8 EDUCATION

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finals /ˈfaɪn(ə)lz/ Noun plural
finals are the exams that university students take at the end of their course

I've got my finals next term | *I hope I don't fail my finals* | *she's sitting her finals next month (taking the exams)* | *good luck in your finals!*

Adjective: *final*

what happens if you fail your final exams? | *we're in the middle of our final exams*

fluent /ˈfluːənt/ Adjective
if you are *fluent*, you speak a language easily and without making mistakes

Collocates: be fluent in something | a fluent speaker

I won't become fluent in English if I don't work hard enough | *she's fluent in English, French and Spanish, and even speaks some Italian and Portuguese* | *he is a fluent speaker of German*

Adverb: *fluently* | Noun: *fluency*

she writes very fluently | *after just a year living in Aldershot, he could speak English fluently* | *these exercises will help you improve your fluency*

graduate /ˈgrædʒueɪt/ Verb
when you *graduate*, you are given your degree after you finish your university course. A student who successfully graduates is a *graduate* (ˈgrædʒuət)

Collocates: graduate from something

when I graduated, I wanted to find a job in the media | *I graduated in 2005* | *she graduated from Oxford with a degree in law*

Noun: *graduate*

graduates are likely to start jobs on a higher salary | *she's a graduate of Cambridge University*

Master's /ˈmɑːstə(r)z/ Noun
a *Master's* or a *Master's* degree is a university qualification that you can get which is higher than a first degree

Collocates: a Master's in something | do a Master's

if you want to get a good job, you'll have to do a Master's | *it took two years to get my Master's* | *he has a Master's degree in engineering* | *she's studying for her Master's in computer science*

media /ˈmiːdiə/ Noun
the *media* is television, radio, newspapers, magazines, etc. which prepare and send out information and entertainment for people to watch, listen to, or read

Collocates: media coverage | mass media

I tried for months to get a job in the media | *the election got a lot of media coverage (there were a lot of articles or programmes about it)* | *she's written a book about the influence of the mass media (newspapers, TV, etc. that are seen by large numbers of people) on social attitudes* | *last year, there were media reports that the prime minister was going to resign* | *most of the news media supported the president*

nursery /ˈnɜː(r)s(ə)ri/ Noun
a *nursery* is a place where very young children are looked after while their parents are at work. In Britain, a *nursery school* is a school for very young children between three and five years old

my youngest daughter starts nursery next month | *she goes to nursery three days a week* | *I've known him since we were at nursery school together*

off /ɒf/ Adverb
if you have time *off* or take time *off*, you spend a period of time not working or studying but doing something different

Collocates: take time off | be off

I'm taking a year off to go travelling | *I need to take the day off on Friday* | *I can't come to the meeting because I'm off tomorrow* | *after three weeks off I nearly forgot where the office was!* | *I can't take any time off till we've finished the project*

pass /pɑːs/ Verb
if you *pass* a test or exam, you succeed in it

Collocates: pass a test/exam

I just hope I pass my exams next week | *she passed her driving test first time* | *if you don't pass this time, you'll have to take the exam again in January*

Opposite – Verb: *fail*

I was ill for two weeks before the exam, so I expected to fail | *my brother failed all his exams and my dad was really angry with him*

promise /ˈprɒmɪs/ Verb
if you *promise* to do something, you say that you will definitely do it

Collocates: promise someone something | promise to do something

my parents have promised me they'll buy me a car if I pass my exams | *will you promise to be home by 10 o'clock?* | *he promised to phone me* | *but you must come. You promised!* | *if I tell you, will you promise not to tell anyone else?*

Noun: *promise*

Collocates: make (someone) a promise | keep a promise | break a promise

politicians are always making promises and then breaking them (not doing what they said they would do) | *Tim kept his promise and never told his sister what I'd done*

retake /ˌriːˈteɪk/ Verb
if you *retake* an exam, you take it again because you did not pass it the first time

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If I don't get a good enough score, I'll have to retake the exam in a couple of months | *he had to retake the exam twice before he finally passed*

Noun: *retake*

I can't come out tonight, I'm revising for my retake tomorrow | *how many retakes did you need?*

save /seɪv/ Verb
if you *save* money, you keep it so that you can use it later, rather than spending it straight away. The money that you keep is your savings

