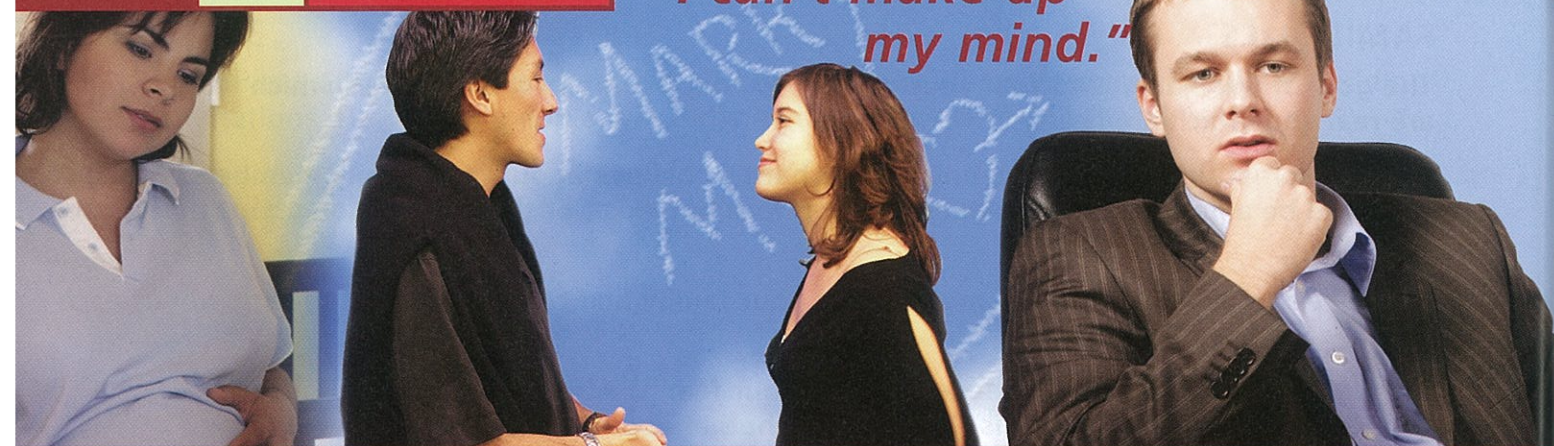


"I can't make up
my mind."



Warm Up

Read about the important decisions these people are facing. Write the missing words.

figure	major	weigh
lean	decide	downside
stay-at-home	realize	heart-to-heart

1. Pamela is pregnant with her first child. She has to decide whether she wants to be a working mom or a stay-at-home mom.
2. The Yamamotos are planning a vacation. They have to _____ out which airline offers the cheapest rates.
3. Stan is unhappy at work, but he makes a good salary. He's going to _____ the pros and cons of getting a lower-paying job that he likes better.
4. Kelsey is _____ing toward going to Harvard because she has family near Boston, but she also really likes Yale.
5. Ben just _____ed to propose to his girlfriend, Laura. He's going to have an airplane write "Will you marry me?" in the sky.
6. Mrs. Lai's company wants to transfer her to another country. She's going to have a _____ conversation with her husband about it tonight.
7. Katherine isn't sure whether she wants to _____ in anthropology or linguistics.
8. Jeremy and Priscilla didn't _____ until they got engaged how difficult it is to plan a wedding.
9. For Roland, the _____ of buying a new car is that he has to do lots of research to make the best decision.

Now listen and check.

CD 1, Track 35

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

I'm seriously considering it.
I'm not sure I'm ready to
take that step.
I've been thinking about it.
I'm still undecided.
I don't want to rush you.

Have you made decisions about any of these topics? What did you decide to do?

Listening Task



Look at the pictures. What kind of decisions do you think they will discuss?



First Listening: What is the speaker thinking about doing?

