

Structures

1: This is how we talk about **possible** scenarios – that is, things that could happen in reality without surprising us.

If it snows in the mountains, skiers will be happy.

2: This is how we talk about **imaginary** scenarios – that is, things that probably won't happen in reality.

If it snowed on a tropical island, it **would** be unbelievable.

11.3 Follow-up

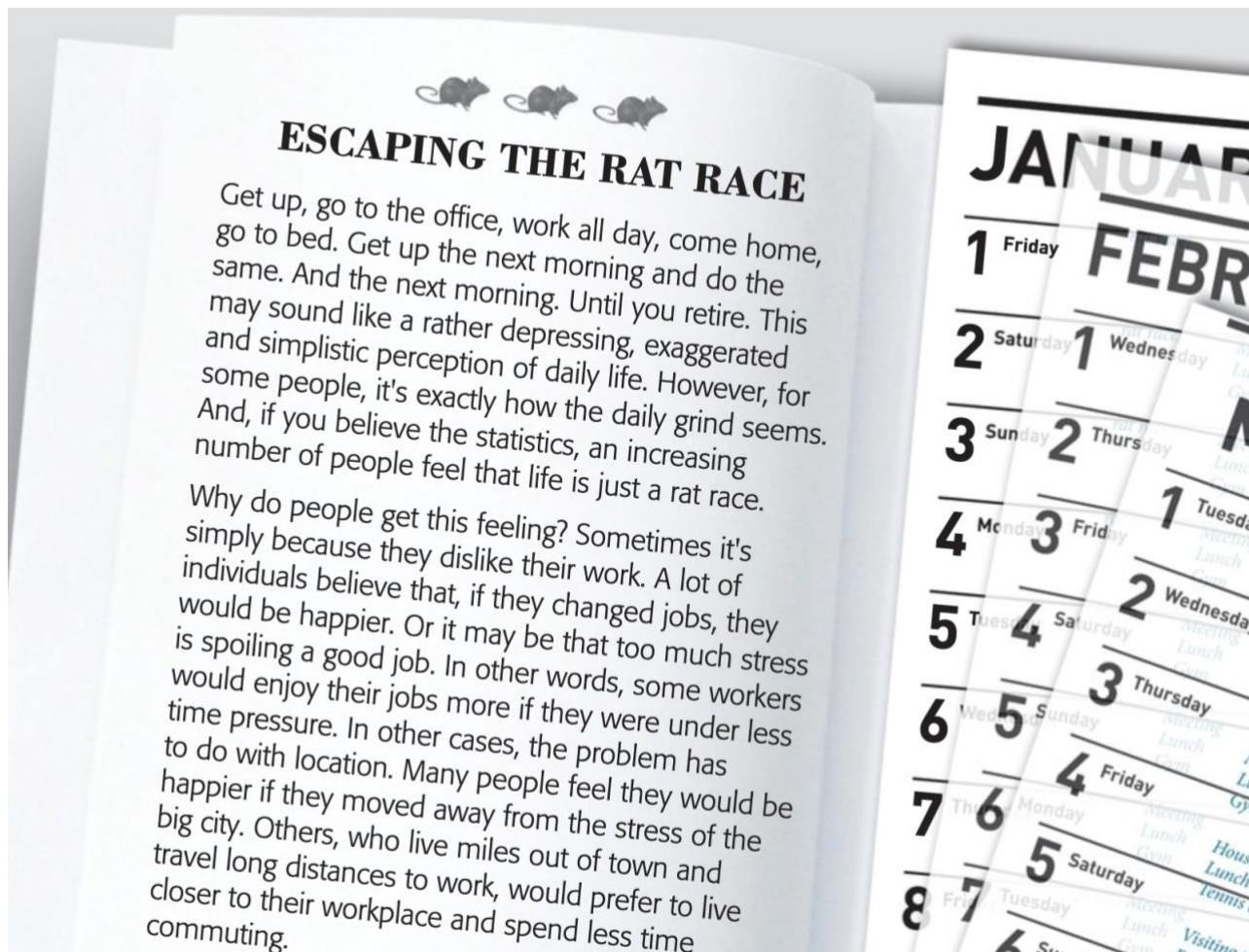
Complete these extracts from the article in Reading 11.3. Then look at the article and check your answers.

