

ENGLISH GRAMMAR



ADVANCED GRAMMAR AND
VOCABULARY QUIZ BOOK

Jacqueline Melvin

ENGLISH GRAMMAR



ADVANCED GRAMMAR AND
VOCABULARY QUIZ BOOK

Jacqueline Melvin

ENGLISH GRAMMAR

ADVANCED GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY QUIZ BOOK

NOTICE OF RIGHTS

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form, electronic or by any other means, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior written consent from the author.

Copyright © 2019 Jacqueline Melvin

Introduction

If you are looking for a book with a difference then this is the book for you.

Advanced English grammar and vocabulary quiz book has been devised for EFL students who have reached upper intermediate to advanced level of English.

The first part of the book is designed to test your knowledge on multiple meaning words and words that cause confusion.

Grammar structures are also included in quiz form and clear explanations can be found in the answer key that follows each exercise.

What's more, there is also a 'test yourself on prepositions' section as well as exercises on connectors. Modal auxiliary verbs are also dealt with along with other important grammar points. A phrasal verbs quiz completes the book.

Table of contents

INTRODUCTION

MULTIPLE MEANING WORDS EXERCISE ONE

MULTIPLE MEANING WORDS EXERCISE TWO

MULTIPLE MEANING WORDS EXERCISE THREE

MULTIPLE MEANING WORDS EXERCISE FOUR

EXERCISE ONE-ANSWERS

EXERCISE TWO-ANSWERS

EXERCISE THREE-ANSWERS

EXERCISE FOUR-ANSWERS

CONFUSING WORDS EXERCISE ONE

CONFUSING WORDS EXERCISE ONE-ANSWERS

CONFUSING WORDS EXERCISE TWO

CONFUSING WORDS EXERCISE TWO-ANSWERS

CONFUSING WORDS EXERCISE THREE

CONFUSING WORDS EXERCISE THREE-ANSWERS

CONFUSING WORDS EXERCISE FOUR

CONFUSING WORDS EXERCISE FOUR-ANSWERS

CONFUSING WORDS-EXERCISE FIVE

EXERCISE FIVE-ANSWERS

CONFUSING WORDS-EXERCISE SIX

EXERCISE SIX-ANSWERS

CONFUSING WORDS-EXERCISE SEVEN

CONFUSING WORDS-EXERCISE SEVEN-ANSWERS

CONFUSING WORDS-EXERCISE EIGHT

CONFUSING WORDS-EXERCISE EIGHT-ANSWERS

CONFUSING WORDS-EXERCISE NINE

CONFUSING WORDS-EXERCISE NINE

GRAMMAR TEST ONE

INDEFINITE PRONOUNS

GRAMMAR TEST ONE-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST TWO

SINGULAR OR PLURAL

GRAMMAR TEST TWO ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST THREE

COLLOCATIONS ONE

GRAMMAR TEST THREE-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST FOUR

VERB COLLOCATIONS TWO

GRAMMAR TEST FOUR-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST FIVE

VERB COLLOCATIONS THREE

GRAMMAR TEST FIVE-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST SIX

COLLOCATIONS FOUR

GRAMMAR TEST SIX-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST SEVEN

VERB COLLOCATIONS FIVE

GRAMMAR TEST SEVEN-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST EIGHT

COLLOCATIONS SIX

GRAMMAR TEST EIGHT-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST NINE

COLLOCATIONS SEVEN

GRAMMAR TEST NINE-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST TEN

COLLOCATIONS EIGHT

GRAMMAR TEST TEN-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST ELEVEN

MODAL AUXILIARY VERBS SEMI MODALS

GRAMMAR TEST ELEVEN-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST TWELVE

MODAL AUXILIARY VERBS-PRESENT AND PAST ONE

GRAMMAR TEST TWELVE-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST THIRTEEN

MODAL AUXILIARY VERBS-PRESENT AND PAST TWO

GRAMMAR TEST THIRTEEN-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST FOURTEEN

WILL FOR DEDUCTION AND/OR PREDICTION

GRAMMAR TEST FOURTEEN-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST FIFTEEN

CONDITIONALS

GRAMMAR TEST FIFTEEN-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST SIXTEEN

PASSIVE STRUCTURES ONE

GRAMMAR TEST SIXTEEN-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST SEVENTEEN

PASSIVE STRUCTURES TWO

GRAMMAR TEST SEVENTEEN-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST EIGHTEEN

PAST TENSES ONE

GRAMMAR TEST EIGHTEEN-ANSWERS

PAST TENSES ONE

GRAMMAR TEST NINETEEN

PAST TENSES TWO

GRAMMAR TEST NINETEEN-ANSWERS

PAST TENSES TWO

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY

PERFECTIVE ASPECT

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY ONE

REPORTED SPEECH

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY ONE-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY TWO

FUTURE ASPECT

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY TWO-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY THREE

CONNECTORS/CONJUNCTIONS ONE

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY THREE-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY FOUR

CONNECTORS/CONJUNCTIONS TWO

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY FOUR-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY FIVE

PREPOSITIONS ONE

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY FIVE-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY SIX

PREPOSITIONS TWO

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY SIX-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY SEVEN

PREPOSITIONS THREE

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY SEVEN-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY EIGHT

PREPOSITIONS FOUR

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY EIGHT-ANSWERS

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY NINE

PREPOSITIONS FIVE

GRAMMAR TEST TWENTY NINE-ANSWERS

TEST THIRTY-PHRASAL VERBS

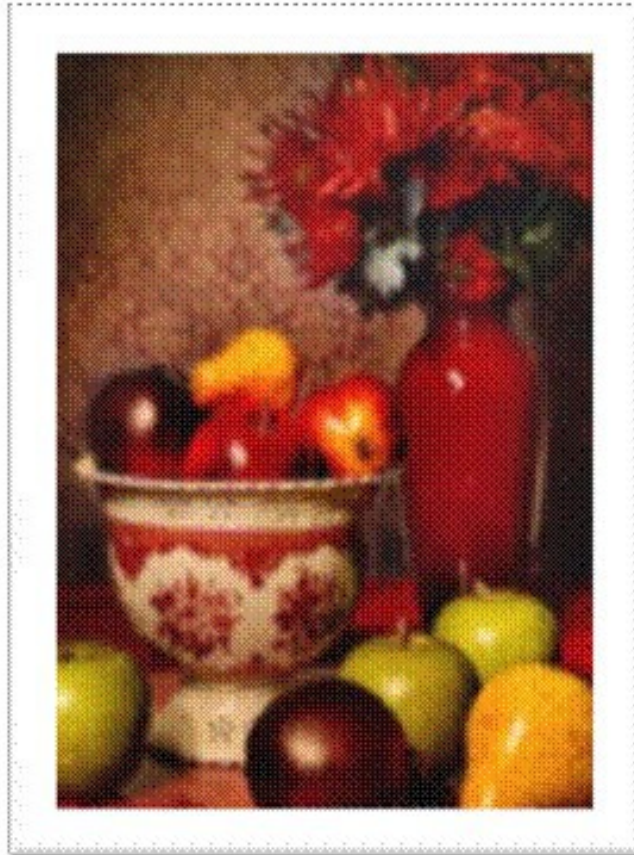
PHRASAL VERBS

TEST THIRTY-ANSWERS

Multiple meaning words exercise one

There is one word only that fits the gaps in the following sentences 1-12. Which word is it?

1. We _____ haven't found a flat although we've been looking for weeks.
2. Would you like _____ or sparkling water with your meal?
3. Can you stay _____ while I cut your fringe? If you keep moving I won't be able to cut it straight.
4. "_____ life" is a genre of painting where life literally stands _____ in arranged displays of objects.



_____ life

5. Does John _____ live in Manchester or has he moved?
6. Even though she works very hard, she _____ finds the time to help others.
7. He woke up suddenly when he heard a noise in the _____ of the night.
8. “ _____ waters run deep” is an idiomatic expression which basically means – sometimes quiet people who do not say much have the deepest

thoughts and turn out to be much more interesting than people who make a lot of noise, that is, the ones who talk non-stop.

9. Even though I sleep nine hours a night, I'm _____ tired in the morning.

10. My job is not very well paid but _____ I love it all the same.

11. I _____ remember that old house we used to live in as children.

12. Her son is eight years old and he _____ can't read or write.

Multiple meaning words exercise two

There is one word only that fits the gaps in the following sentences 1-20. Which word is it?

1. I'm not sure what I want to study when I go to university. I haven't made up my _____ yet.
2. I hope you don't _____ if I open the window. It's a bit hot in here.
3. Can you _____ my seat while I go to the bar?
4. "Where's John?" "He's lying on the floor out of his _____ after drinking a bottle of whiskey."
5. "Mens sana in corpore sano", is a Latin phrase, which means, "a healthy _____ in a healthy body".
6. It's all in your _____ is an idiom that means that something is a figment of your imagination.
7. Uri Geller was famous because he had the ability to bend metal objects with his _____.
8. Sorry I didn't phone you but it completely slipped my _____.
9. I've got so much on my _____ these days that *I don't know if I am coming or going.

*In English, the phrase “I don’t know if I’m coming or going”, means that you have no idea what you are doing.

10. She’s got her _____ set on getting that job. I hope she gets it otherwise it will be a huge disappointment.

11.” _____ over matter” is an English phrase which means that you can use your mental ability to influence your reality. Another saying with the same meaning is, “where there is a will, there is a way.”

12. Jane is a very indecisive person. She’s always changing her _____ about everything.

13. “_____ your language” means “be careful how you speak”. A phrase with the same meaning is, “watch your tongue”.

14. If you have travelled on the London underground, you will have read the notice telling passengers to “_____ the gap” when getting on or off the subway. This is basically a warning that means you need to be careful not fall down into the space between the train and the platform.

15. Little Johnny always fails his exams. This is mainly because he lets his _____ wander. He’s got no concentration whatsoever.

16. My nosey neighbour is always gossiping about everyone. I wish she would just _____ her own business instead of sticking her nose in everybody else's lives.

17. "Would you like tea or coffee?" "I don't _____. I'll have whatever you are having".

18. Since my husband retired, he's been bored out of his _____. He is not used to having so much free time.

19. She always speaks her _____. She doesn't mince her words. She really should count to ten before she opens her mouth as one day it's going to get her into trouble.

20. I can't stop thinking about my ex husband. I'm going to have to try to get him out of my _____. It's not easy though after thirty years of marriage.

Multiple meaning words exercise three

There is one word only that fits the gaps in the following sentences 1-10. Which word is it? Where the word is a verb, you may have to use the past tense.

1. Excuse me! What does this word _____?
2. He's a _____ man. He never spends any money.
3. I say what I _____ and I _____ what I say.
4. I'm so sorry. I didn't _____ to hurt you. Please forgive me.
5. I _____ to buy bread on the way home from work but I completely forgot.
6. Jane hasn't arrived yet. She was _____ to be here half an hour ago. I wonder where she can be.
7. You're _____ to switch off your mobile phones and modems before going to bed. It isn't good for you to leave them on during the night.
8. "I don't think we are _____ to be together," said Sandra to her boyfriend. "We are *as different as chalk and cheese."

*As different as chalk and cheese = to be completely different in every way.

9. “What are you doing here,” said Mrs Redford to her son as she entered the house. “You’re _____ to be at school.”

10. The old saying “what’s _____ to be, will be,” basically means that there is no escape from destiny.

Multiple meaning words exercise four

There is one word only that fits the gaps in the following sentences 1-20. Which word is it?

1. “Okay, _____ taken,” he said. (This has the same meaning as “okay, I understand/I get it.)

2. “Don’t _____ at people,” said Mrs Harris to her son. “It’s very rude.”

3. At the end of a company meeting: “Let’s just go over the main _____ before we *call it a day,” said the manager.

4. We have upgraded our software to version four _____ five (4.5).

5. The _____ has broken off my pencil. Do you happen to have a sharpener so I can sharpen it?

6. Can’t you just get to the _____ instead of beating about the bush.

7. What you are saying is completely irrelevant to the discussion at hand. It’s beside the _____.

8. Well if you want my _____ of view, I think you should scrap the idea.

9. Ladislao José Biro invented the ball _____ pen – also known as the ‘biro’ which entered production in 1944.

10. I’m going to have to make a _____ of getting up earlier in the morning. I always get up at the last moment and end up not having the time have breakfast before I leave for work.

11. An old proverb tells us that there is no _____ in crying over spilt milk. What’s done is done and there’s nothing we can do to change the situation.

12. I’ve reached breaking _____ in my job. If I don’t leave it I will soon lose my mind.

13. The detectives needed some fresh leads to _____ them in the right direction.

14. History was never my strong _____ when I was at school.

15. That was a really valid _____ you made at today’s meeting. We’ll take it into consideration.

16. The twelve _____ character has become the default size in digital word processing.

17. When her husband, whom she loved dearly, left her, she was at a very vulnerable _____ in her life.

18. “Gene” means “a segment of DNA”, located at a particular _____ on a chromosome. This is what determines hereditary characteristics.

19. One of the several meanings of “singularity” is a _____ where all parallel lines meet.

20. The bank robbers held a member of staff at gun_____.

Exercise one-answers

1. We still haven't found a flat although we've been looking for weeks.
2. Would you like still or sparkling water with your meal?
3. Can you stay still while I cut your fringe? If you keep moving I won't be able to cut it straight.
4. " Still life" is a genre of painting where life literally stands still in arranged displays of objects.
5. Does John still live in Manchester or has he moved?
6. Even though she works very hard, she still finds the time to help others.
7. He woke up suddenly when he heard a noise in the still of the night.
8. " Still waters run deep" is an idiomatic expression which basically means – sometimes quiet people who do not say much have the deepest thoughts and turn out to be much more interesting than people who make a lot of noise, that is, the ones who talk non-stop.
9. Even though I sleep nine hours a night, I'm still tired in the morning.
10. My job is not very well paid *but still I love it all the same.
11. I still remember that old house we used to live in as children.
12. Her son is eight years old and he still can't read or write.

'Still' used as an adjective means that something or someone is motionless/not moving.

'Still' as an adverb places the emphasis on continuity.

Exercise two-answers

1. I'm not sure what I want to study when I go to university. I haven't made up my mind yet. (Make up one's mind = decide)
2. I hope you don't mind if I open the window. It's a bit hot in here.
3. Can you mind my seat while I go to the bar? (Can you mind my seat = can you look after it, keep your eye on it for a period of time)
4. "Where's John?" "He's lying on the floor out of his mind after drinking a bottle of whiskey." (To be out of your mind = to be on another planet either due to too much alcohol consumption or drugs. It can also mean 'to be crazy')
5. "Mens sana in corpore sano", is a Latin phrase, which means, "a healthy mind in a healthy body".
6. It's all in your mind is an idiom that means that something is a figment of your imagination.
7. Uri Geller was famous because he had the ability to bend metal objects with his mind.
8. Sorry I didn't phone you but it completely slipped my mind. (If something slips your mind it means you forget about it)
9. I've got so much on my mind these days that *I don't know if I am coming or going. (To have something on your mind = your thoughts are preoccupied with something)

*In English, the phrase "I don't know if I'm coming or going", means that you have no idea what you are doing.
10. She's got her mind set on getting that job. I hope she gets it otherwise it will be a huge disappointment. (To have one's mind set on something =
11. "Mind over matter" is an English phrase which means that you can use your mental ability to influence your reality. Another saying with the same meaning is, "where there is a will, there is a way."
12. Jane is a very indecisive person. She's always changing her mind about everything. (To change one's mind = to decide not to do something

13. “ Mind your language” means “be careful how you speak”. A phrase with the same meaning is, “watch your tongue”.

14. If you have travelled on the London underground, you will have read the notice telling passengers to “ mind the gap” when getting on or off the subway. This is basically a warning that means you need to be careful not fall down into the space between the train and the platform.

15. Little Johnny always fails his exams. This is mainly because he lets his mind wander. He’s got no concentration whatsoever.

16. My nosey neighbour is always gossiping about everyone. I wish she would just mind her own business instead of sticking her nose in everybody else’s lives.

17. “Would you like tea or coffee?” “I don’t mind . I’ll have whatever you are having”.

18. Since my husband retired, he’s been bored out of his mind . He is not used to having so much free time. (To be bored out of one’s mind = to be so bored that you feel you could become crazy)

19. She always speaks her mind . She doesn’t mince her words. She really should count to ten before she opens her mouth as one day it’s going to get her into trouble.

20. I can’t stop thinking about my ex husband. I’m going to have to try to get him out of my mind . It’s not easy though after thirty years of marriage. (To get someone or something out of your mind = to try to forget)

Exercise three-answers

1. Excuse me! What does this word mean ?
2. He's a mean man. He never spends any money. (The adjective 'mean' = the opposite of generous)
3. I say what I mean and I mean what I say. (This = I say what I seriously think and I am serious about what I am saying)
4. I'm so sorry. I didn't mean to hurt you. Please forgive me. (To not mean something = to not do something intentionally)

The following examples are the past tense of the verb used in numbers one and three.

5. I meant to buy bread on the way home from work but I completely forgot. (It was my plan to buy bread but I forgot)
6. Jane hasn't arrived yet. She was meant to be here half an hour ago. I wonder where she can be. (She was meant to be here = she was supposed to be here/it was expected of her to be here/meant + infinitive)
7. You're meant to switch off your mobile phones and modems before going to bed. It isn't good for you to keep them on during the night. (This has a similar meaning to 'you should' in the sense of, it's a good idea, it's a sensible thing to do)
8. "I don't think we are meant to be together," said Sandra to her boyfriend. "We are *as different as chalk and cheese."
*As different as chalk and cheese = to be completely different in every way.
9. "What are you doing here," said Mrs Redford to her son as she entered the house. "You're meant to be at school." (The same meaning as number 6)
10. The old saying "what's meant to be, will be," basically means that there is no escape from destiny.

