MACMILLAN EDUCATION ENGLISH WEDNESDAYS

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MACMILLAN EDUCATION TEACHER TRAINING DAYS

Feeding two birds with one scone: exam skills in real life Ethan Mansur



Think of some of the important exams you have taken during your life. What ways did have a positive influence on you as a learner?

Life skills

"Life skills are the skills we need to deal effectively with the challenges in everyday life, whether at school, at work or in our personal lives."

Macmillan Life Skills handbook



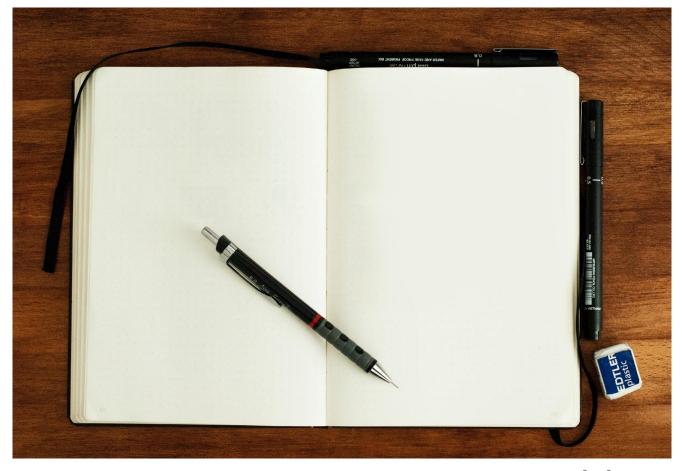
Life skills

- Organization
- Managing time and goals
- Social skills
- Writing skills
- Stress management



Organization

Notebooks



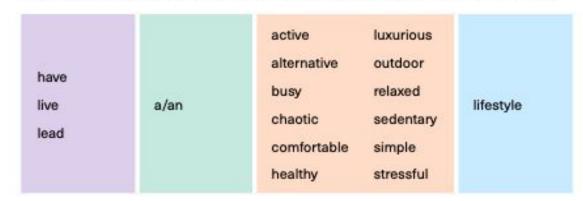
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Notebooks

Vocabulary Lifestyle

1 Look at the verbs and adjectives that can all be used with the noun *lifestyle* to form collocations. Collocations are pairs or groups of words that are often used together.



Underline those adjectives which could be used to describe your lifestyle.

2 SPEAK Work in pairs. Compare your adjectives with your partner, explaining your choices.

I have quite a healthy lifestyle at the moment. I'm eating sensibly and doing a lot of exercise.

- 3 SPEAK Discuss the following questions. As in other parts of this book, common collocations are shown in bold.
 - Would you like to change your lifestyle? Why/Why not?
 - Do you lead an active social life? What kinds of things do you do?
 - What do you think is meant by the American way of life? How would you describe the way of life in your country to a foreigner?
 - What are some of the positive and negative aspects of our modern way of life? In what ways, if any, was the traditional way of life in your country better?
 - Why are people so interested in the private lives of celebrities? Do they interest you?

Ready for B2 First, Student's Book (2021)

Tips

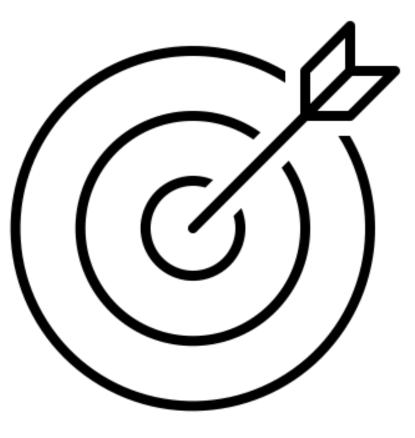
- New / useful language
- Collocations, lexical phrases, phrasal verbs, etc.

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- By theme / part of exam
- Example sentences
- Pronunciation

Managing time and goals

Short-term goals



Tutorials



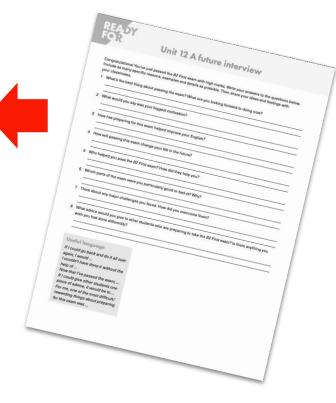
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A future interview



A future interview

- Who helped you pass the B2 First? How did they help you?
- Think about any major challenges you faced. How did you overcome them?
- What advice would you give other students who are preparing to take the B2 First exam? Is there anything you would have done differently?
- Etc.



