



Reading

- 1 For questions 1–6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

Science flying in the face of gravity

It looked just like another aircraft from the outside. The pilot told his young passengers that it was built in 1964, a Boeing KC-135 refuelling tanker, based on the 707. But appearances were deceptive, and the 13 students from Europe and the USA who boarded the aircraft were in for the flight of their lives.

Inside, the area that normally had seats had become a long white tunnel. Heavily padded from floor to ceiling, it looked a bit like a lunatic asylum. There were almost no windows, but lights along the padded walls eerily illuminated it. Most of the seats had been taken out, apart from a few at the back, where the young scientists quickly took their places with a look of apprehension.

For 12 months, science students from across the continents had competed to win a place on the flight at the invitation of the European Space Agency. The challenge had been to suggest imaginative experiments to be conducted in weightless conditions.

For the next two hours the Boeing's flight resembled that of an enormous bird which had lost its reason, shooting upwards towards the heavens before hurtling towards Earth. The intention was to achieve weightlessness for a few seconds.

The aircraft took off smoothly enough, but any feelings that I and the young scientists had that we were on anything like a scheduled passenger service were quickly dismissed when the pilot put the plane into a 45-degree climb which lasted around 20 seconds. Then the engines cut out and we became weightless. Everything became confused, and left or right, up or down no longer had any meaning. After ten seconds of free-fall descent the pilot pulled the aircraft out of its nosedive. The return of gravity was less immediate than its loss, but was still sudden enough to ensure that some students came down with a bump.

Each time the pilot cut the engines and we became weightless, a new team conducted its experiment. First it was the Dutch, who wanted to discover why cats always land on their feet. Then it was the German team, who conducted a successful experiment on a traditional building method to see if it could be used for building a future space station. The Americans had an idea to create solar sails that could be used by satellites.

After two hours of going up and down in the plane doing experiments, the predominant feeling was one of exhilaration rather than nausea. Most of the students thought it was an unforgettable experience and one they would be keen to repeat. 39

- 1 What does the writer say about the plane?
 - A It had no seats.
 - B The inside was painted white.
 - C It had no windows.
 - D The outside was misleading.
- 2 According to the writer, how did the young scientists feel at the beginning of the flight?

A sick B nervous C keen D impatient
- 3 What did the pilot do with the plane?
 - A He quickly climbed and then stopped the engines.
 - B He climbed and then made the plane fall slowly.
 - C He took off normally and then cut the engines for 20 seconds.
 - D He climbed and then made the plane turn over.
- 4 What was the point of being weightless?
 - A To see what conditions are like in space.
 - B To prepare the young scientists for future work in space.
 - C To show the judges of the competition what they could do.
 - D To allow the teams to try out their ideas.
- 5 What does 'it' in line 39 refer to?
 - A the exhilaration
 - B the trip
 - C the plane
 - D the opportunity
- 6 Why was this text written?
 - A To encourage young people to take up science.
 - B To show scientists what young people can do.
 - C To report on a new scientific technique.
 - D To describe the outcome of a scientific competition.

Grammar

The passive

- 2 The *Cambridge English Corpus* shows us that exam candidates often make mistakes with the passive. Correct these sentences.
- a I had to been train by the manager.
 - b Usually cuckoo clocks make out of wood.
 - c The science exhibition will be visit by many people.
 - d My camera stolen on the bus.
 - e He was stolen his bike.
 - f It has been prove that water freezes at 0 degrees C.
 - g One speaks French here.
 - h Many designs have make for new planes.
 - i The house is painting at the moment.
 - j The car cleaned now.
 - k Maria born in April.
 - l A jet flies by Hamid every day.
 - m They were asking to a party.
 - n Today's meeting has cancelled.
 - o My house was building last year.
 - p I hurt in a road accident.

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Vocabulary

Phrasal verbs with *come* and *take*

- 3 Look at the context of the following phrasal verbs and decide on their meaning. Try not to use a dictionary until you have finished the exercise.
- a He **came into** a lot of money when his grandfather died.
 - b She certainly **takes after** her mother – she's so tall.
 - c He **took up** golf when he retired.
 - d It took him two hours to **come round** after the blow to his head.
 - e I'll be **taking over** the business when my father retires.
 - f It was a problem we rarely **come up against**.
 - g I didn't **take to** him at first, but now he's one of my best friends.
 - h The Prime Minister didn't **come up with** any new ideas for tackling crime.
 - i The information was too much to **take in** at first.
 - j I **came across** an old letter in the attic the other day.
 - k Her new job means that she will be **taking on** more responsibility.



Listening

- 4 **1.07** You will hear a woman talking about a man called William, who built a windmill in his village in Africa. For questions 1–10, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

William's family didn't have the
(1) ..\$. needed for him to stay at school.

William always wanted to get a job as a
(2) ..

William was able to spend some time in the
(3) near his village.

