

# StartUp

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**GSE**  
Global Scale of English  
B2+ 64-75

# Workbook



# UNIT 1 WHAT'S OVER THERE?

## LESSON 1 VOCABULARY

**A** Match the words or phrases with the sentences that have the *opposite* meaning to the underlined words.

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| ___ 1. What's the <u>cheapest</u> travel time?         | a. impromptu      |
| ___ 2. Maria wants to travel <u>for a month</u> .      | b. take off       |
| ___ 3. I always like to <u>decide in advance</u> .     | c. play it by ear |
| ___ 4. I <u>won't do anything</u> on my vacation.      | d. high season    |
| ___ 5. December's a <u>peak</u> travel time.           | e. low season     |
| ___ 6. You can let things <u>just happen</u> .         | f. serendipity    |
| ___ 7. Bill prefers to <u>stay home</u> in the summer. | g. itinerary      |
| ___ 8. We have a <u>strict plan</u> to follow.         | h. day trip       |
| ___ 9. Sue <u>arranged</u> her entire trip.            | i. plan ahead     |
| ___ 10. We lost our keys. What <u>bad luck!</u>        | j. plan out       |
| ___ 11. Joe lets everything <u>happen by chance</u> .  | k. open-ended     |

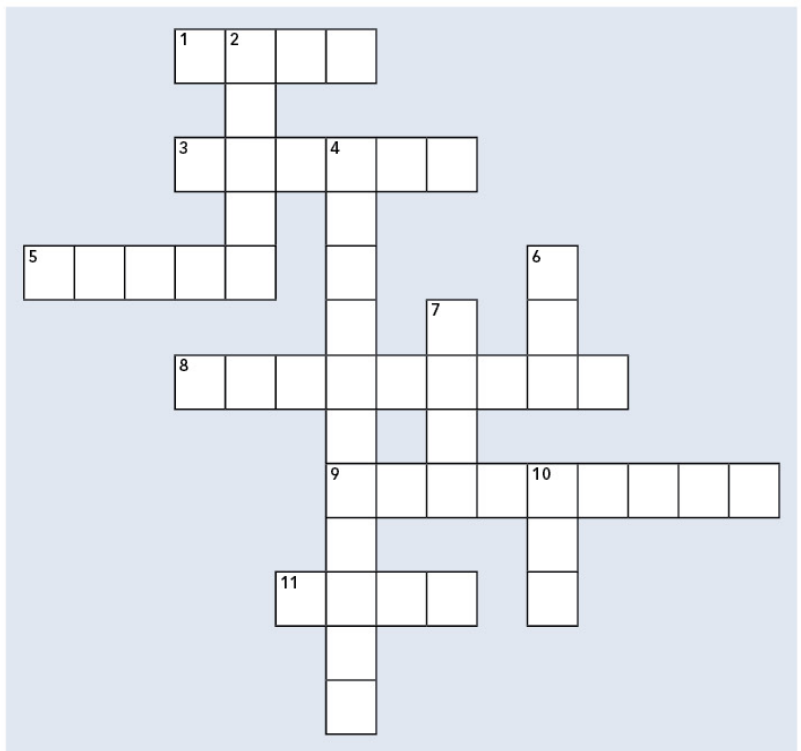
**B** Complete the crossword puzzle.

### Across

- I need to \_\_\_ off and go home soon.
- The best time to find an uncrowded beach is during low \_\_\_.
- Tom didn't know when he was going to be back because his trip is open-\_\_\_.
- a plan or list of the places you will visit on a journey
- when you do something without planning
- The most expensive time to travel is \_\_\_ season.

### Down

- He planned \_\_\_, so he could get cheap airline tickets.
- unexpected good luck
- Lisa likes to play it by \_\_\_ when she travels.
- We just took a short day \_\_\_ because we didn't have a lot of money.
- If you've planned \_\_\_ every detail of your trip, there won't be any surprises.



## LESSON 1 GRAMMAR

**A** Circle the correct words to complete the conversation.

A: I'm planning to go to Paris on vacation in a few weeks.

B: Oh, lucky you!

