1 Making a Difference

VOCABULARY Giving help

A Complete the paragraph using the correct form of the words or phrases in the box.

be there for them	encourage	help out
make an impact	take care of	inspiring

My social studies teacher in sixth grade was a very [1] _____ person. He made us believe we could make a difference. He told us that even small acts of kindness could [2] _____ on the people around us. He [3] _____ us to find ways to help people in the community. We could offer to [4] _____ around the neighborhood. One way I used to help my neighbors was to [5] _____ their pets when they were away. Small acts of kindness like these show others that we will [6] _____ if they ever need help.

B Circle the correct word to complete each sentence.

1. Did you (**volunteer** / **volunteered**) last year?
2. I've (**signed** / **sign**) up as a volunteer at the animal shelter.
3. How do you (**helped** / **help**) other people in your daily life?
4. Volunteering (**has changed** / **was changing**) my outlook on life. I am now more grateful for all I have.
5. I developed an app to help abuse victims when I (**was working** / **am working**) at the children's home.

VOCABULARY BUILDING

A Choose a word from the box to replace each word in **bold**.

committed	devote	insignificant
minimize	passionate	

1. Small actions can seem **unimportant** but they can have a big impact. _____
2. Many people are **very enthusiastic** about making a difference. _____
3. Some people are **determined** to help end poverty. _____
4. It's a good idea to **reduce** the amount of energy we use. _____
5. It's inspiring to see people who **completely give** their lives to helping others. _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

LISTENING Inspiring dreams

A Listen to a podcast. What is it about?

a Three charities you should volunteer to help.

b How to create a volunteer program.

c How to choose the best volunteer program.

B Listen again. Which pieces of advice are mentioned in the talk? Check [✓] all that apply.

1 ☐ give volunteers paid time off

2 ☐ create volunteer teams

3 ☐ make a list of charities that need help

4 ☐ force employees to volunteer

5 ☐ show appreciation to volunteers

2 Trends

VOCABULARY Describing trends

A Complete the information. Circle the correct words.

In recent years, improvements in technology have led to [1] (**growing** / **more and more**) jobs being carried out by machines rather than humans. According to a Pew Research report, almost half of all current jobs in the United States could disappear by 2025 as a result of [2] (**widespread** / **shrinking**) automation.

Travel agencies, for example, have [3] (**decreased** / **gotten worse**) in number as more and more people choose to book their vacations online. When you go to a bank, it is now quite [4] (**common** / **increasing**) to carry out your transactions through a machine rather than interacting with a human.

Are any jobs still safe? Experts suggest that jobs requiring creativity and social skills are the safest. The number of hairdressers and beauty salons, for example, is still [5] (**growing** / **more and more**).

LANGUAGE FOCUS Future trends

A Circle the best option to complete each sentence.

1 In fifty years, there (**will** / **won't**) be printed textbooks in the classroom. Students will all have tablets.

2 Robots (**will** / **won't**) be a common household item. Everyone will have one.

3 People (**are** / **aren't**) going to be more connected to the Internet. Everything we own will be linked to it.

4 Shopping online (**is** / **isn't**) going to be the most popular way to shop. There will be fewer stores.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

B Circle the best response.

1 I'm going to go for a jog this evening.
   a I'm sorry I couldn't come along.
   b That's great! Can I join you?

2 I don't think I'll be able to join you for dinner.
   a Oh no, shall we meet another time?
   b It's OK. We had a great time.

3 I think home robots will become very popular in the next five years.
   a I don't think it will be so soon.
   b It was a great invention that benefited mankind.

4 Are you going to Maria's birthday party?
   a No, I couldn't make it.
   b Yes. I'm bringing my cousin, too.

C Make predictions about the future using the words provided and *will* or *going to*.

