



VOCABULARY

Clothes and fashion; Metaphors

A Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- For most of us, it's in our nature to **follow** / **fit** a trend because being different is so much harder.
- There's no need to wear a suit when meeting the team leader – **casual** / **scruffy** clothes will be fine.
- I wonder where I can find a smart **uniform** / **outfit** for Jen's wedding.
- All it takes is for one influential person to wear something bold and he or she can **set** / **stand** a new trend.
- Recently, people have become much more conscious of the type of **costumes** / **sportswear** they work out in at the gym.
- One advantage of a school **uniform** / **costume** is that students who don't have fashionable or designer clothes don't feel left out.
- Jed wants to be different – he always chooses his clothes so that he **stands** / **sets** out from the crowd.
- I can't play tennis after work – I forgot to put my sports **code** / **gear** in the car.
- George is a big guy, and he prefers to buy **scruffy** / **oversized** clothes from a special outlet.
- I think I need a size smaller – this shirt looks a bit **baggy** / **scruffy** on me.

B Match the phrases in bold (1–10) in the article with the metaphors, which have the same meaning, in the box below.

are on a tight budget catches your eye for peanuts
in the long run make a seamless transition
off-the-shelf snapped up tailor-made
throwing money down the drain wind you up

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

The cool style guru

Have you ever wanted to upgrade your look, but felt confused by the range of options available? Does the need to buy smart clothes for work **make you stressed**?

Do you go clothes shopping only to find the best things have already been **bought**? Can't find anything that **appeals to you**? Are you tired of **wasting money** on clothes that just aren't right for you? With us, you can **change effortlessly** from looking, well, let's say not your best – to looking like a million dollars!

We'll match top-quality clothes that'll look good on you immediately but, **eventually**, you'll see just what a difference being smart will make to your prospects.

We have a range of schemes – from **made in a factory** to **made just for you** – so, even if you **can't spend a lot of money**, we promise to make you look good. We're confident that when you see the results, your life will be transformed, and you will have a wardrobe to be proud of – **for very little money**.

Check out our website for more information!

GRAMMAR

Nominal clauses

A Match numbers (1–6) to letters (a–f) to form full sentences.

- 1 It should not need pointing out _____
 - 2 The fact that he dresses smartly _____
 - 3 How can something as simple as having an ironed shirt _____
 - 4 For many people, dressing smartly means _____
 - 5 As far as I'm concerned, to look good _____
 - 6 The clothes you wear should not _____
- a make a positive impression on others?
 - b reflects the seriousness with which he treats his position.
 - c that you have a duty to protect the company's reputation.
 - d influence others' opinion of you, but they do.
 - e is to feel good.
 - f little more than making sure their clothes are new or clean.

B Write one word in each gap to complete the sentences.

- 1 I think you'll like this jacket, and _____ may surprise you to learn that it costs less than €40.
- 2 We are left with the problem of _____ to address the complaints about our products.
- 3 The fact _____ you are employed on a full-time contract gives you certain privileges.
- 4 I regret _____ finding out more about the company before I went for an interview there.
- 5 The reason I objected to the shop assistant _____ that he had a bad attitude.
- 6 We may never know the reason _____ she did what she did.
- 7 They will be going on holiday in July, but _____ they're going is still undecided.
- 8 _____ you do in your own time is your own affair.

C Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence using the words in bold. Write between two and five words, including the word given.

- 1 Dissatisfaction with clothing and appearance can be a problem for many these days.

OF

Many people face _____ dissatisfaction with clothing and appearance.

- 2 That uniforms are still widely worn in schools is common knowledge.

FACT

_____ uniforms are still widely worn in schools is common knowledge.

- 3 It's not important what she spends her money on.

HOW

_____ is not important.

- 4 To wear second-hand clothes is not a problem for me.

MIND

I _____ second-hand clothes.

PRONUNCIATION

Linking and intrusive /r/

A Read the sentences aloud, paying attention to the way you pronounce the underlined sections.

- 1 My car cost a lot less than I thought it would.
- 2 I wore a suit and felt very smart.
- 3 We're walking from here to the shops.
- 4 Get one today! They're only €5!
- 5 I didn't plan to buy anything, but I saw a great shirt in the sales.
- 6 The things in that boutique are expensive.
- 7 And you're certain you saw that man stealing sports gear?
- 8 I had no idea I was still wearing my slippers!



B Listen to the sentences from Exercise A. Practise saying the sentences in the same way as the speakers do in the recording.



GRAMMAR

Comparatives and superlatives

A Choose the correct options to complete the comments about a blog post.



iamthemusicman

2 days ago

I agree with what you say about popular music and originality. But we need to remember that musicians and producers need to attract the listener's attention ¹**as quickly as / quicker than** possible. Sometimes, this involves producing unusual, trendsetting music, but since listeners don't always react well to ²**dramatically / marginally** different styles – at least not at first – it is sometimes safer to work within the boundaries of the ³**later / latest** trends.

Like | Comment | Share



fitbit46

5 days ago

I like what you said about music and working out. I'm a fitness instructor and for such activities, I tend to think volume is a factor – my rule is the ⁴**louder than / louder** the volume, the faster the workout. I also think we need music with ⁵**a higher / the highest** rate of beats per minute (bpm) than our heartbeat to help energise us for physical work. However, I don't think increased bpm or volume helps with creative work. ⁶**Easily the most / By far the** creative work is done, in my opinion, when the music is neither too loud nor too quiet, nor too fast nor too slow.

