December, the player born in January is likely to be bigger, stronger, more mature. Guess who the coach will pick. He may be mistaking maturity for ability but once chosen, those January-born players are the ones who, year after year, receive the training, the deliberate practice, the feedback - and have the accompanying self-esteem - that will turn them into elite players.

I'm not really convinced



- Which sport has Derek started playing recently? Does he enjoy it?
- Who's read the article? Who hasn't?
- 3 Who seems to find the ideas in the article convincing? Who's not so sure?
- 2 a Listen again. What's Derek's attitude to these ideas from the article?
 - 1 Practice is important if you want to be good at something.
 - 2 'Deliberate' practice is the best way to learn.
 - 3 People are good at things they enjoy because they get more practice.
 - **b** Compare your answers, then read the script on R-13 to check.

3 a Look at the sentences from the conversation. Which can you use when an idea is:

- a probably true? b probably not true? c too simple?
- d not interesting or original? e not clear?
 - That's **not saying anything new**. 4 I'm **not** really **convinced**.
 - That's **not the whole picture**. 5 I **don't get** the bit about 'deliberate'
 - It makes a lot of sense. practice.

b Now match these sentences with a-e.

- 6 I don't find it very persuasive.
- 7 It seems quite **simplistic**.
- 8 It sounds logical.
- 9 It's a bit obvious.
- 10 The part about 'deliberate' practice is hard to follow.

What do you think about the ideas in the article?

SPEAKING

VOCABULARY

Reacting to

ideas

5 Look at the summaries from a science news website on R-1. Talk together and compare your reactions.

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I've always been good at ...

1.2 goals

⊚ talk about things you're good at

describe and evaluate skills









- 🚺 1.2 Listen to Darya, Cian and Hyun-Ae talking about things they're good at.
 - Match each person to a picture A-C.
 - Does each person talk about their working life, their life outside work, or both?
- 🚺 1.2 Listen again. Find out:
 - when Darya realised what she was good at.
 - 2 how she uses her ability now.
 - 3 who Cian has represented in competitions.
 - how long a race stage can last.
 - 5 how Hyun-Ae's childhood influenced her.
 - what she's doing now.
- 3 Do you think anyone can learn to be good at these things? Talk together.

GRAMMAR

Present perfect simple and progressive

- Read examples 1-5 from the recording. Match them with discriptions a-e.
 - I've always been good with numbers.
 - I've done a couple of degrees, in psychology and social work.
 - 3 I've recently passed my final engineering exams.
 - 4 I've been sailing pretty consistently since I was nine.
 - I've been studying in the evenings so I'm quite tired.

You can use the **present perfect simple**:

- to summarise experiences in a period up to now.
- to describe finished events with a result now.
- to describe **states** which started in the past and continue up to now. Verbs that commonly describe **states** include *be, know, understand, love, hate,* etc. They are not usually used in progressive forms.

You can use the **present perfect progressive**:

- to describe longer or repeated activities finished or not with a result now.
- to describe activities which started in the past and are still happening now.
- 5 a Complete Esmeralda's profile using the present perfect simple or progressive.



Esmeralda Vallejo, artist

(be) interested in painting but I ²_ _always _ only (do) it seriously for about five years. During that time, I 3 ____(complete) various courses in techniques and materials and I 4 (win) a few prizes in regional competitions. I'm not rich - not at all! - but since last year I ⁵ (advertise) my work on the Internet and I now sell enough of my work to make a living, so I ⁶_ $_{-}$ (give up) my part-time office job and I 7 (become) a full-time artist. I'm feeling really excited about my work at the moment as I 8_ (experiment) with some new ideas - though I think some of my regular clients might be a bit shocked at the results!

Grammar reference and practice, R-7 b Think of something you're good at. Write a paragraph like this about it, using the present perfect simple and progressive.

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SPEAKING

- a In groups, talk about the things you're good at and what you've done.
 - **b** Get into new groups. Tell each other about the people in your first group.

Transferable skills

VOCABULARY

Skills

- 1 a Look at the expressions from the recording in the box. Which group 1-3 describes:
 - a people skills? b physical abilities? c mental skills?
 - be physically fit, be strong, have plenty of endurance
 - be good with numbers, be able to think logically, be focused
 - be a good listener, be an effective communicator, have the ability to compromise
 - **b** Now add three more expressions from the box to each of the groups, 1-3.

