

01

A fresh start

GRAMMAR

Present and past tenses → (see page 128)

1 Complete the sentences with the correct forms of the words in brackets.

(do)

- a We are doing a project at school at the moment.
- b We have been doing a project since last Thursday.
- c We did a project last week.

1 (emigrate)

- a Many people _____ to the USA in the 19th century.
- b Many people _____ from Mexico every year.
- c Many people _____ to Canada since 1976.

2 (try)

- a Claire _____ to start up a business for two years before she succeeded.
- b Claire _____ to start up a business since 1999.
- c Claire _____ to start up a business last year but didn't know how to do it.

3 (have a makeover)

- a Dave _____ recently.
- b Dave _____ at the moment.
- c Dave _____ last week.

4 (live)

- a My family _____ in America since 1905.
- b My family _____ in America until 2005 when they came to Britain.
- c My family _____ in Dallas when John F. Kennedy was shot.

5 (never/use a computer)

- a I _____ before I came here.
- b I _____ before.
- c I _____ at the weekend.

6 (you/eat falafels)

- a _____ before you went to Egypt last year?
- b _____ before?
- c _____ when you were in Egypt last year?

2 Complete the sentences with the correct forms of the words in brackets.

We should go to Africa while we can. After all, we are not getting (not/get) any younger.

- 1 This CD is great. I _____ (never/hear) of The Doors before you gave it to me.
- 2 I'd like to borrow a different book. I _____ (read) this one.
- 3 This time last week we _____ (cycle) along the River Rhine near Koblenz.
- 4 Cathy left when she _____ (see) that Jim was there. She didn't want to talk to him again.
- 5 My mum _____ (shop) all day and she _____ (still/not/buy) any Christmas presents.
- 6 **A** Where have you been all morning?
B I _____ (read) a great book. I _____ (read) 250 pages so far.
- 7 Dan's a good student but he _____ (always/make) silly mistakes in his work.

3 Complete the text with the correct forms of the verbs from the box.

die happen change leave not go be
spend move realise not want do



FILM REVIEW

American Graffiti

The 'coming of age' movie is very popular and there have been many of these films over the years. One of the first, made in 1973, was *American Graffiti*, directed by George Lucas.

The story follows four friends who live in a small town in America. It is set in 1962. In the film, two of the friends ¹ _____ just _____ school and they ² _____ their last night at home before going to college. One of the friends, Curt, is unsure about going and ³ _____ to leave home. 'Why leave home to find a home?' he asks. Later in the film, Curt sees John, an older boy who left school several years before but ⁴ _____ to college. He has always been a hero to Curt's generation with his fast car and good looks but Curt now ⁵ _____ that there is much more to life than what John has and that the world ⁶ _____ fast. One interesting thing that Lucas did, and which no other film ⁷ _____ before, was, at the end of the film, to show us what ⁸ _____ to the characters since the film was made, as if they were real people. Curt, the real hero of the film, ⁹ _____ away from home to Canada. John, the rebel, ¹⁰ _____ in a car crash in 1964. Terry, an innocent character, had been killed in Vietnam, a metaphor for how the simple, innocent life of America in the 1950s had been changed forever by the horrors of the Vietnam war.

4 Choose the correct answers.

I ____ an interview last week. I ¹ ____ to hear if I've got the job but I don't think I will.

I ² ____ nervous about the interview as soon as I got the letter telling me about it. I ³ ____ lots of interviews in my life but I always ⁴ ____ nervous. To make things worse, while I ⁵ ____ to the place where the interview was, a car ⁶ ____ past and splashed me. When I arrived, I sat in reception and tried to dry my trousers. I ⁷ ____ there for about five minutes, talking angrily to myself, when I noticed the interviewer watching me. He was very nice and friendly but it wasn't the best interview I ⁸ ____ . Next time I have an interview, I'll take a taxi.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| a had | c have had |
| b had had | d was having |
| 1 a still wait | c was still waiting |
| b have still waiting | d am still waiting |
| 2 a have been | c was |
| b had been | d am |
| 3 a have had | c had had |
| b had | d was having |
| 4 a have got | c got |
| b get | d was getting |
| 5 a had walked | c walked |
| b was walking | d have been walking |
| 6 a had driven | c drove |
| b has driven | d was driving |
| 7 a was | c have been |
| b had been | d am |
| 8 a had ever had | c was ever having |
| b ever had | d have ever had |

5 Complete the sentences using the words in capital letters so that the meaning is the same as in the original sentences.

