

**1 Put the words in the correct order to make sentences. There is one extra word in each sentence.**

- 1 can I / the children / amused / How / all day / keep / make / ?  
.....*How can I keep the children amused all day?*.....
- 2 You got in / should / to college / celebrate / so we / achievement / your / ambition  
.....
- 3 the news online / up / comment / to / with current affairs / date / I check / to / keep  
.....
- 4 they're too controversial / events / Please don't / comment / on / tonight / current / at dinner / gossip  
.....
- 5 the royal family / headlines / around the world / make / This story about / is going to / fun  
.....
- 6 usually / stories / This journalist / very sensitive / covers / reads  
.....
- 7 newspapers / do / I don't like / of / that / fun / people / make  
.....
- 8 a night in / gossip / Let's have / and / people / to watch films / about / over  
.....

**2 Complete the sentences with the phrases in the box.**

celebrate the achievements   comment on current events   covering a great story  
~~gossip~~   keep up to date   keep you amused   made fun of   made headlines

- 1 I don't like to .....*gossip*....., but the new family at number fifteen is extraordinary.
- 2 Mary is upset because several people ..... her new hairstyle.
- 3 We're going to ..... of three students today with special awards.
- 4 I'm so excited, I'm ..... right now.
- 5 The story about the president ..... around the world last week.
- 6 While I'm on holiday I'll check my emails every day to ..... with things at the office.
- 7 If you're going to ..... people, make sure you get your facts right.
- 8 Try reading this book, it's got 800 pages so it should ..... for a while.

**3 Complete the phrasal verbs with a preposition. Then match the meanings to the phrasal verbs.**

back .....   bring .....   catch up .....   clear .....  
follow .....   get .....   ~~leave~~ .....~~out~~.....   look .....

- 1 to not include someone or something .....*leave out*.....
- 2 to give or find an explanation for something .....
- 3 to support or help someone .....

- 4 to examine the facts about a problem or situation .....
- 5 to learn the newest facts about something .....
- 6 to start to talk about a particular subject .....
- 7 to find out more about something .....
- 8 to manage to make someone understand or believe something .....

**4 Find four mistakes in the sentences and correct them.**

Hi Jared,

I've only just got back to the office, so I need to .....*catch up on*..... ~~keep up to-~~  
~~date~~ my emails. However, I will get across the problem that you mention and see what  
 has been done to clear up the misunderstanding. I'll bring up with a meeting to  
 highlight the important points so we can avoid this happening again. In the meantime,  
 while I was away a client brought up the issue of data protection. I assured them no  
 procedures had been caught up or overlooked and I hope you can back me up on this.  
 Could you speak to them and clear up the message that we take this issue very  
 seriously?

Many thanks.

Tom

**5 Choose the correct options.**

**A:** So, what's been (1) *making the headlines* / *commenting on current events* /  
*gossiping about* recently?

**B:** Nothing much, it's been so busy we've had no time to (2) *make fun of* / *celebrate*  
*your achievement* / *gossip*!

**A:** Right!

**B:** Now, I know you've (3) *kept amused* / *up to date* / *covered the story* with your  
 emails so you're aware there are lots of calls that you need to (4) *leave out* / *follow up* /  
*get across*. There are also a couple of reports that Fran wants you to (5) *bring up* / *look*  
*into* / *bring up* as the figures don't add up.

**A:** OK! Back to work then. Thanks for all your (6) *cooperation* / *collection* /  
*criticism* while I was away. I'm sorry I had to rush off at the (7) *long-distance* / *last-*  
*minute* / *short-term*. It was such a relief to know I had you to (8) *clear me up* / *back me*  
*up* / *leave me out*.

**B:** No problem.