

Unit 4: Lost and found

1 Listening: Guinness World Record: Youngest person to travel to every country

Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kidwSFte8-E> and watch the TED Talk by Lexie Alford on her life lessons from travelling to every country. While watching, answer the questions (1–9) below.

1	To how many countries had Lexie travelled at the age of 18?
2	What question was the starting point of her undertaking to break the world record for the youngest person to travel to every country?
3	What issues did Lexie face during her travels?
4	What different types of evidence does Lexie need to submit to prove that she has travelled to every country?
5	What are Lexie’s biggest fears?
6	How many countries are there in the world?
7	What was the only real physical danger that Lexie faced on her travels?
8	What did Lexie learn from travelling alone?
9	How does Lexie make most of the decisions in her life now?

2 Writing

Guinness World Record: Youngest person to travel to every country

You have just watched Lexie Alford’s TED Talk on her life lessons from travelling to every country. Her talk inspired you to write a comment in which you:

- comment on the TED Talk on Lexie’s *Guinness World Record*
- argue why you would or would not like to travel to every country
- exemplify what “getting out of your comfort zone” means to you

Write around 250 words.

3

## Language: Travel situations

Match 1–8 with a–h.

- |  |                          |  |
|--|--------------------------|--|
| 1 Jack says he'll <b>give</b>              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>a cancelled.</b>  |
| 2 I'm afraid their car <b>got</b>          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>b lost</b> in the airport. I was absolutely terrified.  |
| 3 I'm sorry but the flight has <b>been</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>c down</b> in the middle of the motorway.               |
| 4 When we <b>got</b>                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>d us a lift.</b>  |
| 5 After a while, we <b>got a</b>           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>e off</b> at the next stop, then walk for five minutes. |
| 6 When I was a kid, I <b>got</b>           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>f on</b> the train, we went straight to the dining car. |
| 7 And then the car <b>broke</b>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>g stuck</b> in traffic in the city centre.              |
| 8 We have to <b>get</b>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>h lift</b> from a couple of teenagers.                  |

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## Complete the sentences with the missing words.

- 'Hi, Jim. We thought our flight had been \_\_\_\_\_ but it wasn't. We're just getting \_\_\_\_\_ the plane now. I'll call you again when we get there.'
- 'When our car \_\_\_\_\_ down in the desert, we \_\_\_\_\_ a lift in a huge truck to the next town.'
- 'My train's got \_\_\_\_\_ just outside the station. It's terribly crowded and we want to get \_\_\_\_\_ it, but they won't let us.'
- 'I got \_\_\_\_\_ while hiking but finally found a main road. Then a guy stopped and \_\_\_\_\_ me a lift into town.'

5

## Read the web postings. Which underlined expression is related to:

- getting onto the wrong road? \_\_\_\_\_
- (vehicle) no longer having petrol or diesel? \_\_\_\_\_
- being delayed? \_\_\_\_\_
- having no air inside? \_\_\_\_\_
- hitting something? \_\_\_\_\_
- being moved? \_\_\_\_\_
- (person) no longer having power over something? \_\_\_\_\_
- (equipment) no longer having power? \_\_\_\_\_

**Nightmare Journeys**

On our coach trip, the driver made a wrong turn onto a country road. It was so rough and full of holes that he lost control and the coach ran into a tree and broke down. No one was hurt, but we had to wait two hours for help. Then all the passengers and bags were transferred to a replacement coach, and that took ages. I think we were held up for about four hours in the end.  
*Kirsty, Scotland*

On the first day of my trip, right after lunch, I noticed one of my car's tyres was flat so I had to change it. The next morning, I found the battery was dead. I don't know why. Maybe I hadn't closed my door properly. 'What next?' I thought, 'I suppose I'm going to run out of fuel,' but no, everything was fine after that. *Jens, Belgium*

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## Language: Travel situations

Cover exercise 5. Replace the underlined words with expressions from exercise 5 in the correct form.

