1A Questions and answers

READING & SPEAKING

a. Look at the photos of Benedict Cumberbatch and Elisabeth Moss and read their biographical info. Have you seen any of the TV series or films that they have been in? What did you think of them?

b. Now read the interviews and match questions A–G with their answers.
   A. How do you relax?
   B. What don't you like about your appearance?
   C. What's your earliest memory?
   D. What makes you unhappy?
   E. If you could edit your past, what do you think you would change?
   F. What was your most embarrassing moment?
   G. Who would you most like to say sorry to?

c. Read the interviews again using the glossary to help you. Answer the questions with BC (Benedict Cumberbatch) or EM (Elisabeth Moss).

Who...?

1. had an embarrassing experience as a child
2. finds it hard to make decisions
3. avoids answering one of the questions
4. had a dangerous experience when they were travelling abroad
5. had a dangerous experience when they were young
6. often hesitates when they’re speaking
7. was fond of a kind of flower when they were a child
8. has a favourite decade

Which of the questions in the interviews do you think is...

1. the most interesting
2. the most boring
3. too personal to ask a person who you don’t know well

Choose six questions from Q&A to ask your partner.

Every week the British newspaper, The Guardian, chooses people who have been in the news recently and publishes a short interview with them called Q&A.

The actor Benedict Cumberbatch was born in London in 1976. He has starred in many successful TV series and films, including Sherlock, War Horse, Star Trek, and The Hobbit.

1. What’s one of your happiest memories?
   Sitting in the sun on my face and a beer in my hand the morning after I had been in a car-jacking in South Africa.

2. When I was six, I was swung by a rope in a Greek market. A woman pulled down my pants and rubbed an onion on my bottom.

3. What don’t you like about your personality?
   Impatient, but also indecisive.

4. What is your greatest fear?
   Forgetting people’s names.

5. The size and shape of my head. People say I look like Sid from The Floyd

6. What costume would you wear to a fancy dress party?
   I rather enjoyed wearing bandanas round my face as the Invisible Man at the last one I went to. People got to know me without recognizing me.

7. Which words or phrases do you most overuse?
   I say “Erm…” too much.

8. What one thing would improve the quality of your life?
   Better time management.

9. I might not have called Trevor Nunn, the famous director, Adrian in my first audition for him.
The actress Elisabeth Moss was born in California in 1982. She has been in several very successful US TV dramas, including The West Wing and Mad Men for which she won an Emmy award.

1. Going out into the backyard of my home in LA and pretending to build a vegetable garden with sticks and rocks I must have been five.
2. Which living person do you most admire?
This is kind of cheesy, but my mum.
3. Which living person do you most despise and why?
I won't say his name.
4. Not getting enough sleep.
5. What is your favourite smell?
Jasmine—I grew up in Los Angeles, in the hills, and there was always jasmine growing.
6. I really good girlfriend with whom I lost touch when I was little. I would love to see her again.
7. If you could go back in time, where would you go?
A 1930s jazz club in New York City. I love the art deco period—the jewellery, the clothes, the music.
8. I am a big fan of getting a box set and watching the entire show in two or three weeks. I'm watching The Sopranos at the moment, because I missed it when it first came out.
9. What has been your most frightening experience?
When I was little, I was on a lake in the US and got caught underneath a rowing boat. That was pretty scary.

Glossary

- car-jacking: the crime of forcing the driver of a car to take you somewhere or give you their car
- Emmy: a US award similar to the Oscars, but for TV
- backyard: a garden
- cheesy: informal, too emotional or romantic in a way that is embarrassing, e.g., a cheesy love song

2. GRAMMAR question formation

a. Now read the questions in 1b again and answer the questions below with a partner.

1. Which questions are examples of...
   - a subject question, where there is no auxiliary verb
   - a question which ends with a preposition
   - a question which uses a negative auxiliary verb

2. What happens to the word order in the question What would you change when you add do you think after what?

b. p.132 Grammar Bank 1A. I learn more about question formation, and practise it.

3. PRONUNCIATION

friendly intonation, showing interest

a. (34). Listen to some people asking questions 1–5. Who sounds friendlier and more interested each time, a or b?

1. Do you have a big family?
2. What don't you like about the place where you live?
3. What sports or games are you good at?
4. Do you think you have a healthy diet?
5. What makes you feel happy?

b. (35). Listen and repeat the questions with friendly intonation. Focus on sentence stress and linking.

