

1. Complete the paragraph with these phrases.

do their best set their sights on set the world on fire take their place throw in the towel work their socks

Many young people (1) _____ becoming famous sports personalities. They think that if they just (2) _____ at their favourite sport, they'll soon be able to (3) _____. However, in reality, most sports people have to (4) _____ off to make a living in the world of sport. When things get rough, most of them decide to (5) _____ and give up playing professionally. Of course, there's always someone else waiting to (6) _____ when that happens.

2. Match.

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|
| 1 You could have been very wealthy. | <input type="checkbox"/> | a then you might have got the job. |
| 2 It must have been a close competition | <input type="checkbox"/> | b because the two contestants had the same names. |
| 3 The judges may have made a mistake | <input type="checkbox"/> | c when he was only interested in football. |
| 4 You should have gone to the interview on time, | <input type="checkbox"/> | d but you preferred to work for charity. |
| 5 She wouldn't have enjoyed the show, | <input type="checkbox"/> | e because all the performers were excellent. |
| 6 He needn't have studied for so many years | <input type="checkbox"/> | f so it's just as well she didn't make it. |

3. Choose the correct word, a, b, c or d.

- Johnny has always dreamt of winning an Oscar, but this is just a ___ that will never happen as he doesn't have the confidence to perform in public.
a goal b fantasy c hope d drive
- Miriam is one of the most ___ actresses on the stage today and always receives great reviews from the critics.
a accomplished b best-selling c bankrupt d wealthy
- Georgia is ___ to become a fighter pilot even though her parents aren't too keen on the idea.
a celebrated b renowned c devoted d determined
- The actors cleverly improvised the script of the play and gave ___ performances every night.
a flawless b arrogant c influential d valuable
- The film is a ___ and has had incredible success at the box office.
a loss b flop c blockbuster d gift
- Have you ever wondered what ___ people to want to be on a reality TV show?
a motivates b persists c idolises d envies
- You have to be talented to be a good writer, but you have to be ___, too.
a tiring b achieved c infamous d inspired
- Phillip was born into poverty, but made an absolute ___ by the time he was thirty.
a fortune b profit c progress d failure

4. Rewrite the sentences using the words in bold. Use between two and five words.

- Chloe needn't finish the whole project until the end of the week.
have _____ the whole project until the end of the week.
- You really should take a break more regularly.
to _____ more regular breaks.
- Doug could beat all his friends at chess when he was at high school.
was _____ all his friends at chess.
- I'm sure it is difficult to run your own business.
easy _____ run your own business.
- When does Fiona have to go to the conference?
must _____ to the conference?
- Rod will need to be well-prepared or he might fail his job interview.
may _____ successful in his job interview if he doesn't prepare well.

5. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Use the words in bold.

- I'm positive everybody has studied modal verbs.
MUST
Everybody _____ modal verbs.
- It's possible he wasn't feeling motivated.
MAY
He _____ feeling motivated.
- Was it possible for you to make any progress on that project?
ABLE
Were _____ progress on that project?
- In the end, it wasn't necessary to buy as much bread as I did.
NEED
In the end, I _____ bought as much bread as I did.
- I'm sure he worked his socks off to get where he is today.
MUST
He _____ socks off to get where he is today.
- You're fit as a fiddle. How about helping me move this weekend?
COULD
You're fit as a fiddle. _____ me move this weekend?
- He used to be a real high-flyer, but it looks like his company is about to go bankrupt.
MIGHT
He used to be a real high-flyer, but it seems his company _____ bankrupt.
- It isn't necessary for you to finish the project today. The deadline isn't until next week.
HAVE
You _____ the project today. The deadline isn't until next week.
- Do you think it's a good idea to set your sights on making your first million by the age of thirty?
SHOULD
Do you really _____ set your sights on making your first million by the age of thirty?
- I'm sure he didn't forget to do his homework. He's an excellent student!
COULDN'T
He _____ do his homework. He's an excellent student!

6. Complete the gaps with the words derived from the words given in brackets.

- I was surprised by the teacher's _____ request. (usual)
- She caught a nasty disease while abroad, but fortunately it was easily _____. (treat)
- He _____ completed the course. (succeed)
- Be warned that staring at the sun can cause _____. (blind)
- My father is a very _____ person in newspaper journalism. (influence)
- Are you _____ about the future? (optimist)
- Although she was a successful businesswoman, everyone was impressed by her _____. (modest)
- His only ambition is to be _____ before he gets old. (wealth)