

Present simple and present continuous, State and action verbs; Articles

1 Complete the sentences with the present simple or the present continuous form of the verbs given.

- 1 'Someone (knock) at the door.' 'Oh, I know who it is. It's Peter.'
- 2 Laura and Tom (have) a very hard time at work at the moment.
- 3 Physical exercise (help) teenagers with concentration in school.
- 4 'What's the matter?' 'The children (argue) about who is a better footballer.'
- 5 I (think) the expert's advice on retirement is very helpful.
- 6 He (see) his parents every week.
- 7 Dad (not realise) that I am not a little child any more.
- 8 Julian always (switch off) the music when he studies?

2 Choose the best answer (a, b or c) to complete the sentences.

- 1 My aunt speaks too fast. I her.
a don't understand
b doesn't understand
c am not understanding
- 2 I it's important for teenagers to have a private space.
a am thinking
b think
c thinks
- 3 Do you usually to music at a reasonable volume?
a listening
b listen
c are listening
- 4 People to treat senior citizens with respect.
a are needing
b not need
c need
- 5 Do you a positive contribution to your family life?
a make
b making
c makes
- 6 My niece with her friends right now – she's at home alone.
a not plays
b doesn't play
c isn't playing

3 Find and correct the mistakes. Two of the sentences are correct.

- 1 'Hello, where are you?' 'Sorry, I can't talk now. I'm going into the office. Bye.'
- 2 'Are you liking your sister?' 'Yes, I do. We don't have many arguments.'
- 3 His Spanish is not perfect, but he improves.
- 4 My parents believe family dinners are important but I don't enjoy them.
- 5 My nephew is never accepting my advice.

4 Circle the correct alternative.

- 1 About 30% of my classmates come from a/the country outside of Europe.
- 2 My cousin and I are almost the/0 same age.
- 3 I always feel very nervous before a class presentation – I don't like speaking in the/0 public.
- 4 My brother is at university and my sister works as 0/a nurse in a hospital.
- 5 We have class discussions in English all the time, but I don't always have a/the confidence to speak.

5 Circle the correct alternative.

Grandparents can be very important in the life of (a) a/the teenager. They have more experience and more time than parents and can help teens make (b) a/the right choices. Teens often (c) think/are thinking their parents don't understand them and that their grandparents understand them better. A study called 'My second mum and dad' says that there are currently 14 million grandparents in the UK, that the number (d) increases/is increasing and that they (e) live/are living longer now. The study also says that many grandparents help teenagers with (f) a/0 school work and go to school events when their parents are busy. More than 25% of teenagers say they talk to their grandparents about problems they (g) don't discuss/aren't discussing with their parents. Experts say that this generation of grandparents has (h) a/0 better relationship with today's teenagers because many grandparents are (i) the/0 younger now. One grandmother says, 'We are probably the only generation that (j) likes/is liking some of the same music our grandchildren like.'