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Speaking

Interview (Part 1) ► CB page 6

About the exam:

In Speaking Part 1, the examiner asks you and the other candidate questions about yourself. These are often about your interests, experiences and plans. You may be asked two or three questions, depending on the time.

Strategy:

Don't just give a one-word answer or say *yes/no*. Try to extend your answer into a couple of sentences but be careful you don't go on for too long.

1 **▶ 01 Listen to the questions an examiner asks. Match the examiner's questions (1–6) with the answers (A–E). There is one extra question for which there is no answer.**

- A** That's a difficult one. Probably working in America? I've got to finish my studies first and then I'd like to travel and work my way across the USA.
- B** By using social networking sites. I'm on Facebook a lot and, of course, I text and email my best mates regularly and we meet up a lot too.
- C** Most of the time I tend to stay in my country. We've got some lovely seaside towns and, of course, we have the mountains too.
- D** Let's think ... Most probably I'll be doing an assignment. I've got one to finish for my history course and the deadline is Monday.
- E** Yes, I used to play a lot of tennis when I was at secondary school. I belonged to a tennis club then, too. But I gave it up when I left and went to university. Not enough time, I'm afraid.

Use of English

Multiple-choice cloze (Part 1) ► CB page 7

1 Match 1–6 with A–F to make collocations.

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 spend | A development |
| 2 social | B success |
| 3 personal | C time together |
| 4 live | D alone |
| 5 promote | E framework |
| 6 a mark of | F economic growth |

About the exam:

In Reading and Use of English Part 1, you read a text with eight gaps and choose the best word from four options to fit each gap. The correct option may be:

- part of a fixed phrase or collocation.
- a phrasal verb.
- a connector.
- the only word that fits grammatically in the gap.

Strategy:

- Read the title and the whole text so that you get an idea of what it is about.
- Go through the text stopping at each gap. Read the four options.
- Check the words before and after the gap.
- Choose the best option.
- When you have finished, read the text again with the words inserted to check that it makes sense.

2 Read the article. For questions 1–8, decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

SCENE | 16

So who needs people?

People have always seen themselves as social animals, with living together as the norm, but increasing numbers are (0) *A settling* down as singles. Why is this happening?

It's often presented as indicating the undesirable (1) of society but, actually, the reality is more interesting and less worrying. One reason more people (2) for the single life is they can (3) it but since we are able to do many things that we decide not to do, this financial answer is just one part of the explanation. Another is the communications and technological revolution, which allows people to (4) social events when they're living alone. But a key (5) seems to be that today, young people define living alone in a positive way, as a (6) of success. They see it as a way to (7) time in developing themselves personally and professionally. This means that the whole social framework is being transformed, changing not only how we understand ourselves and our relationships but also the way we build places to live and (8) economic growth. ■

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 0 | A settling | B placing | C putting | D sitting |
| 1 | A damage | B breakage | C splinter | D fragmentation |
| 2 | A pick | B opt | C select | D decide |
| 3 | A afford | B pay | C spend | D provide |
| 4 | A get through with | B put up with | C take part in | D keep out of |
| 5 | A contingency | B factor | C enquiry | D question |
| 6 | A mark | B brand | C label | D symptom |
| 7 | A contribute | B make | C invest | D supply |
| 8 | A expose | B outline | C uncover | D promote |

Grammar

perfect and continuous forms ► CB page 8

1 Choose the correct alternative in each sentence.

- We've painted the kitchen and *it's taking such a long time/ we're glad it's over.*
- By this time next Tuesday *I'll have lived/ I've lived* here for a month.
- When it got to six o'clock, *it had been raining/ it had rained* for ten hours.
- I've been spending hours on this research and *I still haven't finished/ it was hard work.*
- Looking back, I've realised why *I made/ I've been making* that one mistake last year.
- We've only studied together for a short time but *I've known/ I've been knowing* him for several years.

