

Students are referred to the **Exam success** pages at the back of the book for more detailed exploration of the skills they have been learning and the best way to approach a specific exam task.

The '**Can do**' progress check empowers students by encouraging them to measure their own progress against a checklist of tasks they are able to do successfully after every two units. It also acts as a useful summary of the language topics and skills covered so far.

Every two units the **Gateway to exams** pages allow students to test their progress and at the same time develop their skills through targeted training tasks for exams.

Useful exam tips cover all of the skills – **Writing, Speaking, Listening and Reading** – give guidance for Use of English tasks, providing invaluable reminders and hints for students to approach their exams fully prepared.

Gateway to exams: Units 3-4

Reading

1 **SKIM** Work with a partner. Ask and answer these questions.

- 1 What do you think is good advice for somebody with a stomach virus?
- 2 How do you think speaking different languages can be good for your health?
- 3 Do you sometimes feel sick when you travel by car, plane or ship?

2 Read these newspaper articles. Match each question in 1 with one of the three articles.

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____

TIP FOR READING EXAMS

In matching activities, remember ...
Read all the text once quickly to get a general understanding. Then read the information that you need to find. Look for the section of the text where you think this information appears and look at it again in more detail.
→ EXAM SUCCESS page 144

A SEASICK ON DRY LAND

Health matters. This week's news!

Have you ever been on a boat or a ship? If you have, you probably know about seasickness, that terrible feeling caused by going up and down non-stop on the sea. But imagine feeling seasick when you're not at sea. Mrs Jane Houghton has been seasick since 2003. She was at sea for three days, when she got off the boat, she started to feel seasick and she has never recovered. One unusual thing about her illness is that she only feels OK when she is moving in a car, boat or aeroplane. It's difficult for Mrs Houghton to work because when she sits at her computer she feels terrible. Mrs Houghton has created a website with information about her illness. She wants people to know about it. Perhaps our day doctors will be able to help her.

B STAY AT HOME

A large number of people have a stomach virus called norovirus at the moment. This virus can cause stomach ache, high temperatures and pains in your arms and legs. Doctors have told patients to stay at home for two days when the illness has gone. They are also recommending that patients take paracetamol, drink lots of water and, most importantly, that they wash their hands regularly. The Health Protection Agency has said that this year there are twice as many people with the virus as last year. There are between 600,000 and one billion cases of norovirus in the UK each year.

C BEING BILINGUAL IS GOOD FOR YOUR BRAIN

A recent study says that speaking one language can help old people to stay mentally active. Dr Eleni Bilyntzik and her team of scientists at York University in Canada did experiments with 104 people between the ages of 50 and 88. They came to the conclusion that being bilingual can help old people to think quickly. Most of the people who did the tests came from Canada and only spoke English. The other half came from India and could speak English and a language called Hindi. The scientists tested a language called Hindi and made them think. They also checked how fast they did the tests. The ones who could speak two languages did the exercises much more quickly and well. The people who spoke only one language weren't so good. The British Alzheimer's Society was very interested in the discoveries.

Use of English

TIP FOR USE OF ENGLISH

In multiple-choice cloze activities, remember ...
Read the complete text first without thinking about the gaps. This helps you to get a general understanding of the text.
→ EXAM SUCCESS page 144

5 Read about acupuncture. Choose the best answer (A, B, C or D) to complete the text.

In China they've used acupuncture for thousands and thousands of years. But now a school in England (1) _____ just started to use it with their students. Stanchester Community School is the school (2) _____ they have begun this project. At this school they have a teacher who has spent time living in China studying acupuncture with Chinese experts. This teacher has (3) _____ acupuncture to a small group of students at the school (4) _____ September. A very common problem that the students have is stress, usually stress caused by exams or homework. People (5) _____ suffer from stress often have headaches, backache or stomach ache. The students all say that the treatment has (6) _____ helped them a lot. In fact, many of the students say that they've started to sleep really well. Luckily they haven't started sleeping in class (7) _____!

- 1 A has B is C have D was
- 2 A that B who C where D which
- 3 A give B gave C gives D given
- 4 A since B for C at D on
- 5 A - B who C when D what
- 6 A yet B for C at D already
- 7 A at B ever C never D in

Speaking

TIP FOR SPEAKING EXAMS

In speaking exams, remember ...
It's important to know what the examiners want to hear. Find out how many marks there are and what you need to do to get a good mark.
→ EXAM SUCCESS page 144

6 **SKIM** Work with a partner. Student A: Look at photo A on page 147. Student B: Look at photo B on page 148. Take it in turns to talk about your photos using the questions below.

- 1 Where are the people and what are they doing?
- 2 Who are the people and what are they wearing?
- 3 What else can you see?
- 4 How do you prefer to learn a language?

Writing

TIP FOR WRITING EXAMS

In writing exams, remember ...
Include all the information in the instructions or you will lose marks. And don't forget to write in the correct style (formal or informal).
→ EXAM SUCCESS page 144

7 You are staying with an English teenager called Joe. You haven't got a mobile phone. This afternoon you are at home alone but you need to go out to the chemist's to buy some medicine and then take it to a friend. Leave Joe a message. Include this information.

- Explain where you have gone and why.
- Say who it is.
- Give the address of the person who is ill and their telephone number.
- Ask Joe to ring you there when he gets home.

CAN DO PROGRESS CHECK UNITS 3-4 CEF

1 How well can you do these things in English now? Give yourself a mark from 1 to 4.

- 1 = I can do it very well.
- 2 = I can do it quite well.
- 3 = I have some problems.
- 4 = I can't do it.

- A I can talk about different countries.
- B I can understand written and spoken texts about different languages.
- C I can make negative adjectives by using prefixes.
- D I can ask for information about language courses and check that I have understood.
- E I can write a text about my experience of learning a language.
- F I can report general and recent experiences in the past using the present perfect.
- G I can talk about activities which continue up to now using the present perfect with for and since.
- H I can discuss health problems and illnesses.
- I I can describe scenes in photos and pictures using filters.
- J I can write basic notes and messages.

2 Now decide what you need to do to improve.

- 1 Look again at my book/notes.
- 2 Do more practice exercises.
- 3 Watch/DO-DC (Units 3 and 4)
- 4 Ask for help.
- 5 Other: _____

Gateway to Exams