



Exercise 1

- Use the following words and phrases to fill in the gaps in the following sentences:

put on
getting at
put down
caught out
under way

scruffy
come about
gimmick
stood out
got down to

- Q1.** He tried to pretend that he was American but we him when we found him using Australian vocabulary.
- Q2.** I can't believe that the project is finally after all these months of negotiations.
- Q3.** These days it is not enough just to have a good product: you also need a good to attract people's attention.
- Q4.** As I had work so early in the morning, I was able to finish before lunch.
- Q5.** 'I don't know what you are, but I don't like the way you are speaking to me.'
- Q6.** Laura's new boyfriend is very handsome and quite intelligent. What a pity he's so
- Q7.** We always our finest clothes when we go to my grandmother's for lunch.
- Q8.** I really don't know how it has but I have been told that Tony and Rosa have started going out with each other.
- Q9.** He has always from the rest of the class because he is so much taller than the other children.
- Q10.** Nasty insecure people love to others



Exercise 2

■ Write sentences using the following vocabulary.

Q1. to get round to

.....

Q2. to steer clear of

.....

Q3. I'll tell you what!

.....

Q4. to come about

.....

Q5. to come off

.....

Q6. to take everything with a pinch of salt

.....

Q7. gimmick

.....

Q8. to be run down

.....

Q9. to get into

.....

Q10. borderline

.....



Exercise 3a

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

Q1. There was a lot of fanfare when he returned to playing after his injuries; however his performance this season has been **good in some parts only**, and not the career resurrection the fans were hoping for.

Q2. When I was at school I could never **understand how** Trigonometry **worked** at all.

Q3. Everyone was very surprised when it turned out that the low-ranking assistant who for the last month had been handling all the **monotonous** tasks **that require very little skill or intelligence** was actually the CEO of the company.

Q4. I prefer to cook things **from nothing** if I can as it always tastes better than pre-prepared food.

Q5. Mother Teresa of Calcutta's death **was made to look unimportant in comparison with** that of Diana, Princess of Wales.



Exercise 3b

- Q6.** After she broke up with her boyfriend she **became exhausted and depressed over a period of time** and needed to take medication to help her deal with it.

- Q7.** The plan to build a new swimming pool sounds **possible/practical**, but in fact there is nowhere near enough money in the budget.



Exercise 4

Cloze

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

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. a) get up | b) get through | c) get down | d) get out |
| 2. a) make of | b) make up | c) make out | d) make |
| 3. a) rob | b) steal | c) swindle | d) hurt |
| 4. a) pay for | b) fork out | c) give up | d) pocket |
| 5. a) guts | b) heart | c) mind | d) head |
| 6. a) massive | b) lot of | c) rip | d) rip-off |
| 7. a) thick | b) thick-headed | c) thick-hearted | d) thick-skinned |
| 8. a) steering clear of | b) steering out of | c) steering through | d) steering away |
| 9. a) lied to | b) fooled | c) led on | d) blunt |
| 10. a) stood over | b) stood up for | c) stood up to | d) stood by |

I recently went to a garage to get my car repaired. It was one I'd never been to before and was a little out of town. The car was left in the garage for four weeks, and every time I called they told me they would **Q1.** to repairing it soon. Finally, six weeks went by, and I went to pick the car up. When presented with the bill, I couldn't believe my eyes. I didn't know what to **Q2.** it. €4000! I was sure they were trying to **Q3.** me. Anyway, I didn't say anything at the time, because I was just glad to have my car back. I didn't like having to **Q4.** that amount, but didn't have the **Q5.** to say anything. I know it was a **Q6.** but sometimes I'm not **Q7.** enough to say exactly what's on my mind in these kinds of situations. I'll certainly be **Q8.** of that garage from now on. I don't fancy being **Q9.** like that again! I only wish I had **Q10.** them!



Exercise 5a

- 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...

The 'Mabinogion'

- Q1.** The 'Mabinogion' is the famousest medieval Welsh text.

