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Challenges and accomplishments

1 SNAPSHOT

Three Women Who Made a Difference



"The Saint of the Gutters"

Born: Agnes Gonxhe Bojaxhiu in 1910

Died: Mother Teresa in 1997

Major contributions: set up projects around the world to give care and comfort to the very poor and sick, and to children without parents



"Our Fair Lady"

Born: Edda van Heemstra Hepburn-Ruston in 1929

Died: Audrey Hepburn in 1993

Major contributions: worked as goodwill ambassador for UNICEF, calling attention to starving children and raising money to help them



"The People's Princess"

Born: Lady Diana Spencer in 1961

Died: Diana, Princess of Wales, in 1997

Major contributions: used her fame to focus attention on worldwide problems such as AIDS, drug addiction, and land mines

Source: People magazine

Talk about these questions.

What special qualities do you think these women had that allowed them to make such far-reaching contributions?

Who are three other people whose lives made a difference? What did they do?

2 CONVERSATION

A Listen and practice.

Kurt: So, how long have you been in the Peace Corps?

Brenda: For about a year now.

Kurt: Do you enjoy it?

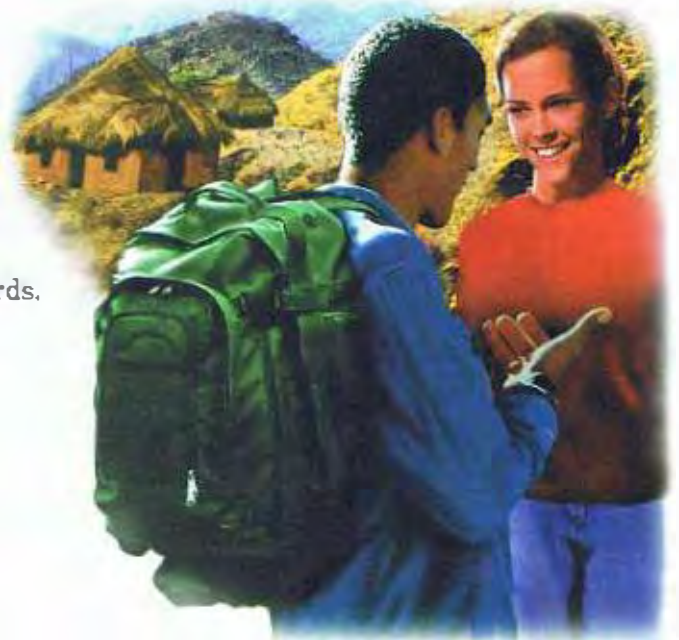
Brenda: Most of the time. The work can be extremely difficult, but it has its rewards.

Kurt: What's the most challenging thing about being in the Peace Corps?

Brenda: For me, it's finding a way to fit into a community that's very different from my own. It can be frustrating!

Kurt: And what's the most rewarding thing?

Brenda: That's easy. The most rewarding thing about being in the Peace Corps is learning about another culture.



CLASS AUDIO ONLY

B Listen to the rest of the conversation.

What else does Brenda find challenging about her work? What else is rewarding?

3 GRAMMAR FOCUS

Complex noun phrases with gerunds

Notice how the complex noun phrases in these sentences function as subjects.

The most challenging thing about being in the Peace Corps is finding a way to fit into the community.
 The most rewarding thing about being in the Peace Corps is learning about another culture.

A Match the questions and responses.

Questions

1. What's one of the rewards of being a teacher?
2. What's one of the most difficult things about being a paramedic?
3. What's one of the best things about being a police officer?
4. What's one of the most interesting aspects of working abroad?
5. What's one of the most difficult aspects of doing volunteer work?

Responses

- a. Dealing with life-or-death emergency situations every day.
- b. Finding enough time to do it on a regular basis.
- c. Learning how people in other cultures live and think.
- d. Getting to know people from all parts of society.
- e. Helping people learn things that they couldn't learn on their own.

B Group work Write another response to each question in part A. Then take turns asking and answering the questions in groups.

