

# 5A Sporting superstitions





## 1 GRAMMAR past tenses

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Use the past simple, past continuous, or past perfect.

- We were late. When we arrived (arrive), everyone else had finished (finish) their lunch and they were sitting (sit) in the garden having coffee.
- They \_\_\_\_\_ (drive) to the airport when they suddenly \_\_\_\_\_ (remember) that they \_\_\_\_\_ (not turn off) the lights.
- The match \_\_\_\_\_ (already / start) when we \_\_\_\_\_ (turn on) the TV. England \_\_\_\_\_ (lose) and they \_\_\_\_\_ (play) very badly.
- I \_\_\_\_\_ (not recognize) many people at my old school reunion because everyone \_\_\_\_\_ (change) a lot in twenty years.
- My sister \_\_\_\_\_ (wait) to go out for dinner yesterday when her boyfriend \_\_\_\_\_ (call) her to say that he \_\_\_\_\_ (not can) come because his car \_\_\_\_\_ (break down).
- Manchester City \_\_\_\_\_ (beat) Manchester United yesterday. United \_\_\_\_\_ (win) 1-0 in the first half, but City \_\_\_\_\_ (score) two goals in the second half.
- He \_\_\_\_\_ (run) to the station, but the nine o'clock train \_\_\_\_\_ (already / leave). The station was empty except for two people who \_\_\_\_\_ (wait) for the next train.
- It \_\_\_\_\_ (start) raining when I \_\_\_\_\_ (walk) to work. I \_\_\_\_\_ (call) a taxi because I \_\_\_\_\_ (not wear) a coat and I \_\_\_\_\_ (not have) an umbrella.

## 2 PRONUNCIATION /ɔ:/, /ɜ:/

a Circle the word with a different sound.

1  horse	2  bird	3  horse	4  bird
ball caught warm up <u>work out</u>	first hurt sport world	draw fought score slope	court serve circuit worse

b **Checker** Listen and check. Then listen again and repeat the words.

## 3 READING

a Read the article on p.31 once. Complete the sentences.

- The boy was playing \_\_\_\_\_.
- He cheated by taking \_\_\_\_\_.

