

Practice

1 Change the order of information in these sentences to emphasise a different part. Make any other necessary changes.

- He burst in through the window.
- They crossed the Atlantic in record time.
- He destroyed the first letter.
- He put the second letter into his pocket.
- The letter was on the table.
- It is terrible that he was punished so severely.
- It is very difficult to imagine him failing.
- It's perhaps not surprising that he's done so well.
- I can't imagine how he got here so fast.
- He's useless; that's the problem.

2 Match the prompts (a–f) with those (1–6) and write complete sentences using all words in the order given.

Example: All films / last month's / festival / good best of all / Polish cartoon

All the films at last month's festival were good, but best of all was a Polish cartoon.

- | | |
|---|---|
| a Many qualities / required / this job | 1 particularly delicious / lasagne |
| b The pizza / excellent | 2 by far / hectic / casualty |
| c Ivan / range / linguistic skills | 3 exhilarating / still / parascending |
| d Water-skiing / exciting | 4 even better / cannelloni |
| e All / dishes / good / that restaurant | 5 absolutely vital / a / humour |
| f All / departments / busy | 6 exceptionally impressive / letter-writing |

3 Rewrite each of the following sentences using two of the adverbial particles listed with *went* and / or *came*.

Example: As the rain started, people opened their umbrellas.

Down came the rain and up went the umbrellas.

down up out in back over on off across

- When the value of the pound increased, the volume of exports fell.
- The new technocrats took over when the old guard retired.
- When she walked in, all those old forgotten feelings returned.
- The witches leave the stage and Macbeth enters.
- As the ball was crossed, the goalkeeper fell to the ground.

4 Rearrange the words in each line to make one sentence.

Example: that is incredible it it happened

It is incredible that it happened.

- incredible happened is that this
- amazing to want it so leave is soon she that should
- soon she leave want amazing that should so is to
- mystery party went after he a is where the
- escaped police mystify continues how the to he
- believed find that incredible I him you

5 Here is one side of a telephone conversation. Fill each of the numbered gaps with one word.



Well, the thing (1), we haven't seen you at college for a week now.



But the whole (2) of being a student is that you study.



..... (3) you say I don't doubt is true, but the (4) remains that your attendance record leaves a lot to be desired.



No, I think you're missing the (5), which is that unless you start attending more regularly, what (6) you had of passing your exams at the start of the course is much reduced.



But I'm afraid lazy (7) we cannot tolerate.



The (8) is whether you are going to start taking things seriously. (9) it difficult to get up in the morning (10) don't accept as a reasonable excuse.



..... (11) is having too far to walk to the college every morning.



Two hundred (12) we do not consider a long way.



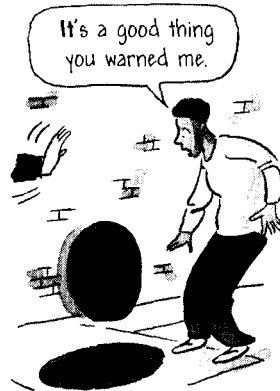
Eleven o'clock we do not (13) an unearthly hour for lessons to begin. One hour a day at college we do not feel (14) unreasonable imposition. Please try to attend more regularly or (15) you go on your ear.

Practice

1 Write *there's* or *it's* in each of the gaps to complete the following sentences.

Example: *It's* a good job you told me when you did.
There's little point in going back over the same old ground.

- a just as well we brought our umbrellas.
 b a strong possibility of the Chairman not making the meeting.
 c I gather also doubtful whether his deputy will be there.
 d not thought to be any serious risk involved in the operation.
 e no use pleading with me; I have no say in the matter whatsoever.
 f no shame attached to being beaten by a player of his calibre.
 g Don't you think any chance at all that he was unfairly dismissed?
 h no good feeling sorry for yourself; what's done is done.
 i a lot to be said for vegetarianism, in my opinion.
 j a shame you won't be able to see your own son receive his degree.
 k generally believed to be a good thing to get eight hours' sleep a night.
 l Wouldn't you say all a question of habit how long you need to sleep?



2 For each of the sentences below, write a new sentence as similar as possible in meaning to the original sentence, but using the word given.

Example: *It's no good sitting feeling sorry for yourself.*
point

There's no point in sitting feeling sorry for yourself.

