

Overview

Watch the video podcast. What do you have in common with the speakers?

1 Watch the video podcast from 0:11-0:19. Why does Hina feel good about life at the moment? Watch the podcast two or three times if necessary.

2 Look at the people below and read the things they say. Then watch the podcast from 0:19-3:17 and match the people to sentences 1-6.



- 1 My life has changed quite a bit in the last two years. D
- 2 I enjoy living in the UK, and I've been over here for about nine years – so I do enjoy my life.
- 3 And then personal life...got married, I had my first child, bought my first property.
- 4 I've got two lovely children, a great husband and I just finished paying for my house.
- 5 Ten years ago I was a student and so I used to get up late, and I used to have lots of time. And now I have to go to work.
- 6 I'd like to go on more holidays.

Glossary: *property* = house/flat

3 How do they feel about their lives at the moment? Watch the video podcast from 0:19-1:19. Is anybody not happy with their life?

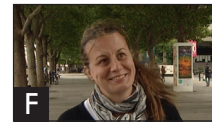
4 Look at the people below and read their answers. Then watch the podcast again from 0:19-1:19 and underline the words in italics that you hear.



- 1 I have a *fabulous* / *fantastic* partner, four beautiful children, a great job – and I live in London.
- 2 I have a job that I really enjoy and I've just *bought* / *moved* into a flat.
- 3 I *have* / *am* just about to go on holiday so I am, yeah, looking forward to that.
- 4 I'm happy with *where* / *who* I am, yeah. I've just graduated for two weeks.
- 5 My *husband* / *life* is great.
- 6 Started a *new job* / *family* as well. I bought a house. Things like that, you know.

Glossary: *fabulous* = very good/great; *about to (go)* = am (going) soon; *as well* = also

5 Look at the people below and read the sentences about them. Then watch the video podcast from 1:20-3:18 and tick (✓) the correct sentence for each person, a or b.



- | | |
|--|--|
| 1a) She'd like to travel a lot more. | 4a) She's recently stopped work. |
| 1b) <i>She'd like to travel a bit more.</i> ✓ | 4b) She's recently started work again. |
| 2a) She really wants to get into graphic design. | 5a) She's moved to a different part of London. |
| 2b) She wants to change her job. | 5b) She's moved to London. |
| 3a) He'd like more children. | 6a) She sees her friends more now. |
| 3b) His wife's recently had a baby. | 6b) She doesn't see her friends so much now. |

6 How have their lives changed in the last few years? Watch the video podcast from 1:50-3:18 and match five people from Ex 5 to the questions below.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Who's moved to the United Kingdom? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A |
| 2 Who had a five-year break from work? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 Who does a lot of family things? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 Who has a daughter now? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 Who's living in a new area? | <input type="checkbox"/> |

The way we speak

7 Look at the people below and read what they say about their lives. Then watch the video podcast from 0:19-3:18 and complete phrases 1-6 with words a-f in the box.

a) circle b) full-time c) get d) on e) career f) afford



I'm enjoying my life at the moment because I have a good ¹circle of friends.



I'd like to ²be able to _____ to join a gym so that I could ³ _____ fitter.



Specifically in that I had a five-year break from work, ⁴put my career _____ hold and returned back to ⁵ _____ employment.



Yeah, I've changed in every possible way really. ⁶ _____-wise, I made a big decision of changing my career, coming to HSBC.

Vocabulary

8 Match definitions a-f to phrases 1-6 in Ex 7.

- a) group of friends
- b) stopped working
- c) talking about my career
- d) get healthier and stronger
- e) work for eight hours a day, five days a week
- f) have enough money

Personalisation

9 How do you feel about your life? Write sentences using the prompts below.

- 1 At the moment, my life is _____.
- 2 I'd like to _____.
- 3 In the last few years, _____.

FUN FACTS

If you want to be happy, go and live in the Pacific. Vanuatu is the happiest place on earth, according to a survey. To find out more, go to the BBC link here.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/magazine/5172254.stm>

BBC