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<table>
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<td>Expressions guarantee, predictable, fixed, ...</td>
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<td>Investment types</td>
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<td>index / indices</td>
<td>Stock indices</td>
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<td>Prepositions of time</td>
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<td>on Tuesday, in September, at five o'clock, ...</td>
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| Unit 6 A career in accountancy | Who needs accountants? p.44 | Interpreting an article | Adjectives ambitious, rewarding, in demand, ... |
|                               |          |          | Careers in accountancy |
|                               |          |          | Financial statements |
|                               |          |          | Opposites of nouns proft / loss |
|                               |          |          | owns / owes, ... |
| What do accountants do? p.46 | Understanding a financial statement | be going to | |
|                               |          | He's going to ... | |
|                               |          | will | |
|                               |          | I'll give you some information about ... | |
| Jobs in accountancy p.48 | Describing jobs in accountancy | Matching verbs to noun phrases | Accountancy jobs |
|                               | Asking and answering questions | set a target, prepare a written report, keep track of something, ... | bookkeeper, tax advisor, budget analyst, ... |
|                               |          | opposite meanings of adjectives | |
| What makes a good accountant? p.50 | Describing people | Negative prefixes | |
|                               |          | unreliable, incompetent,... | |
|                               |          | Opposite meanings of adjectives interested / uninterested, ... | |
| Review p.51 |          |          | |

| Unit 7 An accountant's life | Was it a good conference? p.52 | Discussing past events | Past simple of be |
|                            |          | The weather was fine on Monday. | Business and travel |
|                            |          | Stronger adjectives fascinating, horrible, excellent, ... | |
| Calculations p.54 | Making calculations | five times one hundred and sixty equals ... | Calculation symbols |
|                   | Sequencing | minus / equals to / subtracted from / added to / percent of, ... | plus, minus, ... |
| She worked hard yesterday p.55 | Exchanging information | Past simple of regular verbs | Large numbers |
|                               |          | I submitted my tax return. | a / one trillion, five hundred and sixty seven million, ... |
| He finished school in 1994 p.56 | Describing a career | Past simple Pronunciation | |
|                               |          | / / / | N / / / /
| He became an accountant p.57 | Reporting | Past simple of irregular verbs | A 'to do' list |
| A tax return p.58 | Requesting information | A tax return letter | Tax returns |
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| Unit 8 The Economy | Economic indicators p.60 | Understanding economic indicators | Synonyms |
|                   |          | Economic indicators stock market index, unemployment rate, ... | |
|                   |          |          | |
| Trends and numbers p.62 | Interpreting graphs Reporting trends | Economic descriptors fluctuate, remain steady | Decimal numbers 0.0563 / round point nought five six three |
|                   |          | The number 0 | Percentages 3.75% / three point seven five percent |
|                   |          | zero, oh, nought, nil | grow / decline |
| Predicitions p.64 | Speculating about the economy | Will for future predictions | rise / fall |
|                   |          |          | remain steady / decrease |
| The central bank p.65 | Exchanging information | issue banknotes, store gold, regulate supply, ... | fluctuate / stabilise |
| Good news, bad news p.66 | Using expressions | A news briefing | Bank of England |
| Review p.67 |          |          | Positive and negative expressions |
| Partner files p.68 |          |          | Fortunately, ... |
| Audio script p.70 |          |          | Sadly, ... |

Contents 3
Personal finance

Getting to know you

Vocabulary 1 Match the phrases in the box with pictures 1–6.

Are you Mr Stoner? Good morning. My name's Jane.
Pleased to meet you. This is Henry. What's your name, please?

Listening 2 Listen and complete dialogues 1–4 with the words in the box.

am are I'm is name's this what's

1 A: Hello. I (1) ________ Frances Cooper.
   B: Hello. My name (2) ________ Jon Walsh. Pleased to meet you.

2 A: Excuse me. (3) ________ you Mr Simpson?
   B: Yes, I am.
   A: Pleased to meet you, Mr Simpson. (4) ________ Trudi Moore.

3 A: Good morning. (5) ________ your name, please?
   B: My (6) ________ Simon Davies.

4 A: Leena, (7) ________ is Justin Blake. Justin, this is Leena Koury.
   B: Pleased to meet you, Justin.

Speaking 3 Work in pairs. Practise the dialogues in 2 with your own names.
Language

am / is / are (present simple of be)
We can use be to say where somebody is from.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where are you from?</th>
<th>I'm / am from Germany.</th>
<th>I'm not / am not from the USA.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>We're / are from Spain.</td>
<td>We aren't / are not from Argentina.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where is he / she from?</td>
<td>George is from Canada.</td>
<td>Susan isn't / is not from Poland. She's / is from Germany.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where are they from?</td>
<td>Maria and Francesca are from Italy.</td>
<td>They're not / are not from Spain. They aren't / are not from Spain.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vocabulary

4 Complete this table with the words in the box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Language(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td></td>
<td>German</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Brazilian</td>
<td>Portuguese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Egyptian</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>French</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>Chinese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Japanese</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the UK</td>
<td></td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the USA</td>
<td>American</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>Swiss</td>
<td>German, French and Italian</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5 Complete these dialogues with the correct country, nationality, or language.

1 A: Hamdy, are you Egyptian?
   B: Yes, that's right. I'm from ________.
   A: What language do you speak?
   B: I speak ________.

2 A: Are you from China, Tamio?
   B: No, I'm not. I'm from ________.
   A: So you speak Japanese?
   B: Yes, that's right.

3 A: Are they German?
   B: No, they aren't.
   A: They speak German.

4 A: Is he Canadian?
   B: No, he isn't. He's from the USA.
   A: What language does he speak?
   B: He speaks ________.

5 A: Are you ________?
   B: No, I'm not from the USA. I'm from Brazil.
   A: Do you speak Spanish?
   B: No, I speak ________.
   A: How about you?
   B: I'm from Switzerland. I speak Italian and German.

Speaking

6 Work in pairs. Say your nationality and the languages you speak.
   A: I'm Italian. I speak Italian, English and French. How about you?
   B: I'm French. I speak French, English, Spanish and Chinese.
Names and numbers

Listening 1 Look at this business card. Make three sentences.
Examples: His name's...
           He's a...

UBCS International
Jon Phillips
Financial adviser
33 Victoria Street, London W1 6AZ
Tel: (44) 020 7521 3842
Email: j.phillips@ubcs.com

2 Listen to this phone call between Maria Styles, the human resources manager at UBCS International and a new employee. Choose the correct answers.

1 Why does Maria call the new employee?
   a) She wants to visit his family.
   b) She wants to check the spelling of his name.
   c) She wants his business card.

2 What problem does she have?
   a) She doesn’t know his name.
   b) She can’t read his name.
   c) She can’t pronounce his family name.

3 What does the new employee want on his business cards?
   a) Mr J Nagy
   b) Nagy Jancsi
   c) Jancsi Nagy

3 Listen again and complete these sentences with the words in the box.

check family repeat spell

1 I’m sorry. Could you ________ that, please?
2 Could I please ________ the spelling of your name?
3 How do you ________ your family name?
4 My ________ name is Nagy.

Speaking 4 Work in pairs and practise this dialogue. Use your own names.

A: Hello, this is (1) ________ . Can I check the spelling of your name, please?
B: Yes, my first name is (2) ________ . That’s (3) ________ .
A: Could you repeat that, please?
B: Yes, of course. My first name is (4) ________ . That’s spelt (5) ________ .
A: And how do you spell your family name?
B: My family name is (6) ________ . That’s (7) ________ .
A: Thank you.
5 Look at the photos. What do the letters stand for? Choose the correct answers and then take turns with a partner to say what you think.

A: What does ADB stand for?
B: I think it's the Asian Development Bank.

1 IBM  a) International Business Machines
       b) International Business Management
2 HSBC  a) Hull and Salford Building Corporation
       b) The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
3 IBQ  a) The International Bank of Qatar  b) International Banking Quarter
4 ABK  a) Amalgamated Bank of Kurdistan  b) Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait

6 Say the next three numbers in each line.
   a) two, four, six, eight ...
   b) ten, nine, eight, seven ...
   c) three, six, nine, twelve ...
   d) two, four, eight, sixteen ...

Listening 7 Listen and tick (√) the number you hear. Then work in pairs.
Check your answers and say the numbers.

a) 120  112
b) 30   13
   15   50
   117  170
   14   46

Writing 8 Write these numbers in words.
Example: a) 126  one hundred and twenty-six

a) 126  
   d) 312  
b) 39  
   e) 88  
c) 45  

Vocabulary 9 Label these symbols with the words in the box. Then write the amounts 1–5 in words.

€  $  $  $  ¥  %

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>dollars</th>
<th>euros</th>
<th>percent</th>
<th>pounds</th>
<th>yen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 $27</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 €33</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 59%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

10 Work in pairs. Write three amounts and then dictate them to your partner.
Example: 25% twenty-five percent
Paying for things

Vocabulary
1 Write the words in the box under the pictures.

| garden | garage | computer | credit card | house | car |

2 Work in pairs. Ask and answer questions about the things in 1.
A: Do you have a car?  B: Yes, I do. / No, I don’t.

Language

**have (present tense)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>We use have to talk about possession.</th>
<th>We have a computer.</th>
<th>She has two credit cards.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We don’t have / do not have a car.</td>
<td>She doesn’t have / does not have any euros.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We can use do / does + have to ask a question.</td>
<td>A: Do you have any cash?  B: Yes, I do. / No, I don’t / do not.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A: Does she have any cash?  B: No, I’m sorry. She doesn’t have / does not have any cash.</td>
<td>A: What do you have in your wallet?  B: I have thirty pounds.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A: Do they have a big house?  B: Yes, they do.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Listening
3 Listen and complete this dialogue with the words in the box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>do</th>
<th>does (x3)</th>
<th>doesn’t</th>
<th>have</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A: Do you (1) ________ a house?  B: Yes, it (4) ________ .</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B: Yes, I (2) ________ .</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A: (3) ________ it have a garden?  B: No, it (6) ________ .</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Language

**Present simple**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>We use the present simple to talk about something that is always or usually true.</th>
<th>I work here.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>She has brown hair.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We use the present simple to talk about things that happen regularly.</td>
<td>They pay their telephone bill by credit card.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>He pays his rent by standing order.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Listening 4 Listen to Maggie. How does she pay for the things in the pictures? Tick (✓) the correct columns in the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>in cash</th>
<th>by credit card</th>
<th>by debit card</th>
<th>by cheque</th>
<th>by direct debit</th>
<th>by standing order</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>groceries</td>
<td></td>
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<td>clothes</td>
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<td>mortgage</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>household bills</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>petrol</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Speaking 5 Complete the table for you. Add three more things and show how you pay for them. Work in pairs. Take turns to ask and answer questions.

A: How do you pay for petrol?
B: I pay in cash.

Pronunciation 6 Listen to these sentences. What is the sound at the end of the verb?

1 Maggie pays for her groceries in cash.
2 Sven writes lots of emails.
3 Jon uses a computer at work.

7 Write the verbs in the box under the correct heading.

buys  checks  chooses  saves  takes  watches

pays /z/  writes /s/  uses /lz/
(1) ______ (2) ______ (3) ______
(4) ______ (5) ______ (6) ______

8 Listen and check your answers to 7. Listen again and repeat the words.

Language 9 Complete these sentences with the correct form of the present simple.

1 I ______ (pay) for my groceries by cheque.
2 He ______ (use) cash for things under $50.
3 They ______ (buy) food at the supermarket with their debit cards.
4 We ______ (pay) our household bills by direct debit or credit card.
5 She ______ (save) $50 every month by shopping online.
6 He ______ (read) the financial section of the newspaper first.
7 She ______ (watch) the business news on TV.
8 They ______ (check) their bank statement every week.
Managing your money

Vocabulary
1 Match the words in the box to these definitions 1-6.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>budget</th>
<th>expenses</th>
<th>income</th>
<th>pension</th>
<th>realistic</th>
<th>salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 money you get when you are old and don’t work: ________</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 a plan you make about what to buy and how much to spend: ________</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 all the money that you get from your work and other sources: ________</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 the money you get from your employer: ________</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 money you pay for things like food, petrol, household bills, etc.: ________</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 something that is possible to achieve: ________</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reading
2 Read this advice on managing your money. Underline the words from 1 in the text.

MANAGE YOUR MONEY BETTER!

Whether you already have a job or you are still a student, it’s important to manage your money well. Here are some questions to ask yourself:

- How much is my income?
- Can I save for a pension?
- How can I earn more money?
- Does my salary pay all my expenses?
- Is my budget realistic?

Six tips to help you manage your money better:

1 Make a budget and keep to it.
2 Learn to cook, and eat at home more.
3 Buy the things you need before you buy the things you want.
4 Check the prices in two or three supermarkets.
5 Don’t go to the cinema; watch DVDs at home.
6 Walk, don’t drive.

Speaking
3 Work in pairs. Discuss these questions.
- Are you good at managing your money?
- Which of the advice in the text do you follow?
- Do you have any more tips for managing your money?

4 Use words from the text in 2 to complete this dialogue.

A: How much money does your CEO (1) ________ ?
B: I don’t know, but it’s a lot!
A: Are you happy with your (2) ________ ?
B: It’s OK, but I would like the company to pay me more!
A: Do you save money for a (3) ________ ?
B: Yes, I do. I think it’s important to save for your old age.
A: Are you a clever shopper?
B: Yes, I always (4) ________ the prices in two or three shops before I buy something.
A: Do you have a (5) ________ ?
B: Yes, I think it’s important to plan your spending.
A: Do you have car?
B: No, I don’t. I (6) ________ to work.

5 Work in pairs. Take turns to ask and answer the questions in 4.
Review

Listening 1
Put these sentences in the correct order. Then listen to check your answers.

2. Well, nice to meet you. Enjoy the seminar.
3. Where are you from, Susan?
4. I'm a trainee at a bank in Toronto.
5. No, I'm not. I'm from Canada. So Susan, what do you do?
6. I'm from the UK. Are you from the USA?
7. I'm a secretary at a bank in London. What about you?
8. I'm Susan. Nice to meet you, too.
9. You, too!

What do you do?
= What's your job?

Speaking 2
Work in pairs. Practise the dialogue in 1. Use your own name, country and job.
A: Hi, my name's Claire. I'm from Madrid. I'm an account manager at a bank in London. What do you do?
B: I'm a financial adviser for an investment bank in Beijing.

Practise again with a new partner. Then introduce your two partners to each other.

Example: This is Ahmed. He's from the United Arab Emirates. He's a trainee at a bank in Frankfurt.

Listening 3
Listen to a phone call. What does the customer want the account manager to do?

4
Read this change of address form. Listen again and find five mistakes.

Change of address request
Name: Ella Frick
Account number: 03457892
New address: 453 Lomis Street, Winchester SO30 5QZ
Home phone number: 01964 829741
Mobile phone number: 0779569803

Speaking 5
Work in pairs. Student A look at the information on this page. Student B look at the information on page 68.

Student A
You are a customer of UBSC International.
Your account number is 0987432.
Phone the bank to give your new address and phone numbers.
Your new address is 355 Walton Street, Oxford OX2 9JH.
Your new home phone number is 01865 7428996.
Your new mobile number is 07789537124.
Use your own name.

When the bank employee answers the phone, begin like this:
Hello, I'd like to change the details on my account, please.
Starting out

Listening 1 It is Martin Forsyth’s first day as a trainee at UBCS International. You are going to listen to his conversation with his new boss, Emilia Olivieri. Which of these words and expressions do you think you will hear?

boardroom break cafeteria computer drinks machine
finish work introduction lunch mortgage
nationality salary seminar start work welcome

Listen and underline the words in the box in 1 that you hear.

3 Listen again. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?
1 There are four desks in Martin’s office. (T / F)
2 There is a phone on Martin’s desk. (T / F)
3 There’s a computer on Martin’s desk. (T / F)
4 There are some books on Martin’s desk. (T / F)
5 There aren’t any cups in the office. (T / F)
6 There isn’t a cafeteria at UBCS. (T / F)

Language

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>There is / There are</th>
<th>There is / There’s a phone on the desk.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We use there is / there are to say that something or somebody exists.</td>
<td>There are some books on the desk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>singular questions:</td>
<td>A: Is there a drinks machine in the office?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B: Yes, there is. / No, there isn’t (is not).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plural questions:</td>
<td>A: Are there any books?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B: Yes, there are. / No, there aren’t (are not).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>negative forms:</td>
<td>There aren’t any cups. (plural)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>There isn’t a computer. (singular)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Writing 4 Write sentences about your office or the place where you study with there is / are and there isn’t / aren’t. Use the words in the box and any others that you know.

book chair clock drinks machine computer desk
magazine pen phone printer television

Speaking 5 Work in pairs. Take turns to ask and answer questions about what there is in your office or the place where you study.

A: Is there a drinks machine in your office?
B: No, there isn’t. Are there any books in your office?
A: Yes, there are. Are there any...
Reading 6 Read part of the information sheet from Martin’s introduction to UBCS. Then complete the fact sheet.

UBCS International is a leading international bank. We provide an excellent range of products and services, including current accounts, savings accounts, mortgages, insurance, loans, foreign exchange services and investment advice. We have 2,000 employees in our head office in Frankfurt and 38,000 in our 320 branches in Europe, the Middle East and Asia. We give our trainees experience in all our departments:

- Our cashiers serve the bank’s customers. They help customers make deposits and withdrawals, check balances, answer questions and help customers with their everyday banking needs.
- At our foreign exchange counter, the cashiers sell foreign currency to customers who want to go abroad.
- Our mortgage advisers arrange mortgages for customers who want to buy property. They also set up insurance policies.
- Our financial advisers give customers information about stocks and shares, bonds and other types of investments.