Well, Cian's physically fit ... And he must have a good sense of balance.

be able to delegate have good eyesight have a good sense of balance be able to manage groups have a lot of self-discipline have quick reflexes have plenty of imagination be sensitive to people's feelings be well organised

PRONUNCIATION

Stress

- 2 Talk together. Which skills do you think Darya, Cian and Hyun-Ae probably have?
- 3 a Look at the highlighted expressions in 1a and 1b. Which words do you think are stressed? Which are not stressed? <u>Underline</u> the stressed syllables.

be good with numbers

- **b** 13 Listen and look at the script on R-13 to check.
- What kinds of words are usually:
 - stressed? nouns, ...
 - not stressed? pronouns, ...

+ www.jobsfoundbyus.com/skills

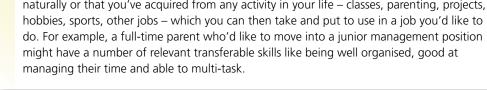
SPEAKING

Read part of a website for job seekers. What are transferable skills? Does everyone have them?



Transferable skills for job seekers

These skills are vitally important for all job seekers, students and people considering a career change. But what exactly are transferable skills? Basically, they're skills that you have naturally or that you've acquired from any activity in your life - classes, parenting, projects, hobbies, sports, other jobs – which you can then take and put to use in a job you'd like to do. For example, a full-time parent who'd like to move into a junior management position might have a number of relevant transferable skills like being well organised, good at managing their time and able to multi-task.



- a Work alone. What transferable skills do you have that would be relevant to these jobs?
 - a high-rise window cleaner
 a landscape gardener
 the mayor of a small town
 - a stock market trader
 a tele-sales agent
 a writer

Decide which job would be most suitable for you.

b In groups, explain your ideas from 5a. Who would be the best person for each job?

I could be a high-rise window cleaner. I've always been quite sporty so I've got a good sense of balance.

Really? I'd be terrified of falling ...

1 Q.



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Target activity

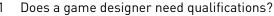
Give advice about an interest or occupation

TASK LISTENING

Read the information about VideoJug. Which of the four guides mentioned would you be most interested in? Have you ever used a website like this?

videojug (www.videojug.com) is an instructional video website which provides 'howto' guides for thousands of different subjects, from 'How to eat sushi' to 'How to become an airline pilot', from 'How to do face painting' to 'How to behave on a first date'. The site includes both professionally made videos produced internally and videos made and uploaded by amateurs.

2 a You're going to listen to an interview from the website on how to become a video games designer. Can you guess the answers to these questions?



- How do I get my foot in the door at a games company?
- 3 Does a games designer need to know how to write computer code?
- Does a games designer need to be a good artist?
- I have an idea for a game. What should I do with it?
- b 🔝 💶 Listen to check your ideas. Compare in groups, then listen again or read the script on R-13-R-14.

Look at some of Harry's answers to the interview questions. Which questions in 2a is

- he answering?
 - It helps to be able to draw a little bit. 2 A broad qualification can help you.
 - If you can sketch even feebly, I think it helps.
 - A game designer doesn't need to know how to code, but it helps.
 - There are a number of ways you can get your foot in the door.
 - A good way of getting experience is to apply for work experience positions.
 - 7 If you really want that game made, try and get a job in the industry ...
 - ... or hook up with a couple of mates and see if you can make it together.
- Using the highlighted expressions in 3, choose one of your interests or your occupation and write four or five sentences giving advice about it.
- a Imagine you're going to take part in an interview for VideoJug about the interest or occupation you chose in 4. Tell a partner what the topic is.
 - **b** Work alone. Make a list of questions to ask your partner about their chosen topic.
 - Would you recommend ... as a career / a pastime?
 - What advice would you give to someone who ...?

 - Can anyone ...?
 - How can you become a ...?
 - Exchange questions. Think about:
 - how to answer your partner's questions.
 - which language you can use from 3.
- a Interview each other. Ask questions to find out more details.
 - b If possible, do your interviews again and make an audio or video recording. Listen to or watch the interviews as a class.







TASK

VOCABULARY

Giving advice

How can you get into ...?

Do you need a lot of ...?

• Is it ...?