Exercise four-answers

1. "Okay, point taken," he said. This has the same meaning as "okay, I understand/I get it."
2. "Don't point at people," said Mrs Harris to her son. "It's very rude." (To indicate with your finger)
3. At the end of a company meeting: "Let's just go over the main points before we *call it a day," said the manager.
*To call it a day = to stop working for the day.
4. We have upgraded our software to version four point five (4.5).
5. The point has broken off my pencil. Do you happen to have a sharpener so I can sharpen it?
6. Can't you just get to the point instead of *beating about the bush.
*'Get to the point' has the same meaning as 'don't beat about/around the bush.'
7. What you are saying is completely irrelevant to the discussion at hand. It's beside the point.
8. Well if you want my point of view, I think you should *scrap the idea. (My point of view = my opinion)
*To scrap an idea = to not continue with it/forget about it/discard of it.
9. Ladislao José Biro invented the ball point pen – also known as the 'biro' which entered production in 1944.
10. I'm going to have to make a point of getting up earlier in the morning. I always get up at the last moment and end up not having the time have breakfast before I leave for work. (Make a point of doing something = make an effort)
11. An old proverb tells us that there is no point in crying over spilt milk. What's done is done and there's nothing we can do to change the situation. ('There is no point in doing something = it is a waste of time')

12. I've reached breaking point in my job. If I don't leave it I will soon lose my mind. ('To reach breaking point' = when you can't take anymore of something)

13. The detectives needed some fresh leads to point them in the right direction. (To point them = to indicate them)

14. History was never my strong point when I was at school.

15. That was a really valid point you made at today's meeting. We'll take it into consideration.

16. The twelve point character has become the default size in digital word processing.

17. When her husband, whom she loved dearly, left her, she was at a very vulnerable point in her life.

18. "Gene" means "a segment of DNA", located at a particular point on a chromosome. This is what determines hereditary characteristics.

19. One of the several meanings of "singularity" is a point where all parallel lines meet.

20. The bank robbers held a member of staff at gun point .

Confusing words exercise one

Choose the correct word in the exercise that follows. The answer and explanations can be accessed in the answer section.

1. Actually vs. currently

1. We are _____ hiring new managers who have a vision for the future.
2. “That boy who was with Janet yesterday looked really like her.” “Well, _____ he’s her twin brother. That’s why. Didn’t you know?”
3. “Are you doing anything on Saturday night?” “Well _____, I was thinking of going to the cinema.”
4. We are _____ relocating our distribution centre from England to India. The move is expected to save thousands on labour costs.
5. “I don’t really like Alan. He’s so standoffish.” “He’s _____ a really decent guy once you get to know him.”

2. Advice vs. advise

1. My dentist _____ me to get my wisdom teeth extracted.
2. If you want my _____, I think you should accept the job. It would be a great opportunity for you.
3. An old saying tells us not to give anyone _____ unless the person asks for it.

3. Affect vs. effect

1. Working 18 hours a day has seriously _____ my health.
2. Physical activity has a protective _____ against cardiovascular disease.
3. Most medicines have side _____.
4. Our thoughts, feelings and behaviour can _____ our health.
5. Our thoughts, feelings and behaviour can have an _____ on our health.

4. Affective vs. effective

1. The treatment was not _____ so I will have to try something else.

2. Bipolar, also known as clinical depression, is an _____ disorder.

3. Chocolate is known to be an _____ mood up-lifter.

4. If you want to produce an _____ essay, you must first of all pick a topic you want to write about and then outline your thoughts in a logical sequence of events.

5. All ready vs. already

1. I've seen that film _____.

2. "Are you _____ to go?" "Yes we are."

3. She's _____ done her homework so she can go out with her friends.

6. All together vs. altogether

1. Let's sing _____.

2. _____ this year I have earned £30,000 between my full time job and my part time one.

7. All ways vs. always

1. We tried _____ possible but nothing seems to work.

2. I _____ get up late on Sundays.
3. Dogs are superior to man in _____.
4. The customer care service is here to assist you in _____ possible.
5. I'm _____ late for work. It won't be long until I'm sacked if I don't start getting up earlier.

8. Any body vs. anybody

1. Our jeans have been tailored to fit _____, be it fat, thin, tall or short.
2. Is there _____ in the bathroom? The light's on but nobody answers when I knock on the door.
3. _____ that is found undergoes forensic testing.

9. Any more vs. anymore

1. I've become a vegetarian so I don't eat meat _____.
2. I don't buy clothes _____ because I don't need _____ clothes. I've got enough clothes to last me three life times.

10. Any time vs. anytime

1. You can visit me _____ you want.

2. These days I am so busy that I don't have _____ to iron my clothes.

Confusing words exercise one-answers

1. Actually vs. currently

1. We are currently hiring new managers who have a vision for the future.
2. “That boy who was with Janet yesterday looked really like her.” “Well actually , he’s her twin brother. That’s why. Didn’t you know?”
3. “Are you doing anything on Saturday night?” “Well actually , I was thinking of going to the cinema.”
4. We are currently relocating our distribution centre from England to India. The move is expected to save thousands on labour costs.
5. “I don’t really like Alan. He’s so standoffish.” “He’s actually a really decent guy once you get to know him.”

Note

Actually = to be honest/to tell you the truth

Currently = in this period of time

2. Advice vs. advise

1. Please advise us as soon as possible should you wish to cancel your appointment.
2. If you want my advice , I think you should accept the job. It would be a great opportunity for you.
3. An old saying tells us not to give anyone advice unless the person asks for it.
4. The doctor advised me to take plenty of rest.

Note

Advice = the noun

Advise = the verb

3. Affect vs. effect

1. Working 18 hours a day has seriously affected my health.
2. Physical activity has a protective effect against cardiovascular disease. (Outcome)
3. Most medicines have side effects .
4. Our thoughts, feelings and behaviour can affect our health.
5. Our thoughts, feelings and behaviour can have an effect on our health.

Note

Although "affect" and "effect" are both nouns and verbs, "affect" is used in everyday speech mainly as a verb while "effect" is used mainly as a noun.

"Affect" = to influence

"Effect" = to be the outcome

4. Affective vs. effective

1. The treatment was not effective . I will have to try something else.
2. Bipolar, which is also known as clinical depression, is an affective disorder.
3. Chocolate is known to be an effective mood up-lifter.
4. If you want to produce an effective essay, you must first of all pick a topic you want to write about and then outline your thoughts in a logical order.

These are the adjectives which derive from the nouns and verbs " affect " and " effect " .

5. All ready vs. already

1. I've seen that film already .
2. "Are you all ready to go?" "Yes we are."

3. She's already done her homework so she can go out with her friends if she wants, said Maggie's mother to Maggie's father.

Note

"All ready" = completely ready/prepared. "All" gives emphasis to the adjective "ready".

"Already" = an adverb which means prior to now or prior to a specified time. It can also denote surprise at something occurring earlier than expected. E.g. "Are you going already? I thought you were going to stay for dinner."

6. All together vs. altogether

1. Let's sing all together .

2. Altogether this year I have earned £30,000 between my full time job and my part time one.

Note

"All together" = everyone at the same time

"Altogether" = in total

7. All ways vs. always

1. We tried ¹ all ways possible but nothing seems to work. (Every method)

2. I always get up late on Sundays.

3. Dogs are superior to man in ² all ways . (In every aspect)

4. The customer care service is here to assist you in ² all ways possible.

5. I'm always late for work. It won't be long until I'm sacked if I don't start getting up earlier.

Note

"All ways" = ¹ every method/ ² in every aspect

"Always" = adverb of frequency = 100% of the time. It also means "forever". E.g. "I will always love you." (I will love you forever)

8. Any body vs. anybody

1. Our jeans have been tailored to fit anybody, be it fat, thin, tall or short.
2. Is there anybody in the bathroom? The light's on but nobody answers when I knock on the door.
3. Anybody that is found undergoes forensic testing.

Note

When written as two words, "any" is an undefined pronoun/unspecific which refers to an undefined/non specific number or amount. "Any" modifies the noun which follows it. It singularizes all physical bodies at random. It means or body A or body B or body C or body D etc.

"Anybody" as one word is used in questions and negatives and is synonymous with 'anyone' and indicates an undefined/non specific random person, or person A, B, C, D etc.

9. Any more vs. anymore

1. I've become a vegetarian so I don't eat meat anymore.
2. I don't buy clothes ¹ anymore because I don't need ² any more clothes. I've got enough clothes to last me three life times.

Note

"Anymore" as one word is a temporal adverb. Temporal adverbs modify time. "Anymore" has the same meaning as "no longer". It is used with a negative and refers to something in the past that doesn't exist now. In example number 1, the adverb "anymore" modifies the verb 'eat'. I ate meat in the past but now I don't. Example number 2.1, is the same as example 1 and means that in the past I bought clothes but now I don't.

Example 2.2. When "any more" is used as two words, "any" is a modifier of "more," and "more" is a reference to something else that follows consisting of a noun or a noun phrase. "Any" determines an indefinite amount/ a non

defined quantity of something when used without "more". When used with "more" It refers to an additional undefined quantity of something.

Would you like any tea? (An undefined quantity of tea)

Would you like any more tea? (An additional undefined quantity of tea)

10. Any time vs. anytime

1. You can visit me anytime you want.

2. These days I am so busy that I don't have any time to iron my clothes.

Note

"Any time" written as two words = "any" as an undetermined pronoun + the noun "time". It refers to an undefined quantity of time in the question and in the negative it refers to "no time". E.g. I don't have any time to iron my clothes = I have no time to iron my clothes.

"Anytime" written as one word = a non defined random time.

Confusing words exercise two

1. Any way vs. anyway

1. If I can help you in _____ I will.
2. My mum didn't want me to study law but I studied it _____.
3. There is no evidence to suggest that a person with an IQ of 170 is in _____ more likely to achieve a greater impact in their field than a person with an IQ of 130.
4. "Is there _____ to tell when eggs have *gone off?"
"Yes, put them in a basinful of cold water and if they float to the top they're still fresh. If they sink to the bottom, they've gone off."
*To go off = to no longer be fresh for consumption.
5. "I'm sorry I can't help you." "Don't worry. Thanks _____."
6. What way should I go to get to the railway station?
You can go _____ from here. All the roads lead to the station.

2. Beside vs. besides

1. What do you do in your free time _____ playing tennis?

2. Where is the cat? It's over there _____ the door.

3. Compared to vs. compared with

1. Sales fell 1.2% compared _____ last year.

2. He compared the colour of her lips _____ a red rose.

4. Compliment vs. complement

1. The colour green really _____ your eyes. You should wear green more often.

2. John and Mary really _____ each other. She's quite a lively person whereas he's really quiet and laid-back.

3. My boss _____ me on how well I managed the project.

4. My brother's friend is always paying me _____. Last night he told me that my hair was beautiful.

5. Composed of vs. composed by vs. comprise

1. The company is _____ highly trained, experienced people.

2. A Minuet and Trio in G major was _____ Mozart when he was just five years old. It was his first documented composition.

3. Atoms are _____ three main parts: protons, neutrons and electrons.

4. The cardiovascular system _____ the heart and the vascular network.

5 That which _____ parts, is in need of its parts in order to exist.

6. Scotland _____ approximately 5 million people.

6. Consist of vs. consist in

1. The only true wisdom _____ knowing that you know nothing. - *Socrates*

2. Our new team _____ six people.

3. Faith _____ believing when it is beyond the power of reason to believe. - *Voltaire*

4. My new job _____ dealing with members of the public.

5. “True glory _____ doing what deserves to be written, in writing what deserves to be read, and in so

living as to make the world happier and better for our living in it.” - *Pliny the Elder*

6. 'The whole art of government _____ the art of being honest.' - *Thomas Jefferson*

7. Our little town _____ a supermarket, a bakery, a fruit shop, a butcher's, two large parks, a police station and a pub.

8. The experience of personalized marketing _____ reaching out to your client base in a way that caters to each person's profile.

9. She has a very unhealthy diet which _____ fast food, coca cola, chocolate and cakes.

7. Continual vs. continuous

1. After five hours of _____ game playing on the internet, the boy complained of a terrible headache.

2. He who sleeps in _____ noise is awakened by silence. -*William Dean Howells*

3. Since we moved into our new house in the vicinity of the airport, we've been suffering from lack of sleep. The _____ noise from the planes has completely disrupted our sleep pattern.

4. The _____ barking of our neighbour's dog is
*driving me up the wall.

*Drive (someone) up the wall = cause to become
crazy

8. Continually vs. continuously

1. It has been raining _____ for over three days.

2. Nowadays it is becoming more important for
companies to _____ evolve if they wish to remain
innovative, competitive and relevant.

9. Convince vs. persuade

1. He failed to _____ the court of his innocence.

2. I'm trying to _____ mum to buy me a car but she
won't listen to me.

3. After weeks of trying to _____ mum to buy me a
car, I finally _____ her of the benefits, such as giving
her a lift to wherever she wants to go, seeing that she
cannot drive.

4. I've been trying to _____ the bank manager to give
me a loan but to no avail.

5. Their advertisement is intended to _____
consumers to purchase their product.

6. She's trying to _____ herself that her boyfriend loves her although we all know he doesn't.

7. My wife is trying to _____ me to become vegetarian.

8. The wise man must be _____ before he can be _____.

9. Few are those who can _____ without _____ while abundant are those who, in order to _____, must _____.

10. Deceitful vs. deceptive

1. The picture on that chocolate cake box is very _____. It shows a cake thickly covered in chocolate when in reality it only has a thin scraping of chocolate on it.

2. Looks are _____.

3. _____ advertising occurs when a reasonable consumer is misled by an advertising claim. This is also known as "misleading" advertising.

4. Since the onset of internet, _____ websites are becoming more and more frequent. The _____ people who create such sites, are unscrupulous beings who

will stop at nothing to get you to part with your hard earned cash.

Confusing words exercise two-answers

1. Any way vs. anyway

1. *If I can help you in any way I will.*
2. *My mum didn't want me to study law but I studied it anyway.*
3. *There is no evidence to suggest that a person with an IQ of 170 is in any way more likely to achieve a greater impact in their field than a person with an IQ of 130.*
4. *"Is there any way to tell when eggs have *gone off?" "Yes, put them in a basinful of cold water and if they sink to the top they're still fresh. If they float to the top, they've *gone off."*
**To go off = to no longer be fresh for consumption.*
5. *"I'm sorry I can't help you." "Don't worry. Thanks anyway."*
6. *What way should I go to get to the railway station? You can go any way from here. All the roads lead to the station.*

Note

"Anyway" as one word indicates that the speaker has the intention to do something despite advice or a warning not to do it. It is synonymous with "nonetheless" and "regardless".

"Anyway" can be used at the beginning of a sentence to resume a conversation after being interrupted/return to what one was previously talking about. E.g. "Anyway, what were we saying before John interrupted us?"

"Any way" as two words - "any" is an undetermined pronoun that modifies the noun "way" and indicates "in whatever manner", "by whatever means" "whatever method".

2. Beside vs. besides

1. *What do you do in your free time besides playing tennis?*

2. Where is the cat? It's over there beside the door.

Note

"Beside" = next to

"Besides" = in addition to

3. Compared to vs. compared with

1. Sales fell 1.2% compared with last year.

2. He compared the colour of her lips to a red rose. (Comparing two things from different categories therefore making a figurative comparison)

Note

Sadly, few people pay much attention to these subtle, fine distinctions nowadays and seem to use them interchangeably.

"Compare + to" = to highlight two similarities between dissimilar things.

"Compared with" = to compare **like** with **like** /compare two things which fall under the same category.

4. Compliment vs. complement

1. The colour green really complements your eyes. You should wear green more often.

2. John and Mary really complement each other. She's quite a lively person whereas he's really quiet and laid-back.

3. My boss complimented me on how well I managed the project.

4. My brother's friend is always paying me compliments. Last night he told me that my hair was beautiful. (Noun)

Note

Both "compliment" and "complement" function as nouns and verbs.

"Compliment", to compliment someone on something = to praise. To pay a compliment to someone is to make a nice comment, express your admiration.

"Complement" is to complete or enhance something or someone else.

5. Composed of vs. composed by vs. comprise

1. The company is composed of highly trained, experienced people.
2. A Minuet and Trio in G major was composed by Mozart when he was just five years old. It was his first documented composition.
3. Atoms are composed of three main parts: protons, neutrons and electrons.
4. The cardiovascular system is composed of the heart and the vascular network.
5. That which is composed of parts is in need of its parts in order to exist.
6. Scotland comprises approximately 5 million people.

Note

"Comprise" = include

"Composed of" = made up of

"Composed by" = is to do with music or opera and suchlike. A musician composes music. The use of the verb 'be' + the past participle of the verb + the preposition 'of' are an indication of the passive form.

Active form = the verb 'compose' without the preposition 'by'.

E.g. Mozart composed 'A Minuet and Trio in G major'.

6. Consist of vs. consist in

1. The only true wisdom consists in knowing that you know nothing. (Socrates)
2. Our new team consists of six people.
3. Faith consists in believing when it is beyond the power of reason to believe (Voltaire)
4. My new job consists in dealing with members of the public. (The key element/feature)

5. "True glory consists in doing what deserves to be written, in writing what deserves to be read, and in so living as to make the world happier and better for our living in it."

— Pliny the Elder

6. Thomas Jefferson — 'The whole art of government consists in the art of being honest.'

7. Our little town consists of a supermarket, a bakery, a fruit shop, a butcher's, two large parks, a police station and a pub.

8. The experience of personalized marketing consists in reaching out to your client base in a way that caters to each person's profile.

