

All together now

Warm up

- Write the phrases *immediate family* and *extended family* on the board and ask students what they refer to. If it is needed, this can be an opportunity to revise the vocabulary of family relationships.
- Ask students about their own extended families – uncles, aunts, cousins, etc. How often do they meet? On what occasions?
- Put students into groups and ask them to list the advantages and disadvantages of belonging to a large extended family.
OR
- Ask them to list the reasons why family members lose touch. (For example, because they move to different parts of the country.)

Main activities

Students can do these activities in pairs or small groups; exercise 4 is in small groups.

- 1 Give out the activity sheets.
Ask students to look at the photo in pairs and discuss their answers to the three questions. Briefly share answers in the whole group.
- 2 Students read the whole article fairly quickly in order to understand the main points. **They should read only the text in the shaded boxes for now and ignore the multiple-choice questions.** Check understanding with these questions:
 - 1 How often do the Gigg family meet up?
 - 2 Where do they meet?
 - 3 Who is George Gigg?
 - 4 Who is Jack Greenfield?
 - 5 What job does Faith have to do?
 - 6 How has the event changed over the years?
 - 7 Why did their family holiday tradition start?
 - 8 What's special about next year's holiday?

Answers

- 1 Once a year ('the annual holiday ...')
- 2 Westward Ho! (in the south-west of England)
- 3 The head of the family / the oldest member of the family
- 4 The youngest member of the family / George Gigg's youngest great grandchild
- 5 She has to arrange all the holiday accommodation for the family.
- 6 The event has got bigger and bigger over the years.
- 7 George's wife, Stella, was ill and wanted to see all her family together in one place.
- 8 It will be George Gigg's 100th birthday.

- 3 Go through the instructions and advice for answering the multiple-choice questions. These are grouped according to the types of words being tested: questions 1–5 test collocations, 6–9 test 'grammatical' words, 10–13 test prepositions, 14–17 test verb forms and 18–20 test modals.
With less confident students, you might like to direct them to the example answers and ask them to circle these before going on to the remaining questions.

Answers

- 1 spend 2 tradition 3 world 4 way 5 distance
6 him 7 The 8 because 9 so 10 of 11 at 12 by
13 with 14 organised 15 wanted 16 died 17 have
18 can't 19 will 20 wouldn't

- 4 Tell students that they are going to give a talk lasting for 2 minutes about a holiday they have had with members of their own family. They should spend about 5 minutes silently planning what they are going to say (and it doesn't have to be true). Emphasise that they should not try to write a composition, but note down ideas in the form of key words and phrases.
Here are some questions to help them.
Who did you go with?
Who chose and organised the holiday?
Where did you go? How long did you stay?
What activities did you do together (with your relatives)?
What activities (if any) did you do separately?
How did you get on together?
How would you rate the holiday for fun on a scale from 1 = boring to 5 = really great fun?

Follow up

Tell students they are planning a big family party (they can decide the reason for the celebration). Working alone, they should write a guest list of family members they want (or ought!) to invite. Students then work with a partner. They show their guest lists to each other and explain who each person is and why they are invited. For example:
The next person is Lisa. She's a cousin of mine. My father's got a sister called Shirley and Lisa is her younger daughter. She's 21 or 22 and I like her a lot – she's really good fun. Then there's Uncle Maurice. He's my mother's older brother. He's not married. I don't see him very often, but I think he should be invited to the party.

EXAM PART

Reading Part 5

EXAM SKILLS

Reading for grammar and meaning

Multiple-choice questions

TOPIC

Families; celebrations

TIME

50 minutes

KEY LANGUAGE

Lexical grammar (modals, pronouns, prepositions)

PREPARATION

One photocopy of the activity page for each student

Optional: bring in (or draw) a map showing the south-west of England

All together now

- 1 Look at the headline and photo.

A summer holiday with the family (all 109 of them)

- What do you think the article is about?
- Would you enjoy a holiday like this? Why/Why not?
- Imagine you are one of the people in the picture. Describe what was happening when the photo was taken.



- 2 Read the text below quickly to get a general idea of the meaning. Don't try to do the multiple-choice questions yet.

- 3 Read the text again, carefully, and the advice at the beginning of each paragraph. This time choose the correct word from the alternatives in *italics*.

In the first paragraph you need to think about how words **combine** in phrases. For example the answer to 1 is **spend**: you can *have, take* or *spend a holiday*, but you can't 'pass' or 'make' a holiday.

This summer the Gigg family met up to 1 *pass / make / spend* a holiday together at a resort called Westward Ho! in the south-west of England. Nothing unusual about that – except that there were 109 of them! The annual holiday is a family 2 *tradition / festival / time* dating back to 1969, and it draws members from all over the 3 *sea / England / world* including, this year, the United States, Africa and the Middle East. This summer's gathering was the largest yet, and one of the grandchildren, Timothy Greenfield, cycled all the 4 *way / travel / journey* from Manchester to be there, a 5 *length / distance / measurement* of over 420 kilometres.

In this paragraph you need to think about the **grammar** of the word in the sentence. For example, the correct answer to 6 is **him**: *him* is the object pronoun from *he* (referring to George Gigg). Here, it is the object of the verb *provided*.

The head of the family is 99-year-old George Gigg. His six children have provided 6 *he / him / his* with 31 grandchildren and 42 great grandchildren. 7 *The / A / One* youngest is 6-month-old Jack Greenfield. Jack's mother, Carol, said: 'It was a bit overwhelming when I first married Ed, 8 *although / but / because* I come from a small family, but everyone was 9 *such / too / so* friendly.'

In the next paragraph the missing words are all **prepositions**. For example, the correct answer to 10 is **of**. After a preposition we must use a gerund (a verb with the *-ing* form); the preposition *of* goes after words like *job, task* and *duty*.

Mr Gigg's daughter, Faith, has the difficult job 10 *of / to / in* arranging all the accommodation. The family stay 11 *on / at / to* a holiday park, where they occupy 20 chalets, each of which can take up to six people. The whole event is organised 12 *from / to / by* Mr Gigg's son-in-law, Peter. 'It's just got bigger and bigger,' he said. 'We all get together for some activities and the younger children play 13 *from / of / with* each other and have a great time. But we are also independent family units; we eat separately and do our own thing.'

Here you need to think about the form of the **verb** which is missing. For example, the correct answer to 14 is **organised**. The verb is in the passive form of the past simple tense. *Organise* is a regular verb, so the past participle ends with *-ed*.

Behind this happy annual event there is a sad story: the first holiday reunion was 14 *organise / organising / organised* in 1969 because George's wife, Stella Gigg, was very ill and she 15 *want / wanted / wanting* to see all her family together in one place. She 16 *died / dies / dead* later that same year. The Gigg's 17 *has / have / had* come back to Westward Ho! ever since.

In these questions the missing words are all **modal verbs**. For example, the correct answer to 18 is **can't**: *some members of the family are not able to come*.

Naturally, there are a few members of the family every year who 18 *mustn't / wouldn't / can't* join the holiday because of work, study or illness. However, everyone 19 *shall / will / would* do their best to be there next August for the 100th birthday of their founding father. That's one celebration they 20 *wouldn't / mustn't / couldn't* want to miss!

- 4 Work in small groups. Talk for 2 minutes each about a holiday you have had with members of your own family. You can invent details if you like.