A: Last month, I **went** / **have gone** there for work, but I **didn't have** / **haven't had** any time  
1. 2.  
for sightseeing. This time I will. Since I came back from that trip, I **spent** / **'ve spent** every  
3.  
spare minute researching the city online. **Were you ever** / **Have you ever been** to Paris?  
4.

B: Yes, I **was** / **'ve been** there several times! I **never went** / **have never gone** there for work,  
5. 6.  
but some of my colleagues have, and maybe I'll get a chance to go, too, at some point.

A: When **was** / **has been** the last time you were there? **Did you take** / **Have you taken**  
7. 8.  
any pictures?

B: Of course. Here, I'll show you.

**B** Complete the conversations. Use the correct form of the verbs in parentheses. Use the simple past or the present perfect.

1. A: How's the planning going for your trip to Alaska?

B: Well, I \_\_\_\_\_ much so far.  
1. (not, do)

A: Do you have your plane ticket?

B: Oh, yes, I \_\_\_\_\_ it last weekend. And I already have a backpack and  
2. (buy)  
camping equipment.

A: You're an experienced camper, right?

B: Oh, sure. I \_\_\_\_\_ camping plenty of times. The only thing is, I need new  
3. (go)  
hiking boots.

A: What?! You're leaving next month! I can't believe you \_\_\_\_\_ them yet.  
4. (not, get)

B: I know. I won't have much time now to break them in. Poor planning, I guess.

2. A: How \_\_\_\_\_ your trip to Venice?  
5. (be)

B: Not great. The city \_\_\_\_\_ since the last time I was there.  
6. (change)

A: How so?

B: It \_\_\_\_\_ so crowded with tourists; it's really unbelievable.  
7. (become)

A: But Venice \_\_\_\_\_ a popular tourist destination for decades!  
8. (be)

B: True, but when I was there last time, there \_\_\_\_\_ any giant cruise ships  
9. (not, be)  
docked there.

## LESSON 2 VOCABULARY

**A** Complete the conversations with words from the box.

colonize	radiation	spacecraft	toxic
bombarded	dust storms	massive	rovers

- A: I think that it would be amazing to live on Mars.  
 B: Not me! The atmosphere is \_\_\_\_\_, so a person would die if something went wrong.
- A: Wouldn't it be cool to explore a \_\_\_\_\_ planet like Jupiter?  
 B: Yeah. The Great Red Spot storm by itself is bigger than Earth.
- A: Do the \_\_\_\_\_ on Mars happen every day?  
 B: No, they mostly occur during two seasons in a year.
- A: I love watching sci-fi films where people \_\_\_\_\_ other planets.  
 B: Me, too. But I think using robots and land \_\_\_\_\_ to explore planets is more realistic.
- A: Why is \_\_\_\_\_ a problem for people traveling to Mars?  
 B: It can cause health problems like cancer. That's why NASA needs to develop \_\_\_\_\_ that will protect people on the long journey.
- A: I think there are more craters on the Moon than on Earth.  
 B: You're right. The Moon was \_\_\_\_\_ by outer space objects.

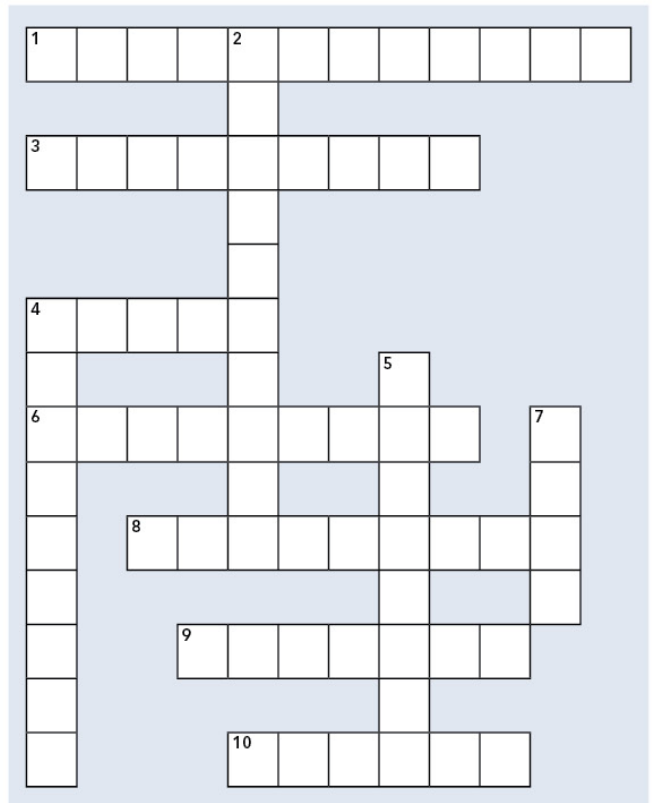
**B** Complete the crossword puzzle.

