

Grammar & Speaking state verbs

- 6 Look at the posters. Do you agree with the message in them? Why/Why not?
- 7a 1.5 Listen to a radio interview with a supporter of *Buy Nothing Day*. Which of the following points does he mention?

Buy Nothing Day is important because it might encourage people not to ...

- 1 use shopping as a kind of therapy.
- 2 owe a lot of money.
- 3 support big companies.
- 4 consume more than their fair share of the world's resources.
- 5 buy goods where the workers are badly paid.
- 6 buy goods with unnecessary packaging.

- b Which of the points would be most likely to make you think about buying less? Discuss with a partner.
- 8a Complete extracts 1-7 from the listening with the most appropriate form of the verbs in brackets.
- 1 Can you explain a little about what *Buy Nothing Day* _____ (mean)?
 - 2 When you really _____ (think) about it, the idea of buying things as a way of spending your leisure time is crazy.
 - 3 We _____ (believe) shopping makes us happy, but it doesn't.
 - 4 Yes, I _____ (agree), that's a good point.
 - 5 We all _____ (own) far too much.
 - 6 Most of the time we _____ (prefer) people to buy locally ...
 - 7 Most people _____ (not/understand) how difficult it is ...
- b 1.6 Listen and check your answers.
- 9a What do all the completed verb forms in exercise 8a have in common? Read the information in the Grammar focus box and check.

GRAMMAR FOCUS state verbs

Some verbs are most often used in simple tenses, even if we mean 'just now'. These *state verbs* are often used to talk about:

- How we think: *know, mean, think*, 1 _____, 2 _____, 3 _____
- What we feel: *like, want, hate, love, dislike, feel* 4 _____
- What we possess: *have, belong*, 5 _____
- What we experience: *be, see, hear, look, smell, taste, seem*

→ Grammar Reference page 137

- b Put the verbs in exercise 8a into the correct category.



1



2

- 10a Look at the posters for *Buy Nothing Day* and complete the text with the best form of the verbs in brackets – present simple or present continuous.

In Poster 1 there are some people who 1 _____ (stand) inside a shopping basket. I 2 _____ (like) this one because I 3 _____ (think) it shows the idea of being trapped by shopping very well. It 4 _____ (seem) to be saying that we 5 _____ (not/understand) that we are in a cage. It's simple but quite a powerful message. Poster 2 6 _____ (look) quite good, but I'm not sure what it 7 _____ (try) to say. It's obviously based on the *Tetris* video game, and the four blocks at the top that say 'buy' clearly 8 _____ (fit), but I'm not sure it would make me want to stop shopping. I definitely 9 _____ (prefer) the first one.

- b Compare your answers with a partner.

- 11a TASK Work in small groups. Which of the posters do you think is more effective? Give reasons.

- b Decide together on the design of your own poster to promote *Buy Nothing Day*. Which of the points in exercise 7a could you focus on? How will you make it effective? Present your ideas to the class.

Grammar reference

1.1 Present simple, present continuous and present perfect simple

GR1.1a

- Everyone **needs** friends. Real friends are important.
- I **see** my old school friends every few months. We generally **have** dinner together.
- He **doesn't like** all his Facebook friends.
- Do you **talk** to all your friends regularly?

- We use the present simple to talk about:
 - things that are always or generally true.
 - things that happen regularly or repeatedly.

Remember the 's' for the third person singular (*like* → *likes*). Sometimes the spelling changes (*watch* → *watches*, *try* → *tries*). We use *do/does* to form the present simple negative and questions.

GR1.1b

- Please be quiet. I'm **watching** TV.
- We're **learning** about the history of music at school.
- The Earth's temperature **is increasing**.

- We use the present continuous to talk about:
 - things that are happening at the time when we speak.
 - things that are happening around the time when we speak.
 - things that are changing.

We form the present continuous with *be + -ing* form. Be careful with the spelling of *-ing* forms (*begin* → *beginning*, *make* → *making*).

GR1.1c

- I've **lived** here all my life.
- Have** you ever **been** to Brazil?
- A Is Marco here? B No, he's already **left**.

- We use the present perfect simple to talk about:
 - things up to now, our experience (our lives until now).
 - things that have already or just happened.

We form the present perfect with *have + past participle*. The past participle for regular verbs is the same as the past simple form (*live* → *lived*, *work* → *worked*), but some verbs are irregular (e.g. *know* → *knew* → *known*, *eat* → *ate* → *eaten*). See the Irregular verbs list on page 174.

- Choose the correct options to complete the text about Facebook.

There ¹*are* / *are being* over one billion Facebook users worldwide. And this number ²*increases* / *is increasing* all the time. It is clear that Facebook ³*changes* / *has changed* the way we ⁴*look* / *have looked* at friendship. The word 'friend' ⁵*becomes* / *has become* a verb, and 'friends' now ⁶*include* / *have included* people we only ⁷*know* / *are knowing* online and who we ⁸*are never meeting* / *have never met*. One positive side to Facebook is that friends who ⁹*lose* / *have lost* contact, often many years ago, ¹⁰*are now able* / *have now been able* to get in touch again. 'More and more people ¹¹*connect* / *are connecting* with old friends via Facebook,' says a spokesperson for the website. 'And Facebook also ¹²*means* / *has meant* that friends never ¹³*need* / *have needed* to lose touch; people can stay friends for life.'

- Complete the conversations with the present simple, present continuous or present perfect form of the verbs in brackets.

- A Where *do you work*?
B Well, normally I _____ in Berlin, but I _____ in Stuttgart at the moment. (work)
- A _____ you _____ Jake?
B Yes, we _____ each other for a few years. (know)
- A _____ you _____ in London?
B Yes, I do. Actually, I _____ there all my life. (live)
- A Jameela's busy at the moment. She _____ a piano lesson.
B Oh yes, of course. She _____ one every Wednesday. (have)
- A _____ you _____ Andy yet?
B I _____ him right now, actually. (email)
- A How many Facebook friends _____ you _____?
B Not many. I think I _____ about fifty or sixty. (have got)
- A I _____ for my phone.
B _____ you _____ in the kitchen? I think I saw it in there a few minutes ago. (look)
- A You _____ Karen quite often, don't you?
B Usually, yes. But I _____ her for a few weeks now. (see/not see)
- A I _____ a great book at the moment – *Tribal Life* by Bruce James. _____ you _____ it?
B No, but I _____ another one of his books. (read)