- A: What's one of the rewards of being a teacher?
 B: One of the rewards of being a teacher is helping people learn things that they couldn't learn on their own.
 C: I agree. Another reward of being a teacher is helping people improve their lives.

4 WORD POWER *Antonyms*

A Find six pairs of opposites in this list. Complete the chart. Then compare with a partner.

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|---------|
| anxiety | joy | relaxation | sadness |
| criticism | praise | relief | stress |
| failure | punishment | reward | success |

<i>anxiety</i>	■ <i>relief</i> ■
.....	■ ■
.....	■ ■

B Pair work Think of three kinds of volunteer work in your community. What positive and negative words come to mind when you think of each kind of work? Choose nouns from the list above or use your own words.

interchange 16

Viewpoints

Take a survey about volunteering. Turn to page IC-21.

5 LISTENING Challenges and rewards



Listen to these people talking about their work. What is the biggest challenge of each person's job? the greatest reward?

	Biggest challenge	Greatest reward
1. psychologist
2. camp counselor
3. firefighter

6 SPECIAL CHALLENGES

Group work What are the special challenges and rewards of working in these situations? Would you ever consider working in one of these areas?

- working with animals
- teaching gifted children
- volunteering in a home for the elderly
- working for a nonprofit charity

- A:** I suppose the most challenging thing about working with animals is
- B:** But one of the rewards of working with animals must be



7 CONVERSATION

A Listen and practice.

Grandfather: Happy birthday, Alison. So how does it feel to be 21?

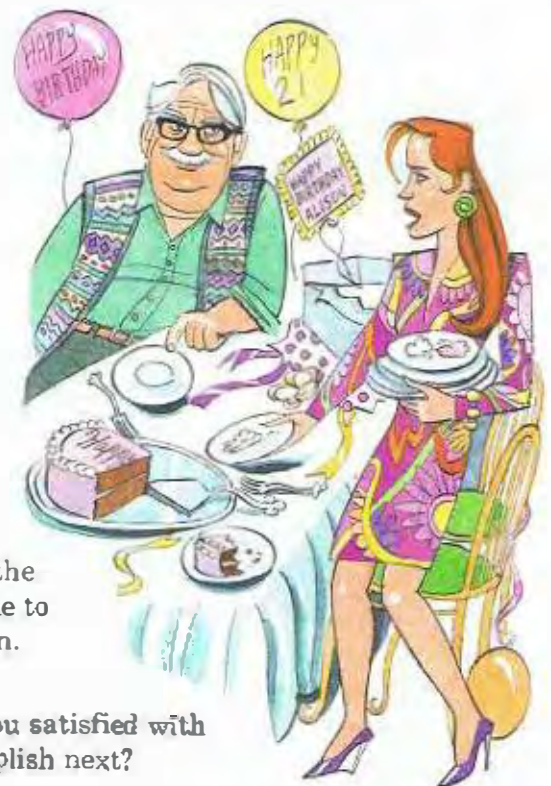
Alison: Kind of strange. I suddenly feel a little anxious, like I'm not moving ahead fast enough.

Grandfather: But don't you think you've accomplished quite a bit in the last few years?

Alison: Oh, I've managed to get good grades in all my courses, but I still haven't been able to decide on a career.

Grandfather: Well, what do you hope you'll have achieved by the time you're 30?

Alison: For one thing, I hope I'll have seen more of the world. But more important than that, I'd like to have made a good start on my career by then.



B Class activity How similar are you to Alison? Are you satisfied with your accomplishments so far? What do you want to accomplish next?

8 GRAMMAR FOCUS

Accomplishments

In the past with the present perfect or simple past

I've managed to get good grades in all my courses.

(I managed to . . .)

I've been able to accomplish a lot in college.

(I was able to . . .)

*In the future with the future perfect or
"would like to have" + past participle*

What do you hope you'll have achieved?

I hope I'll have seen more of the world.

I'd like to have made a good start on my career.

A What are some of your accomplishments from the last five years? What do you hope to have accomplished in the next five years? Check (✓) the statements that are true for you. Then think of four more statements about yourself.

