



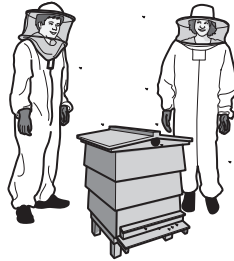
[Turn over

Exercise 1

Read the article about a beekeeping club, and then answer the questions.

Greenfield Beekeepers

by Liam Hall



Our club, The Greenfield Beekeepers, has been running for about six years now. My interest in beekeeping started when I was a young child. My dad kept bees, so I have lots of happy childhood memories of spending hours looking after the bees in our family garden. Later on in life, when I discovered a colleague shared my passion, we decided to set up a club.

Our first task was to get all the necessary equipment. If you're thinking of keeping bees, it's important to find out the cost before you begin. We were able to afford two hives (the wooden structures where the bees live), some tools and protective clothing, and started from there. It's also a good idea to research suitable locations for keeping bees. We kept ours on a neighbour's farm as neither of our gardens was quite large enough for the hives.

Before long, our beekeeping club had attracted interest from local people who wanted to help and learn more about bees. As our club grew, we decided we needed more space and so we approached the local council who allowed us to move our hives to an area in the park. In exchange for this, the council asked us to run some community projects. So we now run regular beekeeping workshops and we hope to start a gardening one soon. We also do some craft sessions with children as part of our beekeeping workshops. They love using bee products to create things, and particularly enjoy making candles, but also honey biscuits and soap. It's great to see the younger generation taking an interest in bees.

Our club is getting more and more popular. We now have between 10 and 20 people who are involved regularly and help out weekly. We don't get any financial help from the council, so we survive by selling honey to local shops and cafés. Although our honey is more expensive than the brands you generally find in supermarkets, people enjoy buying products that have been produced locally – and of course the taste is great!

Beekeeping may be an unusual way to spend your free time, but it's really fun and you're also helping the environment by looking after the bee population. To learn about keeping your own bees, it's better to join a club first. We always welcome new beekeepers at our club. I'd also definitely recommend you take a beekeeping course. You won't regret it!

Question 1

Who did Liam start a beekeeping club with?

..... [1]

Question 2

Where did the club put its hives initially?

..... [1]

Question 3

What kind of workshop is the club planning to run in the future?

..... [1]

Question 4

What is the most popular workshop activity with children?

..... [1]

Question 5

How does the club get money?

..... [1]

Question 6

What advice does Liam give people who want to start keeping bees?
Give **three** details.

.....
.....
..... [3]

[Total: 8]

Exercise 2

Read the article about four young people (**A–D**) who love playing musical instruments. Then answer **Questions 7(a)–(i)**.

Four young musicians**A Piero**

My guitar is always leaning against the wall next to my bed and it's the first thing I pick up when I get home after school. It helps me escape my everyday worries and pressures. When I'm playing, I just focus on the music – I love it! At first I had weekly lessons at school but they weren't as enjoyable as I'd expected, which was a bit disappointing. I found the style of learning a bit too formal – I just wanted to know how to play along to my favourite songs! I personally found watching music videos a lot more fun and effective. To be honest, most of my favourite rock stars were self-taught musicians, so I think that proves you don't have to spend money on lessons. My little sister wants to play the guitar now so I'm showing her the basics.

B Aliza

I didn't start playing the violin until the last year of school. During research for a history project, I discovered that my great uncle was a well-known violinist. I think that really impressed me and pushed me to try to be the same. As well as being something I love doing, I feel playing an instrument has really helped me. I used to avoid any attention and lacked confidence. I always believed I was too shy to perform in front of people, but I remember my first concert and being surprised at how comfortable I felt on stage. I've actually just entered a national competition where the judges and the audience vote for their favourite performer. It's not until next month and I'm already feeling a bit nervous, but it would be amazing to win.

C Danny

As a young child, I always loved listening to my neighbour play the flute – it was so calming. It seems silly now, but even though I wanted to take it up myself, I was too embarrassed to have lessons. All my friends were into football or rugby and I knew they'd make fun of me. I regret not having the confidence to do what I wanted, but at least I play now. Over the years, I've definitely developed as a musician. I used to struggle when things went wrong, when I missed a note or messed up my timing during a rehearsal, or worse still, a performance! The feeling that I'd let myself and my teacher down would stay with me for ages. But now I'd say to anyone who feels this way that they should see the mistakes they make as part of the learning process.

D Chloe

I got my first drum kit for my tenth birthday. I'd wanted one for ages but my dad wasn't keen to encourage my interest as he was worried about the noise I'd make! I've now got an electric drum kit so I can plug in my headphones and play whenever I like. I loved playing the drums, but after a while it got boring practising alone and I put an advert in our local shop saying I wanted to form a band. There were so many responses to the advert – it was impossible for me to meet everyone. Choosing the band members was actually quite stressful but we've been together for a year now and meet every week in our garage. We've even been asked to play at a local event, though I'm not sure we're ready for that!

For each statement, write the correct letter, A, B, C or D, on the line.

Question 7

Which person ...

- (a) suggests they prefer playing music in the company of others? [1]
- (b) hopes to receive public approval for their music? [1]
- (c) believes you can be a successful musician without a teacher? [1]
- (d) refers to being inspired by a family member? [1]
- (e) wishes they had not been discouraged by the views of others? [1]
- (f) talks about the relaxing effect of playing music? [1]
- (g) created something that was a great success? [1]
- (h) offers a tip about how to overcome personal disappointment? [1]
- (i) mentions an event that changed their opinion? [1]

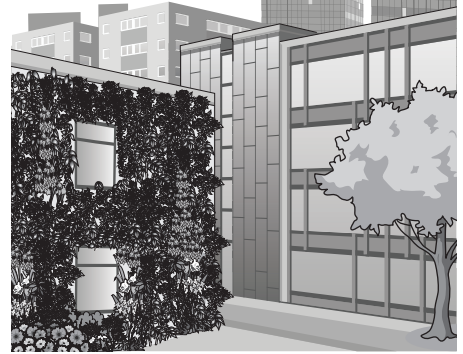
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Exercise 3

Read the article about the trend in growing plants on the outside walls of buildings, and then complete the notes.

Living walls

Living walls, also known as vertical gardens, are becoming increasingly popular in cities all around the world, from Paris to Mexico City. It's easy to see why this is the case – they bring nature into urban environments. You can find living walls on a wide range of buildings, including office blocks, hotels, libraries, cafés, hospitals and many more. However, it's not just large organisations that are including living walls in the designs of their buildings. Many individuals are also starting to grow plants on the outside walls of their homes, although maybe on a smaller scale.



So why is there such a trend for these living walls? One possible explanation can be found by looking at scientific research. Recent studies have proven what many people already knew to be true – that being near green spaces can improve people's mood. Whether that green space is a park, forest or living wall doesn't really seem to matter. However, that being said, some people don't realise that living walls require a lot of hard work to maintain. For this reason, many companies have started to employ professional gardeners to look after their living walls, as they would with an ordinary garden. It's also worth mentioning that living walls can create mess, for example from leaves falling on the ground below. This is certainly worth bearing in mind for anyone who is thinking of installing a living wall.

An additional appeal of covering your walls with plants is the fact that living walls reduce heat loss. Of course, how well the living walls perform depends very much on aspects such as which direction they face, the climate, the plant type used and how much of the wall is covered. It's worth pointing out, however, that living walls can be expensive and because of this, many people may be unable to afford to install them in the first place.

Living walls are particularly welcome in cities where air pollution levels are high. Over the years, cities have seen many of their green spaces gradually disappear, being replaced by housing or shops and offices. This, together with increased road traffic, and sometimes even air traffic, has left some cities with very poor air quality. Living walls make the surrounding air cleaner, which obviously benefits all residents.

When thinking about installing a living wall, it's important to consider what kind of plants to grow on it. It's definitely worth getting some advice before buying any. Some plants are very strong, so choosing the wrong ones for your living wall could result in damage to your property. You may also want to consider selecting plants you can eat. Many people love the fact that a living wall could provide a source of food.

Whatever your view on living walls, they seem to be an increasingly popular feature of modern cities around the world.

Imagine you are going to give a talk about living walls to your classmates.
Use words from the article to help you write some notes.

Make short notes under each heading.

Question 8

Reasons why living walls are popular:

-
-
-
- [4]

Question 9

Disadvantages of living walls:

-
-
- [3]

[Total: 7]

Exercise 4

Read the magazine article about a woman called Emma Campbell who makes pottery for a living, and then answer the questions.

A life in pottery

*I recently had the pleasure of speaking to Emma Campbell,
a pottery maker based in the south of England.*

Emma Campbell first got into pottery when she took up evening classes while living and working in London. She had done a degree in fine art at university; however, after finishing her studies, her first job was in the marketing department of a London business. Although she didn't have much responsibility, she found it quite stressful. She had intended to work there only temporarily, but ended up staying for nearly ten years. During this time, her skills in pottery making grew, as did her passion for it, and she eventually left marketing to become a full-time pottery maker. While she admits that she was never suited to marketing, she realises that what she learned about branding, photography and digital marketing has actually been crucial to her pottery business.

Emma describes her pottery as 'functional ceramics', which is pottery that has a use and is part of everyday life. Emma says her style is developing all the time. She never stops trying out new techniques and using new materials, and enjoys any 'happy accidents' that occur, even if they aren't what she intended. However, attempting to recreate these and remember exactly what she did differently is something that Emma says is a challenge. It does mean, however, that every piece she makes has its own particular character.

When asked what it's like to work as a full-time pottery maker, Emma says she feels lucky to earn a living from something she loves doing. She enjoys the freedom of being self-employed, although confesses that she probably works more hours now than she ever did in her office job. That's something she says friends and family don't all appreciate. Emma feels they view pottery as more of a hobby than a career, particularly as she works from a shed in her garden. She says people often pop in for a coffee or to ask for favours, expecting her to always be available, which can be really frustrating.

