

TEXT
1

The following is a conversation between Mike (speaker) and Lisa (listener):



You need to take it out of the second drawer and put it in the top drawer. If it doesn't fit (*caber*) in there, then leave it on top of the desk and I'll find a place to put it later. Then you need to help me decide what to wear to the party. I would like to put on that red shirt you gave me for Christmas last year, but I can't find it. Maybe you can help me look for it. If we don't find it, then I'll put on the white shirt with the red tie that I got from your sister last year. Oh, and remind me to put on the watch that I bought in Paris. It's so expensive that I don't wear it every day, but this is a special occasion. I think the party will probably last around two hours. Then we can go out to dinner somewhere. I think it would be nice if we went to that Italian restaurant you like so much, plus it's not too expensive. And then we can go see a movie, but nothing too dramatic! I want today to be a happy day. I don't want to be tense and I certainly don't want you to cry!

EXERCISE
2

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. When the story begins, where is the "it" Mike is referring to in the first sentence? | 1. The it is in the second drawer. |
| 2. What does Mike want Lisa to do with it? | 2. Mike wants Lisa to put it in the top drawer. |
| 3. If it doesn't fit in the top drawer, Mike wants Lisa to put it back where it was. | 3. <input type="checkbox"/> True <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> False |
| 4. What shirt does Mike want to wear to the party? | 4. Mike wants to wear the red shirt Lisa gave him for Christmas last year. |
| 5. Mike got the red shirt from Lisa's sister. | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> True <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> False |
| 6. It's possible that Mike won't wear the red shirt. Why not? | 6. Yes. Because he doesn't find it. |
| 7. Why doesn't he wear the watch he bought in Paris more often? | 7. Because it's expensive. |
| 8. How long does Mike think the party will last? | 8. He thinks the party will last two hours. |
| 9. Mike and Lisa are going to have dinner at the party. | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> True <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> False |
| 10. Who likes the Italian restaurant, Mike or Lisa? | 10. Lisa likes the Italian restaurant. |
| 11. Why doesn't Mike want to see a dramatic movie? | 11. Because he wants today to be a happy day. |
| 12. Mike doesn't want Lisa to cry. | 12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False |

TEXT

1

Kevin is a mid-level executive at a very well-known bank. He started working there about five years ago when he graduated from college with a degree (*diploma*) in economics. At first he didn't know anyone at the company but now he has many friends there. He rents an apartment in the city and walks the ten minutes to and from work each day. He usually gets up at 6 and has breakfast while watching the news in English. He doesn't like to hurry, so he doesn't leave his home until 7:15 or so. The bank opens for customers at 8, but most employees have to be there half an hour earlier for a staff meeting. Kevin works in the bank's corporate department, which means that he makes loans (*préstamos*) to small and medium size companies. He likes the work, but someday he would like to work managing investment portfolios (*carteras de inversión*). The stock market (*bolsa*) fascinates him, but he doesn't own any stock (*acciones*) himself. Kevin doesn't often go out to dinner. Instead, after work, he goes to the gym for a couple of hours and then he goes home for dinner.



EXERCISE

2

1. When did Kevin graduate from college?

1.
.....

2. Some of Kevin's friends from college went to work at the same bank with Kevin.

2. ☐ True ☐ False

3. Kevin is living in a rented apartment.

3. ☐ True ☐ False

4. It takes Kevin 10 minutes to drive to work.

4. ☐ True ☐ False

5. Kevin gets to the bank at 8.

5. ☐ True ☐ False

6. What kind of companies does Kevin's department make loans to?

6.
.....

7. What kind of work would he like to do some day?

7.
.....

8. Kevin owns stock in his bank.

8. ☐ True ☐ False

9. Kevin usually has dinner at home.

9. ☐ True ☐ False



TEXT

1

Kevin looked outside. It was getting dark, and a little cold. He closed the windows and turned on the lights. He looked at Mary, who was sitting next to him. "Are you cold?" he asked. She nodded (*asentir con la cabeza*). "A little," she replied. He turned on the heat. Mary looked in the back seat. Mike and Debbie were sleeping. She looked at her watch. It was almost eight. "When do you think we'll get there?" she asked Kevin. He thought for a few seconds and then said, "if it doesn't rain and if there's no traffic, we should (*deberíamos*) be there at around ten thirty. Do you think Tom and Patty will still be awake at that hour?" "I hope so! (*Espero que sí*)", Mary said, "they usually watch the 11 o'clock news before going to bed, though I'm pretty sure that Tom junior will be sleeping." Mary yawned (*bostezar*). Kevin looked at her. "Don't start yawning again!" Mary smiled and said, "I'm sorry. Don't worry, I'm not tired." Kevin read the road sign about 200 meters ahead of them, informing traffic of the restaurants at the next exit. "If you want we can stop here for a few minutes." "I'm ok," Mary said, "but we can stop if you want to get some coffee or something."



EXERCISE

2

1. When Kevin looked outside,
 - a) the sun was probably going down,
 - b) the sun was probably coming up,
 - c) he felt hot,
 - d) Mary was talking to him.
2. Kevin closed the windows because Mary was cold.