I have never seen such a good film. HAVE
It's the best film I have ever seen.

- 1** The last time he was here was three years ago. BEEN
He _____ three years.
- 2** Last week was the first time she had ever eaten Indian food. NEVER
She _____ before last week.
- 3** We started working here in 1998. BEEN
We _____ 1998.
- 4** They went for a walk in the rain. WAS
It _____ they went for a walk.
- 5** I haven't seen John since my birthday. WAS
The last time _____ on my birthday.

6 Complete the text with one word in each gap.

newcountrynewschool.blog.com

pietor's BLOG

BLOG HOME
ABOUT
EMAIL ME

Not so bad!

My first day at an English school today and I've been waiting impatiently to start this blog. I hope some of you back home ¹ _____ reading this! We arrived ² _____ England last week - I can't believe I've only been here ³ _____ Saturday. It feels as if I've been here ⁴ _____ ages! I didn't have ⁵ _____ worry about which school to choose. In England you go to the school nearest your house. ⁶ _____ you know that houses near a good school can cost 50% more than houses two streets away nearer to a poor school? Strange, eh? Of course, I did ⁷ _____ have a school uniform so I ⁸ _____ to get one. We went into the town centre a couple of days ago to buy it. Black jacket, black trousers, white shirt and red and yellow tie. I'll post a photo of it as soon as I can.

School ⁹ _____ at 9 o'clock in Britain so this morning ¹⁰ _____ nice and relaxed because I'm used to starting school at 8 o'clock. Things got less relaxed when I arrived. At 9 o'clock people ¹¹ _____ running all over the place but, 5 minutes later, the corridors were deserted - they ¹² _____ all disappeared. Luckily a teacher found me and took me to my class.

Lessons weren't much different from back home - but all in English. I've ¹³ _____ spoken so much English in my life. ¹⁴ _____ the other kids laugh at my accent? No. In my class (twenty-six students) there are fifteen who have a first language that isn't English!

I'll write more tomorrow if I get some comments.

Comments 0

www.glasbergen.com



"YOUR MOTHER AND I FOUND OUT YOU'VE BEEN BLOGGING. WE DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS, BUT WE'D LIKE YOU TO STOP."

READING

1 Read the text. What is the main idea of the article?

- a Not everyone can make a fresh start.
- b Fresh starts need careful planning.
- c Most people don't really understand what a fresh start is.

2 **T2** Read the text again. Are the statements true (T) or false (F)?

According to the article:

- 1 After making a fresh start, old problems usually disappear.
- 2 Some people don't believe they can make a fresh start.
- 3 Some people don't make a fresh start because they like being unhappy.
- 4 A real fresh start has to be planned carefully.
- 5 Some people can be frightened of making a real fresh start.
- 6 The best way to find out about celebrities who have made a real fresh start is to look for information on the Internet.
- 7 Johnny Depp had always wanted to live in France.
- 8 Johnny Depp's fresh start has affected his personality and emotions.

Make a real fresh start

Many of us are unhappy with our lives in some way. Perhaps we don't like something about our appearance or we would like to alter our personality in some way. Some people feel so strongly about the necessity for change that they try to make a fresh start and completely change their situation and lifestyle. However, many of these 'fresh starts' are unsuccessful. Despite everything, people don't really change and they soon face the same problems as before. So, is it possible to make a real, fresh start and, if so, how can we do it?

