

GRAMMAR

Choose a, b, or c.

- He got a good job, ____ not having the right degree.
a although b despite c in spite
- My uncle still works, ____ he won the lottery last year.
a in spite of b despite c even though
- I called my sister to remind her ____ the flowers.
a to buy b for buy c for buying
- Jane opened the door quietly ____ her parents up.
a to not wake b so that she not wake
c so as not to wake
- Jin Lee bought ____ for her camera.
a some new equipments
b some new equipment
c a new equipment
- Let me give you ____ – don't marry him!
a a piece of advice b an advice c some advices
- I need to buy a new ____.
a pant b pants c pair of pants
- There's ____ milk. I'll have to get some from the store.
a no b any c none
- ____ in that store is incredibly expensive.
a All b All of them c Everything
- They shouldn't go sailing because ____ of them can swim.
a both b either c neither
- Let's take them ____ flowers or chocolates when we go for dinner.
a both b either c neither
- I was in ____ hospital for two weeks with a broken leg.
a the b – c a
- I now live next door to ____ school where I used to go.
a the b – c a
- ____ Lake Baikal is the deepest lake in the world.
a The b – c A
- ____ Getty Museum is in Los Angeles.
a The b – c A

VOCABULARY

a Complete with the correct form of the **bold** word.

- A lot of research is being done into _____. **gene**
- Many important _____ discoveries were made in the 19th century. **science**
- We live in a very safe _____. **neighbor**
- Many people in big cities suffer from _____. **lonely**
- His _____ came as a terrible shock. **die**

b Add a prefix to the **bold** word.

- New Delhi in India is a very **populated** city.
- I asked for an aspirin, but the receptionist didn't understand me because I had **pronounced** it.
- A **national** company is a large company that operates in several different countries.
- Gandhi wrote most of his **biography** in 1929.
- Anne is unhappy with her job because she's **paid**.

c Complete the missing words.

- Will the company take a l_____ this year?
- He borrowed \$50,000 to s_____ his own business.
- Ikea is the market l_____ in cheap furniture.
- The company is planning to l_____ its new product in the spring.
- The bank has br_____ all over the country.
- It's a bad idea to mix b_____ with pleasure.
- In a real estate boom, house prices r_____.
- The drug has some very unpleasant s_____ effects.
- We need to c_____ out some more experiments.
- Would you ever be a g_____ pig in a clinical trial?

d Complete the two-word phrases.

- I'm going to the mountains for some peace and _____.
- He arrived home from his adventure safe and _____.
- Sooner or _____, we'll have to make a decision.
- It's a very dangerous city. There's no law and _____.
- It's our last chance to do this. It's now or _____.

PRONUNCIATION

a Circle the word with a different sound.

-  populate expand **antidote** gravity
-  product **government** poverty modernism
-  volunte**er** the**ory** rese**arch** sinc**ere**
-  recess**ion** expectat**ion** decis**ion** antisoc**ial**
-  deat**h** thou**gh** width **thoug**ht

b Underline the main stressed syllable.

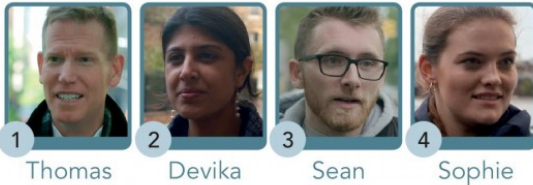
- bi|o|lo|gi|cal
- phy|si|cist
- mul|ti|cul|tu|ral
- in|crease (verb)
- man|u|fac|ture

CAN YOU understand this text?

- a Read the article once. Why did Stephen Hawking never change his computer voice?
- b Read the article again and choose a, b, or c.
 - 1 Stephen Hawking used a computer voice synthesizer to communicate for over...
 - a 30 years.
 - b 40 years.
 - c 55 years.
 - 2 He started using the voice when...
 - a he was diagnosed with motor neuron disease.
 - b he lost the power of speech after an operation.
 - c pneumonia caused him to lose his voice.
 - 3 His accent surprised people because...
 - a the synthesizer was made in Britain.
 - b they expected his voice to sound British.
 - c American accents were not popular in Britain.
 - 4 Stephen Hawking...
 - a thought that his accent sounded very American.
 - b told the Queen that his accent wasn't American.
 - c said his accent sounded different to different people.

▶ CAN YOU understand these people?

🔊 10.20 Watch or listen and choose a, b, or c.



- 1 Thomas admires Nike because of its _____.
 - a slogan and customer service
 - b logo and marketing
 - c name and the quality of its product
- 2 Devika thinks that ____ cities will change a lot in the next 20 years.
 - a some European
 - b modern, wealthy cities
 - c developing industrial
- 3 Sean thinks that art _____.
 - a takes a lot of time to study
 - b isn't as important as science
 - c should focus on climate change
- 4 Sophie passed her exam although _____.
 - a she didn't do her PowerPoint presentation
 - b she didn't enjoy doing her PowerPoint presentation
 - c her PowerPoint presentation was a disaster

THE VOICE OF REASON

Why Stephen Hawking's voice computer spoke with an American accent

Stephen Hawking, the legendary English cosmologist, author of *A Brief History of Time*, was regarded as a brilliant theoretical physicist, and for the British people, a national treasure. However, his famous computer-generated voice left many people puzzled.



Hawking died in 2018 at the age of 76. In 1963, while studying at Oxford, he was diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), a rare form of motor neuron disease. Incredibly, despite a poor prognosis, he lived with the disease for 55 years until his death. After catching pneumonia in 1985, Hawking had to have a tracheotomy to allow him to breathe. This left him unable to speak. After that, the professor's primary means of communication was a computer voice synthesizer that he controlled first with a hand-held clicker, and later with a sensor attached to his cheek. This computer-generated voice, known by its US developers as "Perfect Paul," became Hawking's iconic voice, recognized around the world.

One thing that puzzled many people, however, was why his computer spoke with an apparent American accent, in spite of the fact that he was born in Oxford, in the UK. The Queen even quizzed him on the matter, asking him, "Have you still got that American voice?" when meeting him at an event at St. James' Palace. He joked back, "Yes, it is copyrighted actually."

Hawking had previously answered the question on his own website. Explaining how his speech worked, he wrote: "When I have built up a sentence, I can send it to my speech synthesizer. I use a separate hardware synthesizer, made by Speech Plus. It is the best I have heard, although it gives me an accent that has been described variously as Scandinavian, American, or Scottish."

He also explained that he would have been able to change the accent of his computer when the technology advanced, but had decided against it. Hawking added: "My old system worked well and I wrote five books with it, including *A Brief History of Time*. It has become my trademark and I wouldn't change it for a more natural voice with a British accent. I am told that children who need a computer voice want one like mine."