1 artificial intelligence / become / more widespread / five years

_____

2 humans / live / on other planets / 20 years from now

_____

3 time travel / not be possible / in ten years time

_____

4 cars and trains / not change very much / in the next five years

_____

VOCABULARY BUILDING

A Complete the paragraph using the correct form of the words in the box.

analyze	emerge	relevant	take advantage of

Companies nowadays are [1] _____ online resources to find out more about their customers. They have found that social media tools are becoming far more [2] _____ to customer choices. For example, researchers who [3] _____ a group of parents found that the majority of them regularly consulted social media sites before making purchases for their children. As a result, a new market is [4] _____ for social media marketing experts.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3 Improving Lives

VOCABULARY Talking about healthcare

A Complete the sentences using the words in the box.

motivate	suffers from	treatment	wearable

1 Smartwatches and fitness trackers are examples of _____ technology.

2 I joined a support group to _____ me on my weight loss journey.

3 My brother _____ depression—there are days when he won't even leave his room.

4 Scientists have come up with a new _____ for baldness in both men and women.

LANGUAGE FOCUS Discussing cause and effect

A Complete the sentences using the words in the box.

result	because	due	so

1 You should brush your teeth every day _____ you don't get cavities.

2 As a _____ of having better healthcare for expectant mothers, infant mortality has decreased.

3 Obesity is on the rise _____ people are eating more junk food.

4 The hospital could not cope with the high volume of patients _____ to a shortage of doctors.

B Circle the correct words to complete the information.

People now are able to live much longer [1] (**so** / **because of**) improvements in medical care. The rate of deaths [2] (**due to** / **because**) cancer and other illnesses has fallen [3] (**because** / **as a result of**) new drugs and better medical technology. Sadly however, the cost of this medical care makes it difficult for everyone to benefit from it.

In some countries, health insurance is paid for through taxes [4] (**so** / **because**) people don't have to worry about the cost of hospital or doctor visits. However, there are countries where health insurance is private and costs a lot of money. People often delay going to the doctor [5] (**so** / **as**) it is so expensive. In poorer countries, basic healthcare is not even available [6] (**because** / **because of**) there aren't sufficient resources.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

VOCABULARY BUILDING

A Choose a word from the box to replace each word in **bold**.

approach	behavior	constant	pressure	prevent

1. It may be possible to **stop** cancer by analyzing your DNA. _____
2. Herbal medicine is an alternative healthcare **method**. _____
3. There is a **never-ending** shortage of doctors and nurses in this hospital. _____
4. The students were under a lot of **stress** to complete their assignment on time. _____
5. Doctors monitor the **actions** of their patients to make sure there are no side effects to treatment. _____

READING

Read the passage and answer the questions.

1 Advances in medical technology are helping many people who have Parkinson's disease. While there is still no cure, new innovative devices are improving the quality of life for Parkinson's sufferers.

2 Parkinson's disease affects a person's muscles and their ability to move. It is caused by a problem with the nerve cells in the brain. There is an important chemical called dopamine, which helps send signals to different parts of the brain, telling it when to move parts of the body. However, people with Parkinson's don't produce enough dopamine. As a result, they can't send the correct signals to their arms or legs when they want to move.

3 The main symptom of Parkinson's is constant tremors or shaking of the arms and legs, so patients tend to move very slowly. They have difficulty balancing when they are standing or walking. They may also have trouble speaking and eating. Parkinson's is a progressive disease, which means it gradually gets worse, but this can take a number of years.

4 There are many different kinds of medication to treat Parkinson's. Although some have been successful in slowing down the disease, none are able to completely cure it. One problem that scientists face is monitoring how much medication is needed by each patient. This is where technology is important. New wearable devices detect tremors and classify them based on their intensity. The data is then sent to doctors, allowing them to track patients' reactions to different medication doses.

5 There may be no cure for Parkinson's yet, but with new advancements in drugs and wearable technology, there is hope that patients can have a better quality of life.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

A Match each paragraph to its main idea.

1 Paragraph 2	○	○ **a**	a new way to help people with Parkinson's disease
2 Paragraph 3	○	○ **b**	how Parkinson's disease affects a person's behavior
3 Paragraph 4	○	○ **c**	what causes Parkinson's disease

B Circle **T** for true, **F** for false, or **NG** for not given.

1 People who smoke are more likely to get Parkinson's disease.	**T**	**F**	**NG**
2 Parkinson's disease affects the function of the brain.	**T**	**F**	**NG**
3 Parkinson's disease usually develops very rapidly.	**T**	**F**	**NG**
4 Parkinson's disease can affect someone's ability to talk.	**T**	**F**	**NG**
5 Parkinson's disease is becoming more common.	**T**	**F**	**NG**
6 Scientists have discovered a cure for Parkinson's disease.	**T**	**F**	**NG**
7 The device detects a tremor and measures its strength.	**T**	**F**	**NG**

Good luck and may the force be with you!

Andy

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