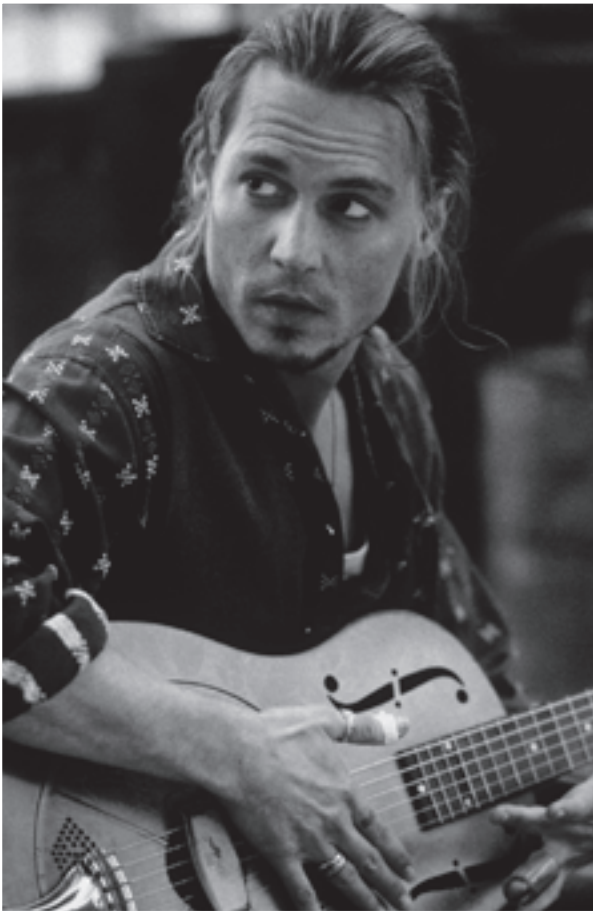
One expert, the author Guy Finley, has identified four stages that we need to go through before we can make a really successful and lasting fresh start. The first of these is to really believe it is possible. We must think positively and also be aware of what might prevent us from succeeding. Many people think it is impossible and give up before they even start.

The second stage is to really want to make a fresh start. A lot of people think they do but, in the end, they decide that it would involve too many changes. They know they are unhappy but feel this is better than entering a new and unknown world, even if they might be happier there.

The third point is rather surprising. Guy says that you can't plan to make a fresh start. Anything you want to happen and try to make happen is a product of your own personality and experience. In other words, it is a product of your past. To make a fresh start, you need to leave the past behind. So, making a fresh start isn't about going on a diet, ending a relationship or setting other goals. It's much more than that. You need to notice opportunities in life and take them. This is the third stage.

So, you've felt positively about the idea and believed it could actually happen, you really want to make a fresh start and leave your past behind and you are looking for new opportunities. What is the last stage? Perhaps less surprisingly, this is being willing to take risks. Some people may think that they have no control over their life if they don't make any plans for the future. Many people are too timid and afraid of real, lasting change because there is no way of knowing what will happen in the future. As Guy says, if you really do follow this process, you don't just get a fresh start but you get a life which is always fresh.





So, can we see an example of a real fresh start to see how it works in practice? If you type in 'celebrities + fresh start' on the Internet, you'll see stories of people changing their names, moving house, apologising to their husbands and wives for the terrible things they've done or heading for the nearest gym. As we have seen, none of these things are real fresh starts.

A better example is Johnny Depp. From a teenage recluse to an angry young man, Johnny Depp didn't seem truly happy despite the fame he had. He got married at the age of twenty and, after getting divorced, he had several relationships with actresses and models, always hopeful that each would be the 'real thing' but always becoming disillusioned. He was arrested twice, once for damaging a hotel room and once, in 1999, for fighting with paparazzi photographers. The same year, he started a new relationship with the French actress and singer Vanessa Paradis. The changes that have happened since were not planned. He moved to France to be with her and not because it was a place he had always wanted to live. Now, though, he prefers the simple life in France to the bright lights of Hollywood and he spends his free time growing grapes and producing wine. Although still a great actor and part-time musician, and still a non-conformist despite enormous success, he really did make a fresh start and is happier and more relaxed as a result.

So, if you really want to make a fresh start, it is possible. Anyone can do it if they really try. The only thing stopping them is their own fear of change.

3 Match phrases 1–5 from the text to examples a–e.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 alter your personality | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 face problems | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 involve changes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 set goals | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 be willing to take risks | <input type="checkbox"/> |

a Now I've finished university, life is going to be very different. I'll get a job, find my own flat and make new friends.

b Since I started work, I've become more outgoing and harder working.

c If I move to France I won't know anyone and things might go wrong but I'm going to do it anyway.

d If I take this job, I'll earn a lot but I won't have time to cook healthy food or see my friends.

e This year I'm going to save £50 a month and get more exercise.

4 Read the definitions and find these words in the text.

- 1 The way a person lives, including the place they live in, the kind of job they do and the activities they enjoy.

- 2 The opposite of short-lived or temporary.

- 3 Not having courage or confidence.

- 4 Someone who chooses to live alone and does not like seeing or talking to other people.

- 5 Disappointed because you have lost your belief that someone is good or that an idea is right.

- 6 Someone who challenges the way of thinking or behaving accepted by most other people in their society or group.

