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# S LET'S TALK

# GRAMMAR

# VOCABULARY

B

Put the verb in brackets at the end of each sentence into the past simple, present perfect simple or present perfect continuous.

1	you ever _	someone
	from another country	
2	My cousins They're due home ne	
3	I Jack the a working as a teacher secondary school. (se	r in our local
4	I never jumping but I hope to	bungee o one day. ( <i>try</i> )
5	You look exhausted. you? (do)	What
6	I to their no any good? (listen)	ew album yet. Is it
7	Dominic Fr when he was at scho	
8	I Ella for a (know)	bout ten years.
9	I her an en	
10	Someone r	my dinner! Half of

Match the speakers (1-5) with the most appropriate adjective in the box.

annoyed delighted disappointed shocked worried

- I actually passed. I'm so happy because I worked really hard for these exams and now I can go to the university I really wanted!
- I've been waiting here for almost two hours. I'm now late for my next seminar and all I wanted to do was get a signature for this document.
- Did you see the series finale!? I still can't believe how it ended. I really didn't see that coming, to be honest.
- I'm really nervous about my driving test next week.
  I've practised a lot but I still don't think I'm ready
  for it
- I know I didn't do too well in the interview, but I thought they might still offer me the job. It's sad but I will continue to apply for other roles.



Complete the sentences with the comparative or superlative form of the adjective in brackets.

1	In my opinion, E	inglish is			
	(easy) to learn the	-			
2	This isseen!	(good) film I have ever			
3	She is	(confident) in using			
	technology than	I am. I'm hopeless!			
4	Tom is	(tall) Max. They're			
	both 1.74 m.				
5	It feels	(hot) today than it was			
	yesterday.				
5	That was	(relaxing) holiday I			
	have ever been	on.			
7	I thought the second series was				
	(bad)	than the first.			
3		ondon are both			
	wonderful cities				
	(beautiful) of the	three, in my opinion.			





🙆 02 You will hear five learners of English talking about difficulties they have faced with communication. For each speaker, choose a problem A-H. There are three letters you do not need to use.

7	Speaker 1
2	Speaker 2
3	Speaker 3
1	Speaker 4
5	Speaker 5
	o pod money

- The speaker found British English difficult to understand.
- The speaker did the wrong kind of preparation for his/her overseas trip.
- The speaker's classmates were not interested in learning.
- The speaker had not studied much grammar before.
- The speaker lacked confidence because he felt his/her English was not perfect.
- The speaker relied too heavily on translation from his/her mother tongue.
- G The speaker's teacher was too strict.
- H The speaker mixes up different varieties of English.



Read this story about a girl called Anya, whose family gave up communication technology for a month. Complete each gap with a word or phrase from the box.

in theory anyway as long as as you can imagine secretly looking back on the bright side not even

Two years ago, when I was 14, my parents decided to sign our family up for an experiment which would be made into a reality TV series. What we would have to do is survive for a whole month without access to our usual communication devices. We would have no phones – (1) \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ a landline – no radio, TV or computers. It was during the summer holidays so, \_, there was no reason why we couldn't live without those things - there was no homework to do for school. We could go to the local shop and we were allowed to buy a newspaper every day. Books were allowed, but not magazines. I was not that keen on taking part, but (3) hoping I would be talent-spotted and it would lead to a brilliant career in television. My older brother, Marcus, was not that bothered as all he ever did was read books (4) sister, Molly, was too young to care. (5) she had her toys and her pet rabbit to play with she was fine. Mum and Dad were always telling me to 'get off that phone!' and they were the

Anyway, (6) \_ , it was quite a challenge for me! I was so used to googling everything that came into my head, playing games on my phone for hours and chatting to my friends that being without technology was like losing a part of my body. , the weather was great that summer so I spent a lot of time outside. I took up running and got really fit. I cycled over to my friends' houses as I couldn't call them to meet up in town. I read about five novels and really enjoyed the feel of an actual book in my hand. So, (8) \_\_, it was not as bad as I had expected. Would I want to live like that all the time?

ones who applied to take part.