Like | Comment | Share



jazz4life

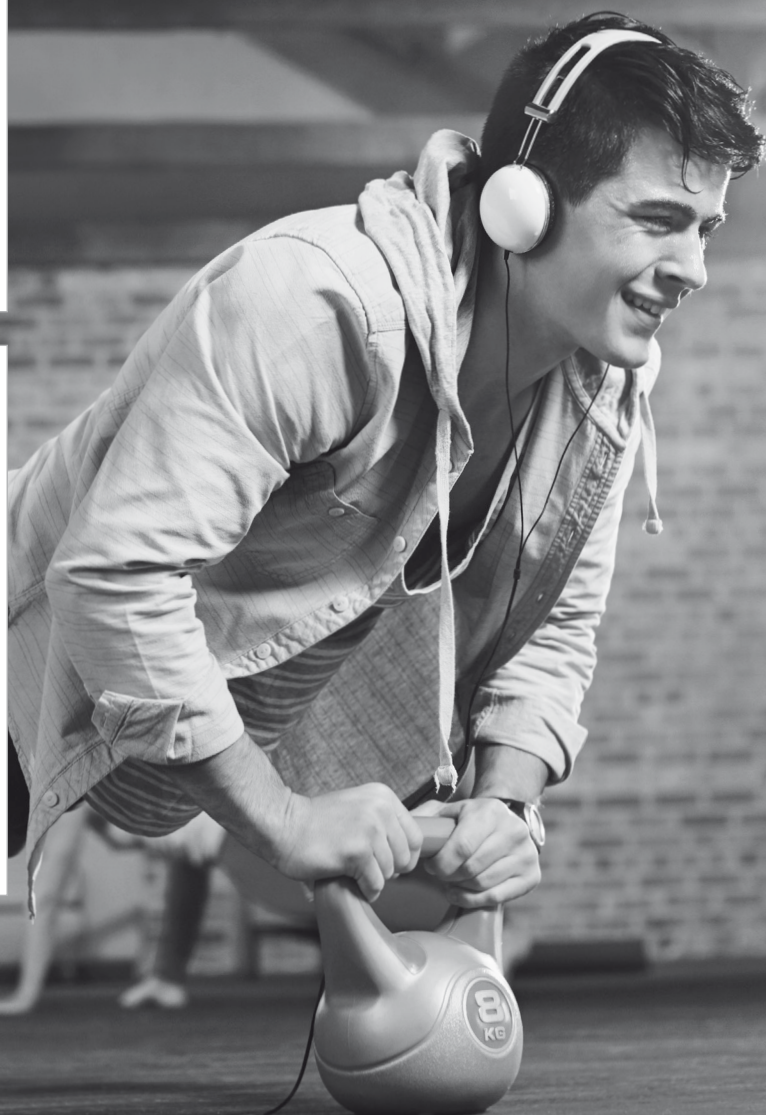
2 weeks ago

I think our musical tastes can be a good indicator of our personalities. When I was younger, I listened to ⁷**the far highest / a considerably higher** number of hard rock, indie and metal bands. I associate that with a time when I was more introverted but perhaps also a lot more creative. Now, I listen to a ⁸**great / far** deal more jazz and soul. I'm a bit less creative than I was, but I am a lot more outgoing, sociable and confident. That said, this is probably very subjective. I don't want to make any generalisations as ⁹**more deeply / deeper** analysis is needed to prove any link.

Like | Comment | Share

B Match the beginnings of the sentences (1–8) to the endings (a–h).

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 You're just the best | — |
| 2 I think we have a great deal | — |
| 3 Break for lunch, did you say? That is far | — |
| 4 For some people, having trendy clothes is every bit | — |
| 5 Even if I worked twice | — |
| 6 We agreed that pronunciation is easily | — |
| 7 A greater than | — |
| 8 The upgrade to business class more than | — |
| a as many hours, I don't think I would get the job done in time. | |
| b and away the best idea I've heard all day. | |
| c and I don't know what I'd do without you. | |
| d more to learn about how our choices are manipulated by marketing people. | |
| e the most difficult aspect of learning English. | |
| f as important as practicality – if not more so. | |
| g made up for the delay to my flight. | |
| h expected number of people attended the event. | |



VOCABULARY

Experimenting with prefixes and suffixes

A Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- 1 Their online vlog became *popularish* / *hyper-influential* when they got millions of subscribers.
- 2 Harry's not very *tech-savvy* / *tech-friendly*. In fact, he can barely use a word processor.
- 3 Is your watch *waterprone* / *waterproof*? If not, I'd take it off before you go in.
- 4 That video I made was very *amateurly* / *amateurish*, but it was my first one and I've learnt lots of tricks of the trade since then.
- 5 Ann is so *disaster-prone* / *hyper-disaster*! She broke her phone, TV and tablet all in the same week!
- 6 Be careful because, once you delete something, you can't *redelete* / *undelete* it and get it back.
- 7 I like what the program does, but I don't find it very *user-friendly* / *user-savvy* – it took me ages just to learn the basics.
- 8 Look – you were *ultra-influential* / *super-lucky* to get this job, so try to make the best of it.

B Rewrite the words in bold by adding a prefix or a suffix. Make any other necessary changes. More than one answer is sometimes possible.

- 1 These **heat** gloves are perfect for handling hot pans in the kitchen.

- 2 I'm hoping to raise a **large** amount of money to get this business up and running.

- 3 Sara's sick of reading **spam** comments about online articles.

- 4 He was going to buy a house, but he was forced to **think** when he lost his job.

- 5 I thought his jokes were really **cheese**.

- 6 The politician got into trouble because she said something without realising her microphone had been **muted**.

- 7 Don't worry; this tablet is **idiot**. There's no way you can do any harm by pressing the wrong button.

- 8 They would never take a risk on this investment – you know that they're always **cautious** in their business decisions.

