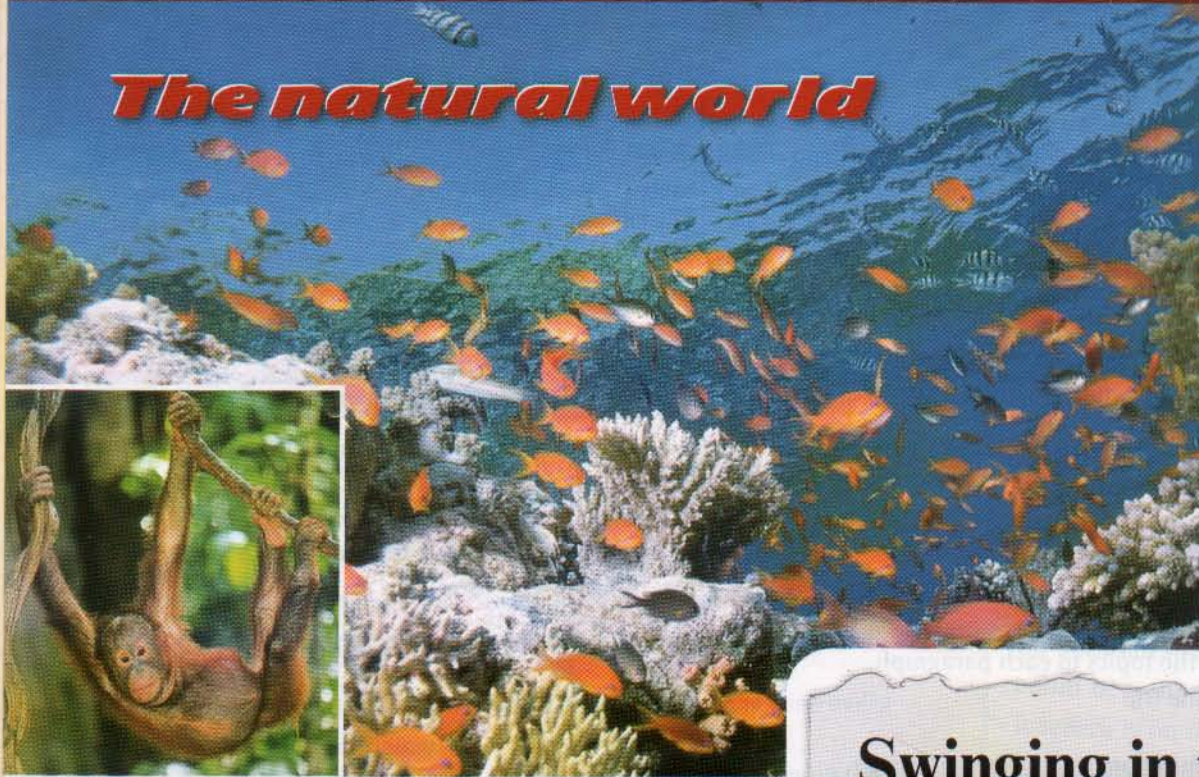


4 A helping hand

The natural world



Test your knowledge. Here are some facts about the natural world. Put these words in the correct places in sentences 1–10.

- jungles • orang-utan • conservationist
- global warming • habitat • capercaillie
- coral reef • ecosystem • cheetahs • food chain

- 1 A place where an animal or a plant lives is called its habitat.
- 2 Global warming is one of the biggest threats to the natural world today.
- 3 If the plants in a(n) ecosystem are destroyed, dependent wildlife might starve.
- 4 A(n) ecosystem sustains a great variety of plant and animal life in the sea.
- 5 A(n) ecosystem is a habitat and the group of plants or animals that live in it.
- 6 The capercaillie belongs to an endangered species of bird.
- 7 Cheetahs are the fastest land mammals.
- 8 Jungles are tropical lands overgrown with vegetation and forests.
- 9 A(n) orang-utan is a large, red, long-haired ape that lives in the wild.
- 10 A(n) conservationist is someone who tries to reduce the damage done to the earth by pollution and other human activities.

Swinging in the rainforest

Lucy Wisdom used to swing on the trapezes in a circus. Now she is swinging among the trees of the Sumatran rainforest, teaching orphaned orang-utans what should have come naturally.

Helpless young orang-utans have been arriving almost daily into Lucy's care at the Bohorok rehabilitation centre, usually after they have been in captivity for a couple of years or more. Regarded as charming when tiny, they soon outgrow their cages and are sometimes close to starvation when they appear at the centre.

Being 'mother' to a growing proportion of one of the world's most endangered species is not for the faint-hearted, yet it is something in which Lucy clearly revels. 'I feel so lucky when I'm surrounded by the apes,' she says. 'I feel safe in the jungle with the apes when I am doing practical stuff.'

Her mission is certainly practical. She has been setting up a website, trying to gain global charity status and recruiting rock stars in her campaign to save the orang-utans, whose numbers have fallen by three-quarters since the mid-1970s. But Lucy's superhuman contribution to saving and rehabilitating infant apes lies in the fact that most of her adulthood has been spent as a performing artist and acrobat. She may not talk to the animals like Dr Doolittle, but Lucy thinks nothing of climbing 20-metre high trees and peeling patches of bark with her teeth to show young orang-utans what they should be doing.

Skills

1 True or false?

Exam training

True or false? Read each statement carefully before you decide, as the statements may be partially true but not completely true.

Read the article about Lucy Wisdom and decide whether statements 1–10 are true or false.

- 1 Lucy has not always worked as a conservationist. *T*
- 2 The orang-utans Lucy looks after are usually brought in from the wild. *F*



'There is an intensely strong tie between mother and baby, and if that's broken, the infants don't learn anything,' she explains. 'I go into the forest and use my trapeze skills to help teach the small apes how to climb.'

It is little wonder that Lucy feels she has arrived at her life's calling. There can be few jobs which need acrobatic training and stage experience – another skill she is about to utilise to organise a touring show to educate youngsters about the importance of conservation. Yet, as the need increases to provide an even stronger safety net for the ever-decreasing population of orang-utans, the Bohorok centre was forced to close its doors to new entrants. Part of the difficulty was the proximity of a wild orang-utan population, which made the local release of previously captive apes impossible and, further afield, the trees have been cut down. Unless funding is raised for a new centre, it will be impossible to look after the large numbers of pets which owners are now willing to give up. Lucy is now contacting multi-national companies to help her campaign to save the orang-utans.