2 Put the verbs in the box in the correct category.

agree	believe	belong
care	deny	feel
hear	like	own
smell	taste	understand
		want

- Verbs of feeling
- Verbs of knowing or thinking
- Verbs of possession
- Verbs of communicating
- Verbs of sensing

3 Decide if the verbs in Activity 2 are stative (S), dynamic (D) or can be both (B).

4 Decide if one or both sentences are possible in each item. Tick (✓) the sentences that are correct.

- A I'm not liking living here.
B I don't like living here.
- A She has a baby.
B She's having a baby.
- A I feel quite ill.
B I'm feeling quite ill.
- A My stomach hurts.
B My stomach is hurting.
- A I need a new place to live.
B I'm needing a new place to live.
- A Who does this car belong to?
B Who is this car belonging to?

5 Complete the sentences with the present simple or present continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

- I (*smell*) something burning. Did you leave the oven on?
- He (*prefer*) to sit at the back and waste time to doing some real work.
- I (*see*) Carol at the meeting tomorrow – I could ask her then.
- I'm sorry, I've got to go. My friend (*arrive*) at the airport this afternoon!
- He (*think*) of buying a new flat but he can't really afford it.
- This ice cream (*taste*) salty but I quite like it!

figurative language ► CB page 9

1 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in the box.

bark buzz groan roar screech
stumble swarm thunder tremble whine

- 1 By the time I got into the auditorium, the place with excitement. The award for Best Actor had just been announced.
- 2 The film crew had to drive off quickly as a small herd of elephants across the stretch of grassland.
- 3 A dog ran across the road and the car to a halt just in front of it.
- 4 A group of journalists round the actress as she came out of the airport.
- 5 Our trainer instructions at us continuously for over an hour. I was exhausted.
- 6 My voice as I delivered the speech because I was so nervous.
- 7 As part of the game, six children jumped onto the bed and it under their weight.
- 8 I remember sitting in the dentist's waiting room, absolutely petrified by the of the drill I could hear in the next room.
- 9 My uncle with laughter when I told him about the mistake I'd made at work.
- 10 My presentation wasn't very well prepared but I managed to through it.

Reading

Multiple choice (Part 5) ► CB page 10

About the exam:

In Reading and Use of English Part 5, you read a text and then answer six multiple-choice questions about it. Each question gives you four options to choose from. Only one is correct.

Strategy:

- Read the text and the title quickly to get an idea of what it is about. Then read the questions but do not look at the options yet as this can be confusing.
- Find the section of text that the question relates to and read it carefully. Think of the answer without referring to the options. Find information to support your answer.
- Look at the options and choose the one that is closest to your idea.
- Make sure that there is evidence for your answer in the text and that it is not just a plausible answer you think is right.
- Remember that the correct option will not be phrased in the same way as in the text.

1 Read the article on the right. What is the writer's main purpose?

- 1 to persuade other people to live in Spain
- 2 to explain the difficulties of settling down in another country
- 3 to describe the pleasures of the writer's current life

2 Read the article again. For questions 1–6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

- 1 What is most unexpected for the writer?
 - A the early arrival of a plane that is usually late
 - B something she subconsciously includes in a message
 - C a difficult question she is asked by her family
 - D the respect other travellers give her
- 2 Feeling comfortable in another country isn't easy if
 - A you are not accepted by the local people.
 - B you are always moving on.
 - C you are out of touch with your family.
 - D you have some official problems.
- 3 The writer compares her accommodation in Madrid and Patagonia to focus on
 - A expenses.
 - B practicalities.
 - C health problems.
 - D ethical issues.
- 4 What does the writer say about feeling at home in Madrid?
 - A It didn't happen quickly.
 - B It depended on finding a good place to live.
 - C It was a result of becoming proficient in Spanish.
 - D It required an acceptance of a slower lifestyle.
- 5 According to the writer, which aspect of Spanish culture gives both traditional and modern experiences?
 - A sport
 - B food
 - C shopping
 - D nightlife
- 6 The writer believes that expats are often
 - A disappointed by their new life.
 - B insecure in the first few months.
 - C anxious about their decision to move.
 - D unlucky in their choice of destination.