# Artificial intelligence and language learning

s a language student, you have probably used artificial intelligence in numerous ways. You may have taken an adaptive placement test to join your class or practised your grammar with the help of an online learning platform. However, you have probably felt the limitations of relying solely on technology for feedback on your progress, particularly when it comes to the productive skills of speaking and writing. How far can a computer help you with those?

If you are studying English – or any other language – in a class with a teacher, the chances are you have been asked to give a presentation to the rest of the class. It is also likely that the presentations you have given have been followed by feedback, first from the other students and then from your teacher. Hopefully, this was a positive experience for you. However, you may have felt that the feedback was either inaccurate

or too subjective. Perhaps your classmates did not want you to feel bad, so they said you were amazing, or you did not agree with your teacher that you 'failed to engage your audience'. What if there were a computer programme that could give you a completely objective reaction to your presentation? How would it work and would you trust it?

When we give a presentation – whether in business, in class or for some other purpose – we always hope for a positive reaction from those listening to us. We want our audience to really listen, trust us, engage with us and act on what we have said in some way – maybe to change their way of thinking or to buy our product. Extensive research has helped us understand the ways in which speakers can influence an audience's reaction to them. These include the content of our talk, our body language and how we use our words and voices. Machines can now be

trained to measure these factors and give us objective feedback to help us improve our communication skills. One business coach who uses this kind of software to teach presentation skills says: 'Giving feedback with the use of technology is much less personal. You can't argue with a computer!'

Some exam boards have already started to use artificial intelligence to mark students' written work. Hundreds or even thousands of essays scored by teachers are fed into the computer, which learns to recognise the features of an essay with a particular score. Some studies have shown this to be more accurate than human marking because it eliminates human failings such as tiredness and personal preferences. However, the whole concept horrifies many working in the classroom. Teacher and writer Bill Walsh states that, 'At the very least, writing requires a breathing reader.'

The nature of artificial intelligence is that the more data you provide, the better it works. This means that as time passes and more data is added, the more we will be able to rely on it to give us feedback on our performance. One of Walsh's objections to computers marking essays is that they will not be able to recognise humour, irony, originality of expression or the very subtle differences in meaning between two words. That may be true at present, but with enough data to work with and the right training, who knows what they might be capable of?

Although performing tasks with the use of artificial intelligence is faster, more cost effective and in many ways more accurate, there are some limitations of artificial intelligence which seem impossible to overcome. Computers are not able to empathise, they do not possess self-awareness and they are poor at multitasking. A teacher will be aware that the local football team lost an important match or that students have been delayed in a traffic jam. He or she has access to up-to-the-minute information from a range of sources – and a lifetime of experience in how to react to different situations and different personality types. Artificial intelligence can definitely help teachers, but I think they can rest assured that their jobs are safe for a few more years.



### Which attitudes (A-F) are expressed by the writer?

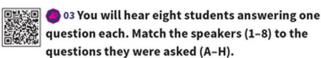
- A Presentation feedback given by humans is better than that given by computers.
- B Professional trainers find computers useful in supporting their feedback to learners.
- C Computers are unlikely to get better at marking essays.
- The drawbacks of artificial intelligence are very significant.
- E Computers will soon be able to understand human emotions.
- F Computers are likely to replace teachers in the near future.



## Choose the correct option in each sentence.

- 1 Computers are more useful when you are practising receptive\* / productive\*\* skills.
- 2 Feedback from computers can be more objective / subjective than feedback from other students.
- 3 The third paragraph is generally for / against the use of artificial intelligence in presentation feedback.
- 4 According to the text, teachers like / dislike the idea of using artificial intelligence to mark essays.
- 5 Bill Walsh believes that computers will / will not be able to recognise sophisticated language.
- 6 The final paragraph emphasises the similarities / differences between teachers and computers.
- \*reading and listening
- \*\*writing and speaking





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- A Have you ever collected anything?
- B Is there anyone in your family who inspires you?
- C How long have you lived in your hometown?
- When did you last go out with your friends?
- E Which member of your family are you most similar to?
- F What kind of things do you usually do with your friends?
- G What sport or hobby would you like to try?
- H What do you like about your hometown?



