

Unit 2: Good communication?

1 Reading: Facebook stories

Read the two stories from exercise 35, page 24 again. First decide whether the statements (1–5) are true (T) or false (F) and put a cross (☒) in the correct box. Then identify the sentence in the text which supports your decision. Write the first four words of this sentence in the space provided. There may be more than one correct answer; write down only one. The first one (0) has been done for you.

	Statements	T	F	First four words
0	Kelly Katarina Hildebrandt and Kelly Carl Hildebrandt are married.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A couple with the
1	Because of the identical names, Ms Hildebrandt thought it was possible that they might be related.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2	They don't plan on naming their kid Kelly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3	Avril Grube's ex-husband took their son to Hungary without her consent.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4	Beryl Wilson is Gavin Paros' aunt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5	Gavin has never been interested in his family history.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

2 Listening: A conversation about satnav

Listen to the conversation between Matt and Selma about satellite navigation systems from exercise 38, page 25 again. First you will have 45 seconds to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice. While listening, complete the sentences (1–5) using a maximum of four words. Write your answers in the spaces provided. The first one (0) has been done for you.

0	The reason for the delay at the wedding was that Selma and her family still had to _____ .	pick up the cake
1	Satnav is great for people who have _____ .	
2	Because of using satnav all the time people may lose the skill of _____ .	
3	No matter whether driving or walking, people increasingly _____ .	
4	Selma agrees that using satnav and other technologies is OK for _____ .	
5	A negative impact of modern technology is that it makes us _____ .	

3

Language: *will, could, may, might*

Circle the correct words.

- 1 By 2050, experts predict that one in two people will / may live in cities.
- 2 A smart fridge can / may tell you when you need to buy something.
- 3 If it continues to snow, I won't / could not get to school tomorrow.
- 4 It's not definite, but they're saying that Hurricane Anna will / could change direction and pass through the city.
- 5 Call me if you need to. You will / might have problems getting home later.

4

Rewrite the underlined parts of the sentences using the modal verb in brackets.

- |   |           |                    |
|---|-----------|--------------------|
| 1. Perhaps I'll <u>get</u> a new computer next year.            | (might)   | <u>I might get</u> |
| 2. People say prices <u>are going to be</u> lower then.         | (will)    | _____              |
| 3. <u>It's possible that I won't</u> go to the meeting.         | (may not) | _____              |
| 4. <u>Maybe her phone's</u> switched off.                       | (could)   | _____              |
| 5. <u>It's impossible that books will disappear</u> completely. | (won't)   | _____              |
| 6. <u>There's a chance that we can</u> still catch the train.   | (might)   | _____              |

5

Language: *it's + adjectives*

Complete the sentences with these words.

better ■ difficult ■ boring ■ easy ■ amazing ■ important ■ tiring ■ stressful

- 1 I think it's \_\_\_\_\_ to write a really good essay but you can learn if you try.
- 2 It's \_\_\_\_\_ how quickly children can learn new vocabulary! I wish I could.
- 3 It's \_\_\_\_\_ when you can't find the right job. It's really worrying.
- 4 It's \_\_\_\_\_ having to get up so early every day. I have no energy at all.
- 5 It's \_\_\_\_\_ hearing the same old opinions over and over again.
- 6 According to her, it's \_\_\_\_\_ to eat fish and vegetables than red meat.
- 7 It's \_\_\_\_\_ to travel to other countries these days, thanks to low-cost airlines.
- 8 It's \_\_\_\_\_ to check out of the hotel by 1 pm or there will be an extra charge.

6

Cover exercise 5. Read the web postings and circle the correct choice.

**Useless Advice**

It's amazing (1) how often getting / how often I get advice I don't want. Recently, for example, I decided to change my job and my family and friends went on and on, telling me why I shouldn't. It was tiring (2) how much I listened / listening to them. I changed my job anyway. *Mac*

When I asked my friend for advice about losing weight, she just said 'Eat less and exercise more'. Well, that's easy (3) saying / to say / when I say but it's much more difficult (4) doing / to do / when I do. I need a proper plan. *Ruth*

People sometimes give useless advice because they don't truly understand your situation. It's stressful (5) happening / when that happens / to happen and makes you feel misunderstood. In the end, it's better (6) to trust / trusting your own thoughts and feelings. You know yourself best. *Min-Jae*

7

Language: *it's + adjectives*

Read two people's opinions on the use of mobile phones. Then match the underlined adjectives with definitions 1–10.

