

**GAP FILL**

An aquarium in Japan is asking people to help a (1) group *sand*  
of eels that are getting lonely. The Sumida Aquarium in Tokyo has *lonely*  
(2) several tanks of garden eels. The (3) creatures are *several*  
usually very cautious and go into their holes in the *group*  
(4) sand when someone passes. However, the Sumida *them*  
Aquarium eels are used to seeing visitors and stay *above*  
(5) above their holes so people can see them. The *above*  
aquarium has closed because of the coronavirus emergency and *tablets*  
staff are worried the eels are getting (6) lonely. A staff *creatures*  
member said the eels are forgetting what humans look like. She  
wants people to make video calls to the eels. The staff put special  
(7) tablets in front of the eel tanks so people could make  
video calls to (8) them.

The (9) lack of visitors to the aquarium means the eels *aquarium*  
have become very shy. This could make them (10) stressed *humans*  
when visitors start returning after the aquarium reopens. The *lack*  
coronavirus emergency has also made it difficult for staff to *so*  
(11) check on the eels' health because they are now *check*  
staying in their holes in the sand. The (12) aquarium tweeted: *festival*  
"They aren't seeing humans so they are forgetting about *stressed*  
us....Here is an (13) urgent request - Could you show *urgent*  
your face to our garden eels from your home?" The aquarium  
wants to remind the eels that "(14) humans are friendly". It  
has organised a three-day event called a "face-showing  
(15) festival". The public is being asked to make video calls  
but can only use Apple devices to do (16) so.

## LANGUAGE - CLOZE

The (1)   b   book company Merriam-Webster has added a new definition of the pronoun "they" to its famous Webster's Dictionary. It now (2)   b   the word "they" as referring to a "single person whose gender identity is non-binary". This will be (3)   d   news for those who identify neither as male nor female - people with non-binary identities. Many institutions have already (4)   b   a gender-neutral option into their official forms. A (5)   b   number of local governments, schools and airlines have introduced the gender choice of "X" to accommodate people who do not consider themselves as male or female, and for gender (6)   c   people who switch between different genders.

Merriam-Webster (7)   c   that the use of "they" in place of "he" or "she" recognizes people who did not "conform to an expected gender expression, or who seemed to be neither male nor female". It added: "We've (8)   c   to find the right language to describe these people, and in particular, the right pronouns." It points (9)   d   that the word "they" has been used as a singular pronoun since the (10)   a   1300s. William Shakespeare used it in this way in the early 17th century. In 1898, the (11)   a   George Bernard Shaw wrote in his play Antony and Cleopatra that: "No man goes to battle to be killed....But they do get killed." Merriam-Webster says that today, "nearly everyone uses the singular "they" in (12)   a   conversation".

### Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |                     |                  |                |                |
|-----|---------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) referential     | (b) reference    | (c) refer      | (d) referred   |
| 2.  | (a) lusts           | (b) lists        | (c) lasts      | (d) lost       |
| 3.  | (a) congratulations | (b) greetings    | (c) please     | (d) welcome    |
| 4.  | (a) papered         | (b) incorporated | (c) cracked    | (d) reasoned   |
| 5.  | (a) grown           | (b) growing      | (c) growth     | (d) grows      |
| 6.  | (a) fluidity        | (b) fluids       | (c) fluid      | (d) fluidic    |
| 7.  | (a) slated          | (b) skated       | (c) stated     | (d) sated      |
| 8.  | (a) written         | (b) listed       | (c) struggled  | (d) handled    |
| 9.  | (a) of              | (b) in           | (c) up         | (d) out        |
| 10. | (a) late            | (b) past         | (c) passed     | (d) old        |
| 11. | (a) playwright      | (b) play light   | (c) play right | (d) play write |
| 12. | (a) causal          | (b) castle       | (c) casual     | (d) crystal    |



# “Yellowstone”

Reading Comprehension – Informational Passages <sup>(5)</sup>

*Directions: Read the passage. Then answer questions about the passage below.*

Yellowstone National Park is in the U.S. states of Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana. It became the first National Park in 1872. There are geysers and hot springs at Yellowstone. There are also many animals at Yellowstone. There are elk, bison, sheep, grizzly bears, black bears, moose, coyotes, and more.

