

## 7A Don't argue!

## 1 GRAMMAR past modals: *must have*, etc.

a Complete the sentences with *must have*, *might have*, or *couldn't have* and the verbs in parentheses.

- 1 You must have been so happy when you passed your driver's test – it was your first time, wasn't it? (be)
- 2 I'm not sure where Mark is, but he \_\_\_\_\_ home. He wasn't feeling well earlier. (go)
- 3 You \_\_\_\_\_ my parents at the supermarket. They're away on vacation. (see)
- 4 I don't know why Ana hasn't arrived yet, but she \_\_\_\_\_ the wrong bus. (take)
- 5 The "For Sale" sign is still up outside their house. They \_\_\_\_\_ yet. (move)
- 6 Those boys look really guilty. They \_\_\_\_\_ something wrong. (do)



**b** Complete the sentences using *should* / *shouldn't* + a verb from the box.

buy dress up fill up go off  
leave shout stay up take

- 1 My brother isn't talking to me. I shouldn't have shouted at him.
- 2 We're running out of gas. We \_\_\_\_\_ at the last gas station.
- 3 Someone took Ben's smartphone. He \_\_\_\_\_ it on his desk.
- 4 You won't be able to walk in those shoes. You \_\_\_\_\_ such high heels.
- 5 Jessie missed her train. She \_\_\_\_\_ a taxi to the station.
- 6 Your cousins look really scruffy. They \_\_\_\_\_ for the wedding.
- 7 My alarm clock isn't working. It \_\_\_\_\_ at seven thirty.
- 8 I had a nightmare last night. I \_\_\_\_\_ to watch that horror movie.

c Complete the sentences with the words in the box.  
Use the past form of the modal verbs.

must / tell	might / leave	couldn't / be
may / fall	couldn't / see	must / forget
might / not / hear	may / not / have	

1 I wonder where my gloves are. I might have left them in the car or maybe in the kitchen.

2 My father knew about the surprise party. Someone told him about it.

3 I don't understand how the accident happened. The driver fell asleep.

4 Adam passed the exam without studying. It wasn't very difficult.

5 I'm sure my grandmother was home, but she didn't answer the door. She ignored the doorbell.

6 When I got up this morning, the TV was still on in the living room. You forgot to turn it off.

7 The children didn't make their beds this morning. They overslept time.

8 A Your boyfriend walked past me without saying hello.

B He ignored you.



## 2 READING

a Read the text quickly and answer the questions.

- 1 What is the problem with online arguments?
- 2 What does Professor Markman think is the solution?

### Internet rage: a new trend?

Until now, people have usually conducted their arguments face-to-face. A disagreement occurs and each side wants to make his or her views known. But the Internet has changed all this. Today, more and more people are getting involved in arguments online.

Many of these take place in the comments section that follows below articles on news websites. The tone of some of the posts on these threads can be extremely aggressive. So why is everyone so angry on the Internet?

Art Markman, a professor of psychology at the University of Texas, has an explanation for this. First, he points out that the people who post these comments are anonymous. Nobody knows their real name or who they are, which means that they do not have to explain their actions. Second, the commenter and the person who is the target of their anger are not actually in the same room. The distance between them makes the commenter lose his inhibitions, and so he becomes more offensive. Third, it is much easier to be nasty in writing than in speech, according to Professor Markman.

Although Professor Markman believes in self-expression, he regards online arguments as a complete waste of time. He says that the whole point of an argument is to try to persuade someone else to agree with you. In order to do this, the people involved have to listen to each other. This sort of interaction is lacking on the Internet, says Professor Markman. Exchanges on comment threads do not happen in real time and so people have longer to focus on their opinion and write lengthy monologues to justify themselves. In the process, they become even more convinced that they are right, and they stop listening to other people. In the end, there is a complete absence of communication and the only thing they have achieved is to work themselves up into a rage.

So, what is the solution? Professor Markman does not think that comment threads should be banned, but he does think that controls should be stricter. In his view, it is the news outlets themselves who should be responsible for the content of the thread. "If, on a website, comments are left up that are making personal attacks in the nastiest way, you're sending the message that this is acceptable human behavior," he says. Professor Markman would like site administrators to remove the offending remarks from the comment thread. "Having a conversation with someone you don't agree with is a skill," he says. Unfortunately, it seems to be a skill that some commenters are not familiar with.



b Read the text again and choose the right answers.