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EXPLORE

Keyword *think*

Meanings of think









- a What do you think the people in these pictures are saying?
 - b Now find one sentence from A-D to go in each picture. Did you have similar ideas?
- You think too much. Just choose one and let's go!
 You're always thinking about your work. You need a holiday.
- How did you think of the name for your company?
 We really need to think of some ways to save money.
- We're **thinking of** hav**ing** a party on Friday. Are you free then? My parents are **thinking about** buyi**ng** a new car.
- What do you think about jazz music? Do you like it? So, what do you think of the octopus?
- c Match each meaning of think with a pair of sentences A-D.
 - 1 have an opinion or believe something
- 3 consider doing something
- 2 create an idea or a solution to a problem
- 4 use your mind to consider a topic
- d Which meanings go with: a of? b about? c either of or about?
- 2 a Choose of or about. Sometimes both are possible.
 - 1 What do you think of / about when you're doing exercise?
 - 2 Have you ever thought of / about having your own website?
 - 3 What do you think of / about your country's football team?
 - 4 Can you think of / about three reasons why you started studying English?

Now write two or three more questions with think for the people in your class.

b Answer and discuss all your questions in groups.

Common expressions with think

3 a Look at the sentences together. Can you work out what the expressions mean?

The best school teachers encourage children to think for themselves.

1 I can't think straight if there's music on while I'm trying to work.
2 I find that thinking aloud helps me to solve problems.

3 Where I live, people generally think highly of doctors ...
4 ... but they don't think much of teachers.
5 As I get older, I think back to my schooldays more and more.
6 I know people who are always thinking ahead to their next holiday.
7 If I won a lot of money, I'd think twice about telling my friends.
8 I thought long and hard about what shoes to wear today.

9 I really don't enjoy situations where I have to think on my feet.

Check your ideas in a dictionary or ask your teacher.

b Test each other in pairs. Take turns to give definitions and say the expressions in 1–10.

It means think carefully, for a long time.

OK ... think long and hard?

think + prepositional phrase

4 Which sentences are true for you? Discuss 1–10 in groups.

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EXPLORESpeaking

If you were organising a party, what things would you need to think about?

a venue, food, ...

- 2 Listen to Giulia and Brendan organising a party for their friend Indra.
 - What has Brendan already done or planned on
 - What things do Giulia and Brendan plan together?
- 3 a Read the conversation in the opposite column. Which highlighted expressions 1-9 can you use:
 - to describe groups of things, after giving one or two examples?
 - in informal situations, when you can't remember or don't know:
 - a the name of a person?
 - b the name of a thing?
 - **b** Now add six more expressions to the groups in 3a.

and all that and whatnot what's-her-name and stuff thingummy and so forth

Choose expressions from 3a and 3b to complete the conversation. There's more than one possible answer.

BRENDAN	Can you bring your CDs by ¹ ? The			
	Brazilian guitarist?			
GIULIA	Jobim? Sure. And I'll bring some salsa and			
	meringue ²			
BRENDAN	Oh, and Stella's bringing some Indian pop –			
	Bollywood music ³			
GIULIA	Perfect. Now what about games and activities			
	4?			
BRENDAN	I think we're too old for games!			
GIULIA	But what about a one-minute speech contest?			
	On various topics.			
BRENDAN	Could be fun. We'd need a ⁵ – erm, a video			
	camera.			
GIULIA	No, we can use our mobiles. OK, now what about			
	drinks ⁶ ?			

- a In groups, choose one of these events to plan for, or think of your own event.
 - a weekend hiking trip in the mountains
 - a summer picnic near a lake
 - a child's birthday party
 - **b** Talk together and make a list of things you'll need or want for your event, for example:

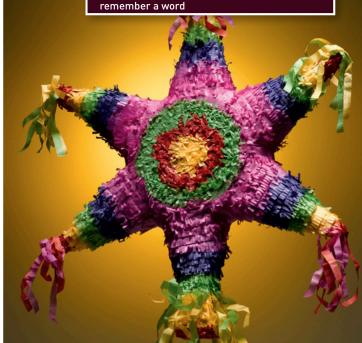
food and drink equipment office supplies decorations clothing transport entertainment

Use expressions from 3a and 3b.

6 Tell the other groups what you've planned. Goals

use vague expressions to describe categories of things

use vague expressions when you can't



GIULIA So, how much have you managed to do, Brendan?

Well, I've sent the invitations. BRENDAN

GIULIA

And the meal's all planned – the starters, meat **BRENDAN**

dishes, vegetarian dishes ¹and so on.