Vocabulary 7 Find and underline these words and expressions in the text in 6. Then match them to phrases 1–8.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>UBCS International</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Head office</td>
<td>Services (tick ✓ those that apply)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Branches</td>
<td>current accounts ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company figures</td>
<td>savings accounts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of branches</td>
<td>foreign exchange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of employees</td>
<td>mortgages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>investment advice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vocabulary 7

| investments | deposit mortgage employees savings account head office |
| current account | mortgage | employees |
| deposit money | withdraw money |

Vocabulary 7

1. the main office of a company
2. the people who work at a company
3. money put into a bank account
4. money taken out of a bank account
5. money that banks lend people to buy property
6. a bank account that pays no interest or low interest
7. a bank account for investment; the bank pays interest
8. things people put their money in to make more money

Speaking 8 Put these words in order to make questions.

1. What / name / is / bank / your / the / of
2. Where / office / is / head / your
3. How / do / you / have / branches / many
4. How / employees / do / many / you have
5. What kind / provide / you / do / of / products and services
6. Where / branches / are / your

9 Work in pairs. Student A look at the information on this page. Student B look at the information on page 68. Use the questions in 8 to ask each other about your banks.

Student A
You work for Benhams Bank. You provide current and savings accounts, mortgages, loans and investment advice. Your head office is in London. You have 16 branches in the UK. Your bank has 2,000 employees.
What do you do every day?

Speaking 1 Which of these things do you do every day? Discuss with a partner.

get up
go to work
have a shower
meet friends
study
talk to customers
have breakfast / lunch / dinner
watch TV

A: Do you watch TV every day?
B: Yes, I do. How about you?
A: No, I don't.

Listening 2 At lunchtime, Martin meets Nabila Habib in the UBCS cafeteria. Read and listen to the first part of their conversation. Note down three things that Nabila does every day.

Nabila: Hello, you're new, aren't you?
Martin: Yes, I am.
Nabila: Welcome to UBCS. My name's Nabila.
Martin: Pleased to meet you. I'm Martin.
Nabila: So, do you like your new job?
Martin: I don't know yet. In fact, this is only my first day.
Nabila: Oh, right, sorry! This is my first year. I'm a cashier.
Martin: Oh, great! Maybe you can tell me more about being a cashier. What do you do every day?
Nabila: Well, I come to work at 8.30. The bank opens at 9.00. I help customers deposit money and withdraw money from their accounts. Sometimes I answer questions about products and services. Other times I check balances for customers. Oh, and I also help my boss. He opens new accounts for customers and talks to them about investments. I give customers information about our interest rates and help them with forms, that sort of thing.

Language

Present simple

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What do you do every day?</th>
<th>I come to work at 8.30.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>She helps them with forms.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We often use adverbs of frequency (e.g. always, usually, often, sometimes, never) and other time expressions (e.g. every day, in the morning) with the present simple.

The adverbs come before the verb. Time expressions come at the beginning or end of the sentence.

In affirmative sentences, we add -s or -es in the third person singular (he, she, it).

In the morning, I check my balance online. We pay by cheque every month. He watches the financial news every morning. She sometimes pays in cash.

Match the two halves of the sentences. Do you do these things every day?

1 She comes to work
2 She checks
3 Her boss opens
4 The bank opens
5 Customers come to the bank
6 She gives the customers information

a) new accounts for customers.
b) at 9.00.
c) at 8.30.
d) balances for customers.
e) about interest rates.
f) and deposit or withdraw money.
Writing 4 Write sentences about the things in the box in 1 that you do every day. Example: I get up every day at 6.30. I have a shower at 6.45. I have lunch from 12.30 to 1.30.

Listening 5 Listen to the second part of Martin and Nabila’s conversation. Tick ✓ the things they talk about.
1 □ what they do at lunchtime □ what they do in the evening
2 □ how they get to work □ what they do at the weekend

6 Listen again and complete these sentences with the words in the box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>always</th>
<th>never</th>
<th>often</th>
<th>sometimes (x2)</th>
<th>usually (x3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
1 Nabila ________ finishes work at 5.00.
2 She ________ stays late.
3 She ________ gets home before 7.30.
4 She ________ walks to work.
5 Martin ________ goes shopping on Saturday morning.
6 He ________ plays football in the afternoon.
7 He and his friends ________ go to the cinema.
8 He ________ watches TV.

Language

Adverbs of frequency

We use adverbs of frequency to describe how often somebody does something or how often something happens.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>always</th>
<th>often</th>
<th>usually</th>
<th>sometimes</th>
<th>never</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I always go to work by train.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I usually go to work by train.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I often read the newspaper on the train.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I sometimes buy coffee at the station.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I never arrive late.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In negative sentences, adverbs of frequency come between don’t / doesn’t and the verb.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>always</th>
<th>often</th>
<th>usually</th>
<th>sometimes</th>
<th>never</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I don’t usually go to work by bus.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I don’t often work on the train.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adverbs of frequency come before main verbs but after the verb to be.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>always</th>
<th>often</th>
<th>usually</th>
<th>sometimes</th>
<th>never</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I never arrive late.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am never late.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7 Complete these sentences with always, usually, often, sometimes and never. Make them true for you.
1 I ________ get up early.
2 I ________ leave my house before 7.30.
3 I ________ read the newspaper on the bus or train.
4 I ________ have a big lunch.
5 I ________ get home before 6.30.
6 I ________ eat dinner in a restaurant.
7 I ________ watch TV in the evening.
8 I ________ go to bed very late.

Speaking 8 Work in small groups. Talk about what you do every day and at the weekend. Use always, usually, often, sometimes and never.
A: Do you get up early?
B: Yes, usually. But I never go to bed very late.
What's your job?

Reading 1 Look at the words in the box. Which are jobs? Which are companies/places of work?

branch manager  building society  cashier  customer service adviser
insurance company  investment analyst  senior account manager
supermarket  supervisor  trainee

Jobs in banking

Banks offer many different jobs, from trainee cashier right up to senior account manager or investment analyst. Many jobs are in specialist areas such as IT or corporate banking - accounts for business customers. Some banks have call centres where customer service advisers answer telephone enquiries. In the UK today, building societies, insurance companies and even supermarkets can offer the same services as banks. There is a lot of competition, so banks always need top-quality staff with good communication skills.

Training and opportunities
Trainees with basic school qualifications usually process cheques and do administrative tasks. They then take a training course to become cashiers. Good cashiers often become supervisors, responsible for their own teams of employees.
Graduate trainees have a fast-track training course. They usually spend about two years learning how the bank works. Then they can get management positions.
Branch managers spend a lot of time with customers and sometimes visit business customers in their office or factory.

Working conditions
Working hours are usually 9 am to 5 pm. Most banks have an annual appraisal system and give salary increases according to performance. Some also have good pension schemes. Larger banks have sports facilities for activities such as golf and tennis.

2 Read the article. Are these statements true (T) or false (F)?
1 Only university graduates get jobs in UK banks. (T / F)
2 Customers visit call centres to talk to customer service advisers. (T / F)
3 Some other companies offer the same services as banks. (T / F)
4 University graduates become managers as soon as they join a bank. (T / F)
5 Managers never leave the bank during working hours. (T / F)
6 Working hours are usually 9 am to 5 pm. (T / F)

Vocabulary 3 Find words and expressions in the article to match these definitions.
1 the ability to talk to people clearly and explain things well:
c ________ s ________
2 banking for business customers rather than individual customers:
c ________ b ________
3 people who watch over other employees and check their work:
s ________
4 a way of deciding how well and how hard an employee works:
a ________ s ________
5 a way of saving for the time when you are old and don’t work any more:
p ________ s ________
4 Complete these sentences with the jobs in the box in 1.
   1 A _______ has a team of employees and watches and checks their work.
   2 A _______ works at a bank counter and handles everyday banking.
   3 A _______ handles customers’ problems and questions, often on the phone.
   4 An _______ knows a lot about the economy and investments.
   5 A _______ is in charge of the employees and customers at one branch of the bank.
   6 A _______ is responsible for customers’ accounts. It is a management position.

Speaking 5 Work in pairs and discuss. Do you do any of the jobs in 4? Do you want to do any of these jobs?

Reading 6 Read this job description. What is the job? Choose from the list in the box.

   "I work in a bank, but I'm not a cashier. I'm responsible for all the employees. I deal with any problems they have. I handle advertisements for new employees and I take care of trainees."

   branch manager  customer service adviser  human resources manager
   investment analyst  IT services manager  senior account manager

Listening 7 Listen to four people talking about their jobs. Tick (✓) the correct job for each person.

1 Isabella  □ senior account manager  □ IT services manager
2 Raoul  □ human resources manager  □ cashier
3 Ravi  □ customer service adviser  □ branch manager
4 Jenny  □ investment analyst  □ IT services manager

8 Listen again and complete the gaps.

1 My name’s Isabella. I’m responsible _____ opening new accounts at our bank. I give customers _____ about our interest rates and the accounts that we have.
2 I’m Raoul. I work in a bank and I help customers make _____ and withdrawals. I also _____ any problems they have with their accounts.
3 Hi. My name’s Ravi. I work _____ a bank, but I don’t actually work in the bank. Customers telephone me when they have problems and complaints and I _____ with their questions.
4 Hello! I’m Jenny. I take _____ of all the computers in the bank. I train employees how to use computers. I don’t _____ with customers.

9 Match 1–4 to a–d to form sentences.

1 I handle  a) of new employees and trainees.
2 I deal  b) for all the office equipment.
3 I take care  c) with customers’ complaints.
4 I am responsible  d) customer enquiries and problems.
Customer care

Language 1

1. Your cashiers are impatient. They never wait for people to finish what they have to say.
2. The cashiers are always polite and friendly. They always take time to answer my questions.
3. Why aren't your employees more attentive? They don't listen and they aren't interested in me or my problems at all.
4. Your employees are really helpful and efficient.
5. The cashiers are very knowledgeable.

Adjectives

We use adjectives to describe people or things.

- The cashiers at my bank are friendly and efficient.
- A good bank has knowledgeable and attentive cashiers.
- This bank has very helpful employees.
- The employees at this bank are polite.
- An attentive cashier / attentive cashiers

Vocabulary 2

Match the positive adjectives 1–7 with their negative opposites a–g.

1. friendly  a) rude
2. helpful  b) inefficient
3. patient  c) inattentive
4. knowledgeable  d) unhelpful
5. attentive  e) unfriendly
6. polite  f) ignorant
7. efficient  g) impatient

3. Complete these tips for cashiers. Use the words from 2.

CUSTOMER CARE

As a cashier, you are the first point of contact for our customers. It is important that you present a positive image of the bank.

1. Always be _______ and _______. If you are impolite and unfriendly, our customers will go to another bank.
2. Be _______: answer questions and deal with transactions quickly and well.
3. Be _______. Make sure you have all the information you need to answer customers' questions. Employees who are _______ create a very bad impression.
4. Listen carefully to what customers say and look at them when you talk to them. If you are _______, customers think you are not interested in them and don't care about them.
5. Some of our customers are elderly or disabled. Sometimes it is difficult for them to explain what they want and understand what you say to them. Be ________ and give them time to say what they want. Other customers are usually happy to wait while you help them.
Review

Reading 1 Complete this dialogue with the correct form of the words in the box.

check eat get give help
learn leave open put show

Asif: Hi, Martin! How's your new job?
Martin: Hi, Asif! It's great. It's hard work, but really interesting.
Asif: What time do you start?
Martin: The bank (1) _______ at 9.00, but I start work at 8.30.
     I (2) _______ my house at 6.30 to get there.
Asif: Wow. That's a long day.
Martin: Yes, it is. But I (3) _______ quite a long break at lunchtime. And there's a cafeteria at the bank so I can (4) _______ my lunch there.
Asif: What exactly do you do all day?
Martin: Well, I'm a trainee at the moment, so I sit and (5) _______ from other employees. I'm sitting with a cashier in the banking hall this week. Her name is Nabila. She serves customers and (6) _______ them make deposits and withdrawals. She (7) _______ the balances of their accounts and answers their questions. She (8) _______ the customers information about the bank's interest rates and (9) _______ them how to complete forms to open new accounts.
Asif: So do you do any work or do you just watch other people work?
Martin: Well, I usually just watch and learn, but sometimes I (10) _______ money in the ATM.
Asif: Wow, you handled all that money? Still, I think it's more fun to take it out!
Martin: Yes, you're right!

Listening 2 Listen and check your answers to 1.

Writing 3 Rewrite these sentences using the adverbs of frequency in brackets.
1 I go to work at 8.30. (usually)
2 I go home at 5.00. (always)
3 I am late for work. (never)
4 I eat my lunch in the cafeteria. (sometimes)
5 I sit and watch the other cashiers. (often)
6 The cashiers are helpful and polite to the customers. (always)

Speaking 4 Work in pairs. Take turns to ask and answer questions about what you do every day. Use some of these questions to help you.
• What do you do every day? • What exactly do you do?
• What do you do after that? • Do you ... ? • What time do you ... ?

Writing 5 Write a paragraph about your job or what you do every day. Use some of the words and expressions in the box.

always I deal with ... I'm responsible for ...
I take care of ... often sometimes usually
Banking products and services

- talk about banking products and services
- talk about what you can and can’t do
- talk about what banks can offer customers
- talk about what customers want from their bank

Products and services

Reading 1 Think of a bank you use. Which of these products and services can you get at your bank?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>current account</th>
<th>foreign exchange</th>
<th>insurance</th>
<th>investment advice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>loan</td>
<td>mortgage</td>
<td>safe deposit box</td>
<td>savings account</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 Read these descriptions. Match the people 1–6 to the products and services from the box in 1 that they need.

1 Marvin Wiley is 16. His parents give him an allowance of £80 a month. He pays it into his current account at the bank. He spends some of the money on clothes, music, magazines and going out with his friends. He wants to go to college next year. He knows that being a student is expensive so he saves some of his allowance for when he is at college. Every month he takes £30 and puts it in a box in his bedroom. He now has over £500.

2 Rafiq and Selma Aziz are married. They are both 24. They live with Rafiq’s parents, but the house is very small and they want a flat of their own. They both have jobs and they have some money. Selma’s parents can lend them a little more.

3 Maria Villiers is 67. She is retired and lives on her pension. Her sister Vera lives in Australia. Maria has a round-the-world ticket and next week she plans to visit Singapore and Indonesia on the way to Australia.

4 Karl Dorfman is rich. He has £100,000 in savings. He doesn’t know what to do with his money. He already has a nice big house and an expensive car. His wife thinks it’s a good idea to buy shares or bonds. He doesn’t know anything about these things.

5 Gloria Bannerman has some beautiful and valuable jewellery. It was her grandmother’s. She doesn’t wear it often, but she doesn’t want to sell it. She worries that someone might break into her house and steal it. She already has insurance.

6 Amara Akintola is a doctor. She can drive, but she doesn’t have enough savings to buy a car. She often visits patients in their homes at night. This is sometimes very difficult by bus. She has a driving licence and sometimes she borrows a friend’s car, but her friend often needs it at night.
Vocabulary 3 Find words or phrases in the texts in 2 that mean the same as these expressions.
1 money given to children or teenagers by their parents
2 a way of investing money by buying parts of a company
3 an airline ticket with which you can travel to many different countries
4 an official document that shows you can drive
5 a system by which you can get money if someone steals or damages your property
6 money that the government or your employer gives you when you are old and you stop working

4 Complete these sentences with suitable words or phrases.
1 I have some gold coins. I don’t want to keep them at home. I need to get a ________ at the bank.
2 I’d like some information on a ________. I want to buy a house.
3 I’d like some euros. I need to go to the ________ counter at my bank.
4 I’m interested in investing in the IT business. I’d like to buy some ________ in Google.
5 I put 10% of my salary in my ________ account each month.
6 I’m going shopping. I don’t want to carry lots of cash so I’ll take my ________.
7 My favourite sport is sailing and I want to buy an expensive new boat. I need a ________ from the bank.
8 I have a lot of valuable things in my house. Perhaps I should get some ________.

5 Match the verbs 1–4 to their opposites a–d.
1 save a) take
2 borrow b) sell
3 buy c) spend
4 give d) lend

6 Use the words in 5 to complete these questions.
1 Do you ________ your money as soon as you get it or do you put some of it in a savings account?
2 Do you ever ________ money to other people? Do they always pay you back?
3 Do you ever ________ things from other people? Do you always give them back on time?
4 Do you ever ________ money to charity?
5 Do you usually ________ things in shops or online?
6 Do you always ________ your credit card with you when you go abroad?
7 Do you ________ money for a pension?
8 Do you ever ________ things you don’t want any more?

Speaking 7 Work in pairs. Take turns to ask and answer the questions in 6.
What can you do?

Speaking 1 How do banks attract new customers? Discuss in pairs. Use the words in the box.

- advertisements
- free gifts
- interest rates
- special offers

Reading 2 Read this article. Then choose the best summary.

NEW CUSTOMERS ONLY!

Banks always want to get new customers and so they make attractive offers: new customers can get higher interest rates on savings accounts for the first six months, there are no arrangement fees on new mortgages, people who open a new current account get a free gift. However, these special offers are usually limited to 'new customers only' - which often appears in the small print at the bottom of their advertisements and makes existing customers angry. Why are all the best offers, the best products, the best interest rates for 'new customers only'? In a TV advertisement for the Nationwide Building Society in the UK, an existing customer goes into a bank and asks for several of the attractive products and services the bank offers. Each time, the bank employee tells him he can't have what he wants because it is for 'new customers only'. He leaves the bank and goes to the Nationwide Building Society where the special offers are for all customers. This advertisement suggests that banks need to take customer care seriously and treat all customers the same. The clever business strategy is not just to attract new customers, but to keep the ones you already have.

1 The article is about the way banks treat new and existing customers differently. It suggests that existing customers are just as important as new customers.

2 The article is about the products and services banks offer to customers. It says that people go from bank to bank and look for the best special offers.