9. She has a very unhealthy diet which consists of fast food, coca cola, chocolate and cakes.

Note

"Consists of" + a list of physical components

"Consist in" = the key element/the main feature

7. Continual vs. continuous

1. After five hours of continuous game playing on the internet, the boy complained of a terrible headache. (Non-stop)

2. He who sleeps in continual noise is awakened by silence. -William Dean Howells

3. Since we moved into our new house in the vicinity of the airport, we've been suffering from lack of sleep. The continual noise from the planes has completely disrupted our sleep pattern.

4. The continual barking of our neighbour's dog is *driving me up the wall.

*Drive (someone) up the wall = cause to become crazy

Note

It is becoming more and more common to hear the adjectives "continual" and "continuous" being used as synonyms – however, there is a subtle

difference which should be taken note of. The same can be said for the adverbs, "continually" and "continuously".

Both adjectives refer to duration.

"Continuous" implies duration with no interruption.

"Continual" indicates duration that continues over a long period of time, but with intervals of interruption/something that is repetitive.

8. Continually vs. continuously

1. It has been raining continuously for over three days.
2. Nowadays it is becoming more important for companies to continually evolve if they want to remain innovative, competitive and relevant.

9. Convince vs. persuade

1. He failed to convince the court of his innocence.
2. I'm trying to persuade mum to buy me a car but she won't listen to me.
3. After weeks of trying to persuade mum to buy me a car, I finally convinced her of the benefits, such as *giving her a lift to wherever she wants to go, seeing that she cannot drive.
4. I've been trying to persuade the bank manager to give me a loan to no avail.
5. Their advertisement is intended to persuade consumers to purchase their product.
6. She's trying to convince herself that her boyfriend loves her although we all know he doesn't.
7. My wife is trying to persuade me to become vegetarian.
8. The wise man must be convinced before he can be persuaded .
9. Few are those who can convince without persuading while abundant are those who, in order to convince , must persuade .

Note

Though their meanings may be related, 'persuade' and 'convince' are by no means synonymous as some dictionaries might lead you to believe. Many often confound their meanings.

'To persuade' is the will and practice of coaxing others, by using a clear method, to obtain what one wants - the use of effective verbal skills to induce someone to do something.

Keep in mind that - Persuasion appeals to the heart while conviction (to convince) appeals to the head.

- 1. Convince = cause to believe 'to convince' is the end result of successful persuasion.*
- 2. To be convinced/convince oneself = to strongly believe something to be true e.g. He's convinced his girlfriend is cheating on him but it's all in his mind.*

10. Deceitful vs. deceptive

- 1. The picture on that chocolate cake box is very deceptive . It shows a cake thickly covered in chocolate when in reality it only has a thin scraping of chocolate on it.*
- 2. Looks are deceptive .*
- 3. Deceptive advertising occurs when a reasonable consumer is misled by an advertising claim. This is also known as "misleading" advertising.*
- 4. Since the onset of internet, deceptive websites are becoming more and more frequent. Those deceitful people who create such sites, are unscrupulous beings who will stop at nothing to get you to part with your hard-earned cash.*

Note

At first glance, these seem to be perfect synonyms. When used in sentences however, you will find that "deceitful" is almost always used when describing a person's character whereas "deceptive" indicates an attempt to falsely lead a person to believe something to be true or untrue by giving false information, lack of sufficient information, concealment of the truth, or by using emotional language or images or some kind of manipulation for

personal gain. Usually a "deceitful" person uses "deceptive" measures to obtain what he or she wants. These adjectives both derive from the verb "deceive".

Confusing words exercise three

1. Economic vs. economical

1. Small diesel cars are _____ to run.
2. He had to close down his shop due to _____ issues.
3. It's more _____ to put your washing machine on at night. This can lower your electricity bill.
4. It's more _____ to do your shopping in a large hypermarket than in a small grocery store.
5. _____ growth has become a top priority for the States since the 2008 financial crisis.

2. Electrical vs. electric

1. That new _____ store stocks some really inexpensive _____ appliances. I'm thinking of getting a new washing machine from it. I saw one at a knockdown price.
2. That _____ fire I bought is costing a fortune to run. My electricity bill is sky high since I started using it.

3. “Do you have a gas cooker or an _____ cooker?”
“I have a gas cooker. I used to have and _____ one but it was too expensive to run.”

3. Enquire vs. inquire

1. My new doctor _____ about my medical history.
2. The prosecutor _____ as to the whereabouts of the defendant at the time of the alleged killing.

4. Enquiry vs. inquiry

1. The police made door to door _____ after one of our neighbours was found dead in the courtyard.
2. General _____ about train times and suchlike can be made at the information desk at the train station.

5. Especially vs. specially

1. I made this cake _____ for you.
2. The car is a _____ designed model.
3. I love animals - _____ dogs.
4. The dogs are _____ trained to find human remains.
5. The hotel has _____ adapted rooms for guests with disabilities.

6. Our restaurant has a _____ prepared menu for vegetarians.

7. I love coca cola _____ when the weather's really hot.

8. The airport has _____ designated smoking areas.

6. Every body vs. everybody

1. _____ is different so avoid comparing your body to that of your friends.

2. _____ laughed when the comedian told the joke. It was so funny.

7. Every day vs. everyday

1. _____ I go to work by train.

2. My _____ routine is rather boring.

8. Historic vs. historical

1. It was a _____ event when Neil Armstrong landed on the moon.

2. There are countless _____ monuments in Rome, many of which can be found in the _____ centre of the city.

3. The assassination of Abraham Lincoln is a _____ event

4. The ‘TBTF’ (Too big to fail) 2008 financial meltdown is a _____ event.

5. “Apocalypto” is among the top _____ movies of all time.

6. Leo Tolstoy’s “War and Peace” is a _____ novel.

9. However vs. however

1. _____ did you manage to finish the project in such a short space of time?

2. _____ much I try to learn Japanese, I’m just not able.

3. I know I didn’t get good grades at school; _____, it didn't mean that I didn't have the potential to become an entrepreneur, which is what I am today.

10. Lie vs. lay

1. I always _____ in bed for about half an hour before I get up.

2. Why did you _____ to me? You are not a truthful man.

3. He _____ the book on the table before leaving the room.

Confusing words exercise three-answers

1. Economic vs. economical

These are both adjectives but what is the difference between them?

- 1. Small diesel cars are economical to run.*
- 2. He had to close down his shop due to economic issues.*
- 3. It's more economical to put your washing machine on at night. This can lower your electricity bill.*
- 4. It's more economical to do your shopping in a large hypermarket than in a small grocery store.*
- 5. Economic growth has become a top priority for the States since the 2008 financial crisis.*

Note

"Economic" talks about money

"Economical" = save money/not waste it

2. Electrical vs. electric

These are also both adjectives but what is the difference between them?

- 1. That new electrical store stocks some really inexpensive electrical appliances. I'm thinking of getting a new washing machine from it. I saw one at a knockdown price.*
- 2. That electric fire I bought is costing a fortune to run. My electricity bill is sky high since I started using it.*
- 3. "Do you have a gas cooker or an electric cooker?" "I have a gas cooker. I used to have and electric one but it was too expensive to run."*

Note

"Electric" = something that runs on electricity.

"Electric" is also used metaphorically; the atmosphere at the football match was electric.

"Electrical" = related to electricity

3. Enquire vs. inquire

1. The police made door to door inquiries after one of our neighbours was found dead in the courtyard.

2. General enquiries about train times and suchlike can be made at the information desk at the train station.

Note

Both these verbs have the same underlying meaning. They both basically mean "ask".

"Enquire" and "enquiry" are used for the general sense of "ask", and "inquire" and "inquiry" are more commonly used when referring to a formal investigation although in the US it is more common to use only "inquire" and "inquiry" for both the general use and also the formal.

4. Enquiry vs. inquiry

1. The police made door to door inquiries after one of our neighbours was found dead in the courtyard.

2. General enquiries about train times and suchlike can be made at the information desk at the train station.

Note

See explanation in number 3.

5. Especially vs. specially

1. I made this cake especially for you.

2. The car is a specially designed model.

3. I love animals - especially dogs.

4. The dogs are specially trained to find human remains.
5. The hotel has specially adapted rooms for guests with disabilities.
6. Our restaurant has a specially prepared menu for vegetarians.
7. I love coca cola especially when the weather's really hot.
8. The airport has specially designated smoking areas.

Note

These two adverbs are beginning to be used interchangeably which is a pity because they do not mean the same thing.

“Especially” = above all/particularly – used to emphasize one person/thing or group of people or things/situations in particular. E.g. I’m good at languages, especially French.

“Specially” = for a distinct purpose.

“Specially” is used in high frequency with the verbs, designed, created, made, trained and prepared.

Especially is used a lot with “nouns”, “adjectives + nouns”, and with “when”, “in”, and “for”.

6. Every body vs. everybody

1. Every body is different so avoid comparing your body to that of your friends.
2. Everybody laughed when the comedian told the joke. It was so funny.

Note

"Every body" = each individual body

"Everybody" = every person, synonymous with "everyone".

7. Every day vs. everyday

1. Every day I go to work by train.
2. My everyday routine is rather boring. Adjective

Note

"Every day" = an adverbial phrase meaning "each day".

"Everyday" = an adjective - something done on a daily basis.

8. Historic vs. historical

1. It was a historic event when Neil Armstrong landed on the moon.
2. There are countless historical monuments in Rome, many of which can be found in the historic centre of the city.
3. The assassination of Abraham Lincoln is a historic event
4. The 'TBTF' (Too big to fail) 2008 financial meltdown is a historical event.
5. "Apocalypto" is among the top historical movies of all time.
6. Leo Tolstoy's "War and Peace" is a historical novel.

Note

Historic = important in history; an event that will continue to be important forever due to the effects on society/something that will go into history books.

Historical = reflecting the past/set in the past for novels, dramas or films – these do not enter history books.

9. How ever vs. however

1. How ever did you manage to finish the project in such a short space of time?
2. However much I try to learn Japanese, I'm just not able.
3. I know I didn't get good grades at school; however, it didn't mean that I didn't have the potential to become an entrepreneur, which is what I am today.'

Note

*How + ever = the interrogative pronoun ‘how’ followed by ‘ever’ which is used for emphasis. E.g. How did you manage? How **ever** did you manage? The stress is on the emphatic ‘ever’.*

In number two, “however”, when used at the beginning of a sentence is an adverb and not an adverbial conjunction.

In example number three, “however” is an adverbial conjunction.

10. Lie vs. lay

- 1. I always lie in bed for about half an hour before I get up.*
- 2. Why did you lie to me? You are not a truthful man.*
- 3. He lay the book on the table before leaving the room.*

Note

In number one, “lie” is an irregular verb - lie/lay/lain – it means to place yourself/or remain in a horizontal position.

In number two “lie” is a regular verb but with the same infinitive as number one – lie/lie/lie – it means to speak untruths.

In number three “lay” is an irregular transitive verb which cannot be used without an object - lay/laid/laid and means to place something on something.

Confusing words exercise four

1. May be vs. maybe

1. That _____ John at the door. He said he *might pop round this morning.
2. Are you going to the party on Saturday? _____. I haven't decided yet.

*Pop round = pay quick visit to someone

2. No body vs. nobody

1. A man was charged with murder after his neighbour went missing. Although _____ was ever found, circumstantial evidence against the man, including cell-phone records, web searches, surveillance photo images and purchase of acid, was presented by prosecutors.
2. _____ knows anything about him. He's a reserved man. He keeps himself to himself.

3. Over time vs. overtime

1. My husband does a lot of _____ in his job.
2. We enrich our services yearly so they improve _____.

4. Practise vs. practice

1. If you want to learn English or any other language for that matter, you need to _____ as much as you can.
2. With a lot of _____, you can learn anything. As the saying goes, _____ makes perfect.

5. Principle vs. principal

1. Dishonesty is against my _____.
2. The _____ would like to see you in her office after school today.

6. Raise vs. rise

1. Prices _____ all the time but salaries seem to stay the same.
2. The government has announced its intention to _____ taxes in the near future.
3. The government has decided to _____ the minimum wage.
4. She _____ from her chair and walked out the room.

7. Some time vs. sometimes vs. sometime

1. Let's meet for a coffee _____ next week.
2. I _____ forget what I am doing. I think I have got a touch of dementia.
3. It'll take me quite _____ to finish this assignment.

8. Stationary vs. stationery

1. We'll have to order some new _____. We're beginning to run out of pens, pencils, paper clips, envelopes, and paper for the photocopier.
2. _____ objects outside of a moving train appear to be in motion when viewed from within the train.
3. The main benefit of using a _____ bike for physical activity is that you will be able to perform a cardiovascular workout with low impact on all your joints.

9. What ever vs. whatever

1. _____ happened to that old watch grandpa gave me? I've searched everywhere and I cannot find it.
2. _____ you do, don't tell him what I said. It's a secret.
3. We'll do _____ you want; as long as you sign the contract.

10. Who ever vs. whoever

1. My sister is the only person in the family _____ uses the home phone. All the rest of us use our mobiles.
2. “Someone’s at the door.” “_____ it is, tell them I’m not at home. I don’t want to speak to anyone.”

Confusing words exercise four-answers

1. May be vs. maybe

1. That may be John at the door. He said he might *pop round this morning.
2. Are you going to the party on Saturday? Maybe ! I haven't decided yet.

*Pop round = pay someone a quick visit.

Note

In number one, “may” is a modal auxiliary verb, used to modify the infinitive verb which follows it; in this case “be” – it expresses possibility.

In number two “maybe” is an adverb which is synonymous with “perhaps”. As with “may be”, it expresses possibility.

2. No body vs. nobody

1. A man was charged with murder after his neighbour went missing. Although no body was ever found, circumstantial evidence against the man, including cell-phone records, web searches, surveillance photo images and purchase of acid, was presented by prosecutors.
2. Nobody knows anything about me. I keep myself to myself.

Note

In number one, “no body” = the absence of a body/ a corpse

In number two “nobody” is an indefinite pronoun which means “not even one person” and is synonymous with “no one”.

Particular attention should be considered when pronouncing “no body” and “nobody”.

“No body” has the stress on both words, while with “nobody”, the stress is on the first syllable and the “o” in “body” takes on the extremely weak “schwa” sound.

3. Over time vs. overtime

1. My husband does a lot of overtime in his job.
2. We enrich our services yearly so they improve over time .

In number one, “overtime” is a compound noun which means, “extra working hours”.

In number two, “over time” is an adverbial phrase which means “gradually in the course of time/with the passing of time”.

4. Practise vs. practice

1. If you want to learn English or any other language for that matter, you need to practise as much as you can.
2. With a lot of practice , you can learn anything.

Note

“Practise” is the verb, while “practice” is the noun.

5. Principle vs. principal

1. Dishonesty is against my principles .
2. The principal would like to see you in her office after school today.

Note

“Principle” = concepts/a belief that you value.

“Principal” = people/the main person/the head of a school or organisation.

6. Raise vs. rise

1. Prices rise all the time but salaries seem to stay the same.
2. The government has announced its intention to raise taxes in the near future.
3. The government has decided to raise the minimum wage.

4. She rose from her chair and walked out the room.

Note

Both verbs mean to move in an upward direction.

‘Raise’ is a transitive verb therefore an object must follow it, whereas with the verb ‘rise’, no object is required.

(Somebody) raises (something) or in the passive structure, (something) is raised by (someone). You cannot say for example, ‘I raise’ in isolation. You need to state ‘**what**’ you raise. E.g. I raise **my workers salaries** once a year.

In number four ‘rose’, the past tense of ‘rise’, means to stand up. It can also mean to get up. E.g. I rise early every morning. (I get up early every morning).

7. Some time vs. sometime vs. sometime

1. Let’s meet for a coffee sometime next week.

2. I sometimes forget what I am doing. I think I have got a touch of dementia.

3. It’ll take me quite some time to finish this assignment.

Note

In number one, ‘sometime’ is used to refer to an indefinite random moment.

In number two, ‘sometimes’ is an adverb of frequency meaning ‘occasionally’.

In number three, ‘some’ is used as an adjective to describe an amount of time, usually quite a lot. The use of ‘quite’ intensifies ‘some’.

8. Stationary vs. stationery

1. We’ll have to order some new stationery. We’re beginning to run out of pens, pencils, paper clips, envelopes, and paper for the photocopier.

2. Stationary objects outside of a moving train appear to be in motion when viewed from within the train.

3. The main benefit of using a stationary bike for physical activity is that you will be able to perform a cardiovascular workout with low impact on all your joints.

Note

These two words are homophones, that is, they have exactly the same pronunciation but different spellings.

In number one, the noun ‘stationery’ is the collective name for materials used for writing such as pens, pencils, rubbers, paper etc.

In numbers two and three, the adjective ‘stationary’ means ‘motionless’, that is, not moving and can also refer to a fixed, unmovable object.

9. What ever vs. whatever

1. What ever happened to that old watch grandpa gave me? I’ve searched everywhere and I cannot find it.

2. Whatever you do, don’t tell him what I said. It’s a secret.

3. We’ll do whatever you want; as long as you sign the contract.

Note

What + ever = the interrogative pronoun ‘what’ followed by the adverb ‘ever’ - used for emphasis. E.g. What happened? What **ever** happened? The stress is on the emphatic ‘ever’.

In number two, the relative pronoun ‘whatever’, means ‘no matter what’.

In number three, ‘whatever’, means ‘anything’.

10. Who ever vs. whoever

1. My sister is the only person in the family who ever uses the home phone. All the rest of us use our mobiles.

2. “Someone’s at the door.” “Whoever it is, tell them I’m not at home. I don’t want to speak to anyone.”

Note

Who + ever = the interrogative pronoun 'who' followed by the adverb 'ever' - used for emphasis. E.g. my sister is the only person in the family who uses the phone. Place the emphatic 'ever' after 'who' to emphasise the fact. The stress is on the emphatic 'ever'.

In number two, the relative pronoun 'whoever', means 'no matter who'.

Confusing words-exercise five

Put the most suitable of the following three words into the gaps.

