

GRAMMAR

1. Complete the sentences using the correct form of the present simple or continuous.

1. It often _____ in Ireland. That's why they call it the "Green Island". But it _____ there at the moment. (RAIN, NOT RAIN)
2. Such behaviour normally _____ me furious (MAKE).
3. I _____ a word he says. (NOT BELIEVE)
4. I _____ a hat today because it's such a special event. (WEAR)
5. Susan _____ an email to her parents nearly every Saturday evening. (WRITE)
6. Stop right now! You _____ the flowers every time the ball _____ in the flower bed. (BREAK, LAND)
7. Where is Jimmy? – I don't know. I _____ he _____ tennis with his younger brother, Mark. (THINK, PLAY)
8. My mum _____ a party for her best friends once a year. (ORGANISE)
9. She _____ in London, but she _____ with friends up in Scotland. (LIVE, CURRENTLY STAY)
10. Our headmaster rarely _____ a class. He _____ a lot of administrative work to do. (TEACH, HAVE)
11. As the private secretary of the boss I _____ up to a hundred emails every day. (READ)
12. Look at her! – She _____ in a non-smoking area. (SMOKE)
13. _____ to a tennis club? (YOU BELONG)
14. Can't you see that I _____ on my thesis? – I _____ you to disturb me. (WORK, NOT WANT)
15. I _____ lottery tickets every week, but I _____ anything (BUY, NEVER WIN)

_____/15

2. Fill in the correct form of the verb in brackets: Past Simple or Present Perfect Simple

1. The weather around here _____ terrible in the last few weeks. (BE)
2. Maria _____ her suitcase last night. (PACK)
3. I _____ volleyball since I was a teenager. (NOT PLAY)

4. We _____ wash the dishes. They're all clean now (HELP)
5. They _____ the factory. – Really? When _____? (CLOSE, THAT HAPPEN)
6. _____ yet? (YOUR BUSINESS COURSE – START)
7. How long _____ that camera? – About a month. I _____ it because it was on sale just before Christmas. (YOU HAVE, BUY)
8. _____ last week's magazine? – It must be here because I _____ it on Monday. (YOU SEE, BUY)
9. The books you ordered _____. The delivery service _____ them an hour ago. (ARRIVE, BRING)
10. The Queen _____ her two-week tour through Australia yesterday. (START)
11. The plane from New York _____. The passengers are getting out. (JUST LAND)
12. We _____ a party at school for ages. (NOT HAVE)
13. I _____ a cold in school a few days ago and _____ ill ever since. (CATCH, BE)
14. Dinosaurs _____ around the earth millions of years ago. (WANDER)
15. Prices _____ up last year, but they _____ by 8% already this year. (NOT GO, INCREASE)

_____/15

3. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the present perfect tense.

1. The post office is not far from here. I _____ there many times before. (BE)
2. You can go home now. You _____ emails for over three hours. You must be very tired. (WRITE)
3. I _____ him at least four times but he _____ the phone. (CALL, NOT ANSWER)
4. Bobby is so dirty because he _____ outside the whole afternoon. (PLAY)
5. The president _____ for his speech the whole morning. He still isn't finished. (PREPARE)
6. We _____ for over an hour now and _____ at the village yet. (WALK, NOT ARRIVE)
7. She _____ for a good job for over a month, but now she finally _____ one. (LOOK, FIND)
8. The phone _____ for half a minute. Why doesn't someone answer it. (RING)

9. The maid _____ windows the whole morning. So far, she _____ the ones on the ground floor. (CLEAN, CLEAN)
10. Is Jack at home? No, He _____ out. (JUST GO)
11. Dr Jacobs _____ at this university for almost twenty years, but he _____ such brilliant students. (TEACH, NEVER HAVE)
12. It _____ for over an hour. Some students are excited because they _____ snow before. (SNOW, NEVER SEE)
13. There's no more beer in the fridge. You _____ all of it. (DRINK)
14. Look at you! You must have gained over 10 pounds because you _____ too much. (EAT)
15. My sister _____ to me for three days. (NOT SPEAK)

_____/15

4. Fill in the correct form: Gerund or Infinitive (with or without 'to'):

1. After she had decided _____ in India, she got used to _____ Indian food (STAY, EAT).
2. He promised his boss _____ late again. (NOT BE)
3. Would you mind _____ me how _____ the software. (SHOW, INSTALL)
4. I warned him _____ the freshly painted walls. (NOT TOUCH)
5. His doctor advised him _____ up _____. (GIVE, SMOKE)
6. I can't afford _____ a new car. I haven't got enough money. (BUY)
7. My dad never admits _____ any mistakes. He thinks he's perfect. (MAKE)
8. When you finish _____ up the garage you can start _____ the car. (CLEAN, WASH)
9. He decided _____ to school on Saturday. (NOT GO)
10. She apologized for _____ enough time with her two daughters. (NOT SPEND)
11. I think we'd better _____ for a walk in the park (GO).
12. He somehow managed _____ his exams. Nobody thought he would _____ in _____ so. (PASS, SUCCEED, DO)
13. Remember _____ some milk home from the grocery store. (BRING)
14. I'm sorry for _____ late for class. (BE)

15. I'm looking forward to _____ on a cruise to South America this spring. (GO)

_____/15

5. Choose the correct answer:

1. I feel **really** / **much** better than yesterday.
2. It was **roughly** / **a little** more expensive than I expected.
3. His way of thinking is **far** / **really** similar to mine.
4. The documentary is **a lot** / **nowhere near** as interesting as you think.
5. The sequel wasn't **far** / **nearly** as good as the original.
6. Your internet connection is **far** / **more** faster than mine.
7. The weather is **slightly** / **just** better than it was yesterday.
8. **Much** / **Far** more people came to the event than we expected.
9. The Mexican restaurant isn't **nearly** / **just** as expensive as the Italian one.
10. The flight is **a bit** / **far** quicker than taking the bus.

