

# 1

# ENTERTAINMENT

## GRAMMAR Habits

- 1 Read the answers to the question *Do you ... much?* What are the people talking about? Match the answers (1–6) to the questions (a–f).



1 Hardly ever nowadays. We used to get away about twice a year but it's just too expensive now. We've got a tent so we go camping along the local coast whenever we can.

2 Not as much as I used to. To be honest, I got really overdrawn at one point and so I had to stop. Now I'll pick up a bargain in the sales but only if I really need it.



3 Not if I can avoid it! The local service is never on time and it's always packed. I tend to cycle everywhere but I'll take the tube if it's pouring down.

4 All the time. I think they're a brilliant local resource. Most of them are free and you can learn such a lot. Even my kids enjoy the interactive exhibitions.



5 Whenever I get the chance. My sister lives abroad so we use the internet a lot for email and stuff. But I also like to chat, so I end up with a huge phone bill!

6 Not as much as I'd like to. I really enjoy having a day off from cooking but it works out quite pricey. As a rule, it's usually to celebrate someone's birthday.



*Do you ... much?*

- a use public transport
- b visit museums and galleries
- c go out to dinner
- d keep in touch with family and friends
- e travel abroad
- f go shopping

- 2 There is one missing word in each sentence. Add the word in the correct place.

- 1 As a rule, I go out once a week, usually on Saturday evenings.
- 2 I don't read for pleasure as much as I like to.
- 3 I tend to see my family just on birthdays and at Christmas.
- 4 We used to go to the cinema about once a week before they put the prices up.
- 5 I check the BBC website all the time, I rarely use any other sites.
- 6 She must be really busy. She never comes to the badminton club anymore.
- 7 I enjoy going to the theatre but we only go once a while.
- 8 We used to go walking every weekend. We get up early and be out on the hills to see the sunrise.

### Language note *used to* and past simple

You can use the past simple or *used to* to talk about habits in the past. For single actions in the past, use the past simple.

*I used to go / went for a run every day when I was in my 20s.  
I went for a run yesterday.*

## VOCABULARY

Describing films, music and books

- 3 Choose the correct words.

- 1 I could listen to it all day. The music is so inspiring, just so *uplifting / weird*.
- 2 I saw it twice. The plot was really exciting, just really *gripping / disturbing*.
- 3 Why is this play so popular? I thought it was terrible, absolutely *catchy / awful*.
- 4 I can't stand her acting. She's just too much, always so *dull / over-the-top*.
- 5 It all sounds the same to me. It's only produced to make money, just very *hilarious / commercial*.

- 4 Complete these sentences using the adjectives that weren't the answers in Exercise 3.

- 1 I couldn't stop laughing. The show was so funny, absolutely .....
- 2 The second half was so boring, just very .....
- 3 I wouldn't take your kids to see it. The special effects are quite upsetting, really quite .....
- 4 I didn't get it at all. The dialogue was really strange, just really .....
- 5 I can't stop singing it. It's so easy to remember, really quite .....

## DEVELOPING CONVERSATIONS Disagreeing politely

### 5 Add the words in brackets in the correct place.

- A: I'm really into heavy metal.  
 B: Oh, right. I find it loud and scary, to be honest. It's the kind of thing my teenage son listens to. (a bit)  
*Oh, right. I find it a bit loud and scary, to be honest.*
- A: Wasn't that a brilliant film?  
 B: Did you think so? It didn't do anything for me, I'm afraid. (really)
- A: Do you listen to jazz much?  
 B: Er, I'm not keen on jazz. I prefer something lighter, a bit more commercial. (that)
- A: Do you fancy coming to see a musical at the theatre tonight?  
 B: Thanks, but I'm not very keen on musicals. I prefer something more serious, more realistic. (a bit)
- A: Have you read the latest Philip Roth novel?  
 B: To be honest, I'm not interested in fiction. I tend to read about politics and current affairs. (really)
- A: I've seen all the Bond movies at least twice.  
 B: Really? I'm not fond of action movies. I'm more into romantic comedies, to be honest. (that)

## LISTENING

### 6 1.1 You are going to hear people talking in six different situations.

Choose the correct answer, a, b, or c.