A. flaw B. faulty C. defect

1. This new mobile phone is _____. I'm going to take it back to the shop tomorrow.
2. There's a _____ in your theory.
3. A _____ internet connection is something that can drive you round the bend.
4. Software engineers were working round the clock after a _____ database script brought the company to its knees.
5. A company was ordered by a judge to pay compensation to patients who'd had _____ and dangerous hip implant surgery.
6. Our website has a security _____.
7. I was born with an eye _____ but luckily hasty intervention, from a top eye surgeons corrected it.
8. Although of a lower quality, open sourced code was suggested to have fewer _____ than proprietary

code.

9. A _____ in the system can slow down your computer.

10. A bridge in the States collapsed due to _____ engineering.

11. Although she made a valid point, there's a _____ in her logic.

12. After we purchased what appeared to be the home of our dreams, we discovered many hidden _____.

13. Holiday makers were left waiting for almost twenty four hours in an airport departure lounge after their plane was left grounded when a _____ was discovered in the aircrafts' engine.

14. A manufacturing _____ occurs when a product fails to meet its own manufacturing specifications.

15. Jealousy is a character _____, - a fear-based emotion - that usually leads to assumptions that are destructive.

Exercise five-answers

1. This new mobile phone is faulty. I'm going to take it back to the shop tomorrow.
2. There's a flaw in your theory.
3. A faulty internet connection is something that can drive you round the bend.
4. Software engineers were *working round the clock after a faulty database script brought the company to its knees.
*Work round the clock = work all day and all night
5. A company was ordered by a judge to pay compensation to patients who'd had faulty and dangerous hip implant surgery.
6. Our website has security flaws.
7. I was born with an eye defect but luckily hasty intervention, from a top eye surgeon, corrected it.
8. Although of a lower quality, open sourced code was suggested to have fewer defects than proprietary code.
9. A flaw in the system can slow down your computer.
10. A bridge in the States collapsed due to faulty engineering.
11. Although she made a valid point, there's a flaw in her logic.
12. After we purchased what appeared to be the home of our dreams, we discovered many hidden defects.
13. Holiday makers were left waiting for almost twenty four hours in an airport departure lounge after their plane was left grounded when a flaw was discovered in the aircrafts' engine.
14. A manufacturing defect occurs when a product fails to meet its own manufacturing specifications.
15. Jealousy is a character flaw - a fear-based emotion that usually leads to assumptions that are destructive.

Note

'Faulty' is an adjective meaning 'defective', 'imperfect'.

'Flaw' is a noun and means, weakness, defect, error, fallacy.

If an argument is not convincing then there is a 'flaw' in it. It is also common to use the adjective 'flawed' for, arguments, theories, reasoning and logic.

'Defect' - is a noun and means 'imperfection' causing hindered functionality or failure to meet the expected specifications. Also common is the adjective 'defective'.

Confusing words-exercise six

Put the most suitable of the following four words into the gaps in the exercise below.

A. stench B. scent C. odour D. aroma

1. Due to the lack of rainfall all summer, there was an awful _____ coming from the sewer.
2. It's wonderful to walk around the botanic gardens and *take in the beautiful _____ of all the flowers and plants.
3. The toilet's all blocked up. We'll have to *call out the plumber. The _____ is too much to bear.
4. I used to live not far from a coffee factory and every time I passed it, the wonderful _____ of coffee wafted through the air.
5. If your shoes *give off a bad _____, then sprinkling the insides with some bicarbonate of soda should absorb the offensive smell.
6. I love the _____ of freshly baked bread.
7. When sweat mixes with bacteria on the skin, it can result in body _____.

8. The _____ of the rotten meat hit me as I opened the fridge door. I'd been on holiday for two weeks and had forgotten to throw the mince pies out before I left.

9. The lovely _____ of the basil sauce whetted our appetite as the waiter placed the dishes of pasta on our table.

10. I love walking past the perfumery store and inhaling the sweet _____ of perfume.

11. Cruciferous vegetables such as cabbage, broccoli and brussel sprouts are important for our health. The downside is that they *give off the most awful _____ whilst being cooked. This is due to their being rich in sulphur.

12. I'm just going to pour some bleach down the kitchen sink. There's a bad _____ coming from it.

13. I had to hold my breath for the entirety of the drive through the country lane, when the _____ of horse manure hit us on what was classified as Britain's hottest day in more than a decade.

14. Using their extraordinary sense of smell, cadaver dogs are able to *pick up the _____ of human remains.

15. There's always an underlying _____ of cigar smoke coming from my father's study.

Exercise six-answers

All of the following nouns can be replaced with the generic noun 'smell', adding an adjective to give more emphasis to the meaning.

Stench = a very bad/foul smell. Common synonyms are 'stink' and 'pong'.

Scent and aroma = a pleasant smell.

Odour = either a pleasant or unpleasant smell, depending on the context.

1. Due to the lack of rainfall all summer, there was an awful stench coming from the sewer.

*2. It's wonderful to walk around the botanic gardens and *take in the beautiful scent of all the flowers and plants.*

**Take in = inhale/absorb*

*3. The toilet's all blocked up. We'll have to *call out the plumber. The stench is too much to bear.*

**Call out = request a visit from a specialist*

4. I used to live not far from a coffee factory and every time I passed it, the wonderful aroma of coffee wafted through the air.

*5. If your shoes *give off a bad odour, then sprinkling the insides with some bicarbonate of soda should absorb the offensive smell.*

**Give off = omit*

6. I love the aroma of freshly baked bread.

7. When sweat mixes with bacteria on the skin, it can result in body odour.

8. The stench of the rotten meat hit me as I opened the fridge door. I'd been on holiday for two weeks and had forgotten to throw the mince pies out before I left.

9. The lovely scent of the basil sauce whetted our appetite as the waiter placed the dishes of pasta on our table.

10. I love walking past the perfumery store and inhaling the sweet scent of perfume.

11. Cruciferous vegetables such as cabbage, broccoli and brussel sprouts are important for our health. The downside is that they *give off the most awful stench whilst being cooked. This is due to their being rich in sulphur.

*Give off = emit

12. I'm just going to pour some bleach down the kitchen sink. There's a bad odour coming from it.

13. I had to hold my breath for the entirety of the drive through the country lane, when the stench of horse manure hit me on what was classified as Britain's hottest day in more than a decade.

14. Using their extraordinary sense of smell, cadaver dogs are able to *pick up the scent of human remains.

*Pick up = perceive with the senses

15. There's always an underlying aroma of cigar smoke coming from my father's study.

Confusing words-exercise seven

Put the most suitable of the following four adjectives into the gaps in the exercise below.

A. strong B. resilient C. tough D. durable

1. “Waiter! This meat is too _____. It almost broke my tooth. I asked for tender meat.”

2. Jane is very _____. After her divorce she was able to *get on with her life and not fall into a depression.

3. That group of teenagers who stand around the street corner are a _____ lot.

4. ‘When the going gets _____, the _____ get going’, is an English expression which means, when life gets hard, it’s the _____ people who are able to survive.

5. These boots are really _____ and _____ to the rain. That’s four winters I’ve worn them and they’re still in good condition.

6. This tea is too _____. How many teabags did you put in it?

7. My Sony VAIO computer has proved to be extremely _____. It has lasted fourteen years. I just

wish they hadn't discontinued them as I'd love to be able to buy another one.

8. Are you _____ to change? How _____ are you when faced with life's challenges and difficulties?

9. You need to be _____ when life hits you in the face with yet another problem.

10. There's a _____ link between reading and being successful in life.

Confusing words-exercise seven-answers

1. "Waiter! This meat is too tough . It almost broke my tooth. I asked for tender meat."
2. Jane is very resilient . After her divorce she was able to *get on with her life and not fall into a depression.
*Get on with = continue
3. That group of teenagers who stand around the street corner are a tough lot.
4. 'When the going gets tough , the tough get going', is an English expression which means, when life gets hard, it's the strong people who are able to survive.
5. These boots are really tough and resilient to the rain. That's four winters I've worn them and they're still in good condition.
6. This tea is too strong . How many teabags did you put in it?
7. My Sony VAIO computer has proved to be extremely durable . It has lasted fourteen years. I just wish they hadn't discontinued them as I'd love to be able to buy another one.
8. Are you resilient to change? How tough are you when faced with life's challenges and difficulties?
9. You need to be strong when life hits you in the face with yet another problem.
10. There's a strong link between reading and being successful in life.

Note

Tough (when referring to character) = ¹ A person of strong character-positive meaning. ² A rowdy thug – negative meaning. Tough (when referring to objects) = not easily broken. Tough (when referring to a situation) = difficult

Durable = stay in good condition lasting for a long time even after constant use.

Resilient (when referring to strength of character) = to possess the ability to bounce back, return to your normal self, in life when faced with tribulations.

Resilient (when referring to objects) = able to withstand heavy duty use over time.

Strong is the opposite of 'weak'.

Confusing words-exercise eight

Put the most suitable of the following three adverbs into the gaps in the exercise below.

A. thoroughly B. fully C. wholly

1. I _____ enjoyed myself at Christine's birthday party last night.
2. We _____ understand your concerns.
3. I _____ agree with what you are saying.
4. My aunt is _____ involved in charity work.
5. Your goods will be transported _____ by sea.
6. My mother _____ cleans the house every Saturday morning.
7. My husband is _____ committed to his work.
8. We _____ discussed the issue before reaching a decision.
9. Don't unplug my computer yet. I'm waiting for the battery to be _____ charged.
10. We had a great time on the Greek islands. We _____ explored them from one end to the other.

Confusing words-exercise eight-answers

1. I thoroughly enjoyed myself at Christine's birthday party last night.
2. We fully understand your concerns.
3. I wholly agree with what you are saying.
4. My aunt is fully involved in charity work.
5. Your goods will be transported wholly by sea.
6. My mother thoroughly cleans the house every Saturday morning.
7. My husband is fully committed to his work.
8. We thoroughly discussed the issue before reaching a decision.
9. Don't unplug my computer yet. I'm waiting for the battery to be fully charged.
10. We had a great time on the Greek islands. We thoroughly explored them from one end to the other.

Note

While these three adverbs are variants of one another, each of them is used to modify different verbs/adjectives.

Thoroughly = deeply and completely. Used mostly with the following verbs:

Accept, abide, analyse, appreciate, approve, believe, check, clean, deserve, detest, discuss, enjoy, examine, explain, explore, illustrate, inspect, investigate, master, persuade, research, search, study, recommend, repent, respect, review, test, understand, wash.

Fully = completely. Used mostly with the following verbs and their corresponding adjectives:

Accept, accepted (adj), appreciate, charge (for batteries), commit, committed (adj) cooked (adj) depend dependant (adj) develop, develop (adj), dressed, (fully dressed/clothed = not partially dressed), engage (to be fully engaged (adj) in your work, a book, a discussion etc.), explore, focus,

*focused (adj) intact, integrate, integrated (adj), implement, implement (adj)
involve, involved (adj) load, loaded (adj) operate/operable,*

Wholly = totally, in every respect, and is the opposite of partially.

Used mainly with: agree, disagree, regret among others.

Confusing words-exercise nine

1. Fantasy vs. imagination

1. To be a novelist, you really need to have a vivid _____.
2. _____ is a visual experience coming from within.
3. Don't believe a word she says. She lives in a _____ world.
4. Creation begins with _____.
5. Those so-called 'reality' shows on TV are nothing more than _____.
6. Many of the young, and not-so-young, are addicted to _____ computer games, where they can escape the reality of everyday life.

2. Publicity vs. advertisement

1. I'm looking at the _____ in the newspaper. I need to find a job.
 2. The royal wedding received a lot of _____.
- Visibility

3. We need to think of a good _____ stunt to promote our products.

3. Wedding vs. marriage

1. Mary and Jim are getting married. They've invited us to their _____.

2. After years of what Janet defined as 'the _____ from hell,' she finally went ahead with divorce proceedings.

3. My parents have always had a very happy _____. They very rarely argue, and if so, it's always about trivial matters.

4. Elder vs. older

1. John is my _____ brother. He's three years my senior.

2. "Who is the _____ of the twins?" "Michael. He's _____ than Paul by five minutes."

5. Cloths vs. clothes

1. I bought a couple of new cloths today to clean the kitchen. The old ones are completely worn out.

2. Put on your clothes or you'll be late for school.

6. Emigrate vs. immigrate

1. We _____ to Canada when I was ten years old.

(Arrival in another country)

2. We _____ from England to Canada. (Departure

from your country of origin to become resident in

another country)

7. Sensible vs. sensitive

1. You're overly _____," said my brother, when he

saw me crying over the dead spider.

2. It's always _____ to begin to make provisions for a

pension starting from a young age.

3. We're lucky to have such a _____ daughter. She

would never do anything stupid.

4. I have to wear dark glasses as my eyes are so

_____ to daylight.

8. High vs. tall

1. I can't reach the top shelf. It's too _____. Get me

the ladder please.

2. The old oak tree stands _____ at the foot of the

garden.

3. My father is a _____ man. He's 1.98 m.

4. What I like about my garden is that it is surrounded by a very _____ wall. It gives me a lot of privacy.

5. The plane flew _____ in the sky.

9. Farther vs. further

1. My new house is _____ from the station than my old house.

2. Should you need any _____ information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

10. Whether vs. weather

1. I'm tired of this awful _____. It's been raining non-stop for weeks on end.

2. "_____ you like it or not, you are going to school tomorrow," said Tracy to her daughter who, as usual, wanted yet another day off school to laze around the house.

3. I don't know _____ to phone him or not.

Confusing words-exercise nine

1. Fantasy vs. imagination

1. To be a novelist, you really need to have a vivid imagination . (The flow of thoughts from the mind)
2. Imagination is a visual experience coming from within.
3. Don't believe a word she says. She lives in a fantasy world. (Make belief, unreal, figment of the imagination)
4. Creation begins with imagination . (The flow of thoughts)
5. Those so-called 'reality' shows on TV are nothing more than fantasy . (Make belief, unreal, construction of false images)
6. Many of the young, and not-so-young, are addicted to fantasy computer games, where they can escape the reality of everyday life. (Make belief, unreal)

2. Publicity vs. advertisement

1. I'm looking at the advertisements in the newspaper. I need to find a job. (
2. The royal wedding received a lot of publicity . (Visibility)
3. We need to think of a good publicity stunt to promote our products.

3. Wedding vs. marriage

1. Mary and Jim are getting married. They've invited us to their wedding .
2. After years of what Janet defined as 'the marriage from hell,' she finally went ahead with divorce proceedings.
3. My parents have always had a very happy marriage . They very rarely argue, and if so, it's always about trivial matters.

4. Elder vs. older

1. John is my elder brother. He's three years my senior.
2. "Who is the elder of the twins?" "Michael. He's older than Paul by five minutes."

5. Cloths vs. clothes

1. I bought a couple of new cloths today to clean the kitchen. The old ones are completely worn out.
2. Put on your clothes or you'll be late for school.

6. Emigrate vs. immigrate

1. We immigrated to Canada when I was ten years old. (Arrival in another country)
2. We emigrated from England to Canada. (Departure from your country of origin to become resident in another country)

7. Sensible vs. sensitive

1. You're overly sensitive ," said my brother, when he saw me crying over the dead spider.
2. It's always sensible to begin to make provisions for a pension starting from a young age.
3. We're lucky to have such a sensible daughter. She would never do anything stupid.
4. I have to wear dark glasses as my eyes are so sensitive to the sun.

8. High vs. tall

1. I can't reach the top shelf. It's too high . Get me the ladder please.
2. The old oak tree stands tall at the foot of the garden.
3. My father is a tall boy. He's 1. 98 m.

4. What I like about my garden is that it is surrounded by a very high wall. It gives me a lot of privacy.

5. The plane flew high in the sky.

Note

‘ Tall ’ and ‘high’ create confusion.

Use the adjective tall ’ to describe ‘measurement’ from the bottom to the top in a vertical position.

Use ‘ tall ’ for a person. The opposite of a tall person is a ‘ short ’ person whereas the opposite of ‘ high ’ is ‘ low ’.

Use ‘ tall ’ for a building when it is narrow in height, or a tree.

Mountains can be described as high but not tall , and a wall, such as a garden wall, is described as high and not tall . Walls and mountain are wide and not long and narrow in height.

9. Farther vs. further

1. My new house is farther/further from the station than my old house.

2. Should you need any further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Note

‘Farther’ and ‘further’ are both comparative forms of the adjective ‘far’, so both can be used in example number one. In example number two however, only ‘further’ can be used as it does not imply distance .

10. Whether vs. weather

1. I’m tired of this awful weather . It’s been raining non-stop for weeks on end.

2. “ Whether you like it or not, you are going to school tomorrow,” said Tracy to her daughter who, as usual, wanted yet another day off school to laze around the house.

3. I don’t know whether to phone him or not.

Grammar test one

Indefinite pronouns

Fill the gaps with the correct answers.

1. _____ rang the doorbell this morning but when I opened the door there was _____ there.

a) nobody/somebody b) somebody/nobody c) anybody/somebody

2. I searched _____ for my keys today but they were _____ to be seen.

a) somewhere/anywhere b) anywhere/not everywhere/nowhere

3. A: “Did you meet _____ interesting at the party last night?”

B: “Yes I did as a matter of fact. I met _____ who lived next door to me when I was a child.”

a) someone/anyone b) anyone/no-one c) anyone /someone

4. Would _____ like a piece of cake?

a) anyone b) someone

5. “Does _____ know how to spell ‘Mississippi’?” said the English teacher to the children. There was silence in the class. _____ replied.

a) somebody/anybody b) somebody/nobody c) anybody/nobody

6. “Would you like to go to the beach or the mountains?”