2. ☐ True
☐ False
3. What did Kevin do when Mary told him that she was a little cold?
4. How many people were in the back seat?
 - a) 0,
 - b) 1,
 - c) 2,
 - d) 4.
5. What time was it probably when Mary looked at her watch?
 - a) 8:05,
 - b) 7:55,
 - c) 18:00,
 - d) 10:30.
6. When would they be at their destination?
 - a) in about eight hours,
 - b) in about two hours,
 - c) at about 2:30,
 - d) in about two and a half hours.
7. Why did Mary think Tom and Patty would still be awake when they got there?
8. Tom junior is probably
 - a) Tom and Mary's son,
 - b) Mike and Debbie's brother,
 - c) Tom's nephew,
 - d) Patty's son.
9. Mary yawned because she was tired.

9. ☐ True
☐ False
10. Kevin and Mary were probably
 - a) in a car,
 - b) in a bus,
 - c) on a train,
 - d) on a motorcycle.



TEXT

1

Yesterday was definitely not a normal day. I had to take a cold shower because the heater wasn't working! Good thing (*menos mal*) it was already in the 30s in the morning. After my very short shower I didn't have time to eat my normal breakfast, so I grabbed (*coger*) an apple that was on top of the kitchen table and ran out the door. Then, when I got to the bus stop, I realized that I didn't have the monthly sales report (*informe*) with me, so I had to run back to the apartment to get it. When I finally got to the office, everyone was waiting for me. To make things worse, there were so many people on the bus that I didn't have room to go over (*repasar*) the report. Fortunately, there weren't any mistakes (*error*) in it. But I was so worried about the presentation that I forgot to eat the apple. Of course I couldn't eat it during the meeting, so I had to wait until 10 AM to eat it. The rest of the day went much better, and the boss even (*hasta*) congratulated (*felicitar*) me for the report. He told me it was very clear and concise, and much better than the report from the previous month. He told me that if my work continued to improve (*mejorar*), that he would promote me to section supervisor.

EXERCISE

2

1. This paragraph describes
 - a) a typical day in the narrator's life,
 - b) the narrator's routine before he goes to work,
 - c) why yesterday was a day like any other,
 - d) the unusual things that happened yesterday to the narrator.
2. The term "30s" (underlined - *subrayado*) refers to
 - a) the amount of time the narrator spent in the shower,
 - b) the time of day,
 - c) the temperature,
 - d) the narrator's age.
3. To get to work, the narrator
 - a) walks,
 - b) drives,
 - c) takes the subway,
 - d) takes the bus.
4. The narrator normally has just (*solo*) an apple for breakfast.
 - a) ☐ True ☐ False
5. Why did the narrator have to run back to the apartment?
 - a) to have breakfast,
 - b) to get a report,
 - c) to go to the bathroom,
 - d) to get his wallet.
6. The report
 - a) was probably not written by the narrator,
 - b) is prepared every week,
 - c) only had a few mistakes,
 - d) is prepared every month.
7. The narrator didn't eat the apple because
 - a) he was worried about the report,
 - b) the bus was crowded (*abarroado*),
 - c) he didn't have time,
 - d) he was preparing for his presentation.
8. The boss liked the narrator's presentation.
 - a) ☐ True ☐ False
9. In comparison to the previous month's report, this report was
 - a) longer,
 - b) better,
 - c) worse,
 - d) written by a different person.
10. When he got home at the end of the day, the narrator was probably
 - a) happy,
 - b) depressed,
 - c) angry,
 - d) hungry.

TEXT

1

Yesterday I had to get up at 5 in the morning! Normally on weekdays (*entre semana*) I get up at seven, watch some TV while I have breakfast, and then take the subway (*metro*) to work. I usually get to the office at around nine. But yesterday, which was Tuesday, I had to be at the airport at 6 AM to pick up my brother-in-law, who was flying in from Tenerife. I wasn't too happy to have to go to the airport so early. He apologized (*disculparse*) and told me the 3:30 flight was the only one available (*disponible*) and that he had to be in Madrid for an important meeting. I almost told him to take a taxi, but I didn't want to upset my sister. Today I'm back on my normal schedule (*horario*), but I'm very tired. Maybe I can leave the office a little early. I don't think we'll be too busy (*ocupado*) today or during the rest of the week. Next week will be different, though. The boss told us yesterday that we will be getting an important new client on Monday that will mean (*significar*) lots of work for everyone for at least (*al menos*) two weeks, and then after that I have a week of vacation. Maybe (*quizás*) I'll go to Tenerife and return my brother-in-law the favor!

EXERCISE

2

1. How often does the author get up at 5 AM?
 - a) once a week,
 - b) every day,
 - c) rarely,
 - d) never.
2. What day will tomorrow be?
 - a) Tuesday,
 - b) Wednesday,
 - c) Thursday,
 - d) Monday.
3. What time does the author usually leave his house to go to the office?
 - a) at six,
 - b) at 7:30,
 - c) at 9,
 - d) the story doesn't say.
4. The author has at least one sister.
 ☐ True ☐ False
5. The author lives in Tenerife.
 ☐ True ☐ False
6. The author's brother-in-law had a meeting in Madrid at 3:30.
 ☐ True ☐ False
7. The author thinks today won't be a busy day at work.
 ☐ True ☐ False
8. Next week the author
 - a) is going on vacation,
 - b) is going to Tenerife,
 - c) has an important meeting,
 - d) will probably be very busy.
9. When is the author going on vacation?
 - a) next week,
 - b) next month,
 - c) in three weeks,
 - d) after he finishes his work.
10. The author is going on vacation
 - a) to his home town,
 - b) to Tenerife,
 - c) for a week,
 - d) with his sister.

