3 Working together

Reading

1 Read the messages about problems (1–3). Then quickly read the expert's responses (a–c) on page 23. Match the problems with the responses.

1 I like my job, but I see other people promoted into positions like team leader before me. What's my future in this company?

2 I love painting and I'd like to join a local art group. I'm nervous because I think they'll probably be much better painters than me.

3 My kids are both on their school sports teams, but they never score lots of points or come first in races. I'm worried that they're not enjoying themselves.

3 Read the article again. Number the ideas in the order they are mentioned.

a _____ Compete with yourself, not with others.

b _____ Enjoy the activity, not the result.

c _____ Focus on your personal best.

d _____ Set your own goals and allow other people to set theirs.

e _____ Value each person without thinking about who's better.

f _____ You can never be the best in the world.

Ask the expert



Last week, we asked you to share ideas on the topic of competing with others. Here are three of your emails, with responses from our expert.



a _____

Have you watched professional sports on TV? The top athletes don't only focus on winning—they also talk about their PB, or personal best. For example, the marathon runner Kenenisa Bekele improved his PB by seven minutes between 2018 and 2019. After he won the 2019 Berlin marathon, he said, "I'm very happy running my personal best." These athletes are in competition with themselves. You know, at school I was never picked to play on sports teams. It didn't matter to me—I was into other things like theater and singing. Perhaps your kids are quite happy!

b _____

I'm sorry to have to tell you this, but there's always somebody better than you. That's life. Picasso, Rego, Mondrian, and so on—they were all better artists than us, but that doesn't stop us making our own art. And, of course, nobody stays at the top forever. The best example I can give you is movie stars. Who's the best actress? One year it's Renée Zellweger and the next year Frances McDormand, according to the Oscars. Yet we all carry on acting or painting or playing football or whatever we enjoy doing. You can't compete with the whole world, but you can still feel great about your own achievements.

c _____

Let me ask you a question: Do you want to be a team leader? Your answer is important, because I think you're judging yourself by other people's goals instead of your own. And that means you don't value your own abilities. Listen, everybody has different skills, such as being good at organizing or having ideas or motivating others. There are lots of different skills needed in any organization. Look it up—there's a lot about this online. Do you need to compete with those people or understand that everybody has something different to offer?

Grammar

Past tenses review

1 Complete the sentences with the simple past and past progressive form of the verbs.

1 My teacher _____ (help) me a lot while I _____ (apply) for college.

2 How _____ they _____ (get) lost when they _____ (ski) close to the ski resort?

3 The car _____ (race) to the finish line when the tire _____ (come off)!

4 _____ you _____ (contact) your parents regularly while you _____ (travel) around Australia?

5 While we _____ (make) lunch, all our friends _____ (arrive).

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 Circle the correct options to complete the news item. In one case, both options are possible.



Lisel Heise [1]*worked / had worked* as a teacher all her life and then, in 2019, she [2]*decided / had decided* to become a politician. She [3]*taught / had taught* many of the people in her small town in Germany and so almost everyone [4]*knew / had known* her. She [5]*loved / had loved* her community and [6]*wanted / had wanted* to create opportunities for young people. Her success in the election was helped by the fact that she [7]*kept / had kept* in touch with lots of her students. But the most unusual thing is that she [8]*celebrated / had celebrated* her 100th birthday two months before she [9]*won / had won* the local election!

3 Complete the paragraph with the simple past, past progressive, or past perfect form of the verbs. In one case, two options are possible.

The moment I [1]_____ (realize) that I [2]_____ (want) to be more like my sister-in-law is clear in my memory. We [3]_____ (drive) to a wedding about 300 kilometers away. Everybody [4]_____ (feel) stressed because we [5]_____ (set off) late, people [6]_____ (forgot) to bring various things, and we [7]_____ (not / bring) any snacks—the usual family stuff. And everyone [8]_____ (blame) the driver, my sister-in-law. But she [9]_____ (stay) completely calm. She [10]_____ (be) patient with everyone and [11]_____ (not / get) angry. And we [12]_____ (get) there on time!

4 Complete the conversation with the simple past, past progressive, or past perfect form of these verbs.

be	invite	join	love	never / live
not / look forward to			need	not / surf
never / try		start		

A: Oriol, when [1]_____ you _____ surfing?

B: Well, I was in the desert. Some friends [2]_____ me to go on vacation with them.

A: But you [3]_____ in the desert, right?

B: No, of course not. But it [4]_____ a great vacation and I [5]_____ going back to work. But suddenly, I [6]_____ to do more with my life. And so, back home, I [7]_____ a surf school and [8]_____ it.

A: [9]_____ you _____ it before?

B: No, because I [10]_____ near the coast. Anyway, now surfing is my life. And it's all thanks to my friends inviting me on that vacation.

