

1A

Team building

- **Goal:** give feedback on an event
- **Language focus:** present, past and future perfect
- **Vocabulary:** phrases with delexical verbs



Reading

1 Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

- 1 What are the people doing in the photos? Why?
- 2 Have you ever taken part in activities like these? What happened?
- 3 What are the benefits of team-building activities?

2 Read the article. Which team-building activity/activities does each statement refer to?

- 1 The first team to finish is the winner.
- 2 You can do it in your workplace with no preparation or equipment.
- 3 There are two stages: making something and doing something with it.
- 4 It involves a lot of walking.
- 5 It forces people to ask and answer questions.
- 6 It's best to make a plan before you start construction.

6 quick but powerful team-building activities

Let's face it, most of us prefer to work alone. But if we make the effort to break down the barriers between us, it unleashes boundless potential in each of us. Whether you're a business leader or an educator, you need to give your people a nudge to push them beyond their comfort zones. Let's take a look at six of the best ways to do some priceless team building.

Scavenger hunt: Each team has a list of objects to find, such as a snail shell or a golf ball. At the end of the time limit, the team with the most objects is the winner. Alternative versions include photo scavenger hunts (where teams have to photograph items on the list) and data hunts (where they go on a search for information, like dates on buildings). A fun way to get some exercise in the fresh air!

Tell the truth: Team members take turns to share quirky facts about themselves. The others ask questions to work out if they're lying or telling the truth. A great way to get to know your colleagues' hidden sides!

Raft building: Divide your people into teams and give them 30 minutes to design and construct a raft from plastic drums, planks of wood and rope. Afterwards, they use the rafts to hold an exhilarating race across a river.

Get in line: Divide the group into two teams. The teams then race to organise themselves into lines based on questions like 'How many countries have you visited?' A great way of getting people talking – and listening to each other.

Marshmallow challenge: Give each team a packet of spaghetti and some marshmallows, and set a time limit. At the end, the team with the tallest tower is the winner. This activity encourages design thinking as much as teamwork: it's much better to plan your structure before making a start.

Out and about: Why not simply go for a long hike together? Sometimes all it takes to integrate a team is a change of scenery and the time to have a good old-fashioned chat.

3 Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

- 1 Which activities in the article sound like fun? Which wouldn't you enjoy?
- 2 Which do you think would be the most successful at enhancing team spirit?

Vocabulary

4 a Underline phrases in the article that match phrases 1–9. Which words replace the verbs in bold?

- 1 if we **try** to break down the barriers
make the effort
- 2 you need to **nudge** your people
- 3 Let's **look** at six of the best ways
- 4 to **build** teams, which is priceless
- 5 they **search** for information
- 6 to **exercise** in the fresh air
- 7 to **race** across a river, which is exhilarating
- 8 Why not simply **hike** a long way
- 9 the time to **chat** in a good old-fashioned way

b Look at the answers in Exercise 4a. Which part of the phrase helps you understand the meaning in each case? What is a 'delexical verb'?

5 a Complete the phrases with the delexical verbs in the box.

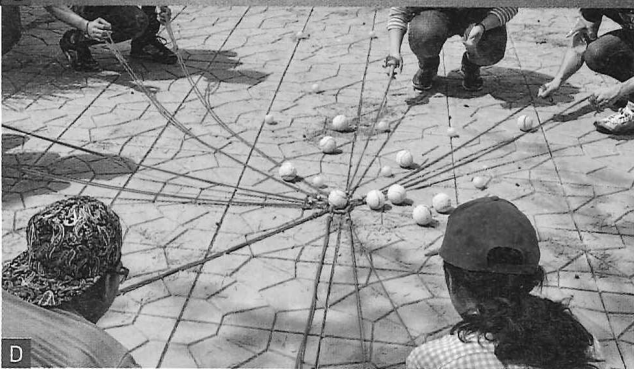
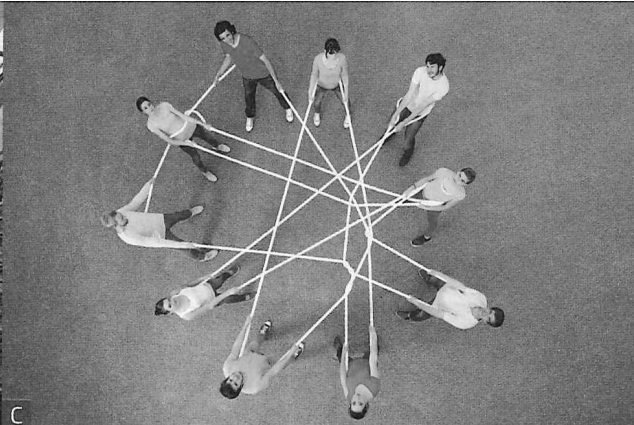
do get give go have hold make take

