

## READING

- 1 **8.1** Read the question. Read the article quickly and choose the correct answer.

The article is about

- a someone starting their career
- b careers advice for dancers
- c working for an Internet company

- 2 Read the questions and underline the key words. Match the questions to Heidi's answers in the article.

- 1 What about the future?
- 2 What's a typical day in your job?
- 3 Why do you like your job?
- 4 Why did you take the job as a personal assistant?
- 5 What did you want to do when you moved to London?

- 3 Find the words (1–5) in the article and match them with the correct definition (a–f). There is one extra definition.

- 1 out-of-work  f
- 2 studio
- 3 job agency
- 4 performing artists
- 5 aspiring

- a hopeful
- b actors, singers, dancers etc
- c a person who answers the phone
- d a room where dancers practise
- e a company which matches people and jobs
- f without a job

- 4 Read the list. Put the events in order.

Heidi ...

- a got a job as a personal assistant
- b got a job in a dance studio
- c heard about an Internet agency
- d moved to London
- e worked as a waitress
- f worked on a children's TV programme
- g worked on a rock video

# Dancer takes the right steps

It is very difficult for people who work in show business to find permanent jobs. Out-of-work actors, singers and dancers often work in bars or restaurants while they are looking for work.

However, when 19-year-old Heidi Calver moved to London to build her career as a dancer, she decided not to be a waitress again. <sup>1</sup> 'I hoped to get work as a full-time dancer but I knew that was an impossible dream! I don't mind working in cafés and bars but I prefer being in touch with other dancers and entertainers. I looked for jobs which are linked to show business and I was very lucky – I got a job as an evening manager for a small dance studio in north London.'

While Heidi was working for the dance studio, she learned that a lot of the teachers at the studio got their jobs through an Internet job agency for dancers. She applied for a job with the Internet company and a week later she was part of the sales team. After only a month, the manager asked her to be his personal assistant. <sup>2</sup> 'It was a promotion with a pay rise so I said 'yes!' immediately.'

The company is one of Britain's largest agencies for performing artists so Heidi is always very busy. <sup>3</sup> 'I look after my boss's diary, make his travel arrangements, answer the telephone. In fact, I don't mind doing anything to help! I might take photographs of aspiring dancers for the website, look for twenty singers for a big London musical, find a pianist for an orchestra or help someone to write their CV.'

<sup>4</sup> 'I hate being bored so this job is perfect for me – and it keeps me close to the world of dance. I hear about dancing jobs and my boss is very good at letting me have time off – last month I did a rock video and the month before I was in a children's TV programme.'

<sup>5</sup> 'I still want to make my career in dancing but I'm happy to wait. I'm very lucky – I enjoy my job and every day is an adventure!'

