C Grammar exercises

1 Choose the correct sentence from each pair.

1 a My brother lives with us until he can find a flat of his own.
  b My brother is living with us until he can find a flat of his own. ✓
2 a Megan goes to Hong Kong every January.
  b Megan's going to Hong Kong every January.
3 a I don't have enough money for a long holiday this year.
  b I'm not having enough money for a long holiday this year.
4 a Everyone needs a break from work sometimes.
  b Everyone is needing a break from work sometimes.
5 a What period of history do you study this term?
  b What period of history are you studying this term?
6 a The team manager looks bad-tempered in public, but he's always being very kind to young players.
  b The team manager looks bad-tempered in public, but he's always very kind to young players.

2 Complete these sentences with the present simple or present continuous form of the verbs.

1 My father knows (*know*) all about mending cars, but nothing about bicycles.
2 This pie _____ (*smell*) a bit odd. What's in it?
3 I _____ (*like*) the jacket of this suit, but unfortunately the trousers _____ (*not fit*) me any more.
4 You're very quiet this evening. What _____ (*you / think*) about?
5 Who _____ (*be*) that man? Why _____ (*your sister / be*) so rude to him? She _____ (*have*) such beautiful manners normally.

3 Fill in the gaps with the present simple or present continuous form of the verbs.

1 **Alex:** Why are you wearing (*you / wear*) my coat?
  Ben: Oh, I'm sorry. It _____ (*look*) like mine in this light.
2 **Carl:** I _____ (*have*) no idea what this sentence _____ (*mean*). Can you translate it?
  Donna: No, sorry. I _____ (*not understand*) it either.
3 **Eddie:** _____ (*you / see*) those men near the door? They _____ (*look*) at us very strangely.
  Fergus: Yes. You're right. _____ (*you / recognise*) them from anywhere?
  Eddie: No, but they certainly _____ (*seem*) to know us. They _____ (*come*) across to speak to us.
4 **Gina:** What _____ (*you / do*) in the kitchen? Our guests _____ (*wait*) for their dessert, and you _____ (*get*) in my way!
  Hamid: I just _____ (*want*) to be somewhere quiet for a while. Everyone _____ (*be*) so noisy this evening! I _____ (*not know*) why – it's very unusual.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1 Present tenses

4 **Complete the email using the present simple or present continuous form of these verbs.**

behave come cost eat enjoy feel ~~go~~ have like love pay realise say seem serve show smile stay take visit

Dear Stephanie,

How are you? We're fine. Our trip round the States **(1)** *is going* well and we **(2)** _____ ourselves a lot. One good surprise is that things **(3)** _____ less here than back home. For example, this weekend we **(4)** _____ in a motel beside a lake and we **(5)** _____ only $65 per night for a room with a beautiful view.

The only thing we **(6)** _____ (*not*) much is the food. Restaurants **(7)** _____ dinner rather early. We **(8)** _____ (*never*) at six o'clock at home so we **(9)** _____ (*not*) hungry then and American portions **(10)** _____ very big to us. Apart from that, we **(11)** _____ a wonderful time. We **(12)** _____ lots of interesting little towns and we absolutely **(13)** _____ the scenery.

People here **(14)** _____ in a very friendly manner towards strangers. All the shop assistants **(15)** _____ at us, and everyone **(16)** _____ 'Have a nice day!' At home, the TV **(17)** _____ (*always*) us bad news stories about the States, but in fact, when you **(18)** _____ here, you **(19)** _____ it's a really great place. We **(20)** _____ lots of photos to show you.



Much love,

Mick and Mary

5 **Cambridge First candidates made mistakes in the following sentences. Choose the correct verb forms.**

1 I *want* / *am wanting* to help out at the camp this summer.
2 Most Spanish companies *belong* / *are belonging* to multinationals nowadays.
3 I *think* / *am thinking* about interviewing my grandfather's friend, who collects vintage cars.
4 My father went to that university, so he *knows* / *is knowing* all about it.
5 Ned *has* / *is having* a lot of problems with his teacher at the moment.
6 Every town *needs* / *is needing* a library, even though everyone has the internet nowadays.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Exam practice

Listening Part 4 Audio

03 You will hear an interview with a man called Martin Holloway who is a sound engineer. For questions **1–7**, choose the best answer (**A**, **B** or **C**).

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1 The mistake people make about sound engineers is to think that
- **A** they spend most of their time working indoors.
- **B** their job is the same as that of a disc jockey.
- **C** they are responsible for the quality of the music.

2 What does Martin say helped him to begin earning money?
- **A** the course he did
- **B** some of the bands he played in
- **C** some people he met

3 Martin first gets involved in a project
- **A** as soon as the band is booked.
- **B** when he visits the venue.
- **C** while the band is rehearsing.