Orang-utans tend to be solitary animals, noticeably so in older age. This is one of the reasons they have been less studied than other apes such as chimpanzees – even though they are 96.4% genetically linked to humans and appear to share many characteristics with us. They even suffer from the same diseases as we do. With the help of Lucy and people like her, the future of these gentle giants may well be assured.

Lisa Buckingham Guardian Society

- 3 Lucy feels the jungle is a dangerous place. *F*
- 4 Lucy has turned to famous people to help her in her work. *T*
- 5 Lucy is one of the few people able to help orang-utans learn vital life skills. *T*
- 6 Baby orang-utans have a close relationship with both parents. *F*
- 7 Lucy aims to use her acting experience to teach people about conservation. *T*
- 8 The area Lucy works in is in desperate need of a new centre. *T*
- 9 Orang-utans spend a lot of time in groups. *F*
- 10 Orang-utans are not as similar to humans as other apes. *F*

Vocabulary

2 Nouns

Match the nouns on the left with the meanings on the right.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| <i>d</i> 1 captivity | <i>a</i> setting free |
| <i>f</i> 2 starvation | <i>b</i> giving or supplying something together with others |
| <i>e</i> 3 status | <i>c</i> helping to return to a useful life |
| <i>b</i> 4 contribution | <i>d</i> not being free |
| <i>a</i> 5 release | <i>e</i> a fight for or against something |
| <i>g</i> 6 survival | <i>f</i> suffering or dying from lack of food |
| <i>e</i> 7 campaign | <i>g</i> remaining alive or in existence |
| <i>c</i> 8 rehabilitation | <i>h</i> a social or professional position |

3 Adjectives and their opposites

A Find words in the article which mean the opposite of these explanations. The first two letters are given to help you.

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 able to manage by oneself | <i>capable of</i> | <i>helpless</i> |
| 2 having an unpleasant manner | | <i>charming</i> |
| 3 extremely large | | <i>tiny</i> |
| 4 brave or courageous | | <i>fearful</i> – he <i>used</i> |
| 5 becoming bigger in number | | <i>decreasing</i> |
| 6 nearer | | <i>further</i> |
| 7 living with others / not alone | | <i>solitary</i> |
| 8 aggressive | | <i>gentle</i> |

B Give one or two examples of nouns these opposites could be used to describe.

Example

- 1 a helpless baby

Time to talk?

What other animals in the world are facing extinction? Why is it important to try and save animals from extinction? What else can humans do to preserve the world around them?

Rescue

Listening skills

1 Multiple choice questions 12

You are going to hear a man called Nigel speaking on a radio programme about dogs that help to save people's lives in Scotland. Before you listen, read through the questions carefully, then as you listen, choose the correct answer.

Exam training

Multiple choice questions Put a dot • beside the answer you think is correct when you listen the first time, then make your final choice when listening for the second time.

- 1 Nigel is suffering from
 - a shock after a fall.
 - b a broken hip.
 - c nothing at all.
 - d hypothermia.
- 2 Nigel is on the radio programme because he is
 - a dog handler.
 - b a pet owner.
 - c a reporter.
 - d a climber.
- 3 What is the purpose of the weekend activity Nigel is talking about?
 - a to find people who are suitable to train rescue dogs
 - b to assess the risks of climbing in the Scottish mountains
 - c to give dogs on rescue teams some further training
 - d to decide which dogs and handlers join rescue teams
- 4 Good rescue dogs are those which, amongst other things, can be trained
 - a to keep calm in unusual situations.
 - b not to go anywhere near farm animals.
 - c to get used to the noise of aircraft.
 - d not to touch the rescue flares.
- 5 Which of these facts about the dogs is true?
 - a They are all working dogs.
 - b They were previously police dogs.
 - c They belong to the Royal Air Force (RAF).
 - d They are privately owned.
- 6 Why are dogs particularly suitable for mountain rescue work?
 - a They can run a lot faster than human beings.
 - b They are easier to transport to the site of the search.
 - c They can sniff out a human some distance away.
 - d They can be trained in a very short time.

2 Expressions

Match the expressions in *italic* in 1–6 with the meanings in a–f.

- 1 hypothermia will *finish me off* f
 - 2 the dogs *can't afford to* be nervous c
 - 3 when rescue flares *go off* a
 - 4 today's mountain rescue *owes a lot to* e
 - 5 rescue has *come a long way since* b
 - 6 the dogs haven't *lost their touch* d
- a explode
b make a lot of progress
c are not in a position to
d no longer have the ability
e has a lot to thank somebody for
f kill me

3 Weak form words 13

A Which of these groups of words would you expect to have weak forms?

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| • prepositions | • nouns |
| • auxiliaries | • verbs |
| • articles | • adjectives |
| • pronouns | • adverbs |

B Listen to the weak form words (in *italics*) in this sentence. I'm playing *the* role of a climber.

C Circle the words you think will be stressed in 1–8, then listen to the sentences and underline the weak form words.

- 1 but I can hear an excited bark
- 2 I'm here to cover the annual assessment weekend...
- 3 it's a tough test
- 4 when they're being winched up into a helicopter
- 5 who was invited to Switzerland to see the work of avalanche dogs
- 6 it's me next
- 7 I needn't worry...
- 8 it'll only be a matter of minutes

D Now read out sentences 1–8, paying special attention to the weak form words.



Speaking skills

4 Exclamations

Which of the expressions in 1–9 are used to express:

- a praise?
- b sympathy or comfort?
- c a refusal or unwillingness to do something?

- 1 Never mind!
- 2 Bad luck!
- 3 Not if I can help it!
- 4 Well done!
- 5 Never again!
- 6 Not on your life!
- 7 Too bad!
- 8 What a pity / shame!
- 9 Not to worry!

Use one of the exclamations in A 1–9 to comment on these sentences, then add a comment of your own.

Example

- I can't find my homework diary.
- Never mind! You can phone one of your friends for the homework.