TEXT

1

The term "Tornado Alley" (*callejón*) refers to the area of land, mainly in the United States but also in Canada, where most of the world's tornadoes take place. Although (*aunque*) tornadoes also occur in other parts of the world, the unique topography of Tornado Alley makes it particularly susceptible to these devastating storms. This is because tornadoes occur when masses of warm, moist (*húmedo*) air come into contact with masses of cold, dry air. These conditions are present in Tornado Alley when cold air masses from the Rockies or Canada collide with hot and humid air from the Gulf of Mexico. The result is most often a thunderstorm (*tormenta*), and the most violent thunderstorms can result in tornadic activity, as the cold air sinks (*hundirse*) and the hot air rises (*ascender*) with rotating fury. In an average (*medio*) year, up to (*hasta*) one thousand tornadoes can strike (*golpear*) the United States, the vast majority of these somewhere in Tornado Alley. Canada is a distant second in the ranking, with about a hundred tornadoes a year. Tornadoes can occur in other places around the world, like Australia, South Africa and Europe, but no country on Earth can match (*igualar*) the unenviable (*poco envidiable*) statistics of Tornado Alley, and no state sees more tornadoes each year than Texas.

EXERCISE

2

1. This article is mainly (*principalmente*) about
 - a) how tornadoes form,
 - b) where tornadoes form,
 - c) the effects of tornadoes,
 - d) thunderstorms.
 2. ☐ True ☐ False
 3. ☐ True ☐ False
 4. a) it is warm and dry,
b) it is cold and humid,
c) it is cold and moist,
d) it is hot and moist.
 5. ☐ True ☐ False
 6. a) Alaska,
b) Canada,
c) the Gulf of Mexico,
d) the Sierra Nevada mountains.
 7. a) 25%,
b) 50%,
c) 90%,
d) 100%.
 8. ☐ True ☐ False
 9. a) tornadoes in Texas,
b) the effects of tornadoes on structures,
c) the physics of tornadoes,
d) tornadoes in other parts of the world.
2. Tornadoes in the United States only occur within Tornado Alley.
 3. Part of Tornado Alley extends into Canada.
 4. The characteristics of one of the air masses that creates the thunderstorms that result in a tornado are:
 5. In an average year, there are 10 times more tornadoes in the United States than in Canada.
 6. The cold air that creates thunderstorms in Tornado Alley comes from
 7. What percentage of tornadoes in the United States probably occur in Tornado Alley?
 8. In a tornado, the cold air rises above the hot air and starts to rotate.
 9. The next paragraph in this article will probably be about

TEXT
1

Last week, I flew to Bilbao to visit our office there. I usually go there two or three times a year, always on business. I always stay there a couple of days and then I fly back. Last week, I stayed at the Veracruz Hotel, which is about ten minutes away from the office on foot. I like that because I don't want to rent a car when I'm in Bilbao. I also like that hotel because there's a very good churrería between the hotel and the office, and I always have breakfast there. The office is only about twenty minutes away from the airport. Sometimes Carlos, from the Bilbao office, goes to pick me up, and sometimes I take a taxi. Last week I flew there on Tuesday morning and went straight (*directamente*) to the office. I had lunch with a few managers from the Bilbao office at a restaurant near the office at around 2pm, and then we went back to the office to finish some work on a new project. I came back on Friday. My plan was to go to the office for a couple of hours before going home, but my flight arrived late, so when I got back I went straight home.

EXERCISE
2

1. How often does the narrator go to Bilbao? 1.
2. The narrator sometimes visits Bilbao as a tourist. 2. ☐ True ☐ False
3. Where does the narrator have breakfast when he stays at the Veracruz Hotel? 3.
4. How does the narrator get from the hotel to the office? 4.
5. The hotel is about twenty minutes away from the airport. 5. ☐ True ☐ False
6. How does the author get from the airport to the office? 6.
7. Who did the narrator have lunch with last Tuesday? 7.
8. The narrator went to the hotel after he had lunch on Tuesday. 8. ☐ True ☐ False
9. The narrator planned to go to the office when he got back on Friday. 9. ☐ True ☐ False
10. Why didn't the narrator go to the office when he got back on Friday? 10.

TEXT

1

Yesterday Marta went to the store to buy some fruit. She wanted to get some cherries, a watermelon and maybe some kiwis, which she loves to eat when she's thirsty, especially after exercising. She went to the supermarket first, but there were a lot of people waiting in line. She decided to go inside anyway to look at the prices. The watermelon was cheap, but the cherries were incredibly expensive, and she didn't want to buy just (*solo*) one thing, so she went to the local market. There, she saw her good friend Anna, who wanted to buy some meat for a barbecue. The two talked about their families for about ten minutes and then Anna said she was in a hurry (*tenía prisa*), so they said goodbye to each other. Marta found everything she was looking for, and even though (*aunque*) it was a bit expensive, she didn't want to go back home empty handed (*con las manos vacías*), so she bought an enormous watermelon, a kilo of kiwis and a basket of cherries. She thought about taking a taxi back to her house because of all the heavy bags she was carrying, but then she decided to walk. I need the exercise, she thought.



