

warm up

A Watch the silent video and discuss the following questions.

- 1 What do you think she is complaining about?
- 2 What do you think about the reaction of the man?

B Discuss these questions with a partner.

- 1 When was the last time you complained about something?
- 2 Did you get your complaint resolved?
- 3 Are you usually calm in a crisis or do you panic?
- 4 Which of these situations would cause you the most distress:

- a You lose your mobile phone.
- b Someone has posted a very embarrassing photo of your friend on a social media site.
- c You read an article that claims young people are not saving enough money for their old age.
- d Family members are telling you that you must find a well-paid job soon.

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vocabulary *compound personality adjectives*

A Which is the odd word in each of the groups of words? Why?

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | a intolerant
c flexible | b conservative
d narrow-minded |
| 2 | a self-conscious
c self-confident | b self-important
d self-assured |
| 3 | a easy-going
c cool | b relaxed
d excitable |
| 4 | a cross
c moody | b bad-tempered
d calm |
| 5 | a clever
c silly | b quick-witted
d wise |
| 6 | a calm
c sensitive | b level-headed
d sensible |

B Use the correct compound adjectives below to complete the sentences.

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| a narrow-minded | b self-conscious | c easy-going, |
| d bad-tempered | e quick-witted | f level-headed |

- 1 I have always been very _____ about my ears. I think they are too big.
- 2 It is silly to get _____ with poor service in hotels – just calmly explain the problem to the manager.
- 3 Maria's parents are very _____ about what she can wear. She isn't allowed to wear make-up.
- 4 Julia's parents are very _____ about what she can wear. She is allowed to have green hair, and she has her nose pierced.
- 5 It is wise to be _____ in an emergency. If you panic, it could be even worse.
- 6 I wish I were more like my brother; he's very _____ and always knows the right thing to say to make people laugh, but I'm always self-conscious of looking silly.

C Write sentences for each of the compound nouns in exercise B that are true for you or people you know. Discuss the sentences with a partner.

reading

A Work in groups and try to explain the difference between the words below. Use a dictionary if necessary.

a millennium (n) b millipede (n) c millennial (n)

B Read the title of the article and discuss the following question with a partner.

1 Which of these topics do you think will be included in the text?

a music and fashion b technology c education and work
d advertising e human rights

RISE OF THE MILLENNIALS

If you were born sometime between 1979 and 2004, then according to most experts you are a millennial. Sometimes known as the Net Generation or Generation Y, you are the children of people born in the 1960s or early 1970s, known as Generation X. Whatever the name of this new generation is, a recent study stated there are nearly 75 million of them in the USA alone!

Many of the older generation blame young people today for society's problems, but in fact, millennials don't deserve the negative, bad-tempered reputation that they are given. Millennials tend to be far less narrow-minded than the previous generations as a result of being more ethnically diverse (20% have at least one immigrant parent) and so are more tolerant of people who are "different" from them. They are more intolerant of social inequality and more likely to join community projects that combat, pollution, violence, inequality and negative attitudes. Jackie Rotman, a young American, set up such a program called 'Everybody Dance Now' to get young people from less-privileged backgrounds involved in dancing to reduce obesity and street crime. What started as a small, grass-roots idea soon had the attention of the media, and her group appeared on MTV resulting in it becoming an international project with over 5000 members on five continents.

While many older people are uncomfortable with ever-changing technology, millennials take a more level-headed approach to their lives being a public property on the internet. One downside of this is that they often compare themselves with their peers and feel that having large numbers of "likes" is a sign of success or popularity. This can lead to feelings of low self-esteem and growth in feeling self-conscious and sensitive about appearance or lifestyle choices. However, millennials' embrace of technology means that they are likely to succeed at school and gain employment in the computer-driven workplace, where you need to be quick-witted.

However, they are less easy-going about bad working conditions and tend to value a good work-life balance over a high salary. One negative result of this might be the rising number of 18-34 year-olds who, according to US studies, are choosing to live with their parents.

You might think that with pop-up ads on every website, this age group would be more directly influenced by marketing. Studies prove the opposite. Millennials are much more likely to believe the recommendations of their peers than any advertising strategy. They are less likely to buy goods and are more interested in the 'sharing economy'. This makes them a harder audience for advertisers to target, who need to work harder to get millennials to spend their money.

C Work in pairs and mark the sentences as true (T), false (F) or not mentioned (NM). Then decide where in the text you can find the answers.

- Older generations are generally less tolerant of minorities.
- Millennials are not interested in environmental issues.
- Millennials have Facebook accounts.
- Millennials are more interested in money than happiness at work.
- Advertising companies love the millennial generation.

D Work in groups and discuss the following questions.


- What do you think about the article?
- Does it accurately describe millennials?
- What topics do you think should have been included?



listening exam boost

A Work with a partner. Read the instruction and discuss the following question.

Tell your partner some of the differences between you and your parents now. How different do you think their teenage/mid-twenties life was compared with yours?

B  Look at the pictures and discuss the questions. Then, listen and try to write the names of the people under the pictures.

- 1 What do the people in the photos have in common?
- 2 Are they important to young people today?



C Listen again and answer the questions

- 1 What is the generation born after WWII called?
- 2 What was special about this generation?
- 3 When were Generation X-ers born?
- 4 How were the majority of Gen X-ers different from their parents in terms of attitude?
- 5 How has Robert changed since his youth?
- 6 How has Robert stayed the same?

grammar verb tenses

A Look at the script on page 148 and find examples of:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Present Perfect Simple | 2 Present Perfect Continuous |
| 3 Past Perfect Simple | 4 Past Perfect Continuous |

B Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Use contractions where possible.

- 1 Before I became interested in grunge music, I _____ (listen) to pop music for most of my life.
- 2 I _____ (not bought) a CD in my life; I download or stream all my music.
- 3 Have you _____ (watch) the new series of Game of Thrones that started a couple of weeks ago? I can't wait for the next episode!
- 4 I _____ (see) the new Star Wars movie before, so I didn't bother going to the movie last night with my friends.

C Rewrite the sentences using the time phrases.

- 1 The party finished. I went home. (as soon as)
- 2 I listen to the Beastie Boys a lot. I started two weeks ago. (recently)
- 3 I was tired. I was dancing all night. (because)
- 4 I was skinnier when I was young. I weigh more now. (since)

boost grammar 108

speaking

A Work in pairs. Match the phrases a-d to the meanings 1-4.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| a Yeah. You're right there! | 1 disagreement |
| b No way! | 2 agreement |
| c I'm not sure about that... | 3 a change of mind |
| d Then again... I suppose so... | 4 reservation |

B Work in pairs. Read the instruction below and make a discussion with your partner.

Student A: go to page 134, Student B: go to page 139. Look at your role cards. Student A, needs to persuade Student B that their generation was better than theirs, and vice versa. Use some of the grammar and vocabularies from the lesson, as well as some of the phrases from exercise A. Use the prompts on your role cards to help you build your argument.

C Work in pairs and discuss your ideas. Who has the stronger argument?