



## Exercise 1

■ Fill in the gaps in the following text by using an appropriate word.

- |                  |                |                  |                 |
|------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. a) yearlong   | b) perennial   | c) annal         | d) annual       |
| 2. a) folkloric  | b) cultural    | c) social        | d) totemic      |
| 3. a) occupation | b) acquisition | c) subjection    | d) vanquishment |
| 4. a) removed    | b) kidnapped   | c) made off with | d) stolen       |
| 5. a) introduced | b) entered     | c) initiated     | d) admitted     |
| 6. a) turning    | b) shifting    | c) adapting      | d) converting   |
| 7. a) logo       | b) symbol      | c) token         | d) design       |
| 8. a) serve      | b) represent   | c) substitute    | d) mean         |
| 9. a) expelled   | b) evacuated   | c) evicted       | d) exuded       |
| 10. a) performed | b) honoured    | c) rejoiced      | d) celebrated   |

### *St. Patrick's Day / Lá Fhéile Pádraig*

St Patrick is the national Saint of Ireland and 17th of March is his **Q1.** ..... feast day. It is a **Q2.** ..... and religious celebration throughout the world, and has been a public holiday in Ireland since 1903.

St Patrick was born in Great Britain (not Ireland!) during the Roman **Q3.** ..... but was **Q4.** ..... and brought to Ireland as a teenager by marauding pirates. A few years later, he **Q5.** ..... a seminary in Gaul (France) where he became a priest. Eventually, he returned to Ireland and began the task of **Q6.** ..... the Irish people from their indigenous polytheistic religion to Christianity. In so doing, he used the three-leaved shamrock as a **Q7.** ..... of the Trinity (God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit), which is why shamrocks and the colour green are used to **Q8.** ..... Ireland to this day. A popular legend also claims that he **Q9.** ..... all the snakes from Ireland.

The holiday is **Q10.** ..... anywhere in the world where there is or has been a significant Irish population and usually involves parades, Irish musical instruments (such as the uilleann pipes and the bodhrán), Irish dancing and some pints of Guinness or Murphy's!



## Exercise 2

### Gap Fill

- Choose one of the following words and phrases and put them into the correct sentence. Some phrases may need to be divided to make sense.

**A stumbling block**

**Shrug off**

**Wimp**

**Play down**

**Cornered the market**

**Dogsbody**

**A foregone conclusion**

**Took a lot of stick**

**To have a lot on one's plate**

**Understatement**

- Q1.** It was a ..... that we would lose against the other team. They just have much better players than we do!
- Q2.** At school everyone used to think Barry was a ..... ; so they were surprised to learn that he had earned a medal for bravery in the Army.
- Q3.** To say it is 'a bit cold' in the Arctic Circle would be an .....
- Q4.** Peter is a big star now but he had to overcome several ..... on his way to fame.
- Q5.** Frank is half Italian but he prefers to ..... it ..... ; whereas his brother Tony loves to emphasize his heritage.
- Q6.** John ..... when he got a new haircut and everyone told him he looked like Rod Stewart.
- Q7.** ABC Limited has ..... in 'smart' watches and so other companies don't bother trying to compete with them.
- Q8.** Aloysius worked at the company for three months as an unpaid ..... before he was finally given a paid position.
- Q9.** Marina decided to get a cleaner, as with the kids and her job she ..... and found the housework was suffering.
- Q10.** Although Kim can usually ..... a cold ..... fairly easily, last month he got a nasty bout of 'flu and was in bed for several days.



## Exercise 3

### Example Sentences

■ Write sentences using the following vocabulary.

**Q1.** To be lulled into a false sense of security

.....

**Q2.** To keep someone posted

.....

**Q3.** To draw in

.....

**Q4.** To brush up

.....

**Q5.** Cliché

.....

**Q6.** To bear in mind

.....

**Q7.** A wimp

.....

**Q8.** Over the top

.....

**Q9.** To boil down to

.....

**Q10.** To lay on

.....



## Exercise 4

### Sentence Transformations

- Change the following sentences using an idiom, phrasal verb or word from the stage with the same meaning.

**Q1.** Kevin **fastened** the buttons on his jacket quickly as he was in a hurry.

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**Q2.** **What's the purpose** of learning about algorithms if you're never going to use them in the future?

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**Q3.** He **confessed to** stealing from his mum's purse and they kept him in all weekend as punishment.

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**Q4.** You had better **calculate** how much you need to take with you on holiday.

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**Q5.** **At this current time**, I'm relatively happy with my job. I don't think I need a change.

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**Q6.** I can't believe I was so **stupid** to think that Arsenal would win the Champions' League.

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**Q7.** There is nothing better than sitting inside your warm house in the winter with a mug of hot chocolate. It is so **comfortable** and nice.

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## Exercise 5a

### Error Correction

- Correct the sentences below (**e.g.** they may be missing a word, a word may need to be changed, or taken out of the sentence entirely, the tense may be wrong, etc...).

**Q1.** I has been living in Barcelona for two years now.

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**Q2.** He doesn't seem to care for the effect that his smoking is having on him.

---

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**Q3.** She does voluntary work in a school until she starts her university course.

---

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**Q4.** By 10 o'clock most of the guests went home.

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**Q5.** When I had gone home, Alison had left the house.

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**Q6.** I could find my keys yesterday, which was a relief as I had looked for hours.

---

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**Q7.** Calculators might not be used in the exam.

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## Exercise 5b

### Error Correction

**Q8.** He avoids to work as much as possible when he comes.

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**Q9.** I have orange juice or apple juice. What would you prefer?

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**Q10.** He said to me to go away.

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**Q11.** The equipments were faulty and were not working efficiently enough.

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**Q12.** The girl's shoes were completely covered in mud, so I asked them to take them off.

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**Q13.** Some questions should be sent directly to the manager.

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---

**Q14.** If Bob isn't so lazy, he would have passed the exam.

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**Q15.** Can you tell me what is your name, please?

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# Answers

## Exercise 1

■ Fill in the gaps in the following text by using an appropriate word.

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### *St. Patrick's Day / Lá Fhéile Pádraig*

St Patrick is the national Saint of Ireland and 17th of March is his **A1. annual** feast day. It is a **A2. cultural** and religious celebration throughout the world, and has been a public holiday in Ireland since 1903.

St Patrick was born in Great Britain (not Ireland!) during the Roman **A3. occupation** but was **A4. kidnapped** and brought to Ireland as a teenager by marauding pirates. A few years later, he **A5. entered** a seminary in Gaul (France) where he became a priest. Eventually, he returned to Ireland and began the task of **A6. converting** the Irish people from their indigenous polytheistic religion to Christianity. In so doing, he used the three-leaved shamrock as a **A7. symbol** of the Trinity (God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit), which is why shamrocks and the colour green are used to **A8. represent** Ireland to this day. A popular legend also claims that he **A9. expelled** all the snakes from Ireland.

The holiday is **A10. celebrated** anywhere in the world where there is or has been a significant Irish population and usually involves parades, Irish musical instruments (such as the uilleann pipes and the bodhrán), Irish dancing and some pints of Guinness or Murphy's!



# Answers

## Exercise 2

### Gap Fill

- Choose one of the following words and phrases and put them into the correct sentence. Some phrases may need to be divided to make sense.

**A stumbling block**

**Shrug off**

**Wimp**

**Play down**

**Cornered the market**

**Dogsbody**

**A foregone conclusion**

**Took a lot of stick**

**To have a lot on one's plate**

**Understatement**

- A1.** It was a **foregone conclusion** that we would lose against the other team. They just have much better players than we do!
- A2.** At school everyone used to think Barry was a **wimp**; so they were surprised to learn that he had earned a medal for bravery in the Army.
- A3.** To say it is 'a bit cold' in the Arctic Circle would be an **understatement**.
- A4.** Peter is a big star now but he had to overcome several **stumbling blocks** on his way to fame.
- A5.** Frank is half Italian but he prefers to **play it down**; whereas his brother Tony loves to emphasize his heritage.
- A6.** John **took a lot of stick** when he got a new haircut and everyone told him he looked like Rod Stewart.
- A7.** ABC Limited has **cornered the market** in 'smart' watches and so other companies don't bother trying to compete with them.
- A8.** Aloysius worked at the company for three months as an unpaid **dogsbody** before he was finally given a paid position.
- A9.** Marina decided to get a cleaner, as with the kids and her job she **had a lot on her plate** and found the housework was suffering.
- A10.** Although Kim can usually **shrug** a cold **off** fairly easily, last month he got a nasty bout of 'flu and was in bed for several days.





### Exercise 3

#### Example Sentences

■ Write sentences using the following vocabulary.

**A1.** To be lulled into a false sense of security

**When we first arrived, the neighbours were away and so we were lulled into a false state of security. However, when they got back, all hell broke loose.**

**A2.** To keep someone posted

**I don't know whether we will need any help on the project yet, but we'll keep you posted.**

**A3.** To draw in

**Cadaques draws in quite a few tourists in the summer time.**

**A4.** To brush up

**Although I did well in French at school, I would have to brush up on it before going over there now.**

**A5.** Cliché

**It has become a cliché that the one British person in an American film turns out to be a villain, as we have seen it so many times in so many different films.**

**A6.** To bear in mind

**When you are dealing with that client, bear in mind that she is from Siberia and so will appreciate things that remind her of home.**

**A7.** A wimp

**Hugo looks like such a big strong guy that I was surprised to find out that, underneath it all, he is a bit of a wimp.**

**A8.** Over the top

**Although some of the hats are a bit over-the-top, most of her outfits are very stylish and elegant.**

**A9.** To boil down to

**At the end of the day, it all boils down to whether you want to move to France or not.**

**A10.** To lay on

**They were improving the railway line and so there were no trains between Barcelona and Castelfdefels. Luckily, they had laid on a replacement bus service.**



### Exercise 4

#### Sentence Transformations

- Change the following sentences using an idiom, phrasal verb or word from the stage with the same meaning.

**A1.** Kevin *fastened* the buttons on his jacket quickly as he was in a hurry.

**Kevin did up the buttons on his jacket quickly as he was in a hurry.**

**A2.** *What's the purpose* of learning about algorithms if you're never going to use them in the future?

**What's the point of learning about algorithms if you're never going to use them in the future?**

**A3.** He *confessed* to stealing from his mum's purse and they kept him in all weekend as punishment.

**He owned up to stealing from his mum's purse and they kept him in all weekend as a punishment.**

**A4.** You had better *calculate* how much you need to take with you on holiday.

**You had better work out how much you need to take with you on holiday.**

**A5.** *At this current time*, I'm relatively happy with my job. I don't think I need a change.

**For the time being, I'm relatively happy with my job. I don't think I need a change.**

**A6.** I can't believe I was so *stupid* to think that Arsenal would win the Champions' League.

**I can't believe I was so thick to think that Arsenal would win the Champions' League.**

**A7.** There is nothing better than sitting inside your warm house in the winter with a mug of hot chocolate. It is so *comfortable* and nice.

**There is nothing better than sitting inside your warm house in the winter with a mug of hot chocolate. It is so cosy and nice.**



# Answers

## Exercise 5. Error Correction

■ Correct the sentences below (*e.g.* they may be missing a word, a word may need to be changed, or taken out of the sentence entirely, the tense may be wrong, etc...).

**A1.** I has been living in Barcelona for two years now.

**I have been living in Barcelona for two years now.**

**A2.** He doesn't seem to care for the effect that his smoking is having on him.

**He doesn't seem to care about the effect that his smoking is having on him.**

**A3.** She does voluntary work in a school until she starts her university course.

**She is doing voluntary work in a school until she starts her university course.**

**A4.** By 10 o'clock most of the guests went home.

**By 10 o'clock most of the guests had gone home.**

**A5.** When I had gone home, Alison had left the house.

**When I went home, Alison had left the house.**

**A6.** I could find my keys yesterday, which was a relief as I had looked for hours.

**I was able to find my keys yesterday, which was a relief as I had looked for hours.**

**A7.** Calculators might not be used in the exam.

**Calculators must not be used in the exam.**

**A8.** He avoids to work as much as possible when he comes.

**He avoids working as much as possible when he comes.**

**A9.** I have orange juice or apple juice. What would you prefer?

**I have orange juice or apple juice. Which would you prefer?**

**A10.** He said to me to go away.

**He told me to go away.**

**A11.** The equipments were faulty and were not working efficiently enough.

**The equipment was faulty and was not working efficiently enough.**

**A12.** The girl's shoes were completely covered in mud, so I asked them to take them off.

**The girls' shoes were completely covered in mud, so I asked them to take them off.**

**A13.** Some questions should be sent directly to the manager.

**Any questions should be sent directly to the manager.**

**A14.** If Bob isn't so lazy, he would have passed the exam.

**If Bob weren't / wasn't so lazy, he would have passed the exam.**

**A15.** Can you tell me what is your name, please?

**Can you tell me what your name is, please?**