Pronunciation

Saying words spelled with *ear*

1 3.1 Check (✓) the sound of *ear* in the words. Is it like *hear* or *heard*?

	hear /ɪr/	heard /ɜːr/
app**ear**		
cl**ear**		
early		
earth		
f**ear**		
l**earn**		
n**ear**		
s**earch**		

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Vocabulary

Multiword verbs

1 Circle the correct option to complete the sentences.

1 I *signed up for / worked on* a group that cleans up our local beach every weekend.

2 The scientists *carried out / consisted of* a lot of tests with their equipment.

3 When I was at school, I *belonged to / consisted of* the chess club.

4 The team *carried out / consisted of* 20 scientists and engineers.

5 We have to *belong to / come up with* some new ideas for saving energy.

6 The team had to *deal with / sign up to* a new problem every week.

7 We spent three weeks *belonging to / working on* a solution to the problem.

Listening

2 3.2 Listen to the presentations and complete the notes.

	Presentation 1	Presentation 2
Name of the country?	1 _____	*The U.K. / England*
Project?	2 _____	*White-tailed* 6 _____

3 3.2 Listen again. Check (✓) the true statements about the projects, according to the presentations.

1 ☐ There were about 50 people in the first stage of the Thailand project.

2 ☐ Money from recycled plastic pays for the village's Wi-Fi connection.

3 ☐ The next stage for the recycling project is to try it in other communities.

4 ☐ Nobody knows what happened to the white-tailed eagles that used to live in the U.K.

5 ☐ The white-tailed eagles now in Scotland came from Norway.

6 ☐ Some people don't think it's a good idea to bring the white-tailed eagle back to the U.K.

2 Complete the text about an adventure weekend with the correct form of these multiword verbs.

belong to	carry out	come up with
consist of	deal with	sign up for
work on		

The first time I felt that I really [1]_____ a team was when I was 16. I had [2]_____ an adventure weekend. We had to [3]_____ lots of tasks in small groups. The "forest challenge" [4]_____ several parts. The most difficult part was to [5]_____ a way of crossing a river. We [6]_____ that for about an hour—we had lots of ideas but no equipment to help us. Everyone got wet, but we all kept working. And we had to [7]_____ cold rainy weather all the time. But nobody quit and we all made it back to the campground!

Who started the project?	3 _____	*A group of* 7 _____
First time doing…?	*Recycling the town's* 4 _____	8 _____
Team consists of…?	5 _____ *and big companies*	9 _____ *organizations*
Is the project running now?	*Yes, it's very successful*	*Not yet; it's a future plan*

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Grammar

Make and *let*

1 Circle the correct options in the news item about a project to help an Australian animal.

We want to [1]*make / let* the Tasmanian devil live wild in mainland Australia again. At first, we will [2]*make / let* the animals stay in small areas and we won't [3]*make / let* them escape. That way we can feed and protect them. In the first stages, we can't [4]*make / let* the public visit the sites. It's important to [5]*make / let* local people ask questions about the project, and we hope everyone likes it, but sometimes you can't [6]*make / let* people accept new ideas.



2 Complete the sentences with the correct form of *make* or *let*.

1 Sad movies never _____ me cry.

2 Here, _____ me help you with your bags.

3 Did security _____ you open your bags?

4 Oh, no! My laptop isn't _____ me save this document.

5 Do they _____ you sit where you want on this bus?

6 Please don't _____ me choose between ice cream and chocolate!

7 The concert starts at 8 p.m. What time will they _____ us in?

Writing

1 Complete the sentences from an email with the correct form of the verb.

1 I'm so sorry I…
- a _____ (not / do) my part of the group task.
- b _____ (disappear) from the group.

2 I must apologize for…
- a _____ (not / contact) the group.
- b _____ (not / meet) my deadline.

3 I didn't mean to…
- a _____ (cause) problems.
- b _____ (make) us miss the deadline.

4 I promise that in the next task, I…
- a _____ (do) my part on time.
- b _____ (pay) attention to the schedule.

5 I'd like to make it up to you by…
- a _____ (prepare) the final version of the project.
- b _____ (be) responsible for organizing the next project.

6 Will you let me…
- a _____ (organize) the next project?
- b _____ (set up) the next activity?

3 Match the beginnings of the sentences (1–4) with two possible endings (a–h).

1 I can imagine you must be quite annoyed

_____ _____

2 I know that this is

_____ _____

3 It was my

_____ _____

4 The reason for the mistake was

_____ _____

a a problem for the deadline.

b about that.

c fault.

d I didn't look at the calendar.

e mistake.

f I read the instructions too quickly.

g not fair to the group.

h with me.

LIVEWORKSHEETS