- Q2.** It has written in the 12th century and still exists in two manuscripts.

- Q3.** The 'Mabinogion' was existed in oral form for centuries before it was written down.

- Q4.** It based on stories from ancient Celtic mythology.

- Q5.** Some of the tails in the 'Mabinogion' are about the legendary British king, Arthur.

- Q6.** The book is contains a wide variety of different types of stories about various different characters.



Exercise 5b

Q7. The 'Mabinogion' was originally written in Welsh and then has been translated into English in the nineteenth century.

Q8. It has a similar background and history to Irish texts as the *Táin bo cuailnge* and The Book Of Invasions.

Q9. The 'Mabinogion' has influence lots of modern stories such as Harry Potter and The Lord Of The Rings.

Q10. Many of its stories involving magic and enchantment in Dark Ages Wales.



Answers

Exercise 1

■ Use the following words and phrases to fill in the gaps in the following sentences:

put on
getting at
put down
caught out

under way
scruffy
come about
gimmick

stood out
got down to

- A1.** He tried to pretend that he was American but we **caught** him **out** when we found him using Australian vocabulary.
- A2.** I can't believe that the project is finally **under way** after all these months of negotiations.
- A3.** These days it is not enough just to have a good product: you also need a good **gimmick** to attract people's attention.
- A4.** As I had **got down to** work so early in the morning, I was able to finish before lunch.
- A5.** 'I don't know what you are **getting at** but I don't like the way you are speaking to me.'
- A6.** Laura's new boyfriend is very handsome and quite intelligent. What a pity he's so **scruffy**.
- A7.** We always **put on** our finest clothes when we go to my grandmother's for lunch.
- A8.** I really don't know how it has **come about** but I have been told that Tony and Rosa have started going out with each other.
- A9.** He has always **stood out** from the rest of the class because he is so much taller than the other children.
- A10.** Nasty insecure people love to **put** others **down**.



Exercise 2

■ Write sentences using the following vocabulary.

A1. *to get round to*

It took me a week but in the end I got round to writing Julia a letter.

A2. *to steer clear of*

If you want my advice, I would steer clear of Claire on Tuesday mornings.

A3. *I'll tell you what!*

I'll tell you what: the things they were saying in that meeting were not even the half of it.

A4. *to come about*

Somehow it had come about that the two brothers were living next door to each other, after many years of constant arguments.

A5. *to come off*

The buttons have come off my shirt so I will need to sew them on again.

A6. *to take everything with a pinch of salt*

If you don't take everything with a pinch of salt, you will find life very difficult to cope with.

A7. *gimmick*

Although I used to like that shop, nowadays they just have too many gimmicks without much real content.

A8. *to be run down*

I think Harry is getting quite run down and could really do with a holiday.

A9. *to get into*

I like Star Trek but I have never really got into other science fiction.

A10. *borderline*

She was a borderline case, but eventually she passed the exam.



Exercise 3

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

A1. *There was a lot of fanfire when he returned to playing after his injuries; however his performance this season has been **good in some parts only**, and not the career resurrection the fans were hoping for.*

There was a lot of fanfire when he returned to playing after his injuries; however his performance this season has been **patchy**, and not the career resurrection the fans were hoping for.

A2. *When I was at school I could never **understand how** Trigonometry **worked** at all.*

When I was at school I could never **get the hang of** Trigonometry at all.

A3. *Everyone was very surprised when it turned out that the low-ranking assistant who for the last month had been handling all the **monotonous** tasks **that require very little skill or intelligence** was actually the CEO of the company.*

Everyone was very surprised when it turned out that the low-ranking assistant who for the last month had been handling all the **menial** tasks was actually the CEO of the company.

A4. *I prefer to cook things **from nothing** if I can as it always tastes better than pre-prepared food.*

I prefer to cook things **from scratch** if I can as it always tastes better than pre-prepared food.

