


LISTENING

1 A  5.1 Listen to Mia, Tom and Owen answering the following questions. Write M (Mia), T (Tom) or O (Owen) next to the question they answer.

- How has your country changed in the last thirty years? _____
- Is the world getting better or worse?

- How has your life changed in the last thirty years? _____

B Circle the correct option to complete the sentences.

- Mia thinks that thirty years ago _____.
 - life was simpler
 - the pace of life was faster
 - people were happier
- Mia thinks that email puts pressure on people because _____.
 - people's computers crash
 - emails sometimes don't arrive
 - we are expected to give an instant response
- Tom says that Beijing has grown because people _____.
 - don't have as much money as before
 - came from around the world to get rich
 - came from all over China to make money
- Tom says that life in the countryside _____.
 - has changed enormously because of new technology
 - will never change because they do not have access to technology
 - has not changed that much, but people have more technology
- Owen says that living conditions around the world _____.
 - are improving, even though many people are still living in terrible poverty
 - are terrible and are going in the wrong direction
 - are not improving, and more and more people are living in poverty
- Owen thinks that there are _____.
 - fewer wars than before, but weapons are getting more dangerous
 - more wars than before, and weapons are getting more dangerous
 - the same number of wars as before, and weapons are getting safer

C Listen again and check.

GRAMMAR

COMPARATIVES AND SUPERLATIVES

2 Complete the conversation with the correct form of the adjectives in brackets.

A: I love my new digital camera. It was
1 _____ (expensive) my last one, but the
pictures are much 2 _____ (good) quality
and it's 3 _____ (easy) to use.

B: But it's much 4 _____ (big). Isn't it
5 _____ (heavy) to carry around with you?

A: Actually, it was one of 6 _____ (light)
models in the shop. Although you can get
7 _____ (small) and 8 _____ (cheap)
cameras, they're not as good as this one.

3 Underline the correct alternatives.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE GADGET IN THE KITCHEN?

My favourite gadget in the kitchen is the dishwasher. It's 1 *much/a lot more* faster than me at washing up. The problem is that I'm getting 2 *a slightly/a little bit* lazier. **Yuri**

The toaster. Morning is 3 *by far/slightly* the best time of the day for me. I enjoy a relaxing breakfast. And toast is 4 *a lot/more* tastier than bread. I love it. **Katia**

I don't cook very much, because I'm too busy. I have a microwave, which I find makes it 5 *more/a bit* easier. Now, I eat 6 *slightly/a little far* better than I did before. **Nguyen**

VOCABULARY

TECHNOLOGY

4 A Underline the correct alternative.

- He's six months old. He's been to the doctor to get his *genetic engineering/vaccinations*.
- We are running out of coal, so the government is looking at new ways of making *electricity/computer networks*.
- The government is planning to build new *nuclear power/genetic engineering* stations, but many people are worried that they are too dangerous.
- The company has just invested thousands of dollars in its new *computer network/antibiotics* to improve communication between employees.
- It sounds like you've got a chest infection. I think you need some *solar power/antibiotics*.
- NASA has decided to restart its *communications satellites/space travel* programme and try to send people to Mars.
- They rode their *commercial aeroplanes/motorbikes* right up through to the United States and Canada. The trip took several weeks.

B Match words in italics from Exercise 4A with definitions 1–8.

- 1 The science of changing the genes of a living thing _____
- 2 The energy created when you split or join two atoms _____
- 3 Drugs used to kill bacteria and cure infections _____
- 4 Power carried by wires and used to make lights and machines work _____
- 5 Exploration of the area beyond Earth where the stars and planets are _____
- 6 Machines that are sent into space and travel around the Earth, sending radio and television signals _____
- 7 Energy from the sun _____
- 8 An injection given to someone to protect them from a disease _____

5 A Put the words in the correct column according to the pronunciation of the underlined letter *a*.

space antibiotics nuclear air travel airplane machine
 communicationatellites airplane vacuum airplane
 aeroplaneairplane solar airplane vaccinationa

/eɪ/ <u>a</u> ir	/æ/ <u>a</u> pple	/ə/ <u>a</u> ir
space	antibiotics	

B ▶ 5.2 Listen and check. Then listen and repeat.

WRITING

AN ADVANTAGES/DISADVANTAGES ESSAY; LEARN TO USE DISCOURSE MARKERS

6 A Look at the task below and the notes a student has made. Tick the advantages and cross the disadvantages.

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of studying English online, as opposed to in a classroom.