PRONUNCIATION

Emphatic stress



A Listen to these pairs of sentences. Underline one word in each sentence that has emphatic stress.

- 1 He's suggesting one solution, but there are others.
He's suggesting one solution, is that the best he can do?
- 2 They told me to work on this project, so that's what I'm doing.
They said the same to me, and that's what I am doing.
- 3 He suggested that the biggest problem is overseas sales.
But you don't realise that the biggest problem is overseas sales.
- 4 I can do it; the question is whether I want to do it.
I can do it, too, but I don't know when.
- 5 Do you think this will be a problem?
Without question, this will be a problem.

B Practise saying the sentences in the same way as the speakers do in the recording in Exercise A.

C Decide where to add emphatic stress in these sentences.

- 1 I was determined not to say anything that could get me in trouble.
- 2 Contrary to what you said, I do enjoy gardening.
- 3 Bill got the contract and a promotion, so he's happy.



D Listen to check your answers to Exercise C.



READING

A PREDICT You are going to read an article about selfies. Before you read, answer the questions.

- Do you post selfies? If so, how often and how many?
- What do you think motivates people who frequently post selfies?

B READ FOR MAIN IDEA Read *The new narcissism?* and match the paragraphs (1–5) to the summaries of each paragraph (a–e).

- Paragraph 1 _____
- Paragraph 2 _____
- Paragraph 3 _____
- Paragraph 4 _____
- Paragraph 5 _____

- People who take and post lots of selfies want to be perceived in a particular way.
- It is not yet clear if selfies are creating cultural change, for example, making people more open or less concerned about privacy.
- While selfies may have a longer history, the availability of technology and equipment is what made them a wider phenomenon in recent years.
- Despite criticism, selfies have been exhibited as a form of art and used to promote it, so it may be premature to say they have a negative impact.
- The first noted use of the word was in the early 2000s. Since then, its usage has steadily increased.

C WORK OUT MEANING Read the article again, paying particular attention to the underlined words (1–6). Find words in the article which have a contrasting meaning.

- abating _____
- hostility _____
- ubiquitous _____
- plausible _____
- mundane _____
- reserved _____

D WORK OUT MEANING Now match the words (1–6) to their definitions (a–f).

- seen/done/found everywhere _____
- quiet, not easily showing emotions _____
- believable _____
- becoming less _____
- boring or ordinary _____
- showing opposition or dislike _____

E REFLECT Have you changed your opinion of selfies after reading the article? Why/Why not?

The new NARCISSISM?

Of all the trends created by the digital revolution, one that often divides people is the fad of taking 'selfies'. Some find it baffling, others say it is harmless fun. But we can all agree that after two decades, it seems to be increasing every year rather than ¹abating. So, what do we know about this phenomenon?

1 Where did it come from?

The word 'selfie', it is alleged, originated in Australia. While for the die-hard selfie-haters out there the act of snapping and posting photos might increase feelings of ²hostility, the use of '-ie' or '-y' is actually a friendly diminutive. Words like 'barbie' for barbeque or 'Mikey' for 'Michael' are endearing terms and a common feature of spoken English in Australia. The first recorded use of the word is said to be from a young Australian man in a public forum in 2002. In 2013, 'selfie' became the Oxford English Dictionary's word of the year. It is now used in everyday language.

2 Origins and development

Photographs that appear to be taken on devices similar to selfie sticks date back as far as 1926. But selfies really took off with the arrival of the front-facing camera in 2003. Before that, of course, people had been taking pictures of themselves with their mobile phones: but selfies as we know them were comparatively rare, whereas now they are ³ubiquitous. Type in 'selfie' on Instagram and you get close to 300 million results!

3 Look at me!

Is vanity or narcissism really driving this phenomenon? Some would say selfies are not about self-promotion, but simply a way of sharing new experiences with friends and family. The fact that many people post pictures of themselves doing exciting or unusual things makes this explanation seem ⁴plausible. But when you consider that people also take pictures of themselves doing ⁵mundane things like having breakfast, it seems unlikely it is the whole story. One theory is that it is a way for people to reimagine themselves, to present a different image to the world and to experiment with different identities. It's a way of saying, 'This is how I want to be seen'.

4 Cultural change

The selfie explosion does seem to have had a cultural and social influence. The British, for example, are allegedly perceived of as being reserved, if not actually shy – they are definitely less often described as open or outgoing. Yet the selfie trend has taken hold in the UK as much as anywhere. No doubt, the digital age has encouraged people, especially the young, to make more personal information generally available. I wonder if the era of selfies presents a genuine cultural and social shift, or will there be a reaction against it?

5 Can selfies be art?

This might seem a silly question. But I have heard one commentator say it is a new ‘folk art’ that is adding significantly to the language of photography. Exhibits at established galleries have displayed selfies. Whether you agree with this or not, Museum Selfie Day, a trend started by project coordinator Mar Dixon, definitely brings selfie-takers closer to art. In museums and galleries, the public are encouraged to take selfies of themselves in front of famous pieces. In the future, selfies might prove useful to cultural historians interested in the goings-on of people in the early 21st century. Perhaps it’s too soon to label this trend as simply a good or a bad thing.

Glossary

alleged (adj) claimed to be true

baffling (adj) confusing, difficult to understand

vanity (n) being too interested in your own appearance

LISTENING

A Imagine that you and your friends are going to make a short video of the previous year’s trends, most popular videos, vlogs, etc. What would you include? Give reasons for your answers.



1.4

B LISTEN FOR RECOMMENDATIONS Listen to a conversation between two friends about making a video review of the year. Tick (✓) the items which the speakers are going to include.