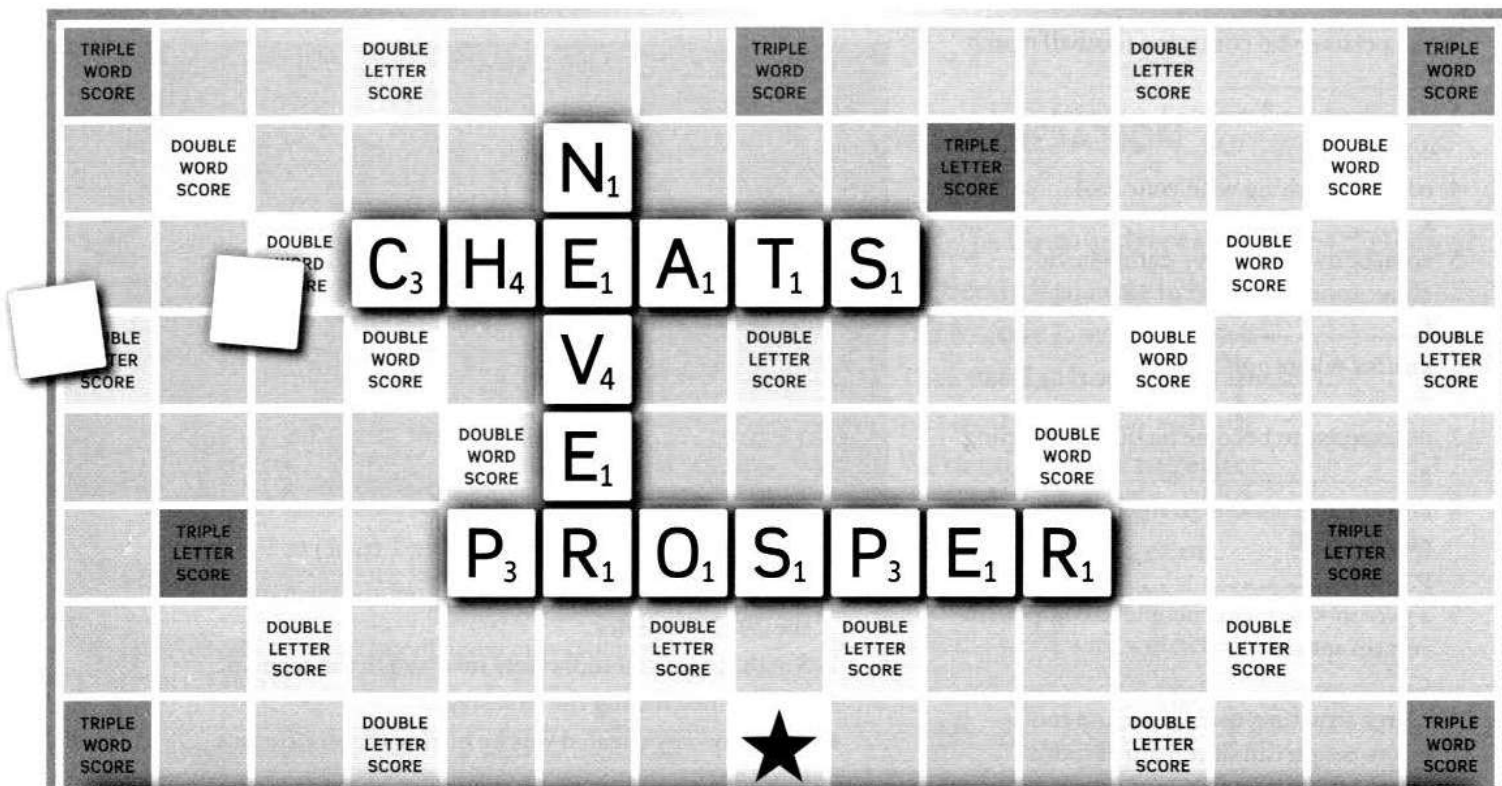
b Read the article again. Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).

- According to the article, people usually learn not to cheat when they are young children. F
- Blank tiles can be used when players haven't got the right letter. —
- It was the first time that the boy had played in the tournament. —
- The previous day, the boy had beaten Arthur Moore. —
- Moore caught the boy while he was making a word. —
- He saw the boy take a blank tile out of his pocket. —
- The boy answered the tournament director's questions truthfully. —
- He wasn't allowed to continue playing. —

c Look at the **highlighted** words and phrases. What do you think they mean? Use your dictionary to look up their meaning and pronunciation.

d Complete the sentences with one of the **highlighted** words or phrases.

- James discretely bought the present when his wife wasn't looking.
- Sam \_\_\_\_\_ telling lies about her colleagues.
- The athlete was \_\_\_\_\_ after he made three false starts.
- My computer is broken, so I'm going to \_\_\_\_\_ it with a new one.
- She became \_\_\_\_\_ when she found the train tickets in his pocket.
- He couldn't \_\_\_\_\_ the man of lying because there was no proof he had done anything bad.
- Jack beat his \_\_\_\_\_ 6-1, 6-3.
- They \_\_\_\_\_ to stealing after they lost their jobs.



It's fairly normal for young children to cheat when they're playing board games. As they grow older, they realize that the fun is actually in taking part in the game, not necessarily in winning it. By the time they reach their teens, they have usually learnt not to cheat. Sadly, this was not the case of a player in a national board game championship held annually in the USA. The player wanted to win so much that he resorted to cheating.