- 1 I broke my toe in a skiing accident.
- 2 I can't go to the cinema with you tonight.
- 3 Are you playing in the football match on Saturday?
- 4 I've come first in the English test!
- 5 I failed my driving test yesterday.
- 6 Are you going to try and get a part-time job in the summer holidays?
- 7 I didn't manage to get a ticket for the concert on Friday.
- 8 I've been chosen for the lead in the school play.

5 Problem-solving

Imagine you and a group of friends are going on a mountain activity weekend in your own country. First, decide where to go, how to get there, and which two activities to do. *How can I...?* shows you how to interrupt politely when you want to express your point of view.

- skiing • walking • climbing • paragliding
- bungee jumping • snowboarding

How can I...?

Interrupt politely

- Could I just say something?
- Actually, I'd just like to say ...
- Sorry to interrupt but ...
- Sorry to butt in, but ...
- Oh, while I remember / before I forget ...

Which things from the list might be essential and which could you manage without on your activity weekend?

- tent • food supplies • ice axe • anorak • matches
- sleeping bag • compass • mobile phone • rope • boots
- first aid kit • binoculars

What would you do and/or say if:

- 1 you discovered your equipment was faulty?
- 2 one member of the group had an accident or fell ill?
- 3 it suddenly started to snow heavily?
- 4 you ran out of food or water?
- 5 your shelter was damaged in a storm?

6 Researching a short presentation

You are preparing a short presentation (2-3 minutes) on natural disasters. Which of the following sources of information do you think would be the most accessible and the most useful? Why?

- your local library
- an encyclopaedia
- newspapers and magazines
- people's personal accounts

Can you think of any other sources of information?

7 Assembling your information

Group the information you have found into different categories. You might choose to deal with:

- different kinds of disasters.
- famous rescues.
- advice for people who find themselves in dangerous situations.

Can you think of any other types of information to include?

Make notes to help you remember what to say in your presentation. Keep them short, however.

8 Giving your presentation

When you give your presentation think about the following:

- Try to relax and speak confidently. Your audience will be more interested in what you are saying.
- Don't forget to keep an eye on the time. Try not to overrun or finish too soon.
- Don't speak too quickly or too quietly. Maintain a steady pace and pause for breath.

Now give your presentation to the class.

Vocabulary

1 Word building

Complete these newspaper extracts with the correct form of the word in brackets.

According to new statistics, last year saw the most ¹ dramatic (drama) storms and droughts for ten years. The worst-hit countries were in the third world, where extreme weather resulted in ² starvation (starve) and homelessness. Scientists say that increased global ³ pollution (pollute) is making a significant ⁴ contribution (contribute) to climatic changes.

According to the Worldwide Fund for Nature, the ⁵ survival (survive) of Europe's bears, lynxes and wolves is being threatened. Some species are on the brink of ⁶ extinction (extinct). There have been several ⁷ conservation (conserve) programmes, but attempts to raise species such as the Iberian lynx in ⁸ captivity (captive) have failed. The continuing ⁹ destruction (destroy) of the lynxes' habitat means that it will probably die out over the next fifty years.

2 Environmental problems

A Match the environmental problems in 1–6 with their definitions a–f.

- 1 global warming o
- 2 acid rain e
- 3 endangered species f
- 4 severe drought b
- 5 chemical pollution c
- 6 oil slick a

- a area of oil that floats on the sea
- b long dry period
- c substance that makes the environment dirty and dangerous
- d increase in temperature of the Earth's atmosphere
- e rain that has been affected by factory pollution
- f animals or plants that are close to extinction

B Complete these sentences with one of the phrases 1–6 in A.

- 1 Scientists say that unless ¹ global warming is stopped, rising temperatures will cause disastrous floods in low-lying countries.
- 2 ² acid rain caused by pollution in the atmosphere has destroyed many trees in Northern Europe.
- 3 A lot of river wildlife has been killed by ³ endangered species from factories.
- 4 In 1998, a ⁴ severe drought in Africa caused widespread famine.
- 5 Some ⁵ chemical pollution, such as the Iberian lynx, have been hunted almost to extinction.
- 6 The ⁶ oil slick had a disastrous effect on seabirds and marine life.

3 Adjectives with -less and -ful

Complete the sentences with one of the words below plus the correct suffix: *less* or *ful*. There may be more than one answer for each gap.

- harm • success • care • home • help

- 1 After his fall, the climber lay helpless until a rescue team arrived.
- 2 Leaving litter in the countryside is careless and irresponsible.
- 3 Global warming is having a harmful effect on the environment.
- 4 *Shelter* is a British charity devoted to helping the homeless.
- 5 Recycling paper, glass and aluminium cans is a successful way of reducing pollution.
- 6 The demonstration against nuclear energy was very successful. Lots of people attended.

4 Prefixes

A Add these prefixes to the words in brackets to complete the sentences.

- post • mis • sub • super • trans • inter

- 1 After she finished her science degree, Emma decided to do (graduate) research in maths.
- 2 Sarah (understood) Jeff's directions and arrived at the party late.
- 3 Psychoanalysis involves the study of the (conscious) mind.
- 4 Last month there was an important (national) conference about global warming.
- 5 It took Hannah three months to complete her (continental) journey across Asia.
- 6 Madonna is one of the most successful pop (stars) in the world.

B Now match the prefixes in A with their meanings a–f.

- a wrongly
- b across
- c between
- d over / beyond
- e under
- f after

Speaking

5 Role-play

A You are going to talk about a natural disaster. First choose one from the list.

- avalanche • tornado • tidal wave • earthquake
- river flood • volcanic eruption

B Turn to page 141. Read your instructions, make notes to help you to prepare for the task, then act out the role-play.

C Now change roles and choose another natural disaster from the list in A.

6 The right word

Choose the correct option, a, b or c, in gaps 1–14 to complete the text below.

