

C2.1

Unit 3

Exercise 1.

Read the article and decide which word or phrase below best fits each space. Circle the appropriate option. There is an example at the beginning. (0).

NATURE WATCH

Mark Rawlings and his team are still in the Andes filming Penny, a puma. They have managed to get quite close to the big cat and gain her trust over the last summer. In this instalment of Mark's video diary, he describes how Penny is currently spending a lot of time with a mate, so Mark and his team are sure that she (0) ... cubs in the spring. If that is the case, they (1) _____ much of her over the winter. In fact, they are unlikely to see much of her until the winter (2) _____ over any way as pumas, like most of the large cats, tend to hide away when the weather is bad. If Penny is pregnant, she (3) _____ the cubs by early March and they (4) _____ the den about three months later. Although Mark doubts whether she (5) _____ out to hunt much in the next few months, he (6) _____ until she (7) _____. Once the team (8) _____ filming Penny, they (9) _____ to North America to track down the grizzly bear, but Mark (10) _____ such a pleasant assignment.

0	A	has	B	is going to have	C	will have had
1	A	will see	B	aren't seeing	C	won't see
2	A	is	B	will be	C	is being
3	A	is having	B	will have had	C	will be having
4	A	are leaving	B	will leave	C	leave
5	A	will come	B	is coming	C	will have come
6	A	stays	B	will have stayed	C	is going to stay
7	A	reappears	B	will reappear	C	is going to reappear
8	A	will finish	B	have finished	C	will have finished
9	A	are going	B	are going to go	C	go
10	A	thinks it is	B	thinks that won't be	C	does not think that will be

Exercise 2

For the text below, use the word given in capitals in some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Let's say, for example, that someone wants to know if they will move to Paris in the next 10 years, or whether the current president will be re-elected next term. If any of these fortune-telling methods worked, they should all give the same answer; it shouldn't matter whether you ask a *0* ---- *teller*---- **TELL**, read tarot cards, or sprinkle a (1) _____ **HAND** of flower petals on the ground and look for guidance. The answers should all be the same, since either you will or will not move to Paris, and the president either will or will not be re-elected. Instead, the answers are often no better than chance (which, in these examples, is 50/50 anyway). This is the same reason that a person can consult 10 different (2) _____ **PSYCHOLOGY** and get 10 different answers about the future. If these methods are so (3) _____ **FALL** and (4) _____ **FICKLENESS** why use them at all?

It also raises another question: If any of the methods really worked, why would there be so many? Why not stick with a proven, reliable method instead of devising literally hundreds of other fortune (5) _____ **TELL** tools? If reading tea leaves was (6) _____ **SCIENCE** proven to be a more accurate way to predict the future than, say, (7) _____ **GAZE** at crystals or consulting the tarot, then people would (8) _____ **NATURE** use the method that works. Instead, all fortune-telling methods are equally valid (or invalid) because they are all based on the same faulty premise, that reading meaning into random phenomena predicts destiny. Even many books (9) _____ **DEVOTION** to fortune-telling admit that the techniques are (10) _____ **RELY** a "Note to the Reader" prefacing "The Complete Book of Fortune" reads, "When seeking to know your Fortune by any method of (11) _____ **DIVINE** the results obtained must be regarded as an indication of what may happen, and must not be accepted as (12) _____ **CONCLUDE** evidence of what will happen.

Exercise 3.

For questions 1–12, complete the sentences with a suitable word or short expression from the list below. Some answers are multi-word idioms or fixed collocations. Write your answer in the gap.

1. Many people consult psychics and tarot card readers, hoping to (1) _____ - what the future holds.
2. Superstitions often encourage people to carry a rabbit's foot or a four-leaf clover as a (2) _____ charm.
3. Although the astrologer predicted failure, everything went surprisingly well — it seemed as if luck was (3) _____ her that day.
4. Skeptics argue that belief in magic is nothing more than (4) _____ the mind into thinking events are predetermined.
5. The magician pulled a coin from behind my ear, performing a classic (5) _____ trick that left the audience in awe.
6. Some gamblers rely on lucky numbers, convinced they are (6) _____ their fortune.
7. When the old witch entered the village, children would scatter, convinced she would (7) _____ a curse on them.
8. Even seasoned investors sometimes rely on gut feelings, admitting that successful predictions are often a matter of (8) _____ rather than skill.
9. In folklore, witches were believed to have the power to (9) _____ objects or people, controlling them with spells.
10. I know it sounds ridiculous, but my grandmother insists that crossing paths with a black cat is (10) _____.
11. Many cultures have developed elaborate rituals, believing that certain actions can (11) _____ fortune and misfortune.
12. After winning the lottery twice, he was considered a man who seemed to have (12) _____ on his side.

Word/Expression Bank

cast a spell
good luck charm
pull a rabbit out of a hat
in the lap of the gods
under a curse
see the future
guided by fate
superstition
black cat/ bad luck
try one's luck
luck (2)