



Task 1-2 | Listening

Task 1



Listen to the description and choose the best summary of the conversation between Holly and Rachel.

...

Save

Task 2



Listen to the recording again and answer the questions.



00:00



1. Why is Holly stressed?

✓ Because her parents have adopted their 7th cat.

2. What animals live in a house of a family from Brazil?

✓ Two tigers and a lion.

3. Why aren't the kids from the Canadian family allowed to use modern devices?

✓ Because the parents thought their two kids were getting too addicted to gadgets, so they decided to ban any technology post-1986.

4. What century and era does the family from the USA stick to in their lifestyle?

✓ The late 19th century; Victorian-era

5. How does a family from Germany get food and things necessary for their life?

✓ They have a small farm and work odd jobs in exchange for food, clothing and medical care.

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Task 3-7 | Grammar

Task 3



Complete the sentences from the conversation with the correct form of the verb from the box.

live (2)	try	recently read
wear	create	probably tease

1. I ve recently read | have recently read about this family in Brazil – the ten of them share their tiny home with two tigers and a lion rescued from a circus.

2. Animal rights activists in Brazil are trying to find a different arrangement but the head of the family insists on keeping the big cats.

3. Their poor children. Other kids are probably teasing | probably tease them all the time.

4. There is a couple in the U.S. who lives as if stuck in the late 19th century.

5. Does the wife wear a corset every day too?

6. And then there is this family in Germany who has been living without money for three years.

7. Well, they say that money only creates problems and hate among people.

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Task 4 | State Verbs



Study the table and the rules on state verbs and then do the tasks:

- There are two types of verbs in English: state and action.
- Examples of **action verbs**: go, do, make, watch, write etc.
- Examples of **state verbs**: be, hear, know, understand.
- **Action verbs** can be used in all tenses, but **state verbs** aren't used in continuous tenses (present continuous, present perfect continuous, past continuous, future continuous etc.). State verbs can't be in progress.
- We usually use state verbs in simple tenses (present simple, present perfect simple, past simple etc.)
- There are many **state verbs** in the English language.
- We can try and group them into categories:

Categories	Verbs	Examples
<b>Mental activity and attitudes</b>	know, think, understand, remember, want, need, be	He <b>understands</b> the problem ( <b>correct</b> ) He <del>is understanding</del> the problem ( <b>wrong!</b> )
<b>Feelings and emotions</b>	love, like, hate, detest, enjoy, forgive	I <b>hate</b> olives ( <b>correct</b> ) I'm <del>hating</del> olives ( <b>wrong!</b> )
<b>Senses</b>	hear, see, sound, taste, feel, smell	Your idea <b>sounds</b> nice ( <b>correct</b> ) Your idea <del>is sounding</del> nice ( <b>wrong!</b> )
<b>Opinion</b>	agree, believe, expect (= think), see (=understand), mean, prefer, seem	I <b>prefer</b> tea to coffee ( <b>correct</b> ) I'm <del>preferring</del> tea to coffee ( <b>wrong!</b> )
<b>Possession</b>	have (= possess), belong, possess, own	He <b>has</b> a sister ( <b>correct</b> ) He <del>is having</del> a sister ( <b>wrong!</b> )
<b>Measures</b>	measure, cost, weight, contain	It <b>costs</b> 20\$ ( <b>correct</b> ) It <del>is costing</del> 20\$ ( <b>wrong!</b> )

State	Action
He <b>thinks</b> he's really clever ( <i>he believes</i> )	I'm <b>thinking</b> about his offer ( <i>I'm considering</i> )
What does it <b>taste</b> like? ( <i>what is its flavor</i> )	He <b>is tasting</b> the food to see if it's good ( <i>he is tasting the flavor</i> )
He <b>has</b> two houses ( <i>he owns, possesses</i> )	He's <b>having</b> lunch ( <i>he is eating</i> )
The silk shirt <b>feels</b> soft ( <i>it has a soft texture</i> )	Ann <b>is feeling</b> the cat's fur ( <i>she is touching it</i> )
Do you <b>see</b> what I mean? ( <i>do you understand</i> )	I'm <b>seeing</b> Paula tonight ( <i>I'm meeting her</i> )
Your perfume <b>smells</b> of apples ( <i>it has the smell</i> )	She <b>is smelling</b> the roses ( <i>she is physically sensing the smell of</i> )
I <b>love</b> / <b>enjoy</b> good films ( <i>I like in general</i> )	I'm <b>loving</b> / <b>enjoying</b> ( <i>I like specifically</i> )
It <b>looks</b> as if it's going to rain ( <i>it appears</i> )	He <b>is looking</b> at the painting ( <i>he is viewing it</i> )
The box is heavy. It <b>weighs</b> a lot ( <i>its weight is</i> )	He <b>is weighing</b> the potatoes on the scales ( <i>he is finding out the weight of potatoes</i> )
Bobby <b>is</b> naughty ( <i>his character is bad</i> )	Suzy <b>is being</b> very naughty now ( <i>she is misbehaving</i> )

Task 5



Open the brackets using the present simple or the present continuous. Pay attention to state verbs.

- I am having | 'm having (have) a great time.
- She has (have) plenty of money just now.
- Why are you looking (you/look) at me like that?
- It looks (look) as if it's going to rain.
- I see (see) what they are trying to say.
- I am seeing | 'm seeing (see) the manager this afternoon.
- I think (think) you are right.
- What are you thinking (you/think) about?
- I am feeling | 'm feeling (feel) very tired today.
- I feel (feel) she is making a mistake.

