

1 Read questions 1–6 and match them with one of the categories A–D.

- 1 What do you like about the place where you live?
- 2 What would you like to do when you finish studying at school?
- 3 Are you happier studying alone or with other people?
- 4 What things do you enjoy doing with your friends?
- 5 Do you like going to parties?
- 6 Are you happier doing mental or physical work?

- A your home and family
- B your interests
- C your studies/work
- D your plans for the future

2 **LISTENING** 1.04 Listen to six students answering the questions in 1. Match each student to one of the questions.

- Student A
- Student B
- Student C
- Student D
- Student E
- Student F

3 Listen again. Make a note of the students' answers and any reasons or personal details they give. Do you think all the students answer the questions well? Why?/Why not?

4 **SPEAKING** Work with a partner. Take it in turns to ask and answer the questions in 1. Remember to give reasons and personal details.

5 Study different ways of expressing preferences in the Speaking Bank, then do exercise 6.

► Speaking Bank

Expressing preferences

prefer

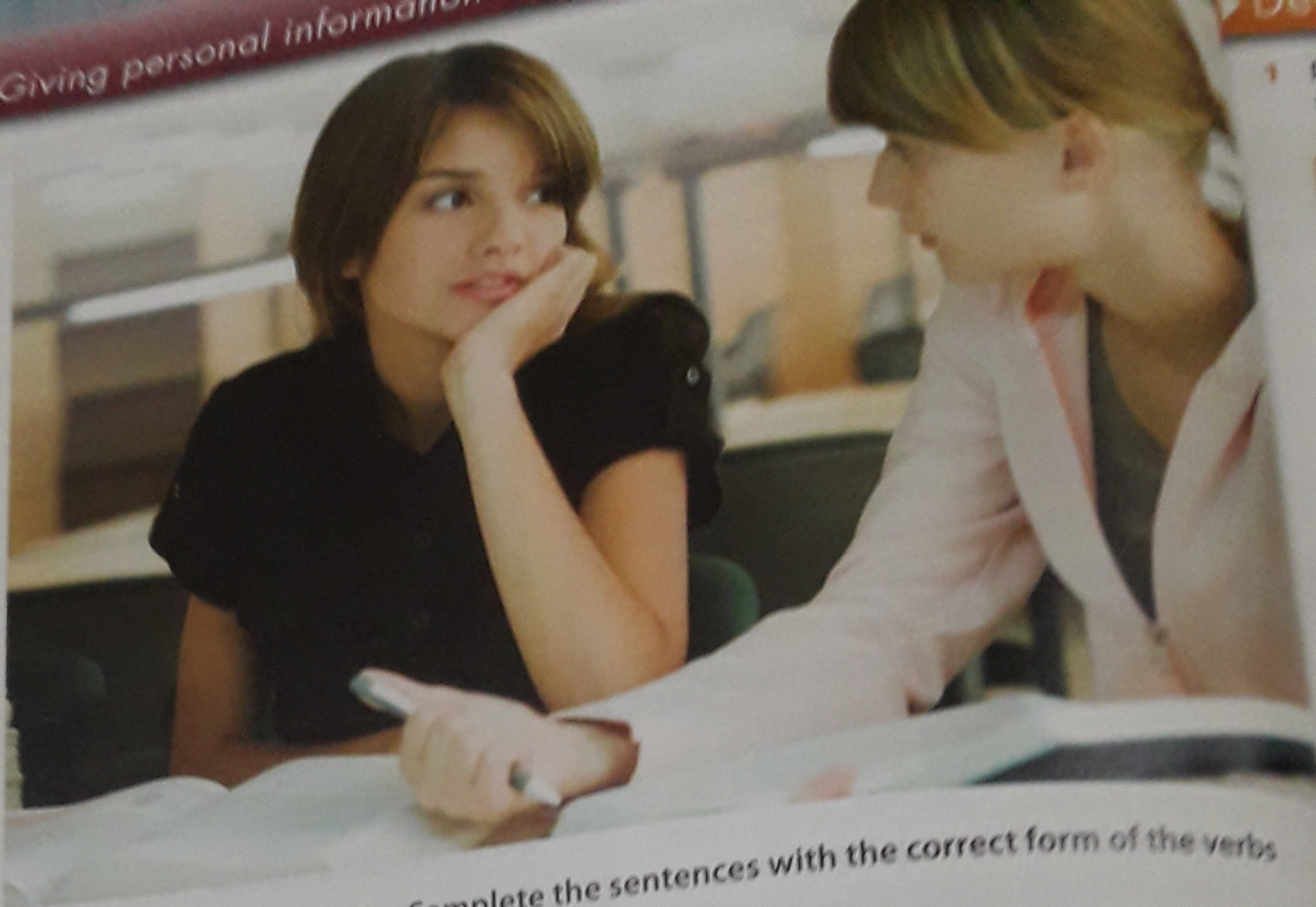
- I prefer revising alone.
- I prefer studying alone to studying with other people.