I'm saving money for my university fees | *I saved over £500 last year* | *you should save as much as you can if you want to buy a flat*

Noun: *savings*

I had to use my savings to get the car repaired

system /ˈsɪstəm/ Noun
a *system* is all the related parts of a process or machine that work together to produce a result

our education system is very efficient | *the heating system has broken down* | *the current system has been in place for the last five years* | *we need to improve the security system*

term /tɜː(r)m/ Noun
a *term* is one of the periods of time into which a school or university year is divided

I've got my final exams next term | *we never do much work on the last day of term* | *I started a philosophy class in the third term* | *we don't have classes in the summer term, just exams*

year /jɪə(r)/ Noun
a school *year* or a university *year* is the period that starts in September and ends in July when students are at school or university

my brother's in his second year at university | *a third-year student* | *what year are you in?* | *when I started at secondary school, the fifth-years (students in their fifth year) looked like teachers to me*

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approach /əˈprəʊtʃ/ Noun
your *approach* to something is the particular way you do it or think about it

Collocates: take an approach | an approach to something

the school has a traditional approach to teaching | *other governments took a different approach to the problem* | *an exciting new approach to music teaching*

Verb: *approach*

he approached the job with a mixture of enthusiasm and worry

atmosphere /ætməsˌfɪə(r)/ Noun
the *atmosphere* of a place is the feeling you get when you are there

the school has a good atmosphere | *the hotel has a lovely relaxing atmosphere* | *I didn't like the atmosphere at the party so I left early* | *the atmosphere was rather strained (people felt socially uncomfortable)* | *the atmosphere was tense (people were worried and slightly unfriendly) at the start of the meeting*

bullying /ˈbʊlɪŋ/ Noun uncount
bullying is behaviour in which someone deliberately hurts or tries to frighten someone else who is weaker than them

there's no violence or bullying in the school | *we will not tolerate bullying here (will not allow it)* | *bullying used to a problem in the office but it's been stamped out (stopped)*

Verb: *bully* | Noun: *bully*

the older children used to bully me sometimes | *he's the school bully, so best to keep out of his way*

-ING NOUNS

The *-ing* form of a verb is often used to make a noun, especially to describe an activity.

*There's no **bullying** in this school.*

*I do **babysitting** to earn some extra money.*

*I go **swimming** every day.*

***Parking** is really difficult in the city centre.*

*We sat in the **waiting** room for two hours.*

compulsory /kəmˈpʌlsəri/ Adjective
if something is *compulsory*, you must do it because of a law or rule

English and maths are both compulsory subjects at my school | *sport is compulsory until you're in the fifth year* | *I had to do two years of compulsory military service*

Opposite – Adjective: *optional*

Geography and History are optional subjects, but we suggest you do both

copy /ˈkɒpi/ Verb
if you *copy* something, you write it out exactly in the way it has already been written somewhere else. If you *copy* someone else's work, you write what they wrote and say it is your own work

we weren't supposed to copy straight out of the textbook | *I forgot to take my book home last night. Can I copy your homework?* | *if you're caught copying, you'll be punished* | *we had to copy out four poems for homework*

Noun: *copy*

she was given a copy of the agreement to sign

deal with /ˈdiːl wɪð/ Phrasal verb
if you *deal with* something, you do what is necessary to make sure that everything is in order. If you *deal with* a difficult situation, you do what is necessary to stop it being a problem

how do you deal with bad behaviour? | *my colleague deals with bookings* | *my secretary deals with all my appointments* | *it's time we dealt with this problem*

essay /ˈeseɪ/ Noun
an *essay* is a piece of writing in which someone writes about a particular topic

Collocates: write an essay

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I have to write an essay on Shakespeare for homework | write a 2,000 word essay on the reasons for the First World War | hand your essays in by Friday lunchtime

fail /feɪl/ Verb
if you *fail* a test or exam, you do not succeed in it

what happens if you fail your final exam? | I was worried that I'd fail | over half my class failed their French test | if you fail this time, you'll have to retake the exam in January

Opposite – Verb: *pass*

I just hope I pass my exams next week | she passed her driving test first time

get into /ˌget ˈɪntuː/ Phrasal verb
if you *get into* a school or university, you succeed in being accepted there as a student

how did you get into Oxford University? | it's really difficult to get into Harvard or Yale | she got into university when she was just 17

mixed /mɪkst/ Adjective
things that are *mixed* involve different parts, some good and some bad. If you have *mixed* feelings about something, you are not sure how you feel about it