SPEAKING

- 1 **T3** Complete the phrases with one word in each gap. The first letter of each word is given. Decide if the phrases express strong agreement (SA), mild agreement (MA), strong disagreement (SD) or mild disagreement (MD).

You're **telling** me!

SA

- 1 You've got a **p**_____ there. _____
- 2 I don't **e**_____ agree with that. _____
- 3 I'm not totally **c**_____ . _____
- 4 I have to **a**_____ you've got a point. _____
- 5 Yes, I **s**_____ so. _____
- 6 That's **e**_____ what I think. _____
- 7 **C**_____ on! _____
- 8 I **h**_____ what you're saying but... _____
- 9 True, I'd never **t**_____ of that. _____
- 10 **A**_____! _____
- 11 Frankly, that's **r**_____ . _____
- 12 That's a **v**_____ point. _____
- 13 So, what's **w**_____ with that? _____

- 2 **T4** Choose the correct answers.

A I love ginger hair.

B ~~So do I~~ / Nor do I. / You may be right. It looks great.

- 1 A I'll go parachuting if you come too.
B Neither will I. / OK, fair enough. / What's wrong with that?
- 2 A He doesn't look good. He's just a fashion victim.
B Frankly, that's rubbish. / To be honest, I don't think that's true. / Spot on. Those trousers are awful!
- 3 A I don't like scruffy people.
B So do I. / Come on! / Neither do I. They look terrible.
- 4 A I don't think Anne and Phil are well-matched.
B You may be right / You're not serious / So do I but let's hope they are.
- 5 A Nose studs are very unfashionable.
B That's a valid point / To be honest, / I have to admit I don't think that's true.
- 6 A I need to lose weight.
B You're telling me. / Spot on. / Me too. I can't get my trousers on.

WRITING I Description of a person

- 1 Read the writing task and the description. Put the events a-g in the correct order.

Describe somebody whose life changed after an unexpected event.

- a He started his own business.
- b He had lots of friends.
- c He has a spring in his step and a relaxing job.
- d He moved to London.
- e He was exhausted.
- f He met Julia on a train.
- g He left London.

- A** My cousin, Arthur, was always a very outgoing, relaxed sort of person who loved sports and adventure. He had lots of friends at school and it was a real surprise when he moved to London to start his own business. It just didn't seem like the sort of life he would choose. Things soon started to go badly.
- B** The business started having problems and Arthur was forced to work around the clock, day in and day out. When I visited him, he was exhausted and had lost a lot of weight. His hair was going grey and he rarely smiled even when we went out together in the evening.
- C** Then, one day, as he was hurrying to work on the train, he met a girl, Julia, who he had known at school. They had both loved sailing and shared a similar sense of humour. It was like a light going on inside Arthur's head. By the time he got to work, he knew that his life was missing something very important.
- D** That was six months ago and Arthur and Julia are now married and live in a small flat near the sea. The change in Arthur is amazing. There's a spring in his step again and his eyes sparkle with happiness. They aren't rich but Arthur has got a job which he enjoys and which leaves him free to relax in the evenings and at weekends. I'm sure the decision to leave London to be with Julia was the best decision he has ever made.

2 Match sentences 1–4 to paragraphs A–D.

- 1 Description of the person before the change.
- 2 Description of the person now.
- 3 Introducing the person.
- 4 Description of the event which caused the change.

3 Match the underlined phrases from the text (1–8) with the phrases which have a similar meaning (a–h).

- 1 He was a relaxed sort of person.
- 2 He moved to London to start his own business.
- 3 Arthur was forced to work around the clock.
- 4 He had lost a lot of weight.
- 5 His hair was going grey.
- 6 They shared a similar sense of humour.
- 7 There's a spring in his step.
- 8 His eyes sparkle with happiness.
- a very long hours
- b losing its colour
- c show the joy he is feeling
- d had an easygoing personality
- e laughed at the same things
- f sense of happiness and optimism in his body language
- g set up a company that he owned
- h was much thinner than before

4 The sentences below come from a similar description. Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense.

When he was young...

- 1 he (like) _____ parties.
- 2 he (not/be) _____ very impulsive.
- 3 he (wear) _____ trendy clothes.

When I saw him two years ago...

- 4 he (change) _____ .
- 5 he (wear) _____ scruffy clothes.
- 6 he (lose) _____ weight.
- 7 he (be) _____ very aggressive.

Since he got a new job...

- 8 he (become) _____ much more confident.
- 9 he (make) _____ new friends.
- 10 he (buy) _____ lots of new clothes.

