

Do the preparation task first. Then read the article and do the exercises to check your understanding.

### Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–f next to the numbers 1–6.

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1..... a CV           | a. a space between things   |
| 2..... a gap          | b. a year when you stop studying or working and do something different  |
| 3..... a destination  | c. a university course and qualification  |
| 4..... a degree       | d. a job that you do without receiving any pay for it   |
| 5..... a year out     | e. a place that you are travelling to   |
| 6..... voluntary work | f. a document listing your work experience and education; you send this to a company if you want to apply for a job |

### 1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

- |    |   |             |              |
|----|---|-------------|--------------|
| 1. | A gap year is a time to take a break from your studies to travel or work.     | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. | Universities and employers think that taking a gap year is a good idea.       | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. | If you want to take a gap year, you must do it between school and university. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. | Most students ask their parents to finance their gap year.                    | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. | Taking a gap year was a positive experience for Julie Taylor.                 | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. | University courses are more expensive than in the past.                       | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

## 2. Check your vocabulary: matching

Match the phrasal verbs with the correct definitions and write a–h next to the number 1–8.

- |                 |                                 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 1..... pick up  | a. save money                   |
| 2..... break up | b. divide into smaller sections |
| 3..... take on  | c. acquire, learn               |
| 4..... save up  | d. start a new project or job   |
| 5..... work out | e. increase in price            |
| 6..... head off | f. survive, live                |
| 7..... get by   | g. go                           |
| 8..... put up   | h. plan, organise               |

## 3. Check your vocabulary: gap fill

Complete the gaps with a phrasal verb from the box.

put up	get by	work out	save up
head off	take on	pick up	break up

- Did you \_\_\_\_\_ any Spanish while you were working in Spain?
- You can take a gap year before you \_\_\_\_\_ to university.
- Why don't you take a gap year to \_\_\_\_\_ your degree if you want a change?
- I need some money so I might \_\_\_\_\_ a part-time job in a shop.
- They had to \_\_\_\_\_ for the trip by working at the weekends.
- It's a good idea to \_\_\_\_\_ exactly what you want to do in your gap year.
- Did you \_\_\_\_\_ on the money you saved or did you have to find a job?
- If they \_\_\_\_\_ the prices again, how will we pay for our education?

### Discussion

If you were planning to take a gap year, how would you choose to spend your time?  
How would you save up enough money?