- 1. I've learned some important life skills.
- 2. I've met the person who's right for me.
- 3. I was able to complete a milestone in my education.
- 4. I've made an important career move.
- 5. I'd like to have finished school.
- 6. I hope I'll have moved abroad.
- 7. I'd like to have bought my own home.
- 8. I expect to have paid off all my debts.

B Group work How many accomplishments do you have in common with other members of your group? How many goals?



9 PRONUNCIATION Consonant blends


A  Listen and practice. Notice how the final *t* is blended in these expressions.

the last few years

the next five years

the best thing

the most difficult thing

B  Listen to these sentences and practice them. Pay attention to the blending of the final *t*.

The best thing that happened to me in the last few years was meeting my partner.

The most difficult thing for me in the next five years will be deciding where to live.

C Pair work Complete these sentences with information about yourself. Then practice reading your statements with a partner.

The best thing that happened to me in the last few years was . . .

The most difficult thing for me in the next few years will be . . .

10 LISTENING

CLASS AUDIO ONLY

A Listen to three young people discussing their plans for the future. What do they hope to have achieved by the time they are 30?



1. Justin	2. Sophia	3. Rachel

B Pair work Who do you think has the most realistic expectations?

11 WRITING

A Write a composition about yourself. In the first paragraph, describe something you've accomplished recently. In the second paragraph, describe something you hope you will have accomplished within five years.



One thing I've managed to do in the last few years is to buy my own car. I used to have to borrow my brother's car. . . . Finally, I decided to . . .

Within five years, I hope I'll have gotten a big promotion at work. I've been working at the same company for over two years now, and the boss likes my work. I plan to . . .

B Group work Exchange your compositions and compare. Do you and your classmates have any similar accomplishments? Do you think your classmates' expectations for the future are realistic?

12 READING

ADAM EZRA COHEN

Westinghouse Winner

Read the first paragraph. What do you think Adam is like?
What do you think his plans for the future might be?

Each year, the top high-school science students in the United States enter the Westinghouse Science Talent Search. This contest is the most prestigious of its kind, and it offers a \$40,000 college scholarship as its top prize. Last year, with 1,652 students entering, the top prize was won by Adam Ezra Cohen, a 17-year-old senior from New York City. Adam won for his invention of an electrochemical paintbrush. This “paintbrush” is an electronic circuit that prints tiny patterns on silicon surfaces – patterns so tiny that 50 words would fit within the width of a human hair. If further developed, the invention could be used to make powerful microchips for computers.

Impressive as this invention sounds, it’s only one among many for Adam. He already has 152 to his credit, including a computer cursor that users can move with their eyes.

Some people may have the idea that being a serious science student means being a serious person with no interests other than science. If so, they haven’t met Adam. He’s an outgoing young man who, on

winning the prize, jumped in the air and hugged a judge. And he’s got a multitude of other interests, including hiking, ice skating, soccer, reading, and last but not least, collecting wild mushrooms. “He’s a delight,” his father says. “The only thing we have to watch is what he puts in our refrigerator – bottles filled with blue stuff and dried-up rats.”

Yet science is obviously very important to Adam, and someday he may be important to it. He’s using his scholarship to study physics at Harvard and speaks of plans of continuing on to a career as an inventor and researcher. Five Westinghouse winners have gone on to win Nobel prizes. Perhaps one day Adam will, too.



A Read the article. Then correct the paragraph below. Some sentences have more than one mistake, and some can be corrected in more than one way.

(1) Ezra Adam Cohen is a 17-year-old who recently won the Nobel prize. (2) He also plays soccer and collects baseball cards. (3) He used the \$40,000 scholarship to study biochemistry at New York University. (4) The invention for which he won was impressive: a computer cursor that users can move with their toes. (5) But that’s nothing. He’s already come up with 1,652 other inventions. (6) When he left home for college, his family missed those live rats he was always putting in the refrigerator!

B Group work Talk about these questions.

1. What personal characteristics and other factors make it possible for someone as young as Adam to achieve so much?
2. Had you heard of the stereotype of “serious science students” discussed in the article? Why do you think people have such fixed ideas?