EXERCISE

2

1. How many different kinds of fruit did Marta want to buy?
 - a) 2,
 - b) 3,
 - c) 4,
 - d) 1.
2. Marta loves to eat kiwis
 - a) anytime,
 - b) when she's hungry,
 - c) before exercising,
 - d) when she's thirsty.
3. There were a lot of people buying fruit at the supermarket.
 3. ☐ True ☐ False
4. Marta didn't buy any fruits at the supermarket because
 - a) the watermelon was cheap,
 - b) they didn't have any cherries,
 - c) the kiwis were incredibly expensive,
 - d) she didn't want to buy just one thing.
5. Marta saw Anna in the supermarket buying meat for a barbecue.
 5. ☐ True ☐ False
6. Anna was in a hurry and didn't have too much time to talk.
 6. ☐ True ☐ False
7. Marta didn't take a taxi because
 - a) she didn't have enough money,
 - b) she needed the exercise,
 - c) the bags were too heavy,
 - d) she was close to her home.
8. Marta bought an enormous watermelon because she didn't want to go back home empty-handed.
 8. ☐ True ☐ False
9. What did Marta and Anna talk about?
 - a) their families,
 - b) their jobs,
 - c) Anna's barbecue,
 - d) how expensive everything was.



TEXT

1

Every year I tell myself that I'm not going to wait until the last minute to buy Christmas presents, and yet (*sin embargo*) every year, that's exactly what I do. Well, this year is the year that I finally listened to myself! Last week I bought Christmas presents for everyone in my family. I took advantage (*aprovechar*) of the summer sales (*rebajas*) to buy winter coats for my two children. They're growing so fast that last winter's coats will probably be too small for them this winter. Plus, by buying winter clothes in summer I saved a bundle! I also bought them some toys, though I'll be very lucky if they don't find them before Christmas! My husband is going to get some shoes, which I also bought on sale, and some very nice sunglasses. And no, he's not getting a tie this Christmas, though he likes anything I give him. My sister is the hardest person to shop for. She likes really expensive designer clothes. What she doesn't spend on food and rent (*alquiler*) she spends on ridiculously expensive dress jackets and shoes. Normally I wouldn't encourage (*motivar, alentar*) her expensive habits, but this year I was able to find a nice dress that I know she'll love. And the best part is that, of course, it was on sale, which is good because that is the only way I would buy her the kind of clothes that she likes to wear. So this year, I think, and hope, that everyone will be happy with their presents.



EXERCISE

2

1. Every year, the writer has the intention of not waiting until the last minute to buy Christmas presents. 1. ☐ True ☐ False
2. Every year the writer normally waits until the last minute to buy Christmas presents. 2. ☐ True ☐ False
3. The writer bought coats because 3. a) they were on sale,
b) the coats the children wore last year are too big,
c) the children were cold,
d) that is what the children wanted.
4. The expression "a bundle" (underlined) probably means "a little". 4. ☐ True ☐ False
5. What does the writer think will probably happen with the toys? 5.
.....
6. The writer's husband probably got a tie last Christmas. 6. ☐ True ☐ False
7. The writer normally buys expensive clothes for her sister. 7. ☐ True ☐ False
8. The writer. 8. a) probably buys all of her clothes on sale,
b) doesn't normally buy expensive clothes for her sister,
c) will probably wait until the last minute next year to buy Christmas presents,
d) probably hates (odiar) shopping.



TEXT

1

Scott works at the supermarket. His schedule (*horario*) rotates every week, so one week he goes into work in the morning and opens up the store, and the next week he'll go in in the afternoon and close up the store at night. He doesn't particularly like his work. He finds it boring most of the time, doing the same thing every day. He likes his boss, but he's not really friends with any of his co-workers (*compañeros de trabajo*). He likes helping customers, and he knows some of them personally, but some customers treat him badly, which upsets him. During his coffee and lunch breaks he usually puts on his headphones and listens to English lessons. He's convinced that if he learns to speak English well, he can get a better job working in the office of his best friend's dad, which does a lot of business in North America. Since Scott lives in a beach (*playa*) town with lots of tourists, he tries to practice English at work with all of the foreign customers who go into the store. He knows he has a lot to learn, but his pronunciation is improving (*mejorando*) and the customers appreciate (*agradecen*) having someone who can answer their questions. Usually they ask him what the different words on the package (*envase*) labels (*etiqueta*) mean (*significar*), but sometimes they talk to him about the town and about the weather. Of course, Scott's boss wants Scott to keep working at the supermarket because he's the only person who can speak English.

EXERCISE

2

1. If Scott went into work today in the afternoon, then in two weeks, he would go into work in the morning.
 2. Scott doesn't like his work because
 3. How does Scott feel when customers treat him badly?
 4. Why does Scott want to learn English well?
 5. Scott tries to practice English
 6. What kind of question would a customer typically ask Scott?
 7. Why does Scott's boss want Scott to keep working at the supermarket?
1. ☐ True ☐ False
 2. a) he doesn't like his co-workers,
b) he doesn't like his boss,
c) he has to help customers,
d) he does the same thing every day.
 3.
.....
 4.
.....
 5. a) with his best friend's dad,
b) with the foreign customers,
c) with his boss,
d) with tourists.
 6. a) Can you tell me how to get to the beach?
b) How many eggs do I need for a tortilla?
c) What does "harina" mean?
d) Do you think it'll rain tomorrow?
 7. a) because he needs somebody to practice English with,
b) because he needs someone to talk to foreign customers in English,
c) because he's the best employee at the store,
d) because he doesn't like the other employees.

