

## Topic 2 – Vocabulary Practice

Taken from:

Redman, S. Gairns, R. Test Your English Vocabulary in Use – pre-intermediate + intermediate. Cambridge: CUP, 2000, p. 50

### TEST

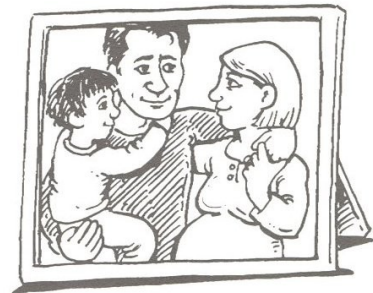
## 47 Ages and stages

### 47.1

12 marks

Complete this story of Marianne's life using a suitable verb (in the correct tense) in each gap.

Marianne was <sup>(1)</sup>..... in a hospital just five minutes from the house where her parents lived, and she <sup>(2)</sup>..... up in the same house. When she was fifteen she <sup>(3)</sup>..... Paul at a disco. He became her first real boyfriend and she <sup>(4)</sup>..... with him for over three years, but unfortunately they <sup>(5)</sup>..... when Marianne <sup>(6)</sup>..... to university. She had lots of boyfriends in her first year at university, then she <sup>(7)</sup>..... Alex. They <sup>(8)</sup>..... in love and <sup>(9)</sup>..... married the year after Marianne graduated. They both went abroad to work for a few years but returned when they decided to start a family. And by a happy coincidence, Marianne <sup>(10)</sup>..... their first baby, a boy, in the same hospital where she was <sup>(11)</sup>..... Now, five years later, she is <sup>(12)</sup>..... a second child.



### 47.2

10 marks

What word or phrase could describe the people at these different ages?

Example: 6 months old = *a baby*..

- 1 1–2 years old = a .....
- 2 2–12 years old = a .....
- 3 about 13–17 = a(n) .....
- 4 18+ = an .....
- 5 22 = in your .....
- 6 35 = in your .....
- 7 48 = in your .....

### 47.3

8 marks

Complete these dialogues with a word or phrase. Don't repeat the word in italics.

Example: A: She was lovely at *six months old*.

B: Yes, she was a lovely *baby*..

- 1 A: Were you happy *as a child*?  
B: Yes, I had a very happy .....
- 2 A: It's a terrible time *when you're 14 or 15*, don't you think?  
B: Yes, I do. I think life is very difficult during .....
- 3 A: I'm sure you had *arguments* with your parents then.  
B: Oh yes, we had hundreds of .....
- 4 A: Did your parents enjoy their *40s and 50s*?  
B: Yes, I think people are more relaxed in .....
- 5 A: Do you think you'll be bored *when you finally stop work*?  
B: No, I shall enjoy my .....
- 6 A: Life can be lonely for some *elderly* people.  
B: Yes, things are tough for some people in .....
- 7 A: My parents have been *married for 28 years*.  
B: Yes, and it has been a very happy ....., hasn't it?
- 8 A: Did you know Carol was *expecting a baby*?  
B: No, I didn't know she was .....

Your score  
/30

Taken from:  
Gough, Chris. English Vocabulary Organiser. Hove: LTP, 2001, p. 10

## 2 Stages of life

### 1 Basic vocabulary

Put these words into the following sentences:

childhood adolescence birth puberty

1. Was he present at the . . . . . of his son?
2. I think I had a very happy . . . . .
3. Girls usually reach . . . . . about a year before most boys.
4. . . . . can be the best or the worst years of your life.

Now use these words, which relate to the later years of life:

old age retirement marriage middle age

5. My first . . . . . unfortunately only lasted a couple of years.
6. Now that I'm over 40, I can feel . . . . . approaching.
7. I want to stop work when I'm 60 and have a long and happy . . . . .
8. In his . . . . . my father wrote a book about his wartime experiences.

### 2 In my childhood

Use these words in the patterns below:

growing up	at school	teens	kid
at university	child	twenties	single
childhood	teenager	student	young

- a. in my . . . . .
- b. when I was a . . . . .
- c. when I was . . . . .

Now use the correct form of these verbs:

have spend bring up grow up

1. I . . . . . my childhood in the country. I loved walking home from school across the fields.
2. I was . . . . . in the country so it took a long time to get used to living in London.
3. I . . . . . in the country so when I moved to London it was quite a shock.
4. I . . . . . a very strict upbringing. I had to study for two hours after school and had to be in bed by 9.

### 3 When I get old

Match the beginnings of these sentences with the endings below:

1. I don't want to go to university
2. I'm going to spend more time with my grandchildren
3. Will you still love me
4. We won't be able to go out as much
5. At least we'll have some peace and quiet

- a. when the kids grow up and leave home.
- b. when I'm old and grey?
- c. when I leave school.
- d. when I retire.
- e. when we have children.

### 4 Important events in people's lives

Match the verbs with the words on the right:

- |           |                                 |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| 1. leave  | a. your wife / your father      |
| 2. get    | b. schools / jobs / your career |
| 3. change | c. a baby / children            |
| 4. have   | d. engaged / married / divorced |
| 5. move   | e. school / home                |
| 6. lose   | f. house                        |

Now use some of the expressions in the sentences below. You might need to change the form of the verb or the pronoun.

7. I'm not sure what I'll do when I . . . . . It depends on my exam results.
8. I wasn't surprised when I heard that they'd decided to . . . . . I never really understood why they got married.
9. When we move to Bristol the children will have to . . . . . I'm worried that it might affect their studies.
10. Bill's never really recovered from . . . . . in a car accident two years ago. They'd been married for twenty years.
11. I want to find my own flat but my parents think I'm too young to . . . . .
12. The place we're in now has only got two bedrooms. We'll have to think about . . . . . soon.