The board game was *Scrabble*. This is a word game that was created in 1938 by an American architect called Alfred Moshier Butts. In the game, players have to make words from individual letters on small squares called 'tiles', and then put the words on a board. Two of the most useful tiles in the game are the blanks, which are tiles without any letters on them. A blank isn't worth any points, but a player can use it to replace any letter of the alphabet.

The cheat in this particular tournament was a 15-year-old boy from Orlando, in the USA. He had surprised organizers in the early stages of the competition by beating some of the best players, despite the fact that he had never played

in competitions before. This made some of the other players suspicious, including the man who caught him, 43-year-old Arthur Moore. Moore had already played the boy the day before, and Moore had won the match, although the boy had had both of the blank tiles. In *Scrabble*, before a new game starts the players put the tiles from the previous game back into a small bag. This time, Moore had a good look at the tiles on the table before he and his opponent put them in the bag to start the game. He was not surprised to see that the two blanks were together on the table in front of the boy. As the two players were putting the tiles into the bag, Moore discretely watched the boy's left hand. He saw the boy pick up the two blanks, and put his hand under the table. This was the signal for Moore to call one of the organizers and accuse the boy of cheating.

When the boy was taken away for questioning, he admitted taking the two blanks during the game and hiding them under the table. As a result of his cheating, the tournament director disqualified him and banned him from playing in the competition again.

## 4 VOCABULARY sport

a Read the definitions and write the words.

- 1 an area of water that swimmers use  
*swimming pool*
- 2 the person who controls a football match  
r \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 a track where Formula 1 cars race  
c \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 to hit something with your foot  
k \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 somebody who is very enthusiastic about sport  
f \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 an area where golf is played  
c \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 do exercise to become healthy and strong  
g \_\_\_\_\_ f \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 an area of ground where people play football  
p \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 a person who trains people to compete in certain sports  
c \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 a large structure, usually with no roof, where people can sit and watch sports  
st \_\_\_\_\_

b Complete the sentences with the past simple of the verbs in the box.

beat draw get injured lose play  
score throw train warm up win

- 1 The USA *played* Russia in the final of the basketball last night.
- 2 The team \_\_\_\_\_ hard every day before the tournament.
- 3 The French runner \_\_\_\_\_ the race. He got the gold medal.
- 4 The players \_\_\_\_\_ by jogging and doing short exercises just before the game started.
- 5 England and Spain \_\_\_\_\_ their match 2–2.
- 6 I didn't play well in the semi-final. I \_\_\_\_\_ 2–6, 1–6.
- 7 Marc \_\_\_\_\_ the ball to his brother, but his brother dropped it.
- 8 Brazil \_\_\_\_\_ Sweden. They had a much better team.
- 9 The Argentinian striker \_\_\_\_\_ four goals in the last match.
- 10 Our best player \_\_\_\_\_ in the second half, and was taken off the pitch to see the team's doctor.

## 5 LISTENING

a **iChecker** Listen to a radio programme about a sporting scandal. Which country won the competition in the end?



b Listen again and mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).

- 1 The scandal happened during the tennis tournament of the 2012 Olympics. F
- 2 South Korea and India were involved in the scandal. —
- 3 It happened during the first stage. —
- 4 One way they cheated was by hitting the shuttlecock into the net. —
- 5 The same thing happened in another match. —
- 6 The teams cheated because they had been offered money. —
- 7 The crowd didn't enjoy the matches. —
- 8 South Korea won the silver medal. —

c Listen again with the audioscript on p.72.

### USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Learn these words and phrases.

fate /feɪt/

rituals /'rɪtʃuəlz/

superstition /su:pə'stɪʃn/

bounce /baʊns/

cheat /tʃi:t/

reveal /rɪ'veɪl/

sweat /swet/

a luck charm /ə 'lʌk tʃɑ:m/

result in /rɪ'zʌlt ɪn/

tie your shoelaces /taɪ jə 'ju:lɪsɪz/

# 5B Love at Exit 19

## 1 GRAMMAR *usually and used to*

- a Correct any mistakes in the **highlighted** phrases. Tick (✓) the correct sentences.

