

12.4 Speaking and writing

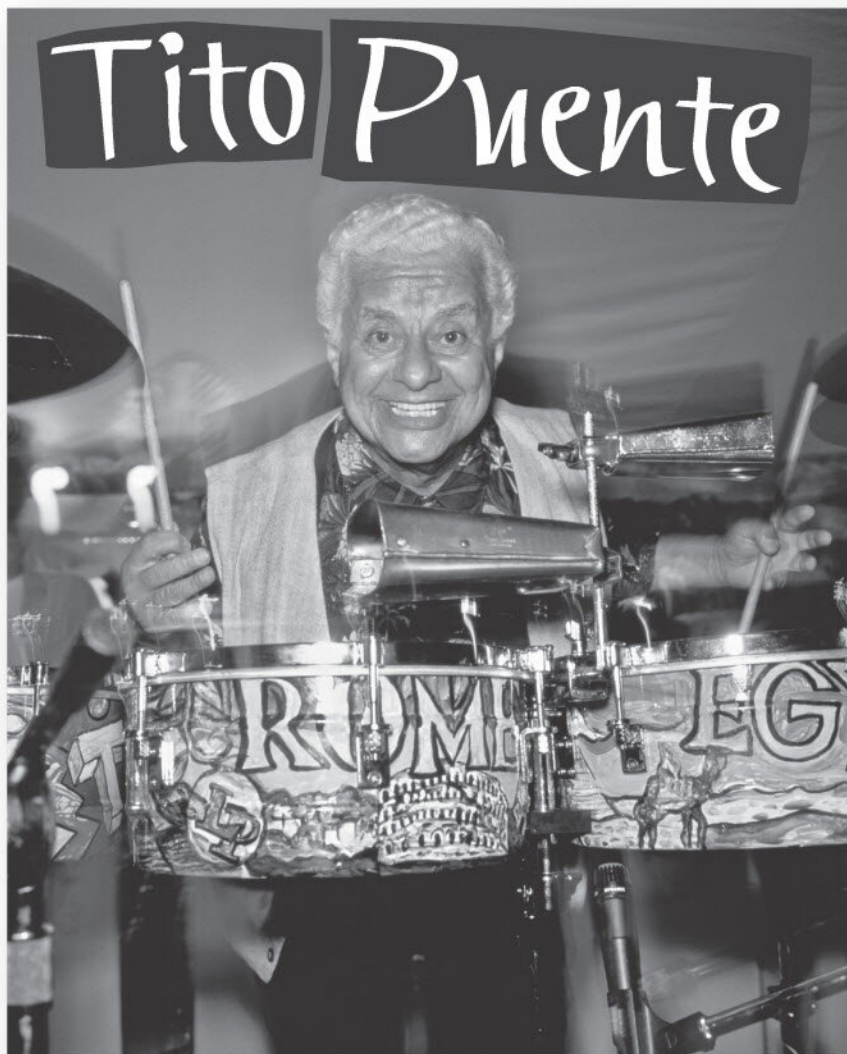
Speaking reflecting on life events and choices

- 1 12.2))) Listen to Maria talking about a choice she made. Does she generally feel positive or negative about the decision?
- 2 12.2))) Complete the phrases. Then listen again to check.
- 1 You know, in retrospect, it's no great surprise that ...
- 2 What was I _____?
- 3 Thank _____ my parents finally persuaded me ...
- 4 ... my poverty was a _____ in disguise ...
- 5 So thanks, Mum, that was a good _____!
- 6 I feel very _____ to have so much support.

Writing a biography

- 3 Complete the biography with words from the box. Some of the phrases aren't needed.

at the age of all time ~~brought up~~ changed dramatically dropped out funeral in his childhood pioneer renowned took an unexpected turn for the better turned upside down



Tito Puente, known as the King of Latin Jazz, was born and ¹ brought up in New York in the 1920s, the son of Puerto Rican immigrants.

² _____ of six he started taking piano lessons, but his real passion was always dancing, and, as a young man, he won several awards for this. His life was ³ _____, however when he had a bad bicycle accident, and was forced to give up on the idea of becoming a champion dancer.

He ⁴ _____ of school early and started working as a musician, but his life ⁵ _____ once again when the Second World War broke out. In 1942, he joined the Navy and was lucky to survive nine major sea battles.

After the war, however, his life ⁶ _____ when he was able to join the world famous Juilliard School of Music, as part of a project which enabled ex-soldiers to gain an education.

He went on to compose more than 450 songs, record 120 albums and give more than 10,000 live performances. The creative way he combined traditional Latin music with jazz and other genres of music made him one of the most popular musicians ⁷ _____, and when he died, in 2000, his fans queued for days to pay their respects at his ⁸ _____.

I can ...

reflect on life events and choices.

Very well Quite well More practice

write a biography.