

FCE Practice:

Read the text below and think of ONE word which best fits each space.

MONEY

There is no doubt that money, in the form that we know it today, (1) _____ what keeps modern economic life functioning. Yet, throughout history, money, in whatever form, has provided people (2) _____ the ability to buy (3) _____ sell goods.

Thousands of years (4) _____, civilisations (5) _____ to rely on the barter system as a way of exchanging goods. Within this system a person had to exchange one thing for another. This meant that the two parties involved had to (6) _____ an agreement as to what they thought their products were worth. Items such (7) _____ wheat, tobacco and livestock have all been used as money at one time or another. It was not until much later that humans came up (8) _____ the idea of money in the form of metal coins. So why (9) _____ the barter system come to an end? The answer is simple. Coins were much easier to handle and carry around. Since then, the use of coins has become widespread. It has made commerce simpler and has given countries an opportunity (10) _____ development by doing business with other countries further afield, which they (11) _____ never done business with before.

In recent years, paper money has become more common all over the world, as it is easier to use. It (12) _____ not be long, however, before plastic cards take over completely, replacing coins and paper money.

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given unchanged. You must use between two or five words, including the word given.

1 We last went abroad a long time ago.

not We _____ a long time.

2 When did they start living in the suburbs?

have How _____ in the suburbs?

3 It's the first time she has ever had problems with the authorities.

trouble She _____ with the authorities before.

4 When Carl was young, he went to a holiday camp every summer.

used When Carl was young, he _____ a holiday camp every summer.

5 After the earthquake, the government supplied food and medicine to the homeless.

provided After the earthquake, the government _____ food and medicine.

6 Lucy hasn't visited me since February.

was The last _____ in February.

7 How long has he had this car?

bought How long _____ this car?

8 I haven't caught a cold for ages.

down I last _____ ages ago.