Now...

- 11 he (be) _____ very ambitious.
- 12 he (look) _____ exhausted.
- 13 he (not/have) _____ time to relax.

5 Complete another description using the phrases in the box. Use capital letters where necessary.

at school but he changed then, one day I had been at university when I left home I also had make a fresh start I had seen the more I thought about were always very

Describe a person who has changed the way you see yourself.

At school I was always quite self-conscious about my height. I was the shortest boy in my class and ¹ _____ very curly hair and freckles which I hated. My clothes ² _____ unfashionable as my mum bought them all.

³ _____ to go to university, I really wanted to ⁴ _____. I bought myself some more up-to-date clothes and tried to be more confident and outgoing. I couldn't do anything about my hair and freckles but I tried not to worry about them too much. The fresh start lasted for about a week and then I became my old, quiet self again.

⁵ _____ for about a month when I got to know Nathan. ⁶ _____ him and thought he was a bit too conceited and full of himself. ⁷ _____ he told me that he admired me. He explained that everyone he knew at college was putting on an act and trying to be someone else. I was the only honest one there. I was speechless.

⁸ _____ what Nathan had said, the more I understood. I felt comfortable about my looks and character. That made me more confident and I started to make a lot of friends. Thanks to Nathan, I'm happy with who I am now. We're not close friends ⁹ _____ my life more than anyone.

6 Follow the instructions.

Opisz osobę, którą podziwiasz ze względu na jej charakter i osobowość. Wypowiedź powinna zawierać od 200 do 250 słów.

WORD LIST

Personality and emotions

a shadow of one's former self
adventurous
aggressive
ambitious
annoying
biased
bore (n)
cautious
chatty
conceited
confident
critical
disruptive
dull
even-handed
evil
full of oneself
fun-loving
furious
good-natured
harmless
ignorant
impulsive
incompatible
infantile
insecurity
interior
knowledgeable about sth
lost
mature (adj)
modest
nasty
outgoing
predictable
reasonable
relaxed
reserved
self-conscious
sense of humour
serious
sophisticated
speechless
superior
tense
unsteady
well-matched

Cyberculture

contributor
de-lurk
FAQs
flaming
lurk
lurker
netiquette
netizen
newbie
participant
troller

Idioms

day in, day out
fall into a trap
get sth off your chest
get your priorities right
hold your tongue
land (a job)
make fun of
spring in your step
take a leap into the unknown
the bare essentials
work around the clock

Appearance

General
cute
exhausted
fit (adj)
image (n)
lose weight
makeover
plain (adj)
rough
slim
sloppy
sporty
untidy
weak
well-groomed
Hair
blond
curly
frizzy
ginger
shoulder-length

spiky
straggly
wavy
windswept
Accessories
hair clip
nose-stud
Complexion
drawn (adj)
freckles
wrinkled
Posture
stooped
unsteady
upright
Eyes
sparkling
tired
unfocused
Clothes
casual
elegant
fashion victim
scruffy
smart (adj)
trendsetter
trendy
unfashionable
up-to-date

Other

ambush (n)
analysis
assault (n)
attack (v)
attacker
bait (n)
brief (adj)
caricature
clueless
combat (n)
combatant
community
complimentary
cure (v)
deadline
defeat (n)
deserve
destined for
dispute (n)
disrupt
drown
engage
entertain
etiquette
fire off
focus (n)
frontal
frustrating
go silent
impulse
in-depth
indication
insult (n)
intention
intriguing
invisible
irrelevant
lengthy
mediation
miss the old you
mysterious
offend sb
parachuting
pity (n)
pressure
rambling
reassuring
response
resume
reveal
revolve around sth
snappy
social gathering
speculate
spoil
spot on
stimulating
stumble
stupidly
subtly
tactic
threat
thrill (n)
torture (v)
unexpected
unwelcome
work out
worrying
yell (v)

VOCABULARY

1 Complete the missing adjectives. Use one letter in each gap.

Mark never brushes his hair or irons his clothes.
He always looks u n t i d y.

- Emily's really tired. Look at her eyes, they are red and .
- Maria never thinks before she buys something. She's very .
- Everyone's wearing these clothes this year. They're really .
- Natalie doesn't say much. She's quite shy and .
- Oliver always takes care of his appearance. He's very .
- Frank wants to get a top job and make lots of money. He's very .
- People were laughing at Cathy's clothes because they were so .
- Sara looks lovely in that long dress.