By vegetarian dishes, do you mean salads ²and GIULIA

things?

Yeah, salads of course, but also vegetarian soup, BRENDAN

pasta, curry ³et cetera. I want a good variety.

Sounds perfect. And have you had a chance to GIULIA

think about decorations?

No, I haven't got that far yet. BRENDAN

GIULIA Right. Well, I think we should have balloons ⁴and

that kind of thing. Oh, and flowers. Indra loves

flowers.

OK, and how about a ⁵thingy for her to wear? BRENDAN

Like, erm, a badge that says 'Top of the class' or

'Best student', you know?

Maybe, but I can't see her wearing a badge. GIULIA

She's quite modest. I think we should stick with

balloons ⁶ and what have you.

Hmm ... well, what about a Mexican ⁷whatsit? BRENDAN

You know, erm, you hang it from the ceiling and hit it and out come sweets, toys ⁸ and all sorts of

Oh, you mean a piñata. Yeah, that would be fun. GIULIA

You'd need a car to get it home, though. They're

pretty big.

No problem. I can ask ⁹what's-his-name ... er, BRENDAN

Kerry's cousin. He's got a car and doesn't live too

far from here.

First, we need to decide on

Yes, and we'd better take a whatsit, you know, to tell us which direction we're going in.

clothes, footwear et cetera.

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Look again 🗘

Review

VOCABULARY Skills

1 a Which expressions go with be? Which go with have? Make two lists.

good with numbers physically fit plenty of endurance a lot of self-discipline a good listener the ability to compromise

- **b** Add more expressions to each list. Think about physical, mental and people skills. Then look back at p9 to check your ideas.
- c Think of five people who you believe are really skilful at particular things on your lists. They can be well-known people or people you know personally.

my sister - really good listener

d Tell each other about the people you chose. Ask questions to find out more about them.

GRAMMAR Present perfect simple and progressive

2 a Read the paragraph and choose the correct options.



I have a friend, Remi, who has been playing the guitar since he was ten. He $^1{\rm has}$ released / has been releasing several CDs and he $^2{\rm has}$ organised / has been organising a number of festivals devoted to different kinds of guitar music. He $^3{\rm has}$ always had / has always been having a lot of talent and self-discipline, but in the last few years in particular I think he $^4{\rm has}$ become / has been becoming a really great guitarist. The last time I saw him was about three months ago because he $^5{\rm has}$ worked / has been working on a new CD. I can't wait to hear it.

- **b** Think of someone you know about who's very talented. Write a short paragraph about:
 - what the person has experienced and achieved
 - how they've got to their present position
 - what they've been working on recently.

Use the present perfect simple and progressive.

c Read each other's paragraphs. Ask questions to find out more.

Extension

SPELLING AND SOUNDS $/d_3/$

3 a Complete the spelling of these words with: j g dg. Then check in a dictionary.

ail	mana <u></u> er	in <u>u</u> ure
ym	igsaw	ournal
bu <u></u> et	sub <u></u> ect	lo <u></u> ically

- **b** Find words in 3a to match these spelling patterns for the beginning and middle of words.
 - 1 You usually write | before a, o and u.
 - 2 You usually write **g** before *e*, *i* and *y*.
 - 3 In some words, you write | before e and i.
 - 4 You write dg in the middle of some words.
- © 1.6 Spellcheck. Listen and write twelve words.

 Then check your spelling on R-14.

NOTICE good at, good with

4 a Look at the two patterns with good from script 1.2 on R-13.

DARYA I've always been good with numbers.

HYUN-AE I'm good at helping people get on with each other.

Which pattern do you use before:

- 1 an activity or subject?
- 2 a group of things or people?
- b Which of these expressions go after good at? Which go after good with? Make two lists.

children computers cooking my hands explaining things maths money music people sports words writing

Talk to different people in your class. Find at least one person who's good at or good with each of the things in 4b.

Self-assessment

Can you do these things in English? Circle a number on each line. 1 = I can't do this, 5 = I can do this well.