- 1 I was quite annoyed to find that two of my tyres had no air.  
I was quite annoyed to find that two of my tyres were flat.
- 2 He was driving and talking on his mobile phone when he hit the stop sign.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Your car won't start? Maybe the battery's got no power.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 She was delayed because of an accident on the motorway.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Be careful not to turn down the wrong road. It's easy to get lost in that area.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 Suddenly he had no power over the car and it went off the road into a field.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 There was something wrong with our plane so we were moved to another one.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 Oh, dear. I think we've got no fuel left.  
 \_\_\_\_\_

7

## Language: Modals of deduction and speculation

Margot works in a free shop. She is talking to one of her friends about some things that have been brought into the shop. Complete what they say with *must*, *might/could* or *can't*.

- Margot: Oh, look at this strange thing. What is it?
- Clara: No idea! It **1** \_\_\_\_\_ be some sort of kid's toy.
- Margot: No, it **2** \_\_\_\_\_ be that. It'd be too dangerous with all those metal bits on. Maybe it's something you use in the kitchen.
- Clara: Yes, it **3** \_\_\_\_\_ be something like that. Oh yes, look. There's a food processor here – it **4** \_\_\_\_\_ be an accessory for that.
- Margot: Wow! Look at this jacket. That's really cool.
- Clara: Yeah, that **5** \_\_\_\_\_ be pretty old – look, the buttons are made of bone, not plastic. I think it **6** \_\_\_\_\_ be from the 1920s or 30s.
- Margot: No, it **7** \_\_\_\_\_ be that old. I'd say 1950s, perhaps.
- Clara: Maybe you're right. I'm sure it **8** \_\_\_\_\_ be quite valuable, though, don't you think?

8

## a Read situations 1–5 and make sentences with *might*, *could*, *can't* and *must* to explain them.

Example: A man is running down the street, shouting, "Get out of the way!"  
*He must be late for something. Or he could be a policeman. ...*

- You arrive at school at 8 am, but there's no one there.
- You are woken up at 4 am by a knock on the door.
- A close friend stops answering your emails and texts.
- Your computer suddenly switches itself off.

## b Work in pairs. Write two more situations and give them to another pair to explain.

**9 Language: Multi-word verbs: Tidying and cleaning**

Complete the multi-word verbs in the advertisement.

**FREE SHOP**

Do you have stuff you want to **1** \_\_\_\_\_ rid of?

Have you tidied **2** \_\_\_\_\_ your house or garage recently? Are you cleaning **3** \_\_\_\_\_ your flat?

Is there no more space in your home to put **4** \_\_\_\_\_ your things?

Don't **5** \_\_\_\_\_ away your clutter!

If you don't want it, **6** \_\_\_\_\_ it away! Bring it to us and we'll find a new owner for it.

**10 Language: Describing products**

Complete the descriptions.

- 1 Big wooden wardrobe: It's ideal for couples who need a lot of storage space.
- 2 Glass-top desk: Hardly used, so it's in q\_\_\_\_\_ g\_\_\_\_\_ c\_\_\_\_\_. It's beautiful, but too big for my study.
- 3 Two-person tent: Small tent in a carry bag. The i\_\_\_\_\_ a\_\_\_\_ i\_\_\_\_\_ and it's very easy to put up.
- 4 Rowing machine: Nearly new, so it's in g\_\_\_\_\_ w\_\_\_\_\_ o\_\_\_\_\_, although some of the paint is scratched.
- 5 Juicer: Too much work for me, but it c\_\_\_\_\_ w\_\_\_\_\_ a recipe book for hundreds of drinks.
- 6 Piano: Well-loved family piano. It c\_\_\_\_\_ d\_\_\_\_\_ with tuning, but otherwise it's fine.

**11 Margot works in her local free shop. Circle the correct words to complete what she says.**

I've just started working here three afternoons a week and I love it. It's amazing what good stuff people bring in. Most of the electrical things are in good working **1** condition / order, and often the **2** directions / instructions are included or they **3** come / go with extra accessories, too. If someone brings in something that can **4** play / do up sometimes, they're very honest about that and we mention it on the label we attach to it.