“_____ you want. Or one or the other. I like them both.”

a) somewhere b) anywhere c) nowhere

7. There’s _____ wrong with my mobile phone. It’s been acting strangely. Perhaps it has reached the end of its natural life.

a) something b) anything c) nothing

8. Let me take a look at your phone. I can’t find _____ wrong with it. Switch it off and then switch it back on again and it should go back to normal.

a) something b) anything c) nothing

9. I've switched it off and back on again and it's gone back to normal. You were right. There was _____ wrong with it after all. I hadn't switched it off in over three weeks so that would have been why it was acting so strangely.

a) something b) anything c) nothing

10. I hope I can find _____ who will accompany me to the airport to pick up my parents. My car isn't working.

a) anyone b) someone c) no-one

Grammar test one-answers

1. Somebody rang the doorbell this morning but when I opened the door there was nobody there.
2. I searched everywhere for my keys today but they were nowhere to be seen.
3. A: "Did you meet anyone interesting at the party last night?"
B: "Yes I did as a matter of fact. I met someone who lived next door to me when I was a child."
4. Would anyone like a piece of cake?
5. "Does anybody know how to spell 'Mississippi'?" said the English teacher to the children. There was silence in the class. Nobody replied.
6. "Would you like to go to the beach or the mountains?"
" Anywhere you want. Or one or the other. I like them both."
7. There's something wrong with my mobile phone. It's been acting strangely. Perhaps it has reached the end of its natural life.
8. Let me take a look at your phone. I can't find anything wrong with it. Switch it off and then switch it back on again and it should go back to normal.
9. I've switched it off and back on again and it's gone back to normal. You were right. There was something wrong with it after all. I hadn't switched it off in over three weeks so that would have been why it was acting so strangely.
10. I hope I can find someone who will accompany me to the airport to pick up my parents. My car isn't working.

Note

The following indefinite pronouns are treated as singular subjects therefore take singular verbs.

Any one , any body , any thing.

Every one , every body , every thing.

Some one , some body , some thing.

No one , no body , no thing.

Each, either and neither

Grammar test two

Singular or plural

Fill the gaps below with the correct answers.

1. Everybody in our building _____ a car;
however, nobody _____ a motorbike.

a) has/has b) have/have c) have/has

2. _____ a garage though.

a) everybody doesn't have b) not everybody has c)
not everybody have

3. Each of them _____ awarded a medal for their
football skills.

a) was b) were c) have been

4. Nobody _____ the answer.

a) know b) knows

5. At the bus stop: "What bus can I get to the city
centre?" "All of them _____ to the centre."

a) goes b) go

6. Twenty dollars _____ all it cost.

a) were b) was

Someone now _____ in that old farmhouse.

a) live b) lives

7. _____ ten thousand protesters are expected at tonight's presidential debate.

a) as many as b) as much as

8. How _____ do you earn per annum in your new job?

a) many b) much c) often

9. The parcel hasn't arrived yet. Three weeks _____ a long time for a parcel to arrive. I hope it hasn't gone missing or been stolen.

a) is b) are c) have been

10. The board of directors _____ currently standing for reelection.

a) is b) are

Grammar test two answers

1. Everybody in our building has a car; however, nobody has a motorbike.
2. Not everybody has a garage though.
3. Each of them was awarded a medal for their football skills.
4. Nobody knows the answer.
5. At the bus stop: “What bus can I get to the city centre?” “All of them go to the centre.”
6. Twenty dollars was all it cost. (Seen as a unit and not as individual dollars)
Someone now lives in that old farmhouse.
7. As many as ten thousand protesters are expected at tonight's presidential debate. (‘Protesters’ is plural and countable therefore –as ‘many’ as’ is correct.
8. How much do you earn per annum in your new job? (Earn, refers to ‘money’ and this noun is uncountable)
9. The parcel hasn’t arrived yet. Three weeks is a long time for a parcel to arrive. I hope it hasn’t gone missing or been stolen. (Seen as a three-week unit and not individual weeks)
10. The board of directors is currently standing for re-election. (Refers to the board)

Grammar test three

Collocations one

Fill the gaps below with the correct answers.

1. The British appear _____ more wine than ever before

a) that are drinking b) to drink c) to be drinking

2. She was delighted _____ the invitation to our wedding.

a) accepting b) to accepted c) to accept

3. The villain denied _____ anything to do with the robbery.

a) to have b) having c) he has

4. However, he confessed to _____ the car.

a) steal b) stealing c) he stole

5. It is forbidden _____ photographs in the museum.

a) taking b) take c) to take

6. It hurts _____ how badly he treated me.

a) to remember b) remembering c) remember

7. Imagine _____ the lottery. It would be fantastic. I can only dream.

a) to win b) winning c) win

8. They invited us _____ on holiday with them.

a) go b) to go c) going

9. My new managerial position in the company involves _____ extremely difficult decisions.

a) take b) to take c) taking

10. He managed _____ the assignment just in time.

a) to finish b) finish c) finishing

Grammar test three-answers

1. The British appear to be drinking more wine than ever before

Progressive – The British are drinking more wine than ever = a present ongoing fact

The British appear to be drinking = it seems they are drinking more wine than ever.

2. She was delighted to accept the invitation to our wedding. (Most adjectives are followed by the infinitive)

3. The villain denied having anything to do with the robbery.

4. However, he confessed to stealing the car.

5. It is forbidden to take photographs in the museum.

6. It hurts to remember how badly he treated me.

7. Imagine winning the lottery. It would be fantastic. I can only dream.

8. They invited us to go on holiday with them.

9. My new managerial position in the company involves taking extremely difficult decisions.

10. He managed to finish the assignment just in time.

Note

In numbers three and four, we can either use the gerund or the perfective form with the verbs 'deny' and 'confess'. The perfective form always indicates completion, whereas, the gerund, depending on context and specific verbs, can mean completion but at times still ongoing in the present.

He denied having anything to do with the robbery. Here it's clear that the robbery happened in the past.

He denied having had anything to do with the robbery. The robbery happened in the past. Both versions are possible. It usually depends on a stylistic choice.

He confessed to stealing the car. In the past he stole the car. It's clear.

He confessed to having stolen the car. In the past. It's clear.

Examples of 'deny + gerund' and 'confess + gerund' when something is not in the past but ongoing now.

He denied being my wife's lover. Now he is my wife's lover.

He confessed to being my wife's lover. Now he is my wife's lover.

Perfective aspect

He denied having been my wife's lover. Completion. He is not my wife's lover anymore.

He confessed to having been my wife's lover. Completion. He is not my wife's lover anymore.

Grammar test four

Verb collocations two

Fill the gaps below with the correct answers.

1. Would you mind _____ me your pen for a second?

a) to lend b) lend c) lending

2. He doesn't mind _____ us. In fact he says he will gladly do so.

a) to help b) helping c) help

3. The police ordered the robbers _____ their hands in the air.

a) put b) putting c) to put

4. The children pretended _____ asleep. They are always playing silly little games on me.

a) to be b) being c) be

5. He refused _____ my advice.

a) to listen b) listen c) to listen to

6. I just couldn't resist _____ that new car.

a) to buy b) buying c) to buy

7. Today I spent so much time _____ the shops for a birthday present for my mother.

a) to search b) searching c) search

8. They suggested _____ re-sit the exam.

a) to me b) I c) me

9. The burglar threatened _____ me if I didn't show him where my jewellery was hidden.

a) killing b) to kill c) kill

10. The boss wishes _____ to you in his office.

a) to speak b) speaking c) speak

Grammar test four-answers

1. Would you mind lending me your pen for a second?
2. He doesn't mind helping us. In fact he says he will gladly do so.
3. The police ordered the robbers to put their hands in the air.
4. The children pretended to be asleep. They are always playing silly little games on me.
5. He refused to listen to my advice.
6. I just couldn't resist buying that new car.
7. Today I spent so much time searching the shops for a birthday present for my mother.
8. They suggested I re-sit the exam.
9. The burglar threatened to kill me if I didn't show him where my jewellery was hidden.
10. The boss wishes to speak to you in his office.

Note

The verb 'suggest' is followed by the gerund form of the verb when we do not focus on the person/s receiving the suggestion. If we mention the receiver of the suggestion, we need to use the bare infinitive without the to

There is no difference in meaning in the following examples.

1. He suggested I go to the concert.
2. He suggested I went to the concert.
3. He suggested that I go to the concert (that) is optional
4. He suggested going to the concert.

Grammar test five

Verb collocations three

Complete the gaps below with the correct answers.

1. The mother warned her young son _____ near the hot stove.

a) to go b) to don't go c) not to go

2. She always goes to the market _____ fresh fish.

a) for buying b) to buy c) for to buy

3. Everybody stopped _____ when the director entered the room.

a) talking b) to talk c) talk

4. We regret _____ you that your application for the job has been turned down.

a) informing b) inform c) to inform

5. I sorely regret _____ to be a doctor.

a) I didn't study b) not to have studied c) not having studied

6. "I remember _____ that man somewhere before but I can't for the life of me remember where or when. Maybe it will come back to me." "Yes, you're right. He does look familiar also to me."

a) to see b) seeing c) I saw

7. "Did you remember _____ the meat out of the freezer this morning?" "Oh no! I completely forgot. There's nothing for dinner. Let's phone the Chinese takeaway."

a) taking b) to take c) you took

8. You aren't allowed _____ photos in the museum

a) taking b) to take c) for take d) to taking

9. We hope _____ enough money by the time Christmas comes.

a) to have saved b) saving c) of have saved

10. We hope _____ a new car soon. This one has seen better days.

a) buy b) to buy c) buying

Grammar test five-answers

1. The mother warned her young son not to go near the hot stove.
2. She always goes to the market to buy fresh fish.
3. Everybody stopped talking when the director entered the room.
4. We regret to inform you that your application for the job has been turned down.
5. I sorely regret not having studied to be a doctor.
6. "I remember seeing that man somewhere before but I can't for the life of me remember where or when. Maybe it will come back to me." "Yes, you're right. He does look familiar also to me."
7. "Did you remember to take the meat out of the freezer this morning?" "Oh no! I completely forgot. There's nothing for dinner. Let's phone the Chinese takeaway."
8. You aren't allowed to take photos in the museum
9. We hope to have saved enough money by the time Christmas comes.
10. We hope to buy a new car soon. This one has seen better days.

Note

Stop talking = not talking anymore

Stop to talk = stop for a moment to talk

Regret + infinitive = a formal way, mainly in formal written correspondence, to say 'sorry'.

Regret can be used with the gerund or the perfective aspect.

Regret not studying/regret not having studied. However, you need to be careful, as sometimes 'regret + gerund' does not always mean in the past. It depends on which verb you use and also which context. E.g. I regret not wearing my new dress, could mean now, that is if you arrive at a meeting with your old jeans on and everyone else is dressed in smart clothes, or it can mean in the past, again depending on context. E.g. I regret not wearing

my new dress to the meeting yesterday. With the perfective aspect, it always means 'completion', in the past.

In number nine, 'hope + perfective aspect' = a completed action at a future time.

Remember seeing, 'remember + gerund' = I recall in my mind something that happened in the past.

Remember to see, remember + infinitive' = don't forget (in the future) to do something.

Grammar test six

Collocations four

Fill the gaps in each sentence below with the correct answers.

1. I hate _____ you but I've lost that book you lent me.

a) to tell b) of tell c) tell

2. I really hate _____ up early in the morning. I am definitely not a morning person.

a) getting b) to get c) get

3. I can't stand _____ anything to do. I like to keep myself busy.

a) to not have b) not having c) to don't have

4. We haven't got enough time _____ the deadline.

a) for to meet b) to meet c) for meet

5. He was keen _____ the college course.

a) to start b) starting c) on start

6. I am very keen _____. I spend most of my time at the local swimming baths.

a) to swim b) on swimming c) swimming

7. Sara arrived late at the concert and missed _____ the group sing her favourite song

a) hear b) to hear c) hearing

8. Since I moved to the city I really miss _____ for long walks along the country lanes.

a) going b) to go c) go

9. We'll phone Bill when we finish _____ our dinner.

a) to eat b) eating c) eat

10. We are planning _____ to New York for Christmas.

a) go b) to go c) going

Grammar test six-answers

1. I hate to tell you but I've lost that book you lent me.
2. I really hate getting up early in the morning. I am definitely not a morning person.
3. I can't stand not having anything to do. I like to keep myself busy.
4. We haven't got enough time to meet the deadline.
5. He was keen to start the college course.
6. I am very keen on swimming. I spend most of my time at the local swimming baths.
7. Sara arrived late at the concert and missed hearing the group sing her favourite song.
8. Since I moved to the city I really miss going for long walks along the country lanes.
9. We'll phone Bill when we finish eating our dinner.
10. We are planning to go to New York for Christmas.

Note

Hate + infinitive = on one occasion only

Hate + gerund = always

In number four, 'time' is a noun and usually nouns are followed by the infinitive of the verb

Keen + infinitive = eager

Keen on + gerund, the preposition forces the gerund. 'To be keen on doing something' = to like very much.

Miss + gerund in number seven, = arrive too late for something

Miss + gerund in number eight = have nostalgia for something or someone

In number ten we can say, 'plan to go' or 'plan on going', as always, the preposition forces the gerund.

Grammar test seven

Verb collocations five

Fill the gaps in each sentence below with the correct answers.

1. He didn't intend _____ you cry. He's a good person.

a) to make b) making c) make

2. He postponed _____ to London because he had too much work to finish.

a) to go b) going c) to go

3. Why do some of the world's richest people not retire? _____ to work provides structure and meaning in their lives.

a) to continue b) continuing c) continue

4. There is not much they can do that _____ people from abusing the system.

a) to stop b) to stop c) will stop

5. There is not much they can do _____ people from abusing the system.

a) to stop b) that stops c) will stop

6. He tried to prevent me _____ out with my friends. His jealousy has no limits.

a) to go b) going c) from going

7. I volunteered _____ my father clean the garage.

a) help b) to help c) in helping

8. _____ your new computer, first remove its protective wrapping.

a) setting up b) to set up c) set down d) to set down

9. I really dread _____ to work tomorrow after that big argument I had with my boss.

a) to go b) going c) go

10. He seems _____ a lot lately. I hope he isn't ill.

a) to be sleeping b) to sleep c) of to sleep

Grammar test seven-answers

1. He didn't intend to make you cry. He's a good person.
2. He postponed going to London because he had too much work to finish.
3. Why do some of the world's richest people not retire? Continuing to work provides structure and meaning in their lives.
4. There is not much they can do that will stop people from abusing the system.
5. There is not much they can do to stop people from abusing the system.
6. He tried to prevent me from going out with my friends. His jealousy has no limits.
7. I volunteered to help my father clean the garage.
8. To set up your new computer, first remove its protective wrapping.
9. I really dread going to work tomorrow after that big argument I had with my boss.
10. He seems to be sleeping a lot lately. I hope he isn't ill.

In number ten, the progressive form is used. He is sleeping a lot lately = a fact. He seems to be sleeping a lot lately, = we have this impression.

Grammar test eight

Collocations six

Fill the gaps in each sentence below with the correct answers.

1. There's no point _____ John to come with us. He always says no.

a) to ask b) in asking c) to asking

2. He was a fool _____ accept the job. It came with so many benefits including a company car.

a) not to b) to not c) to don't d) of not

3. It's a waste of time _____ him _____ come home so late. He never listens.

a) tell/to not b) to tell/to don't c) telling/not to

4. It's no use _____ Sally. She never answers the phone.

a) to phone b) phoning c) phone

5. We have no intention _____ to him after what he did.

a) to speak b) of speaking c) for to speak

6. It's time you _____.

a) go b) to go c) went d) going

7. It's time _____

a) to go b) we go c) going

8. Børge Ousland from Norway, was the first person _____ solo and unsupported to the North Pole in 1994.

a) to walk b) walked c) walking

9. My neighbour is very lucky _____ so much money.

a) to have been won b) to have won c) having won

10. He complains all the time about his job without realising just how very lucky he is _____ one.

a) having b) to have c) to be having

Grammar test eight-answers

1. There's no point in asking John to come with us. He always says no.
2. He was a fool not to accept the job. It came with so many benefits including a company car.
3. It's a waste of time telling him not to come home so late. He never listens.
4. It's no use phoning Sally. She never answers the phone.
5. We have no intention of speaking to him after what he did.
6. It's time you went. time + past tense of verb/time + subject + infinitive of verb
7. It's time to go .
8. Børge Ousland from Norway, was the first person to walk solo and unsupported to the North Pole in 1994.
9. My neighbour is very lucky to have won so much money.
10. He complains all the time about his job without realising just how very lucky he is to have one.

Note

In number six, 'time + past tense' denotes a certain urgency. Emphasis is put on the subject, in this case, 'you'.

In number seven, 'time + infinitive' is a casual reminder with no urgency in the voice of the speaker.

In number eight, use noun + infinitive.

In number nine, the perfective aspect implies a completed action.

Grammar test nine

Collocations seven

Fill the gaps in each sentence below with the correct answers.

1. The thought _____ for another thirty years makes me feel so depressed.

a) to work b) of work c) of working

2. Before taking your driving test, it is important _____.

a) practising b) that you will have practised c) to have practised

3. I am very excited _____ this opportunity _____ with your company.

a) for/to work b) about/to work c) with/of work

4. I wish _____ another language then I would have more job opportunities.

a) to speak b) I could speak c) would speak

5. We had absolutely no idea how to use the program until the technician _____

a) explained us it b) explained to us it c) explained it to us

6. He treats me _____ a baby.

a) as if I were b) like I was c) as

7. He _____ be late. That is typical of him. He's never ever arrived on time.

a) is bound b) is bound to c) bound to (we are certain of this)

8. It's very cold outside. I _____ rather we _____ out tonight. Let's just stay at home.

a) had/didn't go b) would/not go c) would/didn't go d) had/we not go

9. It's time _____. The last bus is in ten minutes' time.

a) we leave b) we left c) we go d) we should go

The past tense gives the idea of something more urgent

10. "Let's meet for a coffee." "When?" "_____ you like."

a) some time b) anytime c) any time

_____ that if you

Grammar test nine-answers

1. The thought of working for another thirty years makes me feel so depressed.
2. Before taking your driving test, it is important to have practised .
3. I am very excited about this opportunity to work with your company.
4. I wish I could speak another language then I would have more job opportunities.
5. We had absolutely no idea how to use the program until the technician explained it to us .
6. He treats me as if I were a baby.
7. He is bound to be late. That is typical of him. He's never ever arrived on time.
8. It's very cold outside. I would rather we didn't go out tonight. Let's just stay at home.
9. It's time we left . The last bus is in ten minutes' time.
10. "Let's meet for a coffee." "When?" " Anytime you like."

