

8 Through the ages

Time, history

Time



1.1 Which of the statements are true for you?

1 A I wear a digital watch.	B I wear an analogue watch.	C I don't wear a watch.
2 A I write important dates on my calendar.	B I keep a diary.	C I don't use either.
3 A I am very punctual.	B I am often in a hurry.	C I am always late.

1.2 ⑧a Listen to three people speaking about punctuality and decide whether they are

A punctual B always in a hurry C always late
Speaker 1 Speaker 2 Speaker 3

Error warning



We use *take + time* in the following ways: *Take your time* (= don't hurry), *Take a long time / too much time*. NB We can say *It took a lot of time / so much time / too much time*, but be careful when you use *long*: *it took a long time / It took too long / It took so long*. NOT ~~It took too long time / It took so long time~~. We can also say *I took three hours to get there* or *It took (me) three hours to get there*.

1.3 ⑧a Listen again and circle each of the phrases in the box as you hear them. Then complete the sentences below using the correct phrase.

on time in time took so long take my time
the right time spend time save time
lose track of time time-consuming

- 1 When I surf the net I often Before I know it a few hours have gone by.
- 2 I try to make my lunch the night before to
- 3 At the weekend I try to with my family.
- 4 I find writing notes by hand very
- 5 We booked a taxi but it to arrive that we were 15 minutes late.
- 6 Excuse me, do you have? I have an appointment at 10 o'clock and I really want to get there
- 7 I ran for the bus, but I didn't get there
- 8 I got up very early so that I could getting ready.

1.4 Say whether the words in bold are closest in meaning to *before* or *after*.

- 1 Twenty people were injured in the accident and the tower was **subsequently** demolished to prevent it from happening again.
- 2 **Prior** to the introduction of the steam engine, most people in the UK worked from home.
- 3 Three years **previously** the government had introduced a new law allowing women to vote for the first time.
- 4 There was a great deal of excitement in the days **preceding** the election.
- 5 This is the third year **in succession** that a female has been chosen to manage the club.
- 6 Istanbul was **formerly** known as Constantinople.
- 7 I had to pay \$2,000 rent **in advance**.
- 8 The newspapers warned that a stock market crash was **imminent**.

History

2.1 Read the text and then answer the questions below.



Stonehenge was built over a long period. If we consider only the ancient stones themselves, the work spanned seventy generations – some 1,600 years. However, the first construction at this site began in prehistoric times. True, these first artefacts were just wooden poles which have long gone, but these were raised by men in times so ancient that Britain was still recovering from the Ice Age. The timeline below shows this history, with a frenzy of activity from just before 3000 BC through to 1600 BC being responsible for most of what we now gaze upon in awe.

Timeline of the building of Stonehenge							
Ice age ending							
8000 BC	7000 BC	6000 BC	5000 BC	4000 BC	3000 BC	2000 BC	1000 BC

Vocabulary note

BC is used in the Christian calendar to refer to the time before the birth of Jesus Christ. AD is used to refer to the time after Christ was born. *Circa* is used to mean *about* or *approximately* and is sometimes written simply *c.* NB We do not use an apostrophe to talk about decades: *the 1960s* NOT *the 1960's*.

- 1 Approximately when was the Mesolithic period?
- 2 What method was used to establish the dates of construction?
- 3 When did the earliest structures become permanently hidden from view?
- 4 What type of people lived at Stonehenge during the Mesolithic period?
- 5 Why do many visitors not see the 'henge'?

2.2 Read the text again and find a word or words that match these definitions.

1 an interval of time	6 stage of development
2 very old	7 worn away over time
3 extended over	8 thousands of years
4 before people made written records of events	9 digging for artefacts
5 arranged in the order in which they actually happened	10 a period of history
	11 to exist earlier than something else

 **2.3** Complete the sentences with suitable words from the box. You do not need to use all of the words. Use a dictionary and make a note of the different meanings in your notebook.

age ancient chronological antique
antiquated consecutive era
the Middle Ages middle-aged

Vocabulary note

Age = a particular period of history: *the Victorian age, the digital age*. **Era** = a period of time that is remembered for particular events: *The arrival of moving pictures marked the end of an era for live theatre*. **Middle-aged** = people in their middle years of life: *Most companies are run by middle-aged men*. **The Middle Ages** = a period of European history between 1000 and 1500 AD.

- 1 You should organise the dates into order from the oldest to the most recent.
- 2 The museum has an excellent exhibition about life during
- 3 I much prefer studying history to modern history.
- 4 The first moon landing marked the beginning of an exciting in space exploration.
- 5 My grandparents are refusing to adapt to the computer
- 6 It would be better if the meetings were on days. We'd get more done that way.

3.1 Answer the questions in your notebook.

- 1 Do you often think back to the past or do you prefer to concentrate on the future?
- 2 Do you think it is important for children to study history? (Why? / Why not?)
- 3 If you could go back in time, which period of time would you like to visit? (Why?)

3.2 Correct the mistakes in *italics* in these answers to the questions in 3.1. Use a dictionary to help you.

- 1 Yes, I do think about the past almost *all times*, in fact. I think I am a very *nostalgia* person, so I often *look backwards* at my life and remember good times as well as bad. I definitely think about it more than the future.
- 2 I *didn't* really enjoy studying history at school. I think teenagers are more interested in *the modern time* than in the past! But now that I'm older, I can see that actually it is very important. We need to know about important *history* events because hopefully they can stop us from making the same mistakes in the future.
- 3 The *stage* of history I'd most like to visit is ancient Egypt. I think it would be amazing to *go back in times* and watch *how* they lived and *how* they built the pyramids. I wouldn't want to stay long though – I think I would miss the *digital period* too much!

1 (of) the time 2 3

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Test practice

Test Tip



Listen for any plural words and be sure to add an s at the end if you need to.
Make sure you check your spelling at the end of the test.

Listening Section 4

8b Questions 1–10

Complete the notes below using NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER.

The history of dentistry

Early history

- The earliest reference to problems with teeth was in (1).....
- The ancient Sumerians called problems with teeth 'tooth (2).....'.
- There is (3)..... to show that the Chinese used dental treatments.

Remedies and treatment

- An old text from (4)..... reveals medical practices from 1700 to 1500 BC. The text refers to the use of (5)..... and (6)..... to relieve toothache.
- In the fifth century BC a Greek (7)..... noted the beginnings of specialisation in medicine.
- A Greek doctor was the first to (8)..... problem teeth.
- In Europe during the (9)....., doctors performed dentistry in people's homes.
- A dentist from France is said to have founded (10)..... dentistry.