INFORMATION FOCUS: SUBJECT AND OBJECT CLAUSES

C Write sentences with information-focus clauses using the prompts 1–6. Use the correct tense and verb form, and add words, as needed.

4 old-fashioned slang terms I wish would make a comeback!

The thing about slang is that it's unpredictable. A new word or expression may catch on quickly, but [1][how long / last / no one / know]. It may disappear in a year or two or stick around for decades. Here are four old-fashioned slang terms you might still hear:

1 2 3 4

DOLL UP: I love this one! You might think it has to do with dolls, but [2][what / mean / be / 'get dressed up'], as in 'I got all dolled up for the party.' Now, [3][how / friends / react / if / say this / mystery!]

DOUGH: Slang words for 'money' come and go, but 'dough' is my favourite. [4][When / originate / surprise you]: The first printed records date back to the mid 1800s!

SWANKY: If you describe something as swanky, you're saying it's expensive and fashionable. [5][Whether / really / be / people / decide / for themselves].

WHAT'S EATING YOU? This one means 'What's bothering you?' [6][Where exactly / hear / first time / not / remember]. It might have been in a film. Or maybe my grandfather used it.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

6 _____

A Look at the **bold** words and expressions, but don't read the descriptions yet. Do you know what they mean? Do you use them?

Trolling [1][*is / means / What / to / this*] post comments in order to deliberately get a reaction from people. Why it became used on the Internet [2][*relates / think / we / to / back*] a 17th-century use of the word, which was to use bait when fishing, i.e. use something false to capture the naïve (in this case the fish).

Meh [3][*became / this / Why / popular / so*] we're not really sure. This three-letter word shows that you're not really interested in something. [4][*interesting / that / is / What's*] it can be an adjective (It was all very 'meh') and even a noun (I refer you back to my last 'meh').

Cupertino This is the nightmare of autocorrect. [5][*was / from / came / Where / it*] an early spell-checker program which knew the word 'Cupertino' (the town where Apple has its head office), but not the word 'cooperation'. [6][*was / What / do / would / it*] correct the word 'cooperation' to 'Cupertino' every time someone tried to use it.

I can't even! [7][*expression / What / know / we / is / about / this*] that it began when a social media user finished a comment with 'I can't!' to show he or she was speechless with shock or surprise. When the 'even' was added, [8][*really / we / know / don't*], but it's clear that it was added to make the phrase even stronger.

B Order the words in italics in the texts above to make information-focus clauses.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

6 _____

7 _____

8 _____

C Match 1–5 to a–e to make sentences. Decide if each sentence contains a subject clause (S) or an object clause (O).

1 How often people use this expression

2 Whether it's appropriate to send a direct message

3 When exactly we started using hashtags

4 Why social media became so popular

5 What we did to make messages shorter

a ☐ we're not really sure. _____

b ☐ was a result of many different factors. _____

c ☐ was to use lots of abbreviations. _____

d ☐ reflects how much they use social media. _____

e ☐ I think depends on how well you know the person. _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS