

Grammar *Could have, should have and would have*

A Complete the sentences with the correct form of *could have, should have* or *would have* using each of these words only once.

be catch criticize pack play win stay up take up

- 1 We're going to be late for the match. We _____ the earlier train.
- 2 I _____ role-playing games sooner if I had known how much fun and how challenging they are.
- 3 We _____ late to finish watching the film, but we decided to go to bed early.
- 4 I think she _____ the gold medal if she hadn't injured her knee.
- 5 We _____ warmer clothing for our hiking trip. It got quite cold at night.
- 6 I missed a call. Do you think it _____ the coach who rang?
- 7 You _____ your teammates so directly in front of the coach. I'm not surprised they're offended.
- 8 The whole team looked disappointed after losing the match, but they _____ any better than they did. They gave it their best.

B Work in pairs. Read the following description of a bad experience. With a partner, discuss what happened using *could have, should have* or *would have*.

The badminton team was on its way to the national championship, but the train broke down in the middle of the journey. They had to wait five hours before the train could be fixed. They arrived late for the match. The team had very little time to warm up and get ready. Everyone was nervous. In the middle of the first match, the team's star player was badly injured. In the end, the team only made it to the semi-finals, where they were beaten badly by a rival team.

- A** Read the interview with Julia, an experienced rock climber. Choose the correct option to complete the sentences. Sometimes both options are possible.

Interviewer: How often do you go climbing?

Julia: As often as I can. People sometimes think that rock climbers spend all their time hanging from a wall of rock high above the earth, but that *'won't be / is not* actually true. Most serious rock climbers like me *²spend / tend to spend* a lot of time at the gym. I go there almost every day after work. I climb, of course, but I also run, lift weights and do other strength training. To increase my endurance, I'll go up a climbing wall, which takes me around 40 minutes, and then I'll climb back down and rest.

I: How often *³do you / do you tend to* climb real rock?

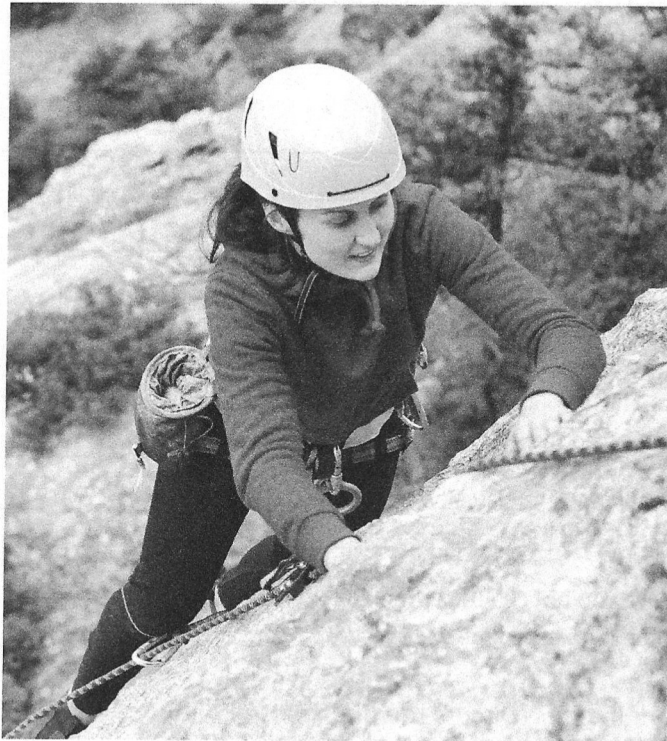
J: At the weekend, *⁴I meet up / I'll meet up* with friends and take a bus or train to a good place to practise my outdoor climbing. There are good places to climb as close as fifteen minutes from my house, but *⁵we'll travel / we travel* as far as three hours some days.

I: Do you ever push yourself too hard?

J: One thing I've learned is that it's important to listen to your body. On days when *⁶I'll feel / I feel* like I need to rest, I rest. Rock climbing is dangerous, and accidents *⁷tend to happen / happen* more often when you are tired. The last time I was too tired to climb, but decided to go anyway, I came home in pretty bad shape, covered in scratches and bruises.

I: Any advice to less experienced rock climbers?

J: If you *⁸are / will be* careful, most accidents can be easily avoided. Make sure to check your equipment carefully. One simple mistake can be the difference between a safe climb and serious injury. For example, I always check everything twice – and then I ask my climbing partner to check it a third time. I *⁹tend to meet / meet* young, inexperienced climbers who think it's not cool to follow this type of procedure, but there is nothing cool about getting badly injured.



- B** Work in pairs. Would you like to try rock climbing? Why or why not?

- C** Work in pairs. Finish the sentences with ideas about your own habits and routines. Discuss your sentences with a partner.

- When I'm bored, I tend to _____
- At the weekend, I'll sometimes _____
- In the morning, I love _____
- When I'm tired, I'll sometimes forget to _____
- I tend to have accidents when _____

A Rewrite the sentences using reported speech.

- 1 I'm never going to play rugby again, because I always get hurt.
He told me _____
- 2 My children are always losing their favourite toys.
He said _____
- 3 When did you find out you had the same birthday as your boss?
Imka asked me _____
- 4 In reality, many important scientific discoveries are made by accident.
The journalist explained _____
- 5 I ran into one of my favourite primary school teachers in the street yesterday.
She said _____
- 6 Can I use your computer? I spilled coffee on mine yesterday.
She asked me _____
- 7 You'll make a fortune with your invention!
Akemi told me _____
- 8 Have you noticed that you and Luca are wearing the exact same shoes today?
Benedetta asked me _____

B Work in pairs. Discuss the questions with a partner. Ask follow-up questions for more information. Take notes on what your partner says.

Have you ever ...

- run into someone you knew in a different country or city? _____
- thought you had lost something and then found it again in a surprising/an unusual place later? _____
- discovered an unexpected connection with a friend or colleague? _____
- found out you had the same birthday as someone you know? _____
- been about to phone someone and they phoned you? _____

C Use your notes to write at least five sentences using reported speech. Then exchange your sentences with your partner. Is all the information correct?

A Complete the rules (a–e) with words in **bold** from the sentences (1–10).

- a Use _____ to talk about general abilities in the past.
- b Use _____ to describe single events that happened in the past with verbs to describe senses and thoughts.
- c Use _____ to talk about things a person was not able to do.
- d Use _____ and _____ if something is achieved at a specific time in the past.
- e Use _____ and _____ to talk about a specific time in the past when something was unsuccessful, or when you didn't have the ability to do something.

- 1 At one point in my life, I decided to become good at chess, but I never **managed to** learn how to play it well.
- 2 I **could** play my favourite video game for hours when I was a child and never get bored.
- 3 After a lot of hard work, I **was** finally **able to** speak Spanish, so my grandmother in Mexico and I **were able to** talk on the phone for the first time.
- 4 When I first heard that I had won the prize for best new video game, I **couldn't** believe it.
- 5 I'll always remember when I **managed to** win first prize at an important tournament. I was so excited.
- 6 When I was young, I **couldn't** play online games because my internet connection wasn't fast enough.
- 7 I was very disappointed when I **didn't manage to** buy the new video game console, because they were all sold out.
- 8 Once I **couldn't** remember my teammate's name and I felt really embarrassed.
- 9 I **could** see my friend was very happy about his performance in the first game.
- 10 I **wasn't able to** play for a week after I injured my hand, so my friend and I **weren't able** to practise.

B Change the underlined parts of the sentences in Exercise A so they are true for you. Discuss your sentences with a partner. Ask follow-up questions for more information.
