

## GAP FILL

# "Pope says gossiping is 'worse than COVID' "

Pope Francis has said gossiping is worse than COVID-19. He said gossip is a danger that (1) divides communities. He added that the devil is the "biggest gossiper" who is seeking to (2) create division with his lies. The Pope spoke about the dangers of gossiping during his (3) weekly blessing at the Vatican. He said: "Please brothers and sisters, let's try to not gossip. Gossip is a (4) plague worse than COVID. Worse. Let's make a big effort. No gossiping." The Pope has (5) regularly spoken about the dangers of gossiping, especially on social media. He advises people not to listen to Internet (6) trolls, saying: "If something goes wrong, offer silence and (7) prayer for the brother or sister who make a (8) mistake, but never gossip."

The Pope was making his first public (9) audience since the pandemic started. His latest (10) speech on gossip is not the first time he has made strong remarks on the topic. In 2016, he warned people not to "fuel the (11) terrorism of gossip". He urged people to resist the temptation to spread gossip. He said: "If you get an (12) urge to say something against a brother or a sister, to drop a gossip (13) bomb, bite your tongue. Hard." Two years later he brought the (14) subject up again. He told worshippers in St Peter's Square that gossip is lethal "because the (15) tongue kills, like a knife". A visitor to the Vatican agreed. She said: "Gossips are nothing but scandalmongers and (16) busybodies."

*trolls*

*prayer*

*divides*

*mistake*

*plague*

*create*

*regularly*

*weekly*

*terrorism*

*tongue*

*speech*

*bomb*

*busybodies*

*audience*

*subject*

*urge*

## LANGUAGE - CLOZE

# "750 million genetically modified mosquitos to be released"

Scientists in Florida will (1) \_\_\_\_\_ 750 million genetically modified mosquitoes into the wild. The aim is to reduce the number (2) \_\_\_\_\_ existing mosquitoes that have diseases like Zika virus, yellow fever and dengue fever. The plan (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to release the mosquitoes next year in the Florida Keys. This is a long (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of tropical islands stretching 170km south of the southern tip of Florida. The modified mosquitoes are all male. They carry a protein that will kill off any female offspring before they reach biting (5) \_\_\_\_\_. It is only female mosquitoes that feed on blood and bite humans. Males only (6) \_\_\_\_\_ on nectar from flowers. Over time, scientists hope the disease-carrying population of mosquitoes in the area will fall.

Environmental groups are not happy with the plan to release the genetically modified mosquitoes. One group (7) \_\_\_\_\_ it a "Jurassic Park experiment". It said Florida was "a testing ground for mutant bugs". Many environmentalists (8) \_\_\_\_\_ that the project could cause damage to local ecosystems that could never (9) \_\_\_\_\_ reversed. They say the experiment could even create a new super-species of mosquito that is resistant to insecticides. The environmental group Friends of the Earth said: "The release of genetically engineered mosquitoes will (10) \_\_\_\_\_ put Floridians, the environment and endangered species (11) \_\_\_\_\_ risk in the midst of a pandemic." The company (12) \_\_\_\_\_ the mosquitoes said there was no risk.

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

- |     |                       |                    |                 |                |
|-----|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) freedom           | (b) <b>release</b> | (c) go          | (d) fly        |
| 2.  | (a) at                | (b) <b>of</b>      | (c) on          | (d) to         |
| 3.  | (a) try               | (b) do             | (c) be          | <b>(d) is</b>  |
| 4.  | (a) rope              | <b>(b) chain</b>   | (c) thread      | (d) cord       |
| 5.  | (a) day               | (b) old            | (c) years       | <b>(d) age</b> |
| 6.  | (a) food              | (b) fodder         | <b>(c) feed</b> | (d) foodie     |
| 7.  | <b>(a) called</b>     | (b) name           | (c) asked       | (d) saw        |
| 8.  | (a) call              | (b) alert          | <b>(c) warn</b> | (d) careful    |
| 9.  | (a) take              | (b) can            | (c) do          | <b>(d) be</b>  |
| 10. | <b>(a) needlessly</b> | (b) needy          | (c) necessary   | (d) needed     |
| 11. | <b>(a) at</b>         | (b) to             | (c) of          | (d) on         |
| 12. | (a) <b>releasing</b>  | (b) released       | (c) releases    | (d) release    |

