

# 11 Rites of passage

## Exercise 1

### A

Answers will vary.

### B

Answers will vary.

## Exercise 2

- I just spent a horrible evening with Patricia. She questioned and criticized everything I said. I wish she weren't so argumentative.
- My sister is very naive. She trusts everyone and thinks everyone is good.
- Once I turned 16, I became less rebellious, and my parents started to let me do what I wanted.
- Eric is really ambitious. He wants to own his own business by the time he's 25.
- I wish I could be like Susie. She's so carefree and never seems to worry about anything.

## Exercise 3

Answers will vary.

## Exercise 4

### A

He learned that he is ambitious because he loves to compete and to win. He doesn't want to be a runner-up.

### B

Answers will vary. Possible answers:

- sprint: a short, very fast foot-race
- runners-up: those who didn't win first place / those who won second, third, or fourth place
- launched himself into: began for first time
- prestigious: very important
- ecstatic: very happy
- record time: fast enough to break a record

### C

Answers will vary.

## Exercise 5

Answers will vary. Possible answers:

- I shouldn't have been so argumentative.
- I should have gotten a different job.
- I shouldn't have bought the TV.
- I should have studied computer science.
- I shouldn't have been so rebellious.
- I should have refused to let my friend copy my homework.
- I should have put the date in my calendar.
- I shouldn't have been so naive.
- I should have told my friend that I liked her hair.

## Exercise 6

### A

- If we'd made a reservation, we would have eaten already.
- If I'd put on sunscreen, I wouldn't have gotten a sunburn.
- If you had let me drive, we would have arrived by now.
- If I'd ignored your text in class, I wouldn't have gotten in trouble.

### B

Answers will vary.

## Exercise 7

Hector: I've made such a mess of my life!

Scott: What do you mean?

Hector: If I hadn't accepted a job as soon as I graduated, I would have traveled around South America all summer – just like you did. You were so carefree.

Scott: You know, I shouldn't have gone to South America. I should have taken the great job I was offered. After I returned from South America, it was too late.

Hector: But my job is so depressing! The moment I started it, I hated it – on the very first day! That was five years ago, and nothing's changed. I should have looked for another job right away.

Scott: Well, start looking now. I posted my résumé online last month, and five companies contacted me right away. If I hadn't posted my résumé, no one would have contacted me. I accepted one of the job offers.

Hector: Really? What's the job?

Scott: It's working as a landscape gardener. The moment I saw it, I knew it was right for me.

Hector: But for me right now, the problem is that I get a very good salary and I just bought a house. If I hadn't bought the house, I would be able to take a lower paying job.

Scott: Well, I guess you can't have everything. If I had a better salary, I would buy a house, too.