3 Use the words and expressions in the box to complete the definitions 1–6.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>arrangement fee</th>
<th>attractive</th>
<th>free gift</th>
<th>limited</th>
<th>small print</th>
<th>special offer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 An ___________ is a sum of money you usually have to pay the bank when you take out a mortgage.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 A ___________ is a present. You don’t have to pay for it. A company gives it to you as a thank-you for buying their product or service.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Something which is ___________ to one group of people is something which people outside that group can’t have.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Something which is ___________ is something that people want to have. The word is also used to describe people who look nice.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 A ___________ is something a company uses to get new customers. It could be a price reduction, two products for the price of one, a better interest rate, a free gift, etc.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 ___________ is text in tiny letters, often at the bottom of an advertisement. Because it is small and difficult to read, companies hope their customers won’t notice it. It usually contains bad news.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Language

**can / can’t**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>We use <em>can</em> + infinitive without to talk about something we are able to do generally ... or, at this moment.</th>
<th>I can drive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>or, at this moment.</td>
<td>I can see a queue of customers waiting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In negative sentences, we use the short form (<em>can’t</em>) more often than the full form (<em>cannot</em>).</td>
<td>She can’t serve this customer right now.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In questions and short answers:</td>
<td>A: Can new customers have a free gift? B: Yes, they can. / No, they can’t.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Read the text from 2 again. Complete these sentences with *can* or *can’t*.
   
   1. A customer who opens a new current account ________ get a free gift.
   2. New customers ________ get better interest rates on their savings accounts.
   3. Existing customers ________ have the special offers because they are for new customers only.
   4. The ‘new customers only’ policy ________ make existing customers angry.
   5. The customer in the advertisement ________ have what he wants because he isn’t a new customer.

5. Write questions and short answers using *can* or *can’t*.

   **Example:** I Can you speak Japanese? (X) No, I can’t.

   1. you speak / Japanese? (X)
   2. buy / a flat / Rafiq and Selma? (✓)
   3. Karl / on investments / get advice? (✓)
   4. any special offers / you get / at your bank? (X)
   5. Marvin / buy a car? (X)
   6. Rafiq and Selma / from Selma’s parents / borrow money? (✓)
   7. interest rate / get a better / they? (X)

**Speaking**

6. Add two more things to the table. Tick (✓) if you can do these things and cross (X) if you can’t. Work in pairs. Take turns to ask and answer questions using *can* and *can’t*. Complete the table for your partner.

   **A:** Can you speak Arabic?
   **B:** Yes, I can.

   **You** | **Your partner**
   --- | ---
   Speak Arabic? | |
   Drive? | |
   Ride a horse? | |
   Use a computer? | |
   Play the piano? | |

**Writing**

7. Write three sentences about what you and your partner can and can’t do. Use the information in 6.

   **Example:** Shilpi and I can both drive. I can play the piano, but Shilpi can’t. Neither of us can ride a horse.
What can banks give to customers?

Listening 1 Listen to Peter talking to his colleague, Marwan. Which products and services in the box do they mention?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>cheques</th>
<th>credit card</th>
<th>current account</th>
<th>debit card</th>
<th>interest rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>loans and mortgages</td>
<td>online banking</td>
<td>savings account</td>
<td>safe deposit box</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Listen again and complete these sentences.

1. A ______ account is for paying everyday bills and expenses.
2. A ______ account is sometimes called a deposit account.
3. The bank pays the customer _______ on a savings account?
4. You can tell customers that at the moment the interest _______ for savings accounts is three percent.
5. I can also offer new customers a _______ card.
6. I can show them how the _______ works.
7. Customers also often ask about _______ banking.
8. You can tell them the interest rates on _______ and mortgages.

Reading 3 Read the rest of Marwan and Peter’s conversation. Are sentences 1–6 true (T) or false (F)?

Peter: Oh, Marwan, one more thing. What about credit cards?
Marwan: Well, we don’t automatically give credit cards to new customers.
Peter: So are they just for existing customers?
Marwan: No, but we know that our existing customers are good with money.
We see their salaries come into their current account every month.
We know how much money they have in their deposit accounts. We
are usually happy to give them credit cards. With new customers it’s
a bit different. We don’t have any information about them. So, they
can apply for a credit card and we then check their credit rating with
a credit agency. If the credit agency gives them a good rating, we can
give them a credit card. At first, there is a low spending limit on the
card. They can only use the card up to a certain amount of money.
Later, we can increase that limit.

Peter: When they show that they are responsible customers?
Marwan: That’s right.

1. The bank doesn’t give credit cards to existing customers. (T / F)
2. The bank doesn’t have a lot of information about new customers. (T / F)
3. New customers can’t get credit cards. (T / F)
4. Customers with a good credit rating can have credit cards. (T / F)
5. The spending limit on a credit card can change. (T / F)
6. Good customers have a higher spending limit on their credit cards. (T / F)

Vocabulary 4 Put a cross (X) next to the word(s) that you can’t use with the word in bold.

1. ☐ currency ☐ deposit ☐ savings ☐ current account
2. ☐ cash ☐ ATM ☐ withdraw ☐ current machine
3. ☐ online ☐ telephone ☐ foreign exchange ☐ debit banking card
4. ☐ credit ☐ cash ☐ debit ☐ loan
Speaking 5 Where can you use your credit card? Where can’t you use it? Work in pairs and discuss. Give two or three examples using can / can’t + the present simple.
Example: I can pay for food with my credit card at the supermarket. I can’t use it at some restaurants.

Reading 6 Read this dialogue. Number the sentences in the correct order.
☐ Peter: Good morning, Mr Osman. How can I help you today?
☐ Mr Osman: OK, I understand. How long will it take to get my user ID and password?
☐ Mr Osman: I’m interested in online banking. I’m very busy, so it’s difficult to come into the bank all the time when I want to pay bills or check my balance.
☐ Peter: Only a few days. As soon as you get this information, you can log in and start banking online.
☐ Mr Osman: When do I need to use my user ID?
☐ Mr Osman: Can I check my balance at any time?
☐ Peter: I understand. Well, online banking is really easy and convenient. First, you need to register. You can do this online – just go to our website, click on ‘online banking’ and complete the form. We then send you a user ID and password. You can change the password at any time.
☐ Mr Osman: That’s great. Thanks for your help.
☐ Peter: You need to type in this number to log on to your account. Most people change their password to something they can remember easily. It’s important not to share your password with anyone – for security reasons.
☐ Peter: Yes, of course. You can check your balance, look at your account information, pay bills and do most of the other things you do now at the bank.
☐ Peter: You’re very welcome. Please let me know if you need any other assistance.

Listening 7 17 Listen and check your answers to 6.

8 Match 1–6 to a–f to make sentences about Mr Osman.
1 Mr Osman can’t go to the bank every day a) for online banking on the bank’s website.
2 When Mr Osman starts online banking, b) when he gets his user ID and password.
3 Mr Osman can register c) to something he can remember easily.
4 He can start online banking d) until he registers.
5 He can change his password e) because he is very busy.
6 He can’t start online banking f) he can check his balance and make payments online.
Customer service

Speaking 1 When you use a bank, what is more important to you: the people who deal with you or the services they offer? Work in pairs and discuss.

Reading 2 Read this memo. Which comments are about the people at the bank (P) and which are about the products and services (PS)? Mark each sentence 1–6 P or PS.

Customer power
Most banks offer similar products and services. So why do customers choose one bank rather than another? Read what the customers in our bank survey say:

1 'I look for lower service charges. I don't want to pay high charges to my bank.'
2 'I use my bank because the interest rates on their savings accounts are higher than those in other banks.'
3 'I don't like inefficient service. Bank transactions need to be easier and faster.'
4 'I choose my bank by how polite the cashiers are. The cashiers at my old bank were quite rude. I use another bank now and the cashiers are much more polite.'
5 'The location of the branch is important to me. There are too many banks in the centre of town. They need to have branches in more convenient locations.'
6 'I do my banking by telephone now. The employees I talk to are friendlier and more efficient and I like that.'

Language

Comparative adjectives
We use comparative adjectives to compare two people or things.

For short adjectives, we add -er (than).

Our interest rates are higher than yours.

For long adjectives, we use more (than).

These chairs are more comfortable than those.

Trainee cashiers are slower than experienced cashiers.

Banks that open on Saturdays are more convenient than those that don't.

Notice the spelling:
big → bigger (double the consonant)
friendly → friendlier (change y to i and add -er)

good → better (than)
bad → worse (than)
far → farther (than)

3 Read the memo from 2 again. Underline the comparative adjectives.

Writing 4 Use the information from this customer survey to write six sentences.
Example: The ATMs at UBCS are easier to use than those at Benhams Bank.

Does the bank have...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Does the bank have ...</th>
<th>UBCS</th>
<th>Benhams Bank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>easy to use ATMs?</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>efficient cashiers?</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>friendly employees?</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>low service charges?</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>high interest rates?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>branches in convenient places?</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>attractive products?</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Review**

**Listening**

1. Listen to this phone call. What does the customer want?
   1. advice on his current account  
   2. advice on investments  
   3. to sell some shares  
   4. to close his current account

2. Listen again. Are these statements true (T) or false (F)?
   1. Mr Allen is an existing customer. (T/F)
   2. Mr Allen wants to open a savings account. (T/F)
   3. Mr Allen knows a lot about investments. (T/F)
   4. The bank offers an investment advice service. (T/F)
   5. Mr Haddad arranges a meeting for next Thursday at three o’clock. (T/F)
   6. The meeting time is not convenient for Mr Allen. (T/F)

**Reading**

3. Mr Haddad sends a follow-up email to Mr Allen. Read the email then answer these questions.
   1. Why does Mr Haddad need to change the time of the meeting?
   2. What does Mr Haddad attach with the email?

![Email example]

To: James Allen <j.c.allen@mailto.com>
Subject: Investment advice service

Dear Mr Allen
Thank you for your phone call this morning. I am very pleased that you are interested in using our investment advice service and I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday. However, can I please change the time of our meeting to 3.30? I am very sorry, but I have another meeting at 2.30 and it may take a long time. If 3.30 is not convenient for you, please let me know.
We have an information sheet about the investment services that the bank offers. A copy of this is attached. I can answer any questions you have on Wednesday. Please come to the bank and ask for me at the customer service desk.
Yours sincerely
Fouad Haddad

**Writing**

4. Write Mr Allen’s reply to Mr Haddad. Follow these instructions:
   - Thank Mr Haddad for his email.
   - Tell him that 3.30 on Wednesday is convenient for you and that you look forward to seeing him at the bank.
   - Thank him for the information sheet.

5. Read these statements about online banking. Which are positive (P) and which are negative (N)?
   1. Online banking is more convenient. You can do it at any time and from any place. _____
   2. You need more PINs and passwords; it is more difficult to remember them all. _____
   3. It’s like having a bank open 24 hours a day. _____
   4. It is easier for computer hackers to break into your accounts and steal money and information. _____
   5. You can get more up-to-date information on your accounts. _____
   6. It is faster and easier to pay bills. _____

**Speaking**

6. Work in pairs. Talk to your partner about online banking. Discuss the positive and negative points in 5.
What are they doing?

Speaking 1 Study the picture. Then close your book. Work in pairs and make a list of what you saw.

Language

Present continuous

We can use the present continuous to talk about something that is happening now, at exactly this moment. We often use it with time words and phrases like now, right now, or at the moment.

We use the form am / is / are + -ing.

| I'm / am serving a customer at the moment. |
| He's / is buying some currency. |
| She isn't / is not talking on the phone right now. |

What are they doing?

A: Is he serving a customer?
B: Yes, he is. / No, he isn't.

2 Look at the picture again and match these questions to the correct answers.

1 Is H serving a customer? a) Yes, he is.
2 Is E talking on the phone? b) No, she isn’t.
3 Is A talking to a customer? c) No, he isn’t.

Speaking 3 What are the people in the bank doing? Work in pairs. Describe the picture using the present continuous form of the words in the box.

Example: People H and I are waiting in line behind person G.

buy fill in sell serve take out

talk on the phone talk to wait
Look at these pictures. Write sentences for pictures a and b using the prompts.

1 Georg (serve customers bank / watch a football match)
   Example: a) Every day Georg serves customers in a bank.
   b) Right now he is watching a football match.

2 Marta (go to work by car / by bus)
   a) ___________________________
   b) ___________________________

3 Sophie (work in a bank / play tennis)
   a) ___________________________
   b) ___________________________

4 Paulo (wear a suit / wear shorts and T-shirt)
   a) ___________________________
   b) ___________________________

5 Lola (work on a computer / play the piano)
   a) ___________________________
   b) ___________________________

5 Write each expression in the box under the correct heading: present simple or present continuous.

   at the moment  every day  every month  every year
   most days  now  often  right now  today  usually
How can I help you?

Listening

1 Which of these transactions do you do at your bank?
   a) transfer money from one account to another
   b) pay bills
   c) cash cheques
   d) withdraw money from an account
   e) deposit money into an account
   f) buy foreign currency

2 Listen and match each dialogue 1–5 to one of the transactions in 1.
   1 ________  2 ________  3 ________  4 ________  5 ________

3 Listen again and complete dialogues 1–3.

1 Cashier: Good morning. How can I help you?
   Customer: Good morning. I (1) ________ like to transfer some money from my current account to my savings account, please.
   Cashier: Certainly, sir. How much money (2) ________ you like to transfer?
   Customer: $500.
   Cashier: Right. (3) ________ I have your name and your account numbers, please?

2 Customer: Hi, good morning. I’d (4) ________ to pay these cheques into my current account, please.
   Cashier: Certainly, madam. (5) ________ you complete this paying in slip, please?
   Customer: Oh, right. Is this OK?
   Cashier: Yes, that’s fine. (6) ________ you please sign it here?
   Customer: OK. Here you are.
   Cashier: Thank you.

3 Cashier: Good afternoon.
   Customer: Good afternoon. I (7) ________ like to cash this cheque, please.
   Cashier: OK. How do you (8) ________ the money?
   Customer: In tens and twenties, please.

Language

Polite language
We use Can / Could you + infinitive without to when we ask somebody to do something for us.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Could you ...? Is more formal and polite than Can you ...?</th>
<th>Can you fill in this form, please? (less polite)</th>
<th>Could you fill in this form, please? (more polite)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

We use would like + to-infinitive to say that we want to do something.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would like is a polite way of saying ‘I want’. The short form is ‘d like.</th>
<th>I want to transfer some money. (less polite)</th>
<th>I would (d) like to transfer some money. (more polite)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

We use can or may when we ask for permission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Many people think that may is more polite than can.</th>
<th>Can I have your name, please? (less polite)</th>
<th>May I have your name, please? (more polite)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can I sit here, please? (less polite)</td>
<td>May I sit here, please? (more polite)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4 In which dialogue in 3 is the cashier less polite?
Match the cashier’s questions 1–6 to the customer’s replies a–f.

1. Could I have your name, please?
2. How can I help you?
3. Would you like to speak to the manager?
4. May I ask how much you would like to withdraw?
5. Would you like that in pounds or euros?
6. Could you fill in this form, please?

a) Of course. Do you have a pen?
b) Yes, please. Is she available?
c) Certainly. It’s Blanka Novakova.
d) I’d like to open an account, please.
e) 500 euros, please.
f) In pounds, please.

Writing

Rewrite these sentences to make them more polite.

1. Who do you want to speak to?
2. Do you want to withdraw some money?
3. I want to cash a cheque.
4. Can I have 500 euros, please?
5. What currency do you want?
6. How much do you want of each currency?
7. What’s your account number, please?
8. What’s your name?

Listening

Listen and underline the stressed words in each sentence 1–5.

Then listen again and repeat the sentences.

1. Would you like that in dollars or in pounds?
2. I’d like to open an account, please.
3. May I have your name and account number, please?
4. Could you fill in this form, please?
5. I’d like to transfer some money, please.

Speaking

Work in pairs. Listen and then roleplay the dialogue. Take turns to be the customer and the cashier.

Cashier: Good morning. How can I help you?
Customer: Good morning. I’d like to cash a cheque, please.
Cashier: Certainly. How would you like the money?
Customer: In tens and twenties, please.
Cashier: OK, here you are.
Customer: Thank you very much.

Work in pairs. Roleplay the dialogue from 8 again, but change the words in red. Use these ideas to help you.

Customer | Cashier
---|---
buy some euros | How many...?
transfer some money | your name and account numbers? How much?
pay a bill | How much...? Who would you like to pay?
deposit these cheques | paying in slip

A: Good afternoon. I’d like to buy some euros, please.
B: Certainly. How many euros would you like?
A: I’d like 300 euros, please.
## Foreign currency

**Speaking 1** Work in pairs and discuss these questions.
- Do you go abroad on holiday or on business? Which countries do you usually visit?
- How many foreign currencies can you name?

**Listening 2** Listen to Sam Peterson talk about a business trip. Tick ✓ the countries he mentions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Currency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the United Kingdom (UK)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the United Arab Emirates (UAE)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the United States of America (USA)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 Listen again. Write the currencies Sam mentions in the correct place in the table. Why doesn’t he need any dollars?

4 Complete the table with the currencies for the countries Sam doesn’t mention. Then add your own country and currency to the table. Can you add two more countries and their currencies?

**Speaking 5** Work in pairs. Take turns to quiz your partner about countries and currencies. Example: What’s the currency in China? Which country uses the yen?

**Listening 6** Sam goes to the foreign exchange counter at his bank to buy the currency he needs. Listen. What is the problem?

7 Listen again and answer these questions.
1. Which of the currencies does the bank have already?
2. Which of the currencies does the bank not hold?
3. What does the cashier offer to do?
4. When does Sam leave on his trip?
5. When can he collect his currency?
GET A BETTER DEAL

Most of us don’t plan ahead when we go abroad. Of course it’s possible to change your money at the airport before or after you fly, but airport exchange counters often charge more expensive rates. However, going to the bank won’t always get you a better deal.

Some companies charge commission for doing foreign exchange transactions.
In the UK, this is usually between £1.50 and £3.00. Commission usually comes in two forms:
1 A minimum charge
This can make it very expensive to change small amounts of money.
2 A flat fee
   This is good if you change larger amounts of money:
   the fee is the same no matter how much you are changing.

