

3 LUCKY FOR SOME?



Get THINKING

Watch the video and think:
how lucky are you?

OBJECTIVES

FUNCTIONS:

giving encouragement to someone who's feeling nervous

GRAMMAR:

mixed conditionals (review); alternatives to *if*

VOCABULARY:

phrasal verbs; expressions with *luck*



A



B



C

READING

1 SPEAKING Look at the photos. For each one:

- 1 describe what you think is happening/has happened.
- 2 say what might happen next.
- 3 say how each person could possibly be unlucky.
- 4 say how each person could possibly be lucky.

2 Read the magazine article quickly.

- 1 Match the stories (1–3) to the photos.
- 2 How does each person think they were lucky?

3 3.01 Read again and listen. Mark the statements T (true) or F (false).

- 1 The large school was Molly's first choice.
- 2 Molly's interview at the large school was unsuccessful.
- 3 Molly was not very good at the interview as she was too nervous.
- 4 It was dark, and Suzanne fell over and hurt her ankle.
- 5 Suzanne would not have met her husband if she had not broken her ankle.
- 6 Edwin had lost his sight in a bad accident a few years earlier.
- 7 Edwin went to stand under the tree to avoid being hit by lightning.
- 8 After Edwin had had a rest in bed, he could see again.

4 SPEAKING Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

- 1 In your opinion, who was the luckiest person: Molly, Suzanne or Edwin? Who was the least lucky?
- 2 Which story do you like the most/least? Why? Compare with a partner.
- 3 Can you think of any other blessings in disguise that you or people you know have experienced?
- 4 One of these stories is a true story. Which one do think it is?

1 Just a phone call away

During my last year at college, just over two years ago, I started to apply for teaching jobs. Two schools in my home town offered me an interview. The first was a large school with 1,200 pupils and the second was a smaller one with 500 pupils. I really wanted to work at the large school because I thought it was a better place overall. The interview there went well and the next day they phoned to offer me a job. Of course, I accepted their job offer immediately. I quickly phoned the other school to turn down the interview but no one answered the phone. The next morning, I got a phone call from the headteacher of the large school. She said that there was no longer a vacancy there as the teacher had decided to stay on and didn't want to leave after all. I went to the job interview at the small school and I got the job. I still work there and I love it, so it all worked out in the end. If somebody had picked up the phone that afternoon, I would not have got this wonderful job. **Molly**



2 Every cloud has a silver lining

It was my 21st birthday. I wanted to do something different – something that I would remember for the rest of my life, so I arranged to go rock climbing with some friends. We went to Malham Cove in the Yorkshire Dales. The sun was shining and it was a beautiful day. When we set off, we were all laughing and chatting. Then suddenly, I fell over. I landed badly on my ankle and I couldn't walk. I needed to go to hospital, but my friends and I didn't have a car. Another climber at the cove, James, had a car. 'I'll give you a lift to the hospital,' he said, and so my friends helped me to the car and we set off for the hospital. This was not how I wanted to spend my birthday! At the hospital, we learned that my ankle was broken. That evening, we had my birthday party as planned and James stayed for that, too. In the end it was a very special day because it was the day that James and I met. If I had not fallen over, I would not have met James. A year later we got married. **Suzanne**



3 Miracles do happen

I read an amazing story about an elderly man who was blind and deaf. His name was Edwin Robinson, and he had lost his sight in a very serious accident. Then, one fateful night, nine years after his accident, there was a terrible thunderstorm. He was wandering around outside in the field near his house looking for his hen, and swinging his white metal stick as he walked along. When it began to rain heavily, he sheltered under a tree. Seconds later, he was struck by lightning and fell to the ground. For twenty minutes, he lay there unconscious. When he came to, he stumbled back to the house. Understandably, he felt very tired, so he went to bed for a nap. When he woke up that evening, he discovered that he could see and hear again. It was unbelievable! When his wife came into the room, he said, 'I can see you! I can see the house. I can read. If the hen didn't run away all the time, I wouldn't have been out in that storm!' It was incredible. **Scott**



Train to THINK

Behaviour based on myths rather than facts

Sometimes we change our behaviour or make a decision because of a myth or false belief. These myths can range from culturally shared false beliefs, such as 'breaking a mirror means bad luck' to more personal ones, such as 'I wear my lucky T-shirt to every football match that my team plays in'. Most of us are aware that such behaviour has no actual influence on the outcome of an event, but despite this, we still act as if the false belief we have is fact.