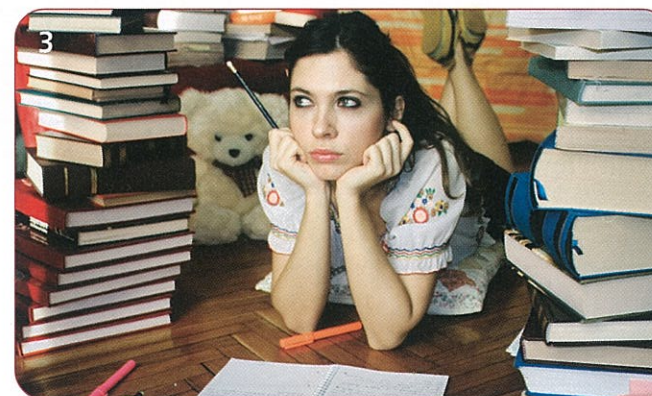
CD 1, Tracks 36-40



- 1
- ☒ getting a job
 - ☐ quitting her job
 - ☐ becoming a stay-at-home mom



- 2
- ☐ looking for a job in another state
 - ☐ accepting a new job and moving
 - ☐ finding a new career



- 3
- ☐ choosing a major
 - ☐ majoring in more than one subject
 - ☐ dropping out of college



- 4
- ☐ getting a bigger apartment
 - ☐ getting a puppy
 - ☐ getting another pet



Second Listening: What does the other person say?

(There may be more than one answer.)

CD 1, Tracks 36-40



- 1.
- ☒ No one will take care of things at home.
 - ☐ Working is too stressful.
 - ☐ It might be difficult to find a job.



- 2.
- ☐ The job is a great opportunity.
 - ☐ Texas is far away.
 - ☐ Six weeks from now is too soon to move.



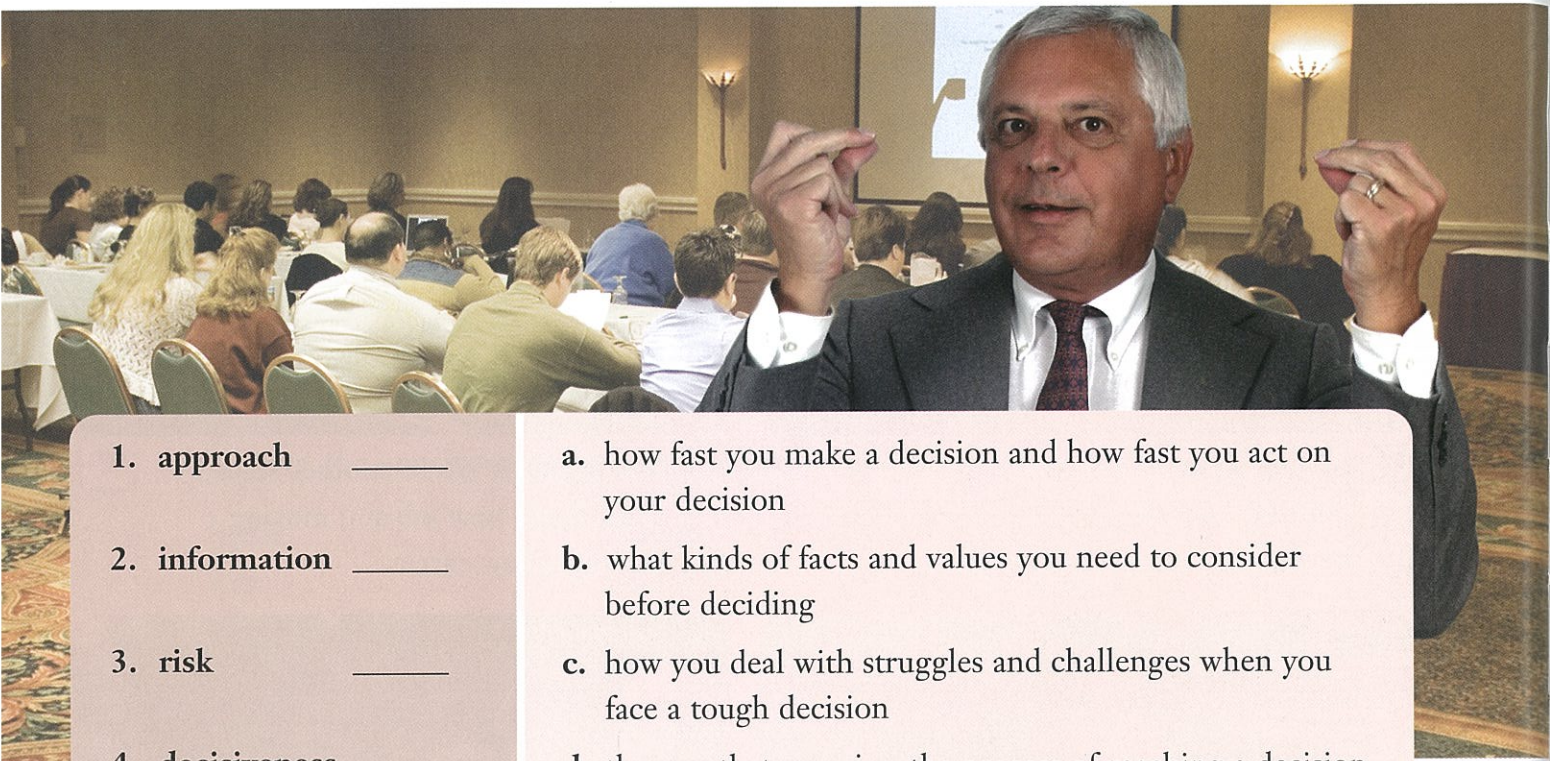
- 3.
- ☐ She should major in psychology.
 - ☐ She could do great things in any subject.
 - ☐ She shouldn't keep changing her mind.