Beware of ‘commission free’ offers. These don’t always provide better value for money. The currency seller usually makes up for the loss of commission with a higher exchange rate. Also look at the buy-back rate. Some companies offer to buy back any currency you have left for free. This means you don’t pay a commission twice.

So how can you know which is the best deal? The answer is to ask how much of the currency you will get, after all charges, in exchange for your money. Find the company that will give you the most and you are ready to go.

9 Read the article in 8 again. Are these statements true (T) or false (F)?
   1 Foreign exchange counters at airports are usually more expensive than at banks. (T / F)
   2 A flat fee means that you can’t change a small amount of money. (T / F)
   3 Companies that offer ‘commission free’ usually have higher exchange rates. (T / F)
   4 The text advises travellers to always look for a ‘commission free’ offer. (T / F)

Vocabulary

10 Find the words / phrases in the box in the text in 8. Underline them. Then match them to the definitions 1–4.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>buy-back rate</th>
<th>commission</th>
<th>exchange rate</th>
<th>minimum charge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
1 A charge for doing a foreign exchange transaction: _______________
2 An amount of money you pay to change money. The bank may charge more than this amount but you can’t pay less than it: _______________
3 The rate at which a company will buy back any currency from you: _______________
4 The rate at which a company will buy or sell currency: _______________
Asking questions

Language

**Wh- question words**

*Wh- questions begin with a question word (e.g. when, where, why, how).*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When can she collect the money?</th>
<th>What is the current interest rate?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What is UBCS bank?</td>
<td>Where is UBCS bank?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why does she want euros?</td>
<td>Who is she speaking to?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which customer is she speaking to?</td>
<td>Which country does she like best?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How does she want the money?</td>
<td>How many euros does she want?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How much money does she want?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>We use when to talk about time.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We use what when we want to know about something (not a person).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We use where to ask about places.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We use why to ask about the reason for something.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We use who when we want to know about a person or some people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use which instead of who (for people) or instead of what (for things) when there is a limited set of possibilities to choose from.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We use how to ask about the way to do something.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We use how much / how many to ask about quantity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Complete these questions with the correct question words.

1. _______ can I help you?
2. _______ can I speak to about a loan?
3. _______ can I start online banking?
4. _______ is the minimum charge for changing money?
5. _______ is the bank’s head office?
6. _______ dollars would you like?

2 Match your answers 1–6 from 1 to these sentences a–f.

a) _______ It’s in Frankfurt.
b) _______ You can speak to the manager. Let me find out if he’s free.
c) _______ As soon as you receive your user ID and password.
d) _______ I’d like to open a current account, please.
e) _______ Five hundred. In twenties, please.
f) _______ It’s 2.50.

Countable and uncountable nouns

*Countable nouns can be singular or plural.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a dollar → one dollar</th>
<th>How many dollars would you like?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>an appointment → ten appointments</td>
<td>I have an important appointment this week.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Uncountable nouns are usually singular. We cannot count them and we do not usually use numbers or a / an with them (e.g. information, money, water, news, advice).*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>We use some with plural countable nouns.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We use some with uncountable nouns in affirmative sentences.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>We’ve got some bills to pay.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>She would like some water to drink.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 Choose whether the nouns in italics are countable (C) or uncountable (U).

1. Could you give me some advice on buying shares, please? ______ C _______
2. How much commission do you charge for foreign exchange transactions? ______ U ______
3. Does the bank pay interest on this account? ______ C ______
4. I enjoy my job, but the work is sometimes difficult. ______ U ______
Review

**Vocabulary**

1. Complete each sentence with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

   1. We usually ________ (charge) customers £50 for this service, but today we ________ (offer) it for £35.
   2. Dalia ________ (serve) a customer right now.
   3. At the moment we ________ (offer) a special interest rate.
   4. Most days I ________ (walk) to work, but I ________ (go) by bus today because it ________ (rain).
   5. Robert is in the kitchen. He ________ (make) a cup of coffee.
   6. Mr Jensen usually ________ (wear) a suit to work.

2. Complete this dialogue with a suitable word or phrase in the box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>any</th>
<th>can</th>
<th>could</th>
<th>could you</th>
<th>how much</th>
<th>I'd like</th>
<th>some</th>
<th>would you like</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Cashier: Good morning. (1) ________ I help you?
Customer: Yes, (2) ________ to deposit this cheque into my current account.
Cashier: OK. Do you have your paying in slip?
Customer: Yes, here you are.
Cashier: Thank you. (3) ________ you just sign it here, please?
Customer: Sure. Here you are.
Cashier: OK, that’s all done for you. Can I help you with anything else today?
Customer: Yes, I’d like (4) ________ American dollars, please.
Cashier: And (5) ________ dollars would you like?
Customer: One hundred and fifty pounds’ worth, please.
Cashier: OK, that comes to $240. (6) ________ would you like the money?
Customer: In tens and twenties, please.
Cashier: I’m sorry, but I don’t have (7) ________ tens. I can do it all in twenties.
Customer: That’s fine.
Cashier: Right, here you are.
Customer: Thank you. Oh, and (8) ________ give me some information about insurance? (9) ________ do you charge for travel insurance?
Cashier: My colleague, Peter, will be able to help you with insurance queries. (10) ________ to take a seat over there? He’s serving another customer at the moment, but I can ask him to come over and give you all the information you need.
Customer: OK, great. Thanks.
Cashier: You’re welcome.

**Listening**

3. Listen to the dialogue and check your answers.

**Speaking**

4. Work in pairs. Student A look at the information on this page. Student B look at the information on page 68.

**Student A**

You are a cashier.
A customer comes into your bank to buy some foreign currency.
You don’t have any yen, but you can order some by next Wednesday.
Your colleague Leila Farzi deals with travel insurance. She is serving another customer at the moment.

Begin like this:
Good morning. How can I help you?
Investing money

Speaking 1 Look at these photographs. They show different ways of investing. Do you invest in any of these things? What other types of investments do you know? Work in pairs and discuss.

Reading 2 Read this text. Underline four things that people buy as investments.

INVESTING YOUR MONEY

*Investment* means using money to buy something (an asset) with the aim of making a profit by selling that asset at a higher price some time in the future. There are many different types of investments. Some people put their money in art, stamps, or collectibles. Other people invest in shares and become part owners of a company. Not only can they make a profit by selling those shares at a higher price than they paid for them, but they can receive a dividend — a share of the profits which the company gives to its shareholders every year. People often ask about the difference between savings and *investments*. Sometimes the two terms appear interchangeable, but there is a big difference. Quite simply, investment involves some kind of capital risk. There is no guarantee that you will make a profit. In fact, the price of your assets may fall and you may not even get back your capital, the money you put in. Some banks call their savings accounts ‘investment accounts’, but this is misleading. The only risk of savings accounts is that inflation will reduce the value of the money you put in them. There is no risk of losing your capital.

3 Read the text in 2 again. Are these statements true (T) or false (F)?

1. There is no difference between savings and investments. (T / F)
2. Buying art and buying shares are both types of investments. (T / F)
3. Investments involve more risk than savings. (T / F)
4. There are two ways in which shareholders can make money from their shares. (T / F)
5. Savings accounts involve no risk at all. (T / F)
4 Find and underline the words in the box in the text in 2. Match them to these definitions 1–7.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>asset</th>
<th>capital</th>
<th>collectibles</th>
<th>dividend</th>
<th>guarantee</th>
<th>profit</th>
<th>risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1 certainty that something will happen: 
2 the possibility that you will make a loss: 
3 the money you pay for an asset or put into a savings account: 
4 the money you make when you sell something for a higher price than you paid for it: 
5 a valuable item that can be sold for cash: 
6 things that have value because many people are interested in owning them: 
7 a share in the profits of a company, which is paid to the shareholders: 

Listening 5 Listen to a financial adviser. Which types of investment in the box does he mention?

| art | bonds | gold | mutual funds | property | shares |

6 Listen again. Match investments A, B and C to what the financial adviser says about them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A shares</th>
<th>B bonds</th>
<th>C mutual funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1 There isn’t a predictable rate of return. 
2 There is little risk, but the returns are quite low. 
3 You put your money together with money from other investors. 
4 There is no guarantee you can make a profit. 
5 You get your capital back on a certain date in the future. 
6 Your earnings change from day to day. 

Vocabulary 7 Complete these sentences with the words and expressions in the box.

| capital | dividend | fixed | guarantee | open-end | predictable rate of return | risk |

1 The interest rate is at 2.5% for five years, which is quite low, so I am looking for an investment with a better .
2 No type of investment comes with a that you will make a profit. Sometimes you may make a loss.
3 New investors can join at any time because it is an fund.
4 This investment doesn’t have a fixed interest rate so the amount you earn is not .
5 He sold his art collection and made a of $15,000.
6 With any investment, there is always a that you won’t get back the money you put in.
7 On the date when a bond matures, the company or government pays back your .
8 The company is doing well, so shareholders will get a good this year.

There are only two guarantees in life: death and taxes!
Spreading the risk

Reading 1 Read this saying. What does it mean and how do you think it relates to investment?
*Don’t put all your eggs into one basket!*

Reading 2 Read this article about investment portfolios from an investment website. What is the main aim of a portfolio?

**INVESTMENT PORTFOLIOS**

*A portfolio* is a combination of different types of investments. It can include bank accounts, bonds, property, shares, mutual funds or any other type of investment. Investors use portfolios to minimise risk. They may lose money in one area, but can make a profit in another. Spreading risk by including many different types of investment in a portfolio is called diversification.

Many financial institutions, such as banks, offer a portfolio management service. Portfolio managers decide what assets to include in the portfolio – what to buy, how many to buy, when to buy and what to sell. Their decisions depend on the goals of the portfolio owner and the changing economic conditions. Each investor has his or her own financial needs, so no two portfolios are the same. The main goal of any portfolio is to put the investor’s money in different places. This improves the chances of making a profit.

Reading 3 Read the article again. Complete these sentences with the words in the box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>assets</th>
<th>chances</th>
<th>financial</th>
<th>goals</th>
<th>management</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>risk</td>
<td>spreading</td>
<td>types</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. A portfolio combines different ________ of investments.
2. The aim of a portfolio is to minimise ________.
3. A bank may offer a portfolio ________ service to its customers.
4. Diversification is a way of ________ risk.
5. Portfolio managers choose ________ to include in the portfolio.
6. The ________ of the customer affect the decisions that the portfolio manager makes.
7. Investors all have different ________ needs.
8. The ________ of making a profit are improved if the investor’s portfolio is diversified.

Reading 4 Are these statements true (T) or false (F) according to the article in 2?

1. A portfolio increases an investor’s chances of making a profit. (T / F)
2. Portfolios only include limited types of investments. (T / F)
3. All the investments in a portfolio are likely to make the same amount of profit. (T / F)
4. Portfolio managers look at economic conditions when they make decisions about what assets to put in a portfolio. (T / F)
5. Most portfolios are very similar. (T / F)
6. Most investors have the same financial needs. (T / F)
Read and listen to what these people say about their financial needs. Match the people 1–3 to a suitable portfolio.

1. Paul
   I'm single. I have a good, well-paid job and I have a lot of money to invest. I'm interested in a high return on my money and I want to see my investments grow quickly.

2. Gemma
   I'm married with two children. I'm a teacher. I want to invest some of my money so I can pay for my children to go to university. They are still young, so I have plenty of time. Going to university is very expensive, but I worry about high-risk investments.

3. Ellie and Frank
   We are retired. We have some savings and would like some investments that will give us money for extras like holidays and presents for our grandchildren. We don't want to invest in shares because we worry that we may lose our capital if the share price falls.

Portfolio A
This portfolio is well diversified with a mixture of low and high-risk investments. The portfolio manager has bought shares in some good companies and he thinks these will increase in value gradually. There is, of course, no guarantee that the higher-risk investments in the portfolio will make a profit, but he believes they will increase over a ten-year period.

Portfolio B
This portfolio includes shares in several companies that produce new technology. If the companies do well, the rate of return will be very high. However, these investments are quite risky. Technology develops quickly, so the portfolio manager will soon see if she has made the right decision.

Portfolio C
This portfolio includes investments in a savings account that pays a good rate of interest. It also includes some government bonds. The portfolio manager put it together for investors who prefer a low-risk strategy, but need a steady income from their investments.

Speaking
6. How would you diversify a $100,000 investment? Write a sample portfolio.
7. Work in small groups and discuss your portfolio. Who has the best portfolio? Whose portfolio is the most diversified?
The stock market

Reading 1 What can you see in this photo? Where do you think this is and what do you think is happening?

Reading 2 Read this text. What is the difference between a stock exchange and a stock market index?

Stock markets

Every country has its own stock market, where people can buy and sell shares and other securities. A stock exchange is a building where this trading takes place. Some of these are very old – the London Stock Exchange started in the 17th century. However, a lot of share trading today is done by computer. This is much faster and cheaper.

Companies raise capital by selling their shares to investors on the stock market. They use the money to run their day-to-day business and to expand. Investors buy shares to make money. They hope to make a profit when the share price goes up. They also get money from dividends.

A stock market index is a way of measuring a section of a stock market. It is a list of some of the shares traded in the stock market. It shows the price of these shares at the end of each trading day and the number of shares bought and sold. Investors can look at the stock market indices in the newspaper. They can see how well or how badly their shares are doing.

index (singular) – indices (plural)

3 Match the stock market indices to the correct stock exchanges. Then add your country’s stock exchange and index to the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ATX</th>
<th>DAX</th>
<th>Dow Jones</th>
<th>FTSE 100</th>
<th>Nikkei</th>
<th>Hang Seng</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stock exchanges</th>
<th>Index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 New York</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Frankfurt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 London</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Tokyo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Hong Kong</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Vienna</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Arrangements and appointments

Speaking 1 Work in pairs and discuss. Do you have a lot of appointments? How do you keep a record of your appointments (e.g. in a diary, on your computer, on your phone)?

Reading 2 Read about Mark Hunter’s appointments. Are these statements true (T) or false (F)?

Mark Hunter is an investment banker at UBCS International. He’s looking at his diary and checking his appointments for next week. At 10 am on Monday, he’s interviewing a new personal assistant. He is flying to Brussels at 2 pm on Tuesday afternoon. He is coming back on Wednesday evening at 5 pm. On Thursday morning at 8 am, he’s having breakfast with some colleagues. And on Friday at 11 am, he’s meeting an important customer, Saleh Aoun, to discuss new investments for his portfolio.

1 Mark is interviewing a new personal assistant on Monday at 10 am. (T / F)
2 At 8 am on Thursday, Mark is having breakfast with colleagues. (T / F)
3 On Friday, Mark is meeting important customers for breakfast. (T / F)

Language

Present continuous
We can use the present continuous to talk about future plans or arrangements.

We use the form be + verb + -ing.

A: What are you doing next week?
B: On Monday, I’m interviewing a new personal assistant.

A: Are you flying to Brussels this afternoon?
B: Yes, I am. / No, I’m not.

Next week, I’m travelling to Seoul on business.

We’re meeting at 11.45 tomorrow to discuss a portfolio.

3 Complete Mark’s diary for next week with the information in 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday May 2</th>
<th>Tuesday May 3</th>
<th>Wednesday May 4</th>
<th>Thursday May 5</th>
<th>Friday May 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11am</td>
<td>lunch Barbara and Vikram</td>
<td>meeting Sasha Dubois at ING</td>
<td></td>
<td>lunch Georg Bergmann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>meeting Tony Price at Sony</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>tennis Peter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4pm</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4 Look at Mark’s diary again and answer these questions.
1 What is he doing at 12 pm on Monday?
2 What is he doing at 4 pm on Tuesday?
3 Who is he meeting at 11 am on Wednesday?
4 Who is he playing tennis with on Thursday?
5 When is he having lunch with Georg Bergmann?
Prepositions of time

We use **on** with days and dates.

I’m meeting him **on** Tuesday / on 24 June / on Friday evening.

We use **in** with parts of the day and longer periods of time.

I’m meeting him **in** September / in the summer / in the morning.

We use **at** with clock times. We also say: **at night**, **at the weekend**, **at Easter**, **at the moment**.

I’m meeting him **at** five o’clock / at night / at the weekend.

We do not use **on**, **in** or **at** when we use **next**, **last**, **every**, **this**, **yesterday**, or **tomorrow**.

I’m meeting him **next** week / month / year.

**Listening 5**

Complete this conversation with **at**, **on**, **in**, or **next**. Then listen and check your answers.

Ben: Hi, Sue. How are you?
Sue: Great, thanks.
Ben: You’re going on vacation soon, aren’t you?
Sue: Yes. I’m going to Spain (1) **next** week.
Ben: Lucky you! When are you flying?
Sue: I’m flying (2) **on** Wednesday.
Ben: (3) **in** the morning or (4) **on** the afternoon?
Sue: (5) **at** five o’clock in the morning.
Ben: That’s early! Are you driving to the airport?
Sue: No, I’m taking a taxi. It’s coming to pick me up (6) **at** three o’clock!
Ben: And what time are you arriving in Spain?
Sue: (7) **at** lunchtime. Paolo and Pilar are meeting me at the airport and taking me to their house.
Ben: Is Jim going with you?
Sue: Yes, but he’s meeting an important customer (8) **on** Thursday so he can’t fly with me (9) **at** Wednesday. He’s joining me (10) **next** the weekend. What about you? Are you taking a vacation this summer?
Ben: I don’t know yet. Maybe (11) **next** month.

**Writing 6**

Write your own diary for next week. Make sure you have at least six appointments. Choose from these appointments or use your own ideas.

- meeting with the bank manager
- lunch with Don Walton
- breakfast with Sharon and Paul
- interview new receptionist
- give seminar for new trainees
- tennis with Steven
- meeting with IT services manager
- fly to Paris
- visit to HSBC

**Speaking 7**

Work in pairs. Take turns to ask each other about your appointments for next week.