- 5 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Read this dictionary definition of a myth and answer the questions.

myth *noun* (FALSE IDEA)

a commonly believed but false idea:

Statistics disprove the myth that women are worse drivers than men.

- 1 According to the dictionary entry, who are worse at driving: women or men?
- 2 If someone believes women are worse drivers than men, how might this affect their behaviour?

- 6 Which of these myths do you feel are personal beliefs and which are widely held ones?

- 1 I always put my left leg into the bath first.
- 2 If I spill salt accidentally, I throw it over my shoulder and make a wish.
- 3 I never walk under a ladder. It brings bad luck.
- 4 I never travel on Friday 13th. It's an unlucky day.
- 5 I tap my phone three times before I turn it on.
- 6 I always use the same pen to do my exams.

- 7 **SPEAKING** Discuss in pairs. Which myths do you or people you know have? How do these myths affect your/their behaviour?



GRAMMAR

Mixed conditionals (review)

- 1 Match the beginnings and endings of these sentences from the article. Then complete the rule with **present** and **past**.

- 1 If somebody had picked up the phone that afternoon,
- 2 If I had not fallen over,
- 3 If the hen didn't run away all the time,
- a I would not have met James.
- b I would not have got this wonderful job.
- c I wouldn't have been out in that storm.

RULE:

Mixed conditionals are used:

- to connect an imaginary past (*had* + past participle) with a ¹_____ result (*would* + infinitive) as in sentences 1 and 2.
- to connect a hypothetical present (past simple) with a ²_____ result (*would have* + past participle) as in sentence 3.

PRONUNCIATION

Unstressed words in connected speech

Go to page 120.

- 2 Choose the correct options.

- 1 My cousin lived in Chicago for five years as a child. If she *didn't live / hadn't lived* there, she *wouldn't speak / wouldn't have spoken* English as well as she does.
- 2 Yo-Yo Ma plays the cello exceptionally well. He *wouldn't be / wouldn't have been* as famous as he is if he *didn't learn / hadn't learned* from such a young age.
- 3 I don't feel very well. If I *hadn't eaten / didn't eat* two bars of chocolate, I'd *be / I'd have been* OK now.
- 4 I'm never on time. If I *wasn't always / hadn't always been* late, I *wouldn't get / wouldn't have got* in trouble with the teacher yesterday.
- 5 She was really rude to me. We *would still be / would still have been* friends now if she *didn't say / hadn't said* those things.
- 6 I'm not very good at football. If I *was / had been* a better player, I'm sure I *would have been chosen / would be chosen* for the school team last week!

- 3 Rewrite the sentences using a mixed conditional structure.

- 0 I'm tired today because I didn't sleep well last night.
If I'd slept well last night, I wouldn't be tired today.
- 1 I know how to play the game. My friend explained it to me yesterday.
- 2 I haven't got any money. I didn't buy a present for my mum.
- 3 My sister had an accident. She's in hospital.
- 4 He's a very talented tennis player. He won four tournaments last year.
- 5 I missed the train. I'm not in Manchester yet.

- 4 **WRITING** Write two mixed conditional sentences about yourself or someone you know.

- 1 If _____, I wouldn't be here now.
- 2 _____ if I'd had a bit more luck.

→ workbook page 28



VOCABULARY

Phrasal verbs

- 5 Replace the words in **bold** with phrasal verbs from the list in the correct form.

come to | fall over | pick up
run away | set off | stay on
turn back | turn down | work out

- 1 Everything **went well** in the end and I was happy.
- 2 I couldn't go on. It was too cold and dark so I **went back home**.
- 3 The dog **escaped** and I found him two days later.
- 4 I **continued** at university for another year.
- 5 I fainted, and when I **became conscious again**, the horse had gone.
- 6 I didn't want the job so I **didn't accept** their offer.
- 7 I **slipped** and broke my arm.
- 8 We **left** at six o'clock in the morning. It was still dark.
- 9 If only she had **answered** the phone this morning, we wouldn't have missed each other.

- 6 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs and answer the questions.

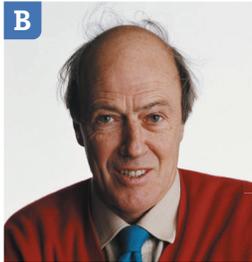
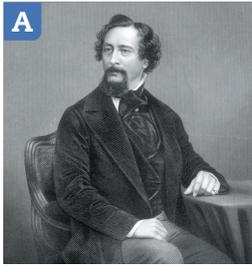
- 1 Have you ever set off for a trip and forgotten something?
- 2 Have you ever fallen over and broken an arm or a leg? How did it happen?
- 3 Have you ever turned down an invitation to a party and regretted it later? What happened?

