

# "Three baby ducks hatch from THE READING supermarket eggs"

## COMPLETE WITH THE CORRECT WORDS

A woman was surprised after she bought duck eggs from a supermarket<sup>1</sup>. Three of the eggs hatched. The woman has three baby ducks, or ducklings<sup>2</sup>. Their names are Beep,<sup>3</sup> Peep and Meep. Charli Lello, 29, bought the eggs last month<sup>3</sup>. She was at home all day because she wasn't working in her job as an assistant manager in a shop. She decided to use her free time to do different things. Ms Lello told reporters she got the idea for incubating eggs after seeing a video on Facebook<sup>4</sup>. The video showed how someone hatched eggs<sup>5</sup> after buying them from a supermarket.

Lello said the ducklings would have a happy life<sup>6</sup>. They will be friends for her pet chickens. She explained why she bought the eggs. She said: "I saw the duck eggs and thought maybe they would [hatch]. I was so excited for them to hatch, but I still [knew] that these are supermarket eggs." She was surprised<sup>7</sup> when the eggs hatched because they had been bashed around on a truck and in a shopping<sup>8</sup> trolley. She called it an "amazing" experience<sup>9</sup>. She said the ducklings were, "the cutest little balls of fluff". A duck farm said it is unusual<sup>10</sup> for supermarket eggs to hatch.

eggs                      month                      life                      surprised

Facebook                      shopping

unusual                      ducklings

supermarket                      experience

## “Just One Touch”

### Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

Directions: Read the story. Then answer the questions below.

I am sitting in a chair next to Momma’s bed. I am watching her get ready for a party.

She opens the beautiful jewelry box on her nightstand.

It is the size of a shoebox. It is wooden. It has colorful stones on top. They are red, green, yellow, and blue. To me, the box looks **magical**. It looks like it has special powers.

“Now, you know you must never touch this box, right?” Momma says. I feel like she knows exactly what I am thinking.

*I just want to touch it. I just want to open it.  
I just want to try on all the jewelry inside and dance around the room!*

“Yes, Momma,” I say. “I know.”

What do I know?

I know Momma has always told me not to touch the box. She has said it since I was a little girl.

“You are not old enough to wear my jewelry,” Momma says.

I am almost eleven years old! What is the **big deal**?

I know that when Momma puts on the rings and bracelets from the box, she looks different. She seems to glow.

There is one necklace with a yellow stone like a tiger’s eye. When Momma puts this on, she seems to **float** instead of walk. Her feet do not seem to touch the ground. She moves lightly and gracefully. She moves without effort.

Momma kisses me goodnight. She leaves for the party. I run to the window to wave to her, but she is already gone.

Tonight I am very curious.

*Just one touch.*

I sit on the edge of Momma’s bed. I place my hand on the nightstand. I pause. I think.



My hand moves up and rests on the jewelry box. The box quickly flips open by itself! Jewels fly into the air. They dance around my head. I feel strange. I fall down to the floor.

I wake up in a place I have never seen before.

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### Questions:

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- 1) Where does most of this story take place?
- A. at a party
  - B. in a pretend place
  - C. outside a window
  - D. in Momma's bedroom
- 2) Who is telling the story?
- A. Momma
  - B. a young girl
  - C. Momma's friend
  - D. a pretend person
- 3) At the beginning of the story, where is the girl sitting?
- A. in a chair
  - B. on the bed
  - C. on the floor
  - D. next to the window
- 4) The jewelry box looks **magical**. What does this mean?
- A. It looks simple.
  - B. It looks expensive.
  - C. It looks like it has special powers.
  - D. It looks like it was made a long time ago.
- 5) What does Momma tell her daughter about the box?
- A. that it is magical
  - B. that she must never touch it
  - C. that the jewels are expensive
  - D. that she can touch it when she is older
- 6) Where is Momma going?
- A. to a play
  - B. to a party
  - C. to a concert
  - D. to a magic show
- 7) What does the jewelry box look like?
- I. It is brown.
  - II. It is wooden.
  - III. It is the size of a shoebox.
- A. I only
  - B. I and II
  - C. II and III
  - D. I, II, and III
- 8) Which word best describes how the girl feels about the jewelry box?
- A. angry
  - B. curious
  - C. in love
  - D. scared

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Questions (continued):

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9) Momma seems to glow when she puts on

- A. makeup
- B. a necklace
- C. the rings and bracelets
- D. nice shoes and a fancy dress

10) What does the girl seem to be thinking about when she sits on the edge of the bed?