A: What are you doing on Tuesday?
B: At ten o’clock I’m interviewing a new receptionist. Then I’m having lunch with an important customer at 12.30.
Review

Listening 1 Listen to two investment managers at UBCS and answer these questions.
1. What does Sarah want to talk to Robert about?
2. What day and time does Robert suggest for the meeting?
3. Why is this not a good time for Sarah?
4. What day and time do they agree on?

Reading 2 Read Sarah’s email to Robert. Find and correct four mistakes.

To: Robert Daniels
Subject: Our meeting
From: Sarah Morgan

Dear Robert
This is to confirm that we are meeting at Thursday 16 June in three o’clock. The meeting is in Room 42 on the sixth floor. My boss joins us on 3.30 because she has some good ideas for diversifying the LDC portfolio. I’m looking forward to seeing you then.
All best wishes
Sarah

3 Read this dialogue. Why do Robert and Sarah arrange another meeting next week?

Robert: LDC’s portfolio is quite well diversified. They’ve got a lot of shares, but not many bonds.
Sarah: Right. I think perhaps they have too many shares. That’s a lot of risk and we can’t guarantee them a good return. Bonds are safer, but of course the rate of return is lower. How about offering them more investments in property?
Robert: That’s a good idea. Let’s ask Charles Simmons for some advice. He specialises in property. In fact, I’m seeing him at the weekend. We’re playing golf on Sunday. I can ask him then.
Sarah: Good idea. I’m meeting John Gilmore from LDC on the 25th of June. I can make some suggestions for new investments then.
Robert: OK, let’s meet early next week and I can tell you what Charles suggests. Is Monday afternoon any good for you?
Sarah: No, I’m sorry. I’m giving a seminar for the new trainees at two o’clock. And I’m having dinner with Julian and Steve that evening. How about Tuesday morning?
Robert: I’m free at 11 o’clock.
Sarah: Fine. Let’s make it Tuesday at 11 o’clock then.

Writing 4 Write sentences using the prompts.

Example: Robert is seeing Charles Simmons at the weekend.
1. Robert / see / Charles Simmons / weekend
2. Robert / play golf / Charles / Sunday
3. Sarah / meet John Gilmore / 25th June
4. Sarah / give seminar / new trainees / Monday two o’clock
5. Sarah / have dinner / Julian and Steve / Monday evening
6. Sarah and Robert / have a meeting / next Tuesday 11 o’clock
A career in accountancy

Who needs accountants?

Speaking 1 Work in pairs and discuss this statement. What do you think it means? Do you think it is true?
Accountancy doesn’t just belong to accountants.

Reading 2 Read this text. What kind of text is it?
- an article about accountancy from an economic journal
- an advert for a job as an accountant
- an advert for an organisation that offers accountancy qualifications
- part of an information sheet for companies looking for accountants

IAFP – Your passport to the future

All organisations around the world, large or small, need someone who can understand and manage their finances. So a career as an accountant will give you excellent job prospects. With the right qualifications, you can work in many different countries. Qualified accountants are always in demand from Australia to Azerbaijan. The question is not Where can I go? but Where do I want to go?

Whatever your career goals, you need to think seriously about a professional accountancy qualification. There are many to choose from – and the choice you make now will affect your career options in the future. A good qualification is your passport to a variety of career opportunities.

We offer first-class qualifications to ambitious, capable and hardworking people who are looking for a rewarding career in accountancy, finance and management. Our qualifications are respected worldwide by employers, governments and the accountancy profession itself.

3 Read the text in 2 again. Which of these statements about accountancy are mentioned? Tick (✓) or cross (✗).
1. [ ] Qualified accountants can work abroad.
2. [ ] Accountancy is a very old profession and the earliest financial records date back 7,000 years.
3. [ ] There are always job vacancies for accountants.
4. [ ] All businesses need accountants to understand and manage their finances.
5. [ ] A job in accountancy gives you lots of choices about what to do and where to go in your career.
6. [ ] You need a proper qualification to get all the advantages of a career in accountancy.
7. [ ] Accountants usually earn a lot of money.
8. [ ] There are many different accountancy qualifications that people can get.
Choose the best explanation a–c for each statement 1–3.

1. Qualified accountants are always in demand from Australia to Azerbaijan.

   a) There are jobs for accountants in all the countries of the world.
   b) Lots of accountants leave Australia to go and work in Azerbaijan.
   c) There are plenty of accountants in Australia and Azerbaijan.

2. The choice you make now will affect your career options in the future.

   a) You need to decide now exactly what job you want to have in the future.
   b) You will have more choice of jobs in the future if you choose the right qualification now.
   c) It is not possible to become an accountant if you have a different job now.

3. A good qualification is your passport to a variety of career opportunities.

   a) Accountants don't need passports to travel to different countries.
   b) If you have a passport, you can easily get work as an accountant.
   c) A qualification in accountancy will give you lots of choices in your career.

Vocabulary 5 Find the words in the box in the text in 2. Underline the words in the text and then use them to complete these sentences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ambitious</th>
<th>capable</th>
<th>career options</th>
<th>goals</th>
<th>rewarding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>in demand</td>
<td>job prospects</td>
<td>respected</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Derek is only 20, but he's very ________ . In five years' time he wants to be the boss of his own company.

2. The more qualifications you have, the more ________ you will have because you will be able to choose from a variety of different jobs and professions.

3. This company offers excellent ________ . We will promote you quickly and your salary will increase rapidly.

4. Sometimes the most ________ jobs are not those with the highest salaries. Low-paid jobs that help other people are often very satisfying.

5. It is important to have ________ . Decide where you want to be in five years' time and how much you want to earn, then work hard to achieve these things.

6. Janice works hard and does her work quickly and well. As a result she's always ________ and it's hard for her to find time for a holiday!

7. Emilia is very ________ . You can give her a task and ten minutes later it's done.

8. There are lots of qualifications you can take. The most ________ ones are those offered by well-known professional organisations.

Speaking 6 Work in small groups. Discuss these questions.

- What do you find rewarding about your career / studies?
- Do you know someone who is ambitious?
- Do you know someone who is capable?
- What are your goals?
What do accountants do?

Speaking
1 Which of these things do you think accountants do?
   a) Provide a record of a company’s assets, debts and investments.
   b) Produce reports showing the financial position, cash flow and profitability of an organisation.
   c) Help the management of a company run their business efficiently.
   d) Help investors decide if shares in a company will be a good investment.

Listening
2 Bob and Callum meet at the gym. Listen to the dialogue. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?
   1 Callum is going to be an accountant. (T / F)
   2 Bob thinks accountancy is boring. (T / F)
   3 Callum is going to get his accountancy qualification in October. (T / F)
   4 Callum is going to work abroad. (T / F)
   5 Callum is going to get married. (T / F)
   6 Bob isn’t working at the moment. (T / F)

Language

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>be going to and will</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We use be going to for things we have already decided to do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He’s going to get married next year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I’m going to apply for an accountancy course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are you going to go to the meeting tomorrow?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We use will for decisions about the future made at the moment of speaking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I’ll give you some information about accountancy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A: What would you like to drink?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B: I’ll have a coffee, please.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 Complete these sentences and dialogues with be going to or will.
   1 I ________ get married in September.
   2 A: It’s very cold here in here!
   B: Oh, sorry, I ________ shut the window.
   3 A: I’m afraid Mr Jones is on the phone at the moment.
   B: That’s OK. I ________ wait.
   4 I’m sorry, I can’t hear you. I ________ just turn off the TV.
   5 A: Who ________ book the meeting room?
   B: I ________
   6 Sadie says she ________ buy some shares in UBCS.
   7 A: Do you have your book on accountancy with you?
   B: No, I’m sorry. I ________ bring it to work tomorrow.
   8 We ________ work abroad for the next three years.

Listening
4 Complete these sentences with the words in the box. Check your answers in the audio script on pages 75–76.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>communication figures financial information options qualification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Isn’t it a bit boring – all facts and ________?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 It’s not just about numbers, it’s about ________ .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Accountants communicate ________ information about a business to all the people who need to know.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 I’m going to get my ________ in September and then I will have lots of ________ .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 I’ll give you some ________ about the course I’m on.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accountancy course 1

INTRODUCTION

Accountants produce financial statements. A financial statement is a written report with information about the financial activities of a company. It includes a balance sheet and a profit and loss statement.

- A balance sheet lists the company’s assets (the things it owns), its liabilities (the things it owes) and its capital (money invested in the company).
- A profit and loss statement shows the company’s income, expenses and profits or losses.

Accountants produce financial statements quarterly (every three months) or annually (every year) to show the financial position of a company and its performance over a period of time. This period of time is called the reporting period.

There are many different people who need this information. They could be shareholders, the directors of the company, government departments, employees, suppliers or customers. Investors can also look at this information and decide whether or not to buy shares in the company.

Vocabulary 6

Find a word or phrase from the information sheet in 5 with a similar meaning to 1–6.

1 things a company owns, such as machines and buildings
2 things a company owes, such as debts and taxes
3 a record of a company’s assets, liabilities and capital
4 money left from a company’s income once expenses have been paid
5 people who sell goods and services to a company
6 money a company receives from the sale of goods or services

7 Match the opposites 1–7 and a–g. Then use some of these words to complete the memo.

1 profit a) customers
2 owns b) spoken
3 income c) management
4 written d) liabilities
5 suppliers e) expenses
6 assets f) loss
7 employees g) owes

Costmore Electronics is having a very bad year, so it won’t make a 1_________.
In fact, its expenses are much higher than its 2_________, so it will make a loss. The balance sheet shows that it now 3_________ over $3 million to the bank. The employees are very unhappy.
They blame the 4_________ and they are thinking about a strike.
The 5_________ aren’t happy either because the quality of Costmore’s products is not very good.
Costmore blames its 6_________. It says their materials are poor quality.
Costmore is going to sell some of its 7_________ to raise some money.
It 8_________ a building in the centre of Leeds. It can sell this building for around $2 million.
Jobs in accountancy

JOBS in Accountancy

1. Are you good at keeping records?
2. Do you like working with figures?
3. Do you enjoy checking details?
4. Do you keep your paperwork in order?

If you've answered Yes to each question, then a job in accountancy could be right for you!

Reading

1. Read part of a questionnaire. Tick (√) your answers.
2. Match the accountancy jobs in the box with the descriptions 1–5.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>external auditor</th>
<th>bookkeeper</th>
<th>financial controller</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>budget analyst</td>
<td>tax adviser</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. This person keeps a record of the financial transactions of a company. They enter the transactions into ledgers (one for the sale of goods and services and one for the purchase of goods and services).
2. This person develops and manages a company's financial plans. They set a budget and keep control of the company's expenses.
3. This person checks the financial statements prepared by a company's accountants. They are not an employee of the company.
4. This person manages the day-to-day financial activities of a company. They monitor the performance of each department, check and analyse the accounts, manage the cash flow and report to management on the state of the company's finances.
5. This person specialises in tax regulations. They prepare corporate and personal income tax returns. They also advise clients on how to reduce the amount of money they pay in taxes.

Listening

3. Listen and check your answers. What other accountancy jobs do you know? Would you like to do any of these jobs?

Vocabulary

4. The verb in italics can be used with all the noun phrases on the right. Underline the noun phrases the verb is used with in 2.

1. check the financial statements the accounts the details
2. set a target goals a budget
3. monitor the performance of something the cash flow a budget
4. prepare tax returns accounts written reports
5. keep a record track of something control of expenses
6. manage financial activities financial plans the cash flow
7. analyse accounts figures performance
Complete these sentences with suitable words or phrases from 4.
1. I keep a ______ of all the company’s income and expenses.
2. Saleem prepares his clients’ ______ and tells them how much money to pay the government.
3. Could you ______ these calculations for me, please? I don’t think they are correct.
4. The company is monitoring the ______ of all its factories. Those that make a loss will be shut down.
5. I manage my company’s ______ – the movement of money into and out of the company.
6. We are going to ______ a budget for this year. All new equipment must come within the budget.
7. The boss won’t be satisfied if we just tell her our analysis of the figures. She expects us to prepare a ______.

Listening  6  Match questions 1–6 with answers a–f. Then listen and check your answers.

1. Do you set a budget for your spending? ______
2. Are you good at keeping within your budget? ______
3. How do you keep track of your spending? ______
4. Do you prepare your own tax returns? ______
5. Do you monitor the stock market? ______
6. Do you check your bank statements? ______

a) Yes, I do. I also check my credit card statements very carefully.

b) No, I don’t. I employ an accountant to do that.

c) Yes, I do. I decide each month how much I can spend on entertainment – eating out, going to the cinema, that sort of thing.

d) Yes, I do. I have a portfolio of shares, so I monitor their performance. Some of my shares are in companies in developing countries. These investments are quite risky, so I also monitor the political situation in these countries carefully.

e) Well, I try to keep within my budget, but sometimes if there is something special, like a dinner that I really want to go to, I spend a bit more than I planned.

f) I put all my receipts in my desk drawer and at the end of the month, I enter the amounts in a spreadsheet on my computer. I enter the information under general headings, like travel, food, entertainment, clothes, etc. Then I can see how much I spend each month on these things.

Writing  7  Write your own answers to the questions in 6.

Speaking  8  Work in pairs. Discuss the answers you wrote in 7.
What makes a good accountant?

**Language**

1. Look at the adjectives in the box. Which do we use to describe people? Which do we use to describe jobs? Which can we use for both?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ambitious</th>
<th>capable</th>
<th>efficient</th>
<th>hardworking</th>
<th>meticulous</th>
<th>organised</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>patient</td>
<td>reliable</td>
<td>responsible</td>
<td>satisfying</td>
<td>stressful</td>
<td>well-informed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Complete these sentences with some of the adjectives from the box in 1.

1. Someone who works hard is ________.
2. Someone who pays great attention to detail is ________.
3. Someone who knows the latest information is ________.
4. Someone you can trust to do a job well and on time is ________.
5. Someone who doesn’t get angry easily is ________.
6. Someone who gets things done quickly and correctly is ________.
7. Someone who wants to get to the top of their profession is ________.
8. Someone who is good at planning is ________.
9. Someone who always does the right thing is ________.

**Negative prefixes**

A **prefix** is a group of letters that we add to the beginning of a word to form a new word. We can make some adjectives **negative** by adding the prefixes **un-**, **in-**, **im-**, **ir-**.

| reliable → unreliable | competent → incompetent | polite → impolite | regular → irregular | honest → dishonest | legal → illegal |

3. Complete the information. Write the missing adjectives.

**Opposite meanings of adjectives**

| un- | interested – uninterested; 1 | | unreliable; 2
| dis- | honest – dishonest; organised – 3
| im- | mature – immature; patient – 4
| in- | competent – incompetent; 5 | | inefficient; capable – 6
| ir- | regular – irregular; responsible – 7

**Speaking**

4. Work in pairs and discuss. Which of the qualities in 1, 2 and 3 do you think an accountant needs? What other qualities can you add? Make a list.

5. Read this Accountancy Personality Profile. Did you choose the same qualities in 4?

**Accountancy Personality Profile**

Accountancy is a rewarding and satisfying career, but it can sometimes be quite stressful. A good accountant needs to be:

- meticulous
- efficient
- good with figures
- reliable
- well-informed
- organised

6. Make a list of the qualities you need for your job or a job you want to do in the future. Work in pairs and compare your lists.
Review

Language 1 Underline the correct future form in italics.
1 I'm not sure what to do for lunch. Oh, I know! I'm going to have / I'll have lunch at that new Italian restaurant.
2 She has a lot to do before the meeting tomorrow, so she's going to take / she will take some work home with her.
3 A: Do you know if Donald wants tea or coffee?
   B: No, I don't. Hang on and I am going to ask / I'll ask him.
4 A: What are you going to do when you leave college, Emma?
   B: I will become / I am going to become an accountant.
5 We're going to present / We will present our report to the client on Friday.
6 A: Bill, the tax office needs that form as soon as possible!
   B: OK, I'll email / I'm going to email it straight away.

2 Write the opposites of these adjectives.
1 reliable ______________
2 responsible ______________
3 disorganised ______________
4 patient ______________
5 inefficient ______________
6 capable ______________

3 Choose the best adjectives in italics to complete this text.

I'm self-employed, so I need a good accountant, someone who is 1 efficient / ambitious and will work quickly and well. I'm not very good at keeping records, and all my financial information is in a big pile of paperwork on my desk, so I need someone 2 responsible / organised who can put everything in the correct order. I don't understand financial matters and I always have a lot of questions, so I need someone who is 3 patient / capable and who can explain things to me slowly and carefully. I want my accountant to be 4 well-informed / hardworking about the tax regulations so that he or she can save me money on my taxes. I also need someone 5 reliable / patient who will prepare my tax return and submit it to the government on time.

Listening 4 **Listen to this dialogue. Why is Bob calling Callum?**

5 Listen again and answer these questions.
1 What is Bob going to do?
2 When is the next course going to start?
3 Does Callum think Bob will enjoy the course?
4 Why does Callum think Bob will be a good accountant?
5 Who is Callum going to talk to about Bob?

Speaking 6 Work in pairs. Discuss your plans for this week.
   A: What are you going to do this week?
   B: I've got an exam on Friday, so I'm going to prepare for it. I'm going to read my textbook again and I'm going to do some of the exercises. What about you?
Was it a good conference?

Speaking 1 Do you go to conferences? If yes, what do you enjoy about them? What problems do you have? Work in pairs and discuss. Think about the presentations, the hotel, the food, etc.

Listening 2 George was at an accountancy conference in Bradford last week. Listen to the dialogue. Tick (√) the things that were problems for him.
1 □ Tom Watson wasn’t there.
2 □ The presentations weren’t interesting.
3 □ The conference rooms were small.
4 □ The hotel bedrooms were small.
5 □ There wasn’t any hot water in the hotel bathrooms.
6 □ The food wasn’t good.
7 □ The hotel was noisy at night.
8 □ There weren’t any lifts at the hotel.

