

1 Family matters

Grammar ▶ Present simple and present continuous ▶ Articles

Vocabulary ▶ Ages and stages of life ▶ The family
▶ Noun suffixes *-ment, -ion, -ence*

Speaking ▶ Asking for personal information

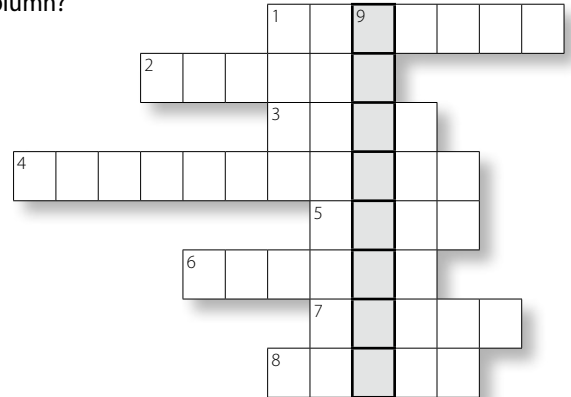
Writing ▶ An informal email

▶ Vocabulary

Ages and stages of life

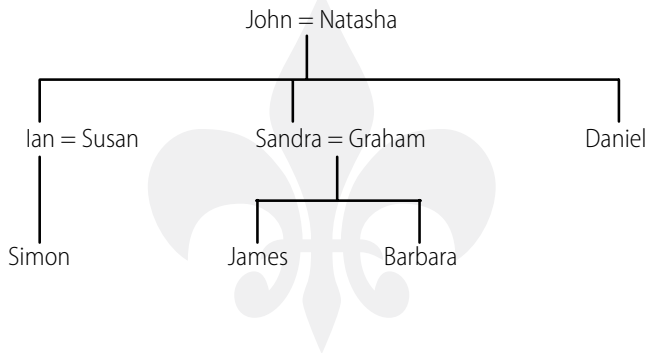
1 Read the clues and complete the puzzle. Which word appears in the shaded column?

- 1 He's 72. He's a senior
- 2 and 3 She's 55. She's a - adult.
- 4 the period of life when you change from being a child to being a young adult
- 5 a very young child who can't talk or walk
- 6 the stage of life when you are 70, for example
- 7 the opposite of life
- 8 the beginning of life
- 9



The family

2 Look at the family tree and complete the sentences.



- 1 John and Natasha are Simon's *grandparents*
- 2 Susan is Ian's
- 3 James is Simon's
- 4 Natasha is Graham's
- 5 Graham is Ian's
- 6 Daniel is Simon's
- 7 Barbara is Ian's
- 8 James is Daniel's
- 9 Barbara is John's
- 10 Graham is Sandra's

3 Match the halves of the sentences.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 I've got a stepfather ... | a because his parents didn't want any more children. |
| 2 My aunt is 50 and single ... | b because they don't want to get married at the moment. |
| 3 She's my niece ... | c because my parents got divorced and I live with my mum. |
| 4 Paul is an only child ... | d because after my father's death my mum got married again. |
| 5 I come from a one-parent family ... | e because she's my sister Elizabeth's daughter. |
| 6 Peter is my cousin's partner , not her husband ... | f because he separated from his wife legally last year. |
| 7 Samuel is divorced ... | g because she never wants to get married. |


4 Write definitions or explanations of the words in bold from 3.

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 1 stepfather | <i>your mother's new husband in a later marriage</i> |
| 2 single | |
| 3 niece | |
| 4 only child | |
| 5 one-parent family | |
| 6 partner | |
| 7 divorced | |


1 Read this text from a website. What do you think the website does?

- 1 It gives news about social changes.
- 2 It's a place where you can buy new products.
- 3 It gives descriptions of and opinions about new products.
- 4 It explains the science behind new technology.

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PRODUCT DESCRIPTION: A new high-tech coat for young children



A You know that here at Technoworld our job is to tell you all about new sorts of products that are about to appear in a shop near you. Well, this week we're looking at a coat called the EZ-Find coat. Riley Electronics are working on it and they hope that it will be in the shops by next December.

B Losing your child is a terrible experience. This coat can tell you where your young child is by computer or mobile phone. You can receive GPS data from it every 15 seconds. The coat also has an alarm which you can use to tell your child to come home. Some of you are probably thinking that this is spying. Maybe. But remember that this coat is for very young children and the idea is, above all, to protect them. Another nice thing about the coat is that when your child loses it, the GPS can help you to find it again.

C OK, so now you're waiting for next December to come so that you can run out and buy the coat. But first we need to tell you about one or two problems we had when we tested it. For a start, it's *very* warm. That means that, except for people who live in Alaska, your child probably won't be able to wear it very often. And then there's the other big problem. The coat is very expensive, especially if you pay for the monthly service to be able to track the GPS signal.