More than 3 million people visit Yellowstone National Park each year. During the winter, visitors can ski or go snowmobiling there. There are also snow coaches that give tours. Visitors can see **steam** (vapor water) come from the geysers. During other seasons, visitors can go boating or fishing. People can ride horses there. There are nature trails and tours. Most visitors want to see Old Faithful, a very **predictable** geyser at Yellowstone. Visitors can check a schedule to see the exact time that Old Faithful is going to erupt. There are many other geysers and boiling springs in the area. Great Fountain Geyser erupts every 11 hours. Excelsior Geyser produces 4,000 gallons of **boiling** water each minute! Boiling water is 100 degrees Celsius, or 212 degrees Fahrenheit – that’s very hot! People also like to see the Grand Prismatic Spring. It is the largest hot spring in the park. It has many beautiful colors. The beautiful colors are caused by **bacteria** in the water. These are forms of life that have only one cell. Different bacteria live in different water **temperatures**. Visiting Yellowstone National Park can be a week-long vacation or more. It is beautiful, and there are activities for everyone.

## Questions:

1) What is Yellowstone?

- A. A park
- B. A geyser
- C. A mountain
- D. A hot spring

2) Old Faithful is a...

- A. river.
- B. trail.
- C. passage.
- D. geyser.

3) Great Fountain Geyser erupts every 11...

- A. minutes.
- B. hours.
- C. days.
- D. months.

4) The largest hot spring in the park is...

- A. Excelsior
- B. Old Faithful
- C. Great Fountain
- D. Grand Prismatic

5) What causes colors in the springs?

- A. sunlight
- B. bacteria
- C. eruptions
- D. temperatures



## Vocabulary:

1) **Steam** is...

- A. snow.
- B. running water.
- C. freezing water.
- D. water in vapor form.



2) Something **predictable** is something...

- A. people enjoy.
- B. people talk about.
- C. people know in advance.
- D. people pay for in advance.

3) **Boiling** water is...

- A. 0 degrees C. or 32 degrees F.
- B. 100 degrees C. or 212 degrees F.
- C. very hot.
- D. Both B and C are correct.

4) What are **bacteria**?

- A. Forms of life with one cell
- B. Multi-celled organisms
- C. Sunshine
- D. Various types of water.

5) Different **temperatures** are different...

- A. levels of heat and cold.
- B. amounts of water.
- C. levels of rainfall.
- D. colors of water.

## Advanced Dialogues – ‘I’m Hungry’

**Patricio:** Dad, what time is supper? I’m really hungry.

**Norma:** Dad, I’m really hungry too. What can I munch on?

**Raoul:** Supper will be awhile. Why don’t you have some peanuts while you wait?

**Patricio:** Okay. Yum, those are delicious! But I’m still hungry.

**Norma:** Yeah, me too.

**Raoul:** You can get some grapes out of the fruit bowl.

**Patricio:** Okay. Mmmm, these are really good. But I’m still hungry.

**Norma:** I am, too.

**Raoul:** Still hungry? You must have been *famished*. There’s some macaroni and cheese in the fridge.

**Patricio:** This tastes great! But I’m still a little hungry.

**Norma:** Me too.

**Raoul:** You two are *ravenous* tonight! Why don’t you have a piece of toast while you wait? I don’t want to spoil your appetite.

**Patricio:** Okay. I love toast with butter and jam. It really *hits the spot*.

**Norma:** I like my toast with peanut butter and a glass of milk.

**Raoul:** All right! Supper is ready! *Come and get it!*

**Patricio:** Aw, Dad, I’m not really that hungry. I feel full.

**Norma:** Me too!



## Questions:

- 1) What is Patricio waiting for?
  - A. Breakfast
  - B. A snack
  - C. **Supper**
  - D. Lunch
  
- 2) What does Norma want?
  - A. **Supper**
  - B. A snack
  - C. Peanuts
  - D. A drink
  
- 3) What happens when supper is ready?
  - A. Patricio gets upset.
  - B. Patricio feels full.
  - C. Norma feels full.
  - D. **B and C.**
  
- 4) What is one difference between Patricio and Norma?
  - A. Norma likes apples, but Patricio doesn't.
  - B. Patricio likes peanuts, but Norma doesn't.
  - C. **Norma likes peanut butter on her toast, but Patricio doesn't.**
  - D. Patricio likes macaroni and cheese, but Norma doesn't.

## Vocabulary:

- 1) A good synonym for *famished* is...
  - A. preoccupied.
  - B. elated.
  - C. **starved.**
  - D. surprised.
  
- 2) If you are *ravenous*, you are...
  - A. very noisy.
  - B. **very hungry.**
  - C. very annoying.
  - D. very agreeable.
  
- 3) *Hits the spot* means:
  - A. **satisfies my hunger.**
  - B. hurts my stomach.
  - C. falls on the floor.
  - D. tastes odd.
  