More and more people are taking up pottery at the moment, and I asked Emma what her thoughts were on this. She firmly believes it's a reaction against the fast-paced world of technology in modern society. There is something wonderful about working directly with a natural material that really calms people and makes them happy. Making pottery can't be rushed – it takes time. Not getting instant results like those we've come to expect from the internet and social media, for example, is something that many of us struggle with. Emma doesn't deny that computers and digital technology play an incredible role in helping with creativity, but she strongly believes that taking part in crafts is essential for personal growth and development.

Of course I had to ask Emma about the popular TV competition 'The Great Pottery Challenge'. She told me she'd avoided watching the show at first. She'd expected the focus to be on the competitors and their personal stories and relationships with each other rather than the pottery. After her friend finally persuaded her to watch an episode, Emma realised she'd misjudged the programme. She became a fan and actually applied for a place on the show. She was selected for an interview at the TV studio but didn't make the final selection. Despite some initial disappointment, she said it was a bit of a relief as she'd been so nervous about being in front of the cameras. However, she said the whole experience gave her the boost of confidence she needed to start teaching pottery.

37

For each question, choose the correct answer, **A**, **B** or **C**, and put a tick (✓) in the appropriate box.

Question 10

What does Emma say about her first job?

A It was supposed to be a long-term position.

☐

B It was an important role in the company.

☐

C It taught her some useful skills.

☐

[1]

Question 11

What does 'happy accidents' in paragraph 2 mean?

A mistakes that have unexpected results

☐

B errors that spoil what has been produced

☐

C failed experiments that are easy to learn from

☐

[1]

Question 12

In paragraph 3, Emma mentions how some people

A envy her flexible working hours.

☐

B underestimate how demanding her job is.

☐

C suggest that she should work elsewhere.

☐

[1]

Question 13

What does Emma say about technology in paragraph 4?

A It makes people less patient.

☐

B It has limited benefit for artistic people.

☐

C It has little connection to the popularity of pottery.

☐

[1]

Question 14

What does 'it' refer to in line 37?

A being interviewed in a TV studio

☐

B failing to make the final selection

☐

C applying for a place on the show

☐

[1]

Question 15

What do we learn about Emma in the final paragraph?

A She sometimes doubts her own ability.

☐

B She's easily influenced by others' opinions.

☐

C She lacks a competitive spirit.

☐

[1]

[Total: 6]

Please turn over for Exercise 5.

Exercise 5**Question 16**

You recently borrowed your cousin's jacket for an event. While you were wearing the jacket, you damaged it.

Write an email to your cousin about this.

In your email you should:

- describe the event you needed the jacket for
- explain how you damaged the jacket
- say what you're going to do about the damage.

Write about 120 to 160 words.

You will receive up to 6 marks for the content of your email, and up to 9 marks for the language used.

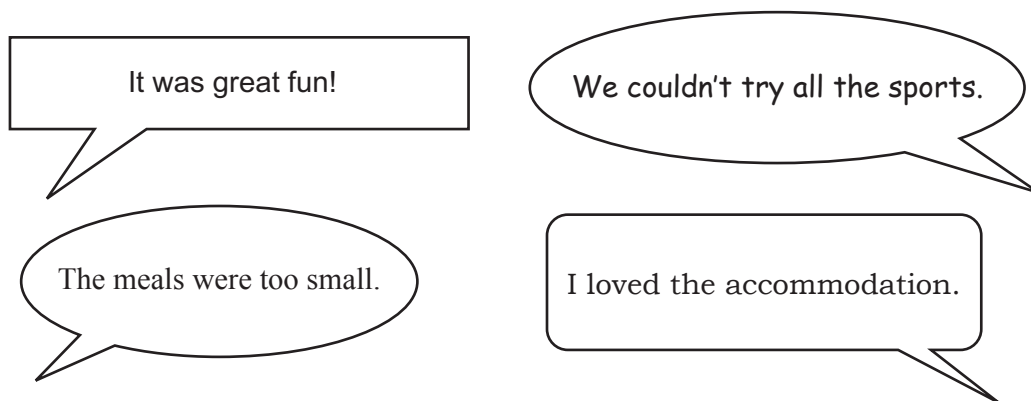
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Exercise 6**Question 17**

You and your class recently spent a weekend at an activity centre where students could try different outdoor sports such as sailing and rock climbing. Now your teacher has asked you to write a report about the activity weekend.

In your report, say what was enjoyable about the activity weekend, AND suggest how it could be improved.

Here are some comments from students who went on the activity weekend:



Now write a report for your teacher about the activity weekend.

The comments above may give you some ideas, and you should also use some ideas of your own.

Write about 120 to 160 words.

You will receive up to 6 marks for the content of your report and up to 9 marks for the language used.

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