



# CHOICES

## Discussion

### Basic questions

1 How much time do you spend choosing clothes before going out?

*\*I usually spend...hour/s in choosing clothes before going out.*

2 In what situation do you usually have to make choices?

*\*I usually have to make choices in looking for....(clothes,foods,etc)*

3 Have you ever made a wrong choice? If you could do it again, would you choose a different option?

*\*Yes, I have...If I could do it again, I'd.... / No, I haven't made a wrong choice.*

### Extended questions

1 Do you seek advice from others when making choices?

*\*Yes, I seek advice from others when making choices. / No, I don't seek advice from others when making choices.*

2 Why do people have to make choices?

*\*People have to make choices because...*

3 Have you ever been in a dilemma? How did you solve it?

*\*Yes, I've been in a dilemma. / No, I haven't been in a dilemma.*

4 What will you choose: a high-paying job with very long hours that would give you little time with family and friends, or a lower-paying job with shorter hours that would give you more time with family and friends?

*\*I'll choose... because....*

## Vocabulary

- 1 **Decision (/di'siʒn/)**  
(noun) A conclusion or resolution reached after consideration  
*Ex. I'll make the decision on my own.*
- 2 **Consider (/kən'sidə/)**  
(verb) Think carefully about (something), before making a decision  
*Ex. He had considered giving up his job.*
- 3 **Alternative (/ɔ:l'tə:nətiv/)**  
(Adj) (Of one or more things) available as another possibility or choice  
*Ex. They are seeking an alternative venue for the concert.*  
(noun) One of two or more available possibilities.  
*Ex. I'm afraid I have no alternative but to ask you to leave.*
- 4 **Option (/ˈɒpʃn/)**  
(noun) one thing that can be chosen from a set of possibilities, or the freedom to make a choice  
*Ex. The best option would be to cancel the trip.*
- 5 **Dilemma (/di'lemə/)**  
(noun) a situation in which a difficult choice has to be made between two different things you could do.  
*Ex. She faces the dilemma of disobeying her father or losing the man she loves.*

## Useful Expressions

- 1 **To change one's mind - Alter one's views or intentions**  
*Ex. After the interview, I completely changed my mind about her abilities.*
- 2 **Plan B - is an alternative solution to be adopted if one's original plan does not succeed.**  
*Ex. The idea is to get a caterer to provide the food. If that's too expensive, plan B is to organize a buffet with the help of friends.*
- 5 **To have no choice but + to (verb)**  
*Ex. We have no choice but to stay at home and finish this assignment today.*

## Idioms

**1 in a quandary** - If you are in a quandary about something, you find it difficult to decide what to do.

*Ex. The job they offer is less interesting but the salary is better. I'm in a quandary about what to do.*

**2 in two minds** - If you are in two minds about something, you have difficulty deciding what to do.

*Ex. I'm in two minds about whether or not to accept the offer.*

**3 keep your options open** - When you keep your options open, you postpone making a decision so that you can choose among several possible courses of action.

*Ex. The offer sounds good, but keep your options open until you're sure it's the best choice.*

**4 toss-up** - When there are two options or possibilities to choose from, and both are equally good, the choice between the two is called a toss-up (like tossing a coin).

*Ex. Both boxers are in excellent condition. It's a toss-up which of them will win.*