William was keen to have electricity in his house so that he could have an electric (4) in his room.

William's family wanted electricity so they could get (5) more easily.

William's (6) was the person who helped him build a windmill.

The basic structure of the windmill was made from an unwanted (7)

The blades of the windmill were made of (8)

In William's village there is a (9) which the villagers all have access to.

William's family is now able to grow (10) as well as maize.

Vocabulary folder 2

Confusing words

! Some pairs or groups of words and phrases can be confusing. Record these words in topics with example sentences to help you remember them.

Sport

1 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words given. Check the meanings in a dictionary, if necessary.

1 play / practise

- a I need to my tennis serve technique.
- b I need to tennis more often – it's fun, but I'm not very good!

2 avoid / prevent

- a Warming up before you go running helps injury.
- b You should eating or drinking too much immediately before going running.

3 attend / join

- a I want to my sister's tango show; her class have been preparing for weeks!
- b I want to my sister's tango class; it's a great way to get fit.

4 an audience / the public

- a You need steady nerves to do gymnastics in front of
- b The museum is not open to because there's a private party.

Family life

2 Complete the dialogues with the correct form of the words given.

• be / become / get

- A: Lucy is driving me crazy! She's been so irritating since she (1) a teenager.
- B: I've got the same problem with my son, Ed. He (2) always in a bad mood and he (3) upset for no real reason.
- A: I know ... I suppose they'll grow out of it one day.

• fun / funny

- A: That's (4) – I can't find that board game we got for Mum and Dad.
- B: I know the game you mean – it's really good (5)
- A: Do you remember when Grandad played it with us? It was so (6)! He didn't know any of the answers!
- B: Hmm ... I'm not sure he had much (7) Have you looked under your bed?

• grow up / increase

- A: Dad, listen. It says in the paper that the number of students taking A-levels is (8)
- B: Goodness! Are you thinking about A-levels already?! You're (9) so fast! And reading the newspaper too!

Advertising

3 Complete the advert and the email with the correct form of the words given.

• cost / fare / fee / travel / trip

The (1) of the (2) includes one night's accommodation, the museum entrance (3), a one-day ski pass, all bus (4) and other (5) costs.



• advertisement / advertising / announce

Delete Reply Reply All Forward Print

Jack,
The school's just (6) a new rule; they're not going to allow any (7) on the school noticeboards, so we'd better take down the (8) for our concert this weekend. Just in case.
Cheers,
Pete

False friends

! False friends are words in English that look or sound like words in another language, but have very different meanings.

- 4 The words in the box often cause problems for Spanish speakers. Circle those words you know in English. Check the meanings in a dictionary, if necessary.

actually assist attend compromise (v/n)
deception destiny disgrace educated fatal
humid ignore informal pretend remove
sensible virtual

- 5 Use the correct form of the words from Exercise 4 to replace the underlined words and phrases.
- Really, this isn't my hometown. I'm originally from the north.
 - He isn't really feeling ill – he's just trying to make you think he is.
 - Hurry up! It's nearly midnight!
.....
 - "Ouch! It hurts!" "Well, try not to look at it. Then you won't notice it so much."
.....
 - Successful relationships are about give and take.
.....
 - Is it alright to dress casually for the party or do I have to wear a suit?
 - You should take off your shoes when you go into a temple or a mosque.

- 6 Identify and replace the false friends in a–h.

- He seems quite friendly and outgoing, but he wasn't very educated to that waiter!
- Our apartment is so cold and humid in winter that I really want to find a new one.
- You need to attend in class if you want to get better marks.
- Dubai is becoming a popular tourist destiny.
.....
- I'm feeling fatal; I'm going to take the afternoon off.
- The deception she felt when he cancelled their date was a surprise to everyone.
- She pretends to become an orchestra conductor one day.

- 7 Choose the correct words to complete the text.

The other day I was (1) *seating* / *sitting* on the couch in my pyjamas feeling a bit (2) *alone* / *lonely* and (3) *bored* / *boring*, when I saw (4) *a news story* / *a notice* about the film *Gravity*. It (5) *said* / *told* that the film was remarkable and the acting superb and, besides, it looked (6) *interested* / *interesting*, so I (7) *dressed up* / *got dressed* and drove to the cinema. A friend of mine works there and she (8) *borrowed* / *lent* me some 3D glasses (I didn't want to buy any), so I took them and some popcorn and went in.

I loved it. If I (9) *recall* / *record* correctly, Sandra Bullock, who plays one of the two (10) *main* / *principal* characters, won the Oscar for Best Actress in 2009, but she should have been the winner for *Gravity* too, and whatever they paid her for her role, she (11) *earned* / *won* it. The (12) *argument* / *plot* is quite simple, but it's a well-acted (13) *history* / *story*. I have to (14) *advise* / *warn* you, it's quite sad too. It (15) *remembered* / *reminded* me of a classic film.

