**4. Read what other people say about their hobbies and fill in the table below**

Kate, 43, bank manager  
I can say that my hobby is dog training. I have a dog Jerry and we are best friends. Jerry follows all my commands and performs some simple tricks. We understand each other perfectly. I spend 2-3 hours a day training Jerry and it takes me a lot of effort but it's so much fun! Dogs are very devoted and understanding creatures and it is a great pleasure and entertainment to communicate with them. When Jerry is disobedient I never punish him but ignore his bad behaviour. And I often give him sweets and cookies as a reward.

Adam, 72, pensioner  
I started collecting milk-jugs 12 years ago. At first my collection was small but today I have more than 200 items in it. I like drinking tea with milk and I have all sorts of milk-jugs in my collection. Most of them are attractively displayed on the shelves in my living-room. My relatives and friends know about my passion and they often add to my collection. My granddaughter often travels abroad on business and for pleasure and she always presents milk-jugs to me. I also collect antique clocks and icons, but my collection is still very small.

Daniel, 63, cook  
My favourite pastime is amateur astronomy. When a school boy I liked physics and astronomy and dreamt of becoming astronaut. Observing and studying celestial objects is very interesting and romantic. Viewing the night sky you can see stars, the Moon, planets, comets and meteor showers. Of course you won't see much looking at the sky with the naked eye, that's why I use optical telescopes. I often keep records of my observations and share useful information with other amateur astronomers. Now my dream is to discover a new comet and to make some useful contribution to astronomy.

Simon, 25, messenger  
Parkour teaches you to move quickly and efficiently and to overcome obstacles such as concrete walls, high fences or rocks. It has no set of rules or competitiveness. Parkour helps me develop my body and mind and gives me much energy. I learn to trust myself and to be strong. Parkour teaches me to overcome everyday difficulties and to approach problems differently. My friends and I practice in parks and abandoned structures. We try to avoid injuries but of course everything happens. You need no particular equipment: just a T-shirt, light trousers and comfortable athletic shoes. I think parkour has changed my life and my attitude to everything.

**HOBBY        FOR       AGAINST**  
Dog training   
Collecting   
Amateur astronomy   
Parkour

**5. Read the quotations below. Choose any statement and comment on it**• 'Life's a hobby.' (Joshua Lederberg)  
• A hobby a day keeps the doldrums away.' (Phyllis McGinley)  
• 'Making money is a hobby that will complement any other hobbies you have, beautifully.' (Scott Alexander)  
• 'People are spending more on their hobbies to make their free time more enjoyable.' (Steve Wagner)  
  Make the most of today. Get interested in something. Shake yourself awake. Develop a hobby. Let the winds of enthusiasm sweep through you. Live today with gusto.' (Dale Carnegie)

**Choose any topic and make up a short composition on it. Find some extra information on the subject.**1. My hobby.  
2. As many people as many hobbies.  
3. Strange hobbies.  
  
**A. Look at the pictures below and say what kind of hobby you would prefer. Explain your choice using the words and word combinations in brackets.**1. cooking 2. gardening 3. yoga 4. painting 5. dancing 6. playing violin 7. fishing 8. playing chess 9. photography 10. camping 11. reading 12. knitting  
  
(the way to relax, creativeness, to get maximum benefit from, to enjoy doing something, for fun, to acquire substantial skill, knowledge and experience, aesthetic pleasure, a kind of self-expression, effective medium in education, to derive inspiration/pleasure/enjoyment, to improve one's health, to train oneself physically, to make friends, to become a team, to become strong and self-reliant, to broaden one's mind, to involve mental/physical stimulation)

**B. Give the definition of the word 'hobby' and compare it with your group mates' variants.**

**C. Read the text 'A Hobby Makes Your Life Much More Interesting' and say if you agree with the title.**