C Grammar exercises

1 **Fill in the gaps in this model answer with verbs from the box in the past simple.**

Thanks to modern technology, there have been enormous changes in the workplace over the past 100 years.

What are the most significant changes that have occurred and what changes do you foresee in the next 100 years?

allow	be	be	be	invent	increase	lay
mean	own	receive	replace	ride	take	walk

The pace of change in the world of technology is amazing. It **1** wasn't (not) long ago that the postal service **2** ..... our only way to communicate over any distance. It **3** ..... days and sometimes weeks to receive letters from within the same country. As a result, the news in the letters **4** ..... already out of date when people **5** ..... them. In the workplace, this **6** ..... that business was mostly conducted locally, over relatively short distances.

When Alexander Graham Bell **7** ..... the telephone in 1876 it **8** ..... the foundation for the communication systems we have today. The telephone **9** ..... two people to communicate instantly across a great distance. Eventually computers **10** ..... typewriters and dramatically **11** ..... the speed of our daily work life. Nowadays the Internet is an essential part of every business.

However, it is not just communications that have changed. Only 50 years ago most people **12** ..... (not) a car. People **13** ..... to work or **14** ..... bicycles. Changes in travel as well as the increased speed of communications have led to the global business world that we have today.



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