Collocates: have mixed feelings/emotions

my first impressions of the school were a bit mixed | he's got mixed feelings about working for a tobacco company | I had very mixed emotions after seeing her again | the film got mixed reviews | there was a mixed reaction from the class when they heard the news

qualification /ˌkwɒlɪfɪˈkeɪʃ(ə)n/ Noun
a *qualification* is a piece of paper that shows you have passed certain exams or finished a particular course of study successfully

what qualification do you get at university? | she's got excellent academic qualifications | you won't get any qualifications unless you start working a bit harder | it took me seven years to get my medical qualifications

Adjective: *qualified*

a qualified lawyer (one who has passed the exams and can work as a lawyer) | I didn't get the job because there were some better-qualified candidates

resource /rɪˈzɔː(r)s/ Noun
resources are things that are available to be used, and that are useful

the school has got very good resources | the Internet is a valuable resource | the country is rich in natural resources (oil, gas, coal, etc.) | the university library is a wonderful resource

set /set/ Verb
if you *set* some work, you give it to someone and ask them to do it

Mr Walters is going to set our maths test next week | she forgot to set our homework for the weekend | I set myself a target of learning 50 words a week

state /steɪt/ Adjective
a *state* organisation is one that is paid for by the government of a country for anyone to use

my brothers all went to a state school | you'll qualify for a state pension at the age of 66 | the state education system

Opposite – Adjective: *private*

private education is very expensive in the UK | a private rail company (not owned by the government)

stressed /strest/ Adjective
if you are *stressed*, you are very worried about something and cannot relax

I got really stressed before my driving test | you look stressed – why don't you have a day off? | students reported that they felt stressed during their final exams

Noun: *stress*

Collocates: be under stress

he's under a lot of stress at the moment, which is why he looks so unhappy | moving house can cause a lot of stress

stuff /stʌf/ Noun uncount
in informal English, you can use *stuff* as a general word to refer to any kind of thing or collection of things without saying exactly what they are

they get stressed because of exams and stuff | we did football and boxing and stuff like that | we did a lot of fun stuff at the holiday camp | you can buy all sorts of stuff there

technological /ˌteknəˈlɒdʒɪk(ə)l/ Adjective
technological things involve machines and are based on science and modern knowledge

we have good technological resources here | there has been a lot of technological development over the last ten years | we've made great technological advances in the field of engineering | the department organises scientific and technological research

Adverb: *technologically* | Noun: *technology*

a technologically advanced machine | there are many benefits of modern technology

test /test/ Noun
a *test* is a set of questions that you have to answer in order show how much you know about a subject

I'm revising for my geography test | did you pass the test? | a maths test | a spelling test | you have half an hour to complete the test

Verb: *test*

we were tested twice a week in maths | Mr Wilkins is going to test us on Friday

textbook /ˈteks(t)ˌbʊk/ Noun
a *textbook* is a book used in schools or universities, which gives a lot of information about a particular subject

textbooks are very expensive | can I borrow your textbook for a few minutes? | the school provides all the textbooks we need

translate /trænsˈleɪt/ Verb
to *translate* means to change written or spoken words from one language into another

Collocates: translate from/into something

can you translate this into Russian for me? | I've got to

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translate this passage into French for homework | *his book has been translated into 12 different languages* | *she translated it from the original German* | *I didn't know any Japanese but luckily my wife could translate*

Noun: *translation* | Noun: *translator*

My Spanish isn't very good, so I'm reading it in an English translation | *an accurate translation* | *my uncle is a translator in Brussels*

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advantage /ədˈvɑːntɪdʒ/ Noun

an *advantage* is something you have which gives you a better chance of success than the people you are competing with

Collocates: be at an advantage | have an advantage | an unfair advantage

the desire to get an advantage by cheating is nothing new | *I had the advantage of being able to speak French which helped me get the job* | *she had an unfair advantage because her parents gave her so much money* | *if you have a driving licence, you'll be at an advantage* | *my height gave me an advantage when I played basketball*

