

## GRAMMAR

Choose a, b, or c.

- He got a good job, \_\_\_ not having the right degree.  
a although b despite c in spite
- My uncle still works, \_\_\_ he won the lottery last year.  
a in spite of b despite c even though
- I called my sister to remind her \_\_\_ the flowers.  
a to buy b for buy c for buying
- Jane opened the door quietly \_\_\_ her parents up.  
a to not wake b so that she not wake  
c so as not to wake
- Adrian is looking for \_\_\_ in London.  
a some cheap accommodations  
b some cheap accommodation  
c a cheap accommodation
- Let me give you \_\_\_ – don't marry him!  
a a piece of advice b an advice c some advices
- I need to buy a new \_\_\_\_.  
a trouser b trousers c pair of trousers
- There's \_\_\_ milk. I'll have to get some from the shop.  
a no b any c none
- \_\_\_ in that shop is incredibly expensive.  
a All b All of them c Everything
- They shouldn't go sailing because \_\_\_ of them can swim.  
a both b either c neither
- Let's take them \_\_\_ flowers or chocolates when we go for dinner.  
a both b either c neither
- I was in \_\_\_ hospital for two weeks with a broken leg.  
a the b – c a
- I now live next door to \_\_\_ school where I used to go.  
a the b – c a
- \_\_\_ Lake Constance is the biggest lake in Switzerland.  
a The b – c A
- \_\_\_ British Museum is in central London.  
a The b – c A

## VOCABULARY

- a Complete with the correct form of the **bold** word.
- Many people think that behaviour is \_\_\_\_\_ rather than learnt. **gene**
  - Many important \_\_\_\_\_ discoveries were made in the 19th century. **science**
  - We live in a very safe \_\_\_\_\_. **neighbour**
  - Many people in big cities suffer from \_\_\_\_\_. **lonely**
  - His \_\_\_\_\_ came as a terrible shock. **die**

b Add a prefix to the **bold** word.

- New Delhi in India is a very **populated** city.
- I asked for an aspirin, but the receptionist didn't understand me because I had **pronounced** it.
- A **national** company is a large company that operates in several different countries.
- Gandhi wrote most of his **biography** in 1929.
- Anne is unhappy with her job, because she's **paid**.

c Complete the missing words.

- Will the company make a l\_\_\_\_\_ this year?
- He borrowed £10,000 to s\_\_\_\_\_ his own business.
- Ikea is the market l\_\_\_\_\_ in cheap furniture.
- The company are planning to l\_\_\_\_\_ their new product in the spring.
- The bank has br\_\_\_\_\_ all over the country.
- It's a bad idea to mix b\_\_\_\_\_ with pleasure.
- In a property boom, house prices r\_\_\_\_\_.
- The drug has some very unpleasant s\_\_\_\_\_ effects.
- We need to c\_\_\_\_\_ out some more experiments.
- Would you ever be a g\_\_\_\_\_ pig in a clinical trial?

d Complete the two-word phrases.

- I'm going to the mountains for some peace and \_\_\_\_\_.
- He arrived back from his adventure safe and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Sooner or \_\_\_\_\_, we'll have to make a decision.
- It's a very dangerous city. There's no law and \_\_\_\_\_.
- It's our last chance to do this. It's now or \_\_\_\_\_.

## PRONUNCIATION

a Circle the word with a different sound.

-  branch expand **antidote** gravity
-  product government poverty **modernism**
-  **volunteer** theory research idea
-  recession expectation decision **antisocial**
-  **death** though width thought

b Underline the main stressed syllable.

- bi|o|lo|gi|cal      3 mul|ti|cul|tu|ral      5 man|u|fac|ture
- phy|si|cist      4 in|crease (verb)

## CAN YOU understand this text?

- a Read the article once. Why did Stephen Hawking never change his computer voice?
- b Read the article again and choose a, b, or c.
- 1 Stephen Hawking used a computer voice synthesizer to communicate for over...
    - a 30 years.
    - b 40 years.
    - c 55 years.
  - 2 He started using the voice when...
    - a he was diagnosed with motor neurone disease.
    - b he lost the power of speech after an operation.
    - c pneumonia caused him to lose his voice.
  - 3 His accent surprised people because...
    - a the synthesizer was made in Britain.
    - b they expected his voice to sound British.
    - c American accents were not popular in Britain.
  - 4 Stephen Hawking...
    - a thought that his accent sounded very American.
    - b told the Queen that his accent wasn't American.
    - c said his accent sounded different to different people.

## ▶ CAN YOU understand these people?

10.20 Watch or listen and choose a, b, or c.



- 1 Thomas admires Nike because of its \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a slogan and customer service
  - b logo and marketing
  - c name and the quality of its product
- 2 Devika thinks that \_\_\_\_ cities will change a lot in the next 20 years.
  - a some European
  - b modern, wealthy cities
  - c developing industrial
- 3 Noel thinks that science \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a is just as creative as the arts
  - b is more useful than maths
  - c should focus on climate change
- 4 Sophie passed her exam although \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a she didn't do her PowerPoint presentation
  - b she didn't enjoy doing her PowerPoint presentation
  - c her PowerPoint presentation was a disaster

## THE VOICE OF REASON

### Why Stephen Hawking's voice computer spoke with an American accent

**S**tephen Hawking, the legendary English cosmologist, author of *A Brief History of Time*, was regarded as a brilliant theoretical physicist, and for the British people, a national treasure. However, his famous computer-generated voice left many people puzzled.



Hawking died in 2018 at the age of 76. In 1963, while studying at Oxford, he was diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), a rare form of motor neurone disease. Incredibly, despite a poor prognosis, he lived with the disease for 55 years until his death. After catching pneumonia in 1985, Hawking had to have a tracheotomy to allow him to breathe. This left him unable to speak. After that, the professor's primary means of communication was a computer voice synthesizer which he controlled first with a hand-held clicker, and later with a sensor attached to his cheek. This computer-generated voice, known by its US developers as 'Perfect Paul', became Hawking's iconic voice, recognized around the world.

One thing that puzzled many people, however, was why his computer spoke with an apparent American accent, in spite of the fact that he was born in Oxford, in the UK. The Queen even quizzed him on the matter, asking him, 'Have you still got that American voice?' when meeting him at an event at St James' Palace. He joked back, 'Yes, it is copyrighted actually.'

Hawking had previously answered the question on his own website. Explaining how his speech worked, he wrote: 'When I have built up a sentence, I can send it to my speech synthesizer. I use a separate hardware synthesizer, made by Speech Plus. It is the best I have heard, although it gives me an accent that has been described variously as Scandinavian, American, or Scottish.'

He also explained that he would have been able to change the accent of his computer when the technology advanced, but had decided against it. Hawking added: 'My old system worked well and I wrote five books with it, including *A Brief History of Time*. It has become my trademark and I wouldn't change it for a more natural voice with a British accent. I am told that children who need a computer voice want one like mine.'