

## Reading

### 1 Using grammar: making questions with the past simple

Complete these questions with the past simple form of the verbs.

1. When was the first time you ..... abroad? (travel)
2. When was the first time you ..... on a plane? (go)
3. When was the first time you ..... someone? (kiss)
4. When was the first time you ..... someone from a different country? (meet)
5. When was the first time you ..... somewhere without your parents? (stay)
6. What was the first record / CD you ..... ? (buy)
7. What was the first film you ..... at the cinema? (see)
8. What was the first job you ..... ? (have)

Now ask some other students the questions. Try to use some of these expressions when you answer.

- I can't remember.
- I've never done anything like that.
- It was when I was at school / university.
- It was when I was about 15 or 16.

To continue the conversation, ask and answer like this:

A: Did you enjoy it?

B: Yes, it was great.

or: It was OK.

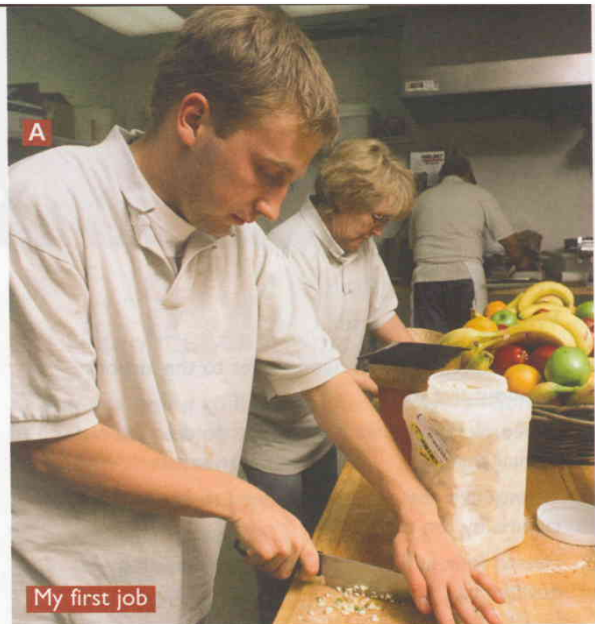
or: It was awful.

or: I don't want to talk about it, if you don't mind.

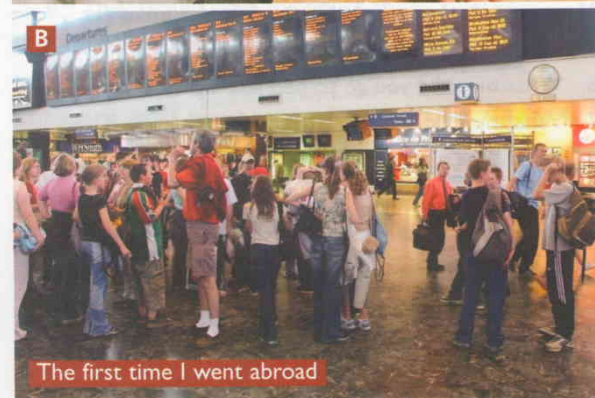
### 2 Before you read

You are going to read about three first-time experiences. First, decide which photos you think these words go with.

awful	it went really well
grades	nervous
I felt really grown-up	not very friendly
I got paid	washing up
I wrote to a pen pal	



My first job



The first time I went abroad



The first time I spoke in public

### 3 While you read

Now read the text on the opposite page and check your ideas. Did you guess correctly?

### 4 After you read

Discuss these questions with a partner.

1. Did the three people enjoy their experiences? How do you know?
2. Have you ever had any experiences like these? When?

Now cover the text. Use the photos and the expressions in Activity 2 to help you tell as much of the stories as you can remember.

# Do you remember the first time?

# 1

They say you never forget the first time you do some things. Sometimes the first time is exciting, sometimes it's painful, but one thing is certain – we all remember many of our first-time experiences. We asked three people about experiences that they remember. Here's what they told us.

## Hugh (17)

My parents got divorced a few years ago and I live with my dad now. He works really hard, but we don't have much money. I started working part-time a couple of years ago. I've got a job in a restaurant, washing up and chopping vegetables. I get paid £15 a night and I still remember how I felt when I first got paid. It was brilliant. I was really proud of myself. I felt really grown-up. My dad was pleased too – he didn't have to worry so much about giving me money!

## Jeremie (22)

I grew up in a small town in the south of France and I was 16 when I went abroad for the first time. I went to stay with an English family in Huddersfield, in the north of England. I studied English at school, and everyone in my class wrote to English pen pals and then went to stay with their families. I thought it was going to be great, but really it was awful! It rained all the time, the family weren't very friendly and I didn't really like my pen pal very much. I love travelling, but I'm afraid I don't want to visit England again!

## Ruth (19)

The first time I spoke in public was really frightening. I was about 15 or 16 and in secondary school. I studied business and as part of the course, we all had to give ten-minute presentations. The teacher gave us grades for them – from A+ to E. I spent weeks planning what to say, but the night before, I was really nervous. I didn't sleep very well. I was lucky though, because it went really well. Everybody enjoyed it. I felt great. Now I'm studying economics at university and I have to give presentations all the time.

## 5 Speaking

Write two more questions you'd like to ask other students in your class.

1. When was the first time you ... ?
2. What was the first ... you ... ?

Now ask some other students your questions.

## 6 Word check

Complete the sentences with these words from the text.

afraid	divorced	frightening	proud
all	exciting	give	spent

1. I had a great time when I went abroad for the first time. It was really .....
2. My parents got ..... when I was 13.
3. I felt really ..... of myself when I passed my exams.
4. The weather was awful. It rained ..... the time.
5. I'm ..... I didn't really like England.
6. I thought I was going to die. It was really .....
7. I have to ..... a presentation at work next Monday.
8. I ..... weeks thinking about what to say to her.

## 7 Pronunciation: /ʃ/

🔊 Listen and repeat the sounds with /ʃ/. Look at the picture on page 145 for help if you need to.

🔊 Listen and repeat these words.

share	short	shut
shower	shirt	English
cash machine	shoes	station
should	shelves	

🔊 Listen to eight sentences and write them down.

Compare what you wrote with the tapescript at the back of the book. Then practise saying the sentences.