### Across

- not welcoming; unfriendly
- hit by many things all at once
- poisonous
- When you have an X-ray, you are exposed to \_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_ can collide with Earth.
- really large
- \_\_\_\_ are used to explore the surface of Mars.

### Down

- Apollo 11 was the name of the \_\_\_\_ used in the first Moon landing.
- We know there's water on the Moon, so maybe we can try to \_\_\_\_ it and live there.
- Why do people want to \_\_\_\_ other planets? I don't want to live anywhere else.
- There are huge \_\_\_\_ storms in the Sahara Desert.





## LESSON 3 VOCABULARY

### A Circle the correct words to complete the sentences.

1. Jim didn't prepare the wall correctly. Now the paint is **rotting** / **peeling** / **drying** off the wall. I think we'll have to paint it again.
2. When cars get old they often have **rust** / **dirt** / **color** on them. The cars look terrible with the holes caused by it.
3. Wooden houses will often **crumble** / **recover** / **rot** after being in floodwater. You can see the floors and other parts coming apart.
4. After a fire, a building owner will sometimes **find** / **purchase** / **abandon** a house instead of repairing it.
5. Laura was upset when the rain caused **rust** / **damage** / **peeling** to her yard by washing away the garden.
6. Sometimes even a brick house can **crumble** / **rust** / **rot**—especially if they are more than a hundred years old.
7. If the foundation of your house becomes weak, the entire building could **become moss-covered** / **collapse** / **be abandoned**.
8. This house needs to be painted, the doors need fixing, and the windows need repairs, too. Right now, it looks **boring** / **dilapidated** / **normal** and unattractive.
9. This garden is so pretty. I really like the **rusty** / **crumbling** / **moss-covered** rocks because of the soft, green color they have.

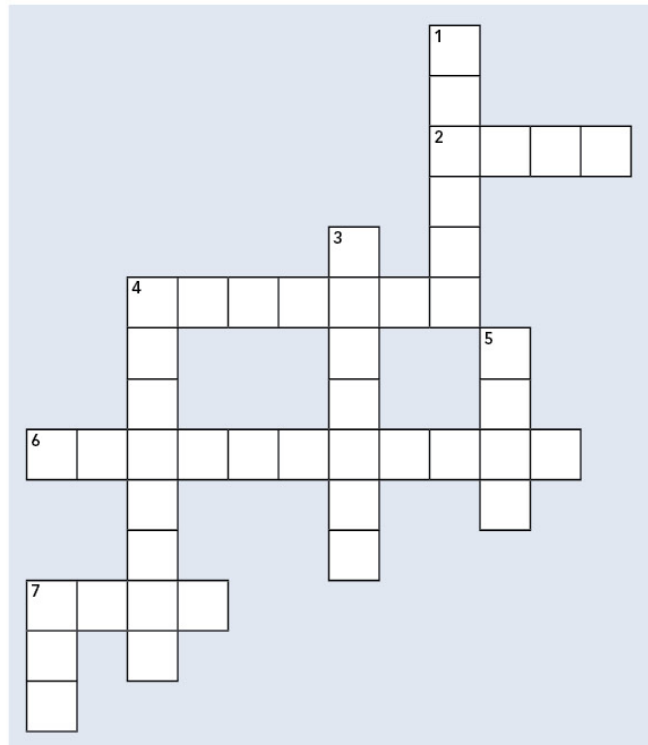
### B Complete the crossword puzzle.

#### Across

2. The rocks in the garden look green because they are \_\_\_-covered.
4. when rock or cement breaks into small pieces
6. when a house is old and really run down
7. My bike has brown \_\_\_ all over it. The metal isn't shiny anymore.