would prefer

- I'd prefer to be a translator (than a musician).
- I'd prefer not to study music.
- My parents would prefer me to do more exercise.

would rather

- I'd rather live in a big city.
- I'd rather not live in a small town.
- I'd rather study than work.
- They'd rather I studied music.
- My parents would rather I didn't study alone.



6 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs given.

- 1 I prefer (play) football to (do) homework.
- 2 I'd rather (go) by bus than (walk).
- 3 She'd prefer (not stay) in at the weekend.
- 4 I'd rather you (not use) my computer.
- 5 She'd prefer us (do) our homework individually.
- 6 She prefers (write) essays by hand.
- 7 He'd rather we (send) him our homework by email.

Practice makes perfect

7a **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Ask and answer the questions. Give reasons and personal details and use expressions from the Speaking Bank.

Student A: Ask these questions.

- 1 Which subject(s) do you prefer studying?
- 2 Would you rather study at home or in a library?
- 3 Would you like to have a gap year between school and university/work, or would you prefer to start straight away?

Student B: Ask these questions.

- 1 Would you prefer to study in your country or abroad?
- 2 Do you prefer studying with books or using a computer?
- 3 Would you rather have a school uniform or wear what you like?

7b Change partners and repeat.

► STUDY SKILLS

To speak English well we need a balance between accuracy and fluency. Accuracy means how correct our use of grammar is when we speak. Fluency means whether we can speak continuously in English without stopping frequently to think about what we want to say next.

► Developing writing An informal email replying to a request for information

- 1 Read this email from an English boy called Paul to a friend who lives in another country. Underline the four main pieces of information that Paul wants from his friend.

From: Paul <Paul@halnet.com>
To: xyz@halnet.com
Subject: Gap year?

Hi

Sorry I haven't written for a long time but I've been doing my final exams. I think I've done OK. I hope I've passed them all. What about you? What have you been doing recently?

I think I mentioned in my last email that next year my idea is to have a gap year. I want to travel to lots of different places, and I thought it'd be great to come and visit you. When is the best time of year to visit your country?

It'd be great to start learning your language while I'm there, too. What do you think is a good way for me to do that? Maybe after I've spent some time there with you, you'd like to come back with me and visit my family in England. If so, tell me what type of things you'd like to do here.

Anyway, I'm going out with my friends now to celebrate the end of our exams. Write back soon!

Best wishes,

Paul



- 2 Think about the style of the email in 1. What things in the text are typical of informal emails?

exclamation marks

- 3 Look at the expressions in the Writing Bank. What do we use each group of expressions for? Can you add any other expressions?

► Writing Bank

Useful words and expressions in informal emails

- Hi ... Dear ...
- Thanks for your last email.
It was great to hear from you.
Sorry I haven't written for a long time.
I'm writing to tell you about ...
- How are you? How are things?
Are you doing exams/on holiday at the moment?
- By the way, Anyway,
- Write back soon. That's all for now. Bye for now.
Best wishes, All the best,

- 4 Work with a partner. Imagine that you have received Paul's email. Make notes about the information that he wants.

What have you been doing recently? – assignments at school, went away with family last weekend, started going running ...

- 5 You are going to write a reply to Paul. With your partner, make a paragraph plan. Decide what information to include in each paragraph.

Paragraph 1 – Thank Paul for his email. Tell him what I've been doing.

Practice makes perfect

- 6 Write your reply to Paul. Use your notes and paragraph plan to help you. Write between 120 and 150 words.

► EXAM SUCCESS

In this type of writing exercise, follow the instructions carefully. You lose marks if your reply does not include all the necessary information or if it is not in the correct style.

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