**Grammar 29**

**TIME is a weekly magazine published in New York. In 2010 the magazine **18** Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg as Person of the Year.**

Everything began in February 2004, when Zuckerberg was still a student at Harvard. He made an online platform to connect college students. It helped **19** to learn and socialise.

Soon, other **20** joined Facebook and then it became popular with a much wider audience.

Today Facebook **21** by over a billion people. They play games, find friends, learn the news, and share photos there.

Not everyone, however, **22** Facebook is a good thing.

My **23** friend, Nicky, believes that I spend too much time online, on social networks.

"I wish you **24** more time with your real friends," he keeps saying.

Last Saturday when Nicky came to my place to discuss a school problem, I **25** online. He waited for a while but then left without saying a word.

And he **26** since then.

I feel I'll probably have to change my habits if I want to have real friends, not only virtual ones.

This story happened long ago. My son was six and we lived in an old house near a large park. There **18**lots of people in the park at weekends and we enjoyed walking and playing there too.

One day, my son **19** an injured bird from the park.

It was a crow. Its wing **20** and the bird could not fly.

I didn’t know what to do with the crow, but my son said that he **21** care of it.

"If you were a couple of years **22** you could manage it. But I doubt you can do it now," I tried to talk him out of keeping the crow but finally agreed to take the bird home.

The next day we took the crow to the vet. The vet fixed and bandaged the wing and explained to **23** what medicines we should give to the bird.

"Ok," he said, as we left, "I **24** everything I can. There’s no need to bring this crow here any more.

The bird is young and strong, and I think it **25** soon. This is the good news. The bad news is that it will never be able to fly again.”

"We’ll see," my son **26** to agree with this fact too easily.
Early in her reign, Queen Victoria and her husband, Prince Albert, had a plan to hold a great world-wide exhibition of modern art and design. Sir Joseph Paxton, a botanist and landscape architect, won the competition to create the central exhibition hall.

The **design** he produced is still admired by architects today.

Although at that time many thought it was **possible** to realize such a project.

In 1851, Paxton constructed his Crystal Palace – an **amazing** glass and iron pavilion, over a third of a mile long, with 800,000 square feet of floor space. The construction was an ultramodern iron frame with glass panels.

The exhibition was very **successful** – it drew over six million visitors.

**Unfortunately**, it was taken apart in 1854.

Ray Kurzweil is a very popular figure in the field of science. He is a leading computer scientist who has made lots of predictions about the future of humanity.

So far he has written six books about artificial intelligence, and four of them have become **national** best sellers in the USA.

Ray strongly believes that soon computer intelligence will be a billion times more **powerful** than the human brain.

However, lots of experts don't believe it and say that it is absolutely **possible**.

Kurzweil disagrees with them and says that we are already a human-machine civilization. We already use high level technology to diagnose diseases, provide **education**, and develop new technologies.

Kurzweil thinks that by 2030, computers will do more **impressive** tasks. They will be able to understand ordinary spoken language and show emotions.