#### Down

1. Storms and natural disasters can do a lot of \_\_\_ to buildings.
3. when you leave a place permanently
4. During an earthquake, buildings frequently \_\_\_ .
5. when paint starts to come off wood
7. Wooden boards can \_\_\_ if they get rained on a lot.



## LESSON 3 GRAMMAR

**A** Circle the correct answer in each sentence.

1. The train station seems deserted, as **just / hardly / regrettably** any trains stop there these days.
2. **Either / Mostly / Apparently**, Peter never got my text, because he didn't join us.
3. Some people love amusement parks, **even / clearly / barely** abandoned ones!
4. **Frankly / Hardly / Rarely**, I'm just not interested in urban exploration.
5. I was so nervous before our trip to the former hospital that I could **curiously / neither / scarcely** sleep.
6. It is **also / obviously / rarely** safe to enter a building that has been condemned and scheduled to be torn down.
7. Peter wasn't interested in photographing the entire building, **honestly / just / seldom** the vines overgrowing it.
8. **Hardly / Clearly / Never**, the workers will need to be careful entering the building.

**B** Rewrite each sentence using the adverb in parentheses. Add a comma where necessary.

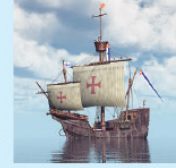
1. It's obvious that the road is in need of repair. (obviously)  
Obviously, the road is in need of repair.
2. No people live in the building now; it's home to wildlife only. (just)  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. It's strange that the house is still standing. (strangely)  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. The place hasn't changed much since my last visit. (hardly)  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. It is my frank opinion that you shouldn't take any chances. (frankly)  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. It isn't a very good idea to explore abandoned factories on your own. (seldom)  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Everyone moved away, to seek work. (mainly)  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. It's clear that urban exploration can be risky. (clearly)  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. We had crossed the bridge when it collapsed. (barely)  
\_\_\_\_\_

## LESSON 4 READING

**A** Read the article.

### Mistakes of European Explorers

At the dawn of Europe's Age of Exploration, daring explorers boarded ships and set off in search of trade routes and territories. What they found opened the eyes of Europe to the rest of the world; however, false assumptions and a lack of thoroughness resulted in incorrect information being generally accepted as fact, sometimes for centuries. Here are some examples.



Although early European explorers suspected that the world was a sphere, they were unaware that the American continents existed. So, when Columbus set sail heading west from Europe, upon reaching land, he believed they had arrived in Asia. In reality, the islands which Columbus and his crew reached in 1492 were in the Caribbean, not located off the coast of China. Furthermore, he was disappointed because he was not able to find the Indian Ocean.

By the 1500s, Europeans were no longer in the dark about the Americas, and were looking for a water passage through North America. This "Northwest Passage," if found, would shorten the trip from Europe to Asia by eliminating the voyage around South America. In 1524, France sent the explorer Verrazzano to hunt for such a passage. He arrived at the coast of North America, passed through a natural land barrier, and entered Pamlico Sound, a large body of water that is located off the coast of North Carolina. Without bothering to check further, he determined that he had reached the Pacific. Due to this error, maps of the area were incorrect for the next century. This false information was a reason that the British first colonized Virginia, from where they expected to find a route to the Pacific soon after they arrived.

In 1876, British sailors claimed to have seen Sandy Island several hundred miles off the west coast of Australia. Mapmakers assumed it to be the same Sandy Island initially sighted by the famous British explorer Captain James Cook a century earlier, so it was added to official maps. Until 2012, the Manhattan-sized island could be seen on U.S. military maps and even on Google Earth. That same year, an Australian ship sailed to the spot where Sandy Island should have been—and found nothing but open water more than 4,000 feet deep. It was evident that there had never been an island at this location. The embarrassing ghost image was erased from all maps, but how did it get there in the first place? One theory is that the island may still exist but at a different location. If true, Sandy Island may appear again on future maps.

