

Video Worksheet

I Quit My Job to Travel



About the Video

Ben Tkalcevic defines himself as an “average person” whose life is about to take an interesting twist. But what reasons could motivate such a life-changing decision? This is his story.



Instructions

How to Use This Worksheet

Follow the steps below to get the most benefit from this worksheet.

We recommend writing your answers and examples in a journal or a notebook, and reviewing the words you're learning regularly.

STEP 1

Complete the 'Vocabulary' section before watching the video.

You will understand more of the video if you familiarize yourself with the vocabulary first. This will also help you retain what you're learning. We've provided the answers for the exercises on page 9.

STEP 2

Watch the video the first time without subtitles or the transcript.

If you always watch English videos with the subtitles, you'll never give your listening skills a chance to improve. It's okay if you don't understand everything at first. **You'll notice a big improvement in a few weeks if you practice regularly.**

STEP 3

Watch it a second time with the transcript if needed.

We have provided a transcript for the video on page 8.

If you have any questions, please [contact us](#). You can also [visit our website](#) for more worksheets and lessons.



Vocabulary Practice

1. WORDS IN CONTEXT

Match the words or phrases in bold to their synonyms or meanings.

deal with

profession

discover

satisfied and happy

deeply involved in

1. I never felt **content** with my life back then.
2. I **was caught up in** the 9 to 5 work system.
3. It was time to **face** the repetitive work life I had.
4. I needed to **find out** the truth.
5. He's one of the best doctors in the **trade**.

2. FILL IN THE BLANKS

Complete the sentences with the correct words.

You might have to change verb forms (talk – talking or talked).

find out

content

face

trade

be caught up in

1. He insisted that his sons learn a _____.
2. Before I realized it, I _____ unhealthy eating habits.
3. They _____ a lot of challenges when they launched the business.
4. I've just _____ my sister is pregnant with triplets!
5. I'm _____ with what I have right now.



Vocabulary Practice

3. DEFINITIONS

Match the words or phrases to their definitions.

come to

take hold of

landscape

make a living

1. _____: The visible characteristics of a specific area of land
2. _____: earn money to support yourself and pay for rent, food, etc.
3. _____: gain complete control over a person or thing
4. _____: have a result

4. WHAT'S ANOTHER WAY TO SAY...?

Rewrite the sentences with one of the words above.

You might have to make some changes to the sentences, or add/change a preposition.

1. The experience **gained control over me** in a powerful way.

2. After all those years of studying, and in the end it all **resulted in** nothing.

3. The **terrain** around us was absolutely breathtaking.

4. He **supported himself** by working as a cook.



Watch the Video

► [Click here to watch the video](#) (or search for 'The Story Begins - I Quit My Job To Travel' on YouTube). Watch it at least once without subtitles or the transcript. Watch it a second time with the transcript if needed.

Speaking Practice

DISCUSSION

Discuss the following questions.

Try to give as much detail as you can. Elaborate with examples or stories whenever possible.

1. How did TK feel about his life before making the decision to quit his job?
2. What do you think about TK's decision? Would you ever make such a drastic decision?
3. Some people believe there's an appropriate time and age to make decisions like these. Do you agree? Why/why not?
4. Do you have any family members or friends who have influenced your life in a significant way, maybe encouraging you to take a risky decision or try something new?
5. On a scale from 1 to 10, how much of a risk-taker/adventurer are you when it comes to stepping out of your comfort zone? When was the last time you did something that scared you? How did the experience change you?
6. What is the biggest challenge you have faced in your career or in life?
7. If you weren't in your current profession, what else would you do?



8. If money wasn't an issue, would you travel more? What would you dedicate your time to? What are some aspirations that you've put on hold while focusing on work?
9. Tell me about a trip or travel experience that left an impact on you. How did it change your perspective on life?
10. Would you still be where you are if you had the choice? If not, where would you choose to live and why?
11. What is one thing you would change in your life if you could travel back in time?



Writing Practice

PRODUCTION

Choose 3 - 5 words you learned today, and use them to create one of the following:

1. 6 - 10 separate sentences
2. A paragraph
3. A short story
4. A poem or a song

Tips for Better Writing

USE A VARIETY OF SENTENCE STYLES

Avoid using simple sentences. Instead, try to use a variety of sentence styles and lengths:

Type	Definition	Example
Simple	Consists of only one clause.	<i>She likes traveling.</i>
Compound	Combines two independent clauses with <i>and, but, yet, so</i> , etc.	<i>She likes traveling, and she loves exploring new places.</i>
Complex	Combines one main clause and one dependent clause with <i>if, even though, because, unless</i> , etc.	<i>Even though she likes traveling, she doesn't travel often.</i>

Transcript



I've never imagined things would have come to this.

My name is Ben Tkalcevic and I'm about to make one of the biggest decisions of my life.

I'm just your average person, I guess.

I was caught up in the 9 to 5, 6 to 3 work system we call life, maybe no different from you.

For years I had been living a mediocre life, living the same day over and over. Something that I really never felt content with.

For years I'd worked very hard to make a living in various jobs, saving all I could in hope that one day, I could support a family and make my parents proud.

For five years I worked as a cabinet maker, building kitchens and bathrooms with a team of other cabinet-makers.

I valued making money, more than I valued the exciting experiences I could have had in this world.

Leaving before the sun for work and quite often arriving home to the stars. It was the only life I knew.

Until my brother, Jaime invited me on a trip with him to Southeast Asia. Little did I know that trip would change me forever.

What I saw and the things I experienced, took hold of me in an uncontrollable way. The people, the cultures, the amazing landscapes.

I finally felt like I was alive and had a sense of purpose, but soon after, it was time to go back to reality and face the repetitive work life I had been living week in and week out.

But I was left with an important question burning inside me, was this really reality? I thought it was time to find out.

So here I am, about to make my biggest decision of all time.



Leaving my friends, my family, and my home in search of a greater life.

Not knowing fully whether it'll be the right decision but knowing any decision to leave, was better than any decision to stay.

August 25th, 2017 I quit my job, I bought a one-way ticket to Asia, packed my things, put away my work tools for the last time, and hung up my work boots.

I traded my trade for my dreams.

Of course, if it wasn't for my little brother none of this would have ever happened. So I dedicate this video to you, Jamie.

Thank you for opening my eyes and showing me another world beyond my own and to everyone else watching this video, no matter where I am, now you'll always know where I started.

My name is TK and this is my story.



Answer Key

1. WORDS IN CONTEXT

1. satisfied and happy
2. deeply involved in
3. deal with
4. discover
5. profession

2. FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. He insisted that his sons learn a **trade**.
2. Before I realized it, I **was caught up in** very unhealthy eating habits.
3. They **faced** a lot of challenges to have their business running.
4. I've just **found out** my sister is pregnant with triplets!
5. I'm **content** with what I have right now.

3. DEFINITIONS

1. **hang up one's boots**: retire, to stop doing your job
2. **make a living**: earn money to support yourself and pay for rent, food, etc.
3. **take hold of**: gain complete control over a person or thing
4. **come to**: have a result

4. WHAT'S ANOTHER WAY TO SAY...?

1. The experience **took hold of me** in a powerful way.
2. After all those years of studying, and in the end it all **came to** nothing.
3. Though he was still young, he decided it was time to **hang up his boots**.
4. He **made a living** by working as a cook.