# ALL TENSES

## KEY

1. She – often – shop – at Macy's (**present simple**)  
**She often shops at Macy's.**
2. We – watch TV – when – we – hear – bad news (**past**)  
**We were watching TV when we heard the bad news.**
3. I – not go – out - in the rain (**conditional 2**)  
**I wouldn't have gone out in the rain.**
4. I – find – my briefcase – this morning (**present perfect simple**)  
**I have found my briefcase this morning.**
5. My sister – get married – next Sunday (**present progressive**)  
**My sister is getting married next Monday.**
6. I – never – think – about it – before (**past perfect simple**)  
**I had never thought about it before.**
7. I – prepare – for the test – since Monday (**present perfect progressive**)  
**I have been preparing for the test since Monday.**
8. You – ride – a camel – in Egypt? (**past simple**)  
**Did you ride a camel in Egypt?**
9. I – think – I – stay – at home. (**future**)  
**I think I'll stay at home.**
10. I – not apologise – to him (**conditional 1**)  
**I wouldn't apologise to him.**
11. After – I – hear – noise – I – go – out (**past simple, past perfect simple**)  
**After I had heard the noise I went out.**
12. Where – he – go? (**present perfect simple**)  
**Where has he gone?**
13. I – cannot – visit you – last week (**past simple**)  
**I couldn't/ wasn't able to visit you last week.**
14. How often – you go – to the dentist – last year? (**past simple**)  
**How often did you go to the dentist last year?**
15. Breakfast – not serve – after 11 o'clock (**present simple**)  
**Breakfast is not served after 11 o'clock.**
16. She – play – this game – over an hour (**present perfect progressive**)  
**She has been playing this game for over an hour?**
17. You – know – where – my shoes – be? (**present simple**)  
**Do you know where my shoes are?**
18. I – work - in the garden – whole afternoon (**past progressive**)  
**I was working in the garden the whole afternoon.**

## PREPOSITIONS

### KEY

1. She was **at** university when she heard about the death of her father.
2. We usually go on holidays **by** plane but this year we are going to Italy **by** car.
3. Let's go **for** a walk. The weather is so great!
4. The train was travelling **at** a speed of over 150 km an hour.
5. She got **on** the bus at Oxford Street and got off five stops later.
6. Despite the bad weather all trains are running **on** time.
7. Bats are mammals that are highly active **at** night.
8. This village isn't even **on** the map. It's so small.
9. We usually go to dance class **on** Mondays.
10. **By** nightfall over 10 inches of snow had fallen.
11. Doctors hope that the spread of the virus will slow down **in** the summer.
12. Dad always reads his daughter bedtime stories **in** the evening.
13. Let's meet **at** noon. We can have lunch and sort things out.
14. The cat was playing with a ball **in** the corner of Michael's room.
15. She has been a member of the committee **for** 6 years.
16. What are we having **for** dinner today?
17. **On** average, the unemployment rate has been going up 1 per cent a year.
18. Take a seat. I'll be with you **in** a minute.
19. We decided to meet **at** the station.
20. The boss would like to have the report **by** the end of the day at the latest.

## IF CLAUSES, 3RD TYPE

### KEY

1. If I **had studied** more, I **would have passed** the exam. (STUDY, PASS)
2. Mark **would have phoned** me if he **hadn't lost** my cell number. (PHONE, NOT LOSE)
3. We **wouldn't have taken** a taxi if the public transport workers **hadn't been** on strike. (NOT TAKE, NOT BE)
4. Mom **would have taken** us to the beach if it **hadn't rained**. (TAKE, NOT RAIN)
5. If I **had known** you were coming, I **would have met** you at the airport. (KNOW, MEET)
6. I **would have bought** them a present if they **had invited** me to their wedding. (BUY, INVITE)
7. If we **had taken** a map with us, we **would have reached** the village in time. (TAKE, REACH)
8. If Emma **had got/gotten** up earlier, she **would have reached** the train. (GET, REACH)
9. If I **hadn't gone** shopping, what **would you have eaten**? (NOT GO, YOU EAT)
10. If **you had paid** the fine, you **wouldn't have been** sent to prison. (PAY, BE SENT)
11. She **would not have visited** me if she **had known** I was busy. (NOT VISIT, KNOW)
12. We **would have flown** to Spain if there **had been** the right flight. (FLY, BE)
13. My dad **wouldn't have married** mom if she **had been** a poor lady. (NOT MARRY, BE)
14. If the wall **had been built** properly it **wouldn't have broken** down. (BE BUILT, NOT BREAK)
15. If I **had been** more careful, I **wouldn't have made** so many mistakes. (BE, NOT MAKE)
16. I **would have arrived** there in time if the weather **had been** better (ARRIVE, BE)
17. If I **had had** more time, I **would have done** my homework. (HAVE, DO)
18. If Nina **had behaved** well, my aunt **would have taken** her to the zoo. (BEHAVE, TAKE)
19. If I **hadn't listened** to the stereo, I **would have heard** the doorbell. (NOT LISTEN, HEAR)
20. If he **had come** with us to the cinema, he **would have enjoyed** himself. (COME, ENJOY)