- What did the woman think about the film?  
 a The main character was too complicated.  
 b They changed a lot of the original story from the book.  
 c It wasn't very exciting.
- What does the man think about modern forms of entertainment?  
 a There's too much choice.  
 b You need too much technology to enjoy them.  
 c It's made people less sociable.
- Why doesn't the man go to the theatre very much anymore?  
 a He doesn't have much time.  
 b The shows are too dull.  
 c It's too expensive.
- What does the woman say about the facilities in her town?  
 a She prefers to go out in the bigger cities nearby.  
 b She doesn't approve of the number of pubs.  
 c There needs to be more provided for young people.
- Why does the woman criticise her son?  
 a He watches TV in his bedroom.  
 b He doesn't have a range of hobbies.  
 c He's always asking for money.
- What was the problem with the exhibition?  
 a Not many artists contributed their work.  
 b It wasn't very well attended.  
 c The standard of the art was disappointing.

## PRONUNCIATION

### Strong and weak forms

#### Language note strong and weak forms

Many function words (such as prepositions, determiners, conjunctions, pronouns and auxiliaries) can have two pronunciations:

- the weak form, which is unstressed and contains a schwa /ə/. This is the most common pronunciation.
- the strong form, which is stressed.

/ə/

He's from the north of Italy.

/ɒ/

Where are they from?

### 7 1.2 Listen to the sentences. Choose the correct symbol for each underlined sound.

- /ə/ /æ/  
 I wish they wouldn't do that.....  
 I just think that they should be true to the original story.....
- /u:/ /ə/  
 People used to go out to have fun.....  
 People don't socialise like they used to.....
- /ə/ /u:/  
 You used to be a really keen theatre-goer.....  
 Not as much as I'd like to.....
- /ɔ:/ /ə/  
 It's the teenagers I feel sorry for.....  
 I mean, there really isn't much for them to do.....
- /ə/ /u:/  
 I'm not asking you, I'm telling you.....  
 I don't want you to watch any more TV.....

### 8 Choose the correct words. Then practise saying the sentences.

When the function word is at the *beginning* / *end* of a sentence, the pronunciation is usually *weak* / *strong*.

## VOCABULARY Talking about pictures

### 1 Complete the paragraph with the correct form of the words in brackets.

There are nearly as many opinions on art as there are paintings themselves. Describing a painting is always open to <sup>1</sup> ..... (interpret). What appears <sup>2</sup> ..... (atmosphere) or <sup>3</sup> ..... (drama) to one person may seem dull or <sup>4</sup> ..... (convention) to another. Abstract art is perhaps the style that is most difficult to appreciate because its meaning is often <sup>5</sup> ..... (ambiguity).

### 2 Complete the conversation with the words in the box.



realistic intimate subtle abstract bold

- A: Can we skip the modern art section? It's all a bit too <sup>1</sup> ..... for me. I like to know what I'm looking at.  
 B: Yeah, sure. ... Look, this one is very <sup>2</sup> ..... You feel you could almost pick up the fruit and eat it.  
 A: You're right. It must be difficult to get in all that detail. And what do you think of this one?  
 B: Oh, it's very dramatic, isn't it? The colours are very <sup>3</sup> .....  
 A: Yeah ... but this one is different. These <sup>4</sup> ..... colours are very soft and relaxing.  
 B: Hmm. I find it a bit disturbing to look at a private moment like this, though. It's too <sup>5</sup> ..... to share with other people, really.

### 3 Match the sentence halves.

- 1 This one is so realistic. It looks as .....
- 2 Come and look at this. The man in the picture .....
- 3 I don't see the attraction. To me all his paintings .....
- 4 She looks furious so they've .....
- 5 The artist was born in Belgium and that could .....
- 6 It all seems very weird. I think it must .....
- 7 It's a celebration and they appear .....
- 8 Looking at this one, I get .....

- a to have just got married.
- b well be his hometown.
- c look really dull.
- d if it's been photographed with a camera.
- e the impression the artist was rather depressed.
- f obviously just been arguing.
- g looks a bit like your brother.
- h show some sort of nightmare.

### Language note uses of look

They **look** really dull. (look + adjective)  
 It **looks as if** it's been photographed. (look as if + clause)  
 He **looks like** your brother. (look like + noun)

## GRAMMAR Adjectives and adverbs

### 4 Find and correct the six sentences that contain mistakes with adjectives or adverbs.

- 1 You look tired. Have you been working hard recently?
- 2 She said it was an absolute dreadful film.
- 3 If you arrive lately for work again, you'll be in real trouble.
- 4 Don't forget to check your work really careful.
- 5 She looks very sadly. Do you think she's been crying?
- 6 Funny enough, I was thinking exactly the same thing.
- 7 We hardly ever go to the cinema nowadays.
- 8 Look direct at the camera and give a big smile!