- A. going to a party
- B. how to open the box
- C. dancing around the room
- D. if she should touch the box

11) How old is the girl?

- A. 11
- B. 12
- C. 10
- D. 15

12) What does the reader learn about the box?

- A. It is evil.
- B. It can fly.
- C. It is very heavy.
- D. It has special powers.

13) What does it mean if something is a **big deal**?

- A. It is a heavy thing.
- B. It is very important.
- C. It cannot be forgotten.
- D. It can make a lot of money.

14) At the end of the story, what does the girl mean when she says that Momma seems to **float**?

- A. that Momma is swimming
- B. that Momma looks like a boat
- C. that it is difficult for Momma to move
- D. that Momma moves without much effort

15) How might the end of the story make the reader feel?

- I. unsure about what has happened
  - II. curious about the power of the jewelry box
  - III. wondering what will happen next
- A. I only
  - B. I and II
  - C. II and III
  - D. I, II, and III

**VOCABULARY | Warnings/Telling someone not to do something 1**

*REMEMBER: Several responses might be acceptable - choose the **best** one*

1. Don't call me again! - I have \_\_\_\_\_ to you.  
a) nothing to tell   b) nothing to speak   c) **nothing to say**
  
2. Don't talk to him - He's a \_\_\_\_\_ person. (= you can't trust him)  
a) **two-faced**   b) double-faced   c) two-faces
  
3. Don't drink so much wine - You'll have a \_\_\_\_\_ tomorrow.  
a) head cold   b) **headache**   c) head pain
  
4. You should \_\_\_\_\_ on smoking. (= you shouldn't smoke so much) It's bad for you.  
a) cut off   b) **cut down**   c) get down
  
5. Don't get off here. Get off at the next \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) stoop   b) step   c) **stop**
  
6. Don't go outside without a scarf. You'll \_\_\_\_\_. (= get sick)  
a) **catch cold**   b) receive an illness   c) be unwell
  
7. Don't try to \_\_\_\_\_ me (= trick me). I'm too smart for that.  
a) **fool**   b) idiot   c) stupid
  
8. Don't worry about your interview. You'll do \_\_\_\_\_!  
a) **fine**   b) smart   c) intelligent
  
9. Don't try to stop me - I've \_\_\_\_\_ my mind. (= I have made a decision)  
a) called up   b) thought up   c) **made up**
  
10. You should try to be more \_\_\_\_\_. He's going through a difficult time.  
a) presumptuous   b) assuming   c) **understanding**

**VOCABULARY | Talking about (your) work 1**

*REMEMBER: Several responses might be acceptable - choose the **best** one:*

1. I work for a law \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) company   b) **firm**   c) job
  
2. James is a teacher. = James works \_\_\_\_\_ a teacher.  
a) like   b) **as**   c) being
  
3. I didn't like working \_\_\_\_\_. That's why I quit my office job and became a photographer.  
a) **9-5 (nine to five)**   b) 9-5 (nine five)   c) 9-6 (nine to six)
  
4. Lisa will be \_\_\_\_\_ for overseeing this year's fundraising event.  
a) responsive   b) responsibility   c) **responsible**
  
5. I love helping animals. That's why I became a \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) **vet(erinarian)**   b) butcher   c) pilot
  
6. It's impossible to learn how to do this. You have to \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) naturally be born   b) be born like it   c) **be born with it**
  
