

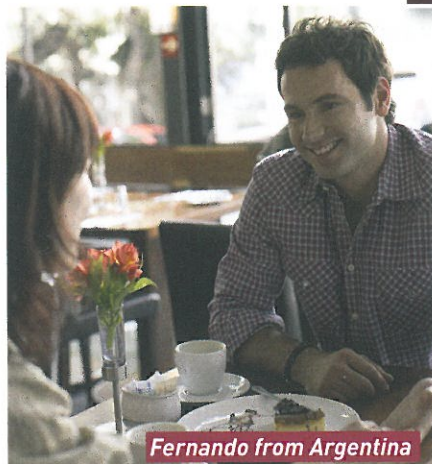
Turning points

8.2 goals

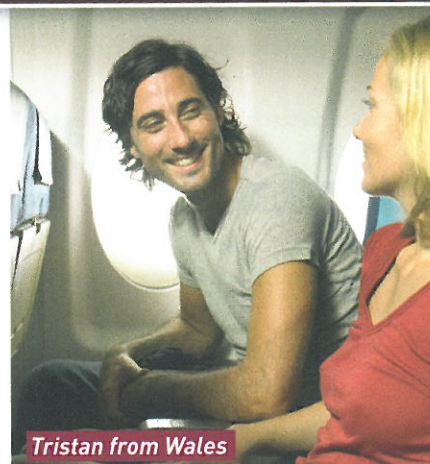
- say how you feel about past events in your life
- speculate about consequences of past actions



Jeanette from the USA



Fernando from Argentina



Tristan from Wales

LISTENING

- 1 Do you know anyone who's done any of these things in the past year? How did it make them feel? Talk together.

got engaged or married had a baby emigrated started university
bought a home moved home started a new career changed jobs

- 2 Look at the pictures and listen to Jeanette, Fernando and Tristan. What important moment in each person's life do the pictures represent?

- 3 Listen again. Answer the questions for each person.

- What happened before the moment in the picture?
- What happened afterwards?
- How do they feel now about what happened?

- 4 Do you know anyone who's had a similar important moment in their life?

VOCABULARY

Reflecting on
the past

- 5 a Look at the sentences. Which three are from the recording? Who said them?

| | | |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | I regret telling that lie. | + noun or <i>-ing</i> form |
| 2 | I don't regret a thing. | |
| 3 | I'm sorry I didn't say yes. | + past simple |
| 4 | I'm not sorry I changed jobs. | |
| 5 | I'm glad things turned out the way they did. | |
| 6 | It's a good thing I didn't send that email. | |
| 7 | I wish I'd thought about it more carefully. | + past perfect |
| 8 | If only I'd asked for some advice. | |

- b Which **highlighted** expressions can you use for:

- a positive feelings? b negative feelings?
- a things that really happened? b imaginary situations?

- 6 Think of three or four things you did recently, for example:

buying something meeting someone saying something
going to an event giving advice throwing something away

Write a sentence saying how you feel now about each thing. Use expressions from 5a.

SPEAKING

- 7 Talk in groups. Tell each other about the things you did recently and how you feel about them now. Ask questions to find out more.

I bought a new car last month. I'm completely broke now but I don't regret it at all!

Oh, right. What kind of car is it?

Speculation

GRAMMAR

Conditionals –
past and present

1 Look at sentences a–d in the table and answer the questions.

- In each sentence, are the speakers describing things that really happened, or are they imagining them?
- Look at the two parts of each sentence. Which parts are about the past? Which are about the present?
- Complete the forms with these terms: *infinitive*, *-ing form* or *past participle*.

| | |
|--|---|
| <i>if + had + _____,</i> a If I'd married Juli, b If I hadn't seen the head teacher, | <i>modal verb + have + _____</i> we could've had kids. I wouldn't have gone to China. |
| c If I hadn't seen the head teacher, | <i>modal verb + _____</i> my life would be completely different. |
| d If my company hadn't decided to move, | <i>modal verb + be + _____</i> I'd probably still be doing the same job. |

2 a Work alone. Use your own ideas to complete the sentences about the people.

Jeanette

- If she hadn't looked in that newspaper, ...
- She might not have gone to college if ...

Fernando

- He'd probably have asked Juli to marry him if ...
- If he'd asked her to marry him, ...

Tristan

- If he'd been away from school that day, ...
- He probably wouldn't be married if ...

b Compare your ideas.

Grammar reference
and practice, p137

PRONUNCIATION

Prominent
words 1

3 a 2.23 Listen to the groups of words in these sentences. Notice how in each group, the speaker chooses one word to have extra-strong stress. This word is PROMINENT.

- // If I'd married JULi // we could've had KIDS //
- // If I hadn't seen the head TEACHER // I wouldn't have gone to CHIna //
- // If I hadn't seen the head TEACHER // my life would be completely DIFFerent //
- // If my company hadn't decided to MOVE // I'd probably still be doing the same JOB //

The prominent word is often the last important word in a group of words.

b Practise saying the sentences.

4 a Choose a turning point in your life you'd like to talk about. It could involve, for example:

someone important in your life a job or career decision moving to a different place
 buying or selling something an idea you had advice someone gave you

b Think about these questions. Think of some conditional sentences you could use.

- When did it happen? What were you doing at the time?
- Was it your choice or did it just happen?
- What happened afterwards? How has it affected your life now?
- What if something different had happened?
- How do you feel about it now?

c Talk about your turning points in groups. Have any of you had similar experiences?

SPEAKING