# FIGHTING FIT

# GRAMMAR



### 1 Tick the correct sentences. Correct those which contain an error.

- 1 I refuse joining a gym it's too expensive!
- 2 Serge dislikes playing any kind of team game.
- 3 Olympic athletes start training at a very early age.
- 4 I've given up horse riding. I can't risk to fall off at my age!
- 5 Stop to play on the ice! It might break.
- 6 Have you managed to lose any weight yet?
- 7 Many people avoid to eat a lot of red meat.



### 2 Match the parts of the sentences.

- 1 Is this exercise supposed
- 2 Saira regrets
- 3 The food in Japan tends
- 4 Are you still able
- 5 Do you prefer
- 6 Everyone should aim
- 7 You should stop
- 8 Yes, doctor, I promise

- A going to the cinema or the gym?
- B eating meals after 8pm.
- c to eat five portions of fruit or vegetables a day.
- **D** not to eat any more sweets!
- E to be healthier than in other countries.
- F to touch your toes?
- G to hurt this much?
- H eating junk food when she was young.





#### 3 Choose the correct option in these sentences.

- Everyone knows that fruit juice contains a lot of sugar. Although / Nevertheless, many people let their children drink it every day.
- 2 Instead of / While snacking on biscuits and cake, eat a handful of nuts and seeds. It's much healthier.
- 3 Despite / Even though the bad weather, they went ahead with the race.
- 4 In spite of / Although he was in pain, Fabio finished the marathon.
- 5 It can be challenging to follow a healthy diet.
  However / Whereas, it is worth it in the long run.
- You should go for a walk after dinner despite / rather than sitting on the sofa and watching TV.



4 Read this extract from an email a woman has written to her local government representative. Fill in the gaps with the linking words and phrases from the box. Add capital letters to the words if necessary.

whereas despite however instead of although unlike in the past

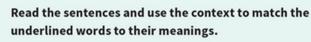
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
Reply Forward
I am a local resident concerned about the health of our children. I don't think local government is doing enough to protect the younger generation. (1) the fact that the government recommends children eat healthy food, there are eight or nine fast food restaurants in our town!  (2), there are still no restaurants which focus on home-cooked, healthy meals at affordable prices.  Another problem is the lack of exercise facilities. (3) there are several gyms, they are not open to children under the age of 16. (4) making these facilities available to adults only, gyms could be encouraged to welcome children at certain times. Our local parks used to be a great place for children to play sports with their friends. (5), they are not being maintained properly so it is not a good environment for them.  There used to be a team of gardeners and maintenance staff, (6) now there is only one person looking after all the parks.  I suggest we make improvements to our
town to give our children a healthier future.

# VOCABULARY

Complete the second sentence with a phrase from Unit 1 of the Student's book so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Use between two and five words for each sentence, including the word in bold.

1	It is important to monitor how you're doing.				
	KEEP				
	Always try to your progress.				
2	Unfortunately, I just couldn't run as fast as them.				
	KEEP				
	Unfortunately, I just couldn't them.				
3	You should try to reduce the amount of sugar in your diet.				
	DOWN				
	It is a good idea to on sugar.				
4	We weren't sure whether our team would win.				
	TOUCH				
	It was whether our team would win.				
5	I stay fit by running three times a week.				
	SHAPE				
	I by running three times a week.				

# PUSH YOURSELF G



- 1 I am interested in taking a course in <u>nutrition</u> as I think we all need to watch what we eat.
- 2 If you are going to run a marathon, you need to improve your <u>stamina</u>.
- 3 It is important to eat plenty of fruit and vegetables to help your <u>digestion</u>.
- 4 If you have bad <u>posture</u>, you can suffer from back problems.
- 5 I think it is important to find a form of exercise that combines both physical and mental <u>well-being</u>.
- A Health and happiness
- B Food and the effect it has on health
- C The process in which the body breaks down food
- The ability to keep going for a long time
- E The way someone sits, stands or holds themselves

# READING AND USE OF ENGLISH PART 7



Read this article about fitness activities and match questions 1-10 on page 11 with letters A-D.

