

GRAMMAR

a Complete the sentences with one word.

- 1 What were you and Sarah talking _____?
- 2 You didn't like her latest novel, _____ you?
- 3 My father loves opera and so _____ my mother.
- 4 A I've been to India twice.
B _____ you? I'd love to go.
- 5 What have you _____ doing since last week?

b Circle a, b, or c.

- 1 Could you tell me what time ____?
a the bus leaves b leaves the bus
c does the bus leave
- 2 How many people ____ this computer?
a do use b use c does use
- 3 You're not eating much. ____ like the food?
a You don't b Don't you c Aren't you
- 4 A Why didn't you call me?
B I ____, but your phone was switched off.
a do call b did called c did call
- 5 My parents are both blonde but my sisters ____.
a don't b aren't c are
- 6 ____ three cups of coffee already this morning.
a I've been having b I've had c I have
- 7 That was probably the worst film ____!
a I've ever seen b I've never seen
c I've ever been seeing
- 8 I met ____ at my language class today.
a a Swiss b the Swiss c a Swiss girl
- 9 Some people think that ____ don't pay enough tax.
a the rich b the rich people c rich
- 10 I got a ____ bag for my birthday.
a beautiful leather Italian
b Italian leather beautiful
c beautiful Italian leather

VOCABULARY

a Complete the compound adjectives.

- 1 My boss is very bad-_____. When things go wrong, he starts shouting at everyone.
- 2 I'm very _____-minded. I tend to forget things.
- 3 I think Paul is a bit tight-_____. He never spends money unless he absolutely has to.
- 4 Sylvia won't have any problems at the interview – she's very self-_____.
- 5 That dress is very old-_____. It looks like the kind of thing my granny would wear.

b Write words for the definitions.

- 1 bl_____ (verb) to lose blood from an injury
- 2 sw_____ (adj.) bigger than normal, especially because of an injury or infection
- 3 b_____ (noun) a piece of cloth used to tie round a part of the body that has been hurt
- 4 t_____ (noun) a pain in one of your teeth
- 5 r_____ (noun) an area of red spots caused by an illness or allergy

c Circle the correct verb or verb phrase.

- 1 I have / feel a bit dizzy. I need to sit down.
- 2 She burnt / sprained her ankle when she was jogging.
- 3 It was so hot in the room that I nearly fainted / choked.
- 4 This skirt doesn't fit / suit me. It's a bit too big.
- 5 Can I go in jeans? I don't feel like getting dressed / changed.

d Circle the word that is different.

- 1 striped spotted plain patterned
- 2 silk cotton fur smart
- 3 collar sleeveless hooded long-sleeved
- 4 lycra scarf vest cardigan
- 5 fashionable scruffy stylish trendy

e Complete with one word.

- 1 My mother had very bad flu last week, but she's beginning to get _____ it now.
- 2 Please lie _____ on the couch over there.
- 3 I'm feeling sick. I think I'm going to _____ up.
- 4 Do we really need to dress _____ for the party tonight?
- 5 Please _____ up your clothes in the wardrobe.

PRONUNCIATION

a Circle the word with a different sound.

- 1  ache choke checked matches
- 2  unconscious rash fashion suede
- 3  injury striped silk blister
- 4  allergic burnt wear fur
- 5  cough flu suit loose

b Underline the main stressed syllable.

- 1 in|cre|di|bly 3 an|ti|bi|o|tics 5 fa|shio|na|ble
- 2 big-|hea|ded 4 swim|suit

CAN YOU understand this text?

- a Read the article once. Do the scientists who have studied Scott Kelly agree about the effect of space travel on the human body?
- b Read the article again and choose a, b, or c.
 - 1 Scientists expected that, after spending a year in space, Scott Kelly would be...
 - a more intelligent.
 - b taller and lighter.
 - c younger.
 - 2 Telomeres prevent...
 - a ageing.
 - b radiation.
 - c damage to our chromosomes.
 - 3 Scientists are afraid that astronauts...
 - a will not want to do long space flights.
 - b will have a lot of long-term health problems.
 - c won't be able to travel further than Mars.
 - 4 In space, astronauts...
 - a are made to use the gym twice a week.
 - b exercise more than when they are in training.
 - c are not allowed to eat whatever they like.

▶ CAN YOU understand these people?

2.25 Watch or listen and choose a, b, or c.



1 Sean 2 Harry 3 Maria 4 Tom

- 1 One of the questions Sean was asked at a job interview was _____.
 - a whether he liked working in restaurants
 - b which his favourite team was
 - c who his favourite superhero was
- 2 In the house where Harry grew up, there is a ghost which _____.
 - a all of her family have seen
 - b all of her family have heard
 - c all of her family are afraid of
- 3 Maria gave her little brother first aid when _____.
 - a her mother was not at home
 - b his older brother had hit him on the head
 - c he fell off the sofa and cut himself
- 4 Tom's friend _____.
 - a is 16 years older than him
 - b works as an actress
 - c makes him laugh a lot

Astronaut returns from space **younger** than his twin



American astronaut Scott Kelly, and his identical twin Mark, also a retired astronaut, may be the most studied siblings in the history of science. Each time one of them went into space while the other remained on Earth, both men would carry out dozens of experiments, including cognitive exercises, genetic sequencing, and testing for bacteria on their bodies. When Scott landed in Kazakhstan last year, after 340 days in space, he came back two inches taller, fifteen pounds lighter, and with a strong desire to jump into a swimming pool. Changes like these were predictable and temporary. Now, however, scientists have found the first signs of a change that no one expected - during his year on board the International Space Station, Scott's body had become younger.

One of the genetic indicators of human ageing is the length of our telomeres. Telomeres are the caps at the end of each strand of DNA that protect our chromosomes, like the plastic tips at the end of shoelaces. Normally, telomeres get shorter as we age; they are about 11,000 molecules long when we are born and only about 4,000 long in old age, and this means that our DNA is increasingly vulnerable to damage as we get older. However, an analysis of Scott Kelly's cells, led by Susan Bailey, professor of radiation cancer biology at Colorado State University, showed that the 52-year-old astronaut's telomeres got longer while he was in space, before shrinking back again after returning to Earth.

In theory, expanding telomeres indicate the reversal of part of the ageing process. However, they are also strongly linked to cancer. NASA is aiming to send humans to Mars and beyond, but many scientists worry that long-haul trips into space could cause astronauts to suffer from chronic and severe health problems. So this is definitely not good news, and it could have serious implications for the future of space travel.

Christopher Mason, assistant professor of physiology and biophysics at Cornell Weill Medicine in New York, takes a different view. Professor Mason's team also found changes in Scott Kelly's genes while he was in space. But he thinks this may be less a result of simply being in space, and more due to the intense NASA fitness regime. 'On Earth, you might go to the gym on Tuesday and then decide you can't be bothered on Thursday and go to the pub, but on the space station, the astronauts exercise extremely regularly, and all food and exercise are very controlled.'

Glossary
15 pounds almost 7 kilos

Adapted from The Times



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