- 4.
- ☐ A puppy is messy.
 - ☐ A big dog wouldn't like their little apartment.
 - ☐ A cat might be a better choice for them.

PREPARE

 You are going to hear a presentation on decision making. There are four dimensions, or measurements, in decision making. Match the dimensions with the definitions.



1. approach _____

2. information _____

3. risk _____

4. decisiveness _____
- a. how fast you make a decision and how fast you act on your decision

b. what kinds of facts and values you need to consider before deciding

c. how you deal with struggles and challenges when you face a tough decision

d. the way that you view the process of reaching a decision

 Now listen and check.

CD 1, Tracks 41–42

GET THE MAIN IDEAS

 Match each dimension with the two types of decision makers.

CD 1, Tracks 41–42

1. approach _____

2. information _____

3. risk _____

4. decisiveness _____

Abstract
Originators
Challengers
Organized
Concrete
Flexible
Conciliators
Adapters

 RESPOND TO THE IDEAS

1. What do you think of this style of decision making? Does it make sense?

2. Tell a partner about a big decision that you had to make in your life. What were the pros and cons? What did you decide to do? What kind of “decision maker” were you when you made this decision: Originator? Challenger? Other?

GET A LIFE

1. Life is full of choices. What is important to you? Check the things in the chart that you would prefer to have in your life.

		Me	Person A	Person B
Career	Business	☐	☐	☐
	Government	☐	☐	☐
	Health care	☐	☐	☐
	Entertainment	☐	☐	☐
Education	Undergraduate degree	☐	☐	☐
	Graduate degree	☐	☐	☐
Location	Rural	☐	☐	☐
	Suburban	☐	☐	☐
	Urban	☐	☐	☐
Housing	Old house	☐	☐	☐
	New apartment	☐	☐	☐
Marital Status	Married	☐	☐	☐
	Single	☐	☐	☐
	Divorced	☐	☐	☐
Spouse/significant other	Beautiful	☐	☐	☐
	Intelligent	☐	☐	☐
Children	0	☐	☐	☐
	1	☐	☐	☐
	2	☐	☐	☐
	3	☐	☐	☐
	10	☐	☐	☐
Pets	Cat	☐	☐	☐
	Dog	☐	☐	☐
	Fish	☐	☐	☐
	None	☐	☐	☐

2. Now talk to two classmates. Find out what is important to them. Discuss the things you think are important. Give reasons for your opinions and preferences.