Ready for B2 First, Teacher's Book (2021)

Invite a guest



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Social skills

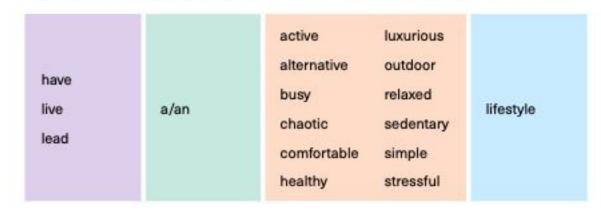
Pair work



Pair work

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Speaking assessment

- Grammar and Vocabulary
- Discourse management
- Pronunciation
- Interactive communication

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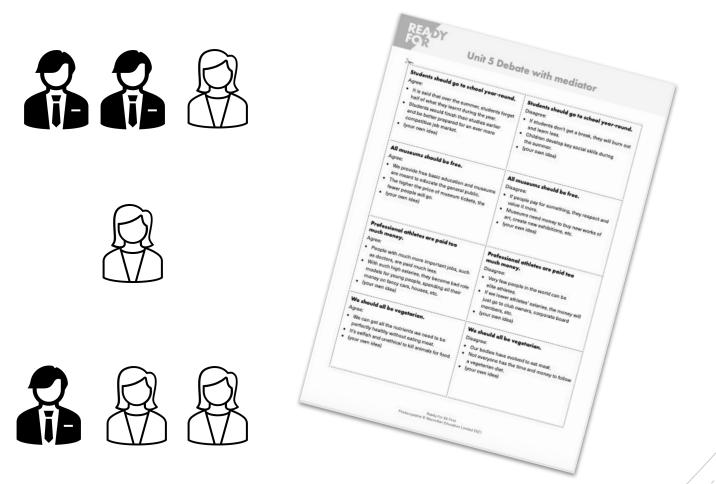
Speaking assessment

"Initiates and responds appropriately, linking contributions to those of other speakers."

"Maintains and develops the interaction and negotiates towards an outcome."



Debate with mediator



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Writing skills

Genres

Professional

• Report, formal / informal email

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Academic

Essay

Writing assessment

- Content
- Communicative achievement
- Organization
- Language

Writing strategies

Writing Part 2 Informal letter

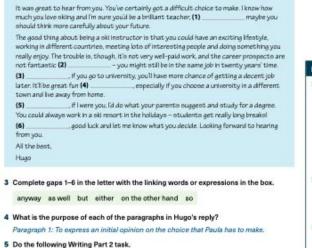
 SPEAK Read the following Writing Part 2 instructions. What advice would you give Paula and why? You have received a letter from your English-speaking friend, Paula.

As you know, this is my last year at school, and I can't make up my mind what to do when I leave. My parents want me to go to university, but I'd really like to work as a skil instructor. What do you think I should do? Thanke, Paula

Write your letter in 140-190 words.

2 SPEAK Read Hugo's reply below to Paula's letter, ignoring the gaps. Do you agree with Hugo's advice? Why/Why not?

Dear Paula



You have received a letter from your English-speaking friend, Tom.

I'm not sure what to do during the summer holdays next year. My parents want me to help out in the shop they own, but i'd quite like to work in a hotel in your country – there are plenty of jobs available. What do you think I should do?

Write soon, Tom

HI

For more information on writing informal letters, see page 193.