- 1 celebrity endorsements
- 2 viral videos
- 3 important news stories
- 4 an image of a TV presenter
- 5 newspaper headlines
- 6 cartoons
- 7 memes
- 8 home videos of friends
- 9 clips of influencers/trendsetters



1.4

C LISTEN FOR DETAIL Listen again and complete the sentences with one or two words in each gap.

- 1 The GenZ video is a _____ of the past year’s events.
- 2 Viewers did not give this year’s video positive _____.
- 3 In one recent viral video, a _____ has an accident.
- 4 _____ and colouring can be used with pictures of famous people.
- 5 The woman suggests including short pieces of _____ from films or cartoons.
- 6 They decide to include memes which were popular with their _____.
- 7 As a _____, Daisy Trekker is an influencer, personality and trendsetter.
- 8 They think it’s important to include vlogs that are _____ to draw traffic to their own video.

Glossary

pace (n) speed

viral (adj) very popular and spreading very quickly, especially on the internet

D REFLECT Are internet trendsetters more influential than traditional role models such as film, music, TV or sports stars? Why/Why not?





4 TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL BLOG POST

WRITING

A You are going to read a blog post. Before you read, think about these questions.

- 1 How does a blog post differ from other kinds of writing?
- 2 What features do you think would make a blog post more attractive to readers?
- 3 What can you do to improve the ranking of a blog or website?

B Read *4 tips for a successful blog post* and match the headings (a–d) to the paragraphs (1–4).

- a Structure your posts
- b Grow your blog posts
- c Think before you write
- d Know your audience, know yourself

C **MAKING YOUR BLOG POST SUCCESSFUL** Read the blog post again and answer the questions.

- 1 What are the keywords (the most frequently repeated words) in the tips?
- 2 How will organising your blog post in the way advised improve search engine-friendliness?
- 3 What else can be done to attract more readers?
- 4 What 'call to action' does the writer use at the end of the post?

WRITING PRACTICE

A **PREPARE** You are going to write a blog post about a current trend. Choose from this list, or use your own idea. Make notes about your chosen topic.

- fashion (clothes)
- a personal item
- a new gadget
- leisure activity
- superhero films

B **PLAN** Organise your notes from Exercise A into a plan.

- Use an appropriate structure for a blog post (including paragraph headings).
- Think about who your target audience is.
- Choose a keyword or phrase for repetition.

C **WRITE** Write your article in 200–300 words. Use your plan to help you.

A successful blog post needs to be both search engine-friendly and reader-friendly. The two go together, and by following these tips, you will enhance your online profile and produce more successful blog posts.

1 —

What exactly is the purpose of your blog? What is your message? And what action do you want people to take when they've finished reading? Think about these points and make notes.

2 —

Successful blog posts have a clear target audience and their message is tailored accordingly. This means thinking about what will attract your readers' attention but also drawing in the curious browser. This also means working out what *your* selling point is. Is it your expertise, your passion for the subject, your taste, style or personal viewpoint? Build on your strengths.

3 —

Successful blog posts are well-organised. Obvious, I know, but many posts read as if the writer just wrote the first thing that came into their head. Every post should have:

- an introduction
- a main body
- a conclusion.

Make notes about what you want to put in each section. This is a summary of your post – now you can start to fill it in. It is a feature of successful blog posts that they give each paragraph an informative and eye-catching heading using keywords. This is important because the search engine will pick up the main topics and help to improve your ranking.

4 —

To increase both your readership and your position on the search engine, add links to previous posts on the same topic, and keep adding posts to your website so your audience and the search engine know you're still there.

For more tips on writing a successful blog post, click on the icon below.

[Click here](#)

VOCABULARY

Describing art

A Match the adjectives (1–8) to the definitions (a–h).

- 1 tedious —
 2 appalling —
 3 hilarious —
 4 thought-provoking —
 5 groundbreaking —
 6 unconventional —
 7 overrated —
 8 pretentious —

- a different from what people think is usual
 b dreadful, awful
 c extremely funny
 d new and pioneering, innovative
 e not as good as people say
 f attempts to impress with qualities it doesn't have
 g very boring
 h makes you think

B Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- 1 An artist doesn't necessarily have to be *groundbreaking* / *appalling* to make good art.
 2 Many hyped blockbusters are actually *imaginative* / *overrated* and disappointing.
 3 Personally I found the film *pretentious* / *sensational* – it felt like the director was just trying to show off how clever she is.
 4 We think the play was supposed to be serious, but the acting was so bad it was actually *iconic* / *hilarious*.
 5 The painter's style is very *tedious* / *unconventional* – there is nobody that paints in the same way.
 6 The painting is truly *pretentious* / *thought-provoking* – it makes you think about how we live in the modern world.
 7 What a *sensational* / *overrated* performance by the lead actor – one of the best I've ever seen.
 8 It was so *groundbreaking* / *tedious* – 90 minutes and nothing happens at all!

C Complete the text with the adjectives in the box.

acclaimed appalling iconic repetitive
 sensational underrated

Caroline Duncan's ¹ _____ exhibition is making quite a few headlines and attracting fans worldwide. And they are right to describe it as brilliant. In her groundbreaking work, Duncan combines different art forms, including painting, film, photography and writing, to tell the story of a fictional family's journey from Lebanon to Paris.

The first section includes ² _____ images and film footage of the Eiffel Tower in Paris from the 1970s. Real footage is mixed with fiction to create a film that shows the mundane and ³ _____ work and chores the family need to do as they struggle with ⁴ _____ poverty. We then explore the inner world of the characters through diaries, poetry and stories. In my view, Caroline Duncan is vastly ⁵ _____ as an artist, but I feel that that is about to change. She deserves to be much more highly ⁶ _____ for her work.