1 A lot of individuals believe that, if they / change / jobs, they / be / happier.

2 Some workers / enjoy / their jobs more if they / be / under less time pressure.

3 Many people feel they / be / happier if they / move / away from the stress of the big city.

Reading 11.3



ESCAPING THE RAT RACE

Get up, go to the office, work all day, come home, go to bed. Get up the next morning and do the same. And the next morning. Until you retire. This may sound like a rather depressing, exaggerated and simplistic perception of daily life. However, for some people, it's exactly how the daily grind seems. And, if you believe the statistics, an increasing number of people feel that life is just a rat race.

Why do people get this feeling? Sometimes it's simply because they dislike their work. A lot of individuals believe that, if they changed jobs, they would be happier. Or it may be that too much stress is spoiling a good job. In other words, some workers would enjoy their jobs more if they were under less time pressure. In other cases, the problem has to do with location. Many people feel they would be happier if they moved away from the stress of the big city. Others, who live miles out of town and travel long distances to work, would prefer to live closer to their workplace and spend less time commuting.

Practice Exercise 1

Complete the sentences about imaginary scenarios. The first one is done for you.

- 1 If I / win / a million dollars, I / leave / my job
If I won a million dollars, I would / I'd leave my job.
- 2 I / take / the train more often if it / not / be / so expensive

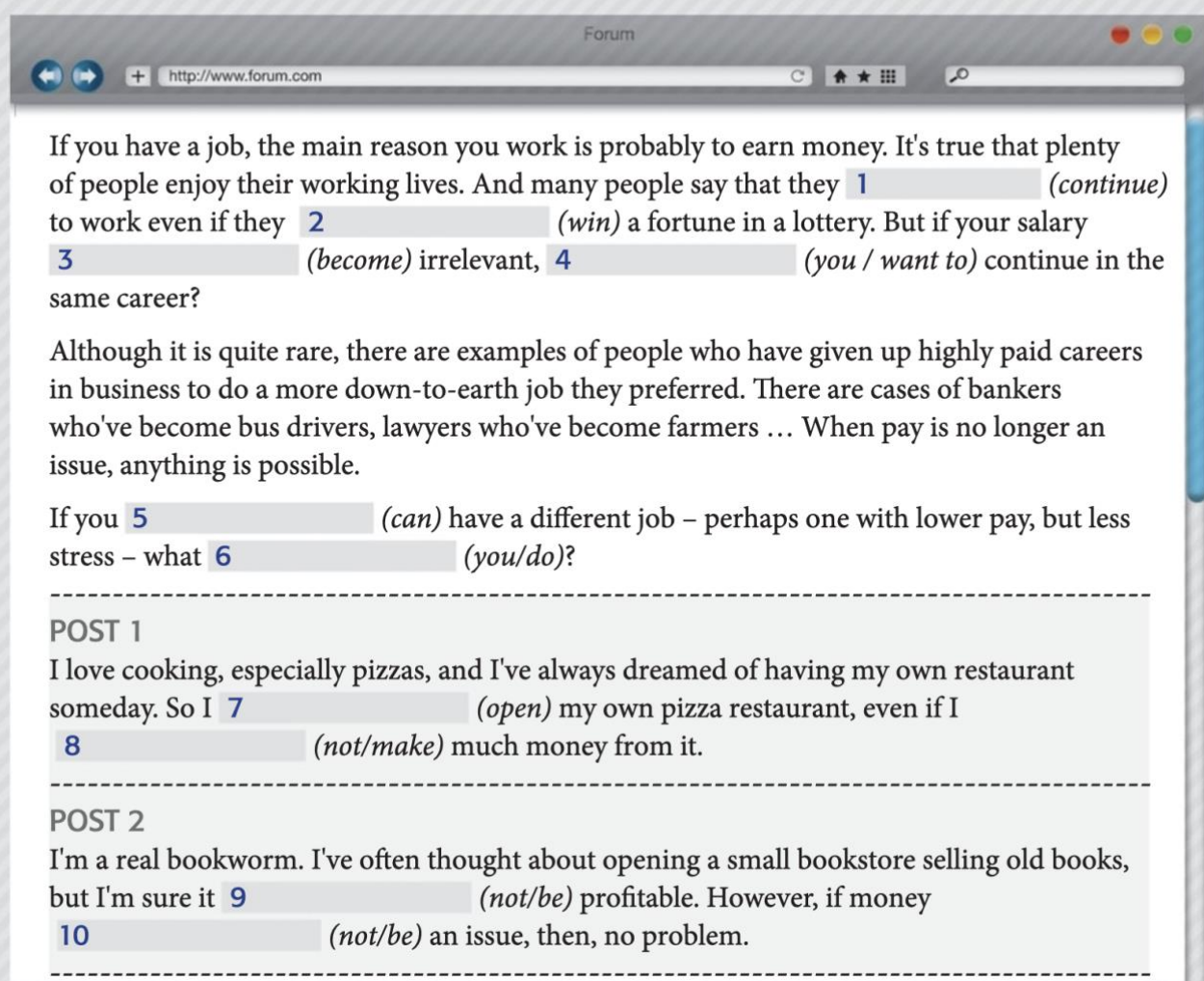
- 3 If I / have / more free time, I / get / more exercise