4 What does Martin often find during a show?
- **A** There are problems with the equipment.
- **B** Very little goes wrong for him.
- **C** The performers don't communicate with him.

5 What change in equipment has Martin appreciated the most over the years?
- **A** It is more portable.
- **B** The sound quality is better.
- **C** It is less expensive.

6 According to Martin, what is the most important quality in a sound engineer?
- **A** some musical ability
- **B** good communication skills
- **C** practical technical knowledge

7 What does Martin find most difficult about his job?
- **A** working in difficult environments
- **B** being away for periods of time
- **C** waiting for things to happen

Exam tip

The question helps you find your place in the recording. If you miss an answer, listen for the next one and go back later.

Grammar focus task Audio

03 Here are some extracts from the interview. Choose the present tense that the speaker uses. Listen again to check.

1 I *usually set up* / *am usually setting up* the equipment before the show.
2 What you *hear* / *are hearing* is out of tune.
3 People sometimes *call* / *are calling* me a disc jockey.
4 This weekend, I *work* / *am working* at a music festival.
5 I mostly *work* / *am working* out of doors.
6 Some people *think* / *are thinking* we just turn up on the day.
7 Everything *gets* / *is getting* smaller all the time.
8 But *I always tell* / *I'm always telling* people and they never listen.
9 They just *don't realise* / *aren't realising* that what's crucial is being able to get on with people.
10 An interest in music *means* / *is meaning* it is more enjoyable.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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VOCABULARY

People and behaviour

7 Complete each sentence with one suitable word.

1 After a few days they realized they were ...in..... love.
2 I went ..... with a very interesting girl last week.
3 Andrew acts as ..... he was the most important person in the room.
4 After two years, their marriage broke ..... .
5 John discovered that he was related ..... his next-door neighbour.
6 My parents keep treating me ..... a child, but I'm not one!
7 I was brought ..... by my aunt after my parents died.
8 It was very kind ..... you to give me a lift.
9 Teachers should be patient ..... small children.
10 James was very disappointed ..... his new job.
11 It's very ..... of character for Bill to behave like that.
12 Most famous people behave quite normally ..... private.

8 Replace the words in *italics* with a verb from the box. Use each verb once only.

call in	fall out	give away	put up with	turn down
count on	get on well with	look up to	take after	~~turn up~~

1 The wedding was cancelled when the bride failed to *arrive*. ..turn up.....
2 Susan feels that her boss is someone to *respect*. .....
3 I'm sorry, but I just can't *stand* your behaviour any longer. .....
4 My brother and I *really have a good relationship with* our parents. .....
5 Why don't you *visit my house* on your way home from the shops? .....
6 Tony felt that he could *rely on* his friend Mary. .....
7 The millionaire decided to *make a present of* his money to the poor. .....
....
8 Paula and Shirley are good friends but sometimes they *quarrel*. .....
9 Jean decided to *refuse* Chris's offer of marriage. .....
10 All three children *behave like* their father and are very sociable. .....

LIVEWORKSHEETS

9 Decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each space.

Ann Johnson – A confidential report

Ann Johnson has worked at this college for three years. She is a (1) ...A... employee, and (2) ..... on well with the other members of the department. We have all found her to be an excellent (3) ..... . She has always been (4) ..... for her lessons, and is an extremely (5) ..... member of staff who is able to work independently. I can always (6) ..... on her to organize the end of term play, and she has put on some extremely (7) ..... productions. Her students often tell me how (8) ..... she is, always ready with a smile, and she has been very (9) ..... to many of them. In (10) ..... she is not very talkative and seems rather (11) ..... at first, and might not show her true (12) ..... in an interview. Her work is excellent, and she is (13) ..... to succeed. She is also quite (14) ..... , and has applied for two other positions as Director of Studies. I think that you can count (15) ..... Ann to make your school a success, and I recommend her for the post of Director.

1	*A* conscientious	*B* conscience	*C* consciousness	*D* conscious
2	*A* goes	*B* carries	*C* gets	*D* likes
3	*A* colleague	*B* adult	*C* employer	*D* fellow
4	*A* times	*B* late	*C* hourly	*D* punctual
5	*A* greedy	*B* reliable	*C* stubborn	*D* lazy
6	*A* request	*B* concentrate	*C* take	*D* rely
7	*A* imaginary	*B* imagination	*C* imaginative	*D* imagined
8	*A* tempered	*B* cheerful	*C* frank	*D* proud
9	*A* kind	*B* aggressive	*C* polite	*D* mean
10	*A* first	*B* times	*C* usual	*D* private
11	*A* but	*B* shy	*C* however	*D* alone
12	*A* person	*B* behaviour	*C* character	*D* part
13	*A* used	*B* determined	*C* had	*D* supposed
14	*A* obedient	*B* disappointed	*C* grateful	*D* ambitious
15	*A* on	*B* for	*C* with	*D* to

LIVEWORKSHEETS