TEXT
1

The following is a conversation between Mike (speaker) and Lisa (listener):



You need to take it out of the second drawer and put it in the top drawer. If it doesn't fit (*caber*) in there, then leave it on top of the desk and I'll find a place to put it later. Then you need to help me decide what to wear to the party. I would like to put on that red shirt you gave me for Christmas last year, but I can't find it. Maybe you can help me look for it. If we don't find it, then I'll put on the white shirt with the red tie that I got from your sister last year. Oh, and remind me to put on the watch that I bought in Paris. It's so expensive that I don't wear it every day, but this is a special occasion. I think the party will probably last around two hours. Then we can go out to dinner somewhere. I think it would be nice if we went to that Italian restaurant you like so much, plus it's not too expensive. And then we can go see a movie, but nothing too dramatic! I want today to be a happy day. I don't want to be tense and I certainly don't want you to cry!

EXERCISE

2



- When the story begins, where is the "it" Mike is referring to in the first sentence?
- What does Mike want Lisa to do with it?
- If it doesn't fit in the top drawer, Mike wants Lisa to put it back where it was.
- What shirt does Mike want to wear to the party?
- Mike got the red shirt from Lisa's sister.
- It's possible that Mike won't wear the red shirt. Why not?
- Why doesn't he wear the watch he bought in Paris more often?
- How long does Mike think the party will last?
- Mike and Lisa are going to have dinner at the party.
- Who likes the Italian restaurant, Mike or Lisa?
- Why doesn't Mike want to see a dramatic movie?
- Mike doesn't want Lisa to cry.

- In the second drawer.
- He wants her to take it out of the second drawer and put it in the top one.
- ☐ True ☒ False
- The red one.
- ☐ True ☒ False
- Because he can't find it.
- Because it's too expensive.
- Around two hours.
- ☐ True ☒ False
- Lisa.
- Because he wants today to be a happy day.
- ☒ True ☐ False

TEXT

1

Kevin is a mid-level executive at a very well-known bank. He started working there about five years ago when he graduated from college with a degree (*diploma*) in economics. At first he didn't know anyone at the company but now he has many friends there. He rents an apartment in the city and walks the ten minutes to and from work each day. He usually gets up at 6 and has breakfast while watching the news in English. He doesn't like to hurry, so he doesn't leave his home until 7:15 or so. The bank opens for customers at 8, but most employees have to be there half an hour earlier for a staff meeting. Kevin works in the bank's corporate department, which means that he makes loans (*préstamos*) to small and medium size companies. He likes the work, but someday he would like to work managing investment portfolios (*carteras de inversión*). The stock market (*bolsa*) fascinates him, but he doesn't own any stock (*acciones*) himself. Kevin doesn't often go out to dinner. Instead, after work, he goes to the gym for a couple of hours and then he goes home for dinner.

EXERCISE

2

1. When did Kevin graduate from college?

1. About five years ago.

2. Some of Kevin's friends from college went to work at the same bank with Kevin.

2. ☐ True ☒ False

3. Kevin is living in a rented apartment.

3. ☒ True ☐ False

4. It takes Kevin 10 minutes to drive to work.

4. ☐ True ☒ False

5. Kevin gets to the bank at 8.

5. ☐ True ☒ False

6. What kind of companies does Kevin's department make loans to?

6. Small and medium size companies.

7. What kind of work would he like to do some day?

7. He would like to manage investment portfolios.

8. Kevin owns stock in his bank.

8. ☐ True ☒ False

9. Kevin usually has dinner at home.

9. ☒ True ☐ False

TEXT

1

Kevin looked outside. It was getting dark, and a little cold. He closed the windows and turned on the lights. He looked at Mary, who was sitting next to him. "Are you cold?" he asked. She nodded (*asentir con la cabeza*). "A little," she replied. He turned on the heat. Mary looked in the back seat. Mike and Debbie were sleeping. She looked at her watch. It was almost eight. "When do you think we'll get there?" she asked Kevin. He thought for a few seconds and then said, "if it doesn't rain and if there's no traffic, we should (*deberíamos*) be there at around ten thirty. Do you think Tom and Patty will still be awake at that hour?" "I hope so! (*Espero que sí*)", Mary said, "they usually watch the 11 o'clock news before going to bed, though I'm pretty sure that Tom junior will be sleeping." Mary yawned (*bostezar*). Kevin looked at her. "Don't start yawning again!" Mary smiled and said, "I'm sorry. Don't worry, I'm not tired." Kevin read the road sign about 200 meters ahead of them, informing traffic of the restaurants at the next exit. "If you want we can stop here for a few minutes." "I'm ok," Mary said, "but we can stop if you want to get some coffee or something."



EXERCISE

2

1. When Kevin looked outside,
 - a) the sun was probably going down,
 - b) the sun was probably coming up,
 - c) he felt hot,
 - d) Mary was talking to him.
2. Kevin closed the windows because Mary was cold.

☐ True
 ☒ False
3. What did Kevin do when Mary told him that she was a little cold?

He turned on the heat.
4. How many people were in the back seat?
 - a) 0,
 - b) 1,
 - c) 2,
 - d) 4.
5. What time was it probably when Mary looked at her watch?
 - a) 8:05,
 - b) 7:55,
 - c) 18:00,
 - d) 10:30.
6. When would they be at their destination?
 - a) in about eight hours,
 - b) in about two hours,
 - c) at about 2:30,
 - d) in about two and a half hours.
7. Why did Mary think Tom and Patty would still be awake when they got there?

