

Career moves



Present perfect

Reading: The caretakers

1 Look at the photo and discuss these questions.

- 1 Would you like to live in a place like this?
- 2 What kind of work could you do there to earn a living?

2 Read the article. What do the young couple do for a living?



The life of your dreams

FROM TIME TO TIME most of us dream of getting away from it all and going to live on a beautiful island. The problem is that even on a beautiful island you still have to pay the bills. But Lionel and Dawn Collier, a couple from Atlanta, Georgia, have found the answer. Since 2004, they have worked as caretakers.

When the couple first met back in 2000, Lionel was a marketing consultant and Dawn had a job in public relations. But when they had their first child in 2003, they wanted a complete change of lifestyle. Lionel had some contacts in the Bahamas so he looked into the possibility of caretaking work. They got their first job a year later on Blue Cay, a private island owned by a Californian billionaire. Lionel and Dawn were responsible for the maintenance of the owner's two houses, and they also acted as hosts for the owner's friends.

Lionel and Dawn are still caretaking today. Since 2008, they've looked after an olive grove* in Greece, taking care of the property and selling the olives to local shops and oil producers. Dawn says, 'Caretaking has provided us with something we can do together, away from the stress of the corporate world. We've been lucky to look after such beautiful places.'

olive grove: an area of land where there are a lot of olive trees

3 Complete these sentences with words or phrases from the article.

1 G _____ going somewhere to escape from your usual routine.

2 P _____ is something that you own, like a house.

3 If you work for a big company, you are paid the c _____ w _____.

4 Another way of saying *take care of* something (a place or a person) is: I _____ a _____.

4 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the ones that are wrong.

1 Lionel and Dawn were caretakers when they met.

2 Lionel knew people in the Bahamas before he went to live there.

3 On Blue Cay, Lionel and Dawn had to look after the owner's houses.

4 Lionel and Dawn live in Greece now.

5 Lionel and Dawn own a company which makes olive oil.