

2. Choose the best option

Choose the word or phrase that best completes each sentence.

English is so _____ in the business world that many people use it without thinking about it.

- a) conspicuous
- b) prevalent
- c) bemused

When I asked him why he had suddenly started speaking German, he gave me a _____ look.

- a) perplexed
- b) sophisticated
- c) deprived

The restaurant has a very _____ interior, combining traditional design with modern technology.

- a) subconscious
- b) sophisticated
- c) amenable

She _____ her parents to let her go on the trip.

- a) sprinkled
- b) pleaded with
- c) transpired

I was completely _____ by his reaction. I simply couldn't understand why he was laughing.

- a) bemused
- b) conspicuous
- c) prevalent

He tends to _____ between English and Ukrainian when he talks to his friends.

- a) code-switch
- b) put out
- c) plead

The teacher _____ some examples of informal expressions throughout the lesson.

- a) sprinkled
- b) deprived
- c) transpired

It later _____ that the two students had known each other for years.

- a) was put out
- b) transpired
- c) was prevalent

She wore a bright yellow coat, making her extremely _____ in the crowd.

- a) amenable
- b) conspicuous
- c) subconscious

He wasn't _____ to the idea of changing the timetable.

- a) amenable
- b) perplexed
- c) deprived

3. Complete the collocations

Use the words from the box.

pleaded · perplexed · conspicuous · code-switch · amenable · subconscious · put out · deprived

_____ with someone

a _____ look

highly _____ in a crowd

_____ between two languages

be _____ to a suggestion

a _____ desire

feel _____ by something

be _____ of opportunities

Now complete the sentences with the correct collocation.

She gave me a _____ when I mentioned that I had already met her before.

I didn't mean to offend him, but he seemed really _____ by my comment.

The child _____ with his mother not to send him to summer camp.

Some people _____ unconsciously when they speak several languages.

She was quite _____ to the idea of working remotely.

His decision may have been influenced by a _____ fear of failure.

The bright red sign was extremely _____.

Children in rural areas can sometimes be _____ of the same educational opportunities.

4. One word doesn't belong

Which word doesn't fit the group?

A

prevalent – widespread – common – conspicuous

B

bemused – perplexed – confused – amenable

C

sophisticated – advanced – refined – deprived

D

plead – beg – implore – sprinkle

E

subconscious – unconscious – deliberate – instinctive

Then explain why.

5. Complete the text

Use the words and phrases from the box.

code-switch · prevalent · bemused · sophisticated · pleaded with · sprinkled · deprived · vice versa · perplexed · conspicuous · subconscious · amenable · it transpired · put out

When I first started working in an international school, I noticed that _____ was extremely _____ among both teachers and students. People would move effortlessly from one language to another, sometimes without even noticing they were doing it.

At first, I found this rather _____. I would sometimes give my colleagues _____ looks when they suddenly changed languages in the middle of a conversation.

As my own language skills became more _____, I started doing the same thing. I even noticed that I would _____ English and German depending on who I was talking to — and _____.

One day, a particularly _____ incident happened. A student _____ me not to contact his parents about something he had done. I wasn't particularly _____ to his request, but I listened to his explanation.

_____ that he hadn't actually broken the rule at all. He had simply been _____ of the information he needed and had misunderstood the instructions.

Looking back, I think my initial discomfort was partly _____. I was afraid of making mistakes without actually being aware of it. Now I wouldn't be _____ by someone switching languages at all.

6. Rewrite using the word given

Rewrite the sentences without changing the meaning. Use the word in brackets.

Example:

She begged me to give her another chance.
PLEADED

→ She pleaded with me to give her another chance.

English is extremely common in international business.
PREVALENT

I was confused by his strange reaction.
PERPLEXED

She wasn't unwilling to consider the proposal.
AMENABLE

Later, we discovered that he had been lying.
TRANSPIRED

His bright clothes made him very easy to notice.
CONSPICUOUS

I think her fear influenced her decision without her realising it.
SUBCONSCIOUS

He became annoyed when I criticised his idea.
PUT

The dish was decorated with a small amount of fresh herbs.
SPRINKLED

7. Meaning in context — challenge

What does the bold expression mean in each sentence?

She gave me a bemused look when I told her that I had never used WhatsApp.

- a) angry
- b) confused and slightly amused
- c) frightened

The company has developed a sophisticated system for detecting fraud.

- a) complicated and highly developed
- b) expensive but unreliable
- c) traditional and simple

The issue is prevalent among young people.

- a) particularly serious
- b) widespread among them
- c) difficult to discuss with them

He wasn't amenable to compromise.

- a) willing to accept it
- b) unable to understand it
- c) forced to accept it

She had a subconscious fear of failure.

- a) a fear she deliberately created
- b) a fear she wasn't fully aware of
- c) a fear she openly discussed

He was clearly put out by the change of plans.

- a) amused
- b) disappointed or annoyed
- c) surprised in a positive way

8. Speaking — Use the vocabulary

Discuss the questions. You must use at least 5 expressions from the box.

code-switch · prevalent · sophisticated · bemused · perplexed · subconscious · conspicuous · amenable · put out

A. Language

Why do bilingual people code-switch?

Talk about:

who they are speaking to

the situation

emotions

vocabulary gaps

identity

subconscious factors

B. Education

Are modern students becoming too dependent on sophisticated technology?

Use examples from:

AI

smartphones

online learning

social media

traditional teaching

C. Society

What problems are particularly prevalent among young people today?

Try to use:

One particularly prevalent issue is...

What I find rather conspicuous is...

It could be argued that...

It later transpired that...

9. Mini-story challenge ■

Tell a short story beginning with:

"Everyone gave me perplexed looks when I walked into the room..."

You have to include at least 6 of these:

bemused · conspicuous · pleaded with · code-switch · sophisticated · subconscious · amenable · deprived · put out · it transpired

And you cannot simply list the words — each one has to make sense in the story.

Bonus C1 challenge

After telling the story, your partner asks:

"What do you think was the subconscious reason for the character's behaviour?"