- 7 **WRITING** Use phrasal verbs from Exercise 5 to write two more questions for your partner.

- 8 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Ask and answer your questions.

→ workbook page 30

LISTENING



9 Can you name the people in the photos above? What's the connection between the famous people and the objects?

10 3.03 Listen and check your ideas from Exercise 9.

11 3.03 Listen again to Holly, Nick and Antony and answer the questions.

- Who carried a compass with him everywhere?
- Who likes to use a winning ball?
- Whose plane crash resulted in him finding a new career?

12 3.03 Listen again. Complete each sentence with between one and three words.

- When Charles Dickens travelled anywhere, he took a _____ with him.
- Charles Dickens always _____ facing north.
- Roald Dahl was a _____ when his plane crashed.
- The famous writer C.S. Forester published Roald Dahl's story _____.
- If Richard Gasquet wins a point, he wants to use _____ again.

VOCABULARY

Expressions with *luck*

13 **SPEAKING** Read the sentences. What do the underlined phrases mean? Discuss in pairs.

- A Your pen must have broken. You've got ink all over your shirt.
B Oh no! I've got an interview this afternoon! It's just my luck.
- He always wears those shoes when he plays. He thinks they bring him luck.
- A Does the number 21 bus stop here?
B Yes – and you're in luck. Look, there's one coming now.
- A I missed the last train by 15 seconds!
B Oh, bad luck. What did you do – walk home?
- A I failed my driving test.
B Oh, sorry to hear that. Better luck next time.
- A Did you get wet on your walk?
B No! As luck would have it, we got home just before the rain started.
- A It was my first ever go at one of those competitions, and I won!
B Huh! Beginner's luck.
- A Dad's agreed to drive me to football practice. I think I'll ask him if he can pick me up, too. I don't feel like walking home.
B That might be pushing your luck. He'll be watching TV later.

→ workbook page 30

SPEAKING

14 Work in pairs and answer the questions.

- Have you ever had bad luck that turned into good luck? When/How?
- Do you or does anyone you know have any things that they do to bring them good luck?
- Give an example of a time when you've pushed your luck.

THINK values

How do we feel about luck?

15 Make notes on how you'd feel in each of these situations.

- You know someone who, in the past, said things about you that you didn't like. You hear that they had some bad luck – they slipped and broke their right arm just before an important exam.
- You hear that someone you like very much has just won a competition and the prize is a week's holiday in a wonderful place.
- You take a multiple-choice test. You don't know many of the answers at all but you guess them. You discover that you got a score of 17 out of 20.

16 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Compare your answers to Exercise 15 and then discuss these questions.

- What would be the best response to each situation?
- Is this a true reflection of how you really feel?
- What, if anything, would be an inappropriate response?

READING

1 Look at the title of the blog. Have you ever seen this word before? What do you think it means?

2 Read the blog quickly to check your ideas from Exercise 1.

3  3.04 Read and listen to the blog again and answer the questions.

- 1 What was the wildlife photographer hoping to do?
- 2 What was lucky about the photo he took?
- 3 How do translators feel about the word 'serendipity'?
- 4 What example is mentioned of serendipity in science?
- 5 What example is given of serendipity in history?
- 6 What example of serendipity does the writer give from her own experience?

4 Are these things examples of serendipity or not? Why/Why not? Put a tick (✓) or a cross (X) in the box. Then compare with a partner.

- 1 You've lost a ring at home. You look everywhere for it. Then a family member comes in and says: 'Look! I found your ring in the car.'
- 2 A footballer tries to kick the ball to score a goal. He kicks it very badly, but accidentally passes it to another player in his team, who scores.
- 3 You're looking for a book in your room. You look on a shelf and see a DVD that you thought you'd lost.

5 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Discuss your answers to the questions.

- 1 How would you translate the word 'serendipity' into your language?
- 2 Do you know of any examples of serendipity from a film/book/TV show?
- 3 Have you experienced serendipity in your own life (or has someone you know)?

Janet's 'odd word'

blog.

This week: 'serendipity'.