- 1 Arguments on the Internet occur most frequently when someone...
  - a expresses an opinion in the wrong way.
  - b has a negative opinion about a website.
  - c disagrees with a comment about an article.
- 2 According to Professor Markman, arguments online are more aggressive than face-to-face arguments because the commenter...
  - a lives in a different town or country.
  - b doesn't disclose his or her identity.
  - c is experienced in commenting on articles.
- 3 Professor Markman thinks that online arguments have no value because people tend to...
  - a spend too long reading other people's views.
  - b make too many mistakes in their comments.
  - c ignore other people's opinions.
- 4 In Professor Markman's view, an online argument usually results in the participants...
  - a feeling angry.
  - b avoiding a particular website.
  - c writing fewer comments in the future.
- 5 Professor Markman believes that news websites should...
  - a stop allowing people to comment on their articles.
  - b monitor comment threads more carefully.
  - c prohibit certain people from posting comments.

c Look at the highlighted words and phrases in the text and try to figure out their meaning. Then use them to complete the sentences.

- 1 She had a particularly nasty customer last week who made her cry.
- 2 I was the target of a lot of criticism after the article I wrote last month.
- 3 Since he retired, he has been involved in local politics.
- 4 When he was a child he used to work himself up into a rage when he didn't get what he wanted.
- 5 I found your comment about my friend's appearance extremely offensive.
- 6 The police will remove any vehicles that are illegally parked.
- 7 I feel there is something unpleasant in my life.
- 8 Internet comment threads are often dominated by a small number of angry people.

### 3 VOCABULARY verbs often confused

a Choose the correct verbs.

- 1 I wish / hope they'll accept my credit card because I don't have enough cash.
- 2 I don't mind / matter where we go. The important thing is to have a good time on vacation.
- 3 My daughter will do anything to avoid / prevent doing housework. She's really lazy.
- 4 Remember / Remind me to send my dad a card. It's his birthday next week.
- 5 My boyfriend and I often argue / discuss about his friends. I really don't like them.
- 6 Susan looks / seems really unhappy in her new job. She was telling me about it on the phone today.
- 7 I didn't notice / realize what the thief was wearing. It was too dark to see anything.

b Complete the sentences with the correct verb from each pair in the past simple.

advise / warn    beat / win    deny / refuse  
expect / wait    lay / lie    raise / rise    rob / steal

- 1 The tour guide warned us that the area was dangerous at night.
- 2 I beat our team to lose, but in the end they won.
- 3 Canada beat the US 3–2.
- 4 Somebody robbed me while I was asleep. They took my credit cards and all my money.
- 5 My colleague denied taking the file, but I saw it later on his desk.
- 6 Last year we just lay on the beach all day when we were on vacation.
- 7 House prices rose last month for the first time this year.

### 4 MINI GRAMMAR *would rather*

Rewrite the sentences using *would rather*.

- 1 I'd prefer to sit by the window than next to the aisle.  
I'd rather sit by the window than next to the aisle.
- 2 What do you want to do, stay in or go out?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 I don't really want to cook tonight if you don't mind.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Where do you want to go, Boston or New York?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5 I'd prefer to walk than take the car.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 6 I don't really want to go to the movies if you don't mind.  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 5 PRONUNCIATION sentence stress

**iChecker** Listen and repeat the second sentences. Copy the rhythm.

- 1 They're taking Steve to the hospital. He **might** have **broken** a bone.
- 2 Ella isn't here yet. She **couldn't** have **gotten** my **message**.
- 3 It was only a joke. She **shouldn't** have **gotten** so angry.
- 4 This restaurant is packed. We **should** have **made** a reservation.
- 5 I didn't hear the phone. I **must** have **been** asleep.
- 6 Becky and Ian aren't at the party. They **may** have **forgotten** about it.

### 6 LISTENING

a **iChecker** Listen to five speakers talking about a time when they had an argument with someone. Where did the arguments start?

- 1 In the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 In the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 In the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 In the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 At \_\_\_\_\_.

b Listen again and write the number of the speaker in each box.

The argument finished when somebody...

A  confirmed who was right.  
B  realized they had forgotten something.  
C  said something unrelated to the conversation.  
D  made a terrible mess.  
E  physically removed one of the people involved.

c Listen again with the audio script on p.74 and try to guess the meaning of any words that you don't know. Then check in your dictionary.

### USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Learn these words and phrases.

avoid confrontation /ə'vɔɪd kənfrən'teɪʃn/  
back up (an argument) /bækʌp/  
bother (v) /'boðər/  
bring up (a topic of conversation) /brɪŋʌp/  
blame (somebody for doing something) /bleɪm/  
change the subject /tʃeindʒ ðə 'səbdʒekt/  
insult (somebody) /ɪn'salt/  
insult (noun) /'insalt/  
threaten /'θretn/  
swear word /'swær wərd/

With any part you play, there is a certain amount of yourself in it.  
There has to be, otherwise it's just not acting. It's lying.

Johnny Depp, American actor

# 7B Actors acting

## 1 GRAMMAR

### verbs of the senses

a **Circle** the correct form.

