

## Social Issues

### Exercise 1

Listen to a radio interview about maintaining a good work-life balance and choose the best answer.

1. How popular is Chris Svensson's book?

- A. Not very popular
- B. Very popular
- C. It's new. People don't know it yet.

2. What is the work-life balance like in traditional workplaces?

- A. Work lives and private lives are clearly divided.
- B. People work too much overtime and so they have no private life.
- C. People are free to manage the balance themselves.

3. How often do people do overtime?

- A. Often
- B. Sometimes
- C. They don't.

4. In traditional workplaces, do people work at weekends or when on holiday?

- A. Yes, it's normal.
- B. No, never.
- C. Usually, they don't.

5. How has technology helped people work with more flexibility?

- A. They can send and receive emails from their phones from home.
- B. Their working hours can be easily tracked.
- C. Robots can do their work for them.

6. Traditional divisions between work and life are fading. What does this mean for employees?

- A. Everyone has to do overtime, all the time.
- B. People have to work while they're on holiday.
- C. They can be flexible to work when and where it suits them.

## Exercise 2

Listen to a team meeting about diversity and decide whether the following sentences are **True** or **False**.

	True	False
1. The team has grown and become more diverse in the past year.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Everyone in the team respects and values everyone else.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. They're going to create a workplace charter to encourage diversity, equality and inclusion.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. They're going to involve the whole team when creating the charter.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. They have already run some successful workshops this year.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Nina has already shared some positive research.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### Exercise 3

People are talking about issues. Which issue do they think is most important right now?

Listen and circle the correct answer.

1 a water pollution

b air pollution

2 a unemployment

b crime

3 a public transportation

b housing

4 a government

b unemployment

5 a public transportation

b unemployment

6 a education

b health

### Exercise 4

What issues are these people talking about? Listen and circle the correct answer.

1 a air pollution

b water pollution

c overpopulation

3 a poverty

b overpopulation

c war

5 a air pollution

b garbage

c unemployment

2 a global warming

b water pollution

c unemployment

4 a crime

b traffic

c air pollution

6 a housing

b poverty

c crime

## Exercise 5

Listen to a talk on very large cities, or "megacities." Why do people move from the country to megacities? Listen and check (✓) the reasons you hear.

	Reason	Not a reason
1 They want to find work.		
2 They want to be farmers.		
3 They think salaries will be higher.		
4 They think the work will be easier.		
5 They think the people will be friendly.		
6 They think city life will be glamorous.		
7 They want to be on television.		
8 They want better health care.		

## Exercise 6

Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

1. Mia thinks that thirty years ago \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. life was simpler
  - B. the pace of life was faster
  - C. people were happier
  
2. Mia thinks that email puts pressure on people because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. people's computers crash
  - B. emails sometimes don't arrive
  - C. we are expected to give an instant response
  
3. Tom says that Beijing has grown because people \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. don't have as much money as before
  - B. came from around the world to get rich
  - C. came from all over China to make money
  
4. Tom says that life in the countryside \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. has changed enormously because of new technology
  - B. will never change because people do not have access to technology
  - C. has not changed that much, but people have more technology
  
5. Owen says that living conditions around the world \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. are improving, even though many people are still living in terrible poverty
  - B. are terrible and are going in the wrong direction
  - C. are not improving, and more and more people are living in poverty

6. Owen thinks that there are \_\_\_\_\_.  
○ A. fewer wars than before, but weapons are getting more dangerous  
○ B. more wars than before, and weapons are getting more dangerous  
○ C. the same number of wars as before, and weapons are getting safer

## Exercise 7

Listen to the recording and answer the questions.

5. What does the girl do once a month?

- A. She visits a recycling center.
- B. She cleans a neighborhood park.
- C. She collects newspapers.

### **Exercise 8**

Match the photos (A-D) to the topics (1-4). Then listen to four people talking about fake news. Which topics do they discuss?



1	a food that sounds disgusting	_____
2	stories about health and medicine	_____
3	celebrities and their private lives	_____
4	something surprising in space	_____

## Exercise 9

Listen to the beginning of a radio programme about global warming and complete these notes.

### Global Warming

#### 1. Problems

- In Britain
  - Hot weather is causing problems with:
    - ◆ (1) \_\_\_\_\_
    - ◆ Sleep
    - ◆ (2) \_\_\_\_\_ - 100 people have (3) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Temperatures above 30°C are becoming more (4) \_\_\_\_\_
- Around the world
  - Europe is having the hottest summer in (5) \_\_\_\_\_ years
  - In Antarctica, the ice is melting.
  - Temperatures will rise by 5°C in the next (6) \_\_\_\_\_ years.
  - (7) \_\_\_\_\_ in India.
  - Fires in (8) \_\_\_\_\_
  - More cyclones in the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ Pacific.

#### 2. Reasons

##### Experts say:

- Temperatures are rising because there is too much (10) \_\_\_\_\_
- It is part of a natural cycle and we are not causing it.

## Exercise 10

Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

1. Sophie

- A. is a student.
- B. is a teacher.
- C. works with technology.

2. Sophie thinks people concentrate better

- A. when they use technology.
- B. without technology.
- C. when they wear headphones.

3. Luis doesn't like

- A. newspapers and food in the subway.
- B. food at work.
- C. the government.

4. What punishment does Luis suggest?

- A. cleaning the subway
- B. paying some money
- C. cleaning the streets

5. Pamela loves

- A. her older friends.
- B. being old.
- C. technology.

6. What punishment does Pamela suggest?

- A. reading emails from her
- B. writing spam messages
- C. reading spam messages