- 4 I / move / away from this country if I / be / ten years younger

- 5 I / not / buy / an expensive car if I / have / a lot of money

Practice Exercise 2

Part A Complete the extracts from an Internet forum below.



Forum

http://www.forum.com

If you have a job, the main reason you work is probably to earn money. It's true that plenty of people enjoy their working lives. And many people say that they **1** _____ (continue) to work even if they **2** _____ (win) a fortune in a lottery. But if your salary **3** _____ (become) irrelevant, **4** _____ (you / want to) continue in the same career?

Although it is quite rare, there are examples of people who have given up highly paid careers in business to do a more down-to-earth job they preferred. There are cases of bankers who've become bus drivers, lawyers who've become farmers ... When pay is no longer an issue, anything is possible.

If you **5** _____ (can) have a different job – perhaps one with lower pay, but less stress – what **6** _____ (you/do)?

POST 1

I love cooking, especially pizzas, and I've always dreamed of having my own restaurant someday. So I **7** _____ (open) my own pizza restaurant, even if I **8** _____ (not/make) much money from it.

POST 2

I'm a real bookworm. I've often thought about opening a small bookstore selling old books, but I'm sure it **9** _____ (not/be) profitable. However, if money **10** _____ (not/be) an issue, then, no problem.

Part B Are these sentences about the opinions in the forum true or false? Mark the boxes.

- | | | | |
|---|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | People only work to earn money. | <input type="checkbox"/> T | <input type="checkbox"/> F |
| 2 | It's common for people to quit jobs with good salaries to do more ordinary jobs. | <input type="checkbox"/> T | <input type="checkbox"/> F |
| 3 | The forum asks people to put themselves in an imaginary situation. | <input type="checkbox"/> T | <input type="checkbox"/> F |
| 4 | Both of the posts are from people who'd like to have their own businesses. | <input type="checkbox"/> T | <input type="checkbox"/> F |
| 5 | Both of the posts describe ideas that would probably make a lot of money. | <input type="checkbox"/> T | <input type="checkbox"/> F |

ANSWERS

Follow up 11.3

1. A lot of individuals believe that if they changed their jobs, they would be happier.
2. Some workers would enjoy their jobs more if they were under less time pressure.
3. Many people feel that they would be happier if they moved away from the space of the big city.

Practice Exercise 1

1. If I won \$1 million, I'd leave my job.
2. I take the train more often, if it wasn't so expensive.
3. If I had more free time, I'd get more exercise.
4. I'd move away from this country if I were 10 years younger.
5. I wouldn't buy an expensive car if I had a lot of money.

Practice Exercise 2

Part A

1. would continue
2. won
3. became
4. would you want to?
5. could
6. would you do?
7. would open
8. didn't make
9. wouldn't be
10. wasn't

Part B

1. F
2. F
3. T
4. T
5. F