

Transitions

Share your ideas, reasons, or a story about a change in life.

Choose a level to discuss fresh starts, changing roles, and turning points in life.

Beginner (A1)

01. Who helped you when you started a new school or job?
02. How do you feel on the first day of a new class?
03. When you meet a new group, are you quiet or talkative?
04. What do you most want to take with you to a new home?
05. Who do you miss from your old class or job?
06. Do you want to live in one place for a long time? Why?
07. Which is harder for you: your first day or your last day at a job?

Transitions

Elementary (A2)

08. What was your last day at your old school like?
09. What is different in your life now that you study English?
10. What surprised you when you started your first job?
11. What did you start paying for yourself as you got older?
12. Tell me about someone who moved away and then came back.
13. What was your best memory from when you were a child?
14. When you moved to a new home, what did you miss about the old one?
15. What happened to your room after you moved out?
16. What did you look forward to when you finished school?
17. What is your earliest memory?
18. Tell us about a goodbye you remember well.
19. Who started treating you differently as you got older? How?
20. Would you rather start a new job with a friend or on your own? Why?
21. Did you study hard in high school?
22. What was the first thing you bought with money you earned?
23. Tell me about a group you joined without knowing anyone there.
24. How did you spend your first week after finishing school?
25. What did you stop asking permission to do as you got older?
26. What changed at home when someone moved in or moved out?
27. What was different when you saw an old classmate again?
28. What do you remember about your first night in a new home?

Transitions

Intermediate (B1)

29. Tell us about a change you expected to be difficult but enjoyed.
30. Tell me about a change you wanted to make for a long time before you finally did it.
31. Which was better for you: elementary school, junior high school or high school? Why?
32. What made a new place start to feel like home?
33. What surprised you about sharing a home with someone for the first time?
34. When you change jobs, would you rather take a break between them or start right away?
35. How would you change your life if you could?
36. When did someone start asking you for advice instead of giving you advice?
37. Who knows you mainly from an earlier part of your life? What would surprise them about you now?
38. What new responsibility took you longer to get used to than you expected?
39. What are some good and bad things about starting university?
40. What did you have to take over when someone left your home, class, or workplace?
41. How can life change after someone has children?
42. How did you tell people about a big change you had decided to make?
43. Have you ever become friends with someone who used to teach or supervise you? How did that happen?
44. What kinds of problems did you have when you went from elementary school to junior high?
45. What did you get wrong about life after leaving school?
46. Tell us about someone who started a very different life after retiring.
47. What was it like to return to work or study after a long break?
48. What became easier after you stopped living with someone?

Transitions

Upper Intermediate (B2)

49. When you move back in with family as an adult, which old rules should still apply?
50. What would make you leave a life that was comfortable but no longer interesting?
51. What are some good and bad changes that marriage can bring?
52. When have you gone back somewhere and felt like a visitor instead of one of the group?
53. How does becoming the boss of former coworkers change the way you can joke with them?
54. When would you tell people you were planning a major change: as soon as you thought of it or once it was certain?
55. What do you think are the biggest transitions in a person's life? Which is the most important?
56. What change in your life happened so gradually that someone else noticed it first?
57. What can make leaving a group feel like letting people down, even when you want to go?
58. What would you want to keep from your working life after retirement?
59. When does a child become an adult?
60. Tell us about a temporary arrangement that became your normal life.
61. When have you enjoyed a new role but missed the freedom of your old one?
62. What did you expect to miss after a major change but rarely thought about again?
63. When has another person's decision changed the direction of your life?

Transitions

Advanced (C1)

64. How much say should people have in a loved one's decision to start over if they will have to help pay for it?
65. When is keeping a way back helpful during a major life change, and when might it stop you from settling in?
66. What happens when a person changes their life but the people closest to them keep treating them as before?
67. What makes the difference between giving a new life a fair chance and staying too long?
68. When can returning to an earlier way of life be a step forward?
69. When a person stops being the one everyone relies on, what might they gain and what might they miss?
70. When can a move away be a solution to your problems, and when might you take the same problems with you?
71. How much of a fresh start depends on being around people who do not know your past?
72. How should parents and adult children share decisions when the parents begin to need more help?
73. How fair is it to describe someone as brave for starting over when they have the money to return to their old life?
74. What can a person miss about a period of life they would never choose to repeat?
75. What can you owe a former partner after you have built separate lives?
76. When does staying in the same place become as big a decision as leaving?
77. How do the stories people tell about leaving a job, a relationship, or a country change as time passes?
78. How much should the years you have already spent on a career influence whether you leave it?