

Online services

Do you read fashion magazines and look at dresses by famous designers and think, 'How beautiful!'? Unfortunately, these dresses are **expensive**. We can't all pay one thousand dollars for one dress for one **special occasion**.

However, a new website has the **solution**. *Rent the runway* rents expensive dresses for one night. You choose from hundreds of dresses and order them *online. Then they deliver it for the special day. So now you can wear a dress from a famous fashion designer but you only pay one hundred dollars – not one thousand dollars! After you wear the dress, you put it in an envelope and send it back. The price includes cleaning.

So renting online is now big business. The company *Netflix* is a good example. You pay a **monthly subscription** and then you order your DVDs. Netflix

delivers the DVD in a day and you have the film for an *unlimited time – there are no **late fees**. Now, the company also rents computer games and customers can also watch films online at the Netflix website.

And if you can rent clothes, videos and computer games online, why not children's toys? Lori Pope is a young mother with two children. When she buys toys her children play with them for a few weeks and then don't use them. Now, Lori provides the perfect service with her company, *Baby Plays*. Her customers pay a subscription every month and she delivers four new toys. Now she has over 200 **regular customers** with lots of happy children!

So do you have a good business plan for online renting? Great, but be quick. Lots of other people do too!

2. *Rent the Runway* delivers dresses and customers return them.
3. *Netflix* sells DVDs and computer games online.
4. Lori Pope rents toys for her children from the Internet.
5. The writer of the article thinks renting online is a good business idea.

3. Complete the text with these verbs. Use the present simple and change the verb where necessary (for example: order → orders).

order - deliver - play - rent - be - pay

Don't buy computer games because ComputerGamesDelivery.com 1. _____ over a thousand different games. It 2. _____ easy! You can 3. _____ a maximum of three games and we 4. _____ them to your door in two days. And remember, you can 5. _____ them for as long as you want because you never 6. _____ a late fee with ComputerGamesDelivery.com

2. Are these statements true (T) or false (F)?

1. Women do not buy the dresses in fashion magazines because they don't like them.

Let's train some grammar. Do you remember the use of "to be", "wh-question" and present simple?

4. Complete the conversations below using the words from the box.

m, 'm not, are, are, aren't, is, isn't

Conversation 1

A: Where _____¹ you from?

B: I _____² from Poland – Warsaw. How about you? Are you Chinese?

A: No, I _____³. I come from Japan.

Conversation 2

A: _____⁴ your co-workers American?

B: My boss _____⁵ American. He's from New York City. But my other co-workers _____⁶ American. They're French and German.

Conversation 3

A: Excuse me. May I use this office for a few minutes?

B: I don't know. It _____⁷ my office. I don't work here. I'm visiting today!

A: Oh, sorry.

5. Complete these questions with **What**, **Where** or **Who**.

1. _____ is Mr. Santos from? → He's from Cuenca, Ecuador.

2. _____ is Lenore's job? → She's a manager.

3. _____ are you doing? → I'm writing an e-mail.

4. _____ is waiting outside? → Mr. Jones and three colleagues.

5. _____ is the receptionist? → She's in the conference room.

6. _____ are you working with? → Ursula and Piet.

6. Make negative sentences using the words in brackets. Use don't (do not) or doesn't (does not).

1. I like meetings. (presentations)

I like meetings, but I don't like presentations.

2. We waste a lot of paper. (electricity)

3. They agree about most things. (money)

4. Susan sends a lot of e-mails. (faxes)

7. Work in pairs. Match the questions (1-6) to the answers (a-f).

1. What do you think about the new boss?

2. What time does the meeting start?

3. Where does she live?

4. Why does he need the money?

5. Who do I report to?

6. When do I finish work?

a) Peter. He's your line manager.

b) He has to pay for the office party.

c) You can leave at five o'clock.

d) She's very efficient.

e) In the city centre.

f) It starts at two o'clock.

8. Put these words in the correct order to make questions.

1. weekend / work / they / Do / at / the / ?

2. Pierre / in / sales / Does / work / ?

3. you / do / travel / abroad / How / often / ?

4. you / spell / How / business / do / ?

5. finish / does / the / meeting / When / ?

9. Answer the question with short answer:

a. Are you busy right now? _____ (no)

b. Is the meeting in room 202? _____ (yes)

c. Are they from Japan? _____ (yes)

d. Is she your supervisor? _____ (no)

e. Are we having lunch at 1 PM? _____ (yes)

10. Traduce the following sentences with verb "to be":

a. Ella es mi jefa

b. Estamos en una reunión.

c. ¿Eres el nuevo empleado?

d. Ellas son de Alemania.
