

7.2 Ask an expert

GOALS ■ Talk about experts and high achievers ■ Use question forms

Vocabulary & Reading high achievers

- 1 Work with a partner. The photos show three people who are well known as experts. What do you think they are expert at? Do you recognize any of them?
- 2 Read biographies 1-3 and check if your ideas were correct.

1 → Daniel Barenboim

Daniel Barenboim was born in 1942 in Buenos Aires, and moved to Israel in 1952. A **talented** musician, he began to learn the piano at five and gave his first public concert aged seven. As well as being an excellent musician and conductor, he is also **well known** for his work with young people. In 1999 he co-founded the West-Eastern Divan orchestra with Professor Edward Said to unite Israeli and Arab musicians. Barenboim has also set up a number of other projects to encourage young people to play music and has received various **awards** for his **achievements**.

2 → Jane Goodall

Jane Goodall was born in London in 1934. In her early twenties, she went to Tanzania, initially as a secretary to the anthropologist Louis Leakey. However, Jane was **hard-working** and **ambitious**, and soon became a researcher herself, studying the behaviour of wild apes and chimpanzees. Her discoveries changed many beliefs about ape behaviour, and she became an **expert** on the subject. In 1991 she set up Roots & Shoots, a global environmental and humanitarian youth education programme now based in more than 100 countries.

3 → Rebecca Adlington

Rebecca Adlington was born in Mansfield, UK, in 1989. At nineteen she suddenly became **famous** as a **champion** swimmer, after winning two gold medals at the Beijing Olympics, the first British swimmer for 100 years to **achieve** this. She also did well at the London Olympics, winning two bronze medals. In 2005, Adlington's sister became dangerously ill, with encephalitis*. She recovered, but Adlington has said that her sister's illness made her 'more **determined**' to succeed. In 2013 she retired from swimming, but uses her **fame** to raise money for an encephalitis charity.

■ **encephalitis** an infection or allergic reaction which causes the brain to swell



- 3a Work with a partner. Look at the highlighted words in the biographies and decide if each one is a noun, verb or adjective. Work out what they mean.
 - a Complete the sentences using a suitable word from the article. Compare your answers with a partner and give reasons for your choices.
 - 1 Many _____ people never become really _____ because they are too shy.
 - 2 He's very _____. He wants to become President one day.
 - 3 She is _____ to _____ the highest mark in her class.
 - 4 If you want to become a _____, you will need to train every day.
 - 5 She never won any _____ for her _____, but her research changed the world.
- 4 **TASK** Work with a partner or in small groups and discuss the questions.
 - 1 To become an expert at something, which is more important – hard work or talent?
 - 2 Is being ambitious always a good thing? Why/Why not?

Grammar & Speaking question forms

- 5a The three experts all took part in an interview in a British newspaper. Look at the questions and answers and try to guess which person is answering. Discuss your answers with a partner.
- b Based on their answers, which person would you most/least like to meet? Why?

1 ↓

- 1 **Which living person do you most admire, and why?**

My mum. She is the most thoughtful person that I've ever known.

- 2 **How would you like to be remembered?**

As someone who enjoyed life, was bubbly and worked hard.

- 3 **Would you mind telling us what you most dislike about your appearance?**

My big shoulders.

2 ↓

- 1 **Do you like giving interviews?**

No.

- 2 **When were you happiest?**

When I didn't have to give interviews.

- 3 **What would your super power be?**

To travel back in time – in order to spend a day with Mozart.

- 4 **What makes you unhappy?**

When I don't understand something.

3 ↓

- 1 **What is your most treasured possession?**

I don't like possessions.

- 2 **What is your earliest memory?**

When I was two, a dragonfly flew near me. A man knocked it to the ground and trod on it. I remember crying because I'd caused the dragonfly to be killed.

- 3 **How would you like to be remembered?**

As someone who helped to change attitudes towards animals.



1 Rebecca Adlington 2 Daniel Barenboim 3 Jane Goodall

- 6a Read the information about question forms in the Grammar focus box, then add an example for each type of question from the questions in exercise 5.

GRAMMAR FOCUS questions

Direct questions

- In questions we normally put an auxiliary verb (*do, does, did*) before the subject.

1 _____

- If the question word is the subject of the question, we don't use *do/does/did*.

2 _____

Indirect questions

- We use indirect questions to make questions more polite. The word order doesn't change and we don't use *do/does/did*.

Could you tell me which living person you most admire?

3 _____

- Note that to make *yes/no* indirect questions we use *if*.
*Would you mind telling me if you think you are ambitious?
I'd like to know if you think you are ambitious.*

→ Grammar Reference page 149

- b Look at the questions in exercise 5 and make them indirect.
- 7 Make interview questions using the prompts. Make at least two indirect questions.
- Give an example of an embarrassing moment.
What / happen?
 - What / favourite smell?
 - Like / watch sport? Why/Why not?
 - Tell me about a time when you felt angry.
Who / make / angry and why?
 - How / relax?
 - What / think / greatest achievement?
 - Tell / favourite film?
- 8 **TASK** Work with a partner. Go to page 128 and prepare your questions.