

Individuality

1.1 How do people use these things to express their individuality?

- clothes — bedroom — car
— internet — music — hairstyle

1.2 ▶ 06 Listen to someone talking about individuality and tick the things in 1.1 that he mentions.

1.3 ▶ 06 Now listen again and notice these phrasal verbs. Which two have a similar meaning?

blend in with stand out from fit in with

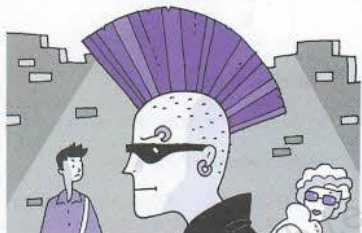
1.4 Check the meanings of the phrasal verbs in the box. Replace the underlined phrases in the sentences below with a phrasal verb from the box. There may be more than one possible answer.

fit in (with) stand out (from) break away (from)
opt out (of) blend in (with) drop out (of) join in

- I feel uncomfortable if I'm forced to participate in group activities.
- I don't like to be noticeable in the crowd. I'd rather look the same as everyone else.
- My friends started going out late to nightclubs so I decided to dissociate myself from the group.
- When people feel isolated and rejected, they sometimes abandon society altogether.
- New migrants may feel that by changing to assimilate into their new community, they are losing some part of their individuality.

2.1 Read the passage on the opposite page and complete these sentences with the correct ending (A–F).

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1 In the past, tattoos were judged to be | A stereotypical. |
| 2 Tattoos are now | B a more tolerant attitude. |
| 3 Famous people help to establish | C harmful to society. |
| 4 Throughout the United States, local governments have developed | D behaviour patterns. |
| 5 Society's previous attitude towards people with tattoos could be described as | E self-destructive. |
| | F approved of by society. |



Vocabulary note

The words *individuality* and *behaviour* are almost always used in the singular, not the plural:

Everyone should try to maintain their *individualities individuality*.

Parents are responsible for their children's *behaviours behaviour*.

Originality is used to refer to a piece of work that is not copied from others, e.g. I don't like his style, but you have to *admire the originality* of his work.

The cultural status of tattooing has steadily evolved from that of an anti-social activity in the 1960s to that of a socially acceptable fashion statement today. First adopted and flaunted by influential rock stars like the Rolling Stones in the early 1970s, tattooing had, by the late 1980s, become accepted by ever-broader segments of mainstream society. Today, tattoos are routinely seen on rock musicians, sports stars and other public figures who play a significant role in setting the culture's behaviour patterns.

The market demographics for tattoo services are now skewed heavily toward mainstream customers. Tattooing today is the sixth fastest-growing retail business in the United States. The single fastest-

growing demographic group seeking tattoo services is, to the surprise of many, middle-class suburban women. The state and local governments of New Jersey, like those of other regions across the United States, are being forced to alter their attitude and laws in response to the changing cultural status and popularity of tattooing and have now adopted a more open-minded approach to tattoos.

According to one recent journal, tattoos were most common among motorcyclists, criminals and gang members. However, these stereotypical associations have changed over the past 20 years and it is estimated that almost half of the tattoos now being done are on women.

2.2 PARAPHRASE Now find words and phrases in the passage with a similar meaning to the words in *italics* in A–F in 2.1.

2.3 Use a dictionary to check the meaning of the following words from the passage. Then use them to complete the sentences below.

flaunt suburban influential segment skewed status

- Celebrities are extremely _____ in setting fashion trends.
- The chart shows that people over 65 form the fastest-growing population _____.
- Many rich people _____ their wealth through their expensive cars and grand houses.
- These figures are _____ because not all of our customers have paid their bill yet.
- Not everyone dreams of a quiet, _____ life. Many find it dull and boring.
- I soon realised my _____ when I was asked to use the tradesman's entrance.

Community

3.1 07 Look at the following list of opinions about groups and society and make sure you understand all of the vocabulary used. Listen to a talk and tick the opinions you hear expressed.

- ___ When people *conform*, it helps make society more *peaceful*.
- ___ Some people *obey social customs* without question.
- ___ *Conventional* people help keep our *traditions* alive.
- ___ Some multicultural societies focus more on developing *traditional ways* than others.
- ___ As time passes, our idea of *what is normal* changes.
- ___ Some people try to be *different from the group*.
- ___ Some people create an *alternative social group* and *rebel against the traditional way of life*.
- ___ In the 1970s, it was *usual* for hippies to wear second-hand clothes.

3.2 **07** **PARAPHRASE** Now listen again and note the words and phrases with a similar meaning to the words in *italics* in 3.1. You may need to listen several times and/or read recording script 07 at the back of the book.

4 **COLLOCATION** The words in the box collocate with either *social* or *group*. Use the words to complete the sentences.

behaviour decline interaction
member minority pressure

- Many people fear that relaxing our laws on alcohol consumption will lead to social _____.
- Each new group _____ is expected to undergo a special induction programme.
- In developed countries, smoking is now seen as anti-social _____.
- Social _____ is very important for new migrants if they are to feel part of their new community.
- _____ groups tend to have a lot less power in the community than more dominant groups.
- People often give in to peer group _____ to conform, simply to make life easier.

5.1 **PRONUNCIATION** *s+h* are not the only letters that make the sound /ʃ/. Look at the following pairs of words and decide if the underlined sounds are /ʃ/ or /s/.

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 censored censored | 4 partial p <u>ar</u> gel | 7 furnish furn <u>ac</u> e | 10 sealed <u>sh</u> ield |
| 2 coarsen ca <u>u</u> tion | 5 seek <u>ch</u> ic | 8 subtle <u>sh</u> uttle | 11 rust r <u>u</u> shed |
| 3 censure sens <u>or</u> | 6 <u>ch</u> auffeur sofa | 9 crust cr <u>u</u> shed | 12 sip <u>sh</u> ip |

5.2 **08** Listen and circle the word in each pair in 5.1 that you hear. When you have finished, if possible, ask a friend to listen as you read the words and get them to point to the word you are saying.

5.3 Look at the following questions and the opening phrases below. Try to answer the questions, beginning with one of the opening phrases.

- What type of activity do you prefer to do alone and with a group?
- How important do you think it is to be an active part of the community?
- Why do you think that some people find it difficult to join in certain activities?
- What can we do to help new people feel part of a group?
- Some people think the government should help people feel part of the community. Do you agree?

Hmm, that's a difficult/interesting question because ...

Well, not really, because I feel ...

Oh, I think it's essential. I mean ...

Well, it really depends on the individual. I think some people, especially ...

Well, yes, to a certain extent, but I think ...

V Vocabulary note

The following are collocations with the word *community*: a vibrant community, a close-knit community, the farming community, the rural community, the ethnic community. Use your dictionary to help make a list of some more.

