

Consolidation

- a** Read the story. What differences in style do you notice between the two paragraphs? Talk to a partner and explain why.

Ever since she had been a small girl, Nicky had wanted to get to know her father, but she had never been able to. Whenever Nicky used to ask about him, her mother would shake her head and look angry. Every year on her birthday Nicky used to hope that he would come to visit, but he never did. Nicky's mother told her he was always busy working abroad, but Nicky didn't believe he was. She was constantly talking about him, even though her mother begged her not to. Although Nicky had never met her father, she always felt that one day she would. Sometimes she used to close her eyes and pray that he would contact her. But when he finally phoned on her 21st birthday and asked her if she wanted to see him, Nicky wasn't sure if she did.

Nicky's father gave her his phone number and he said she could contact him whenever she wanted to contact him. Nicky said goodbye, and then she hung up. At first, she was angry that he had got in touch and she wished that he hadn't got in touch. But a few weeks later, she called him and she arranged to see him because she felt they needed to talk. She got on well with him, although she hadn't expected to get on well with him. Nicky decided that she wanted them to meet regularly, and her father promised that they would meet regularly. Five years later, when Nicky got married, no one imagined that her father would be leading her up the aisle, but he was leading her up the aisle.

- b** Rewrite the second paragraph leaving out repeated words where possible, and substituting where necessary. When you have finished, swap paragraphs with a partner. Have you left out the same words?
- c** Make substitutions in the following sentences using *so* or *not*.
- A Will classes start at the normal time next week?

B I presume ~~they will start at the normal time~~ **so**. Otherwise the director would have mentioned it.
 - A Have you got any batteries?

B I'm afraid that we haven't got any batteries. We sold the last packet yesterday.
 - A Are you going to go skiing at Easter?

B I guess I'll go skiing, though I'm not very keen on it.
 - A Do you reckon they'll accept the contract as it is?

B I suspect that they won't accept it. They'll ask us to change some sections.
 - A Do you think Chris and Angie will come tomorrow?

B I don't imagine that they will come. They're very busy at the moment.
 - A John won't be interested in taking part, will he?

B I suppose that he won't be interested in taking part. He has other plans for the summer.

Activation

- Think about the following topics and then discuss them with a partner.
- If you strongly disagree with someone's opinion, is it always a good idea to say so?
 - Do you know anyone who has a talent, but doesn't make good use of it?
 - Is there anything you'd love to be able to do, but can't?
 - Can you remember a time when you gave in to temptation, even when you promised yourself you wouldn't?
 - When was the last time you accepted an invitation even though you secretly didn't want to?