Note

In number two, the perfective aspect denotes completion.

Compare: It's important to practise , an ongoing action/fact. It's important to have practiced , a completed action.

In number four, wish + past tense, is used for a present wish. Wish + past perfect, is used for a past wish.

In number seven, the use of 'to be bound to + bare infinitive' = to deduce this as a certainty, possibly because he is always late/to have strong reason to believe something will happen.

Again, as seen previously, the use of 'time + subject + past tense', gives the idea of urgency.

Grammar test ten

Collocations eight

Fill the gaps in each of the following sentences with one of the following.

a) however b) whenever c) whatever d) wherever
e) whichever f) whatsoever

1. “The doorbell is ringing. If it’s for me, tell _____ it is, I’m out. I’m not in the mood to talk to anyone.”

2. _____ I feel sad, I always put on my favourite music. It cheers me up.

3. _____ I go, I always seem to meet Martin. I’m sure he’s stalking me.

4. _____ you do, don’t tell dad I borrowed his car or he’ll kill me.

5. _____ much I try, I can’t seem to lose any weight _____.

6. He gets hounded by Paparazzi _____ he goes.

7. What day do you want to meet next week?”
_____. I don’t mind. I’m free every day.

8. “No you can’t have both cakes,” said mother.
“Take _____ one you prefer and leave the other
one for your brother.”

9. “If you are going to be late for any reason
_____, phone me and let me know,” said
Belinda’s mother.

10. _____ bad he is, he is still my son and I will
always love him.

Grammar test ten-answers

1. *“The doorbell is ringing. If it’s for me, tell whoever it is, I’m out. I’m not in the mood to talk to anyone.”*
2. *Whenever I feel sad, I always put on my favourite music. It cheers me up.*
3. *Wherever I go, I always seem to meet Martin. I’m sure he’s stalking me.*
4. *Whatever you do, don’t tell dad I borrowed his car or he’ll kill me.*
5. *However much I try, I can’t seem to lose any weight whatsoever .*
6. *He gets hounded by Paparazzi wherever he goes.*
7. *What day do you want to meet next week?” Whenever . I don’t mind. I’m free every day.*
8. *“No you can’t have both cakes,” said mother. “Take whichever one you prefer and leave the other one for your brother.”*
9. *“If you are going to be late for any reason whatsoever , phone me and let me know,” said Belinda’s mother.*
10. *However bad he is, he is still my son and I will always love him.*

Grammar test eleven

Modal auxiliary verbs semi modals

Go over the grammar rules below before doing the exercise that follows

Use ‘should + bare infinitive of the verb’ when giving advice or making suggestions about the present or the future

Example – the present

Person A: “I’ve got a terrible headache.”

Person B: “You should take an aspirin.”

Example – the future

Person A: “I’ve got a job interview next week.”

Person B: “You should dress *smartly* and arrive *punctual* .”

Use ‘shouldn’t/should not’ + bare infinitive of the verb when advising against doing something.

Example : You shouldn’t listen to Mandy’s advice. She’s got no knowledge on the subject.

When giving advice or making a suggestion about the past we use ‘should have + past participle’.

Person A: “I had a terrible headache last night. I couldn’t sleep all night.”

Person B: “You should have taken an aspirin.”

We also use ‘should + bare infinitive’ when expressing likelihood – what is expected - about the present or the future.

Example : - present

Person A: “Alex should be in the office by now. It’s nine o’clock and that’s what time he starts work.”

Person B: “Okay then I’ll phone the office now. He’s left his briefcase at home and it’s full of important documents.”

Example : future

Person A: “The bus should be here in about ten minutes.”

Person B: “I know. I looked on my mobile phone app. It’s been held up due to an accident.”

Another example :

Person A: “You should get the job. You’ve got all the right qualifications.”

Person B: “Yes I know but I don’t have any experience. Here’s hoping.”

Past tense

Person A: “The bus is late. It should have been here ten minutes ago.” (This was expected)

Person B: “There’s probably been an accident.”

Should be + gerund

Use ‘should be + gerund’ when the subject is expected, usually as an obligation, to be doing something now.

Mother to son: “What are you doing watching TV? You should be studying for your exam.”

Uses of must + bare infinitive

Obligation from the speaker:

Examples : I must remember to post this letter when I’m out.

“You must stop this bad behaviour,” said Mrs Rankin to her son.

Deduction, when you presume something to be the case

It must be very hot in Rome,”

To underline strong necessity

Dogs must be walked at least twice a day.

Strong recommendation

The negative mustn't = at all costs, don't do something. It is forbidden

Notice in the park : You mustn't tread on the flower beds.

‘Must’, when used for obligation and *not* deduction, has the same past tense as ‘have to’, that is, ‘had to’.

‘Must’ is used to express obligation from the speaker, while ‘have to’ expresses external obligation.

‘Have to’ comes under the umbrella of ‘semi-modals’

Fill the gaps in the following exercise with ‘have to/don't have must/mustn't should/shouldn't

1. Driving at 30 miles per hour in the city is compulsory.

You _____ drive at 30 miles an hour in the city.

2. It's not a good idea to lie on the beach without applying sunscreen.

You _____ lie on the beach without applying sunscreen.

3. In my line of work it's necessary to be kind to the clients.

You _____ be kind to the clients in my line of work.

4. We can wear what we want to work on Fridays. It's not necessary to dress in formal clothes.

We _____ wear formal clothes to the office on Fridays.

5. "Don't talk with your mouth full. It's bad manners to do so." said Sandra to her young child. "If you want to say something then wait until you've swallowed your food."

6. "You _____ talk with your mouth full," said Sandra to her young child. "It's bad manners to do so."

7. "I'm so tired all the time." "You _____ go to bed earlier instead of watching videos until all hours in the morning."

8. I _____ remember to turn off the gas before I go out. I'm always leaving it on.

9. I _____ do a lot of overtime this week so I will _____ stay in the office until late. We've got a backload of work to finish before next Friday.

10. We _____ go to school tomorrow. It's a holiday.

Grammar test eleven-answers

1. *Driving at 30 miles per hour in the city is compulsory.*

You must drive at 30 miles an hour in the city.

2. *It's not a good idea to lie on the beach without applying sunscreen.*

You shouldn't lie on the beach without applying sunscreen.

3. *In my line of work it's necessary to be kind to the clients.*

You have to be kind to the clients in my line of work.

4. *We can wear what we want to work on Fridays. It's not necessary to dress in formal clothes.*

We don't have to wear formal clothes to the office on Fridays.

5. *"Don't talk with your mouth full. It's bad manners to do so." said Sandra to her young child. "If you want to say something then wait until you've swallowed your food."*

6. *"You mustn't talk with your mouth full," said Sandra to her young child. "It's bad manners to do so."*

7. *"I'm so tired all the time." "You should go to bed earlier instead of watching videos until all hours in the morning."*

8. *I must remember to turn off the gas before I go out. I'm always leaving it on.*

9. *I have to do a lot of overtime this week so I will have to stay in the office until late. We've got a backload of work to finish before next Friday.*

10. *We don't have to go to school tomorrow. It's a holiday.*

Grammar test twelve

Modal auxiliary verbs-present and past one

Change the following sentences into the past. Use the adverbs of time in brackets.

Example : I can play the piano. (When I was six years old)

I could play the piano when I was six years old.

I can come with you to the concert. (Last night)

I could have come with you to the concert last night.

1. He can speak English extremely well. (By the age of five)

2. You can tell that you are in a very good mood. (This morning)

3. Mum can't move because she's broken her leg. (Yesterday)

4. We can't go to London. We're working. (Last week)

5. I must go. It's late. (This morning)

6. Who's that ringing the doorbell? It must be the courier. I ordered a pair of shoes online. (An hour ago)

7. That can't be Jim driving past. He's in Italy. (Last night)

8. The phone's ringing. It might be Jane phoning. (A moment ago)

9. Someone's outside calling your name. It may be Jane. The doorbell isn't working. (Five minutes ago)

10. It's possible that message you accidentally deleted was from Tommy. (A few minutes ago)

Grammar test twelve-answers

1. By the age of five he could speak English extremely well. (Past tense of 'can' for 'ability')
2. You could tell that you were in a very good mood this morning.
3. Mum couldn't move because she had broken her leg the day before .
4. We couldn't go to London last week. We were working. (Last week)
5. I had to go this morning. It was late. ('Must' for obligation has the same past tense as 'have to', that is 'had to')
6. Who was that ringing the doorbell an hour ago? It must have been the courier. I ordered a pair of shoes online. ('Must' used as a modal verb of 'deduction' which take the perfective when placed in the past tense/'must have been' implies 'to have strong reason to believe something', similar to 'it's bound to be,' as seen in the previous exercise)
7. That couldn't have been Jim driving past last night. He's in Italy. ('Can't' in its modal auxiliary of deduction form, becomes 'couldn't have + past particle, (the perfective aspect) when deducing that something is highly unlikely)
8. The phone was ringing a moment ago. It might have been Jane phoning. ('Might' used as a modal auxiliary of deduction, becomes 'might have + past particle' to express past possibility)
9. Someone was outside calling your name five minutes ago. It may have been Jane. The doorbell isn't working. ('May' used as a modal auxiliary of deduction, becomes 'may have + past particle' to express past possibility. It's used as a more formal version of 'might')
10. That message you accidentally deleted a few minutes ago might/may have been from Tommy. The same as number nine.

Grammar test thirteen

Modal auxiliary verbs-present and past two

1. I really _____ to go now. It's getting late. The last bus leaves in about fifteen minutes.

a) should b) ought c) must

2. Sally's late again. She _____ here half an hour ago.

a) ought to be b) should have been c) ought have been

3. You _____ her face when she found out her husband had already been married - not once but three times.

a) should have seen b) ought have seen c) ought to see

4. "Why do you think Jane didn't phone me yesterday?" "I don't know but she _____ your number."

a) might forget b) might have forgotten c) would have forgot

5. I didn't think it _____ yesterday but it did. The weather forecast said it _____ sunny.

a) rained/is b) was raining/will be c) would have rained/would be

6. I really wish I _____ Brian when he was dismissed from the hospital but unfortunately I was on holiday at the time.

a) could helped b) would have helped c) could have helped

7. We ought _____ the telephone bill by now. It's the 10th August and it was due to arrive on the 4th.

a) have received b) received c) to have received

8. "You _____ feed the animals," said the zookeeper to little Johnny, who was offering the bear a piece of his chocolate. "Didn't you see the sign? It says, 'please do not feed the animals'."

a) don't have to b) you shouldn't c) mustn't

9. I couldn't go to work yesterday because I _____ go to the doctor's. I felt really ill.

a) should have gone b) had to c) was meant to

10. The doctor told me I _____ to take this medicine for seven days.

a) should b) must b) have

Grammar test thirteen-answers

1. I really ought to go now. It's getting late. The last bus leaves in about fifteen minutes. ('Ought' is the only one which requires the preposition 'to' after it)
2. Sally's late again. She should have been here half an hour ago. ('Should have been' is the past tense of 'should be' and in this context, it implies expectation. It was expected of her to be here half an hour ago)
3. You should have seen her face when she found out her husband had already been married - not once but three times. (Unlike number 2, 'should have + past participle' in the above context, denotes surprise or shock, it is similar to 'I wish you had seen her face')
4. "Why do you think Jane didn't phone me yesterday?" "I don't know but she might have forgotten your number." ('might have + past participle' means 'it is possible that something happened in the past. In this case, it means, 'it's possible that she forgot your number')
5. I didn't think it would have rained yesterday but it did. The weather forecast said it would be sunny. (I didn't think it would have rained = I didn't expect it to rain/'would be' is the past tense of 'will be')
6. I really wish I could have helped Brian when he was dismissed from the hospital but unfortunately I was on holiday at the time. (I wish I could have helped = I wish it had been possible for me to help him)
7. We ought to have received the telephone bill by now. It's the 10th August and it was due to arrive on the 4th. (We ought to have received = it was expected that we received the bill before now or up until now)
8. "You mustn't feed the animals," said the zookeeper to little Johnny, who was offering the bear a piece of his chocolate. "Didn't you see the sign? It says, 'please do not feed the animals'." ('Mustn't', in this example, implies strong obligation not to do something, whereas 'don't have to' means, 'it's not necessary but you can if you want', and 'shouldn't' means that 'it is not recommended')

9. I couldn't go to work yesterday because I had to go to the doctor's. I felt really ill. ('Had to' means, obligation, whereas 'should have gone,' means I didn't go but it would have been a good idea to go,' and 'was meant to go,' means it was expected of me to go but I didn't go)

10. The doctor told me I have to take this medicine for seven days. ('Have to' is used for obligation)

Grammar test fourteen

Will for deduction and/or prediction

Change the following sentences using either 'will' or 'won't' (in the past or present) and any other necessary words omitting the words in *italics*.

Example : That *is probably* John at the door.

Answer : That *will be* John at the door. (I presume this to be the case/I see it as being highly probable)

1. He *is likely to* be in a traffic jam.
2. *I guess* he *forgot* about our appointment.
3. Mum's not at home. She 's *most certainly* at the dentist's.
4. I *don't expect to* pass my exams. I haven't had time to study.
5. He doesn't speak English very well so he *most certainly didn't understand* the directions you gave him.
6. *It's highly unlikely that* James *spoke* to Karen so rudely. She always exaggerates.

7. *I really don't expect him to arrive on time.*

8. "Leonard is not answering his phone." "*I suspect he left it at home. He's always forgetting to take it with him.*"

9. I saw Peter's car outside. It's all smashed up. *I reckon he crashed it.* I saw him driving at top speed last night.

10. There's smoke coming out of the next-door neighbour's kitchen window. *In all probability he's burnt his dinner again.*

Grammar test fourteen-answers

1. He will be in a traffic jam.
2. He'll have forgotten about our appointment.
3. Mum's not at home. She 'll be at the dentist's.
4. I won't pass my exams. I haven't had time to study.
5. He doesn't speak English very well so he won't have understood the directions you gave him.
6. James won't have spoken to Karen so rudely. She always exaggerates.
7. He won't arrive on time.
8. "Leonard is not answering his phone." " He'll have left it at home. He's always forgetting to take it with him."
9. I saw Peter's car outside. It's all smashed up. He'll have crashed it. I saw him driving at top speed last night.
10. There's smoke coming out of the next-door neighbour's kitchen window. He'll have burnt his dinner again.

Note

The future perfect simple, 'will + have + been', is used as a 'present prediction/assumption for something already completed', in numbers two, five, six, eight, nine and ten. This tense is also used to indicate completion at a future time. E.g. At the end of the year I will have saved enough money to go on holiday.

Grammar test fifteen

Conditionals

1. If you hadn't told her she would never _____.

a) have known b) knew c) had known

2. He might _____ his exam if he _____ in to study last night.

a) have passed/had stayed b) have past/stayed c) passed/had stayed

3. You'd better bring in the washing in case _____ when we are out.

a) it will rain b) it rains c) of it raining

4. I haven't got a job so I can't go on holiday this year. If I had a job I _____ go on holiday.

a) will b) could c) may

5. I wish I had never gone out last night. I wasted so much money that I can't afford to spend. If I _____ out, I wouldn't _____ so much money.

a) didn't go/have wasted b) hadn't gone/had wasted c) hadn't gone/have wasted

6. If I _____ in your shoes, I would have accepted the job. It was the opportunity of a lifetime. You were really silly to have turned it down.

a) had been b) were to be c) was

7. I _____ called you last night if my phone _____.

a) would/was working b) would have/worked c) would have/had been working.

8. I should never have spoken to John like that. Now he's not talking to me anymore.

If I _____ to John like that, he _____ to me.

a) didn't speak/still talk b) hadn't spoken/would still be talking c) hadn't spoken/would have talked to me.

9. It's a pity we couldn't meet when you came to London but I was abroad on business. If I _____ abroad on business, we _____ when you came to London.

a) wasn't/should have met b) hadn't been/would meet c) hadn't been/could have met

10. Mum is sorry she didn't answer the phone but she was sleeping at the time. If mum _____ she _____ the phone.

a) wasn't sleeping/could answer b) hadn't slept/would answer c) hadn't been sleeping/would have answered

Grammar test fifteen-answers

1. If you hadn't told her she would never have known .
2. He might have passed his exam if he had stayed in to study last night.
3. You'd better bring in the washing in case it rains when we are out.
4. I haven't got a job so I can't go on holiday this year. If I had a job I could go on holiday.
5. I wish I had never gone out last night. I wasted so much money that I can't afford to spend. If I hadn't gone out, I wouldn't have wasted so much money.
6. If I had been in your shoes, I would have accepted the job. It was the opportunity of a lifetime. You were really silly to have turned it down.
7. I would have called you last night if my phone had been working .
8. I should never have spoken to John like that. Now he's not talking to me anymore.
If I hadn't spoken to John like that, he would still be talking to me.
9. It's a pity we couldn't meet when you came to London but I was abroad on business. If I hadn't been abroad on business, we could have met when you came to London.
10. Mum is sorry she didn't answer the phone but she was sleeping at the time. If mum hadn't been sleeping she would have answered the phone.