7. I sometimes stay after work to finish something, but I never \_\_\_\_\_ ( = go to work) on weekends.  
a) get in   b) **come in**   c) come inside
  
8. Craig works as a personal \_\_\_\_\_ to one of the most famous architects in Canada.  
a) assistance   b) **assistant**   c) assailant
  
9. P1: Does she work \_\_\_\_\_ sales? P2: No, she's a graphic designer.  
a) by   b) with   c) **in**
  
10. I'm planning to \_\_\_\_\_ this summer. ( = to find a different job)  
a) **change jobs**   b) change job   c) change the job

**VOCABULARY | Praising someone/ Giving compliments 1**

*REMEMBER: Several responses might be acceptable - choose the **best** one*

1. I love the way you \_\_\_\_\_ your apartment! It's so modern.  
a) set out    b) created    c) **decorated**
  
2. That dress looks \_\_\_\_\_ on you!  
a) very great    b) **really good**    c) really well
  
3. He's a great driver. He has never had \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) **an accident**    b) a fault    c) an incident
  
4. Wow, I didn't know you were such a great cook! This meal is very \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) **tasty**    b) tasteful    c) good taste
  
5. If something is "yummy", it's \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) bland    b) **tasty**    c) not very tasty
  
6. She always buys very \_\_\_\_\_ clothes. (= things that are in fashion)  
a) **fashionable**    b) fashion    c) modern
  