PRONUNCIATION

Contrastive stress

A Read the sentences aloud, paying attention to the contrastive stress on the underlined words.

- 1 Actually, I like a lot of modern art – it's abstract art I have difficulty with.
- 2 Why don't we go to the theatre for a change, since we always go to the cinema?
- 3 Although everyone says the new play is great, I found it quite tedious.
- 4 I don't like opera, but I'm quite keen on ballet.
- 5 While your eyes are drawn to the middle, what happens at the front is more exciting.
- 6 The film was more of a romance than a thriller.
- 7 I much prefer landscape paintings – I'm not a fan of portraits.
- 8 No, I prefer listening to recorded music, not live music.



B Listen to the sentences from Exercise A. Practise saying the sentences in the same way as the speakers do in the recording.

2.1

GRAMMAR

Narrative tenses

A Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- 1 The exhibition space *was being prepared* / *was preparing* for the big opening when we arrived.
- 2 I jumped up the moment they *were calling* / *called* my name.
- 3 Everyone *was waiting* / *had waited* in suspense for the result to be announced.
- 4 We didn't stay at our usual hotel because it *was being damaged* / *had been damaged* in a fire the week before.
- 5 I was tired when I got home because I *have had* / *had had* to stay very late at work.
- 6 We *were telling* / *were told* the results would come out the following week.
- 7 Why *wasn't I informed* / *didn't I inform* about the change of plan?
- 8 The road was dangerous because it *had been snowing* / *has been snowing* during the night.

B Find and correct eight mistakes in the text. Sometimes more than one correct answer is possible.

Thursday 23rd May, 2019

THE MEETING

So – big day today. Important meeting with some clients so I had to get to the office early. I got up at five, had a quick cup of coffee and had left the house at 5.20. I got half way to the office when I realised that I had been forgetting my phone. Can you believe it? I drove for at least half an hour already, so I really didn't feel like going back, but I was having no choice. So, that delayed me by about an hour.

And when I finally got to the office, I gave a message that my boss wanted to see me urgently. I ran to her office. I could see through the glass door she talked to my clients, who already arrived. Oh no!

Luckily, she wasn't annoyed and my clients were fine. The meeting went well, and by lunchtime, we have agreed on everything.



VOCABULARY

Ideas and inspiration; Compound adjectives

A Complete the magazine interview with one word in each gap. The first letter is given to help you.



Do you find it hard to get started on a new project?

It takes time, yes. Of course, having the idea to begin with is the important part. If I know what I want to paint or sculpt, I'm keen to get started. But sometimes, I hit a ¹w _____ – I just have no ideas at all. When I'm – quite literally – working from a blank ²c _____ right at the start of a project, I get a bit stressed.

What do you do when you're not inspired? How do you jump ³s _____ your creativity?

I often ⁴d _____ inspiration from other artists. I go to galleries, look at pictures online, that sort of thing. I get a ⁵f _____ perspective on things in that way. Sometimes I ⁶b _____ ideas off friends and then I ⁷r _____ with an idea. For me, it's important to communicate with other people, but then, to get into the right ⁸s _____ of mind, I need to be alone. I ⁹t _____ my instincts and it's never long before I'm working again.

Can you describe what happens when you get started?

That's when you won't see me for days – possibly weeks! I totally ¹⁰i _____ myself in my work. During that period, nothing else matters. I would forget to eat if people didn't bring me food!

B Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- 1 Jim works long hours in the studio so he often listens to *part / late*-night radio programmes.
- 2 Ken got a *part / self*-time job while studying for his doctorate.
- 3 In the acting world, you need to be *thick / self*-skinned because you can get more criticism than praise sometimes.
- 4 I wouldn't like to be *part / self*-employed. I'm happy working for my boss.
- 5 Flora left school and found a *world / highly* paid job with a TV production company.
- 6 Let's face it – the chances of anyone becoming a *well / world*-famous singer are pretty slim.
- 7 I try to remain *open / late*-minded about my job. If they offered me a transfer to a different branch, I like to think I would consider it.
- 8 If you work for yourself, you need to be a *well / open*-motivated worker because it's tempting to take it easy.

PRONUNCIATION

Questions for comment or criticism

A Read the conversation aloud, paying attention to the intonation at the end of the questions.

Woman: Jake from our creative writing course says that he gets all his ideas in his dreams!

Man: Is he crazy? Dreams are so random. And I wouldn't be able to remember mine anyway.

Woman: He keeps a dream diary by his bed. That's a good idea, don't you think?

Man: How can you keep a diary of dreams? Dreams don't make any sense.

Woman: Aren't you being a bit negative? The diary might work for him and help with his stories.

Man: Who writes about dreaming? You need to write about something you actually know or have experienced. Isn't that the point?