# UNUSUAL FITNESS ACTIVITIES

# A Hot yoga

Yoga has long been considered one of the best exercises around, and one that can be practised virtually anywhere, including at home. Hot yoga, as the name suggests, takes it a stage further by turning up the heat, requiring a temperature of around 40° C and humidity of 60 per cent. Clearly, such a change is going to make you sweat more, and this is the whole point as it is supposed to eliminate harmful chemicals and toxins from your body. In a nutshell, hot yoga retains the mental focus of the more traditional version of the discipline but is designed to push your body much harder. The heat increases your heart rate and helps thin the blood, stimulate your metabolism and burn calories at a faster rate. As well as increased strength, stamina and flexibility, practitioners point to a number of other health benefits, such as curing back pain and improving the skin, with many even claiming it has boosted their performance in other sports.

# **B** Aerial fitness

If you ever went to the circus as a child, you probably marvelled at the power and fitness of aerial performers. So if you have ever thought of having a go at such activities yourself, aerial fitness, which is based on similar techniques, may be just what you are looking for. Learners usually start off with the silks - two lengths of fabric attached to the ceiling. Once you have mastered some climbs, you then practise various ways of manoeuvring the body around them, including learning to hang upside down - not something you do every day! More expert practitioners can later progress to more complex devices, such as hoops, trapezes and slings, and there is even an aerial form of yoga that you can try. Aerial fitness techniques do require you to support your own body weight so clearly the benefits include improved general strength and also increased shoulder mobility. Furthermore, think of the respect you will get from friends and family when you tell them all about it!

# C Underwater cycling

Underwater cycling or aqua-cycling combines the concept of a spinning class with the benefits of exercising in water. For those new to the concept, it does literally mean that exercise bicycles are placed in a swimming pool! While spinning, which often involves standing up and bouncing, can create strain on your knees, cycling underwater prevents stress on the joints, because the water provides extra support for the body. Unlike spinning too, it is suitable for people of any age, size or shape, even pregnant women and those recovering from injuries, making it perfect for those who find the idea of group exercise a little intimidating.

## Obstacle races

If these were a favourite from your primary school sports day, you can now recreate the fun on a much grander scale. Obstacle races have become fashionable again and you are guaranteed to have a great time with your friends and family while keeping fit. These are usually large-scale, organised events, which can be in urban or rural settings and can involve all kinds of natural and man-made obstacles. You could be jumping over fires, climbing walls or crossing rivers. You might bounce on trampolines, slide down huge water chutes or crawl through tunnels. One thing you can be sure of is that there will be mud - lots of mud! The race might involve dressing up in silly costumes and will probably end with a giant party. Check the internet for events coming up near you.

#### Which activity

is mentioned as being good for impressing others?
is described as a bigger version of a competitive event from childhood?
is claimed to help remove damaging substances from your body?
uses a change of environment to make it less stressful on the body?
sees beginners learn to adopt an uncommon body position?
is an intentionally more challenging version of a well-known activity?
would be fun for anyone who participates, in the writer's opinion?
allows users to move on to different equipment as they improve?
is claimed to help athletes do better in other sporting disciplines?
is appropriate for those who don't necessarily have good levels of fitness?

1		
2	_	
3		
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7		
8		
9		





# Look at the photos and decide which photo (A or B) each comment corresponds to.

- 1 It looks a lot riskier and more exciting than the other picture.
- 2 They can do whatever they want rather than doing what they're told to do.
- 3 It looks very controlled everyone looks the same as everyone else.
- 4 Even though it looks a little boring, it's probably very good exercise.
- 5 One key difference is that they're out in the fresh air instead of being stuck inside a gym.
- 6 It looks as though they are at school or in a club.
- 7 I'd say the risk of injury is much greater.

# Choose the correct preposition in these sentences describing the photos.

- 1 There are buildings on / in either side of the photo.
- 2 I can see some kind of gym equipment in / at the back of the photo.
- 3 The girls are standing in / on the tips of their toes.
- 4 Both boys are right in / at the middle of the photo.
- 5 There are some ropes hanging down to / from the ceiling.
- 6 I can see blue sky on / in the background.
- 7 In / On the top left corner of the photo there are some ladders.
- 8 On / In the foreground there is a brick wall.

# 2 KEEPING IN TOUCH





O4 Listen to the conversation between Katie and Patrick, who have just started their first jobs after leaving university. Are the statements True or False?

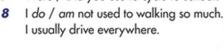
- Patrick has fully adjusted to working life.
- 2 Katie is happy with her salary.
- 3 Patrick and Katie were short of money when they were students.
- 4 They waited a long time to get cheap theatre tickets.
- 5 Katie used to get up early for her university lectures.
- 6 Patrick finds it easier to get up for work than Katie does.
- 7 As students, Patrick and Katie had to dress smartly.
- 8 Patrick has always worn a tie.

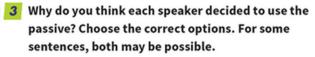


#### 2 For each sentence, choose the correct form of the verb.

- In the past, people didn't used / use to lock their front doors when they went out.
- When my parents arrived in Europe from Jamaica, they found it hard to get use / used to the cold.
- 3 I'm from a large family. I'm used to share / sharing
- 4 In my town, people used to putting / put their babies out in the garden all morning. I'm glad they don't do that anymore!
- 5 Families used / use to be much larger having seven or eight children was quite normal.
- Society is gradually being / getting used to the idea of men staying at home to bring up children while their wives go out to work.

7 Were / Did you use to cycle to school?





- My parents' house was broken into a couple of years ago.
  - A The speaker doesn't know who did the action.
  - B It's not important who did the action.
- 2 Flour is sieved and added to the mixture.
  - A To show that it is a formal situation.
  - B To describe a process.
- 3 Manchester United were knocked out in the first round by Liverpool.
  - A The speaker doesn't know who did the action.
  - B The speaker is mainly focused on Manchester United.
- 4 Milk used to be delivered to almost every house in England.
  - A Because we already know that milkmen deliver milk.
  - B Because this is no longer true.
- 5 A Christmas Carol was written by Charles Dickens. It's the story of an unhappy man called Ebenezer Scrooge.
  - A The speaker is focused on A Christmas Carol.
  - **B** The speaker is focused on Charles Dickens.
- 6 I would like to inform you that your loan repayments have not been made for the last two months.
  - A It's a formal situation.
  - B The speaker wants to be indirect.







4 Can these sentences be changed to the passive voice? Write in the passive those that can be changed. Put a cross (X) next to those that cannot. There are two examples (A and B) to help you.

#### Examples

- A My mum grew these tomatoes These tomatoes were grown by my mum.
- B The plane arrived at 15.35. X
- Amesh cooked this delicious curry.
- 2 I think all the students will understand the lesson.
- 3 I belong to the local tennis club.
- 4 The teacher has told me off three times now.
- 5 Joachim first came to the United Kingdom in 2009.
- 6 When did they discover those ruins?
- 7 I slept through my alarm this morning.
- 8 They are going to make a new version of the film Titanic.

# VOCABULARY

Tim's



Complete each gap with a word for a family relationship.

1	My brother has a son. He is my
2	Tim married Rosie, who already had a daughter
	called Chloe from a previous marriage. Chloe is

3	Ana is married to Claudio. Claudio's	father	i
	Santiago. Santiago is Ana's		

4	My aunt Emilia has two children, a boy a	nd a	girl.
	They are my		

5	My	husband	has a	sister	called	Julia.	Julia	is	my	y
---	----	---------	-------	--------	--------	--------	-------	----	----	---

6	My uncle Tobias died last year. He was married to	С
	Surekha, who is now his	

7	I've got two	, one brother and one sister
/	i ve doi iwo	, one brotter and one sister

8	Alberto's daughter	has a	daughter	called	Sofia
	Sofia is Alberto's				



2 Match the questions to the answers.

- 1 Have you ever fallen out with a friend?
- 2 Do you get on well with the other students in your class?
- 3 Who do you take after in your family?
- 4 Who do you look up to in your family?
- 5 What do you get up to at weekends?
- 6 Have you ever met up with someone you met online?
- A No, I'm not sure that would be a good idea.
- B My dad, definitely. We're both tall with dark, curly hair.
- C I usually hang out with my friends.
- Yes, I once stopped talking to Derek for a month!
- Yes, we often go out for a coffee together after the lesson.
- F My older sister. She's a really brilliant student.