Madrid, my home sweet home

It took a long time, but expat Isabel Eva Bohrer is finally ready to call Madrid her home.

'Back home!' Whenever I board and disembark a plane, I make a point of texting my family about the status of my travels. The Iberia flight from Munich, where I grew up, to Madrid, where I had been living for two years, had been on time. 'That's a surprise', I thought – the Spanish airline is notorious for its delays and strikes. Yet when I hit the 'Send' button of my phone, I was caught even more profoundly by surprise. For the first time, I had referred to Madrid as my home.

As expats, we are bound to reflect on the notion of home at one point or another. Where is home? For many expats, the concept isn't black or white. Home involves numerous gray areas, including family and friends, memories, language, religion, lifestyle, culture and more. Having lived abroad in the United States, Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Switzerland and France, among others, I knew what it was like *not* to feel at home. In the United States, not having a Social Security Number made me an outsider, causing numerous inconveniences, such as not being able to get a phone contract with certain providers. In Brazil, not speaking the language perfectly had made me uneasy as I sensed that people talked behind my back.

In Spain, my blonde hair and fair skin clearly marks me as not a native. And yet, over the course of two years, I have managed to feel at home in the Spanish capital. My unpretentious apartment in the barrio de Salamanca – as opposed to the waterproof tent I had lived in while working on an organic farm in the Argentine Patagonia – allowed me to unload my baggage, both physically and mentally. Instead of having to gather wood for the night's fires, as I had done when hiking in the South American mountains, I could settle down and focus on my professional goals as a writer.



But the feeling of home transcends the mere fact of having a somewhat permanent place to live. It is a mental sensation of equilibrium that is achieved over time. For me, feeling at home in Madrid has been a slow progressing relationship. The city initially made my acquaintance as a child: I had attended several summer camps to improve my language skills. At age 16, I completed an internship at an architecture firm in the north of the city. And at age 22, the capital and I hit a home run: I came back for good, moving in to my current *piso* (apartment). Slowly but surely, I learned to live the Spanish lifestyle. Dealing with *cantamañanas* (literally translated as 'those who sing tomorrow') is the quotidian routine here.

As a natural optimist, I continue to believe in all the positive aspects of living in Madrid. If sports ignite your spirit, Spaniards will welcome you to cheer along – the third-straight crowning of the Spanish football team at Euro 2012 was unprecedented. Unparalleled, too, is the nightlife, which will enthral flamenco lovers and clubbing addicts alike. At 8 a.m. you can watch the sun rise with *chocolate con churros*. In fact, the culinary joys never seem to sleep in Spain. There are tapas bars open at all hours, too many to enumerate. For the best *bacalao* (cod fish) in town, try Casa Labra, and the Bar Los Caracoles near the Rastro flea market for some Spanish *escargot*.

From the azure sky, my glance returned to the SMS on my phone: 'Glad to hear you arrived safely,' my family had texted back. Though they referred to that particular Munich-Madrid flight, I read the message as a more universal interpretation of the expat lifestyle. As expats, we undergo a period of ambiguity, in which we always feel like those who have just arrived. But if you give your new destination a chance, it can eventually become your home.

3 Match the adjectives from the article (1–6) with their meanings (A–F).

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 notorious | A never happened before |
| 2 numerous | B famous for something negative |
| 3 unpretentious | C impossible to match or equal |
| 4 quotidian | D a large number of |
| 5 unprecedented | E down to earth, simple |
| 6 unparalleled | F everyday |

4 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the underlined words in the article.

- Paul is a nice guy but he's got a load of I don't think he's got over losing his second wife yet.
- I was grateful for your help.
- The dancers are superb and they the audiences every night.
- Coffee has started to give me indigestion problems and I will have to give it up
- You need to phrase the letter carefully so that there's no possibility of at all.
- The that the film's leading actor was sitting somewhere in the audience was exciting.