

Vocabulary/Grammar activities

Unit 1

A Complete the sentences with these phrasal verbs in the correct form.

blow away break through come up against fall through
get ahead hang on knuckle down pull off

- I'd better _____ and do some work or I'll never make the deadline on this project.
- Paul and I were going to start a business together but unfortunately our plans _____ at the last minute.
- _____ I'll be with you in a minute.
- How do you expect to _____ with your studies if you keep missing classes?
- Susan was _____ when she got offered the promotion.
- Everyone thought it was impossible to close that deal, but Bill managed to _____ it _____.
- Very few women have ever succeeded in _____ the 'glass ceiling' and getting a high position in a large corporation.
- He _____ a lot of difficulties when he decided to go abroad to study, but nothing could keep him from his dream.

B Circle the correct answers.

- You have to be prepared to work hard if you want to **achieve / accomplish** your goals.
- The office is equipped with cutting edge **data / digital** technology.
- Paula **insisted / persisted** that I accept her proposal. She just wouldn't take no for an answer.
- Our firm is proud that we never **distinguish / discriminate** among our employees based on gender or race.
- He is a very **industrial / industrious** young man – always the first to arrive and the last to leave the office.
- I need your help in **solving / resolving** some problems I'm having with this project.
- Samantha got into medical school and is well on her way to **understanding / realising** her dream of becoming a doctor.
- I chose this profession because I love it, even though I always knew I would never accrue great **riches / richness** from it.
- Just because the last business you tried to set up was a **defeat / failure**, it doesn't mean you shouldn't try again.
- New technologies are bringing about a(n) **revolution / evolution** in the way we teach.

C Choose the correct answers.

- How _____ you _____ at your interview this morning?
a are ... doing b did ... do c have ... done
- When he retired, Jason _____ for the same firm for 45 years!
a has been working b is working c had been working
- Don't keep the line busy, please. I _____ a very important call.
a expect b am expecting c have been expecting
- Many great inventions were made by accident, while scientists _____ something completely different.
a were researching b researched c had been researching
- When you _____ as much as Arthur has, you have a different way of looking at things.
a have travelled b travelled c had travelled
- What time _____ our plane _____ tomorrow?
a is ... leaving b does ... leave c has ... left
- Tina _____ always _____ to get things done on time.
a is ... managing b has ... managed c has ... been managing
- You _____ always _____ others for your mistakes. This has to stop right now!
a have ... blamed b had ... blamed c are ... blaming

D Complete the sentences using the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 I _____ (think) about looking for a new job for some time now.
- 2 The professor claimed that the student _____ (cheat) on his exams all along.
- 3 Where were you when I _____ (work) all day to finish the project before the deadline?
- 4 I _____ (not come) into the office tomorrow; I've taken the day off.
- 5 The weather seems to be getting worse. _____ (you / bring) an umbrella with you?
- 6 You _____ (look) really tired. Why don't you go home and get some rest?
- 7 Sarah _____ (cook) for her guests all day, and in the end, she was too tired to enjoy her own party!
- 8 By the time he turned thirty, Steve _____ (already / make) his first million.
- 9 My mum _____ (teach) me to play the piano when I was a kid.
- 10 He is such a self-centred man that he believes the whole world _____ (revolve) around him.
- 11 Sorry I didn't have time to return your call. I _____ (type up) reports all morning.
- 12 _____ (you / decide) when you want to take your holiday this year, yet?