Opposite – Noun: *disadvantage*

Collocates: be at a disadvantage

we were at a disadvantage because we arrived late | *both cars have advantages and disadvantages*

arrest /əˈrest/ Verb

when the police *arrest* someone, they take them away as a prisoner because they think the person has committed a crime

Collocates: arrest someone for something

police arrested him last night at the house where the body was found | *a man was arrested after stealing 10 kilos of bananas* | *Bourne was arrested for dangerous driving*

Noun: *arrest*

Collocates: be under arrest | put someone under arrest

he was under arrest for murder | *police put him under arrest as soon as he got off the aeroplane*

challenge /ˈtʃæləndʒ/ Verb

if you *challenge* someone, you ask them to prove that they are honest or truthful because you think they have done something wrong

it's not possible to challenge everyone who might be cheating | *he challenged my account of the accident*

claim /kleɪm/ Verb

if you say that someone *claimed* that something was true, you mean that they said it was true but you do not believe them

she claimed that she had a degree, but I know that she never went to university | *he still claims that he is innocent* | *he claimed that he never got my email*

Noun: *claim*

the company made some false claims about the quality of its products

complete /kəmˈpliːt/ Verb

if you *complete* something, you finish doing all of it

I managed to complete two levels on my new computer game | *she completed the puzzle quickly* | *he left before the project was completed* | *Harry has recently completed his A level course*

Adjective: *complete* | Noun: *completion*

most of my coursework is complete for this term | *completion of the project was delayed because of the bad weather* | *the new completion date is January next year*

contrary /ˈkɒntrəri/ Adjective

if something is true *contrary* to what people think, it really is true, although most people do not realise it and think the situation is different

Collocates: contrary to something

contrary to expectations, it's not only weaker students who cheat | *contrary to common belief, the average age of becoming a grandparent is 51* | *contrary to public opinion, there is no such thing as "road tax"*

declare /dɪˈkleə(r)/ Verb

if you *declare* something, you make a formal and official statement saying it is true

he was in trouble because he didn't declare all his income last year | *the government declared a state of emergency* | *if their army does not move back from our border, we will declare war (officially start a war with them)* | *the company was declared bankrupt*

Noun: *declaration*

the American Declaration of Independence

desire /dɪˈzaɪə(r)/ Noun

someone's *desire* for something is their strong wish to have or achieve that thing

Collocates: a desire for something | a desire to do something | a strong desire

the desire to succeed is nothing new | *they have a genuine desire to learn* | *she had a strong desire for success* | *he no longer has the desire to become prime minister*

Verb: *desire* | Adjective: *desirable*

I am sure they sincerely desire peace | *do any of them honestly desire to know the answer?* | *previous experience is desirable but not essential* | *these flats are highly desirable (lots of people would like to live in them)*

earn /ɜː(r)n/ Verb

money you *earn* is the money you are paid for doing your job

he didn't declare all the money he earned last year | *top football players earn millions of pounds a year* | *I deliver newspapers before school in the morning to earn some money* | *how much does your dad earn?* | *she earns a fortune (a lot of money)*

Noun: *earnings*

average earnings rose again last year

effort /ˈefə(r)t/ Noun

effort is the work involved in trying to do something. If you make an *effort* to do something, you try very hard to do it

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Collocates: make (an) effort | take effort | put effort into something

they think cheating will bring success without effort | it took a lot of effort to get the piano up the stairs | he put a lot of effort into his language studies | if you don't make an effort, you'll never pass the exam

emphasis /ˈemfəsɪs/ Noun
emphasis is special importance that something has, which affects the way you deal with it

Collocates: place/put emphasis on something

kids are growing up in a world where great emphasis is placed on money and winning | we place too much emphasis on punishment | the emphasis here is on speaking and listening rather than reading and writing

expenses /ɪkˈspensɪz/ Noun plural
your *expenses* are the amounts of your own money that you spend in the course of doing your job, and that your employer gives back to you separately from your salary

Collocates: claim expenses

several politicians were caught lying about their expenses | the company owes me hundreds of pounds in expenses | she claimed £20 expenses for the train ticket | the company will reimburse (pay back) your expenses at the end of the following month

impatient /ɪmˈpeɪʃ(ə)nt/ Adjective
someone who is *impatient* loses interest or becomes angry or upset when something takes a long time

technology can make people impatient | he was very impatient with his children | as time went on, he became more and more impatient | don't be so impatient! We've nearly finished

