An exciting and intensive skills-based course, which focuses on themes from contemporary teen culture. Activate! engages students and offers highly enjoyable and thorough preparation for local and international exams.

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- Motivating video clips taken from authentic TV programmes
- Teenage ‘exam coach’ characters support students in **Skillzone** and **Examzone** boxes
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- Teacher’s Exam Box
- Teacher’s Book

**Activate! B1 Digital**

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- Active Teach (teacher’s digital component with video)
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  Multiple-choice questions  
  Making notes | Describing and comparing photos | **Vocabulary**  
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  -ing form and to-infinitive | **A description**  
  **DVD**  
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  do, play, go  
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  could/must/should + have + past participle | **An essay**  
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  Tough triathlon |
| **Fear or fun?**  
  Multiple matching  
  Matching feelings to speakers | Expressing preferences  
  Comparing  
  Conversation practice | **Vocabulary**  
  Strong adjectives and descriptive verbs  
  **Grammar**  
  Future continuous and future perfect | **A story**  
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Get ideas

1 Match the photos with the job titles.
   - chef
   - farmer
   - football manager
   - rock singer
   - surfer
   - web designer

2 Which jobs look more fun to you? Why?

Time to read

Do you need to read for the main idea? Try reading the text quite quickly without trying to understand every word. Look for the sentence that tells you what the topic of each paragraph is.

Read the article on page 9 and match the topics (A–E) with the paragraphs (1–5). Use the Skillzone.

A New skills and a new look.
B Can you do it?
C A real DJ?
D From classical musician to DJ.
E The transformation begins.

Read the text again and choose the best answer, A, B, C or D.

1 What is the idea of the programme Faking it?
   - A Farmers become hairdressers.
   - B People from the countryside move to London.
   - C People learn new skills.
   - D Professional DJs show someone how to do their job.

2 Why does Sian want to take part in the programme Faking it?
   - A She wants to be a professional DJ.
   - B She likes wearing smart clothes.
   - C She wants to learn how to mix house music.
   - D She likes the challenge of learning new things.

3 What do Anne and Lottie think when they first meet Sian?
   - A It will be easy for her to become a DJ.
   - B They find the way she looks and speaks surprising.
   - C They like the clothes she is wearing.
   - D They're pleased to see her.

4 How does Sian feel the first time she DJs for an audience?
   - A Frightened.
   - B Sad.
   - C Confident.
   - D Professional.

5 When does Anne know Sian is ready for the final test?
   - A When she changes the colour of her hair.
   - B When she starts mixing records well.
   - C When she finally looks and acts like a DJ.
   - D When she gets some new clothes.
Can you change who you are in only twenty-eight days? Can a farmer become a rock singer? Can a surfer become a web designer? That is the challenge for contestants on the Channel 4 programme, Faking it.

In the first programme of a new series, we follow the transformation of Sian Evans from a student of classical music to club DJ. At the end of four weeks she must try to convince three professional DJs that she is one of them. Sian comes from a small village in the countryside. She is studying classical music and first impressions are that she is a quiet but talented musician who knows she's good at what she does. Sian admits she doesn't like dance music, never goes to dance clubs and she doesn't stay up all night like lots of girls her age.

But Sian likes a challenge and her life is about to change completely. First, she moves to London to live with professional DJs Anne and Lottie who have the job of transforming Sian into a club DJ. They are in for a big surprise! When Sian arrives she's wearing smart clothes and is carrying her cello. 'What are your thoughts on house music?' they ask her. Sian doesn't know what to say. They stare at her in disbelief. 'Do you know anything about house?' Sian finally answers, 'It's quite loud, isn't it?' But there's no going back. Anne and Lottie are keen to get it right and Sian has to learn fast. The real test begins when Lottie starts teaching Sian the art of mixing records. From the start Sian is ready for the toughest and Lottie are keen to push Sian to her limits.

Find words in the text that match these meanings.

1 interesting situation that tests your ability or skills (n) (line 4)
2 complete change (n) (line 7)
3 having the natural ability to do something well (adj) (line 12)
4 popular type of dance music (adj) (line 14)
5 elegant, attractive (adj) (line 21)
6 noisy (adj) (line 26)
7 very tiredly (adv) (line 32)
8 very frightened (adj) (line 40)

Sian is a popular name in Wales and means 'princess of light'. You pronounce it Shan.

