

1. Read the following texts and match the words in bold to the definitions below. Where might you see each type of writing?



Text A

Hi Ralph,

Sorry we didn't get to see each other while I was in town, but my day didn't quite go according to plan!

I started by **1) bolting down** my breakfast, as I wanted to leave early to avoid the traffic. By 8.00 I was **2) bombing along** the M4 until I got stopped for speeding by a police officer. I started to explain but he **3) butted in**, saying, "The speed limit **4) applies to** everyone, you know." Luckily, he **5) let me off** with a warning.

When I eventually got to town my adventure really began. Anyway, when you've read this clipping from *The Evening Star*, I'm sure you'll forgive me for not calling you.

See you next time!

Dominic

- > interrupt sb
- > be relevant to sb/sth
- > eat sth very quickly
- > excuse sb from punishment
- > travel very fast

Text B

Nicholas Forbes (43), who is wanted for armed robbery and has been **1) on the run from** the police for several weeks, was apprehended outside a supermarket in Long Street yesterday.

Forbes was attempting to **2) dispose of** a bag in a rubbish bin when a police officer approached him. Forbes sprinted off, with the officer in hot pursuit, and bystander Dominic Clarke (23) joined the chase. Onlookers **3) cheered** Clarke **on** as he quickly **4) gained on** Forbes and wrestled him to the ground.

A crowd of shoppers **5) congregated around** the struggling men and Forbes was arrested. A police spokesman praised Clarke's bravery but urged the public not to tackle dangerous criminals themselves. "Such matters are best left in the hands of the police," he said.

- > gather round (sb/sth) in a large group
- > throw sth away
- > try to avoid being captured by sb
- > get nearer to sb/sth one is chasing
- > give sb loud encouragement

2 Fill in each gap with a suitable expression from the list.

apply to, dispose of, gaining on, let off, on the run from

Two teenagers convicted yesterday on a charge of car theft should be **1) _____** with a suspended sentence in view of their age, their lawyer argued.

Andrew McWade and Peter Duncan, both 17, were already **2) _____** the police in connection with another crime when they stole the car. The stolen vehicle was spotted by the driver of a police patrol car, who immediately gave chase. Realising that the patrol car was **3) _____** them, the youths attempted to **4) _____** evidence linking them to both crimes, but were soon arrested.

Prosecution lawyers insisted that, given the circumstances of the crime, normal grounds for a reduction in punishment did not **5) _____** the two accused. Sentence will be passed today.

3 Replace each word/phrase in bold with a suitable expression from the list, using the correct tense/form.

bolt down, bomb along, butt in, cheer on, congregate around

1 Tourists **gathered round** the statue as the guide began to talk about its finer points.

2 Most accidents on this motorway are caused by drivers who **travel fast** with no regard for road safety.

3 The crowd **gave** the runners **loud encouragement** as they approached the finishing line.

4 I was running late, so I had to **eat** my lunch **quickly** and rush off.

5 I'd have liked to ask a question, but I didn't want to **interrupt** while he was talking.

By Olga Romanovych