3 Listen again. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?
1 There were lots of good people at the conference. (T / F)
2 Tom Watson was alone at the conference. (T / F)
3 Steve Allbright’s presentation wasn’t very good. (T / F)
4 The hotel was excellent. (T / F)
5 The hotel rooms were large. (T / F)
6 The food at the hotel was good. (T / F)
Past simple of be

We use the **past simple** of *be* to talk about the past.

| George was at a conference last week. |
| We were in a meeting yesterday. |

We often use these time expressions with the past simple: yesterday, last night / week / month / year; two hours / days / weeks / months ago, in January, in 2004.

In questions and short answers:

| A: Was the weather good? |
| B: Yes, it was / No, it wasn’t (was not). |
| A: Were the presentations interesting? |
| B: Yes, they were / No, they weren’t (were not). |

---

4. Complete this dialogue with the past simple of *be*.

A: (1) ________ you in the office last week?
B: No, I (2) ________. I (3) ________ in Spain on holiday.
A: How wonderful! What (4) ________ the weather like?
B: It (5) ________ hot and sunny most days,
A: (6) ________ your children with you?
B: No, they (7) ________. They (8) ________ at their grandparents’ house.
A: What (9) ________ your hotel like?
B: It (10) ________ excellent.
A: (11) ________ the food good?
B: Yes, it (12) ________ delicious!
A: And the people?
B: They (13) ________ very friendly.

5. Rewrite these sentences in the past tense using the word(s) in brackets.

Example: *I* The weather was fine on Monday.

1. The weather is fine today. (on Monday)
2. George is at a conference today. (last week)
3. Tamzin is in the office today. (yesterday)
4. The company’s results are very good this month. (last month)
5. The external auditor is here today. (on Tuesday)
6. The conference is excellent this year. (last year)

---

Vocabulary

6. Are these adjectives positive (P) or negative (N)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>good</td>
<td>excellent</td>
<td>interesting</td>
<td>fascinating</td>
<td>fine</td>
<td>awful</td>
<td>revolting</td>
<td>tiny</td>
<td>bad</td>
<td>wonderful</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Look at these pairs of words. They have similar meanings, but one word is stronger than the other. Tick (✓) the stronger adjective.

1. □ good  □ excellent
2. □ bad  □ awful
3. □ fascinating  □ interesting
4. □ revolting  □ bad
5. □ small  □ tiny
6. □ delicious  □ good

8. Use the stronger adjectives in 7 to complete these dialogues.

1. A: Were the presentations interesting? B: Yes, they were ________.
2. A: Was the conference good? B: Yes, it was ________.
3. A: Were the rooms small? B: Yes, they were ________.
4. A: Was the weather fine? B: Yes, it was ________.
5. A: Was the food bad? B: Yes, it was ________.
Calculations

Vocabulary 1 What do these symbols mean and how do you say them in English? Work in pairs and discuss.

- + ÷ x = %

2 Match the symbols in the box in 1 with 1–6.
1 minus / subtracted from ______ 4 multiplied by ... / times ______
2 percent (of) ______ 5 equals / is ______
3 plus / added to ______ 6 divide(d) by ... ______

Language

Calculations

| Five minus three equals / is two. | 5 – 3 = 2 |
| Three subtracted from five equals two. | |
| Ten plus five is fifteen. | 10 + 5 = 15 |
| Five added to ten equals fifteen. | |
| Twenty-five divided by five equals five. | 25 ÷ 5 = 5 |
| Fifteen multiplied by six is ninety. | 15 × 6 = 90 |
| Fifteen times six is ninety. | |
| Ten percent of two hundred and fifty is twenty-five. | 250 × 10% = 25 |

Listening 3 Listen and number the calculations in the order you hear them. Then repeat the calculations.

a) 2,250 ÷ 3 = 750
b) 5 × 150 = 750
c) 7,500 × 10% = 750
da) 145 + 605 = 750
e) 1 × 749 = 750
f) 780 – 30 = 750

Speaking 4 Work in pairs. Student A look at the information on this page. Student B look at the information on page 69.

Student A

Read these calculations to Student B. Give your partner time to write them down. Then check your partner’s answers.

1 50 + 60 = 110
2 1,000 + 200 = 5
3 825 – 30 = 795
4 33 × 99 = 3,267

Student B will then read some calculations to you. Write them down. Student B will check your answers.

5 Match numbers 1–4 to the words a–d.

1 100,000 a) a / one trillion
2 1,000,000 b) a / one million
3 1,000,000,000 c) a / one billion
4 1,000,000,000,000 d) a / one hundred thousand

6 Practise saying these numbers. Then listen and check.

- 1,234,567,890
- 580,677
- 2,587,453,201
She worked hard yesterday

Listening

George’s assistant Tamsin was very busy while George was at the conference. Look at her list of jobs. Listen to the conversation and tick (√) the jobs she finished.

Tamsin
While I am at the conference, please
* call Bill Mudie and arrange a meeting with him for next Friday
* print out the letters in my correspondence file
* prepare Mr Sweetman’s tax return (all the information you need is in his file)
* email Mrs Kato and promise her we will send her tax return on Monday
* check the calculations on the Costmore Electronics cash flow
* help Nigel with the Copsey Ltd financial statements
* enter the figures in the LMC profit and loss statement

Language

Past simple of regular verbs

We use the past simple to talk about actions and situations that started and finished in the past. To form the past simple of regular verbs, we add -ed to the verb.

Sally finished her income tax return.
I worked hard yesterday.
A: Did you call the tax office? B: Yes, I did. / No, I didn’t.
We didn’t organise a conference.
I studied for an exam.
He arranged a meeting with his boss.
I submitted my tax return.

Be careful of the spelling changes:
walk → walked
arrive → arrived
stop → stopped
try → tried

2 Listen again. Write sentences about what Tamsin did and didn’t do last week.
Example: I called Bill Mudie and arranged a meeting with him for next Friday.

1 (Bill Mudie) 5 (Copsey Electronics cash flow)
2 (letters) 6 (Nigel)
3 (Mr Sweetman’s tax return) 7 (LMC figures)
4 (email / Mrs Kato)

Writing

3 Write five sentences about what you did and didn’t do last week. Use the words in the box and / or your own ideas.

arrange a meeting check some calculations email a colleague
finish some work help a friend study for an exam visit a client work hard

Speaking

4 Work in pairs. Compare your sentences from 3. Take turns to ask and answer questions using these prompts.

- Who did you help?
- What did you do?
- Who did you visit?

- Who did you email?
- When did you arrange the meeting for?
- What work did you finish?
He finished school in 1994

Vocabulary 1 Complete the information about George’s career. Use the correct past tense of the verbs in the box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Verbs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>George</td>
<td>_______ school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>He</td>
<td>_______ from university.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>He</td>
<td>_______ work at Monroe and Maplin Accounting Services in London.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>He</td>
<td>_______ Jenny.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>He</td>
<td>_______ his accountancy exams and _______ as an accountant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>He</td>
<td>_______ from the London office to the Frankfurt office.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Monroe and Maplin</td>
<td>_______ him to head of the tax department in London.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Listening 2  ✔️ 38 Listen and check your answers to 1.

3  ✔️ 39 Listen and repeat these verbs. Write the verbs in the box in the correct column in the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>finished</th>
<th>moved</th>
<th>started</th>
<th>graduated</th>
<th>passed</th>
<th>qualified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/ɪtʃɪn/</td>
<td>/mʊv/</td>
<td>/stɑːt/</td>
<td>/ɡrəˈdʒuːət/</td>
<td>/ˈpɑːst/</td>
<td>/kwaləˈfɪd/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>promoted</td>
<td>visited</td>
<td>helped</td>
<td>worked</td>
<td>arranged</td>
<td>filed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Writing 4 Look at the information about George in 1. Make a similar table for yourself. Use your own dates and write what you did in each year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>What you did</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Speaking 5 Work in pairs. Discuss the dates in your tables. Take turns to ask and answer questions.

B: What did you do in 2001?
A: I graduated from university.
He became an accountant

Reading 1 Read this description. Underline the past simple verbs.

In 1994, George left school and went to university. He made lots of friends at university and he met his wife, Jenny, there. He left university in 1998 and went to work for Monroe and Maplin Accounting Services in London in 1999. In 2002, he took his accountancy exams. He got good results in all his exams and he became a qualified accountant.

Language

Past simple of irregular verbs

Some verbs do not form the past simple with -ed. They are irregular.

(e.g. go → went, buy → bought, meet → met)

George met his boss yesterday.
I bought the currency a week ago.
I went to the office by train.

We use did / didn’t + infinitive in negative sentences and questions.

We didn’t send the email.
Did you come to work by bus?

A: Where did you go for your holiday?
B: I went to Spain.

2 Match the irregular past simple verbs you underlined in 1 to their infinitive forms 1–7.

1 go
2 meet
3 take
4 leave
5 make
6 become
7 get

3 Match the irregular verbs in box A to their past simple forms in box B.

A make

see

buy

come

go

find

speak

send

have

write

B

met

bought

spoke

went

came

found

had

sent

made

wrote

Writing 4 Look at George’s list of things to do for yesterday. What did he do? What didn’t he do? Write five sentences about George’s day using some of the verbs in 3.

Example: Yesterday George wrote to Tony Parsons. He ...

To do:
Write to Tony Parsons ✓
Find the paperwork for the meeting with Bill Mudie ✓
Send an email to Mr. Sweetman ✓
12.00 lunch with the boss ✓
Buy flowers for Jenny ✓

Speak to Tamsin about the budget analysis conference in Dubai ×
Make an appointment with Sue Patterson at Costmore Electronics ✓
3.00 go to Collins and Mudle for a meeting with Bill ✓
5.00 meet Tom at the gym ×

Speaking 5 Work in pairs. Take turns to ask and answer about what George did yesterday.

A: What did George do at 12 o’clock?
B: He had lunch with his boss.
A tax return

Listening 1 Listen to this dialogue. Tick (✓) the thing George wants Mrs Taylor to send.
1  $ her tax return  4  $ details of her household expenses
2  $ details of her income  5  $ a cheque for the tax she owes
3  $ details of her business expenses

2 Listen again and answer these questions.
1 Why can’t George submit Mrs Taylor’s tax return today?
2 When did the details of Mrs Taylor’s income and business expenses arrive?
3 Why can Mrs Taylor claim a ‘business use of home’ charge?
4 Which of these things does George need to calculate the ‘business use of home’ charge?
   a) details of Mrs Taylor’s income
   b) Mrs Taylor’s gas and electricity bills
   c) records of Mrs Taylor’s mortgage payments
   d) information on the number of rooms in the house Mrs Taylor uses for business
5 What will George do when Mrs Taylor sends the information?

Vocabulary 3 Complete the letter George sent with the tax return to Mrs Taylor. Use the words and phrases in the box.

| check | household expenses | questions | records | sign | submit |

Dear Mrs Taylor,
Thank you for sending the information about your 1 __________. I am enclosing your tax return for your approval. Please 2 __________ the return carefully. If you are satisfied that it is correct, please 3 __________ the additional copy of page 6 and send the signed page 6 only back to me. I will then 4 __________ the return to the tax office using the online filing service.
You may keep the tax return for your 5 __________. If you have any 6 __________, please call me or Tamsin on 01730 829741.
Yours sincerely,
George Johnson

Speaking 4 Read George’s letter in 3 again. Work in pairs and discuss these questions.
1 Will George submit Mrs Taylor’s tax return by post? If not, how will he submit it?
2 Can you submit tax returns online in your country?
3 Can people who work from home claim a ‘business use of home’ charge in your country? How do accountants calculate how much to claim?
Review

Language 1 Complete these questions with the past simple of be.
1 Where ______ George Johnson’s conference?
2 Who ______ at the conference from Collins and Mudie?
3 ______ the speakers good?
4 ______ the presentations interesting?
5 ______ the hotel good?
6 ______ the bedrooms at the hotel big?
7 What ______ the food at the hotel like?
8 Why ______ the hotel noisy?

2 Complete these sentences with the past simple form of the verbs in the box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>arrive</th>
<th>finish</th>
<th>graduate</th>
<th>help</th>
<th>order</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>rain</td>
<td>wait</td>
<td>walk</td>
<td>watch</td>
<td>work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 In 2001, Francoise ______ from university.
2 Our visitors ______ early. They are waiting in reception.
3 A: Excuse me, we ______ two coffees ten minutes ago.
   B: Sorry, sir, I’ll bring them straight away.
4 Tom ______ very hard yesterday and he ______ all the calculations.
5 A: What did you do last night?
   B: We ______ a TV programme about accountancy.
6 I ______ for ten minutes, but the bus didn’t come, so I ______ home.
7 Tamsin ______ Nigel with the figures on Tuesday morning.
8 It ______ yesterday, so George didn’t walk to work.

3 Complete these sentences with the verbs in brackets. Make them true for you.
1 _______ a newspaper yesterday. (buy)
2 _______ the house before 8.30 this morning. (leave)
3 _______ more than five phone calls yesterday. (make)
4 _______ a cup of coffee this morning. (have)
5 _______ a friend last night. (meet)
6 _______ to a conference last month. (go)
7 _______ to my parents last week. (speak)
8 _______ a letter yesterday. (get)

Writing 4 Complete these sentences. Make some true and some false for you.
1 I joined ...
2 My sister wrote ...
3 I studied ...
4 I became ...
5 We went to ...
6 My friend started ...
7 My father had ...
8 At school I got ...

Speaking 5 Work in pairs. Take turns to read out your sentences. Guess which of your partner’s sentences are false.

6 Work in pairs. Take turns to ask and answer the questions in 1. Look back through the unit if you can’t remember the answers.
Economic indicators

Reading 1. Work in pairs. How do the words and expressions in the box affect the economy? Check the meaning of any words you don’t know in a dictionary.

- construction
- consumer spending
- industrial production
- manufacturing productivity
- retail prices
- staple items
- unemployment

2. Match photos 1–3 to these descriptions a–c.
   a) unemployment ______
   b) consumer spending ______
   c) manufacturing ______

3. Read this text. Use the information in the text to complete the diagram.

**ECONOMIC INDICATORS**

Economists use economic indicators to analyse a country’s economy. Economic indicators are statistics about the economy. They show how well the economy is doing and they enable economists to predict how well it will do in the future. The indicators include the stock market index, the retail price index (a measure of inflation), the unemployment rate, the number of people claiming benefits, new construction, industrial production, consumer spending and changes in the money supply. Leading economic indicators are indicators which change before the economy changes. The stock market is an example of a leading economic indicator. The stock market usually begins to decline before the economy declines and it generally improves before the economy begins to come out of a recession. Leading economic indicators are the most important type for investors as they help predict what the economy will be like in the future.

- the **1** ______ market index
- new **2** ______
- the retail **3** ______ index
- **4** ______ rate
- industrial **5** ______
- the number of people claiming **6** ______
- **7** ______ spending
- the money **8** ______
4 Match the economic indicators from the diagram in 3 to these explanations.
1 The number of new houses people are building: ________________
2 The number of people who don’t have jobs: ________________
3 A list of selected shares representing the performance of the whole stock market: ________________
4 The number of people without jobs who get money to live on from the government: ________________
5 A record of price changes in a range of staple items, such as bread and milk, which are essential for a normal household: ________________
6 A measure of the changes in the amount produced by industries including manufacturing and mining: ________________
7 The number of things sold to customers in a specific period of time: ________________
8 The total amount of money in the economy, including currency held by the public and money in bank accounts: ________________

Vocabulary 5 Find the words in the text in 3 that mean the following.
1 prices getting higher: __________
2 to say what you think will happen in the future: __________
3 to get smaller or become worse: __________
4 money the government pays to people who are sick or don’t have jobs: __________
5 building new homes or offices: __________
6 a period of time when an economy has negative growth: __________

6 Use your answers from 5 to complete these sentences.
1 We hope the economy will come out of __________ in the next few months.
2 Malcolm lost his job three years ago when he became ill. Now he’s living on __________.
3 Economists __________ that the price of oil will rise again next year.
4 Last year a litre of milk cost 60 pence; today it’s nearly 80 pence – that’s __________.
5 The industrial sector is __________ so unemployment is rising.
6 Jim has a job in __________. His company is building an office block in the centre of the city.

Speaking 7 Work in pairs. Discuss these questions.
1 Do you know how much a litre of milk costs in your country? Do you know how much it cost a year ago?
2 Is the unemployment rate high or low in your country? Do you know anyone who is unemployed?
3 Which items do you think are ‘staple’ items? Make a list of some staple items you buy.
4 Is the manufacturing industry in your country growing or declining? Can you say why?
Trends and numbers

Vocabulary

1 There are many ways to say things go up, go down, or don’t move much at all. Look at the verbs in the box and put them with the correct heading. One of the words doesn’t fit any of the headings (it means to go up and down a lot). Which word is it?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>decline</th>
<th>decrease</th>
<th>fall</th>
<th>fluctuate</th>
<th>grow</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>increase</td>
<td>remain steady</td>
<td>rise</td>
<td>stabilise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[ \text{go up} \quad \text{== don't move} \quad \text{go down} \]

2 Look at these graphs. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in the box.

| decline | fall | fluctuate | remain steady | rise | stabilise |

1 Inflation is ________________.

2 Retail prices are ________________.

3 New construction is ________________.

4 Unemployment is ________________.

5 The stock market is ________________.

6 Consumer spending is ________________.
Writing 3 Make a small presentation about two imaginary countries and their economic activities then compare with a partner. Use the information in the chart. Start like this:

I'd like to update you on some economic news from Tapia and Randan. First, consumer spending in Tapia is ...

Listening 4 41 Listen and repeat these numbers.

a) 3.5 
b) 3.51 
c) 3.14159 
d) 3.75%

Language

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>0 can be pronounced O, zero, nought, nil and love</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In British English oh is often used for telephone numbers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My number is oh-one-seven-three-oh-eight-two-nine-seven-four-one (01730 829741)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zero and nought are more common in mathematics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest rates fell by zero point four percent (0.4%).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In sports scores, we use nil.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manchester United beat Chelsea by three goals to nil. (3–0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>However, in tennis, 0 is love.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The score is love-fifteen. (0–15).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federer leads by two sets to love.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Listening 5 42 Listen and tick (√) the numbers you hear.

