

# 1 A family affair



## Grammar

### Present perfect simple and continuous

1 Read this email and put the verbs in brackets into the most appropriate form (present perfect simple or continuous).

To: **Melissa**

Hi Melissa,

How are things? Sorry it **(1)** *has taken* (take) me so long to get in touch. I **(2)** ..... (think) about writing to you for ages, but time **(3)** ..... (fly) by since I **(4)** ..... (be) in Italy. I **(5)** ..... (stay) with my sister in Padova, just near Venice. She **(6)** ..... (study) at the university there and has just graduated. There are lots of international students who go there, so she **(7)** ..... (have) a great time meeting people from around the world. I **(8)** ..... (enjoy) staying with my sister this summer and I would even say the experience **(9)** ..... (make) us closer. Before going I was worried we might argue, but fortunately that **(10)** ..... (happen) at all!

We are staying with a local family and my sister and I look after the children when the family are out at work. I speak a bit of Italian, but knowing the language isn't essential as the family all speak English well.

Anyway, enough about me, how **(11)** ..... (be)? I **(12)** ..... (hear) you are staying at an activity camp. How long **(13)** ..... (do) that? It would be great to hear from you. I **(14)** ..... (miss) our long chats. Hope to hear from you soon!

Love Laura

### Asking questions (present perfect simple and continuous)

2 A few days later, Laura replies to Melissa and asks her the following questions in her email. Use the prompts to write her questions using the most appropriate form (present perfect simple or continuous) in the speech balloons.

1 how long / stay / with the family?  
*How long have you been staying with the family?*

2 Italian / improve a lot?  
 .....

3 make / lots of new friends?  
 .....

4 you visit / other parts of Italy yet?  
 .....

5 what / weather / like?  
 .....

6 eat / lots of delicious ice cream?  
 .....

## Vocabulary

### Collocations with *make* and *do*

1 Complete each of the sentences below with the correct form of *make* or *do*.

- Before going to Italy, Melissa *did* a course in Italian.
- In order to get pocket money the kids have to ..... jobs.
- My parents get really mad if I ..... a mess before guests arrive.
- My brother is ..... dinner tonight, I hope it tastes OK!
- I have ..... a promise to my sister that I will always keep.
- I can't see you tonight. I'm ..... something with my cousin. We are going to the cinema.
- When we go to my aunt's house we have to ..... our homework before dinner.
- I have ..... the decision to visit my grandmother every weekend.
- Because they are twins, I sometimes ..... the mistake of speaking to the wrong sister.
- My mum always ..... her food shopping online.

## Adjectives

2 For each of the sentences below, make an adjective from one of the words in the box. Some gaps need a negative adjective.

relief think energy believe ~~pride~~  
 entertain ambition

- He was too *proud* to ask his parents for help.
- She thought her brother's show was very ..... She hadn't enjoyed herself so much for a long time.
- He was ..... when his brother arrived home safely.
- He was very ..... and was determined to do better than his siblings.
- He is so unlike his twin brother. It's ..... that they are even related.
- She is a very ..... child and always considers how other people feel.
- Even though their grandmother is in her seventies, she is still fairly ..... and often goes to the gym.

## Phrasal verbs

3 Complete each gap with a phrasal verb which means the same as the word(s) in brackets. Use the verbs in the box in their correct form.

wear out ~~take on~~ clear up cheer up  
 tear up hang around with

Last week we welcomed a new addition to our family and (1) *took on* (accept responsibility) a puppy called Toby. Having him around has had its advantages and disadvantages, but for the most part I've really enjoyed it. On the plus side, he is great company and always manages to (2) ..... (make happy) when I come in from school. Also, having him means I always have someone to (3) ..... (spend time with). He has a lot of energy, so I have to (4) ..... (make tired) by taking him for regular walks. The only downside to having Toby, is that it is also a lot of hard work! Because he is still very young he sometimes tries to (5) ..... (destroy) the furniture and he makes a big mess, which I then have to (6) ..... (tidy).

## Writing Part 2

### An article

Read part of an article written by a student for a magazine and correct the spelling and punctuation. There are 12 mistakes. The first one has been corrected for you.

