1. Underline the correct verb form in *italics* for each sentence.

1 The Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao *houses/is housing* Spain's largest collection of Modern Art.

2 We *try out/are trying out* a new paper supplier at the moment. The old one was too expensive.

3 The children *don't eat/aren't eating* sweets and chocolate before they go to bed at night. It's bad for their teeth.

4 These animals *display/are displaying* a great deal of aggression if disturbed.

5 We *currently show/are currently showing* the film 'Star Wars' at all Odeon cinemas in the region.

6 Quick! Get rid of all the mess! Here *come/are coming* Mum and Dad!

7 The weather forecast says there'll be wind from the north-west tonight. That always *brings/is bringing* snow with it at this time of year.

8 The rubbish collectors *come/are coming* on Fridays in this area. They *don't take/aren't taking* rubbish not left in black plastic bags.

9 You *always complain/are always complaining* and it really gets on my nerves! Why can't you just accept things and relax?

10 *Does the orchestra play/Is the orchestra playing* at the Town Hall this week? I'd really like to see their new concert.

11 Swimming *provides/is providing* exercise for more muscle groups than any other physical activity.

12 What *do you consider/are you considering* to be the lowest price they'll sell the house for?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2. Read each pair of sentences below, A and B. The sentence which follows each pair is related to one of the sentences in the pair. (For example, it could come after the sentence or describe the sentence.) Write the letter of the correct sentence in the box.

0 A Steven's a difficult child.

B Steven's being difficult.

(*He isn't usually difficult.)*

1 A This salmon weighs more than six kilos.

B We're weighing the salmon to put a price on it.

(*This is a characteristic of the salmon.)*

2 A I invite everyone present to the opening of the new superstore.

B I'm inviting everyone to the opening of the new superstore.

(*I'm offering this invitation to you now.)*

3 A The dance group appears to have arrived at the theatre.

B The dance group is appearing at the theatre.

(*There are performances every evening.)*

4 A Mmm. I taste cinnamon in this. Lovely.

B I'm tasting it to see if there's enough cinnamon in it.

(*I need to check the quantity of cinnamon.)*

LIVEWORKSHEETS

5 A I think house prices will rise again next year.

B I'm thinking of selling my house next year.

(*This is my opinion.)*

6 A My sister has a baby.

B My sister's having a baby.

(*My sister's pregnant.)*

7 A I smell lavender. Is there a bush in the garden?

B I'm smelling the lavender. It's a very strong variety.

(*The smell has just come to my attention.)*

8 A He's having a shower.

B He has a fantastic power shower in the main bathroom.

(*Why don't you wait in the living room?)*

9 A We guarantee that your children will be supervised by experienced instructors.

B My husband and I are guaranteeing the loan for Mrs Knight.

(*The company takes full responsibility.)*

10 A Is this an inadequate explanation or am I being stupid?

B I'm sorry, I don't understand. Am I really so stupid?

(*Is this a permanent characteristic of mine?)*

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3. Complete this news report. Write the verbs in brackets in the correct form, present simple or continuous.

It's summer. A man is out for a quiet walk. He's walking along a country road and he (1).....(mind) his own business when he (2).....(be knocked down) and seriously injured by a minivan. The man, a writer of thrillers and horror fiction, (3).....(survive) but he (4).....(become) obsessed with the vehicle that maimed him. He doesn't bear a grudge against the driver. Instead, he (5).....(buy) the minivan and (6).....(hide) it.

This sounds like the plot of a Stephen King thriller, but it is in fact the latest chapter in the writer's real life. King has bought the van and he (7).....(intend) to take a sledgehammer to it. At present King (8).....(recover) from his injuries at home, where he (9).....(suffer) from a broken hip, a fractured leg and a collapsed lung. The story is uncannily like the plot of his novel Thinner (written several years previously), in which the victim's family (10).....(put) a curse on the driver. King, however, (11).....(demand) only the withdrawal of the driver's licence. As for the minivan, we (12).....(not know) if King will actually carry out his revenge or if he is simply hatching the plot for a new novel!

LIVEWORKSHEETS