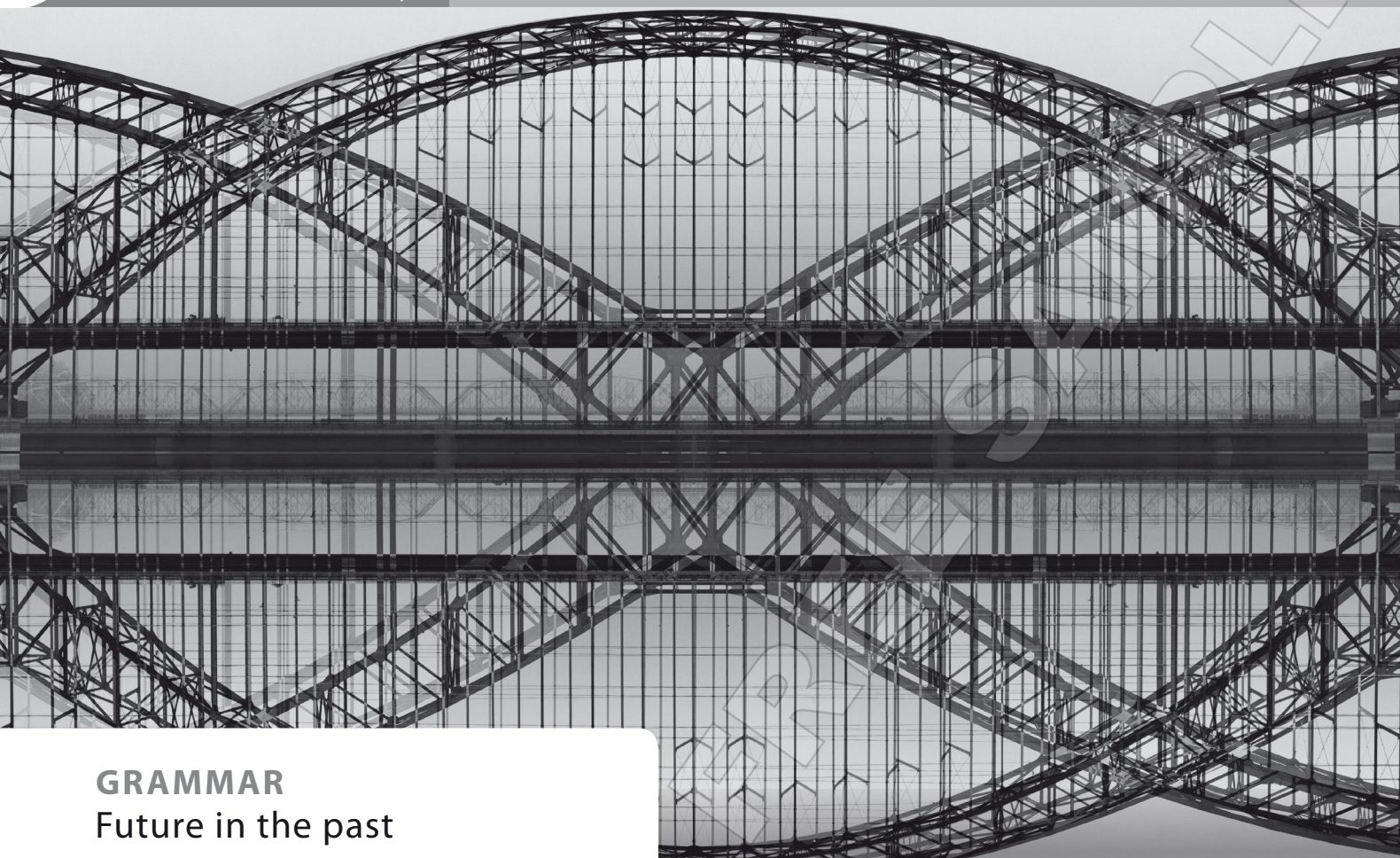
Woman: Are you serious? Writing isn't just about what we know. Anyway I've started a diary myself. I set an alarm for the middle of the night. So I can wake up in the middle of the dream.

Man: Why would you do that? You'll just be tired and feel even less creative the next day. Better to sleep well and then actually come up with some interesting ideas yourself.

Woman: Isn't that a bit dismissive? And why don't you read some of his stories before you decide it's a bad idea?



B Listen to the conversation from Exercise A. Then practise reading it in the same way as the speakers do in the recording.



GRAMMAR

Future in the past

A Match the beginnings of the sentences (1–6) to the endings (a–f).

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1 We were going | — |
| 2 Meeting Stella would | — |
| 3 They were to | — |
| 4 I was just | — |
| 5 We weren't | — |
| 6 Jenny and Fiona | — |
- a supposed to use the computer for personal use, but nobody said anything.
 b about to go out when I got a phone call.
 c were going on holiday the next day so they were packing.
 d to call you, but we thought you might be sleeping.
 e turn out to be an unforgettable experience.
 f call us if there was any kind of problem.

B Choose the correct options (a, b or c) to complete the sentences.

- 1 The bridge been completed last year but there were unexpected delays.
 a was to have
 b was
 c had to have
- 2 You finish the reports before four o'clock. What happened?
 a were about to
 b would
 c were supposed to
- 3 Sorry – I interrupted you. You something?
 a were about to say
 b would have said
 c weren't supposed to say
- 4 We were go on holiday when we heard the news.
 a about just to
 b just about to
 c about to just
- 5 Who thought it a good idea to play a trick on me?
 a would be
 b will be
 c had been
- 6 We knew he a famous singer.
 a was always being
 b was always going to be
 c had always supposed to be
- 7 You had your instructions – you me the minute you arrived.
 a were phoning
 b were about to phone
 c were to phone
- 8 I didn't have much time with John because he for Brazil the next day.
 a had been leaving
 b was leaving
 c would have left

READING

A PREDICT Look at the title of the article and the picture. Which words from the word cloud below do you think will appear in the article?

map **pilot engineer bridge**
creativity proposal perspective railway
carriage flag survey overground
construction canvas

B READ FOR GIST Read *The channel tunnel* quickly. Why did it take so long to create this transport link between Britain and France?

C READ FOR DETAIL Read again and answer the questions.

- 1 Who put forward the first plan for a transport link between the two countries?
- 2 Which proposal after 1979 did not involve an underwater tunnel?
- 3 How long did it take to build the tunnel?

D INFER MEANING Read the article again and choose the correct answer (a or b).