- Reacting to what someone says

When you ask someone a question and they answer, it is normal to show interest by saying, e.g., Really? or Oh yes? with a friendly intonation, or by asking a question.

- Now listen to the questions in a conversation. Complete the expressions or questions that the man or woman use to react to the answers.

1. Wow! That's a huge family.
2. _______? What's wrong with them?
3. _______! We could have a game one day.
4. _______! How long have you been a vegan?
5. _______? I can't think of anything worse!

c. (36). Listen and repeat the responses. Copy the intonation.

d. Ask and answer the questions with a partner. Use friendly intonation, and react to your partner's answers.
Extreme interviews

WHAT sort of dinosaur are you? If you answered Tyrannosaurus rex, then the bad news is that you probably won’t get the job you’re applying for.

Welcome to the strange world of ‘extreme interviewing’, the latest trend from America in which interviewers throw bizarre questions at candidates to see how they react.

It may seem like a game, but extreme interviewing is deadly serious. The idea is to see how quickly job-seekers think on their feet and, at a time when 25% of recent graduates are unemployed, it offers employers a new way of separating the brilliant candidates from the merely very good.

This new approach to selecting candidates comes from Silicon Valley in California — where else? Google, famous for its demanding interview process, asked a recent candidate: ‘You are stranded on a desert island. You have 60 seconds to choose people of 10 professions to come with you. Who do you choose? Go!’

One of the early pioneers of extreme interviewing was Steve Jobs, co-founder of Apple, who could be famously cruel with job-seekers. Faced once with a candidate he considered boring, Jobs suddenly pretended to be a chicken, flapping his arms and making clucking noises round the unfortunate applicant, waiting to see what he would do. In fact, the secret to extreme interviewing is neither in the question nor the answer. It is in the candidate’s reaction.

David Moyles, a headhunter with the recruitment agency Eximius Group in London, who admits to using the dinosaur question when selecting candidates, said: ‘Essentially, that kind of interviewing is used by us to give someone an opportunity to show they are smart and not easily deterred.’

‘Most candidates actually get something out of it, it’s not about trying to catch them. We are trying to give them an opportunity to show their personality, rather than just showing how they perform in an interview.’

Of course, getting the job is just the start. In the modern business world, survival will depend on what sort of dinosaur you really are.

Glossary

Silicon Valley the informal name for the region in northern California where many of the world’s largest technology corporations are based.
headhunter a person whose job it is to find people with the necessary skills to work for a company (often in executive posts), and to persuade them to join that company.
c. Read the article again carefully. With a partner, try to work out what the highlighted words and phrases might mean, and how you think they are pronounced.

d. Now match the words and phrases with 1–10.

- **adj.** needing a lot of effort and skill
- **adj.** nervous and confused, especially because you have been given a lot to do or are in a hurry
- **adj.** very strange or unusual
- **verb** to be able to think and react to things very quickly without any preparation
- **noun** a way of doing or thinking about something
- **phrase** instead of
- **verb** to destroy somebody's confidence
- **noun** a specialist company which finds and interviews candidates to fill job vacancies in other companies
- **verb** moving sth quickly up and down eg wings
- **verb** to be still

a. Have you ever been for a job interview? What kind of questions did they ask you? Did you get the job?

b. Listen to five people talking about a strange question they were asked in job interviews. Complete the questions in the first column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What strange question were they asked?</th>
<th>How did they answer?</th>
<th>What happened in the end?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do you still _______?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What would make you _______ a _______?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_______ are you? How much _______ you _______?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_______ would you like to be reincarnated as?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are you planning to _______?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

e. Listen and check. Underline the stressed syllables.

f. Using your own words, answer the questions with a partner.

1. What are extreme interviews?
2. What kind of companies first started using them?
3. Why do some people think that they are better than normal interviews?

g. Do you think extreme interviews are a good way of choosing candidates? Which of the questions below (used in real interviews) do you think would work well? Why?

6. SPEAKING


b. Write three extreme interview questions of your own, which you think might tell you something interesting about another person.

c. Ask your questions to as many other students as possible and answer theirs.

d. Which questions did you think were the most interesting? Why?
1 READING & LISTENING

a. Look at the beginning of two true stories. What do you think they might have in common?


HARD TO BELIEVE? BUT IT HAPPENED TO ME...
Have you ever experienced a paranormal happening? Write and tell us about it.

NOISES IN THE NIGHT

About six months ago, my husband Russ and I moved into a house in the country. Our house is the middle one of three terraced houses and it's more than a hundred years old. A young couple live in the house on our right, but the house on our left was empty and for sale.