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1 a faint-hearted | b strong-hearted | c warm-hearted |
| 2 a went | b took | c made |
| 3 a started over | b started off | c started up |
| 4 a happened | b came | c struck |
| 5 a fell down | b dropped down | c went down |
| 6 a adventure | b operation | c ordeal |
| 7 a climbed out of | b pulled out of | c moved out of |
| 8 a from | b of | c for |
| 9 a second | b point | c minute |
| 10 a pick out | b pick over | c pick up |
| 11 a growing | b doing | c having |
| 12 a sign | b mark | c signal |
| 13 a make | b have | c take |
| 14 a Gratefully | b Thankfully | c Hopefully |

Factfile

A Complete the factfile with the following words and phrases.

- a necessity • the right label • materialistic
- switched off from • possessions • judged on
- purchasing

The generation which has everything

According to a recent survey, British teenagers are more ¹ materialistic than ever before. Most have expensive trainers with ² switched off from, mountain bikes in the garage and home entertainment systems in their bedrooms. In fact, high-tech ³ possessions are the most popular items amongst teenagers. More own a television set (83 per cent) than a book (80 per cent), and nearly a quarter want a computer.

But is this really materialism or is it something else? 'What young people are actually doing is ⁴ a badge of belonging,' explains Jo Gardiner, from the Industrial Society: 'If they don't own a CD player for example, they are ⁵ judged on youth music culture, so this becomes ⁶ a necessity rather than a luxury.'

'We are ⁷ switched off from everything,' agreed 17-year-old Jessica Stuart. 'What clothes we have, what trainers we wear, even what walkman we have. That's why these things are so important.'

B Discuss these questions with a partner.

- 1 What type of possessions are important to you? Are they necessities or luxuries?
- 2 Do you agree that your friends judge you by your possessions?

Saved from an icy hell

When Mike Stringer was invited to go on an introductory Alpine course, he got more than he bargained for.

Climbing mountains is not for the ¹ faint-hearted. We set off from our Alpine chalet at 4 a.m. and ² took our way to the Weissmies mountain. Our guide assured us that it would be an 'easy' 4,000-metre climb, but although things ³ went well, by 9 a.m. the weather was getting bad. We were about 100 metres from the top of the mountain, when disaster ⁴ struck. My friend Damon slipped suddenly and ⁵ created a narrow opening in the rock. One of the guides held onto Damon's rope, but several rocks ⁶ fell and hit Damon's leg. Silence, shouts, silence again. A simple accident was going to turn an easy climb into a major rescue ⁷ operation. Damon was slowly ⁸ pulled the crevice and on to the snow slope. He was suffering ⁹ from a broken leg, so one of the guides suggested calling the emergency services. It was

at that ¹⁰ point that the limitations of modern technology became apparent. All of our mobile phones failed to get any connection. Bruce, our second guide, began an hour's climb downhill where he hoped to ¹¹ get a signal. Four hours later it was ¹² very cold and damp and there was still no ¹³ sign of a rescue team. If we stayed where we were, no one would arrive before nightfall which meant a freezing, sleepless night at 3,800 metres. But should we ¹⁴ take the risk of moving Damon?

It was 2 p.m. when we finally decided to lower Damon down the snow slope. ¹⁵ Soon we hadn't got far when we spotted the rescue teams. Soon a helicopter was circling above us and Damon was winched up to safety. In future I'll think twice before climbing a mountain.

Vincent London *The Observer*

Let's focus on continuous tenses

Quick quiz

There are some mistakes in these sentences. Can you correct them?

- I'm getting up at 7 every morning.
- I've been visiting Scotland twice.
- I was coming home from school when it was starting to rain.

1 True or false? 14

A Read the statements, then listen and decide whether they are true or false.

- For the last 17 years, Percy Ross has been making a fortune from his bin bag business. *column*
- Mr Ross has also been editing several newspapers. *several of million*
- Percy is now almost coming to the end of his money. *old his company*
- He is going to keep what remains of his wealth. *family*
- He has always had plenty of money.
- He was going to give his money to deserving causes but he changed his mind.
- He is now considering hosting his own TV show.

B Explain in your own words what kind of life Percy Ross has had.

C What is your opinion of what Percy has been doing?

2 The present continuous for temporary actions

We can use the present continuous for temporary actions and situations that are happening 'around now' but not necessarily at the moment of speaking.

- What are you doing?
- I'm making phone calls.
- Peter's working in Italy at the moment.
- Jack's living with a friend until his new flat is ready.

A What's the difference between a and b in these pairs of sentences?

- a I write letters.

b I'm writing letters.
- a Isabelle's working in New York for a month. *temporary - distant*

b Isabelle works in New York. *permanent - now*
- a I eat a lot of fruit. *habit*

b I'm eating a lot of fruit these days. *temporary - now*

B Write two examples of your own to show the difference between the present simple and the present continuous for temporary actions.

3 The present continuous with always

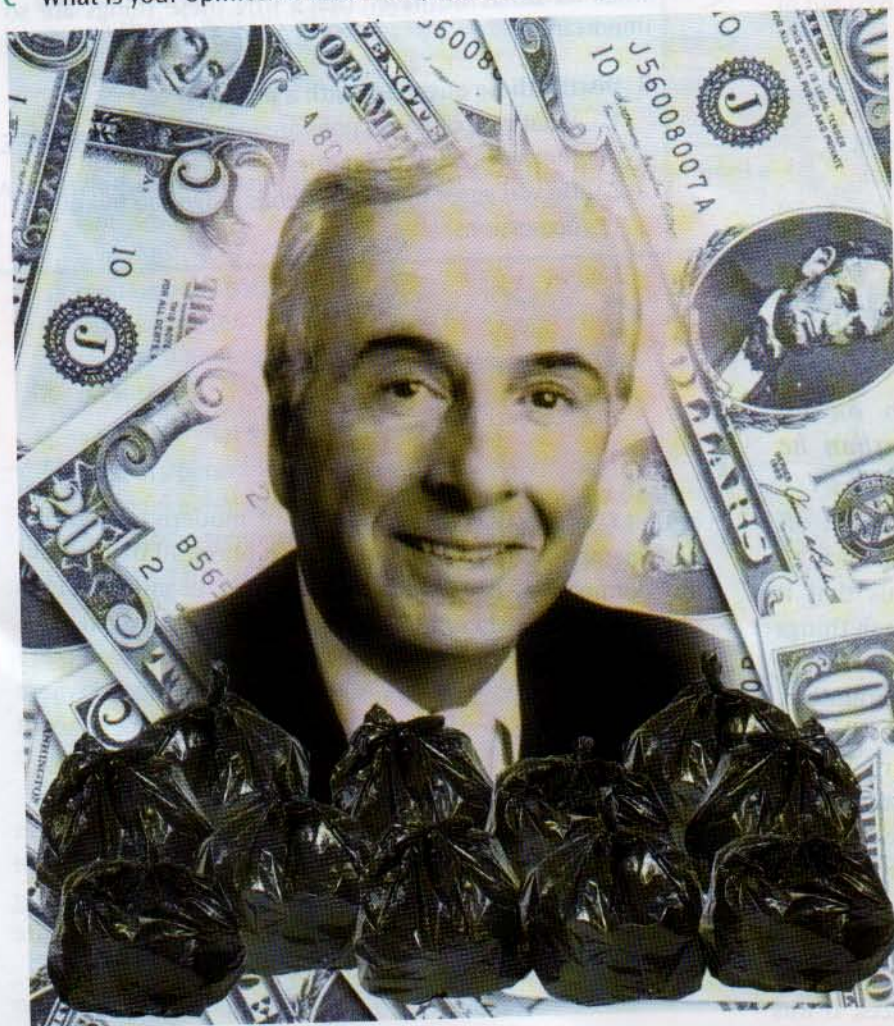
A What's the difference in meaning between these two sentences?