- 1 What do you understand by the use of the phrase 'finally agreed'? (Paragraph 1)
 - a The writer is unhappy about the tunnel.
 - b It had taken a long time to reach an agreement.
- 2 Why did engineers 'study the blueprints' despite problems between the two countries? (Paragraph 2)
 - a They had made a secret agreement with the authorities.
 - b They still believed that the project would be completed one day.
- 3 What can we infer from the sentence 'One British and one French worker were chosen by lottery to be the first to greet each other ...'?
 - a France and Britain wanted to be seen as equals in the project.
 - b The workers wanted to congratulate each other.

E REFLECT Think about the answers to these questions.

- 1 Do you believe that this project was worth the time and money spent on it? Why/Why not?
- 2 What other impressive engineering projects, ancient or modern, can you name?



THE CHANNEL TUNNEL

It was in 1985 that British and French governments finally agreed to construct a tunnel under the English Channel. It would be one of the largest engineering projects undertaken by the UK. But the talks had begun a long time before that – since at least 1957 when Louis Armand's study group came up with a proposal for two railway tunnels, with a third smaller tunnel for maintenance running between them.

But dreams of a link between England and France go back even further than that. The first proposal was made by a French mining engineer, Albert Mathieu, at the beginning of the 19th century, who suggested a road tunnel that allowed horse-drawn carriages to pass between the two countries. When hostilities broke out between the English and the French, the plan was abandoned. Engineers continued to study the blueprints, however, and thought they could adapt their recently acquired expertise in building overground tunnels to building one under water.

By 1871, England and France were on friendly terms again and further surveys were completed, and this time, they got as far as deciding where to start tunnelling. However, this plan, too, had to be abandoned following a change of government in England.

On several occasions over the next 100 years, the project looked as if it might be revived. But it wasn't until the 1970s that another serious attempt was made, when both sides agreed to start digging. However, this was stopped for economic reasons. A change in government in 1979 brought the project back to life. Although this time, there would be no public funding, so it had to be privately financed. The Channel Tunnel Company won the contract, with the same 1960 three-tunnels-in-one idea. Other proposals included: Eurobridge (a suspension bridge) and Euroute (a sea tunnel joining man-made islands).

Construction began in 1988 at Folkestone in England and Coquelles in France simultaneously, the idea being to meet in the middle. It turned into a race to see who could get there first. Tunnel-drilling machines, weighing 1000 tonnes and needing about 20 people to operate, were used to drill through the rock and chalk layers. After two years, the tunnels met in the middle. One British and one French worker were chosen by lottery to be the first to greet each other when the breakthrough was made.

This tremendous engineering project was finally completed by May 1994. It is now considered to be one of the seven wonders of the modern world.

Glossary

blueprint (n) a drawing or plan showing how to build a machine/building, etc

drill (v) to make a hole using a special machine/tool

ventilation (n) a system allowing fresh air to move around a building

LISTENING

A PREDICT Put the words in the correct columns. Which of these words would you use to describe the building in the picture?

appalling awesome groundbreaking iconic
pretentious sensational thought-provoking
unconventional

Positive	Negative	Neither positive nor negative

B ANTICIPATE CONTENT You are going to listen to part of a radio programme called *Frank Gehry: life and work*. Look again at the picture in Exercise A. Answer the questions.

- 1 What is Frank Gehry's profession?
- 2 How successful is he?
- 3 Is his style traditional or unconventional?
- 4 Think of another question you expect to be answered in the programme.

C LISTEN FOR GIST Listen to the programme and check your predictions in Exercise B.

D LISTEN FOR DETAIL Listen again and complete the sentences with one or two words in each gap. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.