COMMENTS

By Einheit | 01.23PM | 24/10
This is great news for my family. I have a child with a disability. I think the idea of the coat is to give the children extra independence and help parents to relax. That sounds perfect for us!

By Jabber | 01.45PM | 24/10
What a 'great' idea! Put a GPS in the first thing that your son or daughter takes off – their coat!

By Inkedfusion | 03.45PM | 24/10
Great for little children but we all know that this doesn't work with teenagers. When they have GPS technology in their mobile phones, they take their phone and leave it in the library. You think they're studying but then they go away and do what they want!

By Stammer | 04.05PM | 24/10
This is the perfect coat for me. For me, not my children. I always take my coat off and leave it. Then I never remember where it is! With this GPS coat, it's the end of that problem!

2 Who (the Technoworld website, Einheit, Jabber, Inkedfusion or Stammer) thinks that the coat ...

- 1 is good for people with a bad memory?
- 2 is ideal for their child?
- 3 is a bad idea because children always take their coats off first?
- 4 isn't a good idea when it's warm?
- 5 is a stupid idea for adolescents?
- 6 costs a lot?

3 In your own words, explain what these different people think of the coat.

- 1 Jabber
- 2 Einheit
- 3 Inkedfusion
- 4 Stammer

4 Find words in the text which have similar meanings to these words or explanations.

- 1 types (*paragraph A*)
- 2 something that happens to you (*paragraph B*)
- 3 principally, most importantly (*paragraph B*)
- 4 follow or find someone or something (*paragraph C*)
- 5 the ability to take your own decisions (*comment by Einheit*)

5 What about you?

Write a comment for the Technoworld website and give your opinion about the coat.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Present simple and present continuous

1 Look at these sentences. Choose the correct alternative and explain why we use the present simple or present continuous in each sentence.

- 1 My friends are listening to the concert at the moment.
Present simple/continuous because *it describes an action that's happening now*
- 2 You never listen to me.
Present simple/continuous because
- 3 My dad works at the weekend.
Present simple/continuous because
- 4 Water turns to ice when it's below 0°C.
Present simple/continuous because
- 5 My brother is spending the weekend with my grandparents.
Present simple/continuous because
- 6 Ah! Now I understand.
Present simple/continuous because
- 7 **A:** Do you like this programme? **B:** Yeah, I love it.
Present simple/continuous because
- 8 They go swimming twice a week.
Present simple/continuous because

2 Complete the sentences with the present simple or the present continuous form of the verbs given.

- 1 **A:** Why has he got his hand up?
B: He (want) the teacher to ask him.
He (know) the answer.
- 2 **A:** Why you (study)?
B: I've got an exam tomorrow.
- 3 **A:** How do you prepare for exams?
B: I (read) my notes and then I (write) questions for myself.
- 4 **A:** Who (sing) downstairs?
B: That's my sister. She's good, isn't she?
- 5 **A:** Bonjour, mademoiselle.
B: Sorry, I (not speak) French.
- 6 **A:** Mmmm. What's that smell? Is it pizza?
B: Yes. My dad (make) the dinner.
- 7 **A:** Why isn't your mum here at the moment?
B: She (finish) work late on Thursdays.
- 8 **A:** Can I speak to the director?
B: No. He (speak) to someone else.

3 All the questions are in the present simple (PS) or the present continuous (PC), but one word is missing. Add a word to each question and write PS or PC next to it.

- 1 Where you live?
Where do you live? – PS
- 2 What your mother do?
.....
- 3 What your friends doing now?
.....
- 4 Does your friend English well?
.....
- 5 Are you your homework at the moment?
.....
- 6 What sports you do?
.....
- 7 What is your friend at the moment?
.....
- 8 Who do you usually next to in English lessons?
.....

4 Write your own true answers to your questions in 3.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

Grammar extension

5 Are these sentences correct? If not, correct them.

- 1 Are you writting your essay at the moment?
.....
- 2 She doesn't have her books with her today?
.....
- 3 Do you studying for your exam now?
.....
- 4 Why are you and Joe walking to school today?
.....
- 5 Do your brother plays in the basketball team?
.....
- 6 My cousin studies at this school.
.....
- 7 My sister and I are having two bikes at the moment.
.....
- 8 **A:** What do you do now? **B:** I listen to my MP3 player.
.....

Noun suffixes -ment, -ion, -ence

1 Write the noun form of these words.

- 1 equip (v.) *equipment*
- 2 invent (v.)
- 3 protect (v.)
- 4 improve (v.)
- 5 adolescent (adj.)
- 6 retire (v.)
- 7 inform (v.)
- 8 different (adj.)
- 9 move (v.)
- 10 discuss (v.)
- 11 independent (adj.)
- 12 confident (adj.)

2 Match words in 1 with these definitions. Make sure you write the correct form of the word: noun, verb or adjective.

- 1 facts about someone or something
- 2 to make something better
- 3 things and materials that you need to do something
- 4 to keep someone or something safe
- 5 something that makes one person or thing not the same as another

3 Write a definition to explain the meaning of these words.

- 1 invention
- 2 movement
- 3 retire

Vocabulary extension: noun suffixes -er, -or, -ist

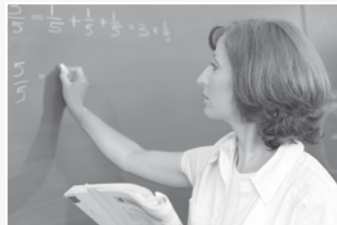
4 We can add the suffixes *-er, -or, -ist* to verbs or nouns to make nouns that describe people. We usually add *-er* and *-or* to verbs and *-ist* to nouns. Write the nouns for these words. Use your dictionary if necessary.

- 1 art *artist*
- 2 sing
- 3 drive
- 4 invent
- 5 science
- 6 economy
- 7 teach
- 8 play
- 9 photograph
- 10 direct
- 11 write
- 12 build

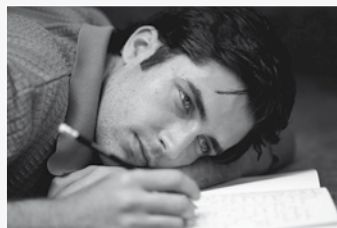
6 Who are these people? Use the words in 4.



1



2



3



4



5

5 Complete the sentences with words in 4.

- 1 He always wins at tennis. He's a very good
- 2 Steven Spielberg is a very famous film
- 3 Albert Einstein was a great
- 4 Is your dad a taxi-.....?
- 5 I hate that, All her songs are the same.
- 6 I'd like to be an one day. I love studying finance and markets.
- 7 It was his job to discover new things. He was an



Family names

International cultural knowledge The origin of British family names

1 Answer the questions.

- 1 Write down three British family names you know.

Jackson,

- 2 Can you guess the origin of any of these names?

I think Jackson is 'the son of Jack'.

2 Read this text about the origin of British family names. What are the four origins that the text talks about?

- 1 *They explain who the person's father or grandfather was.*

2

3

4

▶ WORD BOOSTER

Match the words and definitions.

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 1 generation | a from Scotland |
| 2 Scottish | b an area of green land, often with animals |
| 3 field | c a group of people who are born/live around the same time |
| 4 seashore | d land next to the sea |

3 Read the text again and answer the questions.

- 1 What is a surname?
.....

- 2 Where is the surname Macdonald from originally and what does it mean?
.....

- 3 Where does the family name Smith come from?
.....

- 4 What does a carpenter do?
.....

- 5 What does it mean if your surname is Reid?
.....

- 6 What is funny about the surname of the authors of *A Student's Guide to the Seashore*?
.....

The origin of British family names

Some people think that names aren't important. They're probably right, but they *can* be very interesting. Take British surnames, for example. A surname is a name that you and your family all have, and that you pass from one generation to another.

When we start to look at the meaning of different surnames, we soon discover that many of them answer one of these basic questions:

a) Who is this person's father or grandfather?

This gives us British surnames like Peters or Peterson. There are many surnames which begin with Mc or Mac, for example McCartney or Macdonald. This has a Scottish origin and also means 'son of', the same as O' in Ireland, like the surnames O'Connor or O'Brien.

b) Where is this person from?

Some people have a country for their surname, for example England. Field, House, Lake and Hill are all common family names in Britain too. In fact, some experts think that 50% of all surnames come from some type of geographic description.

c) What is this person's job?

The very common surname Smith (five million people in the world have got this surname!) comes from 'blacksmith', the traditional job of making objects such as horseshoes from metal. Baker (someone who makes bread), Shepherd (someone who looks after sheep) and Carpenter (someone who works with wood) are all common British surnames.

d) What is special about this person?

If your surname is Small, there's probably a small person in your family's history. If your surname is Armstrong, then somebody in your family's past probably had strong arms. And the surname Reid comes from the word red, so you probably had a family member with red hair or a red face.

When you start to investigate, you soon find that British surnames can be really interesting. And when you discover that there is a book called *A Student's Guide to the Seashore* by John and Susan Fish, you soon see that they can be funny too!

4 Write down two surnames from your country (but *not* your surname!). Then write down a possible origin. Is it one of the four origins from the text?

- 1 Surname
Possible origin

- 2 Surname
Possible origin

5 What about you?

Do you like your family name? Why/Why not? Do you know the origin of your family name?

.....
.....

Articles

1 Match these sentences with the rules.

- 1 My friend's dad is an engineer.
- 2 I love animals.
- 3 That isn't the problem.
- 4 The sun is hot today.
- 5 Parents can be difficult.
- 6 They've got a car.
- 7 (They've got a car.) The car's blue.
- 8 She's the new president.

- a We use **no article** when we talk about things in general.
- b We use **the** to talk about a specific person or thing or a previously mentioned person or thing.
- c We use **a/an** to talk about a singular, countable person or thing for the first time, or to say that the person or thing is one of a number of people or things.
- d We use **the** to talk about someone or something that is unique.
- e We use **a/an** to say what somebody's profession is.

2 Complete the sentences with *a, an* or *the*.



- 1 Yes, you're right! He *has* got mobile phone!
- 2 walkers in picture look very surprised.
- 3 What's title of that song?
- 4 He works for organisation that helps people with no home.
- 5 boy behind you is Paul's cousin.
- 6 What's on TV? Can you pass remote control?
- 7 She's single. She hasn't got husband.
- 8 I have idea! Why don't we go to see Uncle George tomorrow?
- 9 Alex is name of my nephew.
- 10 My stepfather is carpenter.
- 11 He is director of the film we saw yesterday.
- 12 My sister wants to be economist.
- 13 Have you got new computer? I haven't seen it before.
- 14 coat you are wearing looks very warm.

3 Complete the famous quotes with *a/an, the* or *0* (no article).



- 1 'I have dream.' *Martin Luther King*
- 2 '..... earth goes round sun.' *Copernicus*
- 3 'I paint objects as I think them, not as I see them.' *Pablo Picasso*
- 4 'To be or not to be, that is question.' *William Shakespeare*
- 5 '..... (I/i)magination is more important than knowledge.' *Albert Einstein*
- 6 'Nothing is more responsible for good old days than bad memory.' *Franklin Pierce Adams*
- 7 '..... (O/o)nly problem with common sense is that it is not very common.' *Voltaire*
- 8 '..... (L/l)ife is dream.' *Calderón de la Barca*

Grammar extension

- 4 Look at these sentences. Cross out *the* when you think it is not necessary.
- 1 I love ~~the~~ Italian food.
 - 2 ~~The~~ English people I know are really nice.
 - 3 All you need is ~~the~~ love.
 - 4 ~~The~~ food in this restaurant is terrible!
 - 5 ~~The~~ money isn't ~~the~~ problem. ~~The~~ problem is not having ~~the~~ money!
 - 6 ~~The~~ problem today is that ~~the~~ families don't spend enough time together.
 - 7 ~~The~~ vegetarians don't eat ~~the~~ meat.
 - 8 ~~The~~ man who lives next door is ~~the~~ headmaster's uncle.

An informal email

1 Read this student's paragraph plan and email. Then put his email in the order of his paragraph plan.

Paragraph plan

Informal email giving personal information

- Paragraph 1:** Basic personal information
- Paragraph 2:** Information about my family
- Paragraph 3:** Hobbies
- Paragraph 4:** Favourite subject(s) at school
- Paragraph 5:** Asking for a reply

A In my free time, I like doing sport with my friends. We play all types of sport – football, basketball, tennis. We aren't very good, but we enjoy ourselves 😊. I also enjoy reading and watching TV.

B I live with my mum and my little brother. His name is Tom and he's only nine years old. My mum is an artist. She does illustrations for books and magazines. She's very good and she loves her job! My parents are divorced and I don't see my father very often.

C Anyway, it's time to do my homework. Write back soon and tell me about yourself.

Best wishes

D Hi!

I'm Steve. I'm 17 and I'm from Oxford in England. Let me tell you about myself.

E At school my favourite subject is English. At the moment we're studying American literature and I'm really enjoying it. I also like studying art. My mum helps me with that, of course!

2 Look at the words or expressions in bold in the email. Explain why they are important in informal emails.

Hi *We usually start informal emails with this word.*

I'm

Anyway

Best wishes

3 Look at this personal information. Imagine that you are this person. Write an informal email using the paragraph plan and email in 1 as a model. Add more information and write complete sentences.

Paragraph plan

- Paragraph 1:** Marianela, 16, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Paragraph 2:** Mother and father, two sisters. One sister 21, other 19. Both at university. Go out with them at weekend.
- Paragraph 3:** Main hobby – cinema (American films). Go often. Also like books.
- Paragraph 4:** Favourite subjects – Geography. Good teacher. Also History.
- Paragraph 5:** Ask for a reply