- Where **did you used to live** before you moved here?  
did you use to live?
- Jerry **used to have a beard**, but now he's shaved it off.  
✓
- I **usually go to the gym** when I leave work.
- My wife **doesn't use to wear** make-up. She doesn't like it.
- Did you use to have** long hair?
- I **use to walk** to work. My office is only ten minutes from my house.
- Carol **didn't used to talk** to me, but now she always says hello.
- Do you use to get up late** on Sundays?
- Did you used to watch** cartoons when you were little?
- We **don't usually stay** in expensive hotels, but this weekend is special.

- b Complete the sentences with *usually* or the correct form of *used to*, and the verbs in brackets.





- She used to wear glasses, but now she has contact lenses. (wear)
- He \_\_\_\_\_ animals, but now he has a dog. (not like)
- I \_\_\_\_\_ my parents on Sunday. It's good to talk to them. (call)
- I \_\_\_\_\_ to French classes, but I stopped because I don't have time now. (go)
- We never \_\_\_\_\_, but now we go to restaurants twice a week. (eat out)
- I \_\_\_\_\_ late, but today I have a lot to do. (not work)
- My sister \_\_\_\_\_ very shy, but now she's quite confident. (be)
- They \_\_\_\_\_ me a present on my birthday, but this year they forgot! (give)

## 2 PRONUNCIATION sentence stress; the letter s

- a **iChecker** Listen and repeat. Copy the rhythm.

- Where** did you **use** to **live**?
- Did you **use** to **wear glasses**?
- They **used** to **have** a lot of **money**.
- He **used** to **go** to my **school**.
- We **used** to **work together**.
- You **used** to **have long hair**.
- We **didn't use** to **get on**.
- I **didn't use** to **like** it.

- b **Circle** the word with a different sound.

1  snake	2  zebra	3  shower	4  television
see <b>friends</b> most social	eyes easy especially nowadays	tissue please sure sugar	usually pleasure decision music

- c **iChecker** Listen and check. Then listen again and repeat the words.

## 3 VOCABULARY relationships

- a Complete the sentences with the people in the box.

classmates close friend colleague couple  
ex fiancé flatmate *wife*

- We're married. She's my wife.
- I share a flat with her. She's my \_\_\_\_\_.
- I work with him. He's my \_\_\_\_\_.
- We used to go to school together. We were \_\_\_\_\_.
- I'm going to marry him. He's my \_\_\_\_\_.
- I used to go out with her. She's my \_\_\_\_\_.
- We've known each other for a long time. I tell her everything. She's a \_\_\_\_\_.
- We've been going out together for three years. We're a \_\_\_\_\_.



- b Complete the text with the past simple of the verbs in the box.

be together   become friends   break up  
get to know   get in touch   get on   get married  
go out together   have (sth) in common  
lose touch   meet   propose

Anna <sup>1</sup> met Luke when she started work. They <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ each other quickly because they sat next to each other in the office. They soon <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ and they discovered that they <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ a lot \_\_\_\_\_ because they were both sports fans. They <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ a few times after work and they fell in love. They <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ for a year, but they argued a lot and in the end they <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. After that, Anna got a new job in a different town and so they <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. Ten years later, they <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ again on *Facebook*. They were both still single and Mark had changed jobs, too. They decided to try again, and this time they <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ better than before, maybe because they weren't working together. After six months, Luke <sup>11</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ and Anna accepted. They <sup>12</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ last spring. A lot of their old colleagues from work came to the wedding!



## 4 READING

- a Read the article once. How many friends does the average American have?

### Your friends in numbers



**H**OW MANY FRIENDS does **the average person** have? A researcher at Cornell University in the USA has recently done a study into this question, by finding out the number of friends a typical American has. He has just published the results. The researcher interviewed more than 2,000 adults aged 18 and over in his study. He asked them to list the names of the people they had discussed **serious matters** with in the last six months. About 48% of the people taking part gave the researcher one name, 18% gave him two, and about 29% gave him more than two.