- a I've only just realised what our director meant by that comment.
dawned
 b You should have been at the party; you would have enjoyed it.
pity
 c People are optimistic that this new drug will be a success.
hoped

- d I realised all of a sudden that we had been stitched up.
occurred
 e We discovered eventually that all the goods had been stolen.
transpired
 f The polls point towards a landslide victory for the presidential party.
indication

3 Complete each of the following sentences with a suitable word or phrase.

Example: It is *common knowledge* that superstitious people live longer, isn't it?

- a I absolutely amazing that in this day and age superstitions are so rife.
 b It strikes so odd that people still fret for days over a broken mirror.
 c Restaurants are half full of people necessary to throw a few grains of any spilt salt over their shoulders.
 d Most of the people I know believe be an unnecessary risk to walk under a ladder.
 e It is widely grown men and women that cracks in the pavement should not be stepped on.
 f But I must confess I consider be my major ambition in life to find a four-leaf clover.

4 Finish each of the following sentences in such a way that it is as similar as possible in meaning to the sentence before it.

Example: Showers are known to be better for you than baths.

It is common knowledge that showers are better for you than baths.

- a It looks as if there's been an accident over there.
 There
- b I'm glad we decided to come by train.
 It's
- c The speed at which young children acquire language is quite incredible.
 It's
- d No doubt there was a terrible row when the mistake was discovered.
 There is sure
- e Such behaviour is totally inexcusable.
 There
- f The choice of restaurant is entirely yours.
 It's entirely up

Practice

1 In each sentence one of the underlined words or phrases does not fit. Write the number beside it in the space and the correct word or phrase.

- Example: All you (1) have to do is tell me (2) everything what (3) happened once you (4) left the hotel. 3 that
- a What you did (1) wrong was that (2) you started on the top coat before (3) the undercoat that was (4) dry.
- b All that (1) happened that I (2) told him what I thought of (3) him in no uncertain (4) terms.
- c It was (1) while trying (2) to mend the window when (3) I fell off the ladder.
- d He claimed to like (1) music but it was (2) literature what (3) he loved more than anything else (4).
- e All (1) I love most about the weather (2) in this country is that (3) it is totally unreliable.
- f He left the country at the age of (1) twenty and it was (2) only after several years when (3) he returned.
- g I mislaid my wedding ring once and it (1) wasn't before (2) we eventually moved house that it (3) came to light (4) again.
- h It's (1) not learning (2) new words that I find (3) difficult, and (4) remembering them.

2 Rewrite each of the sentences in such a way that it is as similar as possible in meaning to the sentence before it. The first word and one other is given as guidance.

- Example: I know what you did to her. You broke her heart. (What / break)
What you did to her is break her heart.
- a I know what happened. You lost your nerve, didn't you?
 What / chickened
- b I know what she did. She upset all her colleagues by being so arrogant.
 What / arrogance
- c I know how you feel after getting your results. Many others are feeling the same way.
 How / how
- d I know where you made your mistake; you underestimated the competition.
 Where / appreciate
- e I know why he was attracted to this job; he wanted to give people orders.
 What / authority

3 Rewrite each sentence in three different ways. Begin with the words given.

Example: The rising tide frightened me.

- a *What frightened me was the rising tide.*
 b *I was frightened by the rising tide.*
 c *It was the rising tide that frightened me.*
- 1 We took him to the hospital.
 a Where... b It was... c The hospital is...
- 2 I went to see my GP.
 a My GP... b It was my GP... c The person...
- 3 The spices are amazing.
 a It's the... b What... c The spices are what...
- 4 The location was important.
 a It's the... b What... c The location...
- 5 I spent £15 on the ticket.
 a £15 was how... b It was £15...
 c The amount I...
- 6 He looks amazing for his age.
 a How... b What is... c It is...

4 Finish each of the following sentences in such a way that it is as similar as possible in meaning to the sentence printed before it.

Example: We only noticed the stain on the carpet when all the guests had gone.

It wasn't until all the guests had gone that we noticed the stain on the carpet.

- a In some organisations what you know is not important; who you know is.
 In some organisations it's not
- b He took his hat off and then I recognised him.
 It wasn't
- c I only realised she was a foreigner when she opened her mouth.
 It was
- d Your place of birth doesn't determine your accent; the place you spend your childhood in does.
 It's not where
- e His actions didn't bring about his downfall; lying about them did.
 It wasn't what
- f You don't know who your real friends are until a time like that.
 It's only
- g His jokes in themselves are not funny; his manner of telling them is.
 It's how
- h The salary increase wasn't why I stayed on; you were the reason.
 It wasn't