**B** Read the article again. Circle the correct answers.

1. According to the article, **most explorers were incompetent / explorers made both valuable discoveries and occasional mistakes.**
2. Before 1500, it seems that explorers were convinced **that there was a direct route from Europe to China / the only way to China was around South America.**
3. Explorers in the 1500s viewed the Americas as **more important than China / an obstacle between them and China.**
4. Verrazzano's mistake was due to **lack of thoroughness / a navigation error.**
5. The Sandy Island mistake is described as "embarrassing" because **its existence was confirmed for centuries / it was likely an error by a great explorer.**

**C** Complete the chart with metaphorical language from the article.

Metaphorical language	Meaning
1. (paragraph 1) at the _____ of _____	at the beginning of
2. (paragraph 3) no _____ in the _____	now able to understand
3. (paragraph 4) _____ image	image of something unreal

#### READING SKILL Identify Metaphor

In a metaphor, language is used for dramatic effect, e.g., *The internet is a window on the world*. Although the internet isn't an actual window, the word suggests how we use the internet to obtain information about the world.



## LESSON 5 WRITING

**A** Read the essay. Write the letter of the correct phrase on the line to complete the sentences.

- |                                     |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| a. a very diverse eco-system        | f. climbed and kayaked             |
| b. allow sunlight into the cave     | g. Phong Nha Ke Bang National Park |
| c. an underground river             | h. provide a surprising soundtrack |
| d. are struck by profound darkness  | i. reveals amazing rock formations |
| e. challenged by a travel adventure | j. the most amazing natural beauty |

One of the best travel experiences I've ever had was a tour of the Son Doong cave. When I traveled there I witnessed \_\_\_\_\_ I've ever seen.

Located in \_\_\_\_\_, Vietnam, Son Doong stretches over 3 miles and is the largest cave in the world. It's been around for over three million years. Son Doong was formed by \_\_\_\_\_ that still courses through it, and its name means "the cave of the mountain river." Contrary to what you might expect of a cave, Son Doong boasts \_\_\_\_\_. This is not only because of the river water, but also thanks to some other unexpected features.

When you first enter the cave, you \_\_\_\_\_. An illuminated flashlight \_\_\_\_\_, called stalactites and stalagmites. In fact, the cave has some of the tallest stalagmites in the world. Many rise over 230 feet from the floor. But Son Doong isn't dark everywhere. The roof has openings in two places. These massive holes \_\_\_\_\_. And because of the sunlight, trees and other plants are able to thrive there. In fact, there are places in the cave where you're immersed in a jungle full of monkeys, birds, and insects that screech and chirp constantly! These sounds \_\_\_\_\_ for your cave adventure.

On my expedition, we not only walked, but we also \_\_\_\_\_. It was hard, but my Son Doong trip frankly astounded me. Anyone who wants to be \_\_\_\_\_ should see Son Doong for themselves.

**B** Complete the chart with active verbs used in the essay above.

Verb	Meaning
	observed and experienced something personally
	extends or spreads out
	moves freely; flows
	has something great
	surrounded
	make a long, loud, piercing sound
	make a short, high-pitched sound
	went up an incline
	traveled in a small boat

# UNIT 1 SELF-QUIZ

## 1 VOCABULARY

Complete the sentences. Circle the correct answer.

- There were so many events on the \_\_\_\_\_. We couldn't do everything in such a short time!  
a. itinerary                      b. impromptu                      c. serendipity                      d. low season
- She was too busy to prepare anything for the meeting, so she decided to \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. day trip                      b. plan ahead                      c. open-ended                      d. play it by ear
- I couldn't open my eyes because of the strong \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. rover                      b. terraform                      c. spacecraft                      d. dust storm
- Make sure you cover your nose so that you don't breathe in \_\_\_\_\_ gas.  
a. toxic                      b. colonize                      c. massive                      d. bombarded
- We had to be careful not to slip while walking on the green \_\_\_\_\_ rocks in the jungle.  
a. rusted                      b. peeled                      c. damaged                      d. moss-covered
- All of a sudden, the chair \_\_\_\_\_ and he fell down on the ground.  
a. crumbled                      b. collapsed                      c. dilapidated                      d. abandoned

## 2 GRAMMAR

**A** Complete paragraph with present perfect simple or simple past form of the words in parentheses.

Since I was a child, I \_\_\_\_\_ many countries around the world. I never want to  
stop traveling! Last year, I \_\_\_\_\_ to Kenya for the first time and had such a  
wonderful time.