Because they usually watch the 11 o'clock news.
8. Tom junior is probably
 - a) Tom and Mary's son,
 - b) Mike and Debbie's brother,
 - c) Tom's nephew,
 - d) Patty's son.
9. Mary yawned because she was tired.

☐ True
 ☒ False
10. Kevin and Mary were probably
 - a) in a car,
 - b) in a bus,
 - c) on a train,
 - d) on a motorcycle.



TEXT

1

Yesterday was definitely not a normal day. I had to take a cold shower because the heater wasn't working! Good thing (*menos mal*) it was already in the 30s in the morning. After my very short shower I didn't have time to eat my normal breakfast, so I grabbed (*coger*) an apple that was on top of the kitchen table and ran out the door. Then, when I got to the bus stop, I realized that I didn't have the monthly sales report (*informe*) with me, so I had to run back to the apartment to get it. When I finally got to the office, everyone was waiting for me. To make things worse, there were so many people on the bus that I didn't have room to go over (*repasar*) the report. Fortunately, there weren't any mistakes (*error*) in it. But I was so worried about the presentation that I forgot to eat the apple. Of course I couldn't eat it during the meeting, so I had to wait until 10 AM to eat it. The rest of the day went much better, and the boss even (*hasta*) congratulated (*felicitar*) me for the report. He told me it was very clear and concise, and much better than the report from the previous month. He told me that if my work continued to improve (*mejorar*), that he would promote me to section supervisor.

EXERCISE

2

1. This paragraph describes
 - a) a typical day in the narrator's life,
 - b) the narrator's routine before he goes to work,
 - c) why yesterday was a day like any other,
 - d) the unusual things that happened yesterday to the narrator.**
2. The term "30s" (underlined - *subrayado*) refers to
 - a) the amount of time the narrator spent in the shower,
 - b) the time of day,
 - c) the temperature,**
 - d) the narrator's age.
3. To get to work, the narrator
 - a) walks,
 - b) drives,
 - c) takes the subway,
 - d) takes the bus.**
4. The narrator normally has just (*solo*) an apple for breakfast.
 - ☐ True ☒ False
5. Why did the narrator have to run back to the apartment?
 - a) to have breakfast,
 - b) to get a report,**
 - c) to go to the bathroom,
 - d) to get his wallet.
6. The report
 - a) was probably not written by the narrator,
 - b) is prepared every week,
 - c) only had a few mistakes,
 - d) is prepared every month.**
7. The narrator didn't eat the apple because
 - a) he was worried about the report,**
 - b) the bus was crowded (*abarroado*),
 - c) he didn't have time,
 - d) he was preparing for his presentation.
8. The boss liked the narrator's presentation
 - ☒ True ☐ False
9. In comparison to the previous month's report, this report was
 - a) longer,
 - b) better,**
 - c) worse,
 - d) written by a different person.
10. When he got home at the end of the day, the narrator was probably
 - a) happy,**
 - b) depressed,
 - c) angry,
 - d) hungry.

TEXT

1

Yesterday I had to get up at 5 in the morning! Normally on weekdays (*entre semana*) I get up at seven, watch some TV while I have breakfast, and then take the subway (*metro*) to work. I usually get to the office at around nine. But yesterday, which was Tuesday, I had to be at the airport at 6 AM to pick up my brother-in-law, who was flying in from Tenerife. I wasn't too happy to have to go to the airport so early. He apologized (*disculparse*) and told me the 3:30 flight was the only one available (*disponible*) and that he had to be in Madrid for an important meeting. I almost told him to take a taxi, but I didn't want to upset my sister. Today I'm back on my normal schedule (*horario*), but I'm very tired. Maybe I can leave the office a little early. I don't think we'll be too busy (*ocupado*) today or during the rest of the week. Next week will be different, though. The boss told us yesterday that we will be getting an important new client on Monday that will mean (*significar*) lots of work for everyone for at least (*al menos*) two weeks, and then after that I have a week of vacation. Maybe (*quizás*) I'll go to Tenerife and return my brother-in-law the favor!

EXERCISE

2

1. How often does the author get up at 5 AM?
 - a) once a week,
 - b) every day,
 - ☒ c) rarely,
 - d) never.
2. What day will tomorrow be?
 - a) Tuesday,
 - b) Wednesday,
 - ☒ c) Thursday,
 - d) Monday.
3. What time does the author usually leave his house to go to the office?
 - a) at six,
 - b) at 7:30,
 - c) at 9,
 - ☒ d) the story doesn't say.
4. The author has at least one sister.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> True	<input type="checkbox"/> False
--	--------------------------------
5. The author lives in Tenerife.

<input type="checkbox"/> True	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> False
-------------------------------	---
6. The author's brother-in-law had a meeting in Madrid at 3:30.

<input type="checkbox"/> True	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> False
-------------------------------	---
7. The author thinks today won't be a busy day at work.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> True	<input type="checkbox"/> False
--	--------------------------------
8. Next week the author
 - a) is going on vacation,
 - b) is going to Tenerife,
 - c) has an important meeting,
 - ☒ d) will probably be very busy.
9. When is the author going on vacation?
 - a) next week,
 - b) next month,
 - ☒ c) in three weeks,
 - d) after he finishes his work.
10. The author is going on vacation
 - a) to his home town,
 - ☒ b) to Tenerife,
 - c) for a week,
 - d) with his sister.

