

# REAL LIFE ISSUE

## What's a good cause?

### Get started

- 1** Look at the picture. What's happening? Have you ever done this, or do you know anyone who has? Tell the class.



- 2** Match the words in the box with their meanings (1–5). What is their connection with the pictures?

charity (n)   donate (v)   fund (n)   research (n)   raise (money) (v)

- 1 a study to find out new facts research
- 2 an organisation that collects money from the public and helps people in need
- 3 collect money for a special purpose
- 4 give money to an organisation
- 5 an amount of money

- 3** Now complete the factfile with words from the box in Exercise 2.

#### Factfile: The Ice Bucket Challenge

The purpose of this activity is to <sup>1</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ money for medical <sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_. You pour a bucket of icy water over your head while somebody films you (and usually posts the video online). You then <sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ some money and challenge other people to do the same. Many videos have gone viral on social media sites like Twitter and Facebook, and many celebrities have taken part. The Ice Bucket Challenge has been very popular, but some people dislike it. Although they support the <sup>4</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, they dislike this method of <sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ raising.

## Speak

**4** What do you think about the Ice Bucket Challenge? Discuss in pairs and tick (✓) the statements you agree with.

- It's an easy way to have fun.
- Celebrities get free publicity.
- It raised millions of pounds for charity.
- Most people do not actually donate any money.
- It can be bad for your health.
- It's a cool way to get a lot of people around the world involved in charity.

## Read

**5** Read the webpage. Who wrote it and who are its readers?



Hi everyone. It's nearly 2015 now and it's time for a change. At our last meeting we decided to do something a bit different. As you know, we usually organise fund raising events throughout the year in aid of several different charities. However, this year we'd like to support just one charity, and really go for it.



The first question is this: which charity should it be? We've got a few ideas, but we'd like as many more suggestions as possible. We could choose a local charity or a national or international one. Please have a look, discuss it with your friends, and then post comments and suggestions.

**Local charities:**  
 The homeless hostel  
 Our local foodbank  
 The children's hospital toy library



**National/International charities:**  
 The Red Cross/Red Crescent  
 Cancer research  
 Guide Dogs for the Blind



Please post your ideas and comments below. Give your name and class.

OK, here's the second question: how are we going to raise the money? Do we want to have one big event at the end of the summer term, or is it better to organise lots of smaller events over the next two terms? What kind of events would you support? Here are some ideas to get you started. Suggestions, comments and offers of help are all welcome!

One big event (open to the public):

- a performance, e.g. concert, talent show, play
- a summer fair with fun competitions
- a sports day (with lots of fun competitions)

Smaller events:

- sponsored events, e.g. walks, cycle rides, runs, silences, staying awake
- non-uniform day - pay £1 and wear your own clothes to school
- home-made goods sales, e.g. cakes, biscuits, arts and crafts

Please post your ideas and comments below (give your name and class):

## Comprehension

**6** Read the text again and answer the questions in pairs.

- 1 What decision have they already made?
- 2 What do they still have to decide?
- 3 What do they want their readers to do?

## Speak your mind!

**7** Work in pairs. What do you think of the ideas in the text? Add your own comments and suggestions.

**8** Work in new pairs or small groups. Share ideas and then choose the cause you would support. Plan a fundraising event or events.

## Write

**9** Prepare a poster for the school notice board. Include the following information:

- what the charity is and what it does
- what event or events you have planned
- time and place of the event or events