

Present perfect forms and past simple

1 Complete the dialogue with the correct form of the verbs given.

- Mark:** Now that we (1) (finish) our exams, what are your plans for the summer?
- Julia:** Well, first of all, I'm going to relax. It feels as if I (2) (study) forever! Then, at the end of the month, I'm going round Europe with Susan.
- Mark:** Oh yes! You (3) (talk) about that for ages, haven't you?
- Julia:** Yes! I'm so excited. I (4) (look up) different cities, but I (5) (decide) where to go yet. Rome would be my first choice, but Susan (6) (go) there a few times already, so we'll see. And what about you, Mark?
- Mark:** Well, last week I (7) (manage) to persuade my parents to pay for a two week summer camp with a youth orchestra.
- Julia:** That sounds interesting. I (8) (never hear) of a summer camp like that before.
- Mark:** Nor me, but one of my sister's friends (9) (go) last year. Ever since then, she (10) (say) how great it was and how much I'd enjoy it.
- Julia:** Fantastic, Mark! You must be delighted!

2 Complete the second sentence so it has a similar meaning to the first. You should use between three and six words, including the word given.

- 1 The last time Jim subscribed to a fashion magazine was years ago. **SINCE**
It to a fashion magazine.
- 2 Caterina started preparing for the interview two weeks ago. **BEEN**
Caterina for two weeks.
- 3 They called to cancel my appointment yesterday. **CANCELLED**
My yesterday.
- 4 Samuel has never displayed his work in an exhibition until now. **FIRST**
This is the his work in an exhibition.

- 5 He goes to football every week even though he's finding it difficult. **FOR**
He weeks despite finding it difficult.

/ 15 points

Modifying comparative and superlative forms

3 Circle the correct alternative.

- 1 As Martina hates getting dressed up, she was delighted to hear that the end-of-term party would be scarcely/significantly/barely more informal than last year's.
- 2 Jana's plan to invite 15 friends for a sleepover was the most impractical ever/the most impractical even/ever the most impractical.
- 3 Paul is a large amount/a high number/a great deal more disorganised than he should be.
- 4 Berta Blue is the most dishonest character in Hudson's latest detective novel in a long way/by a long way/by far and away.
- 5 I didn't get the job because they wanted someone slightly/by far/quite more experienced to work on the science magazine.
- 6 The TV news broadcast is a lot of/much/by miles more informative than the online newspaper I subscribe to.
- 7 Big J's new ballad has received negative media attention. It's altogether/easily/hardly the most popular song he's written.

4 Find and correct the mistakes.

- 1 My new swimming coach seems more inexperienced considerably than my previous one.
- 2 The new chef's desserts are a big deal more irresistible than his predecessor's.
- 3 Regrettably, her latest performance has been described as altogether the more inadequate.
- 4 He is quite simply the very most impatient person I've ever met.
- 5 Fran's knee injury has slightly caused a bigger setback than expected.
- 6 His advice on exam technique has been the most invaluable for miles.
- 7 Lola's behaviour since she fell out with Clara has been more irrational by a far.
- 8 I had a great time! It was ever the best day!

/ 15 points

Unit review

- 5 Complete the text. Write one word in each gap.
There may be more than one possible answer.

Maria's Cake Stand

When Maria Bradshaw was diagnosed with a life-threatening illness two years ago she decided to raise money for medical research. Since then she (1) raised a (2) deal more than anyone could have imagined.

When Maria found out about her illness, her reaction was (3) more mature than you might expect of a ten year old. 'Maria seemed to be able to accept her own condition, but she (4) to do something to help other children with the same disease,' says her mother.

As an avid cake-baker, Maria chose to sell cakes and donate the proceeds. She set up a cake stand outside her house, but in the first week she raised (5) more than ten dollars. Despite her frustration, Maria tried again the following week and the cake stand was more successful (6) far.

What (7) as a simple stand selling home-made cakes has steadily been growing (8) bigger and now Maria's Cake Stand Foundation is easily one of the (9) successful charitable foundations to have been set up in recent years. It has (10) over one million dollars.

Maria has shown that even in the face of difficulty, perseverance and optimism can help us achieve great things.

/ 10 points

Total: / 40 points