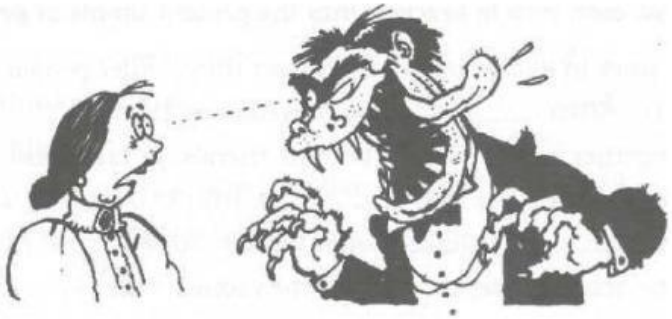
Practice

1 Underline the correct word or phrase in each sentence.

a) I haven't decided yet about whether to buy a new car or a second-hand one. But / *think about it/I'm thinking about it*.
b) All right, you try to fix the television! But / *hope/I'm hoping* you know what you're doing.
c) Every year / *visit/I'm visiting* Britain to improve my English.
d) It's time we turned on the central heating. *It gets/It's getting* colder every day.
e) Of course, you're Mary, aren't you! / *recognise/I am recognising* you now.
f) The film of 'War and Peace' is very long. *It lasts/It is lasting* over four hours.
g) I can see from what you say that your mornings are very busy! But what *do you do/are you doing* in the afternoons?
h) I'm going to buy a new swimming costume. My old one *doesn't fit/isn't fitting* any more,
i) That must be the end of the first part of the performance. What *happens/is happening* now?
j) What's the matter? Why *do you look/are you looking* at me like that?



2 Underline the correct word or phrase in each sentence.

a) I work in this office *all this year/all the time*.
b) Emerson is *currently/for long* top of the driver's league.
c) I am not making much money *these days/so far this year*.
d) The food tastes even worse *now/presently*. You've put too much salt in.
e) *Normally/previously* we get in touch with customers by post.
f) Pete was ill but he is getting over his illness *soon/now*.
g) I'm feeling rather run down *lately/at present*, doctor,
h) I always stay on duty *since/until* six o'clock.
i) I'm *often/forever* picking your hairs out of the bath!
j) Fortunately the baby *now/recently* sleeps all night.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Put each verb in brackets into the present simple or present continuous.

a) hear..... (hear) that you have been promoted. Congratulations!
b) British people.....(drink) more and more wine, apparently.
c) I hope Sarah will be here soon. I.....(depend) on her.
d) Please be quiet, David. You.....(forever/interrupt).
e) Hey, you! What.....(you/think) you're doing?
f) Could you come here please? I.....(want) to talk to you now.
g) Jane is away on holiday so Linda.....(handle) her work.
h) To be honest, I.....(doubt) whether Jim will be here next week.
i) You've only just started the job, haven't you? How..... (you/get on)?
j) Pay no attention to Graham. He.....(just/be) sarcastic.

4 Put each verb in brackets into the present simple or present continuous.

I work in a large office with about thirty other people, most of whom I (1) know..... (know) quite well. We (2).....(spend) most of the day together, so we have all become friends. In fact, most of my colleagues are so interesting, that I (3).....(think) of writing a book about them! (4).....(take) Helen Watson, for example. Helen (5).....(run) the accounts department. At the moment she (6).....(go out) with Keith Ballantine, one of the sales representatives, and they (7)..... (seem) very happy together. But everyone - except Helen apparently - (8).....(know) that Keith (9).....(fancy) Susan Porter. But I (10).....(happen) to know that Susan (11).....(dislike) Keith. 'I can't stand people who never (12).....(stop) apologising all the time!' she told me. 'And besides, I know he (13).....(deceive) poor Helen. He (14).....(see) Betty Wills from the overseas department.' And plenty of other interesting things (15).....(currently/go on). For instance, every week we (16).....(experience) more and more problems with theft - personal belongings and even money have been stolen. When you (17).....(realise) that someone in your office is a thief, it (18).....(upset) you at first. But I (19).....(also/try) to catch whoever it is before the police are called in. I'm not going to tell you who I (20).....(suspect). Well, not yet anyway!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

5 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using one of the words in **bold.** Do not change the word in **bold.**

a) Charles and his father are exactly alike in appearance.
looks/looking
Charles ..looks just/exactly like..... his father.

b) Take all your possessions and walk slowly to the exit.
belongs/belonging
Take everything.....and walk slowly to the exit.

c) I'm finding it really enjoyable to work here.
enjoy/enjoying
I.....here.

d) I take work home regularly because of my new responsibility at work.
means/meaning
My new responsibility at work.....work home regularly.

e) In my cycling group there's George, Tom, Harry and me.
consists/consisting
My.....George, Tom, Harry and me.

f) In your opinion, who's going to win the Cup?
think/thinking
Who do.....win the Cup?

g) I'm seeing how wide the door is.
measure/measuring
I.....the door.

h) Neil always forgets his wife's birthday.
remembers/remembering
Neil.....his wife's birthday.

i) Its ability to catch fish is the key to the polar bear's survival.
depends/depending
The polar bear's.....to catch fish.

j) What's on your mind at the moment?
think/thinking
What .. ..at the moment?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

6 **Most of these sentences contain an error. Where there is an error, rewrite the sentence correctly.**

a) I'm depending on you, so don't make any mistakes! (no errors)

b) Is this total including the new students?
Does this total include the new students?

c) Excuse me, but do you wait for somebody?

d) These potatoes are tasting a bit funny.

e) How are you feeling today?

f) I look forward to hearing from you.

g) I have a feeling that something goes wrong.

h) What's that you're eating?

i) Are you hearing anything from Wendy these days?

j) I think you're being rather mean about this.

7 **Complete the expressions using the words from the box.**

coming	making	~~trying~~	asking	taking	shooting
talking	listening				

a) I'm trying to concentrate.

b) Are you ..... off now, or can we talk?

c) Go on, I'm .....

d) I think we're ..... at cross purposes.

e) You're ..... for trouble.

f) It's ..... along nicely.

g) You don't seem to be ..... much interest.

h) You're ..... a fuss about nothing.

Which expression means one of the following?

1 Are you in a hurry to leave?

2 We're talking about different things without realising it.

3 If you say or do this you will get into difficulties.

LIVEWORKSHEETS