



## Choices and Consequences

# PRE-READING ACTIVITIES

### PRE-READING 1:

#### Vocabulary related to *choice*

- > 1. All the words and expressions in the word cloud are related to *choice* as an overall theme. Translate all the words and expressions into Danish.

to single out   to choose   to decide   to make a decision  
to take a chance   **Choices**   possibility  
opportunity   to be in two minds  
to make up one's mind   to have a choice   option   preference  
to choose one thing or another  
the power to choose   free will   goals  
consider   to pick one's way   consequences   direction   consideration  
to be in favor of   to be inclined to   to vote for  
no going back   to regret  
to go for  
to settle for  
change

- > 2. Write a short text (50-75 words) about *choice*. Use as much of the vocabulary in the word cloud in your text as you can.

**PRE-READING 2:****Conversation topic: Making choices**

**IN PAIRS:** Take turns asking and answering the questions below.

- > **1.** How good are you at making choices?
- > **2.** Do you always make the right choice? Explain why.
- > **3.** Tell me about a choice that you have regretted.
- > **4.** Tell me about an important choice you recently had to make.
- > **5.** When making an important choice, do you talk to others about it before deciding what to do?
- > **6.** Why do you think many people find it hard to make choices?
- > **7.** Do you always trust your own judgment when making a choice or do you sometimes take a chance?
- > **8.** Tell me about a choice where you took a chance.
- > **9.** Do you like making choices? Why/Why not?
- > **10.** How often do you find yourself in a situation where you have to make a difficult choice?
- > **11.** Tell me about a choice you once had to make that was extremely difficult to make.
- > **12.** Explain what it means *to be in two minds*.
- > **13.** Do you like helping your friends making difficult choices?
- > **14.** Explain the meaning of the following quotation: *Life is the sum of all of your choices* (Albert Camus).
- > **15.** Explain what it means *to make up your mind*.
- > **16.** Explain what free will is and why it is important.
- > **17.** What is the difference between having a choice and making a choice?
- > **18.** Tell me about someone who is not good at making choices?
- > **19.** When was the last time you could not make up your mind?
- > **20.** When was the last time someone made a choice on your behalf without asking you?
- > **21.** Explain the meaning of the following quotation: *May your choices reflect your hopes, not your fears* (Nelson Mandela).
- > **22.** Tell me about a choice you know that you will have to make in the near future.

**PRE-READING 3:****Creative writing**

Write a text (100-150 words) about a difficult choice you have had to make in your life. Write about the choice you had to make, what you chose, and why it was difficult.

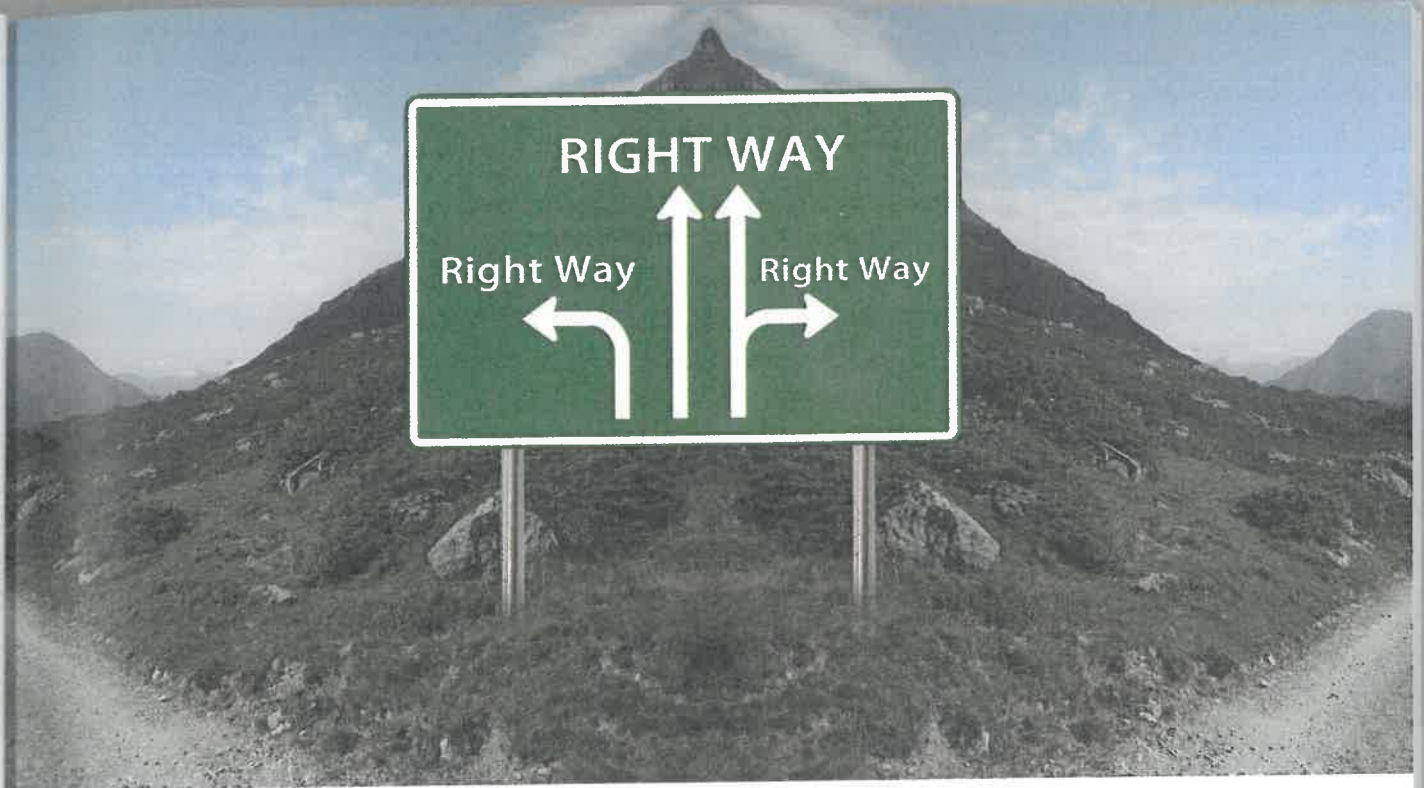
Use at least three of the following expressions in your text:

to take a chance \* to be in two minds \* to have a choice \* to go for \* to be in favor of \* to settle for

**PRE-READING 4:****Role playing**

- > **1. IN PAIRS:** Pick one of the dilemmas below and decide who plays who.
- > **2.** Act out the dilemma for five minutes. Then team up with a new partner and act out another dilemma.

<p><b>Dilemma 1:</b> You have just finished high school, and you want to continue studying, but you are not sure which course of education you should choose. Should you go for a university degree or would it be better to pick a course of education that does not take that long? Or would it maybe be better to take a year off before you decide what to do?</p> <p><b>Characters:</b> You and your school counsellor.</p>	<p><b>Dilemma 2:</b> You are 28 years old, a single parent, and mother of two, with no education. You feel trapped in your life, and now out of the blue you've been given the opportunity to move to New Zealand to live with an old friend of yours. Should you go for it, leave everything behind, and move to New Zealand with your children?</p> <p><b>Characters:</b> You and your brother.</p>	<p><b>Dilemma 3:</b> You feel stuck in life, and you are tired of all the choices you have to make all the time. You want to lead a more simple life that involves making fewer decisions. But what would you have to change in your life in order to avoid making many choices? Which old habits do you need to change?</p> <p><b>Characters:</b> You and your therapist.</p>
<p><b>Dilemma 4:</b> You have been thinking about leaving everything behind for some time to travel across the USA to Alaska where you dream of settling down and living in harmony with nature. Should you go for it and what choices do you have to make in order to live your dream?</p> <p><b>Characters:</b> You and your best friend.</p>	<p><b>Dilemma 5:</b> You have once again failed an exam, and you have doubts about your choice of education. But it is difficult for you to talk about it, and you feel like a failure because everybody else is getting good grades and seems to be happy. Should you quit or is there another solution?</p> <p><b>Characters:</b> You and your mother.</p>	<p><b>Dilemma 6:</b> You have been given the opportunity to study abroad for a semester. All expenses are covered, and it is something you have always wanted to do. The problem is your boyfriend, who does not want you to go. What do you do? Stay or live your dream, risking losing your boyfriend?</p> <p><b>Characters:</b> You and your boyfriend.</p>



Jojoba Mansell

## Hard Choices

path sti  
fork dele sig  
dread frygt  
uncertain usikker  
pitfall faldgrube  
dare vove  
fog tåge  
brave modig  
doubting tvivlende

A path is laid out ahead,  
it forks before your feet.  
A decision filled with dread,  
uncertain of what you'll meet.

5 A game full of chance,  
of many hidden pitfalls.  
To find true romance,  
dare you risk losing all?

10 Choices never easy to make,  
fog seems to cloud your way.  
You fear making a mistake,  
of gambling and losing the day.

15 But life is full of Hard Choices,  
and risk is part of the game.  
Be brave, ignore doubting voices,  
make the choice, life won't be the same.

(2012)

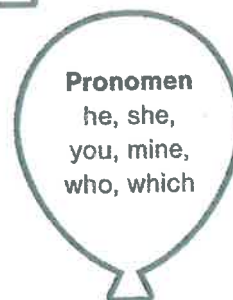
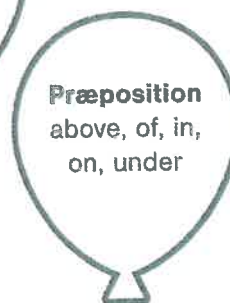


## GRAMMATIK 1:

## Find ordklasser

- > 1. Se eksempler på de syv vigtigste ordklasser i ballonerne.
- > 2. Find i digtet "Hard Choices" følgende:

- To verber i 1. strofe
- To substantiver 2. strofe
- To forskellige artikler i 3. strofe
- Tre adjektiver i 4. strofe
- To præpositioner i 1. strofe
- Et pronomen i 2. strofe.