- Percy is always supporting worthy causes. *has to*
- Percy always supports worthy causes. *always*

B Decide what emotions the speaker is expressing in these sentences with *always*.

- I'm always being asked for money for charities. *angry*
- I'm always making the same mistake in my homework! *frustrated*
- My brother's always winning prizes in competitions. *amused*
- Our neighbours are always making a noise when we're trying to go to sleep. *angry*
- My parents are always telling me to tidy up my room. *irritated*

C Think of two examples of your own to describe something which makes you feel like the speaker in B.



4 The present perfect continuous or the present perfect?

In some of these pairs of sentences, both sentences are correct, in others they are not. Which sentences are not correct?

- 1 a For the last 17 years, Percy *has been giving away* the fortune he made from his bin bag business.
b Percy *has given away* the fortune he made from his bin bag business.
- 2 a He says he *has always believed* his health would give out before his wealth.
b He says he *has always been believing* his health would give out before his wealth.
- 3 a Now the money *has gone*.
b Now the money *has been going*.
- 4 a ... which he *has decided* to give to anyone who comes up with an idea to improve road safety.
b ... which he *has been deciding* to give to anyone who comes up with an idea to improve road safety.

Explain why you think the incorrect sentences are wrong.

Put the verbs in these sentences into their correct form.

- 1 I _____ (study) English for three years now.
- 2 _____ you ever _____ (be) to New Zealand?
- 3 Mary _____ (try) to talk to John on the phone all week.
- 4 I _____ finally _____ (decide) to go to university when I finish school.
- 5 How long _____ you _____ (wait) for me?
- 6 The time _____ (come) to make a decision about your future.
- 7 What _____ you _____ (do) all morning?
- 8 My mother's new business _____ already _____ (make) a lot of money.
- 9 My father's business _____ (go) bankrupt.
- 10 Percy's money _____ (make) a big difference to many people's lives.

5 The past continuous or the past simple?

Which verb in bold in the sentence below suggests that:

- a the action went on for some time?
- b the action happened quickly or 'interrupted' something else?

*I met someone really interesting while I **was doing** a language course in London.*

B Does the verb in bold in the sentence below mean:

- a this happened?
- b this didn't happen?

*I **was going to go** to the local secondary school but my parents decided to send me abroad to study.*

C Rewrite these sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 Percy's family (live) in Michigan when he (be) born.
- 2 His family (be) very poor when they (arrive) in America.
- 3 Percy (work) hard to make money.
- 4 Percy (go) to keep his money but he (decide) to give it to worthy causes instead.
- 5 Percy (launch) a radio show some years ago.
- 6 People (always phone) in with their hard luck stories.
- 7 Percy (always send) them money to help them out.
- 8 Percy (think) of retiring when he (be) offered the chance of hosting a TV show.

Let's activate!

6 Give while you live!

Work in pairs. Imagine that one of you (Student B) has suddenly become very wealthy and has decided to use his or her money to help others. The other (Student A) is the host of a TV chat show and has invited the new millionaire to appear on the show.

Student A

You are the chat show host.

Ask questions about:

- 1 what / were doing / usually did before / became wealthy.
- 2 what / were going to do with the money before / decided to give it away.
- 3 what / have been doing / have done with some of / money.
- 4 whether / all the money is now being used to help others.
- 5 how / decide who to give the money to.
- 6 if being poor again is changing / attitude to life.
- 7 whether / think money is the most important thing in life.

Student B

You are the new millionaire.

Answer your host's questions.

A trip to Scotland

- A** What do you know about Scotland? What would you expect to see or do in Scotland? Think about the climate, the food, the people and the customs.
- B** Would you like to visit Scotland? Why (not)?

Studying the sample

1 Understanding the task

- A** Bob lives in London but he has some cousins in New Zealand who are coming to visit Britain. Read part of the letter Bob received from them.

Bob, we'd be really grateful if you could arrange a trip to Scotland for us. Ideally, we'd like to travel by train and stay there for five or six days. We're particularly interested in seeing the Scottish scenery and some of the historical sights but, as we've never been there before, we're not sure how to go about it. We arrive in London in the evening on the 11th April and would be able to catch a train around 8 or 9 to Scotland the next morning. Would it be all right for us to stay overnight at your flat? Really looking forward to seeing you.

Yours,

Chris and Sarah

- B** Read Bob's reply to his cousins. Ignore the missing words. Is his letter a) formal or b) informal in style? Give a reason for your answer.

2 Missing words

Choose the correct word, a, b, c or d, to complete gaps 1–12 in Bob's letter.

- | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 1 a give | b pay | c make | d do |
| 2 a upset | b unhappy | c sorry | d miserable |
| 3 a happy | b welcome | c pleased | d invited |
| 4 a still | b yet | c but | d however |
| 5 a that | b who | c whose | d which |
| 6 a pick | b turn | c get | d take |
| 7 a for | b with | c into | d at |
| 8 a assured | b assisted | c assessed | d assumed |
| 9 a much | b many | c far | d long |
| 10 a scene | b scenery | c scenic | d scenario |
| 11 a convicted | b converted | c conveyed | d convinced |
| 12 a my | b the | c best | d many |



Dear Chris and Sarah,

Thanks for your letter. It was great to hear that you are coming to Britain to ¹ _____ us a visit. I'm ² _____ to say that I won't be in London on the evening you arrive, although you're very ³ _____ to stay overnight in the flat. I will, ⁴ _____, be able to meet you when you get back from Scotland. You asked me to arrange a trip to Scotland, ⁵ _____ I've done. I've booked you two seats on the 09.00 train from King's Cross to Edinburgh. You're in Coach B and your seats are 29 and 30. I've left you a note with the details of your trip which I suggest you ⁶ _____ up with the tickets from my flatmate. I've also booked you ⁷ _____ the Lochy Hotel in the centre of Edinburgh for five nights. Edinburgh's a beautiful, historical city with a magnificent castle and the staff have ⁸ _____ me that they can organise excursions anywhere in Scotland for you. As ⁹ _____ as visits go, I can really recommend the Highlands. You can see Ben Nevis, Scotland's highest mountain and the wonderful ¹⁰ _____ of Glencoe, a spectacular mountain valley. You should take a trip to Loch Ness, too - you might see the resident monster, which everyone's ¹¹ _____ lives in the lake. Looking forward to seeing you in London. With ¹² _____ wishes,

Bob

3 Writing notes

Read the note Bob left for his cousins about their trip to Scotland, then underline the same pieces of information in Bob's letter.

¹ train tickets to Edinburgh 12 April
Coach B Seats 29 and 30
² tickets with my flatmate Jake
³ accommodation for 12–16 April
Lochy Hotel, Edinburgh - tel: 01379 207 771
Jake has address
⁴ visits (organised by hotel):
Highlands
Ben Nevis – highest mountain!
Glencoe – valley!
Loch Ness – monster!

Notes should always be brief and informative. They do not have to be written in correct grammatical forms. Rewrite these sentences in note form, leaving out any unnecessary information.

- I have reserved a room for you from May 10th to May 15th at the Highland Hotel on the outskirts of Aberdeen.
- I really think you should visit the islands off the west coast of Scotland because they're fantastic.
- The most beautiful of the islands is Skye, and many people visit Iona because of its historical significance.
- To get to the islands, you can take the ferry from the coast and there is a bridge to Skye from Kyle of Lochalsh.
- On the island of Lewis, you can see the standing stones at Callanish and enjoy the peace and quiet that surrounds them.

Now check with a partner that you have included all the important details.

Steps to better writing

4 Levels of formality

Decide which phrase, a or b, in 1–6 is formal or informal.

- a It was great to hear that ...

b I was extremely pleased to hear that ...
- a I sincerely apologise for not being available.

b I'm sorry to say I won't be there.
- a We are not certain how to organise it.

b We aren't sure how to go about it.
- a You're very welcome to stay.

b It would be convenient for you to stay.
- a You should take a trip to ...

b I would advise you to arrange a visit to ...
- a As far as visits go, ...

b With regard to visits, ...

5 Writing about your own country

Write sentences giving advice to someone visiting your country using these prompts and your own ideas.

- _____ is a _____ city with a _____
- As _____ visits _____ concerned, I can recommend _____
- You should also _____ a visit to _____, where you can see _____
- _____ is also incredibly beautiful.
- Two things _____ is famous for are _____ and _____

Writing your letter and notes

6 Understanding the task

Imagine you have cousins who live abroad and are coming to visit you. You have never met them but they have asked you to make all the arrangements (travel, accommodation and visits) for them to go on a five-day trip to visit a popular tourist area in your country. You are going to write a reply (200–250 words) to their letter and tell them what you have arranged.

7 Using notes to plan a letter

Write short notes under the headings in 1–3 reminding yourself what to tell your cousins in your letter.

Exam training

Including all the necessary information When writing a letter, make sure you include all the necessary details. If you do not, you will lose marks.

- transport:
- accommodation:
- recommended visits:

8 Writing your letter

Decide what other information you might need and include it in the letter, for example,

- how you feel about their visit.
- if you will be there when they arrive.
- where they will pick up tickets.

9 Checking

As you write, check that you have:

- written brief, legible and informative notes.
- included all the necessary information in your note and letter.
- written between 200 and 250 words in your letter.
- used an appropriate informal style.

Vocabulary

1 Words that go together

Choose the correct words or phrases to complete the sentences.

- If you won millions of pounds, would you _____ your family and friends?
a help out b help over c help along
- Lisa _____ all her old clothes to charity.
a gave up b gave over c gave away
- Scientists have _____ with a new type of car engine to help reduce pollution.
a come up b come away c come across
- If you want to make _____ money, you ought to become a lawyer.
a much b plenty of c many
- In his will, Sir John left a lot of property to _____ causes.
a worthy b valuable c precious
- Once Mark had given Zoe the money, it was too late to _____ his mind and ask for it back.
a change b make c modify

2 Money

A Match these adjectives with their opposites.

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1 well-off | a worthless |
| 2 tight-fisted | b over-priced |
| 3 inexpensive | c generous |
| 4 priceless | d hard-up |

B Which adjectives in A can we use to describe a) people? b) things?

C Now complete the sentences with one of the adjectives in A.

- Most students are _____ when they leave university. There is a lot of pressure on them to start earning money.
- People thought that the antique was valuable, but in fact it was a _____ fake.
- The biggest diamond in the world is said to be _____. It's impossible to say how much it is worth.
- Those shoes are very _____. They're £10 cheaper in the shop across the road!
- The rich old man was incredibly _____. He refused to put the heating on in winter.
- Karen looked for a computer in the sales. She wanted something good but _____.

Grammar

3 The present perfect or the present perfect continuous?

Complete the sentences with a verb from the list in the present perfect or the present perfect continuous. Sometimes both forms may be possible.

