

Language Focus: Vocabulary

Prepositions and particles

1 Re-express the following sentences using the words in brackets **and** an appropriate preposition. Don't change the word in any way.

- 1 Performance-enhancing drugs must be banned if we are to retain the social value of sport. (*ban*)
- 2 Cycle riding in the Pyrenees is like climbing a mountain in the Himalayas. (*equivalent*)
- 3 If we permit the use of drugs in sport, it could end up being controlled by scientists and businesspeople. (*hands*)
- 4 Most people are not told about the effects of these drugs. (*ignorance*)
- 5 Professional cyclists recognise the need to restore and revitalise their bodies. (*necessity*)
- 6 Sportspeople should depend on their own natural body systems and nothing else. (*recourse*)
- 7 Some sports illnesses are linked to the use of performance enhancers. (*correlation*)
- 8 These types of drugs are very dangerous for children. (*danger*)
- 9 Sportspeople who take drugs should not be allowed to take part in any further competitions. (*banned*)

2 Complete the following sentences with appropriate phrasal verbs from the box in the correct form. The meanings are given in brackets.

get away from	get away with	get down to
get on with	get out of	get round to
get through to	get up to	

- 1 Doing exercise takes up time, and many people just never it. (*make time for*)
- 2 Professional sport is a hard way to make a living, and sportsmen have to train hard and really it. (*concentrate*)
- 3 The children are making a lot of noise – I'll go and see what they're (*do something bad*)
- 4 Susan usually her colleagues. (*has a good relationship*)
- 5 Why don't you try to that meeting tomorrow and play tennis with me instead? (*avoid*)
- 6 I don't know how they paying such low wages. (*avoid being caught*)
- 7 We're the main issue in this discussion. (*talking about irrelevant things*)
- 8 It's difficult to some people how much training top athletes really have to do. (*make people understand*)

Writing

► Paper 2, Part 2 (formal letter)

In Paper 2, Part 2 you may be asked to write a **letter** with a narrative focus, describing an event and making a point arising from it. In this type of letter it is important that the narrative is focused on the point you want to make and that the events are vividly described.

1
1 Read the following writing task and underline the key words.

TASK

You have recently spent a day in a theme park with some friends. During the visit something happened which upset you, and which you feel was the fault of the park organisers. You also feel that it could be a danger to others visiting the park. Write a letter to the organisers describing the incident and expressing your concerns.

(300–350 words)

- 2 Think about the task.
 - What kind of events might be upsetting?
 - What action might you want the organisers to take?
 - Will the letter be formal or informal in style?


In this type of task it is easier if you can write about something you have experienced personally. If you cannot think of anything yourself, then imagine yourself in a situation from a film or a TV show to help you with ideas.

2 Read the letter on page 121, which was written in answer to the task, and discuss the following questions.

- 1 How far is the content similar to your own ideas?
- 2 Which paragraph contains the most vivid description and why?

3 Underline the formal expressions used by the writer to:

- introduce the incident
- express concern over wider implications
- call for action.



Dear Sir,

I am writing to express my concern over one of your attractions, which I believe to be highly dangerous.

Yesterday I visited Funland with friends. Having tried several rides, I decided to go on the 'Super Circuit Ride'. As you know, this comprises three circles of seats shaped like spacecraft, cars and bikes. In contrast to other attractions such as the roller-coaster, there were no warning signs and I therefore assumed that the ride would not pose any risk.

Without the slightest hesitation I sat on a 'motorbike' on the outside ring, which, unlike other seats, had no restraining bars. At first I did enjoy myself, but, as the roundabout gathered speed, I found that the motion was throwing me outwards. Hanging on to the handlebars with all my strength, I could still feel myself being pulled off. I was utterly terrified that at any moment I would be flung out into the crowds. I realised that I was in dire straits. I shouted desperately at the attendants, who either couldn't hear me or chose to ignore me. Gripping desperately with my legs, and staying totally focused on sheer survival, I prayed that I would have enough strength not to let go.

I was immensely relieved when the roundabout eventually slowed down, but when it finally stopped, I was shaking so much that I could hardly stand and needed help from my friends.

I told the attendants that the roundabout was extremely unsafe, but they just laughed, claiming it was all 'part of the fun'. I was so shaken that I had to get a taxi home. This morning my legs are badly bruised from gripping the motorbike so tightly.

I personally cannot understand how a major tragedy has not yet occurred. If someone with less strength than me - a young child, for example - had been in my place, I am in no doubt whatsoever that they would have been thrown off the roundabout. I would urge you to review the safety procedures for this attraction before it is too late.

Yours faithfully,