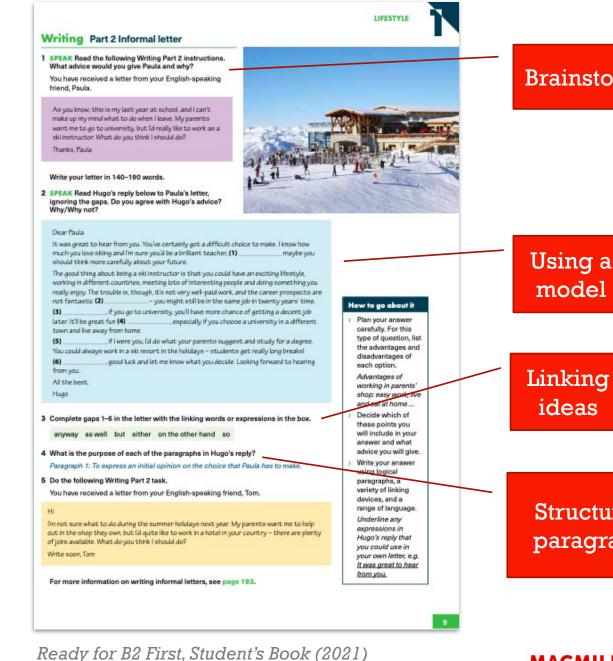
LIFESTYLE



How to go about it

Plan your answer carefully. For this type of question, list the advantages and disadvantages of each option. Advantages of working in parents shop: easy work; live and eat at home Decide which of these points you will include in your answer and what advice you will give. Write your answer using logical paragraphs, a variety of linking devices, and a range of language Underline any expressions in Hugo's reply that you could use in your own letter, e.g. It was great to hear from you.

Writing strategies



Brainstorming

Structuring
paragraphs

Stress management

Know your exam

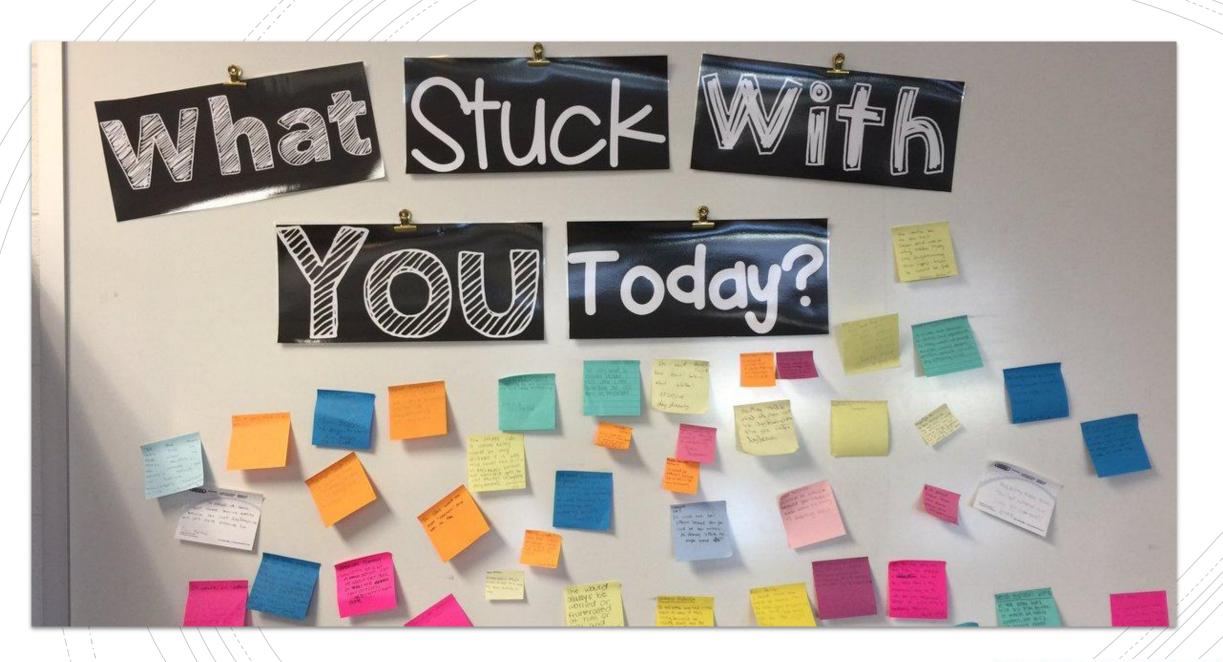


Simulating exam conditions

- Mock exams
- Official exam timing / marksheets
- Role-play speaking exam

Problems and solutions







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