TEXT

1

The term "Tornado Alley" (*callejón*) refers to the area of land, mainly in the United States but also in Canada, where most of the world's tornadoes take place. Although (*aunque*) tornadoes also occur in other parts of the world, the unique topography of Tornado Alley makes it particularly susceptible to these devastating storms. This is because tornadoes occur when masses of warm, moist (*húmedo*) air come into contact with masses of cold, dry air. These conditions are present in Tornado Alley when cold air masses from the Rockies or Canada collide with hot and humid air from the Gulf of Mexico. The result is most often a thunderstorm (*tormenta*), and the most violent thunderstorms can result in tornadic activity, as the cold air sinks (*hundirse*) and the hot air rises (*ascender*) with rotating fury. In an average (*medio*) year, up to (*hasta*) one thousand tornadoes can strike (*golpear*) the United States, the vast majority of these somewhere in Tornado Alley. Canada is a distant second in the ranking, with about a hundred tornadoes a year. Tornadoes can occur in other places around the world, like Australia, South Africa and Europe, but no country on Earth can match (*igualar*) the unenviable (*poco envidiable*) statistics of Tornado Alley, and no state sees more tornadoes each year than Texas.

EXERCISE

2

- This article is mainly (*principalmente*) about
 - how tornadoes form,
 - where tornadoes form,
 - the effects of tornadoes,
 - thunderstorms.
- ☐ True ☒ False
- ☒ True ☐ False
- it is warm and dry,
 - it is cold and humid,
 - it is cold and moist,
 - it is hot and moist.
- ☒ True ☐ False
- Alaska,
 - Canada,
 - the Gulf of Mexico,
 - the Sierra Nevada mountains.
- 25%,
 - 50%,
 - 90%,
 - 100%.
- ☐ True ☒ False
- tornadoes in Texas,
 - the effects of tornadoes on structures,
 - the physics of tornadoes,
 - tornadoes in other parts of the world.

TEXT

1

Last week, I flew to Bilbao to visit our office there. I usually go there two or three times a year, always on business. I always stay there a couple of days and then I fly back. Last week, I stayed at the Veracruz Hotel, which is about ten minutes away from the office on foot. I like that because I don't want to rent a car when I'm in Bilbao. I also like that hotel because there's a very good churrería between the hotel and the office, and I always have breakfast there. The office is only about twenty minutes away from the airport. Sometimes Carlos, from the Bilbao office, goes to pick me up, and sometimes I take a taxi. Last week I flew there on Tuesday morning and went straight (*directamente*) to the office. I had lunch with a few managers from the Bilbao office at a restaurant near the office at around 2pm, and then we went back to the office to finish some work on a new project. I came back on Friday. My plan was to go to the office for a couple of hours before going home, but my flight arrived late, so when I got back I went straight home.

EXERCISE

2

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. How often does the narrator go to Bilbao? | 1. <u>Two or three times a year.</u> |
| 2. The narrator sometimes visits Bilbao as a tourist. | 2. <input type="checkbox"/> True <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> False |
| 3. Where does the narrator have breakfast when he stays at the Veracruz Hotel? | 3. <u>At a churreria between the hotel and the office.</u> |
| 4. How does the narrator get from the hotel to the office? | 4. <u>He walks</u> |
| 5. The hotel is about twenty minutes away from the airport. | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> True <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> False |
| 6. How does the author get from the airport to the office? | 6. <u>Sometimes Carlos picks him up, and sometimes he takes a taxi.</u> |
| 7. Who did the narrator have lunch with last Tuesday? | 7. <u>A few managers from the Bilbao office.</u> |
| 8. The narrator went to the hotel after he had lunch on Tuesday. | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> True <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> False |
| 9. The narrator planned to go to the office when he got back on Friday. | 9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False |
| 10. Why didn't the narrator go to the office when he got back on Friday? | 10. <u>Because his flight arrived late.</u> |

TEXT

1

Yesterday Marta went to the store to buy some fruit. She wanted to get some cherries, a watermelon and maybe some kiwis, which she loves to eat when she's thirsty, especially after exercising. She went to the supermarket first, but there were a lot of people waiting in line. She decided to go inside anyway to look at the prices. The watermelon was cheap, but the cherries were incredibly expensive, and she didn't want to buy just (*solo*) one thing, so she went to the local market. There, she saw her good friend Anna, who wanted to buy some meat for a barbecue. The two talked about their families for about ten minutes and then Anna said she was in a hurry (*tenía prisa*), so they said goodbye to each other. Marta found everything she was looking for, and even though (*aunque*) it was a bit expensive, she didn't want to go back home empty handed (*con las manos vacías*), so she bought an enormous watermelon, a kilo of kiwis and a basket of cherries. She thought about taking a taxi back to her house because of all the heavy bags she was carrying, but then she decided to walk. I need the exercise, she thought.



