

Expressions with time

VOCABULARY BANK

1 VERBS

a Complete the sentences with the verbs in the list.

give have kill make up for run out of save spare
spend take (x2) take up waste

- I waste a lot of time playing games and messaging on my computer instead of studying.
- If you take the motorway, you'll save time – it's much quicker than the local roads.
- I had three hours to wait for my flight, so I sat there doing sudoku puzzles to kill time.
- There's no hurry, so take your time.
- When my mother was young, she never had the chance to travel. Now she's retired and wants to run out of time, so she's booked a trip around the world.
- The novel is 700 pages long and I'm a slow reader. It's going to take me a long time to finish it.
- I'd better go home now. If I'm late again, Dad will take up me a hard time.
- I would like to go camping this weekend, but my final exams are next week, so I can't spend the time.
- My children take all my time – I never seem to get to read a book or watch a film!
- New York's such a fantastic city! You're going to spare the time of your life there.
- Let's not take too long at the museum or we'll waste time.

2 PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

a Complete the Prepositions column with the prepositions in the list.

at (x3) before behind by from (x2) in off on to (x2)

Prepositions

- I'm really punctual, so I hate it when other people aren't on time.
- I've never heard of that singer. He must have been at my time.
- At the time we got to our hotel, it was nearly midnight.
- I missed the birth of my first child. I was on a plane at the time.
- He's been working too hard recently. He needs some time off.
- If we don't take a taxi, we won't get to the airport in time for the flight.
- I don't eat out very often, but I do get a takeaway at time on time.
- He suffers from back pain and it makes him a little irritable at times.
- You can come any time between 10.00 and 2.00.

3 EXPRESSIONS

a Match sentences 1–12 to A–L.

- 1 The referee's looking at his watch.
- 2 He hardly spoke to me at lunch.
- 3 I'm really looking forward to my holiday.
- 4 I'm sorry, I can't help you this week.
- 5 I can't afford a new computer.
- 6 She's sure to find a job eventually.
- 7 I think I need to take up a hobby.
- 8 Stop writing, please.
- 9 I really thought I was going to be late.
- 10 Why not spend a morning at our spa?
- 11 I hate having to fill in my tax return.
- 12 You've had that computer for ages.

- But in the end I got to the airport **with time to spare**.
- He spent **the whole time** talking on his mobile.
- Time's up**. The exam is over.
- I'm a little **short of time**.
- I've got time on my hands** since I retired.
- I'll have to carry on with this one **for the time being**.
- It's only **a matter of time**.
- It's very popular with women who want a bit of **me time**.
- There isn't much time left**.
- This time next week** I'll be lying on the beach.
- It's about time** you got a new one.
- It's incredibly tedious and **time-consuming**.

5A One thing at a time

The good news is you're the pilot.
Michael Altshuler, American entrepreneur

1 LEXIS IN CONTEXT

Multitasking and mindfulness

Look at the Lexis in Context on Student's Book p.44. Then complete the sentences with the prepositions.

- 1 Please stop interrupting me; I can't concentrate on my work.
- 2 Owing to poor sales during the recession, the company was faced _____ closure.
- 3 My grandfather is in a home because he is no longer capable _____ looking after himself.
- 4 While he was walking home, he became aware _____ a figure behind him.
- 5 She works on the front desk, dealing _____ customer enquiries.
- 6 The documentary focuses _____ the rise in knife crime in the UK.

2 GRAMMAR distancing

- a Complete the sentences with the words in the list.

according agreed apparently appears
believed expected may seem

- 1 There are believed to be many homeless people living on the streets of the capital.
- 2 It _____ that there is a connection between eating too many carbohydrates and depression.
- 3 The Prime Minister is _____ to announce his resignation by the end of the day.
- 4 _____ to local residents, the man had always been a little strange.
- 5 The thieves _____ have been disturbed while they were going through the rooms upstairs.
- 6 It would _____ that there is some confusion about our new dress code. Staff are still turning up in jeans.
- 7 It is _____ that climate change is one of the greatest dangers facing the planet.
- 8 _____, the footballer was arrested because of an incident at a party last night.

- c Complete the time expressions in the mini-dialogues.

- 1 A Where are you going?
B Shopping! I need some me time.
- 2 A Can you come to my presentation later?
B Sorry, I can't. I'm a bit _____ of time today.
- 3 A Was the bride late for the wedding?
B No, she got to the church with time to _____.
- 4 A Why are you so bored these days?
B I've got too much time on my _____ now I'm retired.

- b Complete the second sentence so that you distance yourself from the information. Use the correct form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 An employee leaked the information to the press. (say)
It is said that an employee leaked the information to the press.
- 2 Politicians have been falsifying their expenses. (appear)
_____ politicians have been falsifying their expenses.
- 3 The country's largest bank has gone bankrupt. (announce)
_____ the country's largest bank has gone bankrupt.
- 4 The pop star has had another breakdown. (think)
The pop star _____ had another breakdown.
- 5 The accused was under the influence of drugs. (may)
The accused _____ under the influence of drugs.
- 6 The winner had been chosen before voting commenced. (seem)
_____ the winner had been chosen before voting commenced.
- 7 The burglars entered through an open window. (might)
The burglars _____ through an open window.
- 8 The economic situation will improve by next year. (hope)
_____ the economic situation will improve by next year.

3 VOCABULARY expressions with time

- a Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in the list.

give have make run save spare take waste

- 1 I spent all morning cleaning the windows and now it's raining. I shouldn't have wasted my time.
- 2 We _____ a lot of time by getting the direct train to King's Cross instead of changing at Birmingham.
- 3 Alex has basketball training every day and also at weekends. The sport _____ up all his time.
- 4 Kate has too much to do. She can't even _____ the time to Skype her friends.
- 5 My dad had never been to his club's stadium, but now he's bought a season ticket, to _____ up for lost time.

- 5 A Are you going to look for a new job?
B No, I'm staying where I am for the time _____.
- 6 A Do you think the business is in trouble?
B Yes, I do. It's just a _____ of time before it closes.
- 7 A Why can't I stay any longer?
B Time's _____. Visitors have to leave at 8 p.m.
- 8 A Why aren't you going to see Andy again?
B Because he spends the _____ time talking about himself!