

Vocabulary

Colloquial and idiomatic language

1 Complete the sentences with a word. The first letter is given.

- Stop **g**_____ on about how much you hate the boss. If she hears, you'll get the **c**_____.
- He always talks about his dog, eating his slippers, barking at the neighbours, blah, blah, **b**_____. Listening to it is such a **y**_____.
- My day was pretty **r**_____. In fact, I spent most of it literally **c**_____ out old junk from our garage.
- It's a good **j**_____ you're here. I don't want to go **i**_____ why, but I need your help.
- I'm seeing my old uni **m**_____ tonight. Should be fun to see them.
- A night out with Phil and his partner is on the **c**_____. You should come if you're **u**_____ for it.
- Everything seems to have worked out well. Touch **w**_____ it stays that way!

English in action

Manage informal conversations



2 Match the sentence halves.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1 I'm not surprised. That's just _____ | |
| 2 Did you see _____ | |
| 3 Turned out nice, _____ | |
| 4 Long time, _____ | |
| 5 Did you see this business _____ | |
| 6 You must be a bit depressed _____ | |
| 7 What've you been _____ | |
| 8 You like musicals, _____ | |
| a no see! | e hasn't it? |
| b up to? | f at how Real Madrid are doing. |
| c don't you? | g the match on Sunday? |
| d typical of Mark! | h about the factory closure? |

3 Complete the sentences using the prompts in brackets.

- A: Hello. ¹_____. (long / no see).
B: Yes, it's been a while. ²_____. (what / you / up to)?
A: Ah, nothing much.
- A: ³_____ (I / not / believe) it!
B: ⁴_____ (what / up)?
A: I've got a flat tyre.
- A: ⁵_____ (you / see / business / redundancies)?
B: Yes, I did. Not good, is it?
- A: ⁶_____ (turn / nice), hasn't it?
B: Yes, gorgeous day!
- A: Hi Sam, ⁷_____ (it / ages).
B: I know. ⁸_____ (How / family)?
- A: ⁹_____ (that / typical)! The parcel company has delivered the wrong thing.

4 Choose the correct option a or b.

- Oh, you got me a coffee, too. Good ____!
a stuff b thing
- I'm sorry you're not feeling well. What a ____!
a hurt b pain
- He said what? Good ____!
a grief b luck
- You're busy tonight? No _____. I'll see you tomorrow.
a concern b worries
- You don't want to eat my food? Alright, _____ yourself.
a match b suit
- Anyway, I've got to _____. See you later.
a dash b sprint

5 Complete the conversation with phrases a–h below.

- A: I've been offered a new job.
B: ¹____!
A: Thanks, but it's halfway across the country.
B: ²____! Are you going to take it?
A: I'm not sure. It'd be something new, but I'd miss you guys.
B: ³____. We'd survive.
A: The salary's not great either. It's less than I earn now.
B: ⁴____? That's not good.
A: No, but the working environment is better there.
B: I'm sure. ⁵____. It sounds like you have a tough decision ahead. ⁶____. Will you tell Jeremy?
A: Yes, I'll let him know. ⁷____, here he is now.
B: Right, ⁸____. I've got a report to finish.
- a Rather you than me
b No way
c I'd best be off
d Don't be silly
e Talking of whom
f Nice one
g It's a joke here
h Seriously