- 1 _____ a lie-down/a well-earned rest/a sit down
- 2 _____ for a run/on a teambuilding course/for a stroll
- 3 _____ someone help/someone a break/someone a warm welcome
- 4 _____ some fresh air/people talking/the benefits of something
- 5 _____ a welcome meeting/a singing competition/a feedback session
- 6 _____ a contribution/a success of something/a statement
- 7 _____ some rock-climbing/plenty of preparation/someone good
- 8 _____ the initiative/the lead during an activity/something into consideration

b Work in pairs. Think of how some of the phrases in Exercise 5a might relate to team building.

At the start of a team building day, the organisers might give people a warm welcome.

Go to your app for more vocabulary and practice.



Language focus

6 1.1 Listen to some people organising an event. Answer the questions.

- 1 What was wrong with last year's event?
- 2 What was good about it?
- 3 What do they decide to do differently this year?

7 a 1.2 Choose the most natural alternative to complete the extracts. Then listen and check.

- 1 We've *talked/been talking* about this a lot recently and we've *come/been coming* to the conclusion that it was a bit of a waste of time.
- 2 Everyone just worked with people they'd already *known/been knowing* for years.
- 3 People will be in teams with people from other departments, so they won't have *met/been meeting* most of them before.
- 4 They were exhausted because they'd *travelled/been travelling* for hours.
- 5 We spent a week hiking in the mountains, and by the third day we *have had/had had* enough of each other!

b Read the language focus box and check your answers.

Present, past and future perfect

Present perfect simple and continuous

1 Measuring time up to now: Use the simple form for states and the continuous form for actions.

*We've **known** each other for years.*

*I've **been waiting** here since 10 o'clock.*

2 Present results: Use the simple form to talk about the present result of completed events and the continuous form to talk about the results of processes.

*I'm worried because I've **lost** my keys.*

*I'm tired because I've **been running**.*

3 Experiences up to now: Almost always use the simple form, even for repeated events.

*I've already **seen** this film ten times.*

4 Recent events and trends: Use the simple form for recent events and the continuous form for trends.

*I've just **been** to the park. I've **been reading** a lot recently.*

Past and future perfect simple and continuous

We use these forms for the same reasons as the present perfect simple and continuous, but with a focus on 'then' instead of 'now'.

*I'm tired **now** because I've **been running**.*

*I was tired **then** because I'd **been running**.*

*I'll be tired **then** because I'll **have been running**.*

8 a 1.3 How do you think *have/had* is pronounced in these sentences? Listen and check.

- 1 We'd been doing activities all day.
- 2 By then, they'll have been travelling for two days.
- 3 We've been taking regular breaks.

b Listen again and practise.

9 Complete the sentences with the most natural perfect form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 They'll be tired when the activity finishes - they _____ non-stop for two hours. (hike)
- 2 I was bored in the training session because I _____ the same information dozens of times over the years. (already/hear)
- 3 Recently, people _____ tired of all these silly games during team-building events. (get)
- 4 Please let me know as soon as you _____ where you want the group to go. (decide)

Go to page 146 or your app for more information and practice.

Speaking

PREPARE

- 10** You're going to give feedback on an event. Turn to page 176.

SPEAK

- 11** Work in pairs. Take turns being the event organiser and an attendee. Attendee: Give feedback on the event. Organiser: Respond to the attendee's feedback, justifying your decisions.

Master your
writing
page 126