THE STRANGE OBJECT ON THE HILL

This happened when I was 16, and I can still remember it vividly. It was a clear morning, sunny but with a breeze.

I was going to meet a school friend to go walking in the hills where there were some wonderful views. I'd agreed to meet him at the top of one of the hills.

THE COFFEE CUP READING

I went to Turkey a few years ago with a colleague called Chris. We'd been sent there by the British Council to train secondary school teachers in a school on the outskirts of Istanbul. While I was there I decided to go and see an old friend of mine, a young Turkish woman called Patos, whom I hadn't seen for several years. I called her and we agreed to meet in a hotel in the centre of Istanbul. Chris came too, and the three of us had a very pleasant dinner together. After dinner we ordered Turkish coffee and we chatted for a while, until Patos suddenly asked me, 'Would you like me to read your coffee cup?' I refused politely because, to be honest, I don't really believe in clairvoyants and fortune-telling. But Chris immediately said he would be happy for her to read his coffee cup...

Adam, London
2 SPEAKING

Talk in small groups.

Which of the three stories do you find the spookiest?
Can you think of any possible explanation for what happened in each story?

Have you (or anybody you know)...
- seen or heard something which can't be explained, e.g. a UFO or a ghost
- visited a fortune-teller, psychic, or faith healer
- had a surprising coincidence

Reacting to a story about something strange
When somebody talks about something strange or difficult to explain we often react with these phrases.
How / That's strange, bizarre, odd, weird, spooky

3 GRAMMAR auxiliary verbs

a Look at the dialogues and try to complete the gaps with a + or - auxiliary (do, did, is, was, etc).

1 A I heard a noise in the middle of the night.
   B What kind of noise?

2 A I don't believe in ghosts, ______ you?
   B No, I don't.

3 A I don't believe you really saw a UFO.
   B That's too bad. It couldn't have been anything else.

4 A I've never been to a fortune-teller.
   B Neither ____________
   C It was really interesting.

b (12) Listen and check. In pairs, decide which auxiliary (1–5) is used...
A to add emphasis
B to say that you are different
C to check information
D to show surprise
E to say that you are the same

4 PRONUNCIATION

intonation and sentence rhythm

a (14) Listen to the dialogues. Notice the stressed auxiliary verbs.

A I _______ that I saw a ghost last night.
B Did you _______? How spooky!

A I don't _______ in fortune-telling.
B Don't you? I do

b Repeat the dialogues with a partner, copying the rhythm and intonation.

c Complete sentences 1–8 so that they are true for you.

1 I'm not very good at _______ (activity)
2 I'm going to _______ tonight (verb phrase)
3 I love _______ (a kind of music)
4 I don't like _______ (a kind of food)
5 I've never read _______ (a famous book)
6 I'd love to live in _______ (a town or country)
7 I was very _______ as a child (adj of personality)
8 I didn't _______ last night (verb phrase)

d Work in pairs A and B. A read your sentences to B.
   B respond with a reply question and then say whether you are the same or different. Then swap roles.

e (15) Listen to another dialogue. Is do stressed in the highlighted phrases?

A You don't like horror films, do you?
B I don't like them, it's just that sometimes they're too scary!

f Repeat the dialogue with a partner, copying the rhythm and intonation.

g (Communication) You're psychic, aren't you?
A Yes, I'm an expert
B No, nothing special

5 (16) SONG Unbelievable

iTutor 1B 9
LISTENING & SPEAKING

On a piece of paper write the sentence I look forward to hearing from you. Then sign your name underneath and give the piece of paper to your partner.

Look at the signatures of some famous people. Can you identify any of them? Do you know anything about these people's personalities?

Read an extract from a book about graphology. Do you believe that our signature might say something about our personality?

What your signature says about you

Your signature is the part of your handwriting that says the most about your personality. It is quite common for your signature to change during your life because it reflects how you develop and evolve as a person. You may have more than one signature, for example a more formal signature (name and surname) when you sign a credit card or your passport, and an informal signature (just your first name) when you sign a birthday card.

Our signature is very much part of the way in which we present ourselves to the world, so it can give some important clues about the kind of person we are and how we feel about ourselves.

Listen to an expert in graphology talking about how to interpret somebody's personality from their signature. Complete the notes on the right.

In pairs, interpret the signatures of the famous people. Do any of the interpretations coincide with what you already thought?

Now look at your partner's signature and try to interpret it. Do you agree with your partner's interpretation of your signature?