- 4) *Come and get it* means:
  - A. You should wake up.
  - B. I will punish you.
  - C. **It's time to eat.**
  - D. Let's fight.

54. Did Smith tell the reporter that the small boats \_\_\_\_.  
A) were crowding      B) crowded  
C) were the crowd      D) **were crowded**
55. \_\_\_\_ next year, the highway will have been started.  
A) At      B) Until      C) **By**      D) On
56. \_\_\_\_ its fragile appearance, a newborn infant is extremely sturdy.  
**A) In spite of**      B) Although      C) For      D) Unlike
57. They will \_\_\_\_ to build the highway by next year.  
A) starting      **B) have started**      C) had started      D) started
58. The smoke \_\_\_\_ from the oil refinery distorts the view.  
A) is rising      **B) that is rising**      C) has risen      D) must rise
59. The landlord \_\_\_\_ just rented the apartment when I got there.  
A) was      B) had been      C) have      **D) had**
60. Nucleoproteins are the essential chemicals \_\_\_\_ living matter duplicates itself.  
A) which all      B) what      C) whose      **D) with which**
61. \_\_\_\_ and a strict sleeping schedule are necessary to sound health.  
A) If you exercise daily      B) With daily exercise  
C) You exercise      **D) Daily exercise**
62. \_\_\_\_ are brightly colored beetles that help farmers by eating harmful insects.  
A) Because ladybugs      **B) Ladybugs**  
C) Due to ladybugs      D) If ladybugs
63. I got a letter from an old friend. It was a \_\_\_\_ surprise for me.  
A) pleasantly      B) pleased      **C) pleasant**      D) to please
64. She \_\_\_\_ take a taxi because she was in a hurry.  
A) has to      **B) had to**      C) must      D) should
65. It was very cold today. You \_\_\_\_ your sweater.  
**A) could wear**      B) should wear  
C) should have worn      D) couldn't worn
66. After strict safety regulations have been introduced, only rarely \_\_\_\_.  
**A) does an accident occur**      B) accidents occur  
C) occurring accidents      D) an accident has occurred
67. I thought that he \_\_\_\_ something for me.  
**A) was supposed to** do      B) was supposed to  
C) is supposed to do      D) is supposed to
68. Tom \_\_\_\_ more for the test yesterday.  
A) can always study      **B) could have studied**  
C) will be able to study      D) always studied
69. Did Alice really \_\_\_\_ to live in this small town?  
A) used      **B) use**      C) used to      D) ever
70. The alarm clock is ringing. It \_\_\_\_ be time to get up.  
**A) must**      B) can't      C) will      D) should
71. The higher a mountaineer climbs, \_\_\_\_.  
**A) the thinner the air will become.**  
B) there will be thinner air  
C) the air will become thinner  
D) thinner the air will become
72. A: That desk is exactly what I need.  
B: Would you consider \_\_\_\_ it then?  
A) to buy      B) buy      **C) buying**      D) about buying
73. Today isn't \_\_\_\_ cold \_\_\_\_ yesterday.  
A) \_\_\_/as      B) so/like      **C) so/as**      D) so/so
74. There are apricots on our tree \_\_\_\_ large \_\_\_\_ a fist.  
A) like/as      B) so/as      C) as/like      **D) as/as**
75. Tokyo isn't quite \_\_\_\_ far from Beijing \_\_\_\_ Istanbul is.  
A) so/so      B) so/like      C) \_\_\_/as      **D) so/as**
76. I have \_\_\_\_ experience than you do.  
A) as much      **B) less**      C) little      D) fewer
77. \_\_\_\_ a person earns, the more the family spends.  
A) The most      B) When      **C) The more**      D) How much
78. Sue is \_\_\_\_ Lucy.  
A) a lot pretty than      **B) a lot prettier than**  
C) pretty than      D) prettier as
79. Why is there \_\_\_\_ traffic on the streets in August than in September?  
A) fewer      **B) less**      C) little      D) few
80. Helen hardly ever goes to \_\_\_\_ the theatre.  
A) the cinema nor      B) neither the cinema nor  
**C) either the cinema** or      D) the cinema or
81. \_\_\_\_ depends on good preparation and strong delivery.  
A) If you want to win a debate      B) People winning a debate  
C) **Winning a debate**      D) Some people win a debate
82. Of the four girls, Mary is the \_\_\_\_.  
A) prettier      **B) prettiest**      C) pretty      D) far prettier
83. We've missed the bus. There's nothing we can do now \_\_\_\_ wait for the next one.  
A) although      B) unless      **C) except**      D) if
84. Some women are wearing jeans \_\_\_\_ skirts.  
A) to wearing      B) until were  
C) for wearing      **D) instead of wearing**
85. \_\_\_\_ did Ellen enter the contest, but she also won the first prize.  
A) How      B) Both      C) Neither      **D) Not only**
86. To judge a person, \_\_\_\_ what he says but observe what he does.  
**A) do not listen to**      B) when you do not listen to  
C) your not listening to      D) listening not to
87. Not only were the students late, but they \_\_\_\_ their books.  
A) forgot them      **B) also forgot**  
C) forget      D) were forgetting
88. She plays tennis \_\_\_\_ that everyone thinks she is a professional player.  
A) so good      B) very well      C) too well      **D) so well**
89. Since it \_\_\_\_ for more than a week, everything in the house felt damp.  
A) has rained      B) **had been raining**  
C) it rained      D) will have rained
90. A: Where is Tom working these days?  
B: He's still at Gima \_\_\_\_ I know.  
A) as      B) because      C) that      **D) as far as**
91. Only when every possible treatment had been tried \_\_\_\_ decide for an operation.  
A) didn't they      B) they did      C) they didn't      **D) did they**
92. She doesn't \_\_\_\_ English.  
A) either speaks or writes      B) neither speak nor write  
**C) speak or write**      D) speak nor write
93. I'm bad \_\_\_\_ remembering face.  
**A) at**      B) in      C) with      D) on
94. These are nice apples. How \_\_\_\_ a kilo.  
A) many are there      B) much are there  
C) **much are they**      D) many are they
95. Very small hotels \_\_\_\_ this serve good food.  
A) as      B) with      C) in      **D) like**
96. A sports car is expensive \_\_\_\_.  
**A) to run**      B) running      C) run      D) ran
97. Because early balloons were at the mercy of shifting winds, \_\_\_\_ not considered a practical means of transportation.  
**A) they were**      B) which were      C) so they were      D) were
98. Tom is waiting \_\_\_\_ the doctor.  
**A) to see**      B) for to see      C) for seeing      D) see
99. I haven't a chair \_\_\_\_.  
A) to sit      B) for to sit on      **C) to sit on**      D) for sitting
100. In any line of business, it is \_\_\_\_ customers.  
A) important pleasing      **B) important to please**  
C) important for pleasing      D) important pleased