EXERCISE

2

1. How many different kinds of fruit did Marta want to buy?
 - a) 2,
 - b) 3,**
 - c) 4,
 - d) 1.
2. Marta loves to eat kiwis
 - a) anytime,
 - b) when she's hungry,
 - c) before exercising,
 - d) when she's thirsty.**
3. There were a lot of people buying fruit at the supermarket.
 3. ☐ True ☒ False
4. Marta didn't buy any fruits at the supermarket because
 - a) the watermelon was cheap,
 - b) they didn't have any cherries,
 - c) the kiwis were incredibly expensive,
 - d) she didn't want to buy just one thing.**
5. Marta saw Anna in the supermarket buying meat for a barbecue.
 5. ☐ True ☒ False
6. Anna was in a hurry and didn't have too much time to talk.
 6. ☒ True ☐ False
7. Marta didn't take a taxi because
 - a) she didn't have enough money,
 - b) she needed the exercise,**
 - c) the bags were too heavy,
 - d) she was close to her home.
8. Marta bought an enormous watermelon because she didn't want to go back home empty-handed.
 8. ☐ True ☒ False
9. What did Marta and Anna talk about?
 - a) their families,**
 - b) their jobs,
 - c) Anna's barbecue,
 - d) how expensive everything was.



TEXT

1

Every year I tell myself that I'm not going to wait until the last minute to buy Christmas presents, and yet (*sin embargo*) every year, that's exactly what I do. Well, this year is the year that I finally listened to myself! Last week I bought Christmas presents for everyone in my family. I took advantage (*aprovechar*) of the summer sales (*rebajas*) to buy winter coats for my two children. They're growing so fast that last winter's coats will probably be too small for them this winter. Plus, by buying winter clothes in summer I saved a bundle! I also bought them some toys, though I'll be very lucky if they don't find them before Christmas! My husband is going to get some shoes, which I also bought on sale, and some very nice sunglasses. And no, he's not getting a tie this Christmas, though he likes anything I give him. My sister is the hardest person to shop for. She likes really expensive designer clothes. What she doesn't spend on food and rent (*alquiler*) she spends on ridiculously expensive dress jackets and shoes. Normally I wouldn't encourage (*motivar, alentar*) her expensive habits, but this year I was able to find a nice dress that I know she'll love. And the best part is that, of course, it was on sale, which is good because that is the only way I would buy her the kind of clothes that she likes to wear. So this year, I think, and hope, that everyone will be happy with their presents.

EXERCISE

2

1. Every year, the writer has the intention of not waiting until the last minute to buy Christmas presents. 1. ☒ True ☐ False
2. Every year the writer normally waits until the last minute to buy Christmas presents. 2. ☒ True ☐ False
3. The writer bought coats because 3. ☒ a) they were on sale,
b) the coats the children wore last year are too big,
c) the children were cold,
d) that is what the children wanted.
4. The expression "a bundle" (underlined) probably means "a little". 4. ☐ True ☒ False
5. What does the writer think will probably happen with the toys? 5. the children will probably find them before Christmas.
6. The writer's husband probably got a tie last Christmas. 6. ☒ True ☐ False
7. The writer normally buys expensive clothes for her sister. 7. ☐ True ☒ False
8. The writer. 8. a) probably buys all of her clothes on sale,
☒ b) doesn't normally buy expensive clothes for her sister,
c) will probably wait until the last minute next year to buy Christmas presents,
d) probably hates (*odiar*) shopping.

TEXT

1

Scott works at the supermarket. His schedule (*horario*) rotates every week, so one week he goes into work in the morning and opens up the store, and the next week he'll go in in the afternoon and close up the store at night. He doesn't particularly like his work. He finds it boring most of the time, doing the same thing every day. He likes his boss, but he's not really friends with any of his co-workers (*compañeros de trabajo*). He likes helping customers, and he knows some of them personally, but some customers treat him badly, which upsets him. During his coffee and lunch breaks he usually puts on his headphones and listens to English lessons. He's convinced that if he learns to speak English well, he can get a better job working in the office of his best friend's dad, which does a lot of business in North America. Since Scott lives in a beach (*playa*) town with lots of tourists, he tries to practice English at work with all of the foreign customers who go into the store. He knows he has a lot to learn, but his pronunciation is improving (*mejorando*) and the customers appreciate (*agradecen*) having someone who can answer their questions. Usually they ask him what the different words on the package (*envase*) labels (*etiqueta*) mean (*significar*), but sometimes they talk to him about the town and about the weather. Of course, Scott's boss wants Scott to keep working at the supermarket because he's the only person who can speak English.

EXERCISE

2

1. If Scott went into work today in the afternoon, then in two weeks, he would go into work in the morning.
 2. Scott doesn't like his work because
 3. How does Scott feel when customers treat him badly?
 4. Why does Scott want to learn English well?
 5. Scott tries to practice English
 6. What kind of question would a customer typically ask Scott?
 7. Why does Scott's boss want Scott to keep working at the supermarket?
1. ☐ True ☒ False
 2. a) he doesn't like his co-workers,
b) he doesn't like his boss,
c) he has to help customers,
d) he does the same thing every day.
 3. upset.
 4. so he can get a better job.
 5. a) with his best friend's dad,
b) with the foreign customers,
c) with his boss,
d) with tourists.
 6. a) Can you tell me how to get to the beach?
b) How many eggs do I need for a tortilla?
c) What does "harina" mean?
d) Do you think it'll rain tomorrow?
 7. a) because he needs somebody to practice English with,
b) because he needs someone to talk to foreign customers in English,
c) because he's the best employee at the store,
d) because he doesn't like the other employees.