Check

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Task 6



Put the words into the correct form, the present continuous or the present simple.

- Are you hungry? Do you want (you/want) something to eat?
- Don't put the book away! I 'm using | am using it. (use)
- Don't put the book away! I need (need) it.
- George says he's 80 years old but nobody believes (believe) him.
- She told me her name but I don't remember | do not remember (not/remember) it now.
- I am thinking | 'm thinking (think) of selling my car. Would you be interested in buying it?
- I think (think) you should sell your car. You don't use | do not use it (not/use) it very often.
- I used to drink a lot of coffee but these days I prefer (prefer) tea.

Check

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Task 7



Revise all the information about present tenses again. Find and correct 8 mistakes in the following sentences. There are 2 correct sentences.

- ✓ I'm waiting I've been waiting ✓ for you ✓ for almost ✓ an hour ! ✓ Can you ✓ hurry up ?
- ✓ Kate already phoned him Kate has already phoned him ✓ three times .
- ✓ We have this car We have had this car ✓ since last year .
- ✓ We're flying to Vienna ✓ tomorrow at 6:30 .
- ✓ I don't hear you ✓ because of the noise ! ✓ Do you drive Are you driving ✓ somewhere ?
- ✓ How much chocolate ✓ do you eat today have you eaten today ✓ so far ?
- ✓ The lessons are starting The lessons start ✓ every Monday and Wednesday ✓ at 18:10 .
- ✓ How long ✓ have you been working ✓ here ?
- ✓ I usually wear ✓ something casual ✓ but today ✓ I wear a suit I'm wearing a suit ✓ as I need to look nice ✓ at a job interview .
- ✓ Why are your clothes ✓ so dirty ? — ✓ I've played football I've been playing football .

Check

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Audio Script

**Rachel** - Holly, you look so stressed. What happened?

**Holly** - A weekend with my parents.

- Uh-oh, what did they do now?
- They adopted their 7<sup>th</sup> cat! Seven cats in a 40 square meter apartment, can you imagine?
- It could have been worse.
- How?
- I've recently read about this family in Brazil – the ten of them share their tiny home with two tigers and a lion rescued from a circus.
- Is this even legal to have wild animals at home?
- Animal rights activists in Brazil are trying to find a different arrangement but the head of the family insists on keeping the big cats.
- Now that's eccentric!
- Yet they aren't even in the top ten on the crazy families list.
- Oh yeah?
- There's this family in Canada, for instance, who live like it's the 80s.
- Wait, what?
- True story. They thought their two kids were getting too addicted to gadgets, so they decided to ban any technology post-1986 in their house.
- Hold on, how does that work?
- No computers, no smart phones, no digital cameras, no social media, no Internet...
- No life, more like!
- Exactly!
- Their poor children. Other kids are probably teasing them all the time.
- That's still not the weirdest family lifestyle out there. There is a couple in the U.S. who lives as if stuck in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- A Victorian-era lifestyle? You're kidding!
- They don't drive cars, hand-sew their clothing in that period style, wash up with a pitcher and basin, cook from Victorian recipes and use oil lamps.
- Does the wife wear a corset every day too?
- You bet! And then there is this family in Germany who has been living without money for three years.
- You mean they choose to be poor? Why?
- Well, they say that money only creates problems and hate among people, so they decided to go give up using money to show that there are more important things in the world.
- How do they survive?
- They have a small farm and work odd jobs in exchange for food, clothing and medical care.
- You're right. My family is weird but thank goodness it's not THAT weird.



Test Yourself

Choose the correct option.

- Thank you for the flowers, they are smelling so good!  
a. ☐ smells  
b. ☐ are smelling  
c. ☐ smelling  
d. ☐ smell
- Has he offered you a job? - Yes, and currently I am going to whether to take it or not.  
a. ☐ will think  
b. ☐ am going to  
c. ☐ think  
d. ☐ am thinking
- about anything important? Yes, I'll tell you later about it.  
a. ☐ Are you thinking  
b. ☐ Do you think  
c. ☐ Have you thought
- Oh, gosh! She is always having a bath when I need to go to the toilet.  
a. ☐ always has  
b. ☐ is always having  
c. ☐ has always had
- What are you weighing? - Some bananas. I'm going to try a new recipe of a cheesecake with bananas.  
a. ☐ do you weigh  
b. ☐ are you weighing  
c. ☐ are you weighting  
d. ☐ am having
- How long have you known him?  
a. ☐ have you known  
b. ☐ have you been knowing  
c. ☐ did you know  
d. ☐ do you know
- Is it a new car? - Not really. I have had this car for about 5 years.  
a. ☐ have  
b. ☐ have been having  
c. ☐ have had  
d. ☐ am having
- Sue is having a party tonight, are you going?  
a. ☐ is have  
b. ☐ is having  
c. ☐ has  
d. ☐ have
- John is a kind of person who never wastes time. I can't understand why he isn't tasting so lazy at the moment.  
a. ☐ is being  
b. ☐ is  
c. ☐ be  
d. ☐ be
- She is tasting the soup now to check if it's ready.  
a. ☐ is tasting  
b. ☐ tastes  
c. ☐ tests  
d. ☐ taste

Check

Hide answers

Reset