**B** Complete the conversation with the words in parentheses. Pay attention to the indefinite pronoun.

A: I think somebody \_\_\_\_\_ knocking on the door. Can you go check?  
B: Okay. I'm sure either Jake or Lisa \_\_\_\_\_ here.

**C** Reorder the words to complete the sentences.

- his parents/ he / scarcely / called  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- your opinion/ I disagree / with / honestly  
\_\_\_\_\_.

# UNIT 2 WHAT'S YOUR SUPERPOWER?

## LESSON 1 VOCABULARY

**A** Complete the conversation with words from the box.

invincible	shapeshifter	telepathic	x-ray vision
invisible	super hearing	telekinesis	teleport

A: When I was a kid, I wanted to have superpowers, like being able to move super-fast, or to have \_\_\_\_\_ 1. and know what people were saying from far away.

B: Me, too! But I wanted \_\_\_\_\_ 2. so that I could look at my bones.

A: That's all? You didn't want to be \_\_\_\_\_ 3. so you could hear people's thoughts?

B: That would be fun! What about being \_\_\_\_\_ 4. so you wouldn't get hurt?

A: What about being able to become \_\_\_\_\_ 5.? I would love to be in a room when no one else could see me.

B: I'd rather be a \_\_\_\_\_ 6. and change into a bird, so I could fly.

A: When I was little, I also wanted \_\_\_\_\_ 7. so that I could lift things with my mind.

B: What about being able to \_\_\_\_\_ 8.? I still wish that was possible—just think about where you want to go and poof! There you are.

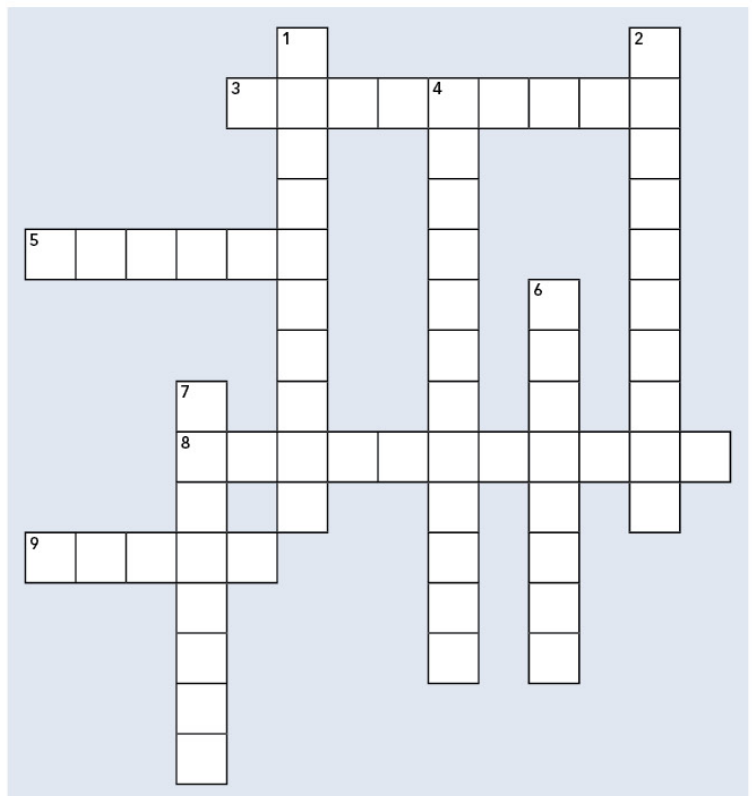
**B** Complete the crossword puzzle.

### Across

- 3. when something can't be seen
- 5. X-ray \_\_\_ is the ability to see through objects.
- 8. to move things with your mind
- 9. Hearing things other people can't is called \_\_\_ hearing.

### Down

- 1. too strong to be destroyed or hurt
- 2. somebody who knows what others are thinking
- 4. changing form to look like something else
- 6. to travel somewhere instantly
- 7. The ability to lift extremely heavy things is super \_\_\_.