- 1 flexibility – can study where and when you want, don't have to travel to a school
- 2 lack of interaction with your teacher or students
- 3 more choice – can choose to skip parts of the course, focus on other parts
- 4 IT problems – need to be confident with how the technology works, have good connections to the internet, etc.
- 5 discipline and time management – have to stay motivated
- 6 materials are technologically advanced – use a variety of multimedia materials

B Look at the two plans, A and B, for the essay. Which is better? Why?

Plan A

Many people now study English online. There are lots of good materials on the internet for doing this. As the technology improves, more and more people will try online learning.

But there are some problems, too. Online learning is boring because you are on your own. It's difficult to be motivated.

My opinion – I have tried online materials and they are very good. But going to a class is a better way to improve your English.

Plan B

Introduction:

Improvement in technology means many people are now choosing to study English online, not in classrooms.

Advantages:

- increased flexibility
- increased choice of materials

Disadvantages:

- lack of interaction with teacher and students
- difficulty with motivation and discipline
- IT problems

Conclusion:

- Online courses offer students more choice and flexibility, but are more impersonal.
- Language is about communication, so face-to-face interaction with people in a classroom is a better way to learn.
- Online courses might be a good way to supplement your learning.

C Look at the essay one student wrote. They forgot to use any discourse markers to link their ideas. Rewrite the essay, including discourse markers from the box where you see an asterisk (*).

One of the main advantages is that
 Another disadvantage is The problem is that
 However, (x2) In my opinion, And another thing,

With the improvement in technology, many people are now choosing to study English online, rather than in the classroom. It's easy to see that there are many advantages to online courses. * There are also disadvantages.

* When you study online, you have increased flexibility to study when you want to and where you want to. You have an increased choice of the materials you want to study, because you can choose them yourself.

* When you study online, there is a lack of interaction with your teacher and students. * You might find it difficult to stay motivated and be disciplined with your studies. * You might experience computer problems, which make your study difficult.

* Online courses offer students more choice and flexibility. * They are more impersonal. As language is about communication, face-to-face interaction with people in a classroom is a better way to learn.

VOCABULARY

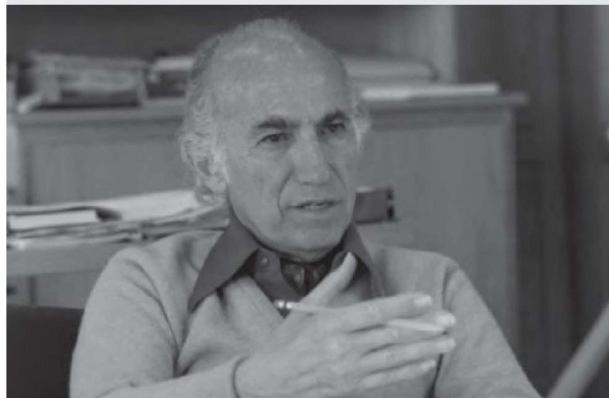
INFORMATION

1 Cross out the alternative which is not possible in each sentence.

- The class had a really good *debate/discussion/reply* about the environment.
- He's sure he's right so if you disagree with him, he will *argue/quarrel/inquire* about it.
- You should try to *respond to/argue/reply to* emails as quickly as possible.
- I *questioned/looked into/inquired about* renting a car, but it was too expensive.
- My brother and I always *argued/quarrelled/replied* about everything when we were young.
- I've always *wondered about/questioned/quarrelled* this man's motivation.
- The *look into/research/investigation* was a waste of time; we found no solutions.
- His newspaper column *debates/inquires/discusses* the issues of the day.

2 Add the missing letters to complete the text.

WHO GOES FIRST?



Everyone involved in medical ¹research _____ is eventually faced with a difficult ²qu_____: who will be my guinea pig? Who will be the first person to try this new medicine before we know if it works?

If we ³l_____ i_____ the history of drug testing, we find that many researchers not only ⁴de_____ this issue, but that a few have a surprising ⁵re_____; they use themselves as guinea pigs.

When scientist Jonas Salk was ⁶in_____ a new polio vaccine in the 1950s, he tried the drug on himself, his wife and children. It worked. Someone later ⁷in_____ about who held the patent (the right to sell the medicine). Salk's ⁸re_____ showed his character: he ⁹wo_____ why anyone wanted to make money from something that the world needed.