Staying with your grandparents is great when you are *growing* ~~grew~~ up. When my brother and I visit are grandparents they are always really pleased to see us. My parents say we get spoilt when we stay there, but they dont seem to mind to much. During the school holidays our grandparents always give us nice things to eat, and sometimes its food we havent tried before. They also tell us a lot of intresting stories about there past and things which happened before we were born. The best stories are always about our parents' and how they behaved when they were young. Our grandparents also do lots of enjoyable things with us, such as taking us to the beach or the park. Last time we visited, we made cake's and went swimming. Even though they are in they're seventies, they are still very active!

1

**Listening Part 3**



Read A–H and listen carefully to each speaker. The words you hear will be different from those below.

**Exam Info**

You will hear five short extracts in which teenagers describe their favourite family holiday. For questions 1–5, choose from the list (A–H) what each speaker says about the holiday. Use the letters only once. There are three extra letters which you do not need to use.

- A I regret arguing on holiday.
- B I'm going to try to have the same experience but with different people.
- C I felt more independent on this trip.
- D I enjoyed the holiday because we stayed in a posh hotel.
- E I wish I had done more on this holiday.
- F My enjoyment of this holiday largely relied on us having good weather.
- G I am fortunate that this trip was captured on film.
- H I didn't enjoy the holiday when it rained.

Speaker 1  **1**

Speaker 2  **2**

Speaker 3  **3**

Speaker 4  **4**

Speaker 5  **5**

**Reading and Use of English Part 7**

You are going to read a newspaper article about being a twin. For questions 1–10, choose from the people (A–E). The people may be chosen more than once.

**Which person**

- appreciates the importance of twins needing to find their own way in life?  **1**
- has mixed feelings about being looked after by their sibling?  **2**
- feels angry when people assume that all twins look the same?  **3**
- likes having conversations about being a twin?  **4**
- didn't like the way they were viewed as a twin child?  **5**
- struggles when parted from their sibling?  **6**
- realises that it is not only twins who sometimes argue?  **7**
- no longer has a problem with being a twin?  **8**
- shares their parents' view of being a twin?  **9**
- has always felt fortunate to be a twin?  **10**

Read the questions, then quickly read the texts. When you find the part of a text which matches the question, underline it.

**Exam Info**



## The pros and cons of being a twin

### A Sam Pearson, 13

People often ask: 'What's it like being a twin?' To which I often respond, 'I don't know. I have never been anything else!' I never mean to be rude; I am just being honest because since birth I have never known anything different. I guess there are some advantages though, for example, there is always someone to partner you in class or hang around with at home. Also, when I meet new people they always find it really interesting to talk about what it must be like being a twin.

### B Julia Taylor, 30

I have always loved being a twin and I see being one as something unique. There aren't many people who have had this benefit and therefore I try to always focus on the positives. This is something our mum and dad taught us when we were very young and I have always remembered this. When we were growing up, one of the best things about being a twin was our birthday parties! We had brilliant birthdays as kids. I am sure they were fairly stressful for our parents, but we thought they were fabulous!

### C Claire Kite, 16

People often presume when you are a twin that you must also be identical. This is not the case however, and my twin brother is much taller than me; so sometimes people don't believe we are twins and I find this really annoying! Being a twin has both its good and bad points. We fight a lot, especially over gadgets, and when we were younger over toys or for the attention of our parents, but I guess this is just like any other family. On the positive side, we often have a lot of fun together and I never feel lonely. My brother is also very protective of me, especially at school, which is both a good and bad thing!

### D Mary Blackwell, 40

Growing up I had very mixed emotions about being a twin. I really hated it when people grouped us, referring to us as 'the twins'! We very much had our own identities and some people just failed to recognise that. I used to constantly dye my hair different colours, just so I could look different to my sister. Being seen as a unit rather than as an individual didn't seem to bother my sister that much, but for some reason it really affected me, especially as a teenager. Fortunately, we now have very different lives, so it isn't really an issue anymore.

### E Helen Thompson, 19

I absolutely loved being a twin when I was growing up. I used to have a great time going out with my sister. We are identical, so we always used to wear the same clothes and have the same haircuts. We got so much attention when we went out and we were sometimes asked to pose for photographs. We felt like celebrities! We were also very close when we were younger, and sure we would argue sometimes, but most of the time we were best friends. This has all changed now though, as we have each gone to a different university. I know it is a good idea that we each have our own independence, but I do find it hard sometimes and a bit lonely.