Note

Most of the examples above are in the third conditional. If + subject + past perfect (for the condition) subject + would + present perfect (for the result of the condition)

Besides, would + present perfect for the result of the condition, the modals, might, may, and could can be used to express different levels of possibility. 'Would' in the third conditional expresses certainty while might, may, and could, express similar levels of possibility.

Number three – you had better bring in the washing in case it rains, is similar in structure to the first condition, with the present simple on the result of the condition. This expresses a future possibility.

*Number four is an example of the second conditional, the hypothetical condition. If + subject + past simple (for the condition)
would/might/may/could + infinitive (for the result of the condition)*

In number seven, the result of the condition is in the past perfect continuous and not the past perfect simple. This is because we refer back to the continuous tense, ‘my phone wasn’t working’.

Number eight is an example of the mixed conditional, that is, when the condition is in the past but the result is in the present. The mixed conditional is as commonly used as the other conditionals.

Grammar test sixteen

Passive structures one

1. Vandals set the house on fire. Luckily they didn't do much damage to it. The firemen were on the scene in seconds flat. Luckily no damage _____ the house.

a) was done b) is done c) was done to

2. Most of his books _____ into different languages.

a) were translate b) have been translated c) have translated

3. The first FIFA world cup _____ in Uruguay in July 1930.

a) was played b) was being played c) has been played

4. The bin men were emptying the bins when I went out this morning. The bins _____ when I woke up this morning.

a) were emptied b) is being emptied c) were being emptied

5. The meeting _____ to last the whole afternoon.

a) will be expected b) is expected c) expects

6. Don't go into the living room as it _____ at the moment.

a) is being painted b) is painted c) is been painted

7. A: "Do they allow smoking in the conference room?"

B: "No, smoking _____."

a) doesn't allowed b) isn't allowed c) hasn't been allowed

8. We'll need to find another route; the main road _____ for repairs.

a) is closed b) closed c) be closed

9. In Switzerland more than one language _____.

a) are spoke b) are spoken c) is spoken

A: "Who does the cleaning in your house?"

10. B: "It _____ by a cleaning lady who comes in three times a week.

a) is being done b) is done c) is did

Grammar test sixteen-answers

1. Vandals set the house on fire. Luckily they didn't do much damage to it. The firemen were on the scene in seconds flat. Luckily no damage no damage was done the house. Past simple passive

2. Most of his books have been translated into different languages. Present perfect passive

3. The first FIFA world cup was played in Uruguay in July 1930. Past simple passive

4. The bin men were emptying the bins when I went out this morning. The bins were being emptied when I woke up this morning. Past continuous passive (no need to add 'by the bin men' as it is understood that only the bin men empty the bins on the street)

5. The meeting is expected to last the whole afternoon. Present simple passive (Active – we expect the meeting to last the whole afternoon)

6. Don't go into the living room as it is being painted at the moment. Present continuous passive

7. A: "Do they allow smoking in the conference room?"

B: "No, smoking is not allowed ." Present simple passive

8. We'll need to find another route; the main road is closed for repairs. Present simple passive

9. In Switzerland more than one language is spoken . Present simple passive

A: "Who does the cleaning in your house?"

10. B: "It is done by a cleaning lady who comes in three times a week. Present simple passive

Grammar test seventeen

Passive structures two

1. A: "What are they doing to the old church in the town square?"

B: "It _____."

a) is renovated b) is being renovated c) will renovate

2. A: That view in the photograph is amazing. Where _____ ?

a) is it took b) was it taken c) has it been taken

3. We can stop the search party. The missing man _____ just _____.

a) is/found b) has/been found c) was/found

4. He _____ a few moments ago by the mountain rescue team.

a) has been found b) was been found c) was found

5. Scientists say that global temperatures could rise by 6C by the end of the century. It _____ that global temperatures could rise by 6C by the end of the century.

a) says b) is said b) is saying

6. The police saw him driving along the motorway at top speed. He _____ along the motorway at top speed.

a) was driven b) was seen driving c) was seen to drive

7. The gatecrashers spoiled the party. The party _____ by the gatecrashers.

a) had spoiled b) was spoiled c) is spoiled

8. There's no washing up liquid left. They've used it all up. All the washing up liquid _____ up.

a) was used b) has been used c) is used

9. Some people once said that the Norman Conquest brought about changes in all phases of English life. The Norman Conquest is thought _____ about changes in all phases of English life.

a) to have brought b) to have been brought c) to bring

10. I think I have been stung by a bee.

a) am stinged b) have been stung c) is been stung

Grammar test seventeen-answers

1. A: "What are they doing to the old church in the town square?"

B: "It is being renovated . Present continuous passive

2. A: That view in the photograph is amazing. Where was it taken ? Past simple passive

3. We can stop the search party. The missing man has just been found . Present perfect passive

4. He was found a few moments ago by the mountain rescue team. Past simple passive

5. Scientists say that global temperatures could rise by 6C by the end of the century. It is said that global temperatures could rise by 6C by the end of the century. Present simple passive

6. The police saw him driving along the motorway at top speed. He was seen driving along the motorway at top speed. Past continuous passive

7. The gatecrashers spoiled the party. The party was spoiled by the gatecrashers. Past simple passive

8. There's no washing up liquid left. They've used it all up. All the washing up liquid has been used up. Present perfect passive

9. Some people once said that the Norman Conquest brought about changes in all phases of English life. The Norman Conquest is thought to have brought about changes in all phases of English life. With the past tense/past participle verb 'thought' use 'thought to bring' for a present fact/thought to have brought' for anything occurring before the present moment.

10. I think I have been stung by a bee. Present perfect passive

Note

There are no examples of the present perfect continuous/past perfect continuous or future perfect continuous passives due to the fact that they don't exist in the passive structure.

Grammar test eighteen

Past tenses one

1. It is not certain why she _____ the exam.
a) did fail b) failed c) was failed
2. By the time the police arrived, the burglars _____ out the warehouse.
a) cleared b) were clearing c) had cleared
3. The question _____ at the annual meeting
a) was risen b) was raised c) was rose
4. The chairman _____ to his feet at the end of the meeting.
a) raised b) rose c) was raised
5. Before they got married, they _____ together for several years.
a) have lived b) were living c) had been living
6. It was the first time she _____ ever _____ abroad.
a) was/been b) had/went c) had/been

7. We waited and waited but by 7 o'clock they still _____ . That was when we decided to go to the theatre without them.

a) didn't arrive b) hadn't arrived c) weren't arrived

8. I _____ him an email about a week ago but he still _____ it yet.

a) have sent/hasn't answered b) wrote /didn't answer c) sent /hasn't answered

9. Nobody _____ the burglar as he left the mansion with the priceless paintings. He came and went in the darkness of the night.

a) seen b) saw...c) had seen

10. She was certain she _____ him somewhere before. His face was so familiar.

a) saw b) had seen c) didn't see

Grammar test eighteen-answers

Past tenses one

1. It is not certain why she failed the exam.
2. By the time the police arrived, the burglars had cleared out the warehouse. Past perfect simple indicating that something was already completed/done prior to another past action/occurrence. 'By the time' is used very often with the past perfect simple/continuous.
3. The question was raised at the annual meeting. Past simple passive. You raise a question and raised is the past tense and also the past participle of the regular verb 'raise'.
4. The chairman rose to his feet at the end of the meeting. Past simple. 'Rose' is the past tense of the irregular verb 'rise'. Complications occur with non natives as to the usage of 'rise/rose/risen' and 'raise/raised/raised'. (Rise/rose/risen-intransitive irregular verb-it doesn't have an object). We use "rise" to indicate motion in an upward direction. "Raise" is a transitive regular verb. You need to use it with an object. You raise 'something' but you cannot 'rise' something. Raise means to 'elevate/lift up'.
5. Before they got married, they had been living together for several years. Past perfect continuous is used to indicate something in progress up to a specific moment in the past. Normally used with a contrasting past tense to show time shifts, i.e. 'before they got married.'
6. It was the first time she had ever been abroad. Past perfect simple indicates an action or occurrence that happens prior to another action or occurrence.
7. We waited and waited but by 7o'clock they still hadn't arrived . That was when we decided to go to the theatre without them. The same as number six.
8. I sent him an email about a week ago but he still hasn't answered it yet. Past simple, finished past + present perfect, connects past to present when used with 'for', 'since' or in the negative 'yet'.

9. Nobody saw the burglar as he left the mansion with the priceless paintings. He came and went in the darkness of the night. Past simple, referring to finished past.

10. She was certain she had seen him somewhere before. His face was so familiar. Past perfect simple. She was certain (in the past) that prior to that moment, she did not see him.

Grammar test nineteen

Past tenses two

1. She _____ nobody about her boyfriend's criminal record. She felt too embarrassed.

a) told b) tells c) didn't tell

2. Yesterday at this time it _____ from the heavens.

a) was poured b) was pouring c) poured

3. She _____ at him, wondering where she _____ him.

a) looked/met b) was looking/had met c) looked/met

4. A: "We didn't know Liz _____ back to London."

B: "Oh didn't you! She _____ back about a month ago."

a) moved/had moved b) had moved/moved c) was moving/moved

5. A: "Who did your mother speak to when she phoned the bank?"

B: "I've no idea _____ to."

a) who did she speak b) who she spoke c) who she's spoken

6. A: "What did you do last Sunday?"

B: "I can't remember what _____. Oh now it has come back to me. I went to the lake with Bob."

a) did I do b) I done c) I did

7. I didn't know that your brother _____ to work in the states. When did he go?

a) had gone b) was gone c) went

8. I spoke to the Mrs Jones yesterday for the first time ever; before that, I _____ her by sight.

a) have only known b) only knew c) I was only knowing

9. The woman _____ when the ambulance arrived. Luckily they managed to stabilise her until they got her to the hospital. She is now said to be in a stable condition.

a) died b) had died c) was dying

10. My father was caught in a terrible storm on his way home from the office last night. At one point he really thought he _____ his way but luckily he managed to get back on track.

a) lost b) had lost c) was

Grammar test nineteen-answers

Past tenses two

1. She told nobody about her boyfriend's criminal record. She felt too embarrassed. 'She told nobody' is the same as 'she didn't tell anybody'. Common errors occur when students of English say, 'she didn't tell nobody' which would mean have the opposite meaning as two negatives make a positive.
2. Yesterday at this time it was pouring from the heavens. Past continuous to indicate 'an action that was in progress at a specific moment in the past. 'It was pouring from the heavens' means 'it was raining very heavily.
3. She was looking at him, wondering where she had met him. Past continuous is used because the act of 'looking' continued for a period, even if the period was only for a few moments, also the act of 'wondering' last for a short period of time. The past perfect is used as it indicates she met him prior to that past moment of looking at him.
4. A: "We didn't know Liz had moved back to London." Past perfect is used because in that past moment, we didn't know that she moved back to London prior to the moment of not knowing.
B: "Oh didn't you! She moved back about a month ago." Past simple to indicate the action is finished.
5. A: "Who did your mother speak to when she phoned the bank?"
B: "I've no idea who she spoke to." Past tense as it's understood she phoned the bank in the past.
6. A: "What did you do last Sunday?"
B: "I can't remember what I did . Oh now it has come back to me. I went to the lake with Bob." Past simple is used as it indicates a specific finished time, that is, last Sunday.
7. I didn't know that your brother had gone to work in the states. When did he go? Past perfect is used to indicate that prior to the moment of not

knowing, the brother went to the states. Past perfect shows that one action occurred prior to another.

8. I spoke to the Mrs Jones yesterday for the first time ever; before that, I only knew her by sight. Past simple is used because it was a past fact and not an action that occurred prior to another, therefore the past perfect cannot be used in this example.

9. The woman was dying when the ambulance arrived. Luckily they managed to stabilise her until they got her to the hospital. She is now said to be in a stable condition. Past continuous is used as the action of dying was in progress at a specific moment in the past, that is, when the ambulance arrived.

10. My father was caught in a terrible storm on his way home from the office last night. At one point he really thought he had lost his way but luckily he managed to get back on track. Past perfect is used to indicate that prior to getting back on track (in the past) he thought he was lost.

Grammar test twenty

Perfective aspect

1. Over the years we _____ huge advances in technology.

a) had seen b) saw c) have seen

2. Don't ask him what Italian food tastes like. He _____ it.

a) hasn't never tried b) has never tried c) he didn't try

3. You're never on time. This is the seventh time you _____ late this month

a) were b) had been c) have been

4. I _____ to contact you all afternoon. Where _____?

a) have been trying/have you been b) am trying/were you c) have been trying/you been

5. When she finally appeared late last night, mum _____ to contact her for over ten hours.

a) was trying b) had tried c) had been trying

6. I _____ him an email about a week ago but he still _____ it yet.

a) have sent/hasn't answered b) wrote /didn't answer c) sent / hasn't answered

7. I _____ my glasses. _____ them anywhere?

a) have lost/have you seen b) lost/have you saw c) have been losing/have you seen

8. The man who was injured in the road accident _____ for his life since last Friday.

a) has fought b) fought c) has been fighting

9. When the doctors finally gave him the all-clear, he _____ for his life for almost a month.

a) was fighting b) he had been fighting c) was been fought

10. Police say that a breathalyzer revealed that the man who caused the accident _____. He _____ arrested.

a) was drinking/was b) drank/is c) had been drinking/has been

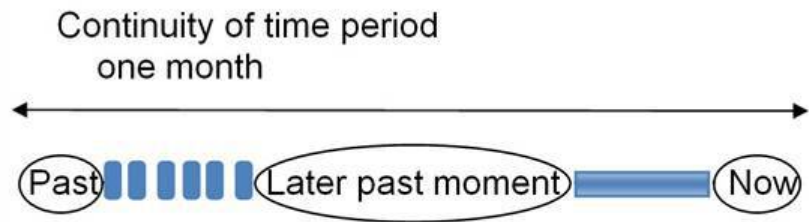
Grammar test twenty-answers

1. Over the years we have seen huge advances in technology. Present perfect indicating from the past until the present.
2. Don't ask him what Italian food tastes like. He has never tried it. Same as number one
3. You're never on time. This is the seventh time you have been late this month. Same as number one and two.
4. I have been trying to contact you all afternoon. Where have you been ? Present perfect continuous, indicating an action in progress from past to present + present perfect simple indicating from past until now.
5. When she finally appeared late last night, mum had been trying to contact her for over ten hours. Past perfect continuous indicating that prior to her appearing, in the past, mum continued to try to make contact with her up until that past moment.
6. I sent him an email about a week ago but he still hasn't answered it yet. Past simple, time indicator 'a week ago' therefore a finished past + the present perfect simple indicating from a moment in the past until now.
7. I have lost my glasses. Have you seen them anywhere? Two uses of the present perfect simple to indicate 'anytime up until now' without specifying exactly when.
8. The man who was injured in the road accident has been fighting for his life since last Friday. The present perfect continuous is used to indicate that the 'fighting' started in the past and continued up to the present and will possibly continue into the future.
9. When the doctors finally gave him the all-clear, he had been fighting for his life for a month. The past perfect continuous is used to indicate that 'the fighting for his life' started at a past moment and continued up until a later past moment.
10. Police say that a breathalyzer revealed that the man who caused the accident had been drinking . He has been arrested. The past perfect continuous is used to indicate that the 'drinking' started in the past and

continued up until **shortly before** a later past moment, while the present perfect passive is used in the second sentence to indicate that the arrest happened before now, without specifying exactly when. When the past perfect continuous is used without **for** or **since** , it signifies an action in progress until **shortly before** a later past occurrence. When used with **for** and **since** , it indicates **until** a later past moment.

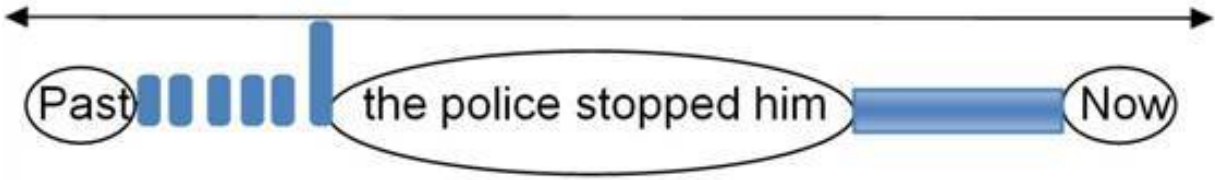
See time lines on next page for clarification

9. He had been fighting for his life for a month.



Now we recall that the fighting for his life began at a time in the past and lasted up until a later past moment. T

10. The breathalyser revealed that the man had been drinking.



The drinking was in progress until shortly before the police stopped him.

