

SPEAKING

# Let's talk about life lessons!

**LEVEL**

Upper-Intermediate  
(B2)

**NUMBER**

EN\_B2\_1044S

**LANGUAGE**

English



## Learning outcomes

- I can have a longer discussion on the lessons we learn in life.
- I can talk about my own mistakes in life and the lessons I learnt from them.



# Warm-up

What makes for a happy life? **Share** your ideas with a partner.

love

family

career

wealth





## Discuss

**How have your goals in life changed from when you were younger?**

**Why do you think they changed?**







# What's your view?

**Is there a difference  
between being happy  
and being content?**



**Which is more  
important in the long  
term?**





# Talking about life lessons

1. **Write down** your own answers to the questions.
2. **Interview** a partner in breakout rooms or together as a class.
3. For breakout rooms: share **one** interesting fact about your partner with the class.

1



What's a big **mistake** you've made in the last 5 years that **changed your life**?

2



How do you think your **life** would be **different** if you hadn't made it?

3



What did you **learn** from that mistake?



Changing careers really  
**threw a spanner in the  
works** for me!

This idiom means **to do something** that  
**prevents a plan** or **activity** from  
**succeeding**.

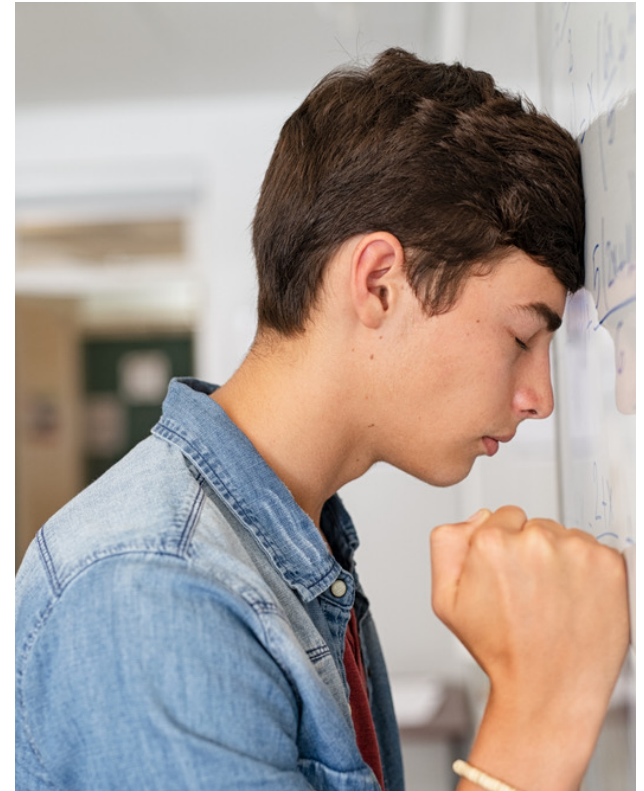
In North America, they say ***threw a  
wrench in the works***.



**How about you?**

**Do you find it  
easy to accept  
failure?**

**Is it a good thing to be able to  
do this? Try to give examples  
from your life!**







## Talking about regrets

**What do you think older people say are their regrets about life?**



**Does this make you think about living your own life differently?**



# Read the quotation

“

**Age is just a number. You're only as old as you feel.**

Do you think age is just a number or not?

How do you feel about getting older?

What do you think is the 'best' age to be?





# Explaining a life lesson

If you could pass **one** life lesson onto a child, what would it be and why?



If I could pass on one piece of advice, it would be to always...

One lesson that's stuck with me has been....

I'd tell a child that...

I reckon I'd try to let the child know that...





# End of the lesson

Idiom

***learn something the hard way***

**Meaning:** to find out how to behave from your mistakes rather than being told

**Example:** I **learnt** how to manage my money **the hard way** when I nearly ran out of it!

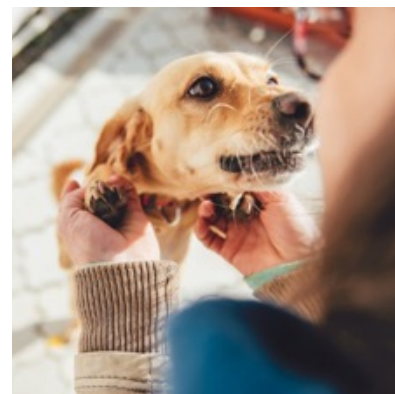


# Additional practice

# Complete the sentence

Write down three separate sentences using this structure. **Share** them with the class.

If I hadn't...  
... I would never have...

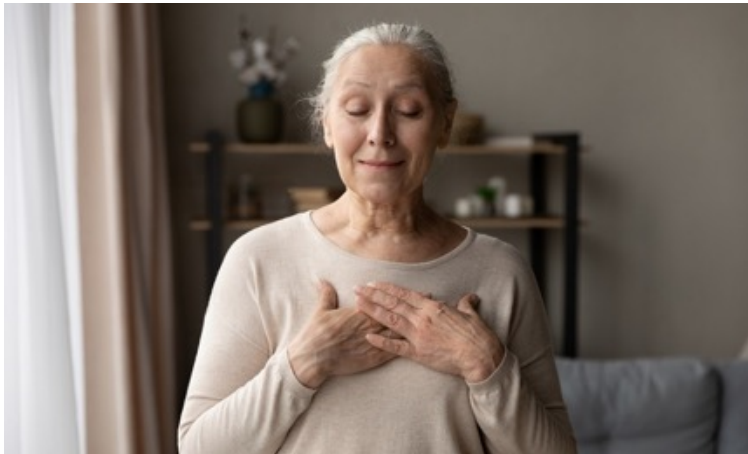




## Discuss



**What are three things in your life that you are especially grateful for?**



**Do you consider yourself to be a grateful person or not?**







# Read these quotations

1

“

**You have to walk your own path in life.**

2

“

**You can't please everyone all the time.**

How would explain these quotes in your own words?

Do you agree or disagree with them?

Why?

Do you follow any other pieces of advice in life?





# Summary

## Vocabulary related to life lessons

- *to be happy; to be content; goals; to make a mistake; to change your life.*
- *to learn from a mistake; to accept failure; regret; to live differently.*

## Explaining a life lesson

- *If I could pass on one piece of advice, it would be to always....*
- *I'd tell a child that...*
- *The thing that's been most important to me...;*
- *I reckon I'd try to let the child know that....*



# Vocabulary

happy

content

goals

to make a mistake

to change your life

to learn from a mistake

to accept failure

regret

to live differently

If I could pass on one piece of advice...

I'd tell a child that...

One lesson that's stuck with me has been....

I reckon I'd try to let the child know that...



## Notes