## LESSON 1 GRAMMAR

**A** Read the statement. Underline the sentence with the same meaning.

- I'm not telepathic, so I can't read minds.
  - If I weren't telepathic, I couldn't read minds.
  - If I were telepathic, I could read minds.
- I'm unhappy because I don't have a superpower.
  - I'd be happy if I had a superpower.
  - If I weren't unhappy, I would have a superpower.
- The character is not invincible, so he can be beaten.
  - If the character is invincible, no one will be able to beat him.
  - If the character were invincible, he couldn't be beaten.
- I can't choose a superpower, so I can't make myself invisible.
  - I would make myself invisible if I could choose a superpower.
  - I wouldn't make myself invisible if I could choose a superpower.
- She doesn't have super hearing, so we can talk freely about her.
  - We can't talk freely about her if she doesn't have super hearing.
  - If she had super hearing, we couldn't talk freely about her.
- We don't have the power of telekinesis, so we can't move objects with our minds.
  - If we had the power of telekinesis, we could move objects with our minds.
  - If we didn't have the power of telekinesis, we couldn't move objects with our minds.

**B** Complete the restatements, using the present and future unreal conditional.

- We're talking about superpowers because it's fun.  
We wouldn't talk about superpowers if it weren't fun.
- I can't be there with you now because I can't teleport.  
I could \_\_\_\_\_.
- You can't save the planet because you aren't Superman.  
You could \_\_\_\_\_.
- We aren't superheroes. We cannot save the world from climate change.  
If we \_\_\_\_\_.
- People love superheroes because they use their superpowers for good.  
People \_\_\_\_\_.
- She can't solve all your problems. She's not Wonder Woman!  
She \_\_\_\_\_.
- We aren't telepathic, so we need to talk.  
If we \_\_\_\_\_.
- Batman is so interesting because he has such a complex character.  
If Batman didn't \_\_\_\_\_.
- I don't have super strength, so I'm not invincible.  
I would \_\_\_\_\_.

## LESSON 2 VOCABULARY

**A** Choose the correct answers to complete the sentences.

- If Jake strives for \_\_\_\_\_ in everything he does, he's sure to succeed.
  - excel
  - excellent
  - excellence
- Some people express \_\_\_\_\_ when they drive, even though they're normally very polite and never get angry.
  - aged
  - raging
  - rage
- Before we buy new equipment, we should first try to \_\_\_\_\_ the resources we already have.
  - optimum
  - optimal
  - optimize
- Jennifer \_\_\_\_\_ to organize the meeting if we would give a presentation on improving teamwork.
  - promised
  - promising
  - promise
- During the workshop, we had some time for \_\_\_\_\_ about what we each need to work on the most and what we are already doing well.
  - reflection
  - reflecting
  - reflective
- David kept applying for different jobs with the company he really wanted to work for. Finally, his \_\_\_\_\_ paid off.
  - persist
  - persistent
  - persistence
- If you achieve great things, you might be an \_\_\_\_\_ for future generations.
  - inspirational
  - inspire
  - inspiration

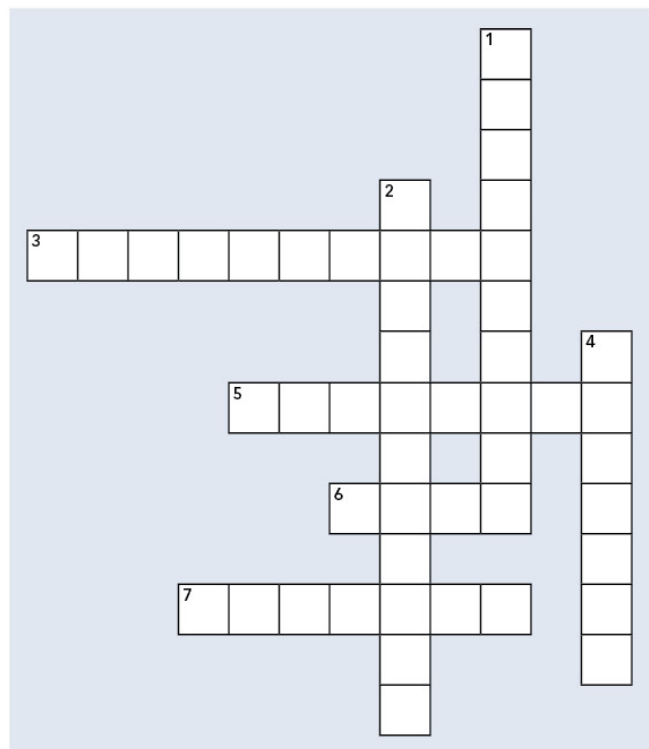
**B** Complete the crossword puzzle.