## BBC Learning English – Grammar Challenge

### Exercise 2:

Read the sentence and decide whether it is grammatically **correct** or **wrong**.

1. The new regulations have announced. **have been announced**  
A. Correct  
B. **Wrong**
2. Many accidents have been caused by careless driving.  
A. **Correct**  
B. Wrong
3. Three buildings has been damaged in the explosion. **have been damaged**  
A. Correct  
B. **Wrong**
4. A lot of money was been stolen in the robbery. **has been stolen**  
A. Correct  
B. **Wrong**
5. A man has been seriously injured in a traffic accident.  
A. **Correct**  
B. Wrong
6. Millions of mobile phones have being sold in Asia this year. **have been sold**  
A. Correct  
B. **Wrong**
7. Has this room been painted recently?  
A. **Correct**  
B. Wrong
8. Why have the president's trip been postponed? **has the president's trip been postponed**  
A. Correct  
B. **Wrong**
9. Has the suspect been arresting yet? **been arrested**  
A. Correct  
B. **Wrong**

## BBC Learning English – Grammar Challenge

### Exercise 3:

Read the sentence and choose the one option a-d which best fits the space.

1. Nearly 350 concert tickets ...
  - a. have been selling
  - b. have being sold
  - c. are be sold
  - d. **have been sold**
  
2. The president ... to hospital for an emergency operation.
  - a. taken
  - b. being taken
  - c. **has been taken**
  - d. was been taken
  
3. Your documents ... and were posted back to you today.
  - a. have been processed
  - b. have being processed
  - c. **has been processed**
  - d. have been processing
  
4. How many languages... into?
  - a. has this book translating
  - b. was this book been translated
  - c. **has this book been translated**
  - d. this book has been translated
  
5. ... yet?
  - a. **Has this room been cleaned**
  - b. Has this room been cleaning
  - c. This room has been cleaned
  - d. Has this room being cleaned
  
6. Angela ... to the party.
  - a. hasn't being invited
  - b. **hasn't been invited**
  - c. haven't been invited
  - d. hasn't invited