

1 Put the words in the correct order to make sentences. There is one extra word in each sentence.

- can I / the children / amused / How / all day / keep / make / ?
.....
How can I keep the children amused all day?
- You got in / should / to college / celebrate / so we / achievement / your / ambition
.....
- the news online / up / comment / to / with current affairs / date / I check / to / keep
.....
- they're too controversial / events / Please don't / comment / on / tonight / current / at dinner / gossip
.....
- the royal family / headlines / around the world / make / This story about / is going to / fun
.....
- usually / stories / This journalist / very sensitive / covers / reads
.....
- newspapers / do / I don't like / of / that / fun / people / make
.....
- a night in / gossip / Let's have / and / people / to watch films / about / over
.....

2 Complete the sentences with the phrases in the box.

celebrate the achievements
comment on current events covering a great story
~~gossip~~ keep up to date keep you amused
made fun of made headlines

- I don't like to gossip, but the new family at number fifteen is extraordinary.
- Mary is upset because several people her new hairstyle.
- We're going to of three students today with special awards.
- I'm so excited, I'm right now.
- The story about the president around the world last week.
- While I'm on holiday I'll check my emails every day to with things at the office.
- If you're going to people, make sure you get your facts right.
- Try reading this book, it's got 800 pages so it should for a while.

3 Complete the phrasal verbs with a preposition. Then match the meanings to the phrasal verbs.

back	bring
catch up	clear
follow	get
leave out	look

- to not include someone or something leave out
- to give or find an explanation for something
- to support or help someone
- to examine the facts about a problem or situation
- to learn the newest facts about something
- to start to talk about a particular subject
- to find out more about something
- to manage to make someone understand or believe something

4 Find four mistakes in the sentences and correct them.

Hi Jared,

I've only just got back to the office, so I need to catch up on ~~keep up to date~~ my emails. However, I will get across the problem that you mention and see what has been done to clear up the misunderstanding. I'll bring up with a meeting to highlight the important points so we can avoid this happening again. In the meantime, while I was away a client brought up the issue of data protection. I assured them no procedures had been caught up or overlooked and I hope you can back me up on this. Could you speak to them and clear up the message that we take this issue very seriously?

Many thanks.

Tom

5 Choose the correct options.

- A:** So, what's been ¹ making the headlines / commenting on current events / gossiping about recently?
- B:** Nothing much, it's been so busy we've had no time to ² *make fun of* / *celebrate your achievement* / *gossip!*
- A:** Right!
- B:** Now, I know you've ³ *kept amused* / *up to date* / *covered the story* with your emails so you're aware there are lots of calls that you need to ⁴ *leave out* / *follow up* / *get across*. There are also a couple of reports that Fran wants you to ⁵ *bring up* / *look into* / *bring up* as the figures don't add up.
- A:** OK! Back to work then. Thanks for all your ⁶ *cooperation* / *collection* / *criticism* while I was away. I'm sorry I had to rush off at the ⁷ *long-distance* / *last-minute* / *short-term*. It was such a relief to know I had you to ⁸ *clear me up* / *back me up* / *leave me out*.
- B:** No problem.

1

- 2 You got in to college so we should celebrate your achievement.
- 3 I check the news online to keep up to date with current affairs.
- 4 Please don't comment on current events at dinner tonight, they're too controversial.
- 5 This story about the royal family is going to make headlines around the world.
- 6 This journalist usually covers very sensitive stories.
- 7 I don't like newspapers that make fun of people.
- 8 Let's have a night in to watch films and gossip about people.

2

- 2 made fun of
- 3 celebrate the achievements
- 4 covering a great story
- 5 made headlines
- 6 keep up to date
- 7 comment on current events
- 8 keep you amused

3

- 2 clear up
- 3 back up
- 4 look into
- 5 catch up on
- 6 bring up
- 7 follow up
- 8 get across

4

- 2 ~~get across~~ look into
- 3 ~~bring up~~ follow (that) up
- 4 ~~caught up~~ left out
- 5 ~~clear up~~ get the message across

5

- 2 gossip
- 3 up to date
- 4 follow up
- 5 look into
- 6 cooperation
- 7 last-minute
- 8 back me up