_____/10

VOCABULARY

1. Complete with the correct words.

1. The graphics on the new version are really **p**_____ **q**_____.
2. This new software made completing the monthly payroll more **t**_____ **c**_____ compared to the old system.
3. You take a ticket with a number at the bank now instead of waiting in line. It's really **e**_____.
4. How **a**_____ are these figures? They don't add up.
5. All our information is stored on state-of-the-art servers, so it's very **s**_____ from identity thieves.
6. The new cafeteria is a bit expensive but it is very **h**_____ for lunch.
7. Everything about the new app is very **u**_____ - **f**_____.
8. I'd like a report on the situation which is detailed and **u**__ - **t**__ - **d**_____.

_____/8

2. Complete with the words from the list:

Flexitime, overtime, paternity leave, unpaid leave, core hours, annual leave, statutory pay, public holiday

1. I work _____, so I can start and finish my working day whenever I like.
2. Our employees' _____ are between ten and four when they have to be in the office.
3. Last week, I worked 60 hours, so I did 20 hours _____.
4. In many countries, the first of January is a _____.
5. Last year, I took 3 months _____ to travel around Europe, but I missed receiving my salary.
6. I need to take the rest of my _____ before the end of the year.

7. On maternity leave, the first 12 weeks are fully paid and after that you receive _____.

8. Nowadays, more and more fathers are taking _____ to help with the newborn.

_____/8

READING

Digital habits across generations

Today's grandparents are joining their grandchildren on social media, but the different generations' online habits couldn't be more different. In the UK the over-55s are joining Facebook in increasing numbers, meaning that they will soon be the site's second biggest user group, with 3.5 million users aged 55–64 and 2.9 million over-65s.

Sheila, aged 59, says, 'I joined to see what my grandchildren are doing, as my daughter posts videos and photos of them. It's a much better way to see what they're doing than waiting for letters and photos in the post. That's how we did it when I was a child, but I think I'm lucky I get to see so much more of their lives than my grandparents did.'

Ironically, Sheila's grandchildren are less likely to use Facebook themselves. Children under 17 in the UK are leaving the site – only 2.2 million users are under 17 – but they're not going far from their smartphones. Chloe, aged 15, even sleeps with her phone. 'It's my alarm clock so I have to,' she says. 'I look at it before I go to sleep and as soon as I wake up.'

Unlike her grandmother's generation, Chloe's age group is spending so much time on their phones at home that they are missing out on spending time with their friends in real life. Sheila, on the other hand, has made contact with old friends from school she hasn't heard from in forty years. 'We use Facebook to arrange to meet all over the country,' she says. 'It's changed my social life completely.'

Teenagers might have their parents to thank for their smartphone and social media addiction as their parents were the early adopters of the smartphone. Peter, 38 and father of two teenagers, reports that he used to be on his phone or laptop constantly. 'I was always connected and I felt like I was always working,' he says. 'How could I tell my kids to get off their phones if I was always in front of a screen myself?' So, in the evenings and at weekends, he takes his SIM card out of his smartphone and puts it into an old-style mobile phone that can only make calls and send text messages. 'I'm not completely cut off from the world in case of emergencies, but the important thing is I'm setting a better example to my kids and spending more quality time with them.'

Is it only a matter of time until the generation above and below Peter catches up with the new trend for a less digital life?

1. Read the text and mark the sentences true (T) or false (F):

1. More people aged 55 or more use Facebook than people aged 65 or more. ____
2. Grandparents typically use Facebook less than their grandchildren. ____

3. Sheila feels grateful to social media. _____
4. Peter found his own smartphone use affected how he felt about how much his children used their phones. _____
5. Peter has changed how much he uses his phone during the working day. _____
6. Peter feels that the changes make him a better parent. _____

_____/6

2. Read the text again and mark the sentences T for teens, P for parents and G for grandparents:

1. _____ were the first generation to get smartphones.
2. _____ feel lucky to have internet in their lives.
3. _____ are less keen on facebook.
4. _____ like to keep their phones near them.
5. _____ are returning to older technology.
6. _____ use social media to find old friends.

_____/6

LISTENING:

1. The interviewer finds speaking the most difficult. _____
2. Gabriella thinks, in some situations, people can find speaking easier than listening. _____
3. According to the interviewer, asking for someone to say the same thing again is one way to solve the problem. _____
4. Gabriella recommends pretending to understand if a conversation is too difficult. _____
5. Gabriella's strategy for managing important conversations sounds strange to the interviewer at first. _____
6. Gabriella's idea involves asking a lot of questions. _____

_____/6

2. Listen again and match the expressions with their definitions:

1. I came out in a cold sweat _____
2. I'm still lost _____

3. I can take it _____
4. My brain shuts down _____
5. I wanted to get out of it _____
6. I get you! _____

a. I can't think

b. I won't be upset

c. I wanted to escape

d. I was really nervous or afraid

e. I still don't understand

f. I understand what you are saying

_____/6