• look for • see • spend • work • learn • buy • save up • shop

- Eric _____ for the charity Oxfam for three years.
- Stewart won £5,000 on the lottery last month, but he _____ already _____ all of it.
- _____ you ever _____ the game show *Who wants to be a Millionaire*?
- Jo _____ a job ever since she arrived in London.
- Susie _____ for a motorbike for ages. She's planning to buy one next month.
- Dave has been revising for hours. So far he _____ some French and some German.
- Gail _____ this morning. She's already _____ two CDs and a pair of jeans.

4 The past continuous or the past simple?

Choose the past continuous or the past simple form of the verbs.

- I *was talking* / *talked* on my mobile as I was walking along the road.
- Bryan was watching TV when the pizza *was arriving* / *arrived*.
- Sam was listening to his personal stereo while he *was reading* / *read* a magazine.
- Chris couldn't go skateboarding because he *was hurting* / *hurt* his ankle.
- While I *waited* / *was waiting* for the train to arrive, I made a few phone calls.
- I *was studying* / *studied* in the library when Linda walked in.

5 Other uses of the past continuous

The past continuous can be used to make questions, requests and suggestions sound more indirect and polite.

Could you lend me your dictionary?

→ *I was hoping you could lend me your dictionary.*

Why don't we go away for the weekend?

→ *I was wondering if we could go away for the weekend.*

Rewrite these requests, suggestions and questions using *I was thinking*, *I was wondering* or *I was hoping*.

- Can I borrow your guide book?
I was wondering if I _____
- Let's go to the theatre tonight.
I was thinking that we _____
- Do you have the address of a good hotel?
I was hoping you _____
- Why don't we go sightseeing this afternoon?
I was thinking we _____
- Have you got a room with a sea view?
I was wondering if you _____
- Do you know a good place to eat?
I was hoping you _____

6 Verb tenses

Complete the text with the verbs in brackets in the appropriate tense.

A dream come true

1 _____ (you / ever dream) of winning the lottery? Every weekend thousands of people imagine winning the million-pound jackpot and last week one person's dream 2 _____ (come) true.

When Rob White 3 _____ (buy) his lottery ticket, he had no idea that he would soon be a millionaire. We asked him what he was doing when he 4 _____ (find out).

'I 5 _____ (cook) dinner while my girlfriend was checking the lottery numbers,' says Rob. 'When she 6 _____ (rush in) to tell me I'd won, it was the best moment of my life.'

Once he knew he was the winner, Rob 7 _____ (not waste) any time. 'I immediately went to a local car showroom and 8 _____ (buy) a Ferrari,' he said. 'I 9 _____ (not need) any money, I just showed the salesman my winning ticket.'

Since then Rob 10 _____ (spend) non-stop. So far he 11 _____ (buy) a luxury holiday in the Caribbean, a five-bedroomed house and he 12 _____ (just / spend) £90,000 on a yacht. 'People 13 _____ (always / tell) me how lucky I am,' he says. 'And they're right.'

But 14 _____ (he / save) any money? 'Not yet,' says Rob. 'I'd rather enjoy it. I 15 _____ (work) hard all my life, now I want to have some fun.'

B Now choose the best option, a or b, to fill gaps 1–8 in the letter.

- 1 a It's great news that
b I was pleased to hear that
- 2 a I am sorry to say that
b I'm really sorry but
- 3 a I'll be back for
b I will return for
- 4 a you are quite welcome to stay at
b you can use
- 5 a The best thing to do is to
b It is advisable to
- 6 a As far as sightseeing is concerned
b As for things to see and do
- 7 a I recommend to you
b you really must go on
- 8 a Can't wait to see you
b I look forward to seeing you

8 Writing notes

Look at the note that Beth left for Eva. Expand the notes into sentences.

- 1 Food in fridge – help yourself
 - 2 Elaine has spare key if needed
 - 3 Dishwasher not working!
 - 4 Clean towels in bathroom
 - 5 Plants need water – twice a week
- See you soon,
Beth

Example

1 There is some food in the fridge. You can help yourself to what you want.

Writing

7 An informal letter

A Read the letter quickly and answer the questions. Ignore the gaps.

- 1 What is the relationship between Eva and Beth?
- 2 When is Eva coming to London?
- 3 When is Beth going away?
- 4 How far is Beth's flat from Paddington?
- 5 What activities does Beth recommend?

Dear Eva

Thanks for your letter. 1 _____ you're coming to London this Easter. However, 2 _____ I won't be here during your first week. I'm actually on a training course in Brighton! But don't worry, 3 _____ the end of your stay and 4 _____ my flat while I'm away. In your letter you asked me about how to get from Heathrow to central London. 5 _____ take the Heathrow Express from the airport. It only takes half an hour to get to Paddington. And once you're there it's just a couple of stops to my flat (I've enclosed a map of the underground with directions).

6 _____, there are lots of historical sights to visit in London. You could spend a whole afternoon walking round Buckingham Palace, and for a good view of the city 7 _____ the London Eye. You'll have to book this in advance as it's really popular. Another good place to visit is Covent Garden. There are plenty of trendy cafés with nice terraces, so you can sit outside and enjoy a cappuccino (if it's not raining!).

I'll leave the flat keys with my friend Elaine (she lives in the flat below). Her mobile number is 607843221, but she'll probably be at home when you arrive.