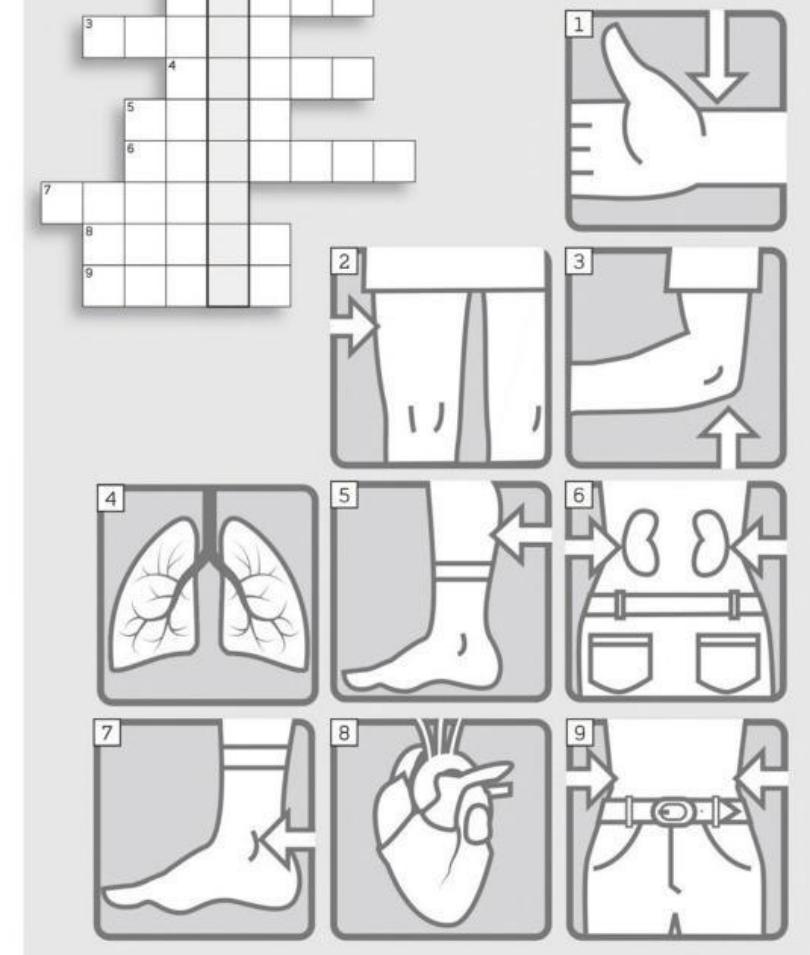
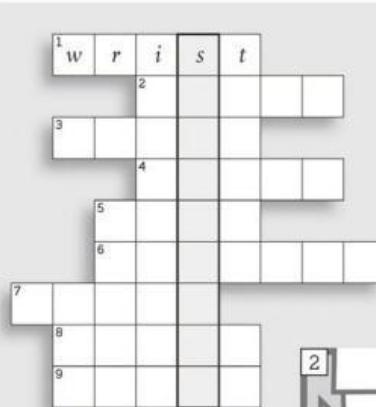
- 1 Your skin feels / feels like dry. You need to use some hand cream.
- 2 Ken's sweating. He looks / looks as if he's been running.
- 3 We need to take out the trash. The kitchen smells / smells like terrible.
- 4 I'm not sure what's in this curry but it tastes like / tastes as if chicken.
- 5 I think this bag is real leather. It feels like / feels as if leather anyway.
- 6 It sounds / sounds as if Tina has finally gotten up. I can hear her moving around.
- 7 This soup tastes / tastes as if you used sugar instead of salt.

b Complete the sentences with a verb of the senses + *like* or *as if* where necessary.

- 1 A lot of singers today sound exactly the same.
- 2 This salad \_\_\_\_\_ horrible – it's really salty.
- 3 Your boyfriend \_\_\_\_\_ a police officer – he's tall and well built.
- 4 Have you turned off the stove? It \_\_\_\_\_ something is burning.
- 5 What's that noise? It \_\_\_\_\_ thunder.
- 6 My skin \_\_\_\_\_ much softer since I've been using a new face cream.
- 7 Martha's hair is a mess. She \_\_\_\_\_ she just got out of bed.

## 2 VOCABULARY the body

a Complete the puzzle to find the hidden body part.



b **Circle** the correct answer.

- 1 My boyfriend eats / bites his nails when he's nervous.
- 2 You must be tired because you can't stop scratching / yawning.
- 3 John went into the room and shook / winked hands with the interviewer.
- 4 She waved / frowned at me from the other side of the street to get my attention.
- 5 Kayla clapped / combed her hair and put on her jacket to go out.
- 6 I hate it when people stare / raise at me when I am on a bus or on the subway.