7. I can always \_\_\_\_\_ you! (= rely on you) You are a true friend.  
a) count    b) count with    c) **count on**
  
8. That color really \_\_\_\_\_ you. (= you look good in that color)  
a) satiates    b) **suits**    c) sweets
  
9. That's so \_\_\_\_\_! = That's such a nice thing to say!  
a) **sweet**    b) tart    c) sugary
  
10. She never \_\_\_\_\_ me down. = She never disappoints me.  
a) leaves    b) makes    c) **lets**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is the climate like in your country?  
A) **What** B) Which C) Where D) How
2. \_\_\_\_\_ of these students studies hard?  
A) What B) How C) **Which** D) Who
3. She will come at 7 o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ evening.  
A) of this B) on this C) **this** D) at this
4. A: Are my shoes in the box?  
B: No, there \_\_\_\_\_ in the box.  
A) **isn't anything** B) isn't nothing  
C) aren't things D) isn't any
5. Alice is \_\_\_\_\_ as the boys.  
A) too strong B) so strong C) **as strong** D) also strong
6. I never eat potatoes, and \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) so doesn't Tom B) **neither does Tom**  
C) neither is Tom D) neither Tom does
7. What \_\_\_\_\_ on Sundays?  
A) Ali usually does B) **does Ali usually do**  
C) does Ali usually D) usually does Ali do
8. \_\_\_\_\_ lovely food!  
A) Which B) How C) **What** D) Where
9. I think there are \_\_\_\_\_ in the garden.  
A) nobody B) someone C) **some people** D) anybody
10. This is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) the question thirty B) the question thirteenth  
C) **question thirty** D) thirteen question
11. The sun came \_\_\_\_\_ the windows.  
A) out of B) into C) with D) **through**
12. The old man came \_\_\_\_\_ the stairs.  
A) out of B) through C) **down** D) off
13. In Britain people drive \_\_\_\_\_ the left.  
A) **on** B) in C) at D) \_
14. The distance \_\_\_\_\_ Ankara \_\_\_\_\_ Bursa is five hundred kilometers.  
A) **from / to** B) to / to C) \_ / from D) from / \_
15. You may write \_\_\_\_\_ a pencil or a pen.  
A) **with** B) for C) in D) from
16. Subtract two \_\_\_\_\_ ten.  
A) under B) out of C) than D) **from**
17. Mt. Everest is a little \_\_\_\_\_ 29,000 feet high.  
A) **over** B) than C) above D) for
18. Many women are afraid \_\_\_\_\_ mice.  
A) with B) **of** C) from D) than
19. There is a big difference \_\_\_\_\_ a cheap watch and an expensive one.  
A) with B) than C) from D) **between**
20. Tom was really delighted \_\_\_\_\_ your gift.  
A) **with** B) for C) about D) in
21. Wallace wasn't very careful when he drove the car, \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
A) wasn't he B) did he C) didn't he D) **was he**
22. She didn't tell Robert where her wife was, \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
A) wasn't she B) **did she** C) didn't she D) was she
23. Your friends aren't given any chance, \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
A) do they B) aren't they C) haven't they D) **are they**
24. Linda is thirsty. She wants \_\_\_\_\_ glass of milk.  
A) other B) some C) any D) **another**
25. I want to give my brother \_\_\_\_\_ for his birthday.  
A) a thing B) anything C) **something** D) any
26. Is that umbrella \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
A) you B) to you C) your D) **yours**
27. We bought a lamp for Mr. Pools. We gave it \_\_\_\_\_ last night.  
A) him B) **to him** C) his D) for him
28. Don't talk \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) him B) he C) **to him** D) at him
29. A: Whose car is that?  
B: It's \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) to her B) hers C) her D) **Mrs. Jacobs**
30. A: Whose is this?  
B: \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) **His** B) He's C) It's D) It is
31. There isn't \_\_\_\_\_ in the restaurant.  
A) any people B) any persons C) **anybody** D) nobody
32. A: Have you got any apples?  
B: Yes, I've got \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) a small B) one small  
C) **two small ones** D) two small
33. \_\_\_\_\_ don't like red wine.  
A) **Some people** B) Any people  
C) Somebody D) Anybody
34. I can hardly see \_\_\_\_\_ without my glasses.  
A) **anything** B) something C) nothing D) nowhere
35. The Nelsons enjoyed \_\_\_\_\_ on their vacation.  
A) **themselves** B) yourselves C) yourself D) ourselves
36. Mrs. Baker is fond of her students. She's giving \_\_\_\_\_ some candy.  
A) to them B) **them** C) they D) for them
37. My sister called last week. I haven't spoken \_\_\_\_\_ since.  
A) him B) she C) her D) **to her**
38. Is this typewriter \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
A) your B) **yours** C) to you D) you
39. He \_\_\_\_\_ in the heavy rain and came home dripping wet.  
A) **was caught** B) caught C) catch D) have caught
40. She has \_\_\_\_\_ strange in her handbag.  
A) **something** B) some things C) a thing D) anything
41. She's telling \_\_\_\_\_ an amusing story.  
A) they B) **them** C) to them D) their
42. All of the students did \_\_\_\_\_ homework.  
A) his B) her C) its D) **their**
43. I imagine \_\_\_\_\_ to have Italian ancestors.  
A) she B) his C) **her** D) their
44. When I returned home, my father asked me where I \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) was B) had been C) have been D) went
45. Tom has just left for San Francisco. By six o'clock tomorrow he \_\_\_\_\_ New York.  
A) will have reached B) will reach  
C) reaches D) has reached
46. My brother told me that he \_\_\_\_\_ the letter.  
A) has posted B) will post C) had posted D) is posting
47. You can go home if you \_\_\_\_\_ your work.  
A) are finishing B) finished  
C) will finish D) have finished
48. When I arrived home at 7 o'clock, I was very surprised. Everybody \_\_\_\_\_ out.  
A) were B) has gone C) had gone D) is
49. He is sad because he \_\_\_\_\_ some money.  
A) lost B) had lost C) has lost D) was lost
50. Mohammed Ali \_\_\_\_\_ his first world title fight in 1960.  
A) has won B) is winning C) was winning D) won
51. Water \_\_\_\_\_ at a temperature of 100° C.  
A) is boiling B) boils C) boiled D) boil



**WORKSHEET 27**  
**Past Simple Mixed Exercise II**  
**Level: Basic (A2)**

Make the sentences (negative / positive / question) according to the symbols in parenthesis.

