

# Unit 1

## Unit 1 Extension

1 Read the description by a writer called Sean Connor and answer the questions.

- 1 What made the writer think more about his roots?
- 2 Which side of his family did the writer have the most contact with while he was growing up?
- 3 Why did the writer's grandfather move to England?
- 4 What did the writer's mother's great-grandfather probably do?
- 5 What dream does the writer have?

### Roots

My father came from Irish roots, although he was born in England – in Liverpool, to be exact. He died a year ago, and that's when I began to think more about my own roots. My mother is a seventy-year-old Frenchwoman from Bordeaux.

They met while at university in London and never left the city. In time, most of my father's family moved down from Liverpool too, so we had a lot of contact with them. We saw my mother's family on long summer holidays in France that I always enjoyed.

My father's side of the family were Connors from County Cork. They were small farmers, like many of the Irish. My grandfather came to England during the Second World War, when there was a shortage of labourers in Britain and work was easy to find.

My mother's family, the Leblancs, were also farmers, but more successful. They own and run a medium-sized farm to this day. The farm has been in the family for at least seven generations.

My grandfather on my father's side had a brother who emigrated to Australia, so it's possible there's another part of the Connor family over there. If so, I'd love to go out there one day and meet them.

2 Read the text again. Then match the points (a–h) with the paragraphs they appear in.

Paragraph 1 .....

Paragraph 2 ..... - .....

Paragraph 3 ..... - .....

Paragraph 4 ..... - .....

Paragraph 5 .....

- a My dream of meeting Australian relatives
- b My father's side of the family
- c My father and mother
- d An old family tradition
- e How and where my parents met
- f Why the Connors moved to England
- g My mother's side of the family
- h My contact with the families while growing up

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**3** Read the writing task and answer the questions.

Write a similar piece to Sean Connor’s, describing your own family roots.

- 1 What should you write about?
  - a Sean’s family
  - b your future plans
  - c your ancestors and relatives
- 2 What register should you use?
  - a informal
  - b neutral
  - c formal
- 3 Which of these will you include? Tick the boxes.
  - a story about a famous ancestor
  - how many children you want to have
  - how your family came to live where you live
  - where you and your family go on holiday
  - how and where your mother and father met
- 4 What might you put in the final paragraph? Tick at least one box.
  - information about Sean’s great-uncle
  - why you think it’s important to know your roots
  - a description of your parents
  - your plans to trace your family roots further

**4** Write the task presented in Exercise 3.

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