## GRAMMATIK 2:

## Bestem ordklasser

Afgør, om de markerede ord i digtet er substantiver, verber eller adjektiver.

A <sup>1)</sup>path is laid out ahead,  
it <sup>2)</sup>forks before your feet.

A <sup>3)</sup>decision filled with <sup>4)</sup>dread,  
<sup>5)</sup>uncertain of what you'll meet.

A game full of chance,  
of many <sup>6)</sup>hidden pitfalls.  
To find <sup>7)</sup>true romance,  
dare you <sup>8)</sup>risk losing all?

Choices never <sup>9)</sup>easy to make,  
<sup>10)</sup>fog seems to <sup>11)</sup>cloud your way.  
 You <sup>12)</sup>fear making a mistake,  
 of gambling and losing the day.

But life is full of <sup>13)</sup>Hard Choices,  
 and <sup>14)</sup>risk is part of the game.  
 Be <sup>15)</sup>brave, <sup>16)</sup>ignore doubting voices,  
<sup>17)</sup>make the choice, life won't be the same.

### VOCABULARY 1:

#### Literary terms

Place the following literary terms under the correct heading.  
 Some terms can be placed under more than one heading.

act \* audience \* author \* character \* chapter \* climax \* composition \* flashback \* interpretation \* message \* metaphor \* mood \* narrator \* playwright \* plot \* plot twist \* poet \* point of view \* repetition \* rhyme \* rhythm \* scene \* setting \* speaker \* stanza \* symbol \* theme \* tone \* turning point

Short story/Novel	Poetry	Play

### VOCABULARY 2:

#### Poetry terms

Match the poetry terms in the left column with the correct definitions in the right column.

1. line	a. the voice used in a poem
2. message	b. a number of words arranged in a row
3. poet	c. the author's underlying idea in a literary work
4. rhyme	d. the main topic of a literary work
5. stanza	e. the mood of a literary work created by the poet's choice of words
6. theme	f. words that have the same ending sound
7. speaker	g. a number of lines forming a unit in a poem
8. tone	h. a person who writes poems

**COMPREHENSION 1:****Choosing synonyms**

- > 1. Find the following words in the poem and name class of each word.  
path \* forks \* dread \* uncertain \* pitfalls \* rom:  
\* cloud \* fear \* gambling \* hard \* brave \* igno
- > 2. Choose at least one synonym for each of the w
- > 3. Team up in pairs and compare your choices of

**COMPREHENSION 2:****Reading the poem**

## &gt; 1. INDIVIDUALLY:

- 1. Read the poem at least two times. Look up a you do not know in a dictionary.
- 2. Pick 2-3 words in each stanza that seem imp you in terms of understanding the text.

## &gt; 2. IN PAIRS:

- 1. Practice your pronunciation by taking turns r poem aloud.
- 2. Compare your chosen words and discuss th and importance of each word.

**ANALYSIS 1:****Close reading**

To find out what the poem is about, answer the follo tions:

- > 1. How does the speaker feel about making choi first stanza?
- > 2. Why is the decision filled with dread?
- > 3. What are we told about life in lines 6-7?
- > 4. What does the speaker ask in lines 8-9?
- > 5. Why are choices difficult to make according to er in stanza three?
- > 6. What does the speaker conclude in lines 16-1
- > 7. What does the speaker encourage us to do in l
- > 8. What does the path symbolize?
- > 9. Which words are used to set the tone of the te how would you describe the tone?
- > 10. How does the poem end? Is it optimistic or pe

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**ANALYSIS 2:****Themes and message**

- > 1. Sum up in 1-3 sentences what the poem is about.
- > 2. Pick a sentence from the poem that expresses the theme of the text.
- > 3. Give the poem an alternative title that reflects your interpretation of the text.
- > 4. What is the message of the text? What does Jojoba Mansell want us to do?

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**ORAL EXERCISE:****Summarizing the poem**

**IN PAIRS:** Sum up the poem by finishing these sentences:

*The title of the poem ...*

*It is written ...*

*In the poem Jojoba Mansell ...*

*The speaker of the poem ...*

*The tone of the poem ...*

*The path ...*

*The title "Hard Choices" ...*

*The message of the poem is ...*

*Jojoba Mansell has written the poem to ...*

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**WRITING EXERCISE:****Creative writing**

- > 1. Write a text (100-150 words) or a poem (at least 12 lines) about choices in your life, either choices you have made or future choices to be made.

Use at least three of the following words and expressions in your text:

change \* consequence \* negative \* nervous \* to be in two minds \* no going back \* positive

- > 2. Pick examples of the following in your text:
  - Two verbs
  - Two nouns
  - Two adjectives
  - One preposition
  - One article.