

Units 1–4

1 Complete the text with a suitable form of the verbs in brackets.

Reporter Philip Taggart visits a farm where the sheep are super fit!

Farmers, as you may (1) *know* (know), (2) (have) a hard time of it in Britain lately, and (3) (turn) to new ways of earning income from their land. This (4) (involve) not only planting new kinds of crops, but also some strange ways of making money, the most unusual of which has got to be sheep racing. Yes, you (5) (hear) me correctly! A farmer in the west of England now (6) (hold) sheep races on a regular basis, and during the past year over 100,000 people (7) (turn up) to watch the proceedings. 'I (8) (pass) the farm on my way to the sea for a holiday,' one punter told me, 'and I (9) (think) I'd have a look. I (10) (not/believe) it was serious, to tell you the truth.' According to a regular visitor, betting on sheep is more interesting than betting on horses. 'At proper horse races everyone (11) (already/study) the form of the horses in advance, and there are clear favourites. But nobody (12) (hear) anything about these sheep! Most people (13) (find) it difficult to tell one from another in any case.' I (14) (stay) to watch the races, and I must admit that I (15) (find) it quite exciting. In a typical race, half a dozen sheep (16) (race) downhill over a course of about half a mile. Food (17) (wait) for them at the other end of the track, I ought to add! The sheep (18) (run) surprisingly fast, although presumably they (19) (not/eat) for a while just to give them some motivation. At any rate, the crowd around me (20) (obviously/enjoy) their day out at the races, judging by their happy faces and the sense of excitement.

2 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given.

1 This matter is none of your business.

concern

This matter *is of no concern to/does not concern* you.

2 This bridge will take us three years to complete.

completed

In three years' time this bridge.

3 When is the train due to arrive?

supposed

What get here?

4 Today is Liz and John's thirtieth wedding anniversary.

ago

On this married.

5 To get to work on time, I have to get up at 6.00.

means

Getting to work on time at 6.00.

6 Whose watch is this?

belong

Who to?

7 Cathy hasn't been on holiday with her sister before.

first

This on holiday with her sister.

8 My dental appointment is for next Wednesday.

see

I have an Wednesday.

9 This will be the team's first match in the Champion's League.

time

This will be the first in the Champion's League.

10 The number of people who attended the fair exceeded our expectations.

had

More people expected.

11 I didn't receive the results of my test for a month.

before

It was the results of my test.

12 Quite a few books are missing from the class library.

returned

Several members of the class library books.

ADVANCED LANGUAGE PRACTICE

3 In most lines of this text there is one extra word. Write the extra word, or put a tick if the line is correct.

Our reporter, Sarah Hardie, goes to Otley Hall to experience a spooky weekend.

There have been signs of paranormal activity at Otley Hall at various times 1 ✓
over the last 200 years time. If tales of headless huntsmen and wailing nuns 2
don't spook you out, do get this for a ghostly tale: a young Victorian man in 3
a silver gown emerges himself from the garden, walks through the front door, 4
whether or not will it happens to be open, and walks upstairs with a lantern, 5
before vanishing in the library. If local folklore it is to be believed, he does 6
this without fail at midnight on 6 September every year, this is being the date 7
of the untimely death of one George Carpenter, the gardener of the hall, 8
who met his doom in the library, had burned by his own lantern. Otley Hall 9
stands 3 miles north of the town of Rugby, England, and that is reputedly the 10
most haunted house in England, a claim which few who have never visited it 11
would dispute. Even the approach to the Hall is not much a journey to be 12
undertaken by the faint-hearted; at one point an executioner emerges 13
from the trees, was brandishing an axe, although it must be said that this 14
practice ceases after September, when the Hall is closed to visitors. 15
My own visit revealed nothing more mysterious than such gimmicks, 16
laid on for an ever-gullible flow of tourists, cameras been at their sides, 17
eager to snap their buttons at the first sign of anything even remotely 18
unexplainable. But it was all having great fun, and the ghostly maze on 19
the final day was terrific, even if I never did get to see George Carpenter. 20