A5. *Mother Teresa of Calcutta's death **was made to look unimportant in comparison with** that of Diana, Princess of Wales.*

Mother Teresa of Calcutta's death **overshadowed** that of Diana, Princess of Wales.

A6. *After she broke up with her boyfriend she **became exhausted and depressed over a period of time** and needed to take medication to help her deal with it.*

After she broke up with her boyfriend she **got run down** and needed to take medication to help her deal with it.

A7. *The plan to build a new swimming pool sounds **possible/practical**, but in fact there is nowhere near enough money in the budget.*

The plan to build a new swimming pool sounds **feasible**, but in fact there is nowhere near enough money in the budget.



Answers

Exercise 4

Cloze

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

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. a) get up | b) get through | c) get down | d) get out |
| 2. a) make of | b) make up | c) make out | d) make |
| 3. a) rob | b) steal | c) swindle | d) hurt |
| 4. a) pay for | b) fork out | c) give up | d) pocket |
| 5. a) guts | b) heart | c) mind | d) head |
| 6. a) massive | b) lot of | c) rip | d) rip-off |
| 7. a) thick | b) thick-headed | c) thick-hearted | d) thick-skinned |
| 8. a) steering clear of | b) steering out of | c) steering through | d) steering away |
| 9. a) lied to | b) fooled | c) led on | d) blunt |
| 10. a) stood over | b) stood up for | c) stood up to | d) stood by |

I recently went to a garage to get my car repaired. It was one I'd never been to before and was a little out of town. The car was left in the garage for four weeks, and every time I called they told me they would **A1. get down** to repairing it soon. Finally, six weeks went by, and I went to pick the car up. When presented with the bill, I couldn't believe my eyes. I didn't know what to **A2. make of** it. €4000! I was sure they were trying to **A3. swindle** me. Anyway, I didn't say anything at the time, because I was just glad to have my car back. I didn't like having to **A4. fork out** that amount, but didn't have the **A5. guts** to say anything. I know it was a **A6. rip-off** but sometimes I'm not **A7. thick-skinned** enough to say exactly what's on my mind in these kinds of situations. I'll certainly be **A8. steering clear of** of that garage from now on. I don't fancy being **A9. fooled** like that again!! only wish I had **A10. stood up to** them!



Exercise 5

- 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...

The 'Mabinogion'

- A1.** *The 'Mabinogion' is the famousest medieval Welsh text.*
The 'Mabinogion' is the **most famous** medieval Welsh text.
- A2.** *It has written in the 12th century and still exists in two manuscripts.*
It **was** written in the 12th century and still exists in two manuscripts.
- A3.** *The 'Mabinogion' was existed in oral form for centuries before it was written down.*
The 'Mabinogion' **had** existed in oral form for centuries before it was written down.
- A4.** *It based on stories from ancient Celtic mythology.*
It **is/was** based on stories from ancient Celtic mythology.
- A5.** *Some of the tails in the 'Mabinogion' are about the legendary British king, Arthur.*
Some of the **tales** in the 'Mabinogion' are about the legendary British king, Arthur.
- A6.** *The book is contains a wide variety of different types of stories about various different characters.*
The book **is** contains a wide variety of different types of stories about various different characters.
- A7.** *The 'Mabinogion' was originally written in Welsh and then has been translated into English in the nineteenth century.*
The 'Mabinogion' was originally written in Welsh and then **was** translated into English in the nineteenth century.
- A8.** *It has a similar background and history to Irish texts as the Táin bo cuailnge and The Book Of Invasions.*
It has a similar background and history to Irish texts **such** as the Táin bo cuailnge and The Book Of Invasions.
- A9.** *The 'Mabinogion' has influence lots of modern stories such as Harry Potter and The Lord Of The Rings.*
The 'Mabinogion' has **influenced** lots of modern stories such as Harry Potter and The Lord Of The Rings.
- A10.** *Many of its stories involving magic and enchantment in Dark Ages Wales.*
Many of its stories **involve** magic and enchantment in Dark Ages Wales.