Grammar test twenty one

Reported speech

1. I asked my neighbours _____ so much noise late at night. I can never get a good night's sleep.

a) to don't make b) not to make c) not make d) not making

2. They _____ the meeting isn't until tomorrow. We thought it _____ this afternoon.

a) told to me/is b) told me/was c) said me/was d) told that/was

3. "The shop will be closing soon," announced the manager over the tannoy system. The manager announced that the shop _____ soon.

a) will close b) would close c) would be closing

4. "The cat's face is all cut," said dad to my sister. "It'll probably have been fighting with the cat next door," replied my sister. Dad told my sister that the cat's face _____ all cut, and she replied that it _____ with the cat next door.

a) is/will probably have fought b) was/had probably fought c) was/had probably been fighting

5. "Do as you please," he said to her the other night when she was acting like a spoiled child. He told her _____.

a) do as she pleases b) to do as she pleases c) to do as she pleased

6. "Will you help me shift this heavy box?" asked my brother. My brother asked me if _____ him shift that heavy box.

a) for help b) I would help c) to help

7. "Don't cheat in the exam," said the teacher. The teacher warned _____ in the exam.

a) that we don't cheat ... b) us to not cheat c) us not to cheat

8. It's beginning to get dark. I must go," said Bill. Bill said that it _____ to get dark and that and that he _____ go.

a) was beginning/had to b) is beginning/must c) was beginning/must

9. "It will be freezing tomorrow," said the weatherman on TV. The weatherman said it _____ freezing the next day.

a) will be b) would be c) is going to be

10. “I’ve been here for over a week and I still haven’t seen Buckingham Palace,” said Tony who was holidaying in London. Tony said he _____ for over a week and he _____ Buckingham Palace.

a) was here/was still to see b) has been there/still hadn’t seen c) had been there/still hadn’t seen

Grammar test twenty one-answers

1. I asked my neighbours not to make so much noise late at night. I can never get a good night's sleep.
2. They told me the meeting isn't until tomorrow. We thought it was this afternoon.
3. "The shop will be closing soon," announced the manager over the tannoy system. The manager announced that the shop would be closing soon.
4. "The cat's face is all cut," said dad to my sister. "It'll probably have been fighting with the cat next door," replied my sister. Dad told my sister that the cat's face was all cut, and she replied that it had probably been fighting with the cat next door.
5. "Do as you please," he said to her the other night when she was acting like a spoilt child. He told her to do as she pleased.
6. "Will you help me shift this heavy box?" asked my brother. My brother asked me if I would him shift that heavy box.
7. "Don't cheat in the exam," said the teacher. The teacher warned us not to cheat in the exam.
8. 8. It's beginning to get dark. I must go," said Bill. Bill said that it was beginning to get dark and that and that he had to go. (The modal auxiliary verbs normally do not move back a tense in reported speech, but when 'must' is used for personal obligation, it takes the past tense of the semi-modal, 'have to', which is 'had to')
9. "It will be freezing tomorrow," said the weatherman on TV. The weatherman said it would be freezing the next day. 'Will' becomes 'would' in reported speech.
10. "I've been here for over a week and I still haven't seen Buckingham Palace," said Tony who was holidaying in London. Tony said he had been there for over a week and he still hadn't seen Buckingham Palace.

Grammar test twenty two

Future aspect

1. She should pass her English exam as long as she _____ and _____ panic.

a) will stay calm/not b) is staying/will not c) stays calm/doesn't.

2. Can you send me a message as soon as you _____ home?

a) will get b) are getting c) will have got d) get

3. Sorry I can't meet you on Saturday. I _____ a party. It's my 40th birthday.

a) 'm going to have b) have c) 'm having d) will have

In number four there are two possibilities

4. The weather forecast says that later on this afternoon it _____ .

a) 's snowing b) 's going to snow c) it will snow
d) will have snowed.

5. You _____ anywhere until your mother _____ back.

a) won't go/will get b) 're not going/gets c) will go/is getting

6. How _____ to the airport. Don't worry. I'm sure someone _____ a lift.

a) will I arrive/will give b) am I going to get/will give you c) will I get/is giving you d) will I get/will give you

In number seven there are three possible choices although one is better than the others in the given context.

7. I've just found out that I've won a holiday for two in the Caribbean. I _____ my mum. She hasn't had a holiday in years.

a) 'm taking b) will take c) 'm going to take d) will to take

8. I don't know when I _____ him but when I _____ I _____ him your new mobile number.

a) will see/do/will give b) to see/see him/give c) see/see him/will give

9. Tomorrow between 4pm and 5.30, I _____ my English exam.

a) will sit b) will be sitting d) will have sat

10. Next year my mother _____ French.

a) is learning b) is going to learn c) will be learning

Grammar test twenty two-answers

1. She should pass her English exam as long as she stays calm and doesn't panic. (After 'as long as' which means 'on condition that/provided', use the present simple, even if it is for a future meaning)
2. Can you send me a message as soon as you get home? (After 'as soon as', use the present simple, even if it is for a future meaning)
3. Sorry I can't meet you on Saturday. I am having a party. It's my 40th birthday. (The present continuous is the most natural choice as it is used for arrangements already made. 'Going to have' indicates that this is what you have decided to do, although it doesn't necessarily mean that the arrangements have been made)
4. The weather forecast says that later on this afternoon it will snow/it's going to snow. ('Will' and 'going to' have their separate uses but overlap when predicting. Both can be used although when making predictions, 'going to' carries more weight)
5. You are not going anywhere until your mother gets back.
6. How am I going to get/will I get to the airport. Don't worry. I'm sure someone will give you a lift.
7. I've just found out that I've won a holiday for two in the Caribbean. I am going to take/am taking/will take my mum. She hasn't had a holiday in years. (The choice of which of the three to use all depends on aspect, although 'I'm going to take' my mum is the best choice seeing that there was no prearrangement, which is the case when using the present continuous' for the future, as in, 'I'm taking my mum.' 'I will take my mum' can also be used as it implies that you decided there and then, in that precise moment, to take your mum.)
8. I don't know when I will see him but when I do I will give him your new mobile number.
9. Tomorrow between 4pm and 5.30, I will be sitting my English exam. (Future progressive for something that will be in progress at a future moment or between any two given times in the future)

10. Next year my mother is going to learn French. ('Is going to learn,' this is what she intends to do. We use the 'present continuous' for the near future and not the distant, so in this example it cannot be used)

Grammar test twenty three

Connectors/conjunctions one

1. _____ it was raining very heavily, she still took the dog for a walk. Nothing holds her back.

a) even if b) even though c) despite

2. _____ studying for months, I still failed all my exams.

a) Despite b) Nevertheless c) Even though

3. I didn't study _____ I think I'll fail the test.

a) therefore b) and c) unless d) but

4. Many jobs require that you have a university degree; in some jobs, _____, experience is what is required the most.

a) therefore b) however c) nonetheless d) though

5. _____ it was my day off, I slept until 10 am.

a) although b) because c) therefore d) even though

6. I am tall, _____ my brother and sister are quite short.

a) because b) in spite of c) whereas

7. _____ Janet was the best in her class at math, she was awarded a prize at the end of the school term.

a) Since b) Though c) So

8. _____ history is his best subject, he is also good at geography.

a) since b) while c) because d) unless

9. I want to become an artist; _____ I work especially hard in my art classes.

a) however b) while c) therefore

10. I'll go shopping with you _____ we are back home by six o'clock.

a) as far as b) so as c) provided

Grammar test twenty three-answers

1. Even though it was raining very heavily, she still took the dog for a walk. Nothing holds her back. 'Even though' = despite the fact that ...

2. Despite studying for months, I still failed all my exams. Use 'despite' + gerund

3. I didn't study therefore I think I'll fail the test. 'Therefore' = for this reason

4. Many jobs require that you have a university degree; in some jobs, however, experience is what is required the most.

5. Because it was my day off, I slept until 10 am.

6. I am tall, whereas my brother and sister are quite short. 'Whereas' introduces a contrast

7. Since Janet was the best in her class at math, she was awarded a prize at the end of the school term. 'Since' = given the fact that

8. While history is his best subject, he is also good at geography. Similar to 'although'

9. I want to become an artist; therefore I work especially hard in my art classes. 'Therefore' = for this reason

10. I'll go shopping with you provided we are back home by six o'clock. 'Provided' = on the condition that ...

Grammar test twenty four

Connectors/conjunctions two

1. _____ hard I try, I still can't seem to lose any weight.

a) as much as b) although c) however

2. It was very cold, _____ I kept my jacket on.

a) because b) therefore c) however

3. I can't guarantee I'll be able to meet you, _____ I will try my best.

a) but b) so c) because

4. _____ our team lost the match, it was still a great game.

a) therefore b) although c) so d) but

5. Poor people from rural areas are migrating to the cities to find work

and _____ the circles of slum housing in many suburbs are growing

larger.

a) consequently b) as c) whereas

6. _____ I don't like Indian food, I really enjoyed the Pakora we had at Jane's house last night.

a) In spite of b) although c) however

7. _____ not studying, she still passed the exam.

a) although b) as c) despite

8. _____ much I eat, I never put on weight.

a) in spite of b) however c) regardless

9. I missed the train but _____, I still arrived on time.

a) consequently b) nevertheless c) in spite of

10. The country of residence of an individual has the right to tax income _____ the country in which the tax arises. 'Irrespective of' = regardless of/despite'

a) despite b) irrespective of c) as a consequence

Grammar test twenty four-answers

1. However hard I try, I still can't seem to lose any weight. 'However' used in this context, = no matter how much, despite how much, in spite of how much
2. It was very cold, therefore I kept my jacket on. 'Therefore' indicates, 'for the reason stated previously'
3. I can't guarantee I'll be able to meet you, but I will try my best.
4. Although our team lost the match, it was still a great game. This is the same as 'despite the fact that our team lost the match .../even though our team lost the match ...
5. Poor people from rural areas are migrating to the cities to find work and consequently the circles of slum housing in many suburbs are growing larger. This is the same as, and as a consequence/as a result/because of this
6. Although I don't like Indian food, I really enjoyed the Pakora we had at Jane's house last night. Other ways to say this, In spite of the fact that I don't like Indian food .. /even though I don't like Indian food/despite not liking Indian food
7. Despite not studying, she still passed the exam. This can be expressed as, In spite of the fact she didn't study .../although she didn't study .../even though she didn't study
8. However much I eat, I never put on weight. This is the same as, In spite of how much/regardless of how much/it doesn't matter how much
9. I missed the train but nevertheless , I still arrived on time. 'Nonetheless' can be used in the same way as 'nevertheless', and means, although I missed the train, I still arrived on time/despite missing the train.../in spite of missing the train/regardless of the fact that I missed the train.
10. The country of residence of an individual has the right to tax income irrespective of the country in which the tax arises. 'Irrespective of' = regardless of/despite'

Grammar test twenty five

Prepositions one

1. He has never been abroad before. He is afraid _____ flying.
2. Our neighbour is envious _____ our new car. She hasn't slept since we got it.
3. "I went on holiday last week?" "Did you really? Who did you go with?" "Nobody; I went _____ my own."
4. Mother was so absorbed _____ reading the novel that she didn't notice our arrival.
5. I was grateful _____ him for speaking the truth.
6. Scotland is famous _____ its whiskey
7. My father doesn't approve _____ my new boyfriend.
8. My husband is going _____ a business trip next week.
9. The pictures of the hotel didn't correspond _____ the reality.

10. I work for a large company. I'm in charge
_____ the sales department.

Grammar test twenty five-answers

1. He has never been abroad before. He is afraid of flying.
2. Our neighbour is envious of our new car. She hasn't slept since we got it.
3. "I went on holiday last week?" "Did you really? Who did you go with?"
"Nobody; I went on my own."
4. Mother was so absorbed in reading the novel that she didn't notice our arrival.
5. I was grateful to him for speaking the truth.
6. Scotland is famous for its whiskey
7. My father doesn't approve of my new boyfriend.
8. My husband is going on a business trip next week.
9. The pictures of the hotel didn't correspond to the reality.
10. I work for a large company. I'm in charge of the sales department.

Grammar test twenty six

Prepositions two

1. Many people nowadays are addicted _____ the internet.
2. My mother is always attentive _____ detail.
3. She got the job as the nanny because she is very good _____ children.
4. He's very good _____ maths. It was his favourite subject when he was at school.
5. He is capable _____ being an excellent student.
6. I feel confident _____ the future of our country.
7. Sadly, I never got to know my grandfather. He died _____ battle during the second world war.
8. My paternal grandfather died _____ pneumonia.
9. 9. He is suspected _____ cheating in the exam.
10. These days everybody is aware _____ the dangers of smoking.

Grammar test twenty six-answers

1. Many people nowadays are addicted to the internet.
2. My mother is always attentive to detail.
3. She got the job as the nanny because she is very good with children.
4. He's very good at maths. It was his favourite subject when he was at school.
5. He is capable of being an excellent student.
6. I feel confident about the future of our country.
7. Sadly, I never got to know my grandfather. He died in battle during the second world war.
8. My paternal grandfather died of pneumonia.
9. He is suspected of cheating in the exam.
10. These days everybody is aware of the dangers of smoking.

Grammar test twenty seven

Prepositions three

1. We're going _____ a picnic tomorrow. Would you like to come with us?
2. My problems are very similar _____ yours.
3. These boots I bought were _____ sale today. They cost half what they did last week.
4. We argued all day _____ what to cook for our guests.
5. We really care _____ how we treat our customers.
6. I disagree _____ what was said at today's meeting.
7. I prefer reading books _____ magazines.
8. He always complains _____ everything.
9. Who does this book belong _____?
10. After a cyclist was killed, the mayor was blamed _____ not having done anything to repair the roads.

Grammar test twenty seven-answers

1. We're going on a picnic tomorrow. Would you like to come with us?
2. My problems are very similar to yours.
3. These boots I bought were on sale today. They cost half what they did last week.
4. We argued all day about what to cook for our guests.
5. We really care about how we treat our customers.
6. I disagree with what was said at today's meeting.
7. I prefer reading books to magazines.
8. He always complains about everything.
9. Who does this book belong to ?
10. After a cyclist was killed, the mayor was blamed for not having done anything to repair the roads.

Grammar test twenty eight

Prepositions four

1. The cyclist had hit a hole in the road and crashed _____ a tree.
2. The judge presented the case to the jury. After examining the evidence set before them, two successive juries arrived _____ the same conclusion.
3. I'm so sorry I didn't come to your party last night. I completely forgot _____ it.
4. He insisted _____ paying _____ the meal we had last night.
5. He's been talking _____ changing jobs for over ten years but he still hasn't started to look for one.
6. He was thinking _____ you yesterday. He told me so when I met him this morning.
7. We suspected him _____ stealing the tape recorder.
8. She was really worried _____ failing her English exam. It was all for nothing because she passed.

9. We would like to thank you _____ everything you have done to help us.

10. My mother has just recovered _____ a bad dose of the flu.

Grammar test twenty eight-answers

1. The cyclist had hit a hole in the road and crashed into a tree.
2. The judge presented the case to the jury. After examining the evidence set before them, two successive juries arrived to the same conclusion.
3. I'm so sorry I didn't come to your party last night. I completely forgot about it.
4. He insisted on paying for the meal we had last night.
5. He's been talking about changing jobs for over ten years but he still hasn't started to look for one.
6. He was thinking about you yesterday. He told me so when I met him this morning.
7. We suspected him of stealing the tape recorder.
8. She was really worried about failing her English exam. It was all for nothing because she passed.
9. We would like to thank you for everything you have done to help us.
10. My mother has just recovered from a bad dose of the flu.

Grammar test twenty nine

Prepositions five

1. Going _____ the sound her voice on the phone today she is not very happy.
2. We went from Edinburgh to London _____ Newcastle.
3. I was nearly run over _____ a car today. It missed me _____ a hair's breadth.
4. I could speak English fluently _____ the age of ten.
5. My mother and father are both lawyers _____ profession.
6. Where's the cat? It's over there _____ the door.
7. I missed the bus this morning _____ a split second.
8. A plant pot flew off my neighbour's balcony and missed me _____ a fraction of an inch.
9. How big is your living room? It's ten metres _____ six.

10. It is always advisable to send official documents
_____ registered post.

Grammar test twenty nine-answers

1. Going by the sound her voice on the phone today she is not very happy.
2. We went from Edinburgh to London by Newcastle.
3. I was nearly run over by a car today. It missed me by a hair's breadth.
4. I could speak English fluently by the age of ten.
5. My mother and father are both lawyers by profession.
6. Where's the cat? It's over there by the door.
7. I missed the bus this morning by a split second.
8. A plant pot flew off my neighbour's balcony and missed me by a fraction of an inch.
9. How big is your living room? It's ten metres by six.
10. It is always advisable to send official documents by registered post.

Test thirty-phrasal verbs

Phrasal verbs

Replace the words in *italics* with a phrasal verb.

1. Anti-government protestors *participated* in a mass demonstration yesterday morning.
2. The protestors want the prime minister to *resign* .
3. He never *recovered from* the death of his wife and not long after he also *died* .
4. The boss *cancelled* the meeting.
5. We cannot *continue* like this any longer. We need to find a solution.
6. Mary's house *caught* fire last night. Luckily the firemen managed to *extinguish* it before too much damage was done to it.
7. Could you just *wait* a moment, said the salesman to the customer. I'll be right back.
8. At the last moment he *decided to withdraw from* the competition. He felt he hadn't trained enough to compete against his competitors.

9. John's late again. I wonder what kind of excuse he will *think of* this time.

10. Can you *collect* the children from school this afternoon?

11. After half an hour of waiting for Jimmy, he suddenly *appeared* .

12. I *met* my old teacher when I was going into the library yesterday. I hadn't seen her for years so it was a pleasant surprise.

13. I've been trying to *stop* smoking but I'm finding it really hard.

14. She *raised* her children to be respectable human beings.

15. Drug abuse *caused* his death.

Test thirty-answers

1. Anti-government protestors took part in a mass demonstration yesterday morning. (This is also a three-word phrasal verbs, but with the verb 'participate' it was necessary to use the preposition 'in')
2. The protestors want the prime minister to step down . ('Step down' is used for members of the government and other officials, such as the director of a company. It cannot be used for ordinary everyday people)
3. He never got over the death of his wife and not long after he also passed away .
4. The boss called off the meeting.
5. We cannot carry on like this any longer. We need to find a solution.
6. Mary's house went on fire last night. Luckily the firemen managed to put it out before too much damage was done to it.
7. Could you just hang on a moment, said the salesman to the customer. I'll be right back.
8. At the last moment he pull out of the competition. He felt he hadn't trained enough to compete against his competitors.
9. John's late again. I wonder what kind of excuse he will come up with this time.
10. Can you pick up the children from school this afternoon?
11. After half an hour of waiting for Jimmy, he suddenly showed up .
12. I ran into my old teacher when I was going into the library yesterday. I hadn't seen her for years so it was a pleasant surprise.
13. I've been trying to give up smoking but I'm finding it really hard.
14. She brought up her children to be respectable human beings.
15. Drug abuse brought about his death.