

Unit 1: Human Lifespan Development

Learning Aim B: Investigate how individuals deal with life events

WHAT IS A 'LIFE EVENT'?

They can be expected, or unexpected. What is the difference between the two?



EXAMPLES OF 'LIFE EVENTS'

Expected life events

- Starting school
- Leaving school
- Getting married
- Getting a job
- Moving house
- Bereavement (later adulthood)

Unexpected life events

- Illness or injury
- Redundancy
- Divorce
- Imprisonment

Task

Choose a life event that has had an impact on you recently, it could have been expected or unexpected.

Explain how it has had an impact on your overall health and wellbeing.

How does a life event affect a person?

Compare the impact of an expected and an unexpected life event.

Physical events

Accident/injury and ill health

Case study: Ed

Rugby player Ed broke his neck after diving into the shallow end of a swimming pool.

He was told he would never walk again, and had no movement or feeling from the neck downwards.

<http://www.bbc.com/sport/wales/40418105.app>

Read the newspaper article about Ed and his injuries.

- 1. Can you identify what type of life event is this?*
- 2. Can you describe the impact the injury has had on Ed's physical and emotional development?*
- 3. Can you explain how Ed has adapted, and how he has been supported?*





Ill health

Some illnesses can affect people for a few days, or for their whole life.

Illnesses could affect all areas of a person's health and wellbeing, or may just affect one part, for example physical health.

Ed fell ill whilst recovering in hospital. He was diagnosed with a bacterial infection known as MRSA. How could this have affected his road to recovery?

Relationship changes

Entering into relationships, marriage, divorce, parenthood,
bereavement

Task



You are going to complete the carousel activity, identifying ways that a person's overall health and wellbeing is affected by relationship changes.

Consider their PIES development, e.g. marriage would support emotional development as a person would feel safe and secure.



Task

Choose one celebrity, or celebrity couple.

You are going to write a paragraph, explaining how their relationship change has affected their health and wellbeing (PIES).

There is a writing frame to help you get started.



Peer assessment

Swap your PEE paragraph with your partner.

Use the red pens to mark your partner's work, using the grid your teacher has given you.

How do you know that your peer has put effort into their work?

Life circumstances

Moving house, school or job, exclusion from education,
redundancy, imprisonment, retirement

Task



Your practitioner is:

Each group is going to produce a mind map that identifies how a particular life circumstance affects a person's health and wellbeing.

The practitioner must make sure all groups produce the work that is required.

Sources of support

Family, friends and partners, professional carers and services, community groups, voluntary and faith based organisations



Task

Choose a celebrity, or celebrity couple from your previous task on relationship changes.

You are going to identify and describe which different sources of support would benefit them, and why.

Types of support

Emotional, information and advice, practical help

Types of support available

- *Emotional e.g. counsellor, befriending*
- *Information and advice e.g. charities, Citizens Advice, patient services*
- *Practical help e.g. financial assistance (social worker, volunteer or citizens advice), childcare, transport*

What has the charity 'Heads Together' done to offer emotional support and information to service users?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45RqUmxDXiY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CTkzOrRCCR4>



Task

Once you have identified and described the sources of support for your celebrity, you need to categorise them into one of three types:

- *Emotional*
- *Information and advice*
- *Practical help*



Assignment preparation

You are going to be interviewing a service user who has experienced a particular life event.

You need to find out the following information:

- 1. How has the event impacted their development (PIES)?*
- 2. How have they adapted to the life event, using support?*
- 3. How well have they adapted to the life event?*
- 4. What support did they receive, and what role or value did it have?*

Task



Plan your questions on a white board.

How are you going to get enough information from the service user?

What does a great question look like?

Task



Complete the interview questions template.

You should identify what questions were asked, along with responses from the service user.

When you complete your assignment, this will be part of your evidence!

Scenario

As part of your studies, you are asked to produce some materials about the way in which different life events, such as getting married or losing a loved one, can affect individuals. You will also be considering the way in which support can help people to cope with the different life events. In order to get your information, you will need to interview the two individuals you have chosen. You should discuss your questions with your teacher, before you start.

Key points

Interview two people who have experienced the same life event

You are investigating the following:

1. How the life event has affected them
2. Comparing and assessing how well they adapted to the life event
3. Explaining and assessing the role and value of support. If the person has not accessed any support, you should explain what support would be suitable and why.



Task

You need to complete the interview sheets for your two case studies.

You must also get signed consent from each case study.

B2.P3 and B2.P4

B2.P3 Explain the impact of a life event on the development of two individuals

B2.P4 Explain how two individuals adapted to a life event, using support

B2.M2

B2.M2 Compare the ways that two individuals adapted to a life event and the role that support played.

B2.D2

B2.D2 Assess how well two individuals adapted to a life event and the role and value of support in this.