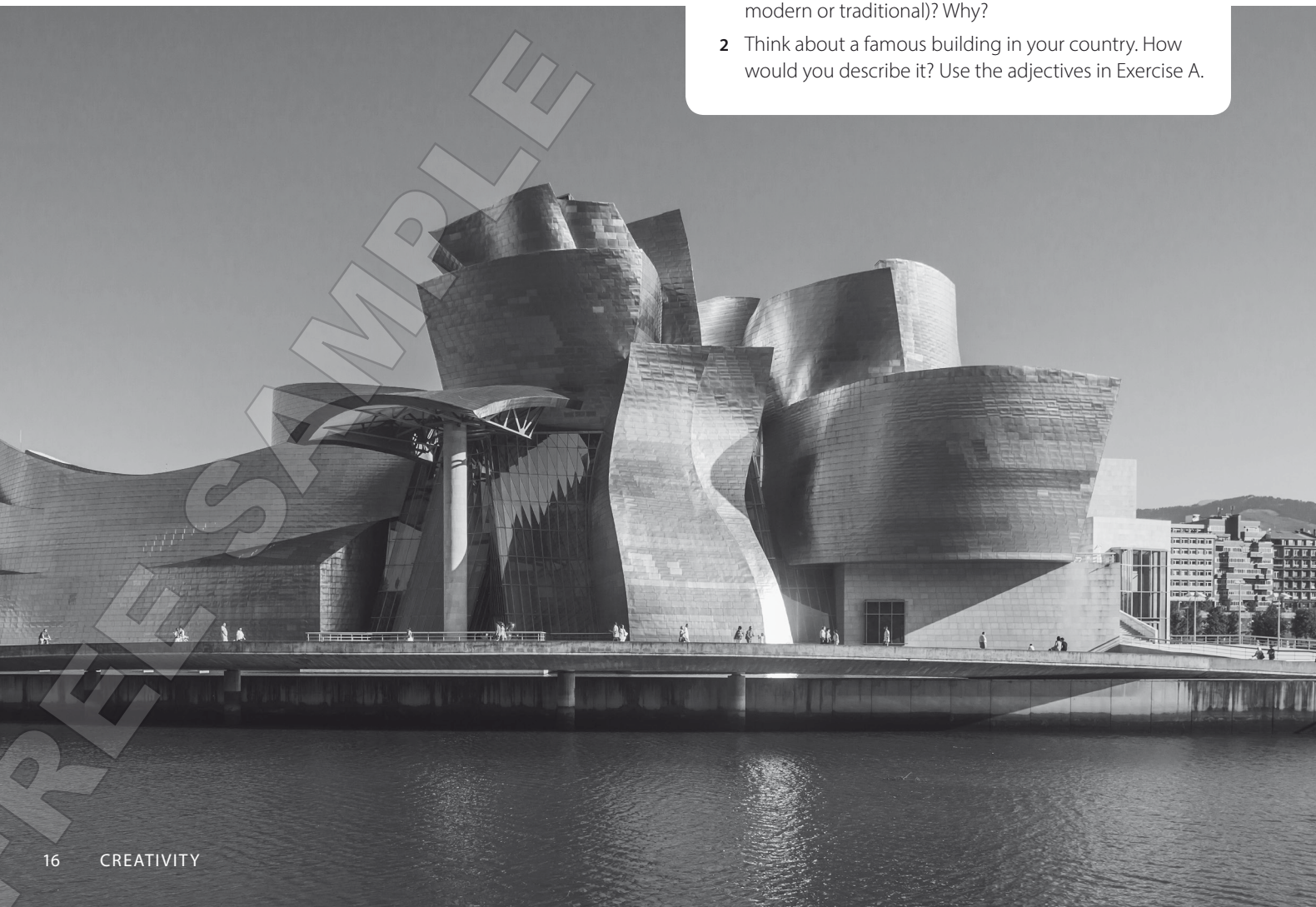
- 1 These days, architects like famous artists get admiration and _____.
- 2 While Gehry takes satisfaction in his achievements, he is not keen on _____.
- 3 Before achieving fame, Gehry had to deal with _____.
- 4 Gehry felt strongly that his buildings should mirror their _____.
- 5 Gehry is able to create striking and distinctive shapes through building with _____.
- 6 People who visit the Guggenheim Museum have been known to say that the building is _____ than the things in it.

Glossary

be a household name (phr) be very well-known
commission (n) a request for an artist to create a piece of work (for payment)
discipline (n) a subject that people study
signature style (n) style which is associated with a particular person

E REFLECT Think about the answers to these questions.

- 1 What style of architecture do you like (for example, modern or traditional)? Why?
- 2 Think about a famous building in your country. How would you describe it? Use the adjectives in Exercise A.



WRITING

A Which of these places would you most enjoy visiting and why?

- a gallery with works by unknown, living artists
- an exhibition of a well-known painter
- a museum with interesting objects from the past

B Read *Monet at the National Gallery* and match the paragraphs (1–5) to the brief paragraph summaries (a–e).

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| a | the writer's opinion of the exhibition | — |
| b | introducing the exhibition and its theme | — |
| c | a more detailed look at the paintings | — |
| d | how the exhibition is arranged | — |
| e | revisiting the theme of the exhibition | — |

C WRITING CONCISELY Find sentences or clauses in the review which express these ideas in a more concise way. Match each one to a grammatical feature.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | The paintings are organised in such a way as to surprise and delight the visitor and are presented in an unusual fashion. | — |
| 2 | Monet, who was born in 1840, continued painting until the mid-1920s ... | — |
| 3 | Monet was a French Impressionist painter who painted Rouen Cathedral several times ... | — |
| a | noun phrase | |
| b | reduced relative clause | |
| c | participle clause | |

Monet

at the National Gallery

- 1** When you mention the name 'Monet', most people think 'water lilies', but this exhibition is entitled 'Monet and Architecture', which is not a connection most art lovers would make. French Impressionist painter Monet painted Rouen Cathedral several times and there are buildings in many of his paintings, but ... architecture as an important theme?
- 2** Organised in such a way as to surprise and delight the visitor, the paintings are presented in an unusual fashion. You don't go from room to room looking at his early, middle and late periods; the idea is more than that you see how his later work was influenced by his early work. Monet, born in 1840, continued painting until the mid-1920s, so there is much to explore.
- 3** Examples of the Rouen Cathedral paintings are here, somehow making the weighty and massive construction seem ready to float away. This is also true of the Venice paintings. Already part of a floating city, the buildings of Venice seem to sail like gondolas on the water. There are paintings done in London, too, a city about which Monet cheekily said, 'would be quite ugly if not for the fog'.
- 4** Buildings, though, are often just a focus point for other elements of the work, a point from which the eye is drawn into the painting. They are just another part of nature, subject to the same laws and conditions. You will come away with a sense of extraordinary beauty and the passing of time.
- 5** This is a wonderful exhibition that I would recommend to everyone – art lover or not. If you only know Monet for his water lilies, you don't know half the story.

WRITING PRACTICE

A PREPARE You are going to write a review of a cultural or artistic event. Think about the answers to these questions and make notes.

- 1 Have you been to a cultural or artistic event recently (art/photography exhibition, museum, concert, book reading, etc)?
- 2 Where was it? What was on display or what happened? If it was an exhibition, who was the main artist? Was there a theme?
- 3 How was the event organised? How were the artworks / museum objects / different aspects presented?
- 4 What did you like or dislike about the event?

B PLAN Organise your notes from Exercise A into a plan.

- Use an appropriate structure for a review.
- Don't forget to give your recommendation in the last paragraph.

C WRITE Write your review in 220–260 words. Use your plan to help you.