These days, it's fashionable to carry a mobile phone at all times. Many people seem to feel it's essential to be in constant contact with friends, family and colleagues. I think it's ridiculous to be so dependent on a machine. On top of that, it's rude to use it when you're with others, and lots of people do that. For me, it's depressing to see people sitting together in a restaurant but texting or chatting to others on their phones. *(no name)*

I agree it's rare to see people without mobile phones nowadays, but I actually think it's encouraging to see people communicating so enthusiastically. And it may sound silly, but I think it's thrilling to get messages and pictures from friends in the middle of a boring workday. More seriously, there are times when it's risky to cut yourself off from the world. What if someone needs you? What if there's an emergency? As far as I'm concerned, it's sensible to stay in touch. *Tomas*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 very unusual _____  | 6 behaving in a way that's not polite and upsets other people _____ |
| 2 making you feel unhappy and without hope for the future _____ | 7 making you feel more hope and confidence _____                    |
| 3 very exciting _____   | 8 very important and necessary _____                                |
| 4 dangerous because something bad might happen _____            | 9 popular at a particular time _____                                |
| 5 showing good judgment _____                                   | 10 very silly _____   |

8

Complete the sentences with adjectives from exercise 7.

- This is my first time in Istanbul. It's \_\_\_\_\_ to be here!
- I think it's \_\_\_\_\_ to go there by yourself. It's not a safe area.
- It's \_\_\_\_\_ to speak with your mouth full.
- It's absolutely \_\_\_\_\_ to get a visa before you travel there.
- It's \_\_\_\_\_ to wait for him any longer! I'm leaving!
- It's \_\_\_\_\_ to have such good weather, so we should enjoy it while it lasts.
- It's really \_\_\_\_\_ to see all these kids here today, doing sports and having fun.
- I think it's \_\_\_\_\_ to carry an umbrella. It might not rain but you never know.
- It's \_\_\_\_\_ to wear friendship bracelets these days.
- It's so \_\_\_\_\_ to hear news stories about war and violence.

9

Language: *so and such*

Read the following text and fill in either *so* or *such* accordingly.

**Elderly people and the internet**

Older people are often stereotyped as being \_\_\_\_\_ technologically challenged. Yet, many have embraced the digital age with \_\_\_\_\_ enthusiasm! My grandmother, for example, has become \_\_\_\_\_ proficient with her tablet that she's in a group online where seniors share gardening tips. It's \_\_\_\_\_ a supportive community and she's made \_\_\_\_\_ many friends there. I've seen \_\_\_\_\_ a change in her; she's \_\_\_\_\_ much more connected and informed now. The internet has become \_\_\_\_\_ a useful tool for her, proving that age is not \_\_\_\_\_ a barrier to learning new things as people often say.

## Key

### exercise 1

1 F Mr Hildebrandt admitted, however; 2 T The couple plan to; 3 T Gavin's father, who died / Gavin's father said he; 4 T She and her sister / In March, Ms Wilson; 5 F Gavin is now married

### exercise 2

1	Satnav is great for people who have _____ .	no sense of direction
2	Because of using satnav all the time people may lose the skill of _____	map-reading / using dictionaries
3	No matter whether driving or walking, people increasingly _____ .	depend on (the) satnav
4	Selma agrees that using satnav and other technologies is OK for _____ .	work (or travel) / work-related purposes
5	A negative impact of modern technology is that it makes us _____ .	lazy / more pressured by time

### exercise 3

1 will, 2 can, 3 won't, 4 could, 5 might

### exercise 4

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. People say prices <u>are going to be</u> lower then.         | <b>will be</b>               |
| 2. <u>It's possible that I won't</u> go to the meeting.         | <b>I may not</b>             |
| 3. <u>Maybe her phone's</u> switched off.                       | <b>Her phone could be</b>    |
| 4. <u>It's impossible that books will disappear</u> completely. | <b>Books won't disappear</b> |
| 5. <u>There's a chance that we can</u> still catch the train.   | <b>We might</b>              |

exercise 5: 1 difficult, 2 amazing, 3 stressful, 4 tiring, 5 boring, 6 better, 7 easy, 8 important

### exercise 6

- It's amazing (1) how often getting / how often I get advice I don't want. Recently, for example, I decided to change my job and my family and friends went on and on, telling me why I shouldn't. It was tiring (2) how much I listened / listening to them. I changed my job anyway. *Mac*
- When I asked my friend for advice about losing weight, she just said 'Eat less and exercise more'. Well, that's easy (3) saying / to say when I say but it's much more difficult (4) doing / to do when I do. I need a proper plan. *Ruth*
- People sometimes give useless advice because they don't truly understand your situation. It's stressful (5) happening / when that happens / to happen and makes you feel misunderstood. In the end, it's better (6) to trust / trusting your own thoughts and feelings. You know yourself best. *Min-Jae*

### exercise 7

1 rare, 2 depressing, 3 thrilling, 4 risky, 5 sensible, 6 rude, 7 encouraging, 8 essential, 9 fashionable, 10 ridiculous

### exercise 8

1 thrilling, 2 risky, 3 rude, 4 essential, 5 ridiculous, 6 rare, 7 encouraging, 8 sensible, 9 fashionable, 10 depressing

### exercise 9

... as being **so** technologically challenged. ... with **such** enthusiasm ... has become **so** proficient ... It's **such** a supportive community ... made **so** many friends ... seen **such** a change ... she's **so** much more connected ... has become **such** a useful tool ... age is not **such** a barrier ...