### 5 Complete the sentences with one word from box A and one from box B.

**A** unusually wrongly terribly absolutely completely badly

**B** rebuilt amazing injured chilly sad arrested

- 1 Both the driver and passenger were ..... in the accident.
- 2 The gallery was ..... after the fire.
- 3 It was ..... to hear the news of his death.
- 4 The gig was ..... – the best I've ever been to.
- 5 The man was ..... but then was released after new evidence came to light.
- 6 This month has been ..... We haven't had such low temperatures for years.

## DEVELOPING WRITING A review – making recommendations

### Learner tip

When writing a review try to think of an interesting or eye-catching title to get your readers' attention. Remember to keep it short.

- 6 Read the possible headings for a gig review. According to the information in the *Learner tip*, which two would make you want to read the whole article?

**QUEST**  
– THE NEXT BIG THING?

**Triumphant**  
return of **Quest**


**Quest**

There are lots of reasons to go and see Quest at the City Hall this month

[Full review](#)

A good gig

- 7 Read the review quickly and choose the correct heading from Exercise 6.




How often do you go along to a gig and see something new? Well, Quest's Friday night gig at the City Hall certainly caught my attention. Having heard one or two tracks online, I was expecting a group of about six musicians. Imagine my surprise when just three young men walked on stage.

It was clear that the band already have a small but loyal following. A group of fans in front of the small stage were singing along to at least half of the songs. And it was easy to see why. Quest have a clever combination of catchy lyrics, an irresistible beat, and very much their own sound. All three of the band members play with great energy and expertise despite their age.

The only downside was when it came to the encores. They ended up repeating some of their material and giving us cover versions of early rock classics. A bit disappointing, but give them time and I'm sure they'll be writing a lot more.

I'm sure we'll be hearing a lot more from Quest. Check them out every Friday at the City Hall until the end of the month. It's well worth it.



- 8 Complete the sentences with the words in the box. There are two words that you don't need.

downside	encores	irresistible
singing along	following	expertise
disappointing	worth	

- One of the best things about the concert was the ..... of the conductor.
- It was amazing to hear the crowd ..... to all the bands hits.
- It's well ..... the price of the concert ticket.
- The biggest ..... was the acoustics in the hall. It was very difficult to hear the singers.
- I can't see why this pianist has such a large ..... To me, she's very dull.
- After playing three ....., the band finally went off stage leaving the crowd still wanting more.

- 9 Match the collocations.

- give
- play
- develop
- compose
- give
- put on

- an individual style
- a memorable performance
- an exciting light show
- an old cover version
- a two-minute standing ovation
- an inspiring piece of music

- 10 Write a review (150–190 words) of a gig / concert you have been to. Use the language in this section and the following plan to help you:

Include:

- an interesting heading and first sentence. Where and when the concert was, and your expectations.
- positive aspects of the concert.
- negative aspects of the concert.
- your overall view and recommendation.

# FANCY A MASTERPIECE FOR JUST £40?

The market for contemporary art shows no sign of falling and the opportunity to snap up an original at a bargain price just can't be missed. Every year London's Royal College of Art (RCA) organises its Secret exhibition and sale. <sup>1</sup> ... The College invites both established, well-known artists and young art students to create an original piece of art based on just two rules – the work must be done on a postcard and must be signed on the back <sup>2</sup> ... All the cards are exhibited for a week and then sold in a one-day sale at a price of just £40 each.

Since the first exhibition, Secret has really captured the public's imagination. <sup>3</sup> ... The list of famous contributors includes: artists Damien Hirst, David Hockney and Tracey Emin, designers Manolo Blahnik, Paul Smith and Stella McCartney, and musicians David Bowie and Paul Simonon from The Clash. <sup>4</sup> ... Part of the fun is deciding which of them is by a famous artist or designer, and which is by a hard-up art student. Buyers could end up with a great investment or just a pretty picture by a student the public has never heard of.



At one recent exhibition, a lucky visitor bought a sketch of a human skull with an eye in the middle of its forehead, only to discover that it was by fashionable British artist Damien Hirst. It was later auctioned at Sotheby's for over £15,000. Another good investment was the painting of a bearded man in a canoe by British artist, Peter Doig. It sold for £42,000 at the same Sotheby's auction as the Hirst postcard.