8 _____,

Love
Beth

Grammar

1 Complete the text with the correct word. Use one word in each gap.

Surviving the storm

Rescuers were searching ¹ for more victims last night after tornadoes struck in Oklahoma injuring 800 people. Entire towns ² were destroyed as the storm raced across mid-west America. Today thousands of people are relying ³ on emergency shelter, food and water after one of the worst storms ⁴ in history. Survivors told ⁵ us they emerged from their basements to find that their houses – and those of their neighbours – had simply vanished. 'It looks ⁶ like if an atom bomb has gone off,' said Kirk Humphreys, mayor of Oklahoma City. Worst hit was the town of Moore, ⁷ which is south of Oklahoma City. Moore resident Lee Ann Richardson, ⁸ who survived by hiding in her storm cellar, said: 'There was no point ⁹ in trying to escape – the only way to protect ¹⁰ us was to get underground. When I came out, I looked ¹¹ at my house, but it just wasn't there.' One tornado was more ¹² than a mile wide. Weathermen described it ¹³ as a 'wall of death', it was the biggest tornado they'd ever seen. A weekend trip to Moore turned ¹⁴ into a nightmare for Chad Harris. Harris, who was inside a trailer ¹⁵ when the tornado struck, said he was lucky to ¹⁶ be alive. 'I couldn't believe ¹⁷ it was happening,' said Mr Harris. 'The trailer rolled over several times. It was the ¹⁸ most frightening experience of my life.' Nurse Ruth Hensley sheltered under a motorway bridge in Moore ¹⁹ and watched the tornadoes pass by. She then helped ²⁰ a injured mother who had just saved ²¹ her 11-year-old son. 'The little boy said he flew up ²² from the air,' she said, 'but his mother managed to catch him and hold him down. Their house was completely destroyed.' The storms are thought to ²³ have reached F5 level – the worst possible for tornadoes. At this level houses are lifted off ²⁴ their foundations, cars fly through the air, and trains are overturned.

Daily Mail

2 Combine these sentences to make relative clauses.

- That's the house. It was hit by a tornado.
- Richard is travelling around the world. He's a student.
- The earthquake completely destroyed the city. It was the worst disaster in living memory.
- The climbers were caught in a snow storm. It lasted four hours.
- The volcano suddenly erupted. It had been inactive for years.
- Jordan is excited about the trip. He has never been skiing before.
- The latest disaster film was released on Friday. It stars Bruce Willis.
- The Natural World* is a very good series. The programme deals with environmental issues.

3 Combine these sentences to make noun clauses.

- You want to go skiing. I don't know why.
- My friends have gone somewhere. I don't know where it is.
- They asked us to do something. It was to complete a questionnaire.
- Someone left behind their dictionary. I don't know who it was.
- I put my glasses somewhere. I remember where.
- Peter is upset about his exam results. I understand why.

4 Rewrite these sentences using the present perfect or the present perfect continuous.

- This is Michael's first trip to Poland. Michael hasn't ____.
- It's been months since I saw Helen. I haven't ____.
- It started raining this morning, and it hasn't stopped. It's ____.
- When did you buy your mobile phone? How long ____?
- The last time I went to a zoo I was ten years old. I haven't ____.
- Chris started playing the computer game an hour ago and he doesn't want to stop. Chris has ____.

5 Complete this newspaper article with the verbs in brackets in the correct tense.

Yesterday sixteen British holidaymakers ¹ ____ (walk) towards the main crater of Mount Etna in Sicily when it ² ____ (start) to erupt. They were just 500 metres from the top when it ³ ____ (happen). 'I ⁴ ____ (take) a photograph of my friend when there ⁵ ____ (be) this terrible noise and ash and lava were thrown into the air,' said tourist Lynn Newton. 'The tour guide just ⁶ ____ (scream) at us to run – and he ⁷ ____ (not need) to tell us twice. It looked like the lava ⁸ ____ (come) straight at us!' The eruption was the volcano's most

Vocabulary

6 Complete the sentences with one of these verbs in the correct form.

- take part in • give away • help out • change • track down
• come up with

- It took Mark a long time ____ a solution to the problem.
- Lara decided ____ her old clothes to charity.
- Sue has ____ her mind three times about where she wants to go on holiday.
- It took the police weeks ____ information about the computer fraud.
- Nicola offered ____ John when he was having trouble with maths.
- David didn't want ____ the football match. He was too tired.

7 Put the words in brackets into the correct form.

- After a severe drought in Africa, thousands of people were dependent on international charities for ____ (survive).
- Tina decided to make a monthly ____ (contribute) to the charity *Friends of the Earth*.
- The avalanche caused millions of pounds worth of damage and ____ (destroy).
- Nowadays there are many endangered species that are on the brink of ____ (extinct).
- A swift and ____ (drama) rescue operation managed to save hundreds of people's lives.
- The increase in air ____ (pollute) means that global warming will continue to get worse.
- Some people think it's cruel to keep wild animals in ____ (captive).
- Environmental organisations are setting up programmes of ____ (conserve) in an attempt to reduce pollution.

violent this year and could be seen for miles. 'I ⁹ ____ (run) over the ash and ice when I ¹⁰ ____ (fall over) and badly hurt my ankle,' said Terry Walker, 'but I had to carry on. Every time I looked behind the black cloud above the volcano ¹¹ ____ (get) bigger and bigger. Fortunately, the eruption only ¹² ____ (last) a few minutes.' 'We ¹³ ____ (go) on the holiday to look at volcanos,' added Lynn, 'but we ¹⁴ ____ (end up) with more than we bargained for!'

8 Complete the sentences with the correct preposition.

- to • as • with • in • on • for

- Tom is obsessed ____ soap operas. He spends hours every day watching TV.
- There's no point ____ telling Mark that he should revise more. He won't take any notice.
- The increase in global warming has had a negative effect ____ the weather.
- Helen has always been interested ____ marine life. That's why she became a marine biologist.
- Working abroad doesn't appeal ____ me. I'd rather live near my family and friends.
- Don't rely ____ Emma to help you. She often lets people down.
- The job advertisement was looking ____ someone who was fluent in two languages.
- Brad regards himself ____ an actor, even though he's never had a job.

Listening

9 You are going to hear four people talking about the influence of television soap operas. Before you listen, read statements a–h carefully.

- Soap operas make it easier for teenagers to talk about their problems.
- Soap operas usually deal with realistic situations.
- British teenagers have picked up American expressions from soap operas.
- Soap operas help to educate teenagers about what is right and what is wrong.
- Some soap operas could have a negative influence on people.
- Teenagers prefer to watch soap operas made for adults rather than children's programmes.
- More TV channels could mean poorer programmes.
- Soap operas help people deal with difficult circumstances.

B Listen to the four speakers for the first time and choose the two statements each speaker makes from options a–h. Write the appropriate letter in each box.

	First statement	Second statement
Speaker 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Speaker 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Speaker 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Speaker 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C Now listen again and check your answers.

D Which opinions do you agree / disagree with? Why?