2 Match the adjectives in the box to their opposites 1–8.

critical	even-handed	infantile	intriguing
knowledgeable	modest	snappy	
well-matched	worrying		

rambling snappy

- biased _____
- complimentary _____
- conceited _____
- dull _____
- ignorant _____
- incompatible _____
- mature _____
- reassuring _____

3 Complete the sentences with the correct adjectives from Exercise 2.

Dan's stories are always very rambling. He writes pages and pages and no-one can understand them.

- Don't ask Louisa to judge the singing competition. Anna is her best friend so she will be _____.
- Mick is really _____. He always thinks he's better than everyone else.
- Pete's really _____. You'd think he was five, not seventeen.
- Stella was really negative about my performance in the school play. Why does she always have to be so _____.
- Chris and Paula are very _____. I'm sure they are going to get married one day.
- My brother loves computers but he's really _____ about anything else.
- I was really nervous about my exams but my teacher was really _____ and made me feel much better.
- The book was great but the film was quite _____. They should have had a different director.

4 Complete the text using words formed from the words in capital letters.

maggie's
BLOG

MY SCHOOL DAYS

When I was at school, I was quite disruptive and often got into trouble with my teachers. There were several reasons. I was a naturally ¹ _____ child who loved to try new things and hated sitting still in a classroom. I also had a feeling of ² _____. I didn't have many friends and was quite shy. I wanted people to notice me. I wasn't very badly-behaved. Most of the things I did were just ³ _____ fun. That's what I thought, anyway. My teachers, though, were more ⁴ _____ of my behaviour. In the end, my parents had to go to see the school's head teacher.

He was very ⁵ _____ but he told them that, if my behaviour didn't change, I would have to leave the school. My parents were ⁶ _____ – they had read my school reports but this was really ⁷ _____. It changed me, though. I didn't want to move school and, from then on, I became as ⁸ _____ as possible in lessons. It wasn't as much fun but at least no-one was angry with me anymore.

DISRUPT
ADVENTURE

SECURE

HARM
CRITICREASON
SPEECHEXPECT
VISIBLE

5 Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

de-lurk FAQs lurker netiquette
netizens newbie troller

Before you ask for help, please read the FAQs. Your question may be answered there.

- 1 Can anyone help me? I'm a _____ to this website and it's all a bit confusing.
- 2 Don't respond to him. He's just a _____ trying to cause trouble.
- 3 I was a _____ on a forum for years before I ever posted a message. I decided to _____ when I saw a really stupid comment and no-one else responded to it.
- 4 Hey, everyone, stop arguing. We're all _____ and we should be polite to each other.
- 5 You should never use anyone's real name on the forum. This is the basic rule of _____.

6 Complete the idioms with one word in each gap.

I hate doing the same thing day in, day out.

- 1 Don't fall into the _____ of thinking that a new hairstyle will make you happier.
- 2 If there's something worrying you, get it off your _____. You'll feel much better.
- 3 You've got lots of expensive clothes and no money for food. You should get your _____ right.
- 4 Sometimes, you should tell people what you think and sometimes you should hold your _____.
- 5 I know it's difficult to leave home but sometimes you have to take a _____ into the unknown.
- 6 Don't make _____ of me just because my clothes aren't fashionable.

7 Match the sentence beginnings to the correct endings.

Billy is very knowledgeable

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 1 Simon is a shadow | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Lisa has got a great sense | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 I don't know much about cyberculture – just the bare | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 I want to lose | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 Kate's a real fashion | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 The world doesn't revolve | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 I'm glad he's happy but I miss | <input type="checkbox"/> |
- a of humour.
b victim.
c ~~about computers~~.
d the old Paul.
e around you and your friends.
f of his former self.
g weight before the holidays start.
h essentials.

Extend your vocabulary

1 Choose the correct answers.

Tommy's really generous / mean. He lent me £100 so that I could go on holiday.

- 1 Don't worry about people criticising you. Try to be a little bit more *thick-skinned* / *sensitive* and ignore the negative comments.
- 2 Emily is so *shrewd* / *naive*. She believes anything that anyone tells her.
- 3 Come on, tell me what you thought of the play. Be *evasive* / *frank*, I won't mind.
- 4 Mark won't sing in the school show. He's too *timid* / *self-assured*.
- 5 Steve is a *real spendthrift* / *really thrifty*. He never has any money left at the end of the weekend.