Secret was set up in 1994 and was the brainchild of an RCA student who wanted to help raise funds for fine art students at the college. Since its beginnings, over one million pounds has been raised for the Royal College of Art Fine Art Student Award Fund. <sup>5</sup> ... Professor Glynn Williams, Head of Fine Art at the RCA said: 'RCA Secret is about securing the future of the next generation of artists and when the public buy postcards at the event they are helping to make this possible. <sup>6</sup> ... – everyone has an equal chance of getting a big name.'

As well as raising much-needed funds for the students at the College, RCA Secret has attracted loyal support from a group of art lovers who have been visiting the show since it started. It is not only one of the most popular events at the RCA, <sup>7</sup> ...

## Glossary

**hard-up:** short of money

**skull:** the bone structure of the head

**auction:** to sell something at a public event at which things are sold to the person who offers the most money

## READING

1 Read the article on page 8 quickly. Who do you think wrote it?

- a an art student
- b the director of an art college
- c the arts correspondent of a newspaper / magazine

### Learner tip

As well as looking for logical connections between the main text and missing sentences, remember to look for words that link parts of the text together. These include pronouns like *it*, *them*, etc. and connectors like *because*, *in order to*, *also*, etc.

2 Seven parts of the article have been removed. Write the correct letter (a–g) in the gaps in the article. There is one extra sentence that you do not need to use.

- a The postcards can be viewed in person at the RCA or online.
- b in order to keep the artists' identity a secret
- c It's one of the most democratic art sales in the world
- d Most examples are much too expensive for the average buyer.
- e The idea behind it is simple.
- f but it has also developed into an important date in the British art calendar.
- g The money has helped hundreds of students in the early stages of their career.
- h Now over 1,000 artists take part in the event each year.

3 Number the paragraph summaries in the same order as the article.

- who benefits from Secret
- the overall role of Secret
- how Secret works
- who made a good investment from Secret
- who has taken part

4 Choose the correct words. Look back at the article if you need to.

I'd never <sup>1</sup> *heard / known* of Secret until I went along with a friend last year. I wasn't really hoping to <sup>2</sup> *find / snap* up a bargain, more just interested to see the art. We spent ages <sup>3</sup> *viewing / looking* the postcards and the hall was packed. The exhibition has obviously <sup>4</sup> *taken / captured* the public's imagination. In the end, I bought just two cards and neither of them will make anything at <sup>5</sup> *auction / investment*. I don't really mind. I think it's a great way to <sup>6</sup> *rise / raise* funds for young artists.

## Vocabulary Builder Quiz 1

Download the Vocabulary Builder for Unit 1 and try the quiz below. Write your answers in your notebook. Then check them and record your score.

1 Replace the underlined words with an adjective from VB Unit 1.

- 1 That film was so full of hope and positive.
- 2 It was a beautiful painting in soft colours.
- 3 I didn't like the ending. What happened to the main character was unclear.
- 4 I couldn't watch it. It was just too upsetting.
- 5 The story is so exciting. You won't be able to put it down.
- 6 His jokes were extremely funny. I've never laughed so much.
- 7 I wish she wouldn't tell me all the private details of her life.

2 Which words that are both verbs and nouns can complete these sentences?

- 1 Moving to a foreign country can be a big .....  
I need more responsibility, this job doesn't ..... me enough.
- 2 Why did he ..... himself as a clown?  
He managed to escape because he was in .....
- 3 He burned down the factory in an act of .....  
He's spent years trying to ..... himself on his attackers.
- 4 Winning the hand of the princess is the hero's final .....  
I'm sure the company will ..... him for all his work.

3 Complete the sentences with adjectives ending in *-al*.

- 1 The damage was ....., so it was easy to repair.
- 2 This film is quite ..... and tries new techniques.
- 3 It's all about good and bad: it has a strong ..... message.
- 4 Having lower costs gives us a ..... advantage.
- 5 We all have a ..... need for love and security.
- 6 It's a ..... weakness, which will destroy him.
- 7 Her writing style is very different. She never uses ..... ideas.

4 Write the missing word in the correct place.

- 1 If I pass the exam, it will enable to get a better job.
- 2 The message in the poem is open interpretation.
- 3 I never tire reading this book.
- 4 They are bound get together in the end.
- 5 I used to spend hours online, until my dad banned.
- 6 Do you think they will get away the robbery?
- 7 His reasons for leaving struck me odd.

Score \_\_\_/25

Wait a couple of weeks and try the quiz again. Compare your scores.