Adverb: *impatiently* || Opposites – Adjective: *patient* | Adverb: *patiently*

the captain shook his head impatiently | thanks for waiting – you've been very patient | she listened patiently while I explained what had happened

offer /ˈɒfə(r)/ Verb
if something *offers* an opportunity, it makes it available

cheating offers a way to succeed without trying | the city centre offers a variety of nightclubs | the university offers courses in medicine as well as in science and computing | the job offers me good career opportunities

pressure /ˈpreʃə(r)/ Noun
pressure is a feeling of worry that you have when you know that it is important for you to succeed in doing something

Collocates: be under pressure | put pressure on someone

kids are under extreme pressure to succeed | the pressure got too much for him and he walked out of the exam early | my dad put a lot of pressure on me to get into Oxford | I've been under a lot of pressure at work recently

pretend /prɪˈtend/ Verb
if you *pretend*, you behave in a way that deliberately suggests something about you that is not true

Collocates: pretend to do something

I pretended the essay was all my own work | we all pretended not to hear what he'd said | she had decided to pretend that nothing had happened | I had to pretend I really liked the film | we all thought he'd hurt himself, but he was only pretending

profit /ˈprɒfɪt/ Noun
profit is money that you get by selling something or doing business. Your *profit* is the difference between the amount it cost you to produce the thing you sold and the amount you received when you sold it

Collocates: make a profit | sell something at a profit | profits rise/fall

companies are always trying to increase their profits | I sold my history textbooks on eBay at a huge profit | the company made a profit of £10m last year | profits rose for the third year in a row | profits fell because the cost of paper went up

push /pʊʃ/ Verb
if you *push* someone to do something, you make them do it by encouraging them very firmly or forcing them to do it

Collocates: push someone to do something | push someone into doing something

parents and schools often push kids to get the best test scores | they really push pupils to achieve high marks | her parents pushed her so hard she nearly ran away from home | they pushed me into going to university

question /ˈkwestʃ(ə)n/ Verb
if you *question* someone, you ask them what they think about something

the majority of the students questioned said they had cheated | we questioned 100 people as they came out of the concert hall | the survey questioned travellers as they returned to the UK from India

resign /rɪˈzaɪn/ Verb
if you *resign*, you say officially that you are going to leave your job

Collocates: resign from something | resign as something | resign something

she had to resign when she was caught lying about her expenses | they tried to persuade her not to resign | he's resigning from his post as sales director | he may be forced to resign as prime minister | he resigned his post as ambassador to the United Nations

Noun: *resignation*

Collocates: offer/submit your resignation | accept/reject someone's resignation

Farage offered his resignation on the same day | the committee reluctantly accepted her resignation

survey /ˈsɜː(r)veɪ/ Noun
a *survey* is a set of questions that a lot of people are asked in order to find out what their opinions are

Collocates: carry out a survey | conduct a survey

in a recent survey, many students said they cheated | we're conducting a survey into people's attitude towards climate change | the survey was carried out online and by phone | the latest survey shows that 40% of boys want to be professional footballers

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Verb: *survey*

33% of the adults surveyed said they thought they did not get enough sleep at night | *they surveyed 20,000 students to find out what they thought about student loans*

tax /tæks/ Noun
tax is money that you have to pay to the government. *Income tax* is a part of your earnings that you have to pay, and *purchase tax* or *sales tax* is part of the price of something that you buy which goes to the government

Collocates: income tax | sales/purchase tax

I need some help with my tax forms | *there's a 6% sales tax on top of the original price* | *I have to send in my tax return tomorrow (a form saying how much you have earned so that the government can tell you exactly how much tax you must pay)* | *income tax was raised to 24% last year*

Verb: *tax*

any income over £60,000 is taxed at 40%

technology /tekˈnɒlədʒi/ Noun
technology is the use of science and modern knowledge in making machines

Collocates: new/modern technology

students are using technology to help them cheat | *modern technology has helped economic growth* | *the STEM subjects are science, technology, engineering, and mathematics* | *the classrooms have up-to-date technology and equipment*

Adjective: *technological*

we have good technological resources here | *there has been a lot of technological development over the last ten years*

tempt /tempt/ Verb
if something *tempts* you, or if you are *tempted* by it, it makes you want to do it or have it, although you think you shouldn't

