

# Progress Check Unit 6

## Vocabulary

1. Complete the blog with the words and phrases below.

consumerism • pastime • overpriced  
make an effort • afford • doing their best  
brands • pay their bills

Which country do you think has the most fashion-conscious teens: the United States, Canada, Australia, Brazil or Britain? According to a recent survey, the answer is Britain, where teens' favourite <sup>1</sup> pastime seems to be shopping for clothes. In response to the survey's question of what they would continue to buy even if they couldn't <sup>2</sup> afford it, British teens, more than teens in other countries, chose new clothes. And they are <sup>3</sup> doing their best to prove that they mean it. Estimates are that British teens spent over £130 million a week during the summer of 2009 – and a good portion of that was on clothing and fashion accessories. Furthermore, other reports have shown that <sup>4</sup> brands are important to British teens, as is being the first to buy the latest styles, even if these fashion items are <sup>5</sup> overpriced. Some teens <sup>6</sup> pay their bills with earnings from part-time jobs, but in most cases, parents end up paying as well. Perhaps that's why our kids never <sup>7</sup> make an effort to spend less! I think it's time that we stopped supporting our children's dedication to consumerism.

2. Choose the correct answer.

- The groceries were expensive this week. They snapped up / came to / carried £85!
- Some people stock up on / splurge on / exchange bottled water for an emergency.
- Suzanne bought a lot of sports debts / gear / belongings over the years.
- Everything in the shop was on sale / out of bounds / going out of business, so I spent less than I thought I would.
- My brother is sometimes nagged / picked out / teased because he's not good at football.
- Some theatres give out / shop around / get rid of coupons for cheap seats.

## Grammar

3. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

- If I don't have (not have) enough cash for the film tonight, will you lend (lend) me some?
- I wish I lived (live) in a big city. Living in the country is boring.
- Jenny will be (be) tired when she arrives (arrive) tomorrow morning.
- I wish I hadn't sold (not sell) my motorcycle for so little money. If only I had waited (wait) for a better offer!

4. Rewrite the sentences with the words in brackets. Do not change the original meaning of the sentences. There may be more than one correct answer.

- It's a pity you can't come to the bonfire! (if only)  
If only you could come to the bonfire!
- It's too bad I didn't take more photos of the street markets. (I wish)  
I wish I had taken more photos of the street markets.
- You won't be able to live within your budget if you don't become more price conscious. (unless)  
You won't be able to live within your budget unless you become more price conscious.
- I didn't meet my friends last night because I was too tired to go out. (if)  
If I hadn't been too tired to go out, I would have met my friends last night.

## Writing

5. Paraphrase the sentence below. Use the words provided, and make any necessary changes.

Shopaholism, a growing problem around the world, affects mainly women, approximately ten per cent of whom are currently estimated to suffer from the condition.

shopaholism • on the rise • affecting approximately • ten per cent of women • globally  
Shopaholism is on the rise, affecting approximately ten per cent of women globally.

# Progress Check Units 1-6

## Vocabulary

1. Complete the e-mail with the correct form of the verbs below. Some verbs are used more than once.

catch • make • pay • do • forward  
charge • take • go

Hi Anne,

I remembered to <sup>1</sup> charge my laptop, so I could take it with me to Rosie's Café, where I'm sitting now. I'm finally going to <sup>2</sup> make an effort to start writing my book report. I guess I'm <sup>3</sup> paying the price for putting it off for so long.

You're so lucky to be in New York! It was so nice of your mum to <sup>4</sup> take you by surprise and offer you the chance to <sup>5</sup> go abroad with her on her business trip.

Are you <sup>6</sup> taking a million photos? And – have you <sup>7</sup> caught sight of any good-looking guys? I'll <sup>8</sup> do my best to get by without you for the next four days. LOL. Have fun!

Susie

PS I'm <sup>9</sup> forwarding an attachment that I think will make you laugh!

2. Complete the sentences with a suitable word or phrase below.

make mistakes • outrageous • deafening  
engaged • set off • approach • whisper  
out of bounds • mouth-watering • fence  
stare • turn out • available • carry • tasty  
nothing to do with • start over • fiancée

- There's a fence around this area because it's out of to the public.
- So far, Jeff and his fiancée haven't told anyone that they're engaged.
- The band's rehearsal was terrible tonight. The singer kept making mistakes, so we had to constantly start over.
- Most bookshops don't carry her novels, but they're available online.
- The soup had a mouth-watering aroma, but it wasn't very tasty.

## Grammar

3. Complete the passage with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

Imagine one day a year where nobody <sup>1</sup> buys (buy) anything. Well, that's the aim of Buy Nothing Day, which <sup>2</sup> was created (create) in 1991 by the artist Ted Dave. Dave <sup>3</sup> thought (think) of the idea when he <sup>4</sup> realised (realise) the amount of money he <sup>5</sup> had spent (spend) that year on stuff like cups of coffee and desserts. That <sup>6</sup> started (start) him thinking about consumerism, and he eventually <sup>7</sup> promoted (promote) the idea of Buy Nothing Day. Since it was first launched, Buy Nothing Day <sup>8</sup> has become (become) a global "holiday", with participants and a wide range of activities in numerous countries. If you want to participate in the next Buy Nothing Day, you <sup>9</sup> can/should (look it up) online to get details of how it <sup>10</sup> is (celebrate) in your area.

4. Complete the sentences. Do not change the original meaning of the sentences.

- If I don't have to work late, I'll meet you at six. Unless I have to work late, I'll meet you at six.
- "I've been hoping you would call tonight!" James told me that he had been hoping that I would call him that night.
- There's Lady Gaga! I've been waiting to see her. There's Lady Gaga, who I've been waiting to see.

## Writing

5. Complete the sentences with a suitable word or phrase.

- My favourite types of books are science fiction and fantasy novels.
- I'm buying two pairs of shoes because they're on sale!
- Neither Gwen nor her sister eats meat. They're both vegetarians.