Then a lot of people bring in really nice clothes and bags. Sometimes they could **5** get / do with a clean or a small repair, but mainly they're in good **6** condition / conditioning. The whole concept is ideal **7** with / for people who want to reduce the amount of stuff we throw away – or just people who like to find a bargain!

**12 Writers often use synonyms in articles, so they use a range of words to describe the same things.**

- 1 Think of three more words which have a similar meaning to *clutter*: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Write four sentences to show how we use the different words.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### Key

#### exercise 1, Listening: Guinness World Record: Youngest person to travel to every country

- 1 Around 70 countries
- 2 What are you going to do next?
- 3 Spending countless hours crammed on different means of transport (planes, trains, chicken buses, tuk-tuks and junk boats), health issues (malaria in West Africa, food poisoning in Pakistan), public anxiety attacks, frustration of dealing with bureaucrats in order to get visas
- 4 According to a very strict pack of guidelines she needed to submit the following proves: plane tickets, accommodation, taxi receipts, multiple witness statements from each country, passport stamps. She's now in the process of submitting nearly 10,000 pieces of evidence in chronological order, documenting how she entered and exited each country, along with a detailed itinerary of what she did in each place.
- 5 Fear of heights, fear of being alone, fear of regret
- 6 196 countries
- 7 She travelled to Yemen. In her last night she woke up to the sound of gunshots outside of her hotel. From her window, she saw that there were 50 or so men congregated in the parking lot, yelling and pushing each other around with six cars with flashing headlights blocking the only exit. She called her only contact in the country, but the person didn't answer because it was 02:00 in the morning. This was the first time she had ever heard a fully automatic weapon discharged. She ducked and looked around the room for the best place to hide. She sat there with her fear of potentially being kidnapped until all the men disappeared and she cried herself to sleep. The next morning, she called and talked to her contact in the country and asked him what had happened the night before. He responded: Oh that? That was just a wedding party. Since Yemen is an Islamic country, they don't drink alcohol and one of the ways that they celebrate is by shooting guns. Basically, what this means is that the scariest thing that has ever happened to her while travelling was only scary because she didn't fully understand the culture.
- 8 After 7 and a half months spent travelling alone to 50 or so countries, she learned how to be alone without being lonely, and this did wonders for her self-confidence, and the way she thinks about the people in her life. Now she has an appreciation for the time that she gets to spend with the people that she cares about the most in a way that she used to take for granted before she knew what it was truly like to be alone. She also discovered that we have so much more in common with people around the world than you may think because ultimately, we all want the same things, we are all looking for fulfilment.
- 9 She makes her decisions based on the answer to a very simple question: Will I regret not doing this? If the answer is yes, she knows that she has a moral obligation to herself and the people around her to do it.

**exercise 3:** 1 d, 2 g, 3 a, 4 f, 5 h, 6 b, 7 c, 8 e

**exercise 4:** 1 cancelled ... on, 2 broke ... got, 3 stuck ... off, 4 lost ... gave

**exercise 5:**

1 made a wrong turn, 2 out of fuel, 3 were held up, 4 was flat, 5 ran into, 6 were transferred, 7 lost control, 8 was dead

**exercise 6:**

2 ran into, 3 dead, 4 was held up, 5 make a wrong turn, 6 lost control over, 7 were transferred, 8 've run out of fuel

**exercise 7:** 1 could, 2 can't, 3 might, 4 must, 5 must, 6 might, 7 can't, 8 must

**exercise 9:** 1 get, 2 up, 3 up, 4 away, 5 throw, 6 give

**exercise 10:**

2 quite good condition, 3 instructions are included, 4 good working order, 5 comes with, 6 could do

**exercise 11:**

1 order, 2 instructions, 3 come, 4 play up, 5 do, 6 condition, 7 for

**exercise 12, possible answers:** stuff, rubbish, garbage (AmE), litter, junk, trash, ...