GRAMMAR

QUESTION TAGS

3 Underline the correct alternative.

- You're from France, *aren't you/weren't you?*
- She broke a world record, *hasn't she/didn't she?*
- They haven't seen us, *have they/haven't they?*
- Don won't tell anybody, *does he/will he?*
- That house looks nice, *isn't it/doesn't it?*
- We didn't see that film, *did we/saw we?*
- It hasn't rained for months, *has it/have it?*
- You will come tomorrow, *won't you/will you?*
- The shop doesn't open at 6a.m., *will it/does it?*
- You stopped smoking last year, *didn't you/you didn't?*

4 Read the situations and write questions. Use the correct question tags.

- You think your friend is in love.
You *really like Mary, don't you?* (really like / Mary)
- You leave the cinema laughing together.
That film _____? (be / funny)
- Your friend's younger brother is going to borrow your car.
He _____? (not crash / the car)
- You leave the football stadium after a boring match.
It _____? (not be / very good / game)
- You say goodbye to your friend at the airport.
You will _____? (write / to me)
- You want to check that your friend got home safely last night.
You _____? (not miss / the last bus)
- A tourist thinks you speak French.
You _____? (speak / French)
- You have lost your watch.
You _____? (not see / my watch)

5 A Read the conversations. Which responses are genuine questions (where Speaker B really doesn't know the answer)?

- A: Have you met Yinka's parents?
B: Only once. They're doctors, aren't they?
- A: There isn't a cloud in the sky.
B: I know. It's a beautiful day, isn't it?
- A: Are you looking for the scissors?
B: You haven't seen them, have you?
- A: Have you read Jhumpa Lahiri's new book?
B: Yeah, she's a great writer, isn't she?
- A: I've got my final exam tomorrow.
B: You'll pass, won't you?
- A: I think this is the wrong address.
B: Yes, we've made a mistake, haven't we?

B 5.3 Listen and check. Then listen again and repeat the responses. Use the same intonation in the question tags.

READING

- 6 A** Read the introduction to the article. Which questions can you answer? Which can only be answered by experts?

I NEVER KNEW THAT!

What is worse for you: boredom or stress? Why is sea air good for you? If you throw water into the air during the Russian winter, will it come back down as ice? What three foods should you take to a desert island?

People love trivia*. In 2005, a book called *Does Anything Eat Wasps?* was a surprise hit. It was a collection of questions and answers from readers of a magazine called *New Scientist*. We at *Lynx Mag* decided to come up with our own questions and then we asked a panel of experts for answers.

*trivia: unimportant facts

- B** Read the rest of the text to find the answers.

- 1: You are going to stay on a desert island for several months and you can only choose three foods to take with you. Which do you choose, and why?**

Broccoli, walnuts and orange juice. Broccoli has a chemical which helps detoxify your liver. It's also a superfood. Walnuts have protein and plenty of healthy fats. Orange juice is a source of clean water, and the orange contains Vitamin C.
Dr Leah Morecombe

- 2: What's worse for you: boredom or stress?**

Boredom. Stress can have benefits. Weightlifting is a type of stress. So are other sports and pressures at work. All of these are good for you in small doses. Boredom means you have no purpose in life, and no dose of boredom is good for you.
Dr Samran Naipaul

- 3: Why is sea air good for you?**

It isn't particularly. It got a reputation for being good for you in Victorian times because there was so much unhealthy smog in big cities.
Dr Robina Whitman

- 4: Why do flies like rotting food?**

Flies like rotting food because soft environments provide perfect conditions for breeding. When a fly's eggs hatch, the larvae live in and eat the rotting food until they grow into adult flies.
Dr Kelvin Marsh

- 5: If you throw water into the air during the Russian winter, will it come back down as ice?**

It depends where you are in Russia and what the temperature is at the time. But, potentially, yes. At a temperature of -30°C , small amounts of water will turn into ice almost immediately.
Immanuel Kanevsky

- C** Complete the questions for the answers.

- 1 Q:** _____ helps detoxify your liver?
A: Broccoli.
- 2 Q:** What does the writer say _____?
A: It can be good for you, while boredom can't.
- 3 Q:** Who thought sea air was _____?
A: The Victorians.
- 4 Q:** What creatures live in and _____?
A: Fly larvae.
- 5 Q:** At -30°C , when will a small _____?
A: Almost immediately.