Do you believe that you can learn anything about someone's personality by...

- analysing their handwriting (graphology)
- looking at their hands (palmistry)
- analysing the position of the sun, moon, and planets at the exact time of their birth (astrology)
- another similar method

Taking notes

We often need to take notes when we are listening. For example to somebody giving a lecture. If you need to take notes when you are listening to someone speaking in English, try to write down key words or phrases because you won't have time to write complete sentences. Afterwards you could expand your notes into full sentences.

The legibility of your signature

Your signature is legible =
Your signature is illegible =
The more illegible your signature is...

The angle of your signature

A rising signature =
A descending signature =
A horizontal signature =
The angle of a signature may change depending on...
7 MINI GRAMMAR
the...the... + comparatives

The more space there is between your name and surname, the more you wish to keep separate these two parts of your personality.

The more illegible your signature is, the less assertive you probably are as a person.

Use the + comparative adjective or adverb to show that one thing depends on another, e.g.
- The sooner we start, the earlier we’ll finish. = how soon we will finish depends on when we start.
- The colder it is, the more clothes you need to wear to keep warm. = how many clothes you need to wear depends on how cold it is.

8 VOCABULARY compound adjectives

a. Look at some extracts from the listening in 6. Can you remember what the gapped words were?

1. Some people actually sign in capital letters, which suggests that they may be big-_________ or even arrogant.
2. A descending signature...suggests that you are the kind of person who gets disheartened or depressed when you are faced with problems, perhaps because you are not very self-_________.
3. A horizontal signature usually indicates a person who is well-_________ and emotionally stable.

b. Listen and check. Do the compound adjectives have a positive or negative meaning?

- bad-tempered
good-tempered
open-minded
narrow-minded
absent-minded
easy-going
laid-back
tight-fisted
two-faced
strong-willed
self-centred

I think bad-tempered means somebody who gets angry very easily...

c. With a partner, look at some more compound adjectives to describe a person's character. Use the two parts of the word to try to work out their meaning, and say if they are positive or negative characteristics.

- The second part often ends in -ed or -ing, e.g. well-behaved, hard-working. The words are normally linked by hyphens. The main stress is on the second word.

f. Tell the partner about people with the characteristics below. Give examples of their behaviour.

Do you know somebody who is...?

rather bad-tempered
extremely absent-minded
a bit tight-fisted
pretty laid-back

a bit two-faced
very good-tempered
incredibly strong-willed
quite self-centred

One of my cousins is a bit two-faced. She says one thing to me, and then I find out she said the exact opposite to somebody else in the family.

e. Read the information on adjective modifiers.

Modifiers
We often use modifiers with adjectives of personality.

With positive characteristics
- quite / pretty
- good-tempered

With negative characteristics
- a bit
- bad-tempered
- very
- really / incredibly

I SAID, DON'T TALK TO ME!

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question formation:

1. Should we buy her a present? How long have you been waiting? How many children does your sister have?
2. Why didn't you like the film? Isn't this a beautiful place?
3. What are they talking about? Who does this bag belong to?
4. Who lives in that house? How many people follow you on Twitter?

We make questions with modal verbs and with tenses where there is an auxiliary verb (be, have, etc.) by inverting the subject and the modal / auxiliary verb. With the present and past simple, we add the auxiliary verb do / does or did before the subject.

We often use negative questions to show surprise or when we expect somebody to agree with us.

If a verb is followed by a preposition, the preposition comes at the end of the question, not at the beginning NOT About what are you talking?

We often just use the question word and the preposition, e.g. A I'm thinking. B What about?

When who / what / which, etc. is the subject of the question, we don't use do / did, e.g. Who wrote this? NOT Who did write this?

indirect questions:

Could you tell me what time the shop next door opens? Do you know if (whether) Mark's coming to the meeting?

We use indirect questions when we want to ask a question in a more polite way, and begin with Can / Could you tell me...? or when we introduce a question with, e.g. Do you know...? Do you remember...?

Compare:

What time does the shop next door open? (direct question), and: Could you tell me what time the shop next door opens? (indirect question)

- In indirect questions the order is subject + verb. Can you tell me where it is? NOT Can you tell me where is it?
- We don't use do / did in the second part of the question. Do you know where he lives? NOT where does he live.
- You can use if or whether in questions without a question word (What, How many, etc.) and after Can you tell me, Do you know, etc.