4 Complete each sentence with a suitable word.

ages

- 1 It's since I last had a good Chinese meal.
- 2 Funnily enough I saw Bob quite at the sports club.
- 3 I've loved you ever the first day I set eyes on you!
- 4 How long was it that you lived in Inverness?
- 5 I've to see anyone who can dance as well as Maria.
- 6 Could you phone me the you arrive at the hotel so I don't worry?
- 7 I promise to get everything ready eight o'clock at the latest.
- 8 I told Sue I already finished my essay.
- 9 I'm sorry you've been waiting so long, but it will be some time Brian gets back.
- 10 Just sit here, would you? The doctor will be with you

5 Complete each sentence with a suitable form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 This is my new boat. What (you/think) *do you think* of it?
- 2 A: Who are you?
B: What do you mean? I (live) here.
- 3 I can't find the keys. What (you/do) with them?
- 4 Sorry I haven't fixed the plug. I (mean) to get round to it, but I just haven't found the time.
- 5 What (you/do) on Saturdays?
- 6 I don't know what time we'll eat. It (depend) when Helen gets here.
- 7 I supported you at the time because I (feel) that you were right.
- 8 Peter couldn't understand what had been decided because too many people (talk) **at once**.
- 9 Jean, I'm so glad you've got here at last. I (expect) you all day.

6 Complete the text with a suitable form of the verbs in brackets.

Ask hundreds of people what they (1) *plan/are planning*... (plan) to do on a certain day in August next year, or the year after, and there (2) (be) only one reply. Provided of course that the people you (3) (ask) (4) (belong) to the Elvis Presley Fan Club. Although the King of Rock and Roll (5) (die) over three decades ago, his fans (6) (meet) every year since then outside his home in Memphis, Tennessee, to show respect for the singer they (7) (love) so much. Fans like Jean Thomas, from Catford in South East London. Jean (8) (visit) Gracelands, the house where Elvis (9) (suffer) his fatal heart attack, twice in the past five years. 'The first time I (10) (borrow) the money from my Mum, as I (11) (not/work) then. But two years ago I (12) (get) married and since then I (13) (work) in my husband Chris's garage. Chris and I (14) (go) together last year, and we (15) (think) of spending two or three months in the USA next year. I (16) (always/want) to visit some of the places where Elvis (17) (perform). Like Las Vegas for example.' Jean says that Elvis (18) (be) her obsession ever since she (19) (be) ten years old, and she (20) (own) every single one of his records, good and bad.

ADVANCED LANGUAGE PRACTICE

7 Complete each sentence with a suitable form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 Sam hadn't received (not/receive) the parcel the last time I (speak) to him.
- 2 I (consider) buying a house but now I (change) my mind.
- 3 When you (feel) hungry, room service (bring) you whatever you want.
- 4 I (find) it difficult to convince the ticket inspector that I (lose) my ticket, but he believed me in the end.
- 5 Ever since I (be) a young child, I (die) to meet you.
- 6 As soon as I (have) a look at the designs, I (send) them to you. You'll get them by Friday.
- 7 Whatever (happen), I (meet) you here in a week's time.
- 8 By the time you (finish) getting ready, we (miss) the train!
- 9 Sally! I (not/expect) to see you here! What (you/do) in New York?

8 Decide whether each underlined phrase is correct or not. If it is correct, write a tick. If not, correct it.

- 1 Will you be seeing Rob Jones tomorrow? I wonder if you could give him a message from Sally Gordon? ✓.....
- 2 I had a great time in the Greek Islands. We would rent a small boat and go fishing every day.
- 3 Julie, hi! I've been hoping I'd see you. I've got some good news!
- 4 We had a terrible time looking after your dog. It was constantly chasing the cats next door.
- 5 We had a lovely time in Madrid. Every day we were exploring the city, and in the evening we were going to exciting bars.
- 6 The steam engine is usually thought of as a relatively modern invention, but the Greeks had built a kind of steam engine in ancient times.
- 7 I felt rather worried. It was growing darker and colder, and there was still no sign of the rescue helicopter.
- 8 Don't worry! All we have to do is wait here until someone will find us.
- 9 This meat is really tasting awful! Are you quite sure it was fresh?