### Across

- excel (v), \_\_\_ (n), excellent (adj)
- \_\_\_ (v), optimum/optimal (adj)
- rage (v), \_\_\_ (n)
- \_\_\_ (v), promise (n), promising (adj)

### Down

- reflect (v), reflection (n), \_\_\_ (adj)
- inspire (v), \_\_\_ (n), inspirational (adj)
- \_\_\_ (v), persistence (n), persistent (adj)



## LESSON 2 GRAMMAR

**A** Circle the correct answers.

1. If you **are** / **will be** willing to practice, you'll surely get better at this.
2. You **don't** / **won't** learn from this mistake if you can't admit it was a mistake.
3. **Unless** / **If** we persist, we won't reach our goals.
4. We'll figure it out if we **take** / **will take** some time to think it through.
5. If they offer you the job, you really **are taking** / **should take** it.
6. You can learn a lot from research on excellence **unless** / **if** you're willing to do some reading.
7. Recognizing optimal push is important if an athlete or a student **wants** / **wanted** good results.
8. **Unless** / **If** she finds something that inspires in her a rage to master, she may not achieve her true potential.

**B** Combine the sentences to make new sentences in the future real conditional. Use a comma when necessary.

1. It will get easier. But you have to be patient.  
If you are patient, it will get easier \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Take my advice. You'll do better next time.  
If you \_\_\_\_\_.
3. We should change our approach. We might get better results.  
We \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Keep trying. You'll get it eventually.  
If you \_\_\_\_\_.
5. You should work with a personal trainer. That should help you.  
If \_\_\_\_\_.
6. I might not meet the deadline. The task might take more time.  
If the task \_\_\_\_\_.
7. You might have more questions. So I'll be available.  
I \_\_\_\_\_.
8. We must optimize our efforts. Then we'll succeed.  
If \_\_\_\_\_.
9. We should reflect on these tips. They might help.  
These tips \_\_\_\_\_.

## LESSON 3 VOCABULARY

**A** Circle the correct words or phrases to complete the sentences.

- If you had a superpower and saw a crime happening, would you **intervene** / **take part** / **leave** and stop things?
- Even if I could work at super speed, I wouldn't want to **bring about** / **churn out** / **start up** products. I would still want to take my time to do high quality work.
- People who experience major **events** / **weak points** / **trauma**, like the death of a parent, may need psychological therapy to help them recover.
- Children often **respect** / **resemble** / **identify** their parents, not only in how they look, but also in how they act.
- He excels in playing the piano, but he's never had any lessons. He really has an **acquired** / **ingrown** / **innate** musical talent!
- I love superhero movies because superheroes **avenge** / **discover** / **forgive** others when bad things happen to them. It's satisfying to see the bad guys get punished.
- Jane was an unknown scientist before her latest invention. But afterwards, she was **thrust into** / **bumped into** / **removed from** unexpected fame.
- If you **inconsistently** / **consistently** / **willingly** eat right and exercise, you won't get superpowers, but you would be super healthy!
- If someone had a superpower, it would become **self-evident** / **confusing** / **unclear** fairly quickly unless they worked hard to hide it.

**B** Complete the crossword puzzle.

### Across

- When you \_\_\_ out work as quickly as possible, it might not be your best.
- Something that is self-\_\_\_, is obvious.
- to get involved in order to prevent something from happening
- Dawn and Debbie \_\_\_ each other and I can't tell them apart.

### Down

- to punish someone for harming you or someone else
- Pete was \_\_\_ into being the leader because others pushed him into it.
- Jack's work is \_\_\_ excellent. It's always high quality.
- Laura is an amazing singer. She has an \_\_\_ ability for it.
- an upsetting experience