Other expressions followed by the word order of indirect questions:
The word order of indirect questions is used after:
- wonder, e.g. I wonder why they didn't come.
- I'm not sure... e.g. I'm not sure what time it starts.
- I can't remember... e.g. I can't remember where I left my phone.
- I want to know... e.g. I want to know what time you're coming home.
- Do you have any idea...? e.g. Do you have any idea if (whether) James is on holiday this week?

Order the words to make questions:

tomorrow can't Why come you ?
Why can't you come tomorrow?

1. I Should her tell I feel how ?
2. friend known long best have How you your ?
3. tell when you train next leaves the Could me ?
4. housework family in Who your the does ?
5. are What about you thinking ?
6. at don't weekend you What doing the like ?
7. music to does What Jane kind like listening of ?
8. you time film know finishes Do what the ?
9. class students yesterday to many came How ?
10. you remember is where Do the restaurant ?

Complete the questions with the words in brackets:

Where did you go on holiday last year? (you / go)
1. How often ______________ exercise? (you / usually do)
2. Who ______________ Oliver Twist? (write)
3. Could you tell me how much ______________? (this book / cost)
4. I can't remember where ______________ my car this morning. (l / park)
5. ______________ your trip to Paris last weekend? (you / enjoy)
6. What kind of work ______________ ? (your sister / do)
7. Who ______________ the last biscuit? (eat)
8. Do you know what time ______________ on a Saturday? (the swimming pool / open)
9. ______________ the present you gave her? (your sister / not like)
10. ______________ play your music so loud? I can't concentrate. (you / have to)
We use auxiliary verbs (do, have, etc.) or modal verbs (can, must, etc.):
1. to avoid repeating the main verb: verb phrase, e.g., NOT I like cats but my husband doesn't like cats.
2. with so and neither to say that someone or something is the same. Use so + auxiliary = subject + a positive verb, and neither (or nor) + auxiliary = subject + a negative verb.
3. to say that someone or something is different.
4. to make 'reply questions', to show interest or surprise.
5. to show emphasis in a positive sentence, often when you want to contradict what somebody says. With the present / past simple, we add do / does / did before the main verb. With other auxiliaries, e.g., be, have, will the auxiliary verb is stressed and not contracted.
6. to make question tags, usually to check information. We use a positive auxiliary with a negative verb and a negative auxiliary with a positive verb.

- Question tags are often used simply to ask another person to agree with you, e.g., It's a nice day, isn't it? In this case the question tag is said with falling intonation, i.e., the voice goes down at the end.
- Question tags can also be used to check something you think is true, e.g., She's a painter, isn't she? In this case the question tag is said with rising intonation, as in a normal yet / no question.

**GRAMMAR BANK**

**Auxiliary verbs**

A like cats, but my husband **doesn't**.
Sally's coming tonight, but Angela isn't.

A I loved his latest novel.
B **So did I.**
A I haven't finished yet.
B **Neither (Nor) have I.**
Andrew's a doctor and so is his wife.

A I don't like shopping online.
B **I do.** I buy a lot of my clothes online.

A I went to a psychic yesterday.
B **Did you?**
A I'll make the dinner.
B **Will you?** That's great!

A You didn't lock the door!
B **I did lock it, I know I did.**
A Silvia isn't coming.
B She is coming. I've just spoken to her.

6. You won't forget, will you? She can speak Italian, **can't** she?

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**Complete the mini-dialogues with an auxiliary or modal verb.**

**a**

A You didn't remember to buy coffee.
B **I did** remember. It's in the cupboard.

1. A He's booked the flights, ________ he?
   B Yes, I think so.

2. A It's hot today, ________ it?
   B Yes, it's boiling.

3. A Why didn't you go to the meeting?
   B I ________ go to the meeting, but I left early.

4. A I wouldn't like to be a celebrity.
   B Neither ________ I.

5. A Emma doesn't like me.
   B She ________ like you. She just doesn't want to go out with you.

6. A Mike's arriving tomorrow!
   B ________ he? I thought he was arriving today.

7. A What did you think of the film?
   B 'Tom liked it, but I _________. I thought it was awful.'

8. A Are you a vegetarian?
   B Yes, I am and so _______ my boyfriend.

9. A You'll remember to call me, ________ you?
   B Yes, of course!

10. I really want to go to Egypt, but unfortunately my husband _________. He hates the heat.

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**b** Complete the conversation with a suitable auxiliary verb.

A You're Tom's sister, aren't you?
B Yes, I'm Carla.
A It's a great club, _______ it?
B Well, it's OK. But I don't like the music much.