Rewrite the sentences using hedging language. The first one has been done for you.

People have said that social media has had a negative impact on our lives.

It has been said that social media has had a negative impact on our lives.

- People have suggested that online friends aren't real friends.
- 2 People argue that friendship is less sincere nowadays.
- 3 People have said that families are growing further apart.
- People believe that social media will become less popular in the future.





05 You will hear an interview with psychologist Antonia Russo, who is talking about the influence of birth order on personality. For questions 1-7, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- 1 What led Dr Russo to become interested in birth order and personality?
  - A her own two children
  - B her childhood experiences
  - c her role as a psychologist
- 2 One possible reason for the success of firstborn children is that
  - A they get more attention from their parents.
  - B they are naturally more gifted.
  - c they tend to be more interested in creative activities.
- 3 According to Dr Russo, the youngest child may
  - A have problems with their identity.
  - B be lacking in self-confidence.
  - c be good at getting their own way.
- 4 How did being the middle child affect Dr Russo?
  - A She became very close to her sisters.
  - B She didn't get noticed by her family.
  - C She sometimes went against her parents.
- 5 What does Dr Russo say about only children?
  - A They are generally the most spoilt.
  - B They share similar characteristics to firstborns.
  - C They are usually the best leaders.
- 6 What does Dr Russo think about the role that gender plays in influencing children's personalities?
  - A She feels that not enough research has been done in this area.
  - **B** She believes that parents need to consider this when raising their children.
  - C She doubts whether it affects the way that children develop.
- 7 Dr Russo sums up by saying that
  - A birth order strongly influences personality.
  - B the development of personality is complex.
  - c further studies on birth order are needed.







#### Look at the Writing Part 1 question.

In your English class you have watched a documentary about families with lots of children. Your teacher has asked you to write an essay giving your opinion on large families.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of being a member of a large family?

#### Notes

Write about:

- 1 having a ready-made social network
- 2 the problem of lacking space and privacy
- 3 ... (your own idea)

#### Which opening paragraph (A, B or C) is the best as the start of an answer to the question?

- A If you are part of a large family, you will have a ready-made social network. You are sure to get on well with at least some of your siblings. The problem would be if you didn't have a big enough house because you wouldn't get enough space to keep your things. You might be interrupted by your little brothers and sisters when you were trying to do your homework.
- B In the past, it was common for families to have many children. Nowadays, though, the average in developed countries is between one and two children per family. However, there are some couples who choose not to follow this trend and have large numbers of children. What would it be like to be a child with many siblings?
- My opinion is that when it comes to families, it's a case of 'the bigger, the better'. I am from a family of six children myself and we do have lots of fun together. It teaches you to be less selfish and to be satisfied with less. It can be quite chaotic but I wouldn't have it any other way.



### Read the rest of the essay. Complete the gaps with words or phrases from the box. Add capital letters to the words if necessary.

for me	it doesn't matter wh	ether	finally
one of the	e main drawbacks	there	is no doubt that

(1) children with many siblings are never lonely. They do not need to arrange to meet up with	
friends or join clubs because there is a ready-made social circle at home. Furthermore, small children with	ill
be cared for by older brothers and sisters as well as by their parents.	
(2) of life in a big family would be the lack of space and privacy. It might be difficult to find a	
quiet snot to do your homework and it would not really be possible to invite friends round to such a	

quiet spot to do your homework and it would not really be possible to invite friends round to such a crowded home. (3) \_\_\_\_\_\_, sharing a room with one or more siblings would be the worst part and I believe this would cancel out the positive aspects.

(4) \_\_\_\_\_\_, growing up in a large family develops positive characteristics. Children will not be spoilt by being given everything they want. They have to share and help others from an early age.
In my opinion, (5) \_\_\_\_\_\_ your family is big or small. What matters is that it's a happy family.

