

Changing Your Life



Rich and Amanda Ligato were professional people with successful careers. Every week, they worked hard. They always **intended to do** something fun and exciting on the weekends, but in the end, there was never enough time. One day they ask themselves, "Is this all there is?"

They realized that they **wanted to stop** working and, instead, **to go** traveling. Or, as Rich said, "**to buy** our freedom." But first, they **needed to save** money. Every month, they lived on Rich's salary and saved Amanda's. Then they bought an RV (casa rodante) **to travel** from the bottom of South America to Brazil, and from there they **hoped to get** to Africa on a container ship.

Colleagues at work found it **difficult to understand** Rich and Amanda's decision. Even their closest friends thought they were **crazy to go** on this kind of Journey. But finally, the day came. Rich and Amanda left their home and **started to live** their dream.

Task 1: Read the text above and answer these questions.

1. How old do you think Rich and Amanda were when they decided to quit their jobs? Give reasons for your answer.
 - a. Around 40, because, were professional people with successful careers
2. What did Rich and Amanda realize they wanted to do?
 - a. Stop working and instead to go traveling
3. Why did they buy an RV?
 - a. To travel from the bottom of South America to Brazil
4. Where did they plan to travel by ship?
 - a. Africa
5. What did their friends think they were crazy to do?
 - a. Crazy to go on this kind of journey
6. What did Rich and Amanda start to do after they left home?
 - a. Started to live their dream

Task 2: Discuss these questions with your partners.

1. Have you ever wanted to change your lifestyle in a radical way?
2. Imagine you have enough money to quit your job and responsibilities. How would you like to spend your time?
3. When do you think is the perfect age to retire? Why? Do you think that is a realistic age for most people? Why or why not?