A _______ you? I love it! I've never been here before.
B Neither _______. I don't go clubbing very often.
A Oh _______? I _______. In fact, I usually go most weekends.
B _______ you? I can't afford to go out every weekend.
A I didn't see you at Tom's birthday party last Saturday. Why _______ you go?
B I _______ but I arrived really late because my car broke down.
A Oh, that's why I didn't see you. I left early.
B I fancy a drink. I'm really thirsty after all that dancing.
A So _______. Let's go to the bar.

< p.9 >
1A Questions and answers

1 GRAMMAR question formation

a Right (√) or wrong (X)? Correct the mistakes in the highlighted phrases.

1 A You have ever been to Greece? X Have you ever been
   B Yes, a couple of times.

2 A Why didn’t you tell me the truth? ✓
   B Because I thought you'd be angry.

3 A Where usually go on holiday?
   B We usually go to Portugal.

4 A Haven’t you done the homework?
   B No, I haven't, I'm sorry.

5 A What happened at the meeting yesterday?
   B We discussed the sales figures, all very boring really.

6 A Who's Jack going out with?
   B He's going out with his best friend's sister.

7 A How long time have you been learning English?
   B For about three years.

8 A Whose jacket did you borrow for the wedding?
   B My dad’s. It was a bit big for me.

9 A Excuse me. Can you tell me where the toilets are?
   B They’re down the stairs on the right.

10 A For who are you waiting?
    B I'm waiting for my brother.

b Write indirect questions.

1 'Where does Natalie live?'
   I wonder where Natalie lives

2 'Where is the lift?'
   Could you tell me?

3 'Where did we park the car?'
   I can't remember.

4 'Are there any tickets left for the concert tonight?'
   Do you know?

5 'What time does the match start?'
   Can you tell me?

6 'When's Sally's birthday?'
   Can you remember?

c Write the questions.

1 when / your brother / pass / his driving test
   ✓ When did your brother pass his driving test?

2 who / cook / in your family

3 how long / you / spend / in Brazil last summer

4 you know / who / go / to the party tonight

5 you remember / where / I / leave / my keys

6 what / make / you angry

7 who / drink / the milk / I / leave / in the fridge

8 how long / it / take / to get to London from here
2 READING & VOCABULARY
a Read the article quickly and match the titles to the paragraphs.
A Criticizing past employers
B Talking too much
C Doubts about your CV
D Bringing a drink with you
E Ignorance of the company
b Look at the highlighted words and phrases in the text and try to work out their meaning. Then match them to definitions 1–10.
1 that cannot be forgiven
2 connected with what is being discussed
3 making you very nervous or worried
4 stupid mistakes
5 be unable to answer a question
6 from memory
7 start talking about something less important
8 drinking a very small amount of liquid at a time
9 dislike very much
10 play with something because you are nervous

Most common interview mistakes

A job interview is a nerve-racking experience at the best of times, so it's important to prepare for it well. Arriving late is sure to ruin your chances, as is dressing inappropriately. And do not dream of answering your phone during the interview. Read on for five more common blunders and how to avoid making them.

1 __________ This is a highly unprofessional habit, as it suggests a serious inability to manage your time. Surely you could have planned your schedule better to include a coffee stop beforehand? Having a cup in your hand creates the opportunity for distraction: you might fiddle with it or miss a question while taking a sip of coffee. Worse still, its contents may end up on the desk, which will result in the interviewer remembering you for all the wrong reasons.

2 __________ In this age of technology, it is inexcusable not to know anything about your prospective employer. Most company websites these days have an ‘About Us’ section giving company history, locations, divisions and a mission statement. Do some research before the Big Day and you won't be stumped if the interviewer asks you a question about the place where you, theoretically, want to work.

3 __________ An interview is a professional situation, not a personal one, so the interviewer will not want to hear your life story. While you need to answer all the questions you are asked, your responses should be focused and to the point. Don't get side-tracked and talk about your home life, your partner and any children you may have—save this for the first day in your new job when you are getting to know your colleagues.

4 __________ It is important to maintain a positive attitude throughout the interview, even when discussing things that have gone wrong. Don't let the interviewer know that you want to leave your current job because you can't stand your boss. Saying unpleasant things about your colleagues is not a good idea, because the interviewer might know them. Also, you will be showing him how you will speak about his company if you leave on bad terms in the future.