1  √ 0.563  √ 0.0563
2  √ 01372 5849  √ 01373 5849
3  √ 5–0  √ 0–5
4  √ 0.5%  √ 0.9%

Speaking 6 43 Say these percentages. Then listen and check your answers.

1  2.4%  3  0.36%
2  0.75%  4  2.09%

7 Work in pairs. Write three percentages and take turns to dictate them to your partner. Check your partner’s answers.
Predictions

Speaking 1 Look at the words in the box and discuss these questions with a partner.

- a bus ticket
- a meal in a restaurant
- an airline ticket
- a train ticket
- bread
- fruit and vegetables
- meat
- petrol

1. How often do you buy these things?
2. What percentage of your income do you spend on food and travel?
3. Do you notice changes in the price of these things?

Language

**Will for future predictions**

We use *will + infinitive* without *to* to talk about something that we think, believe, or know will happen in the future.

| The economy **will** grow next year. |
| Prices **will** rise in the autumn. |
| A: **Will** the economy grow next year? |
| B: Yes, it **will**. / No, it **won't**. |

2. Work in pairs. Make predictions about the price of the things in the box in 1. Example: *I think the price of petrol will rise next month.*

3. **Listen to this radio interview with an economic analyst. Underline the correct verbs in brackets next to her notes.**

   1. The economy **will** grow by 3.5% in the next quarter. *(grow / decline)*
   2. The FTSE 100 index **will** fall by 25% in the next 12 months. *(rise / fall)*
   3. Interest rates **will** rise to 4.75% next month. *(rise / fall)*
   4. Unemployment **will** fall over the next six months. *(remain steady / decrease)*
   5. Consumer spending **will** increase after the summer. *(increase / decrease)*
   6. The price of oil **will** fluctuate in the coming year. *(fluctuate / stabilise)*

4. Complete the analyst's notes in 3. Use *will + the infinitive* of the correct verb.

5. Listen again and complete these sentences with the words in the box.

   - continue
   - expect
   - optimistic
   - positive
   - probably
   - supply

   1. I'm generally **positive** about the economy.
   2. I predict that this decline will **continue**.
   3. With the growth in the economy, can we **optimistically** more people to find work in the near future?
   4. I'm not very **optimistic** about growth in that area.
   5. I think the unemployment rate will **probably** remain steady for the next six months.
   6. It's always a question of **supply** and demand.
The central bank

1. Do you know the names and locations of any major central banks? Write down your ideas.
   

2. Tick (✓) the things you think central banks do.
   1. □ issue banknotes and coins
   2. □ store the country’s reserves of gold
   3. □ provide current accounts and mortgages for government ministers
   4. □ regulate the money supply
   5. □ set official interest rates
   6. □ supervise the work of other banks in the country
   7. □ maintain monetary and financial stability

Reading 3. How much do you know about the Bank of England? Try this quiz.

The Great Bank of England Quiz

1. When was the Bank of England founded?
   a) 1469    b) 1694    c) 1964

2. What is the Bank of England’s nickname?
   a) The Old Goat of Threadneedle Street
   b) The Old Gentleman of Threadneedle Street
   c) The Old Lady of Threadneedle Street

3. True or false? The bank of England stores gold for other countries which don’t have a secure place to keep their gold.

4. In 1943, the highest value note issued by the Bank of England was issued for the last time. How much was it worth?
   a) £1,000    b) £5,000    c) £10,000

5. True or false? Until 1853, all banknotes were signed individually by one of the cashiers.

6. True or false? In 1836, a man who worked in the London sewers showed the directors of the Bank of England that it was possible to get into the gold vault from a sewer under the bank.

7. Approximately how much is one gold bar worth?
   a) £50,000    b) £200,000    c) £1 million

8. True or false? The Bank of England started setting the official interest rate in 1836.

9. True or false? The Bank of England will not replace a damaged banknote which was left in a pocket and went through a washing machine.

10. The Bank of England destroys old or damaged banknotes. How does it do this?
    a) It burns them.
    b) It turns them into compost and sells it to farmers.

Listening 4. Listen and check your answers to the quiz in 3. Does any of the information surprise you?
**Good news, bad news**

**Reading**

1. Read this briefing about news on the economy. Underline the expressions used to give positive and negative news.

We now have up-to-date information on the state of the economy. There is both positive and negative news to report. First, we are pleased to say that inflation is steady and retail prices show little change. We are glad to report that unemployment is down from 9% to 8.5%. However, I am afraid we do not expect much growth this year in the overall economy. Unfortunately, the high exchange rate is not helping our exports. However, we are optimistic that the balance of trade will remain steady.

2. Write the expressions you underlined in 1 under the correct heading.
   **Positive**
   - For example: *We are pleased to say that ...*
   **Negative**
   - I regret to say that ...
   - Regrettably, ...
   - The bad news is that ...
   - The good news is that ...

3. Add these expressions under the correct heading in 2.

   Fortunately, ...
   - I am delighted to be able to tell you that ...
   I'm sorry to have to report that ...
   - Sad, ...
   - The bad news is that ...
   - The good news is that ...

4. Complete these positive (P) and negative (N) sentences with a suitable phrase from the table.
   1. ... that unemployment is down. (P)
   2. ... new construction decreased last year. (N)
   3. ... consumer confidence increased in the last quarter. (P)
   4. ... we predict that interest rates will rise next month. (N)
   5. ... inflation decreased last year. (P)
   6. ... the FTSE index fell by five points yesterday. (N)

**Speaking**

5. Work in pairs. Discuss two positive and two negative things about the economy.
   - Example: *I'm pleased to say that inflation is falling. Unfortunately, interest rates are still very high ...*
Review

Writing

1. Put these words in order to make sentences about the economy.
   1. Today’s / unemployment / show / figures / that / is rising
   2. Interest / very / rates / are / at / moment / high / the
   3. Consumer spending / rises / summer / the / often / in
   4. The / stock market / leading / economic indicator / is / of / an example / a
   5. The / remained / steady / retail / index / price / in the / quarter / last

2. Look back at 2 and 3 on page 60 and choose three indicators. Write sentences about these economic indicators in your country. Then work in pairs and compare your sentences. How do your country’s indicators compare?

   Example: Unemployment is low in my country, but consumer spending is falling.

3. Decide if these sentences are good news or bad news. Add a suitable expression at the beginning of each one to show what kind of news it is.

   1. ______ the Bank of England is going to raise interest rates for the third time this year.
   2. ______ new construction is decreasing and performance in the industrial sector is poor.
   3. ______ consumer confidence is growing and unemployment is falling.
   4. ______ retail prices remained steady in the last quarter of the year.
   5. ______ we predict that growth in the economy will continue for the next three years.

Speaking

4. Work in pairs. Take turns to say these figures to each other.

   1. 10.5
   2. 62.53
   3. 4.35%
   4. 7.85%
   5. 3.0756
   6. 0.153

5. Work in pairs. What are your predictions for the economy over the next two years? Make questions and answers about topics 1–4.

   A: Will inflation fall?
   B: No, it won’t. I think it will remain steady.
   1. inflation
   2. unemployment
   3. retail prices
   4. interest rates

6. Work in pairs. Student A look at the information on this page. Student B look at the information on page 69.

   Student A

   You are a reporter for a business news programme.
   You phone an economist for an interview about his or her predictions for the economy.
   1. Ask what the economist thinks will happen with inflation and consumer spending.
   2. Find out his or her predictions for the economy next year.
1 Personal finance

Review

Speaking exercise 5 page 11

Student B

You work at UBCS International.

A customer phones to give a new address and new phone numbers.

Ask for the customer's name and account number.

Ask for the new address and phone numbers.

If you don't understand, ask the customer to repeat the information.

Write down the new information and complete this change of address form.

Change of address request

Name: __________________________

Account number: __________________________

New address: __________________________

Home phone number: __________________________

Mobile phone number: __________________________

Begin like this:

UBCS International. Good morning.

2 Jobs in banking

Starting out

Speaking exercise 9 page 13

Student B

You work at JPB International Bank. Your head office is in Paris and you have 27 branches in France, Belgium and Luxembourg. Your bank has 15,000 employees.

Your bank provides current and savings accounts, foreign exchange and mortgages.

4 Bank transactions

Review

Speaking exercise 4 page 35

Student B

You are a customer.

You go to the bank because you want to buy some yen for a business trip.

You leave on Thursday.

You also want information on travel insurance.
7 An accountant's life

Calculations

**Speaking exercise 4 page 54**

**Student B**

Student A will dictate some calculations to you. Write them down. Student A will then check your answers.

Now dictate these calculations to Student A. Give your partner time to write them down. Then check their answers.

1  3,000 ÷ 15 = 200
2  1,020 + 250 = 1,270
3  127 × 3 = 381
4  973 - 125 = 848

8 The economy

Review

**Speaking exercise 6 page 67**

**Student B**

You are an economist.

A reporter phones you to ask some questions about your predictions for the economy.

Give a positive prediction about inflation, but say there will be no change in consumer spending.

Give two or three predictions for the economy next year.
Unit 1 Personal finance

1 A: Hello. I am Frances Cooper.
   B: Hello. My name is Jon Walsh. Pleased to meet you.

2 A: Excuse me. Are you Mr Simpson?
   B: Yes, I am.
   A: Pleased to meet you, Mr Simpson. I'm Trudi Moore.

3 A: Good morning. What's your name, please?
   B: My name's Simon Davies.

4 A: Leena, this is Justin Blake. Justin, this is Leena Koury.
   B: Pleased to meet you, Justin.

[M = Maria; J = Jancsi]
M: Hello, is that Jancsi Nagy?
J: Yes, but it's Nagy.
M: I'm sorry. Could you repeat that, please?
J: Nagy. My family name is Nagy.
M: Oh, I'm sorry. This is Maria Styles from Human Resources. I want to make your new business cards. Could I please check the spelling of your name?
J: Yes, of course. My first name is Jancsi. That's spelt J-A-N-C-S-I.
M: Sorry, was that J-A-double N-C-S-I?
J: No, just one N. J-A-N-C-S-I.
M: OK. And how do you spell your family name?
J: My family name is Nagy. That's N-A-G-Y.
M: Oh, so your first name is Jancsi and Nagy is your family name? On my list it's Nagy Jancsi.
J: Yes, that's how we write it in Hungary. But this is the UK, so please put Jancsi Nagy on the business cards.
M: OK. No problem. Thanks.

a) What's your address? It's 120 Station Road.
b) There are 30 students in the class.
c) Our bank has 50 branches.
d) There are 117 trainees at the seminar.
e) How many do you need? About 14, I think.

A: Do you have a house?
B: Yes, I do.
A: Does it have a garden?

B: Yes, it does.
A: Does it have a garage?
B: No, it doesn't.

[I = Interviewer; M = Maggie]
I: Maggie. How do you pay for things? For example, how do you pay for groceries?
M: I pay for groceries in cash.
I: OK. What about clothes?
M: Umm. I think I pay by debit card most of the time, Yes.
I: Do you have a mortgage?
M: Yes, I do.
I: How do you pay your mortgage?
M: By standing order. Every month the bank takes the same amount of money out of my account automatically.
I: OK, and how do you pay your household bills?
M: I pay these by direct debit.
I: How about petrol? How do you pay for petrol?
M: Hmm. By credit card, I think. Yes, by credit card.
I: Do you use cheques at all?
M: No, I don't.

1 Maggie pays for her groceries in cash.
2 Sven writes lots of emails.
3 Jon uses a computer at work.

1 saves
2 checks
3 watches
4 buys
5 takes
6 chooses

[G = George; S = Susan]
G: Hello! My name's George. Pleased to meet you.
S: I'm Susan. Nice to meet you, too.
G: Where are you from, Susan?
S: I'm from the UK. Are you from the USA?
G: No, I'm not. I'm from Canada. So Susan, what do you do?
S: I'm a secretary at a bank in London. What about you?
G: I'm a trainee at a bank in Toronto.
S: Oh, I know someone ... Well, nice to meet you.
G: Enjoy the seminar!
S: You, too!

[A = Account Manager; E = Ella]
A: UBCS International, how can I help you?
E: Hello, I'd like to change the details on my account, please.
A: Certainly. What's your name, please?
E: Ella Frick. That's E double L-A F-R-I-C-K.
A: And your account number?
E: 0345 7892.
A: OK, Ms Frick. Which details would you like to change?
E: My address and phone number.
A: OK. What's the new address?
E: It's 455 Loomis Street, Winchester.
A: Could you repeat that, please?
E: Yes, of course. 455 Loomis Street. That's L-O-O-M-I-S Street, Winchester SO13 5QZ.
A: Right. And the new phone number?
E: My new home number is 01962 829741.
A: OK. So that's 01962 829541.
E: No, 741.
A: OK. And your mobile phone number?
E: It's the same number as before – 0779589803.
A: OK. I'll change the information on your account straight away. Is there anything else I can do for you, Ms Frick?
E: No, that's everything for today. Thank you.
A: You're very welcome. Goodbye.

Unit 2 Jobs in banking

[E = Emilia; M = Martin]
E: Hello, Martin! Welcome to UBCS.
M: Thank you, Ms Olivieri. It's nice to meet you.
E: Please call me Emilia. Follow me and I'll show you around. OK, here we are. This is your office. You share it with Peter Dawson, Tasneem Patel and Marie Dubois. They're at a seminar today, but you can meet them tomorrow. This is your desk and there's your phone. There isn't a computer here yet, so you can use Peter's computer for today.
M: Right, OK.
E: There are some books on your desk for you to read. And the drinks machine is in the corner. Oh, there aren't any cups, but there are some in the kitchen next door. Now, then. We start work at 8.30 in the morning and we finish work at five o'clock. There is a break for lunch from 12.30 to 1.30 and there's a cafeteria on the second floor.

OK, now please help yourself to a drink, if you like. I'll meet you back here in a few minutes, then we can go through your programme for the day.

M: OK, thanks. I'll get a coffee and meet you back here.

E: Right. There is an introduction to the bank and its products and services for all new trainees at 10.00 in the boardroom. That's on the third floor. And then Maria Styles from Human Resources will...

[N = Nabila; M = Martin]
N: Hello, you're new, aren't you?
M: Yes, I am.
N: Welcome to UBCS. My name's Nabila.
M: Pleased to meet you. I'm Martin.
N: So, do you like your new job?
M: I don't know yet. In fact, this is only my first day.
N: Oh, right, sorry! This is my first year. I'm a cashier.
M: Oh, great! Maybe you can tell me more about being a cashier. What do you do every day?
N: Well, I come to work at 8.30. The bank opens at 9.00. I help customers deposit money and withdraw money from their accounts. Sometimes I answer questions about products and services. Other times I check balances for customers. Oh, and I also help my boss. He opens new accounts for customers and talks to them about investments. I give customers information about our interest rates and help them with forms, that sort of thing.

[M = Martin; N = Nabila]
M: So what time do you finish work?
N: Well, I usually finish at 5.00, but sometimes I stay late. I live near the bank so I always get home before 7.30.
M: Do you walk to work?
N: Sometimes I cycle, but usually I walk. How about you?
M: I always come by train.
N: What do you do at the weekend?
M: On Saturday, I often go shopping in the morning. I usually play football in the afternoon and then meet my friends in the evening. We sometimes go to the cinema or have dinner in a restaurant. How about you?
N: I often go out with my friends on Saturday evenings. But on Sundays I usually stay at home and watch TV. Do you watch TV?
M: No, I never watch TV.
My name’s Isabella. I’m responsible for opening new accounts at our bank. I give customers information about our interest rates and the accounts that we have.

I’m Raoul. I work in a bank and I help customers make deposits and withdrawals. I also handle any problems they have with their accounts.

Hi. My name’s Ravi. I work for a bank, but I don’t actually work in the bank. Customers telephone me when they have problems and complaints and I deal with their questions.

Hello! I’m Jenny. I take care of all the computers in the bank. I train employees how to use computers. I don’t deal with customers.

[A = Asif; M = Martin]
A: Hi, Martin! How’s your new job?
M: Hi, Asif! It’s great. It’s hard work, but really interesting.
A: What time do you start?
M: The bank opens at 9.00, but I start work at 8.30. I leave my house at 6.30 to get there.
A: Wow. That’s a long day.
M: Yes, it is. But I get quite a long break at lunchtime. And there’s a cafeteria at the bank so I can eat my lunch there.
A: What exactly do you do all day?
M: Well, I’m a trainee at the moment, so I sit and learn from other employees. I’m sitting with a cashier in the banking hall this week. Her name is Nabila. She serves customers and helps them make deposits and withdrawals. She checks the balances of their accounts and answers their questions. She gives the customers information about the bank’s interest rates and shows them how to complete forms to open new accounts.
A: So do you do any work or do you just watch other people work?
M: Well, I usually just watch and learn, but sometimes I put the money in the ATM.
A: Wow, you handled all that money? Still, I think it’s more fun to take it out!
M: Yes, you’re right!

Unit 3 Banking products and services

[P = Peter; O = Mr Osman]
P: Good morning, Mr Osman. How can I help you today?
O: I’m interested in online banking. I’m very busy, so it’s difficult to come into the bank all the time when I want to pay bills or check my balance.
P: I understand. Well, online banking is really easy and convenient. First, you need to register. You can do this online – just go to our website, click on ‘online banking’ and complete the form. We then send you a user ID and password. You can change the password at any time.
O: When do I need to use my user ID?
P: You need to type in this number to log on to your account. Most people change their password to something they can remember easily. It’s important not to share your password with anyone – for security reasons.
O: OK, I understand. How long will it take to get my user ID and password?
P: Only a few days. As soon as you get this information, you can login and start banking online.
O: Can I check my balance at any time?
P: Yes, of course. You can check your balance, look at your account information, pay bills and do most of the other things you do now at the bank.
O: That’s great. Thanks for your help.
P: You’re very welcome. Please let me know if you need any other assistance.

