

### 3. Fancy a Change?

3 You are going to read a magazine article about people's careers. For questions 1-15, choose from people (A-E). Some of the people may be used more than once. When more than one answer is required, these may be given in any order. There is an example at the beginning (0).

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| A | Amanda Panderson  |
| B | Brendon Pritchard |
| C | Rita Low          |
| D | Philip Germain    |
| E | Poppy Stallworth  |

Which people do the statement refer to?

- I had a disappointing change of career. **0 B**
- My parents pressured me into a career I didn't want. **1**
- I was thought to be a very talented child. **2**
- My career could have killed me! **3**
- I have satisfied my childhood dream. **4**
- Others say my new job has transformed me. **5**
- I'm not sure what I'll do next. **6**
- I'm not as well-off as I used to be. **7**
- People warned me that my career would make me poor. **8**
- Social work is much better for me. **9**
- I could have been a well-known personality. **10**
- I had to study to get my current job. **11**
- I gave up a position of authority. **12**
- I had an illness that wouldn't go away. **13**
- People thought I was mad. **14**
- 15**

Until recently a majority of people aspired to the notion of a career for life. Today however it is becoming increasingly common to hear of people choosing to change profession in the middle of their careers. Our reporter, Jennifer Metcalf decided to hunt down a few such people and find out why they made such a choice and whether it was the right one, or not.

After Amanda Panderson's children had grown up, she didn't really know what to do with herself. Various friends suggested she look for a job but she didn't know what she wanted to do or what she'd be good at. "Of course, after more than ten years out of the job market things had changed and you had to be computer literate for the simplest jobs. I had to take a course before I even started looking. It wasn't easy, but now I'm working as a receptionist at a health clinic. I haven't looked back since I started working. It's amazing how much it boosts your confidence. My family have all seen a real change in me and I'm generally much more positive about everything."

"I'd been working for an engineering company since I'd graduated, fifteen years earlier. But, when I finally reached the position I'd always dreamed of, as Managing Director, I found the stress unbearable. My family life suffered because I was always working. When I went to the doctor about a sore throat that wouldn't clear up, he gave me a general check-up and discovered that my blood pressure and cholesterol levels were sky-high. He warned me that if I continued to work the way I was, I wouldn't reach retirement." It was a difficult decision to change career, but Brendon Pritchard was shocked into re-assessing his priorities. He's now working with handicapped children and although he doesn't earn nearly as much money as before, he says "I'm so much happier ... and healthier!"

By the age of 25, Rita Low had been teaching for three or four years and desperately wanted to change career. "The problem was that my CV only illustrated experience in that field, which made it extremely difficult to break away from teaching." Even-

tually she was offered a position with the Education Authorities which meant that she could combine her knowledge of teaching with her managerial skills. After six months in her new role, she has realised that she was actually much happier teaching. "Unfortunately, it's not what I had hoped for. I should have carried on teaching." Rita's future is uncertain but, whatever happens, her different experiences will help her find out what she really wants in life.

"Everybody said I was crazy when I stopped playing for Aston Manor." Philip Germain had an excellent future ahead of him as a top footballer, but his heart wasn't in it. "I gave it up and used my fancy foot-work for something I love -- dancing." As a young boy, Philip had always loved dancing and was a star pupil at dancing school. His father had never come to terms with the fact that his son preferred the more "feminine" activity of dancing to the more macho game of football. Keen to please, Philip went along with his father's dream of his becoming a famous footballer, enjoying the fact that he was doing so well. But after three years with an up-and-coming team, Philip quit, saying "I feel it's time to hang up my football boots and put on my dancing shoes."

Doing mathematical calculations was Poppy Stallworth's idea of a nightmare but her teachers always claimed she was a bit of a child prodigy. Her secret desire to do something more creative was never far from her mind. "I'd always wanted to do something more creative, even artistic, but everyone always warned me against it saying 'There's no money in it, you'll never make it.' "So, she satisfied her artistic nature by sculpting in her spare time. Just out of interest, she entered one of her pieces in an exhibition and her flair was recognised and surprisingly her work sold. "The man who bought it was interested in buying more of the same. Consequently, I have little time for doing accounts now and am much happier doing something I enjoy infinitely more."

KEY

#### 1. Courses Abroad

- 1, 2. B, E (in any order)  
3. C  
4. C  
5, 6. B, D (in any order)
7. A  
8. D  
9. E  
10. E
- 11, 12. A, E (in any order)  
13. A  
14. C  
15. E

#### 2. Inventive Millionaires

1. E  
2. A  
3. C  
4. D  
5. C
6. D  
7. B  
8. D  
9. E  
10. E
11. C  
12. A  
13. B  
14. C  
15. D

#### 3. Fancy a Change?

1. D  
2. E  
3. B  
4, 5. D, E (in any order)
6. A
7. C  
8. B  
9. E  
10. B
11. A  
12. A  
13. B  
14. B  
15. D