Collocates: be tempted to do something | tempt someone to do something

of course people are tempted to cheat | *I was tempted to buy it straight away* | *weren't you tempted by the offer?* | *can I tempt you to another piece of cake?*

Adjective: *tempting* | Noun: *temptation*

Collocates: resist temptation

we received a very tempting offer for the house | *it was tempting to say that it was my own idea* | *I managed to resist the temptation to buy another ice cream* | *the job looked boring, but the big salary was a temptation*

value /ˈvæljuː/ Verb
if you *value* something, you think it is good and important

some schools value test scores more than real learning | *I value my friendship with you* | *in this school, we value each individual student* | *I appreciate and value your advice*

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expand /ɪkˈspænd/ Verb
if something *expands*, it increases in size or number

student numbers expanded by 20% last year | *the business expanded a lot in the first three years* | *do you have any plans to expand the business operation in Hong Kong?* | *if we don't expand we'll go out of business*

Noun: *expansion*

we have exciting plans for expansion | *the company is ready for a major expansion*

gene /dʒiːn/ Noun
your *genes* are the parts in the cells of your body that control what you look like and other things about your body

they've found the gene that causes the disease | *genes play a part in heart disease* | *we pass on our genes to our children* | *we share a lot of genes with monkeys (a lot of our genes are the same as theirs)*

Adjective: *genetic*

the disease is caused by a genetic defect (a problem in someone's genes)

muscle /ˈmʌs(ə)l/ Noun
your *muscles* are the parts of your body that give you the strength to move your body, lift things, push things, etc.

my leg muscles really hurt | *I need to strengthen my arm muscles* | *I pulled a muscle when I was out running (I stretched a muscle too much and it is painful)*

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EXERCISES

PREPOSITIONS

A Complete the sentences with the correct preposition.

1 She's doing a Master's ..... psychology.
2 I'm in my second year ..... university.
3 She's fluent ..... English, French and Spanish.
4 The school has a traditional approach ..... teaching.
5 Can you translate this ..... Russian for me?
6 He knows a lot ..... nuclear physics.

B Choose the correct preposition.

1 I went *to* / *on* a boys-only school.
2 Do you go *to* / *at* all your classes?
3 My classmates are all *by* / *from* different countries.
4 I'm writing an essay *on* / *over* Shakespeare.
5 The school year is *on* / *from* September to July.
6 The emphasis here is *on* / *in* speaking and listening.

WORD FAMILIES

C Complete the expressions with the correct form of the word in bold.

1 I was **tempted** by the offer.	a very ..... offer
2 He declared all the money he **earned**.	declare your .....
3 He **resigned** his post as ambassador.	offer your .....
4 She's got excellent **qualifications**.	a ..... lawyer
5 He **graduated** from Cambridge University.	a university .....

D Tick the words in the unit which are both a noun and a verb.

1 translate .....
2 promise .....
3 test .....
4 resign .....
5 copy .....
6 approach .....
7 declare .....
8 tax .....

E Write the opposites.

1 pass .....
2 compulsory .....
3 advantage .....
4 impatient .....
5 state .....

COLLOCATIONS

F Complete the collocations with nouns from the unit.

1 mixed e_ _ _ _ _ _s
2 modern t_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _y
3 i_ _ _ _ _ tax
4 an unfair a_ _ _ _ _ _ _e
5 a strong d_ _ _ _e

G Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs. Look up the nouns in bold if you need help.

make	conduct	take	claim	put	do

1 He's ..... a **Master's** degree in engineering.
2 We're ..... a **survey** into people's attitudes towards climate change.
3 We ..... too much **emphasis** on punishment.
4 If you don't ..... an **effort**, you'll never pass the exam.
5 She ..... £20 **expenses** for the train ticket.
6 In 2010, we ..... a different **approach** to the problem.

PATTERNS

H Put the verb in brackets in the correct form (*to* + infinitive or *-ing*).

1 I promised ..... her with her essay. (help)
2 My dad put a lot of pressure on me ..... into Oxford. (get)
3 I'm going to take some time off from ..... (study)
4 I set myself a target of ..... 50 words a week. (learn)
5 I had to pretend ..... the film. (like)

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