Serendipity

A wildlife photographer was waiting, hoping to get a shot of a relatively rare bird, a particular kind of heron. He'd waited several frustrating hours with no luck at all. He needed a photo soon, otherwise it would be too dark and he would have to come back the next day and start all over again. Suddenly, to his delight, a heron settled on a branch right in front of him. He raised his camera, focused in and took the shot just before the heron flew away. Feeling particularly pleased with himself, the photographer looked at the image. To his astonishment, he saw that behind the heron, his photograph had also captured a very, very rare woodpecker flying past. He hadn't seen it, but without even trying, he'd photographed an even rarer bird than the one he was aiming for.

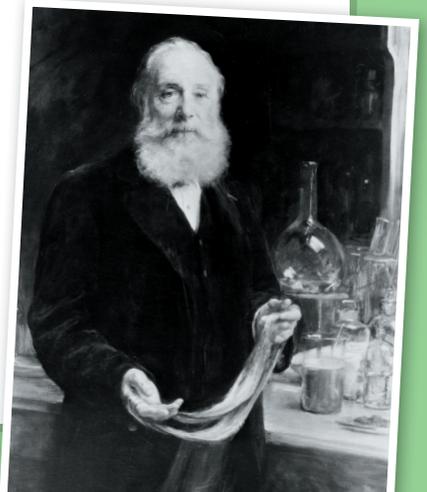


This is an example of serendipity – a word which, according to some translators, is among the ten most difficult English words to define and translate. It means something like 'the fact of finding interesting or valuable things by chance'. The key thing is that if you come across something fortuitous by chance, it's serendipity, provided that you weren't consciously trying to find that thing at the time.

Cases of serendipity can be found in numerous fields, such as science. Back in the 1800s, a man called Horace Wells was at a demonstration of laughing gas (ether and nitrous oxide). After being given the gas, the patient started laughing, as expected. But then he suddenly fell over and cut his leg rather badly. To everyone's surprise, the man reported that he couldn't feel any pain. Wells hadn't been looking for it, but he'd made a medical discovery – certain gases reduce and can even almost eradicate pain. Had Wells not been there that night, anaesthesia might have taken longer to be discovered.

History offers further examples. In 1856, 18-year-old William Perkin wanted to make a drug form of quinine to cure malaria. Instead, he discovered the colour purple. He failed to make quinine and instead got a thick brown liquid in the bottom of the beaker. However, when he washed the beaker with alcohol, the brown liquid turned into a beautiful bright purple. William forgot about malaria and made a lot of money from his new purple dye instead. He was looking for one thing and found another.

Most of us can probably think of at least one example of serendipity in our own lives. A friend of mine was trying to come up with an idea for an online article but got completely stuck. Frustrated, she decided to go out to a local café. She sat there and as she was sipping her coffee, she heard two people talking behind her. A man was telling a story that sounded so unbelievable that she knew it had to be true. She asked the people if she could interview them for the article – unless she got their permission, she wouldn't be able to use their story. They agreed and her article turned out to be one of the top trending articles of the week.





GRAMMAR

Alternatives to *if*

Grammar video ▶ 07

6 Complete the sentences from the blog on page 34 by writing one word in each space.

- 1 He needed a photo soon, _____ it would be too dark.
- 2 If you come across something fortuitous by chance, it's serendipity, _____ that you weren't consciously trying to find that thing at the time.
- 3 _____ she got their permission, she wouldn't be able to use their story.

7 Read these sentences. Underline the word(s) that could be replaced with *if*. Then complete the rule with *unless*, *otherwise*, *as long as* and *suppose*.

- 1 You can borrow it as long as you're careful with it.
- 2 Suppose you were on holiday – what would you be doing now?
- 3 Imagine you could live anywhere in the world – where would you live?

RULE: There are many alternatives to *if*, including *provided that*, *as long as*, *unless*, *otherwise*, *suppose* and *imagine*.

- We use *provided that* and ¹_____ in the same way as *if*, but they make the main clause even more dependent on the condition.
- The word ²_____ is used after an order or suggestion to indicate what the result will be if the order or suggestion isn't followed.
- When we use the word ³_____ instead of *if*, it gives the verb that follows a negative meaning.
- *Imagine* and ⁴_____ are often followed by a second or third conditional clause.

8 Choose the correct options.

- 1 Everything will be fine *as long as* / *suppose* / *unless* you're very careful.
- 2 *Imagine* / *Provided that* / *Unless* you could meet someone famous – who would you choose?
- 3 We'll arrive before eleven o'clock *provided that* / *unless* / *otherwise* the traffic is bad.
- 4 Go to bed early, *unless* / *as long as* / *otherwise* you'll be tired tomorrow.

