

Vocabulary

Learning new skills

1 Choose the correct alternatives.

I always enjoy trying ¹on/out new instruments because I'm really keen ²at/on music. I play the piano and the flute, and at the moment I'm having a go ³out/at learning the violin. It's a bit ⁴of/off a challenge and I'm useless ⁵on/at it, but it doesn't matter! I go ⁶over/out what I learn during the lessons and I practise every day. I think that I've got a long way ⁷for/to go, but my teacher says I'm making a lot ⁸of/on progress.

2 Match the sentence halves.

- 1 I'm downloading d
 - 2 We're doing _____
 - 3 He's developing _____
 - 4 They're making _____
 - 5 I have _____
 - 6 She's trying _____
 - 7 He's keen _____
 - 8 I'm useless _____
- a his technique in football.
b a lot of progress in learning to play the cello.
c out her cycling skills.
d an app, which will help me to learn Chinese.
e on learning French.
f a long way to go before I can ride a motorbike.
g at learning new languages.
h a language exchange with some Italian students.

3 Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

challenge develop expert improve interested
keen skilled training

- 1 I practise skateboarding every day so that I can develop my technique.
- 2 I'm _____ a lot because I want to run a ten-kilometre race next month.
- 3 John has been working hard to _____ his computer skills.
- 4 Nala is highly _____ at painting. She had her own art exhibition last month.
- 5 My mum has taught my sister to cook over the years and now she's a bit of an _____.
- 6 Diving is something that has always _____ me.
- 7 I'm making some progress with Mandarin, but it's a bit of a _____.
- 8 Jane's _____ on music, so I think she'll enjoy learning to play the piano.

Grammar

Present simple and present continuous

4 Find and correct five mistakes in sentences 1–8.

- ~~train~~
training
- 1 I am training at the sports centre every Tuesday and Thursday.
 - 2 Some young people are starting to write letters instead of sending emails.
 - 3 Ashanti downloads an app at the moment.
 - 4 Are you understanding what I mean?
 - 5 The word 'expert' is meaning someone who is good at something.
 - 6 She's having a go at the guitar this term.
 - 7 Yin and Michael are belonging to a golf club.
 - 8 I don't believe that's true.

5 Complete the conversation. Use the present simple or present continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

- A: Hi Dan, what ¹ are you doing (do) in the kitchen? You ² _____ (hate) cooking!
B: I ³ _____ (have) a go at making an omelette!
A: Really?
B: Yes, I ⁴ _____ (do) a cookery course this month and I ⁵ _____ (go) over what we learnt in the last class.
A: Good for you! I've heard that lots of people ⁶ _____ (do) cookery courses at the moment.
B: Yes, my course is very popular. Anyway, I ⁷ _____ (feel) that I'm useless at cooking, so it's a bit of a challenge.
A: I ⁸ _____ (not think) you're useless. The food smells really good! Fish ⁹ _____ (not be) easy to cook.
B: OK, it's ready now. ¹⁰ _____ you _____ (want) to join me?
A: Yes, please!