5 __________ Not being familiar with your past history of employment creates a very bad impression. It suggests that either you have a very bad memory, or you made up some of the facts. Make sure you know the basic information by heart because the interviewer is sure to ask you about it. If you really do have a bad memory, take a copy to refer to, but do not appear to be reading it out loud.
3 PRONUNCIATION friendly intonation
   a [Sung] Listen and complete the questions.
      1. ________________ do you like listening to?
      2. ________________ did you go to?
      3. ________________ work experience?
      4. ________________ for the future?
      5. ________________ abroad?
      6. ________________ do you speak?

   b Listen again and look at the list of common interview mistakes. Circle the mistake that the applicant makes.
      1. bringing a drink
      2. talking too much
      3. criticizing past employers
      4. ignorance of the company
      5. doubts about his CV

   c Listen again and complete the sentences.
      1. Stephen Bridges went to the interview by __________ and __________.
      2. He wants a temporary job because he’s going abroad in __________.
      3. Stephen has a degree in __________.
      4. He worked in a __________ for __________.
      5. He can speak __________ foreign languages.
      6. Most of the Asian guests come from __________.
      7. In his previous job, Stephen didn’t have to __________.
      8. Stephen thinks he has the __________ for the job.

   d Listen again with the audio script on p.69 and try to guess the meaning of any words you don’t know. Then check in your dictionary.

4 LISTENING
   a [Sung] Read the job advert and listen to an interview for the job. Is the applicant successful or unsuccessful?

   CompleteJobs
   CURRENT VACANCIES

   Employer: Park Hotel, London
   Post: Receptionist
   Contract: Temporary
   Hours: Full-Time
   Salary: £1,000 per month

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USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Learn these words and phrases.

approach (n) /ə'prəutʃ/
bizarre /ˈbɪzər/ 
job candidate /'dʒɒb 'kændɪdæt/ 
crush (sb or sth) /kraʃ/ 
demanding /ˈdɛməndɪŋ/ 
flustered (adj) /ˈflʌstəd/ 
job-seekers /'dʒɒb 'sɪkəz/ 
rather than /rɑːðə ˈðeən/ 
recruitment agency /rɪˈkrutmənt 'rɛktʃənri/ 
think on your feet /θɪŋk ɒn ˈjɜː fɪt/
INDIA
The dream destination for astrology addicts

While in Britain the general belief in astrology is limited to perusing horoscopes in newspapers and magazines, in India people take their star signs very seriously indeed.

Astrology programmes are shown on many of India's 320 television channels, and at least a dozen stations are devoted entirely to astrology 24 hours a day. Kolkata housewife Lata Banerji always starts her day by turning on the astrology channel, Sri Sri, to find out what the day holds for her and whether she will have to face any kind of domestic crisis. She also receives information on what food she should eat to avoid illness. 'It gives me the confidence I need to face the day,' she says. 'Americans go to a therapist every week. I cope with life. I get my sense of wellbeing from the advice I get from astrologers.'

Astrology is important in India in all ways of life, but especially when it comes to choosing a marriage partner. Some astrological combinations are considered unfavourable, for example when the planet Mars is in a certain position on a person's birth chart. In this case, people believe that the couple will not get on and that their marriage will end badly. The only way around this is for the person with the unlucky combination to 'marry' something symbolic before their real wedding. This is exactly what Bollywood actress and former Miss World, Aishwarya Rai did some years ago when she 'married' a banana tree in the hope of avoiding problems in her marriage with the actor Abhishek Bachchan.

Yet, it is not only in the field of love that Indians seek astrological advice. There are some programmes on TV that specialize in medical astrology, with callers asking about health issues. Others provide investment and business advice. Astrology is even important in politics with prime ministers asking their astrologers for a 'promising' date before announcing a general election.

Nowadays it is almost obligatory for Indian parents to have a horoscope drawn up when a baby is born. Two people taking advantage of the boom in business are Kalidas Sriram and Vishal Babu, who have put up their tents complete with laptop computer and printer, right outside Kolkata's main hospital. They either visit the maternity wards or wait outside until new parents leave to offer their services. For the equivalent of £3 they use the baby's time and date of birth to print out a horoscope for the delighted parents.

Many Indians have no doubt that astrology can change people's lives for the better. The glamorous Sunita Menon, India's most famous fortune-teller, was an air hostess until a tarot reader predicted that she would change jobs. Now she is the presenter of a hugely popular television programme and was recently hired by India's most famous music company to advise on investment and business decisions.
2 VOCABULARY compound adjectives

Complete the sentences with compound adjectives formed from the words in brackets.