1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5
	1 1 1	1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2	1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3	1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

- For Wordcards, reference and saving your work → e-Portfolio
- For more practice → Self-study Pack, Unit 1

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odescribe events in detail

ø deal with misunderstandings

describe experiences of things going wrong

Misunderstandings

Not my day



LISTENING

- What seems to be the problem in each picture?
 What might the people be saying or thinking?
- 2 Listen to Rainer's two conversations, first with his colleague Pauline, then with his wife Liana.
 - 1 What's the problem in each conversation?
 - 2 What's the solution?
 - 3 Who are the people in the pictures?
- 3 Matternation of the second structure of the second structure of the second structure.
 - 1 Chris's text message to Pauline was badly written.
 - 2 In the office where Rainer works, most people have now got the flu.
 - 3 Pauline will be able to go to her other appointments after the Layton meeting.
 - 4 Rainer's mother phoned to say thank you for her present.
 - 5 Liana chose the wrong thing in the catalogue.
 - 6 They can't return the present because Rainer bought it for a special price.
- If you were Rainer, what would you say to Chris?
 If you were Rainer's mother, would you keep the tree?

VOCABULARY

Dealing with misunderstandings

Complete the sentences from the conversations with the words on the right.

Explaining

1	I you'd cancelled that meeting.	told
2	Chris me he'd cancelled all meetings because of the flu.	said
3	You you'd ordered that plant we talked about.	thought
4	I think he all <i>his</i> meetings.	explains
5	That's what he said. He said all meetings.	meant
6	I see. Well, that it.	not
Sol	lving	
7	What I call for a taxi? I can be there in twenty minutes.	logical
8	The thing is to return the tree to the garden centre.	if
9	The other is to take it to your office.	option

PRONUNCIATION

Contrastive stress

6 a 1.3 You can stress a word strongly when you want to contrast it with something else. Listen.

PAULINE Chris told me he'd cancelled all meetings.

RAINER I think he meant all his meetings.

PAULINE But that's not what he said. He said all meetings.

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2.1

- **b** Decide which two contrasting words would have strong stress.
 - 1 It isn't your fault. It's Chris's fault.
 - 2 The problem is, it isn't a plant. It's a tree.
 - 3 It wasn't the normal price. It was a special price.
- C 13 Listen to check. Practise saying the sentences.

SPEAKING

7 a Work in pairs.

Student A – read your situations on R-2.

Student B – read your situations on R-3.

Think about which expressions from 5 you can use in each situation.

b Imagine you are in each situation and talk to each other.

I was sure I'd ...

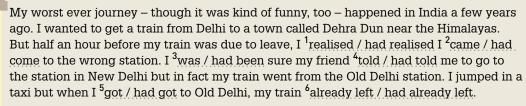
GRAMMAR

Past simple and past perfect simple

- Look at these examples. In each sentence, which verb form describes the earlier action or event?
 - 1 I assumed it had spread through your whole office.
 - 2 After Chris had texted me, I made other appointments for today.
 - 3 She said she'd received it.
 - 4 I was sure I'd circled the plant in the garden centre catalogue.
 - 5 By the time I got to the office, the catalogue had disappeared.
 - 6 I knew something had gone wrong but I couldn't imagine what.

The past perfect is often used after past simple verbs describing speech and thoughts: said told thought was sure assumed knew noticed realised ...

2 a Read Carl's story about a disastrous journey. Choose the best options.



So I bought a new ticket, waited a few hours and got on the next train. Everything was fine until I 7 noticed / had noticed one of my bags 8 disappeared / had disappeared. I 9 remembered / 'd remembered that a strange man 10 walked / had walked through the carriage some time before, so maybe he 11 took / 'd taken it. Unfortunately, there was an old camera in it with some pictures that I 12 took / 'd taken of my grandmother just before she died, and also a hat some close friends 13 gave / had given me. The other passengers were very kind and tried to help, but it was too late.

Later, we stopped at a little station in the countryside. Suddenly, a wave of water 14 came / had come through the open window and soaked me to the skin! I 15 forgot / 'd forgotten it was the Hindu festival of Holi, when people throw paints and water at each other. It's all meant to be fun, of course, but by that time I 16 lost / 'd lost my sense of humour!



Grammar reference and practice, R-8

b 1110 Listen to check.

SPEAKING

- 3 a Think about an incident from your life when things went wrong, involving for example:
 - a misunderstanding
 wrong information
 a lost or stolen item
 - something you forgot to do or say a small accident transport problems

Plan the language you'll need to describe the incident.

- **b** In pairs, describe your incidents. Ask questions to find out more.
- Get into new pairs and describe your incidents again. Include the extra details that your first partner asked about.