9 Rewrite the sentences using the word in brackets.

- 1 I always enjoy eating out in restaurants if the food's good. (as long as).
- 2 I never work at the weekend if I don't have to. (unless)
- 3 Everyone deserves some good luck. If not, it isn't fair. (otherwise)
- 4 I don't mind working hard if I get good exam results. (provided that)

→ workbook page 29

WordWise

Expressions with *over*

10 Complete these sentences from the unit with words and phrases from the list.

all over | all over again
fell over | just over | overall

- 1 But then he suddenly _____ and cut his leg rather badly.
- 2 _____ two years ago, I started to apply for teaching jobs.
- 3 Your pen must have broken. You've got ink _____ your shirt.
- 4 I really wanted to work at the large school because I thought it was a better place _____.
- 5 He would have to come back the next day and start _____.

11 Choose the correct options.

- 1 It rained a bit, but we had a good weekend *overall* / *all over*.
- 2 We weren't listening, so the teacher had to tell us *overall* / *all over again*.
- 3 It was really windy last night and a lot of trees *all over* / *fell over*.
- 4 It took us *just over* / *all over* five hours to drive home.
- 5 Look at this mess! There are books and clothes *all over* / *just over* the floor.

→ workbook page 30



WRITING

A story

12 **PLAN** You are going to write a story. It must begin or end with this sentence:

It was the luckiest day of my life.

- 1 Decide whether to base this on a true story or an invented one. Make sure there's luck involved.
- 2 Think about and make notes on the following:
 - the background (where you were, what was happening, etc). Use narrative tenses.
 - how the event proved to be lucky and changed things in your life. Try to use conditionals and some of the 'luck' vocabulary in the unit.

13 **PRODUCE** Write your story (250–300 words).

- 1  3.05 Look at the photos. What do you think the girl and the man are doing? What do you know about the shamrock? Read, listen and check your ideas.



- Jo: Dad, what am I going to do? I've got my driving test on Saturday and I'm still making mistakes. I so want to get my licence and I'm going to fail, I know I am!
- Dad: Calm down, Jo! I'm sure you'll be fine. After all, everyone makes mistakes now and again.
- Jo: But Dad, I can't afford to fail. If I go off to university without a driving licence, then I won't have as much freedom as I hoped!
- Dad: Oh, we'll sort something out. And like I said, you'll be fine ... assuming the examiner isn't concentrating at the time.
- Jo: What?
- Dad: I'm joking, Jo. Try not to worry so much! You can pass even if you make a mistake.
- Jo: Oh? So how do you know that?

- Dad: Experience. When I did my test, I did 35 miles an hour in a 30-mile-an-hour zone for about two minutes. Luckily, the examiner didn't notice! I think it was my lucky shamrock that did it.
- Jo: Your lucky shamrock? I didn't know you had something like that, Dad.
- Dad: Well, kind of, you know. You can take it on Saturday. If you want to borrow it, that is.
- Jo: I don't think a lucky charm is going to make a difference. Either I drive well enough to pass or I don't.
- Dad: But Jo, what have you got to lose? I think having the shamrock will help you keep calm. It certainly won't do you any harm.
- Jo: Maybe you're right. OK, I'll take it along. Now, can we do another ten minutes' practice, please?

- 2  3.05 Read and listen to the dialogue again and answer the questions.

- When is Jo's test and why is it important for her?
- What mistake did her father make in his test?
- Why does Jo agree to take the charm with her?

Phrases for fluency

- 3 Find these expressions in the dialogue. Who says them? How do you say them in your language?

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 After all | 4 assuming ... |
| 2 now and again | 5 ..., that is |
| 3 we'll sort something out | 6 What have you got to lose? |

- 4 Use the expressions in Exercise 3 to complete the dialogues.

- A Do you go there very often?
B No, only _____.
- A You should ask Sarah to go to the cinema with you. _____?
B Well, nothing I guess, _____ I ask her and she says yes!
- A Your Spanish is amazing!
B Not really. _____, my mum is from Peru.
- A You've invited 50 people to the party? We can't provide food for 50 people!
B Oh, don't worry – _____!
- A Do you want to watch that film on TV?
B Yes – if it's OK with you, _____.



FUNCTIONS

Giving encouragement to someone who's feeling nervous

- 5 Complete what Jo's father says when Jo tells him she thinks she'll fail her test.