1. Our neighbors bought a new house two days ago.

\_\_Our neighbors didn't buy a new house two days ago.\_\_ (-)

2. Sam forgot to do his homework yesterday.

Did Sam forget to do his homework yesterday? \_\_\_\_\_ (?)

3. Paul and Andrew travelled to Vancouver last month.

Paul and Andrew didn't travel to Vancouver last month \_\_\_\_\_ (-)

4. Kate didn't understand her teacher's explanation.

Kate understood her teacher's explanation \_\_\_\_\_ (+)

5. Did the students ask many questions to their teacher?

The students asked many questions to their teacher \_\_\_\_\_ (+)

6. Bill finished his homework an hour ago.

Bill didn't finish his homework an hour ago \_\_\_\_\_ (-)

7. Mike wrote birthday cards to his friends.

Did Mike write birthday cards to his friends?> \_\_\_\_\_ (?)

8. Did Alice's sister win the first prize yesterday?

Alice's sister won the first prize yesterday \_\_\_\_\_ (+)

9. I didn't see an interesting film last Saturday.

I saw an interesting film last Saturday \_\_\_\_\_ (+)

10. My little son didn't ride his new bike in the park.

My little son rode his new bike in the park \_\_\_\_\_ (+)

11. Nora decided to quit her job two months ago.

Nora didn't decide to quit her job \_\_\_\_\_ (-)

12. Lucy arrived at the shopping center with her friends ten minutes ago.

Lucy didn't arrive at the shopping center \_\_\_\_\_ (-)

13. The students played hopscotch yesterday morning.

Did the students play hopscotch yesterday morning? \_\_\_\_\_ (?)

14. Katherine didn't make a delicious sandwich.

Katherine made a delicious sandwich \_\_\_\_\_ (+)

## WORKSHEET 17

### Present Continuous & Present Simple Mixed Exercise

#### Level: Basic(A1)

Choose the correct option.

1) What about having a picnic? The sun ----.

- a) shines
- b) **is shining**

2) Be quiet! Janet's baby ---- in her bedroom.

- a) **is sleeping**
- b) sleeps

3) She always ---- green tea in the morning.

- a) **drinks**
- b) is drinking

4) Every Saturday Lorenzo ---- his kids to their piano lesson.

- a) is driving
- b) **drives**

5) It ---- don't forget to take your scarf and gloves.

- a) **is snowing**
- b) snows

6) Caroline ---- pizza but she ---- hamburgers.

- a) is liking / isn't liking
- b) **likes / doesn't like**

7) Jason ---- 20 kilometers every day.

- a) **cycles**
- b) is cycling

8) Lucas and Lucy usually ---- the bus to school but today they ---- , because it is sunny.

- a) **take / are walking**
- b) are taking / walk

9) This summer I ---- Chinese.

- a) study
- b) **am studying**

10) A: ---- you ---- with us tonight?  
B: Unfortunately. I must study for the exam.

- a) Do / come
- b) **Are / coming**

11) I ---- swimming is not a good idea because it is cold today.

- a) think
- b) **am thinking**

12) Fiona ---- waking up early on Sundays, so please don't make any noise.

- a) is hating
- b) **hates**

13) Sam ---- his Spanish day by day.

- a) **is improving**
- b) improves

14) Jeremy always ---- to San Francisco by plane but today he ---- by his friend's car.

- a) is travelling
- b) **travels**

15) A: What's the matter? Why --- you ---?  
B: I hurt my leg.

- a) do / cry
- b) **are / crying**

16) She can't answer the phone. She ---- in the kitchen right now.

- a) **is washing**
- b) washes

17) How often ---- you and your brother --- - out?

- a) **do / eat**
- b) are / eating

18) James normally ---- to bed at 12 PM on Saturdays.

- a) is going
- b) **goes**

19) My mother ---- as a doctor. She ---- a patient now.

- a) is working / examines
- b) **works / is examining**

20) Look! My granny ---- the flowers in the garden.

- a) **is watering**
- b) waters