1. My grandmother is always forgetting her keys. She's very **absent-minded**. (mind)
2. Oliver's new girlfriend isn't as mad as he is. She seems quite **temperamental**. (balance)
3. Our English teacher doesn't get angry easily. She's extremely **temperament**. (temper)
4. My parents are quite **hands-on**. They won't listen to other people's opinions. (mind)
5. Grace never thinks of anyone else because she's so **self-centred**. (centre)
6. My sister-in-law is very **face-saving**. She says one thing and does another. (face)
7. Since he went abroad, Jack has become more **worldly** about other cultures. (mind)
8. You won't be able to change her mind - she's very **willy-nilly**. (will)
9. When we go out my friend Jack never offers to buy the drinks. I wish he wasn't so **penny-pinching**. (fist)
10. The new manager thinks a lot of himself. He's very **head-in-the-clouds**. (head)

3 MINI GRAMMAR the... the... + comparatives

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in brackets.

1. The **more** you worry about it, the **worse** you'll feel. (worry a lot, bad)
2. The **more** gadgets you own, the **more** you become. (a lot of gadgets, lazy)
3. The **more** you are, the **more** he'll be. (late, angry)
4. The **more** my English, the **more** I'll speak. (practise a lot, good)
5. The **less** it gets, the **more** you have to wear. (cold, a lot of clothes)
6. The **less** you do, the **more** you'll get. (a lot of exercise, fit)

4 GRAMMAR auxiliary verbs

Complete the dialogues with a question tag or an auxiliary and the subject if necessary.

1. A I texted you last night, but you didn't reply.
   B Yes, I didn't. I texted you straight away.

2. A I don't feel like cooking tonight.
   B Neither do I. Shall we go out for dinner? I'd love a curry.
   A Sure. Come on. Let's go.

3. A I've seen this film before.
   B Yes. What did you think?
   A I didn't. I want to see the end.

4. A You are going to Sam's party, aren't you?
   B Yes, I am.
   A Do you mind if I change channels?
   B No, I don't. I've got something else planned.

5. A I'll be back a bit late tonight.
   B Why? Where are you going?
   A I'm going to a concert with some friends.
   B Oh, OK. You'll be back before 12, won't you?
   A Of course.

6. A Pete, you couldn't lend me some money could you?
   B No, sorry. Why?
   A I've spent all my savings this month.
   B So, you're broke. That's why I can't lend you any.

7. A I didn't go out last night.
   B Neither did I. I was too tired.
   A I was too.

8. A You aren't from round here, are you?
   B No, I'm from Australia. I haven't been here long.
   A I don't suppose you like the British weather.
   B Actually, I don't. I prefer cool weather to hot weather.
5 PRONUNCIATION  intonation and sentence rhythm

(A) Listen and repeat the conversations. Copy the rhythm, stressing the bold auxiliaries.

1. A you don't like the soup, do you?
   B I do like it. It's just that it's very hot.
2. A You haven't bought me a present, have you?
   B I have bought you one. It's just that I've left it at home.
3. A You aren't enjoying this film, are you?
   B I am enjoying it. It's just that I've seen it before.
4. A You didn't bring any money, did you?
   B I did bring some money. It's just that I've spent it all.
5. A You won't ever wear those trousers I gave you, will you?
   B I will wear them. It's just that I prefer wearing jeans.
6. A You can't play tennis, can you?
   B I can play tennis. It's just that I'm not very good at it.

6 LISTENING

(a) Listen to a radio programme about superstitions and complete the chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Superstition</th>
<th>When or where?</th>
<th>Why?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Originated in the Middle 1 ________</td>
<td>People thought black cats possessed evil 2 ________</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Originated in ancient 3 ________</td>
<td>People thought it broke the 4 ________ of the triangle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Originated in the 5 ________</td>
<td>People knocked on 6 ________ to call the good spirits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Originated at the time of the 7 ________</td>
<td>The Pope passed a law obliging people to bless the person who was 8 ________</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(b) Listen again with the audio script on p.69 and try to guess the meaning of any words that you don't know. Then check in your dictionary.

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Learn these words and phrases.

- binoculars /'bɪnəkləz/  
- breeze /briːz/  
- carry on (doing sth) /'kæri ən/  
- curtains /'kərntz/  
- dome /dəʊm/  

- drag (sth across the floor) /dræg/  
- estate agent /ɪsted ˈeɪtə/  
- glide /ɡlaɪd/  
- hallucinate /ˈhɔːləkəneɪt/  
- terraced houses /ˈterəst həʊziz/  

(C) Listen to the conversations on FILE 1.