These results **contrast dramatically** with the news published by social networking site Facebook recently. They said that the average user on the site has 130 friends. The Cornell University study found the average number of friends to be a lot lower – 2.03 to be exact. The researcher from Cornell has explained that the difference lies in the definition of the word *friend*. A friend on Facebook may be a person that the user has met **by chance** or someone that they will never meet in real life. However, the friends in his study are close friends, who participants feel comfortable discussing their problems with.

In a similar study conducted 25 years ago, participants had a higher number of close friends. Then, the average number was three. Despite the lower number, the researcher does not believe that people are **getting more isolated**. Instead he thinks it's a sign that they are becoming better at choosing who they can **trust** with their secrets.

This is supported by the number of people in the study who could not think of any names of close friends they would discuss their personal problems with. The percentage of these participants is the same this time as it was 25 years ago. In both studies, just over 4% of the participants gave researchers no names. Apparently, the people who fall into this category are more likely to be men, or people with less education.

In general, the researcher from Cornell regards these findings as positive. In his opinion, they suggest that, at least in the case of Americans, people are not becoming less sociable.

b Read the article again and choose the best answer.

- Most people in the Cornell University study had spoken about something important with...
  - one person.
  - two people.
  - more than two people.
- The news published by *Facebook* is different from the results in the Cornell study because...
  - the people are different ages.
  - the studies are from different years.
  - the relationships aren't the same.
- According to a previous study, people had \_\_\_\_\_ close friends in the past.
  - more
  - the same number of
  - fewer
- The number of people with no close friends is \_\_\_\_\_ it was in the past.
  - higher than
  - the same as
  - lower than
- The results of the Cornell study show that Americans today are \_\_\_\_\_ they used to be.
  - more sociable than
  - as sociable as
  - less sociable than

c Look at the **highlighted** words and phrases. What do you think they mean? Use your dictionary to look up their meaning and pronunciation.

d Complete the sentences with one of the **highlighted** words or phrases.

- I found an old painting by chance while I was cleaning the attic.
- I wouldn't \_\_\_\_\_ my son with my phone. He'll probably break it.
- How much money does \_\_\_\_\_ earn per year?
- They talked about \_\_\_\_\_ first, and then moved on to the less important things.
- The richer parts of town \_\_\_\_\_ with the poorer outskirts.
- Some teenagers are \_\_\_\_\_ because they spend so much time on their computers.

## 5 LISTENING

a **iChecker** You are going to hear a radio programme about research on love and attraction. Number the topics in the order you hear them.

- How to use your eyes at a first meeting. —
- Body language at a first meeting. —
- How to use your voice at a first meeting. 1
- How much to smile at a first meeting. —

b Listen again and mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).

- It's very important to say the right thing the first time you talk to someone you like. F
- A person is often attracted to someone else because of their body language. —
- Looking into someone's eyes can make them feel more attracted to you. —
- There were two weddings after an experiment in New York. —
- Standing up straight is a good way to keep someone's attention. —
- A person will copy your body language if they think you are interesting. —
- It is impossible to know if someone is smiling when you're talking to them on the phone. —
- Often when one person smiles, other people smile too. —

c Listen again with the audioscript on p.73.

### USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Learn these words and phrases.

candle /'kændl/

commuter /kə'mju:tə/

cute /kjut/

likely /'laɪkli/

raise the barrier /reɪz ðə 'bæriə/

addicted to (sth) /ə'dɪktɪd tə/

night shifts /'naɪt ʃɪfts/

turn out (to be) /tɜ:n 'aʊt/

exchange a few words /ɪks'tʃeɪndʒ ə fju: wɜ:dz/

find the courage (to do sth) /faɪnd ðə 'kʌrɪdʒ/

**iChecker TESTS FILE 5**