

Nombre: _____

Earning a living

1. Read and answer.

Lively Tom, 69, skates for Tesco

He gets paid for putting on his roller skates.

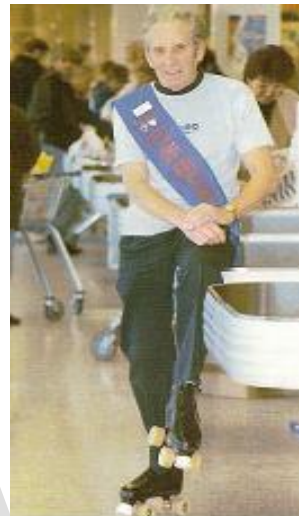
Tom Hopperton is one of 1,200 over 65s working for the supermarket, **Tesco**. He's worked there for fifteen months. Before that, he was a plumber for thirty years.

Tom skates about five miles a day around the store fetching things for customers who realize that they've forgotten something only when they've reached the check-out till. He earns £4.50 an hour.

"I just love the job. I help customers, so they're usually very nice to me. I've always liked meeting people. And it keeps me fit. I can't sit at home doing nothing. I'd just die. I have to keep busy. Time goes really quickly. Every day is different."

Tesco's made the decision to employ people of all ages. It sees the advantages of older workers who are more calm and authoritative when they are dealing with customers.

"When I saw the advertisement for this job, I didn't believe they'd give it to me," says Tom. "I went in to see them because I thought they wouldn't give me the job if I just phoned. I wanted them to see that I am very lively for my age."



1) When did Tom start working for **Tesco**?

2) What does he do in his job?

3) Tom works indoors. **TRUE** **FALSE**

4) Tom likes his job because no day is the same as the previous one. **TRUE** **FALSE**

5) Why does **Tesco** employ older people?

2. Complete each blank with one word.



Life's a beach

Is it possible to make a living from what you can find on the beach?

This is Terry Cemm. He _____ to be a policeman, but _____ the last seventeen years he has walked up and down five miles of beach every day, looking for things that could _____ useful to someone. Terry's a beachcomber.

Nearly everything in his house has come from the sea – chairs, tables, even tins of food. What's _____ most unusual thing he has _____ found? "A barrel of beer just before Christmas. That was nice," he remembers. He finds lots of bottles with messages in them,

particularly from children. They all get a reply _____ there's an address in the bottle.

But does he really make a living? "Half a living," he replies, "I sell many of the things I find, and I have my police pension. I do not really _____ much money. My life is rich in variety."

Terry seems to be a happy man. "You _____ to find a way to live a simple, honest life. People spend all their lives after things they don't really need."

"Some people say I'm mad," says Terry. "But there are a lot more people _____ would like to do _____ I do. Look at me. I've got everything that I could possibly want."

3. Complete the blanks with a suitable linking word

A woman in a male-dominated world

Kathryn Bigelow has just won the Academy Award for Best Director – the first woman ever to do so. _____, who is she?

Bigelow was born in California in 1951. She studied film at Columbia University _____ has worked in film ever _____ the mid 1970s. She was a female pioneer in the male-dominated world of film directing. She had to work very hard _____, at first, nobody wanted to accept her.

In the last ten years, she has _____ produced films. Some of her films have been modest successes. _____, she is best known now for *The Hurt Locker*, the film for _____ she won the Oscar.

As _____ as directing, Bigelow has acted in one film and has also appeared as a model during her career. *The Hurt Locker* was such a big success _____ she has started looking at other possibilities for a new crime film. _____ most of her films are set in America, this time she's thinking of South Africa.



4. Complete with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. If there's a +, use a modal

Flying for a living

Cathy has made a career out of her passion.

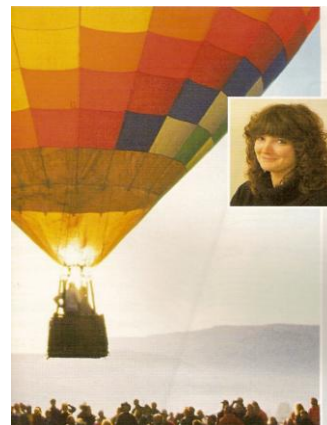
Cathy Moorhead has only had one job in her life. She _____ (never/want) to do anything but be in a hot air balloon, going where the wind takes her, listening to the birds and watching deer and small animals below her.

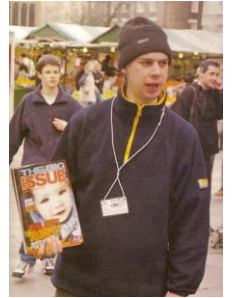
And she gets paid for it. She _____ (earn) about £25,000 a year. "I've been flying balloons since I _____ (be) 10. One day, while we _____ (travel) to Scotland to visit my aunt and uncle, I _____ (see) a balloon in the sky. I told my father I _____ (+ love/ fly) in a hot air balloon."

Cathy flies between 10 and 20 passengers a day. "The trips are always mystery tours," she says, "I never know where we _____ (land)."

She usually works 15 hours a day, except when the weather is bad. "We _____ (+ not / fly) if it is too windy or if it is rainy. The balloon gets too heavy and the passengers get wet."

What's the best thing about the job? "The job itself. I love _____ (be) out in the countryside. Also, I _____ (+ not / do) anything I don't want to do. I'm my own boss. Is there anything better than that?"





5. Complete the conversation.

Street Life

Andy, 28, from Scotland had his own taxi. When he lost it, he also lost his home and family. He now sleeps on the streets in London.

Interviewer: _____ ?

Andy: I started sleeping in the streets a year ago.

Interviewer: _____ ?

Andy: To earn some money? Well, I sell a magazine, *The Big Issue*.

Interviewer: _____ ?

Andy: I usually sell about fifteen a day.

Interviewer: _____ ?

Andy: Yes, I have. I had a job as a taxi driver, but I lost it last year.

Interviewer: _____ ?

Andy: Now? Yes, I'm trying to get one. But it's not easy when you say you live in the streets.

6. Composition. Write about 60 – 80 words on one of the following

- Write a story about the best New Year party you've ever had.
- *The day I was late for an exam*