- D** Find words in the text in Exercise 6B that match meanings 1–5.

- 1** remove dangerous chemicals or poison from something (paragraph 1) detoxify
- 2** measured amounts of something that you experience at one time (paragraph 2) _____
- 3** unhealthy air that is full of smoke and pollution (paragraph 3) _____
- 4** going bad; becoming soft and useless (paragraph 4) _____
- 5** when an egg breaks and a baby bird, fish or insect comes out (paragraph 4) _____

VOCABULARY PLUS

WORD BUILDING: ADJECTIVES

- 7** Complete the text with the correct form of the words in brackets.

THE PNEUMATIC TYRE: HOW DID IT START?

John Dunlop, a Scottish vet, was ¹ _____ (response) for one of the world's great inventions.

Dunlop's young son kept falling off his tricycle because the bumpy streets were ² _____ (hope) for cycling. Dunlop thought of a ³ _____ (create) solution: filling the rubber tyres with air. This, he realised, would be an ⁴ _____ (ease) way to make the tricycle more stable. He was right: it turned out to be a very ⁵ _____ (effect) solution. Lots of cyclists copied the idea and the air tyre became very ⁶ _____ (success). French car makers realised it was a ⁷ _____ (value) idea and produced air-filled car tyres. The tyres also became very ⁸ _____ (profit); Dunlop Tyres is still a huge company today.

VOCABULARY

PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

1 Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

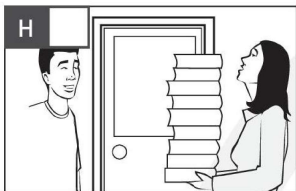
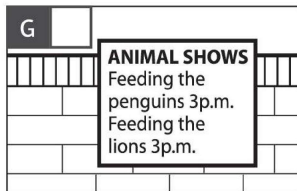
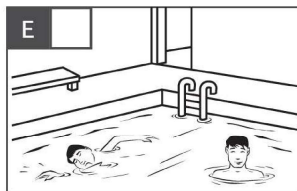
memory switching crashed sort work print
down order recharging fixing

- I'm on the motorway and my car's broken _____.
- My phone isn't working. The batteries need _____.
- We can't use the machines here because they're out of _____.
- Can you call the maintenance department and tell them that the photocopier needs _____?
- If it still doesn't work, try _____ it off and on again.
- I don't believe it! My laptop's just _____ again!
- Have you got another pen? This one doesn't _____ any more.
- Don't worry about that now. I'll _____ it out later.
- OK. First, you'd better save the documents onto a _____ stick.
- I've got a copy on my computer. Do you want me to _____ you a copy?

FUNCTION

POLITE REQUESTS

2 A ▶ 5.4 Listen to eight conversations. What does the person want each time? Match pictures A–H with conversations 1–8.



B ▶ 5.4 Listen again. Complete the conversations with one word in each gap.

- A: Excuse me, _____ you tell me the way to the swimming pool, please?
B: Yes, of _____ I can. You keep going this way, until you get to the traffic lights. Then, ...
- A: Hello. Do you _____ what time the bank opens?
B: I'm not _____. I'll just ask someone.
- A: Do you want us to bring anything?
B: That would be great. Could _____ bring some salad, and maybe something for dessert?
A: Yes, _____ course. Anything else?
B: No, that'll be fine.
- A: Could you _____ me with my bags?
B: I'm _____, I can't. I've got my hands full.
- A: Would you mind _____ the door for me?
B: Of course _____. There you are.
A: Thank you. That's very kind.
- A: Could you _____ me what time the show starts?
B: _____ me have a look. The afternoon show starts at 3p.m.
A: Thanks very much.
- A: Would you _____ coming to get me from the station?
B: OK, _____. Wait outside and I'll be there in ten minutes.
- A: Do you know _____ there's a post office near here?
B: Yes, _____ is – there's one just along this road.

LEARN TO

RESPOND TO REQUESTS

3 Put the words in the correct order to make responses.

- A: Would you mind saying that again?
B: of / not / no, / course

- A: Do you know how to get there?
B: sure. / not / I'm / look. / me / have / a / let

- A: Could you phone Tilly for me?
B: course / yes, / of

- A: Could you finish doing this for me?
B: can't / I / afraid / I'm

- A: Could you take these folders for me?
B: I / yes, / can