Dad: '_____, Jo! I'm sure you'll _____!'

- 6 Which of these expressions could also be used to give someone encouragement when they're feeling nervous?

- You've got this!
- What a nightmare!
- Take a deep breath.
- I've got my fingers crossed for you.

- 7 **ROLE PLAY** Work in pairs.

Student A: Tell student B something that you feel nervous about.

Student B: Give encouragement to student A using and expanding on the expressions in Exercises 5 and 6.

Then switch roles. Who did the best job of encouraging their partner?

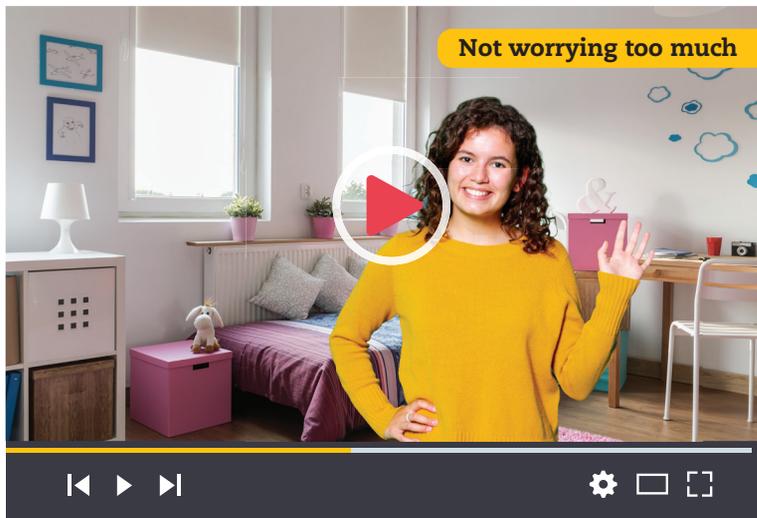
Possible topics:

- you're about to sing in front of the whole school
- you're about to take a university entrance exam
- you're about to play in a crucial football or basketball match.



LIFE COMPETENCIES

We all worry sometimes. We worry about what's happening now, or what might happen in the future, or even about things we've done in the past. But it's important not to let worry dominate our lives.



- ▶ 08 Watch the vlog. What is Annie's biggest worry?
- ▶ 08 Watch the vlog again. Make notes about what Annie says under the headings.

My worries
Clothes —
Social media —
The future —

- SPEAKING** Work in pairs. What advice would you give Annie?
- SPEAKING** Read the blog post. Work in pairs or small groups. Discuss which of the quotes in the blog you think:
 - is most useful.
 - is the funniest.
 - is least useful.
 - is the best.

Me and my world

- Make a list of five things you tend to worry about. Rank them in order of how important you think they are (1=least important; 5=most important).
- SPEAKING** Compare your list with a partner. How could you reduce the amount of time you spend worrying?

TIPS ON NOT WORRYING TOO MUCH

- If you are worried about something, share it as soon as possible with someone you trust – a problem shared is a problem halved.
- Live as much as you can in the present – the past is over and the future will take care of itself.
- Do regular exercise. It's been shown that the more you exercise, the less you tend to worry or lose sleep.

Don't worry, be happy

Are you a worrier? I am and have been for most of my life, though as I've got older, I've managed to cut down the amount of time I spend worrying about 'what might happen' or 'what someone might think', and so on.

One of the things that's helped me is reading the thoughts of wiser people – here is a small selection of some of my favourite quotes about 'worry'.

- There have been hundreds of terrible events in my life, and most of them never actually happened. **Mark Twain**
- If you ask what is the single most important key to longevity, I would have to say it is avoiding worry, stress and tension. And if you didn't ask me, I'd still have to say it. **George Burns**
- If you want to test your memory, try to recall what you were worrying about one year ago today. **Joseph Cosman**
- Worry never robs tomorrow of its sorrow, it only saps today of its joy. **Leo Buscaglia**
- Worry often gives a small thing a big shadow. **Swedish proverb**
- That the birds of worry and care fly over your head, this you cannot change; but you can prevent them from building nests in your hair. **Chinese proverb**
- If there is no solution to the problem, then don't waste time worrying about it. If there is a solution to the problem, then don't waste time worrying about it. **The Dalai Lama**
- Worry has never done anyone any good, and it is very much worse than mere dissipation of psychic energy, for it substantially curtails the joy and fullness of life. **Meher Baba**