

1 Put the words in the correct order to make sentences.

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

2 Choose the correct options.

- I don't like to *gossip* / *cover story*, but the new family at number fifteen is extraordinary.
- Mary is upset because several people *made headlines* / *made fun* of her new hairstyle.
- We're going to *celebrate the achievements* / *comment on events* of three students today with special awards.
- I'm so excited, I'm *keeping up to date with* / *covering a great story* right now.
- That story about the president *made headlines* / *celebrated his achievement* around the world last week.
- While I'm on holiday I'll check my emails every day to *cover the story* / *keep up to date* with things at the office.
- If you're going to *comment on current events* / *make fun* of people, make sure you get your facts right.
- Try reading this book, it's got 800 pages so it should *keep you up to date* / *keep you amused* for a while.

3 Match the meanings to the phrasal verbs in the box.

back up bring up catch up on clear up
follow up get across ~~leave out~~ look into

- 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 Complete the email with the correct form of the verbs from Exercise 3.

Hi Jared,
I've only just got back to the office, so I need to
¹ *catch up on* my emails. However, I will ²
the problem that you mention and see what has been
done to ³ the misunderstanding. I'll
⁴ with a meeting to highlight the
important points so we can avoid this happening again.
In the meantime, while I was away a client
⁵ the issue of data protection. I assured
them no procedures had been ⁶ or
overlooked and I hope you can ⁷ on
this. Could you speak to them and ⁸ 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* recently?
- B:** Nothing much, it's been so busy we've had no time to ² *make fun of* / *gossip*!
- A:** Right!
- B:** Now, I know you've kept ³ *amused* / *up to date* with your emails so you're aware there are lots of calls that you need to ⁴ *follow up* / *get across*. There are also a couple of reports that Fran wants you to ⁵ *bring up* / *look into* as the figures don't add up.
- A:** OK! Back to work then. Thanks for all your ⁶ *cooperation* / *collection* while I was away. I'm sorry I had to rush off at the ⁷ *long-distance* / *last-minute*. It was such a relief to know I had you to ⁸ *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
- 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 look into
- 3 clear up
- 4 follow (that) up
- 5 brought up
- 6 left out
- 7 back me up
- 8 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