[A = Mr Allen; H = Mr Haddad]
A: Good morning. May I speak to Mr Haddad, please?
H: Speaking.
A: This is James Allen. I hold a savings account at your bank and I’m interested in some other investments, perhaps bonds or shares. Can I discuss this with you?
H: Yes, of course. We offer a range of investment products, including bonds, and we can also help you buy shares.
A: Do you give investment advice? I don’t know very much about investments, I’m afraid.
H: Yes, we offer an investment advice service. Could you come to the bank for a meeting?
A: Yes, of course. When is convenient for you?
H: How about next Wednesday at three o’clock? Can you do that?
A: Yes, I can do Wednesday at three. Thank you very much,
H: You’re welcome. See you next Wednesday.
Goodbye.
A: Bye.

Unit 4 Bank transactions

1 A: Good morning. How can I help you?
B: Good morning. I would like to transfer some money from my current account to my savings account, please.
A: Certainly, sir. How much money would you like to transfer?
B: $500.
A: Right. May I have your name and your account numbers, please?
2 A: Hi, good morning. I’d like to pay these cheques into my current account, please.
B: Certainly, madam. Could you complete this paying in slip, please?
A: Oh, right. Is this OK?
B: Yes, that’s fine. Could you please sign it here?
A: OK. Here you are.
B: Thank you.

3 A: Good afternoon.
B: Good afternoon. I’d like to cash this cheque, please.
A: OK. How do you want the money?
B: In tens and twenties, please.
4 A: I’d like to order some currency, please.
B: Certainly, sir. Which currency would you like?
A: Well, I’m going to Spain, Italy and Turkey.
B: I see. And how much do you need of each currency?
A: I don’t know. Probably about £500 in euros and $200 in Turkish currency. What is the currency in Turkey called?
B: It’s the Turkish lira. We have euros at the bank so I can give you those now, but I’ll need to order the lira.
A: OK. When can I collect it?
B: If I order today, it should be here by Thursday morning.

5 A: Good afternoon. Can I take your name and the first line of your address, please?
B: Yes, it’s Bill Watson and my address is 33 Rillington Street.
A: OK, and the first and last letters of your password, please?
B: B and S.
A: Thank you, Mr Watson. How can I help you today?
B: I’d like to pay $95.22 to Southern Electric.
A: Fine. I can do that for you now. OK. That’s all done for you. Your reference number is 057424.
B: Thanks very much.
A: Is there anything else I can help you with today?
B: No, that’s all, thanks.
A: OK, have a lovely day, Mr Watson.
B: Thanks. Bye.
B: Yes, that’s fine. Could you please sign it here?
A: OK. Here you are.
B: Thank you.

3 A: Good afternoon.
B: Good afternoon. I’d like to cash this cheque, please.
A: OK. How do you want the money?
B: In tens and twenties, please.

21
1 Would you like that in dollars or in pounds?
2 I’d like to open an account, please.
3 May I have your name and account number, please?
4 Could you fill in this form, please?
5 I’d like to transfer some money, please.

22
A: Good morning. How can I help you?
B: Good morning. I’d like to cash a cheque, please.
A: Certainly. How would you like the money?
B: In tens and twenties, please.
A: OK. Here you are.
B: Thank you very much.

23
Every year, I go to many different countries on business. Of course, I always need to buy currency to use in each place. I often go to Germany and France, so I buy euros. I also go to Japan and China – that’s yen and yuan. And sometimes I go to the UAE, so I need dirhams. Oh, and I always get some pounds for the UK. I live in New York, so at least I don’t have to get any dollars!

24
[C = Cashier; S = Sam]
C: Good morning, sir. How can I help you?
S: I’d like to buy some currency, please.
C: Certainly, sir. For which country?
S: A few actually. For France, Germany, the UAE, Japan, China and the UK.
C: I see. Well, we have euros and pounds here at the bank, but we don’t hold any of the other currencies at the moment. I can order them for you, though. When do you leave?
S: Next Tuesday.
C: OK. I can get them by then. In fact, you could collect them on Friday. Would that be convenient for you?
S: Yes, that would be fine.
C: And how much of each currency would you like?
S: Well, let me see. That’s five days in Germany and...

25
[C = Cashier; S = Susanna]
C: Good morning. Can I help you?
S: Yes, I’d like to deposit this cheque into my current account.
C: OK. Do you have your paying in slip?
S: Yes, here you are.
C: Thank you. Could you just sign it here, please?
S: Sure. Here you are.
C: OK, that’s all done for you. Can I help you with anything else today?
S: Yes, I’d like some American dollars, please.
C: And how many dollars would you like?
S: One hundred and fifty pounds’ worth, please.
C: OK, that comes to $240. How would you like the money?
S: In tens and twenties, please.
C: I’m sorry, but I don’t have any tens. I can do it all in twenties.
S: That’s fine.
C: Right, here you are.
S: Thank you. Oh, and could you give me some information about insurance? How much do you charge for travel insurance?
C: My colleague, Peter, will be able to help you with insurance queries. Would you like to take a seat over there? He’s serving another customer at the moment, but I can ask him to come over and give you all the information you need.
S: OK, great. Thanks.
C: You’re welcome.

Unit 5 Investment

26
I’d like to talk about three basic investment options. First, you can buy shares. You then become a shareholder, that is part owner of a company. When the company makes a profit, the shareholders get a share of that profit. This payment is called a dividend. The price of shares can go up or down, so there is no guarantee you can make a profit when you sell your shares. However, share prices can rise a lot, so you can make a lot of money. Bonds are another type of investment. When you buy a bond, you are lending your money to a company, or sometimes to a government. In return, they agree to pay you a fixed rate of interest on your money. In addition, you get your capital back on a certain date in the future. This is called the date when the bond matures. There is little risk here, but the returns are quite low. Finally, you can invest in a mutual fund. This is a collection of shares and bonds.
You put your money together with money from other investors. It is sometimes called an ‘open-end fund’ because new investors can join the fund at any time. You pay a financial professional, a fund manager, to handle your investment. The fund manager decides what shares and bonds to buy and sell. There isn’t a predictable rate of return. Your earnings change from day to day.

1 I’m single. I have a good, well-paid job and I have a lot of money to invest. I’m interested in a high return on my money and I want to see my investments grow quickly.

2 I’m married with two children. I’m a teacher. I want to invest some of my money so I can pay for my children to go to university. They are still young, so I have plenty of time. Going to university is very expensive, but I worry about high-risk investments.

3 We are retired. We have some savings and would like some investments that will give us money for extras like holidays and presents for our grandchildren. We don’t want to invest in shares because we worry that we may lose our capital if the share price falls.

[B = Bob; C = Callum]
B: Hi, Callum. I don’t see you at the gym much these days!
C: Hi, Bob. No, I don’t have a lot of time. I’m studying for my accountancy exams.
B: You’re going to be an accountant? I don’t believe it!
C: Why is that surprising? Accountancy is a great career.
B: Isn’t it a bit ... boring – all facts and figures?
C: Not at all! It’s fascinating. And it’s not just about numbers, it’s about communication.
B: Communication?
C: Yes. Accountants communicate financial information about a business to all the people who need to know, like shareholders, directors, investors ... I’m going to get my qualification in September and then I will have lots of options. I will be able to travel.
B: To travel?
C: Yes, there are jobs for accountants all over the world. I’m going to go to Australia or Asia.
B: Wow. That sounds exciting.
C: What about you, Bob? What are you doing these days?
B: Well, I don’t have a job at the moment. I’m going to get married next year, so I’m looking for a new job now.
C: What about accountancy?
B: Well, the way you describe it, it does sound interesting.
C: I’ll give you some information about the course I’m on.
B: Thanks, Callum. That’s very kind of you. Are you going home now?
C: Yes.
A: What is your job?
B: I'm a bookkeeper in a small electronics company. I am responsible for keeping records of sales and purchases. I enter every transaction into a ledger. A ledger is like a book. One is for sales and one is for purchases.

A: Could you tell me what you do, please?
B: Yes, I'm a budget analyst.
A: What does that involve?
B: Well the company has a budget – that's a sort of financial plan for the amount of money it wants to spend on things, things like salaries and materials. I help set the budget and then I monitor it. I check that the company isn't spending too much on one thing, or too little on another.

A: Can you tell me what your job is, please?
B: I'm an external auditor.
A: Yes, but what do you actually do?
B: Well, I work for an accountancy firm. I visit companies and I check the financial statements prepared by the companies' accountants.
A: So you don't work for the company itself?
B: No, I work for a firm of accountants. The company is our client.

A: Could you tell me what your job is, please?
B: I'm a financial controller. I work for a manufacturing company and I am responsible for the day-to-day financial activities of the company. I monitor the performance of each department and I check the financial statements that the company's accountants produce. I keep the management informed about the state of the company's finances.

A: What do you do?
B: I'm a tax adviser. I'm a specialist in tax regulations. I prepare corporate tax returns for companies and income tax returns for individuals – those are the tax statements that they have to submit to the government. I work out how much tax they have to pay and sometimes I can show them ways to reduce the amounts of tax they pay.

A: Do you set a budget for your spending?
B: Yes, I do. I decide each month how much I can spend on entertainment – eating out, going to the cinema, that sort of thing.

A: Are you good at keeping within your budget?
B: Well, I try to keep within my budget, but sometimes if there is something special, like a dinner that I really want to go to, I spend a bit more than I planned.

A: How do you keep track of your spending?
B: I put all my receipts in my desk drawer and at the end of the month, I enter the amounts in a spreadsheet on my computer. I enter the information under general headings, like travel, food, entertainment, clothes, etc. Then I can see how much I spend each month on these things.

A: Do you prepare your own tax returns?
B: No, I don't. I employ an accountant to do that.

A: Do you monitor the stock market?
B: Yes, I do. I have a portfolio of shares so I monitor their performance. Some of my shares are in companies in developing countries. These investments are quite risky, so I also monitor the political situation in these countries carefully.

A: Do you check your bank statements?
B: Yes, I do. I also check my credit card statements very carefully.
Unit 7 An accountant’s life

[T = Tamsin; G = George]

T: Hi George. Welcome back. How was the conference? Were the speakers good?
G: It was an excellent conference. There were lots of good people and the presentations were all very interesting. My old friend Tom Watson was there, too.
T: Tom Watson?
G: Yes, you know Tom. He’s a tax adviser at Collins and Mudie. He was there with some of his colleagues. And that man who is a specialist in budget analysis, Steve something?
T: Steve Allbright?
G: Yes, that’s right. He was there. His presentation was fascinating.
T: So, no problems, then?
G: Not with the conference. That was fine. But the hotel was awful. The bedrooms were horrible. They were small and dark, and there wasn’t any hot water in the bathrooms. The food was revolting, too. And there was a lot of noise at night. The lifts were very noisy and the hotel was next to a busy road. I won’t stay there again!
T: Oh dear!

Five times one-hundred and fifty equals seven hundred and fifty.
Two thousand, two hundred and fifty divided by three equals seven hundred and fifty.
One hundred and forty-five plus six hundred and five equals seven hundred and fifty.
Ten percent of seven thousand five hundred is seven hundred and fifty.
Seven hundred and eighty minus thirty is seven hundred and fifty.
One added to seven hundred and forty-nine is seven hundred and fifty.

one billion two hundred and thirty-four million five hundred and sixty-seven thousand eight hundred and ninety
five hundred and eighty thousand six hundred and seventy-seven
two billion five hundred and eighty-seven million four hundred and fifty-three thousand two hundred and one

[G = George; T = Tamsin]
G: Were you busy while I was at the conference, Tamsin?
T: Yes, I was quite busy.
G: Did you call Bill Mudie?
T: Yes, I did. I called him and arranged the meeting for Friday at 3 pm in the boardroom. I ordered coffee and biscuits for 3.30.
G: That’s great. Thank you for that. What about the letters in my correspondence file?
T: Yes, I printed them out. They’re all on your desk.
G: Fantastic. Did you prepare Mr Sweetman’s tax return?
T: Yes, I did. I finished it yesterday. And I emailed Mrs Kato to say that we will send her tax return on Monday.
G: Thank you. She will be very pleased. Did you check the calculations on the Costmore cash flow?
T: No, I’m sorry, I didn’t have time. I’ll do them today.
G: OK. And the Copsey financial statements?
T: Yes, I helped Nigel with those. He’s going to show them to you this afternoon.
G: And LMC. Did you enter the figures in their profit and loss statement?
T: I entered some of them, but I didn’t finish them.
G: I’ll do them now.
T: Thanks, Tamsin.

In 1994, George finished school.
In 1998, he graduated from university.
In 1999, he started work at Monroe and Maplin Accounting Services in London.
In 2000, he married Jenny.
In 2002, he passed his accountancy exams and qualified as an accountant.
In 2004, he moved from the London office to the Frankfurt office.
In 2009, Monroe and Maplin promoted him to head of the tax department in London.
G: Hello, is that Mrs Taylor?
T: Speaking.
G: This is George Johnson from Monroe and Maplin. I'm calling about your tax return. We need some more information in order to complete it.
T: Oh, right. What do you need?
G: Well, you sent us details of your income and business expenses. They arrived last week. But as you work from home, you can claim a 'business use of home' charge. This will reduce the amount of tax you pay.
T: That sounds good. What exactly do you need?
G: We need details of your household expenses, so that's your gas and electricity bills and records of your mortgage payments. And also can you let us know the number of rooms in your house, the number of rooms that you use for business and the number of hours per week that they are used for business?
T: OK, I can do that. I'll send the information this afternoon.
G: That's great. Then I can finish the calculations and let you know how much tax to pay.
T: Thanks very much.
T: Goodbye.

Unit 8 The economy

G 41
a) three point five
b) three point five one
c) three point one four one five nine
d) three point seven five percent

G 42
1 A: What answer did you get?
   B: I got nought point nought five six three.
   A: Good, I got the same!
2 A: Could you give me your telephone number, please?
   B: Yes, it's oh one three seven two, five eight four nine.
   A: Thanks.
3 A: Oh, no! I missed the match. What was the score?
   B: Five nil.
   A: Five nil to who?
   B: Scunthorpe United of course!

A: Yes! Result!
4 A: What was the percentage rise from last month.
   B: It was zero point nine percent.
   A: Really?

G 43
1 two point four percent
2 nought point seven five percent
3 nought point three six percent
4 two point zero nine percent

[1 = Interviewer; F = Fernanda]
I: On the programme today we have Maria Fernanda, economic analyst at UBGS International. Welcome to the programme, Maria.
F: Thank you.
I: Now, is it good news or bad news for the economy?
F: Well, I'm generally positive about the economy. I predict that it will grow in the next quarter, perhaps by as much as 3.5%.
I: Really?
F: Yes, the stock market is doing well and I believe it will continue to do well over the next 12 months. I predict a rise of around 25%.
I: What about interest rates?
F: Interest rates are declining at the moment. I predict that this decline will continue and that they will fall to around 4.75%, possibly as early as next month.
I: I see. And what about the rate of unemployment? With the growth in the economy, can we expect more people to find work in the near future?
F: I'm not very optimistic about growth in that area. I think the unemployment rate will probably remain steady for the next six months.
I: Does that mean consumer spending will also remain steady?
F: No, I think there is more confidence in the economy and after the summer consumer spending will increase.
I: And what about the price of oil?
F: Well, that is more difficult to predict. It's always a question of supply and demand. We are monitoring the political situation in the oil-producing countries very carefully. Over the coming year, I think the price of oil will fluctuate quite a lot.
I: So that's some good news and some bad news for the economy. Thank you very much, Maria.
F: You're welcome.
A: Simon, you work at the Bank of England’s museum. I didn’t even know the Bank of England had a museum!
S: Oh, yes, it does. There are many surprising things about the Bank of England. The museum is great. You can see old banknotes and you can even try to lift a gold bar!
A: OK, well you should know the answers to this quiz, then.
S: Let’s have a look. Right. Question one is easy. It was founded in 1694 as a bank for the government.
A: OK. I think even I know the answer to the next one. It’s ‘c’, isn’t it. The Old Lady of Threadneedle Street.
S: Yep, that’s right. Threadneedle Street is the bank’s address.
A: Why ‘Old Lady’?
S: I have no idea! Anyway, the answer to question three is ‘true’. The Bank of England does store gold for other countries.
A: I didn’t know that.
S: It’s true. And number four is ‘a’. £1,000 is the highest denomination banknote ever issued by the bank.
A: What about number five. That isn’t true, is it?
S: Actually it is true. Banknotes were entirely handwritten until 1725 when the bank started printing them. But they were still signed individually by one of the cashiers until 1853.
A: Amazing! And what about number six. This is a joke, isn’t it?
S: No, it isn’t. It’s absolutely true. The man was a sewer worker and he wrote to the directors and offered to meet them at a time of their choice in the gold vaults – which he then did.
A: But why didn’t he just steal the gold?
S: He was a very honest man. And the directors of the bank gave him £800 as a reward for his honesty.
A: I see. That was a lot of money then.
S: It’s a lot of money now, but not as much as the price of one gold bar.
A: That’s question seven isn’t it? OK how much is one gold bar worth?
S: Well, of course, the price fluctuates a lot, but at the moment it’s about £200,000.
A: OK, number eight. True or false?
S: Ah, now that one is false. Actually the Bank of England started to set the official interest rate in 1997.
A: That’s quite late. Who did it before that?

S: The government.
A: What about number nine?
S: That’s false, too. The Bank of England will replace a damaged note, no matter what the cause.
A: What if it got wet?
S: Well, there has to be evidence of at least half the note and it helps if the serial number is still there.
A: OK and finally, the old and damaged notes. How does the bank destroy them?
S: This is a trick question. In fact, both these answers are correct. They burn about half the notes and the other half are turned into compost. Farmers use it to improve their soil.
A: Now I’ve heard it all! Many thanks, Simon.
S: You’re welcome!
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