

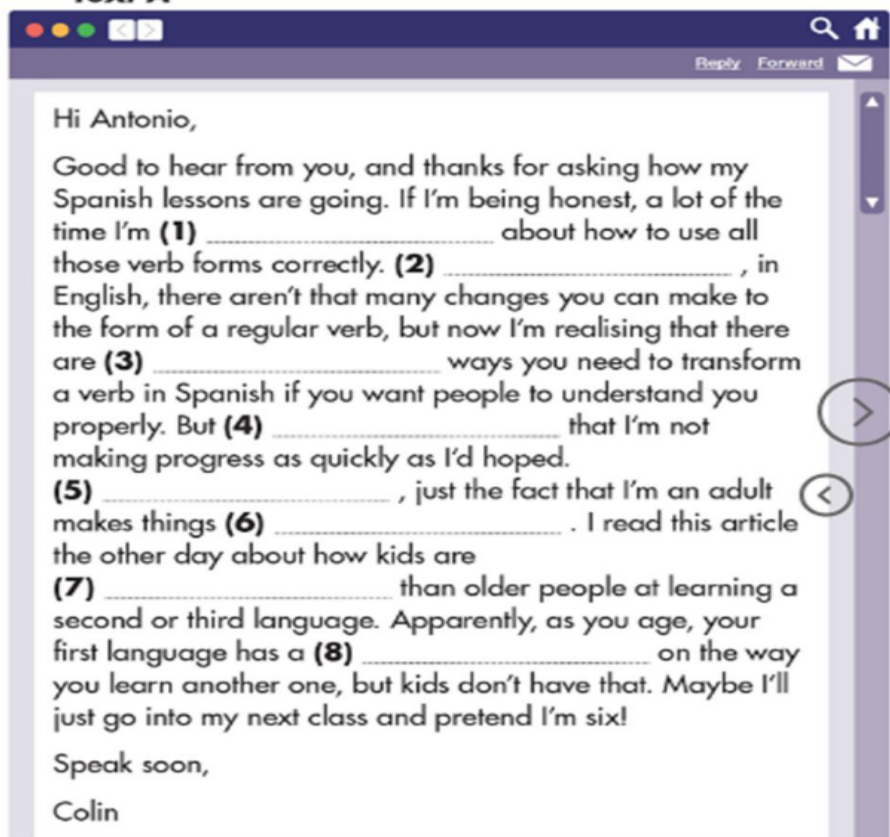
Complete the table with the pairs of matching formal and informal words and phrases in the box.

after all a great number of by way of example
entirely confused far more demanding
far superior huge influence it's no great shock
it is little wonder I mean loads and loads of
massive effect much harder so much better
totally baffled ultimately

[illegible]

Complete texts A and B with the correct words and phrases from the box.

Text A



Hi Antonio,

Good to hear from you, and thanks for asking how my Spanish lessons are going. If I'm being honest, a lot of the time I'm (1) _____ about how to use all those verb forms correctly. (2) _____, in English, there aren't that many changes you can make to the form of a regular verb, but now I'm realising that there are (3) _____ ways you need to transform a verb in Spanish if you want people to understand you properly. But (4) _____ that I'm not making progress as quickly as I'd hoped.

(5) _____, just the fact that I'm an adult makes things (6) _____. I read this article the other day about how kids are (7) _____ than older people at learning a second or third language. Apparently, as you age, your first language has a (8) _____ on the way you learn another one, but kids don't have that. Maybe I'll just go into my next class and pretend I'm six!

Speak soon,
Colin

Text B

The difficulties of language learning in 'teenagehood'

In terms of learning a second or third language, the majority of research on the subject seems to prove that, (1) _____, children are (2) _____ to teenagers in their ability to understand and absorb language in a way that they can produce it themselves.

Most teenagers find learning a language (3) _____ than children do, and (4) _____ that this is the case. (5) _____, while a regular verb in English might only be altered in four ways (e.g. *work, works, working, worked*), in Spanish there are (6) _____ verb transformations that could occur if one wishes to be correctly understood. In this way, there is every reason for teenage students to find themselves (7) _____ by the new ways in which verb forms are used in the language they are attempting to learn – at this point in their lives, they have already developed a full language system, and this tends to have a (8) _____ on the learning process.

Match the idiomatic phrases (1-6) to the definitions (a-f).

1 do the legwork

2 make waves

3 get off to a flying start

4 without any hiccups

5 make a go of something

6 up to your ears in something

a experiencing no problems at all

b begin something successfully and make quick progress

c try to make something succeed, usually by working hard

d do things that make people notice you, often in a dramatic way

e be very busy, or to have more of something than you can manage

f undertake the practical or boring work behind the scenes that needs to be done

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the phrases from Exercise 1.

1 I was terrified that the website launch was going to be a disaster, but in fact, the whole event happened _____.

2 Starting your own business seems glamorous, but if you want to make it, you really have to _____. Entrepreneurs don't make it without putting in the hours.

3 Our new bakery business _____ when a national supermarket chain contracted us to produce croissants for them.

4 I'd love to come out tonight, but I am _____ work at the moment, and simply don't have the time.

5 I never thought Karen's jewellery business would go anywhere, but her unique designs are really _____ in the fashion industry, and has attracted some famous clients.

6 Though his first business had failed, Mark was determined _____ his latest business venture.



Listen again and complete the gaps in the transcript.

My mum taught me how to knit when I was eight. I used to make little woollen dolls (1) _____. Years later, when I was feeling really stressed in my final year at university, I started knitting again. It all came flooding back, (2) the _____ from creating something with my bare hands. There and then, I (3) _____ and make it work as a career, so straight after graduating, I (4) _____ to learn the basics of business management. Believe it or not, and I'm not sure I even do, I was somehow able to (5) _____ – accounts, contacts, supply chains – without any hiccups. I've got a good feeling I can (6) _____.



Complete questions 1–10 of the Listening Part 4 task. While you listen you should complete both tasks.

TASK ONE

For questions 1–5, choose from the list (A–H) the reason each speaker gives for setting up their own business.

A matching the achievements of a role model

B receiving encouragement from an unexpected source

C feeling more secure in their financial situation

D reaching the conclusion they were being undervalued

E hoping to impress a member of their family

F seeking the fulfilment of a life-long ambition

G challenging themselves to make a living from their passion

H proving to themselves how hard they could work

Speaker 1 1

Speaker 2 2

Speaker 3 3

Speaker 4 4

Speaker 5 5

TASK TWO

For questions 6–10, choose from the list (A–H) what surprised each speaker in the period immediately after starting their business.

A the need to be selective in listening to advice

B the lack of relevance their studies had to their choice of career

C the importance of maintaining a singular focus

D the amount of time it took them to become successful

E the effect their career choice has on social connections

F the compassionate approach of their business rivals

G the supportiveness that came from their colleague

H the ease with which they established their infrastructure

Speaker 1 6

Speaker 2 7

Speaker 3 8

Speaker 4 9

Speaker 5 10