Summarise

Explain in your own words:
- Sian's character The text says that Sian is ...  
- things Sian finds difficult Sian thinks ... is difficult.

Time to talk

Do you think Sian will be a good DJ? Why/Why not? What do you want to be?
Jobs and skills

1. Complete the sentences with the correct job.

- chef, DJ, farmer, football manager, musician, rock singer, surfer, web designer

1. A ................. organises and trains professional people (in sport, business ...).
2. A ................. prepares and cooks food.
3. A ................. chooses music for people to listen/dance to.
4. A ................. works outdoors with animals and/or plants.
5. A ................. sings to entertain people.
6. A ................. plays an instrument to entertain people.
7. A ................. creates information for the internet.
8. A ................. stands on a board and rides on waves.

2. Match these phrases with the correct sentences.

- like a challenge, learn fast, (be) a success, look right, find (something) difficult, do (something) like a professional, work on (my/your/his/her) own, (be) under pressure

Someone who ...
1. ... enjoys doing something new and exciting.
2. ... wears the right clothes for her job.
3. ... doesn't work with other people.
4. ... wants to do well in his/her job, wants to ...
5. ... has problems doing it.
6. ... does it in an experienced way.
7. ... doesn't take long to learn to do something.
8. ... has a lot of work and no time to relax.

3. Complete the sentences with phrases from Exercise 2.

1. Sian is on the TV programme because she .................
2. Sian has to ................. to become a good DJ in only twenty-eight days.
3. It's Sian's first night as a DJ and she .................
4. At first Sian ................. because she's wearing smart clothes.
5. Sian ................. talking like a DJ ................., so she has to have lessons from a special voice coach.

4. Add more jobs and skills to the table. Then write sentences about each job.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job</th>
<th>Skill</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A chef</td>
<td>knows how to ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A DJ</td>
<td>talk to people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A farmer</td>
<td>making decisions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A football manager</td>
<td>making money.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A musician</td>
<td>works well ... in a team.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A web designer</td>
<td>works well ... with animals.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A chef works well in a team.
A DJ knows how to make people happy.

5. Write sentences that describe your skills.

I know how to ...
I'm good at ...
I work ...

6. Complete the sentences with phrases from the Wordzone.

1. Don't worry about your new job, you can only .................
2. Ask someone to help you so that you don't .................
3. She ................. it ................. to make new friends because she works on her own.
4. She's learning fast and wants to do ................. in her job.

7. Write sentences that are true for you. Use do, get or find.

Memorise

Think of a job and three skills the person needs to do it well. In pairs: Tell your partner what the person does and the skills they need. Can your partner guess the job?
Present simple and present continuous

**GRAMMAR ZONE**

**Present simple**
A a fact or situation that is permanently true or true at the moment of speaking
- Sian comes from a small village in the countryside.
B a habit or repeated action
- She doesn’t stay up all night.

**Present continuous**
C an action that is happening at the moment of speaking
- Look! She is wearing smart clothes.
D a situation that is true for a limited period, at present (temporary)
- She is studying classical music this year.

**State verbs**
E not used in the continuous form: e.g. think, feel, want, like, love, hate, believe, know, see, hear
- Sian hates the music.
F have and be aren’t normally used in the continuous form
- She is terrified.

→ Grammar File, page 164

1 Find more examples of the present simple and present continuous in the article on page 9. Which tense is used more often, the present simple or the present continuous? Why?

2 Choose the correct form to complete the sentences.
1 Peter **doesn’t look**/isn’t looking like a rock star.
2 Peter **wants**/is wanting to be a success.
3 Look what Peter **wears**/is wearing.
   It’s completely wrong for a rock star!
4 Peter **thinks**/is thinking he can sing well.
5 Peter **practises**/is practising at home today.
6 Stop singing, Peter! You **make**/are making a horrible noise.
7 We **are leaving**/leave because we hate Peter’s voice.
8 Peter **comes**/is coming from a family of musicians.
9 Peter **has**/is having a brother who is a famous rock star.

3 Rewrite the sentences in the negative.
1 He is good at singing.
   **He isn’t** good at singing......
2 They look very smart.
3 He’s learning very fast.
4 She wants to be a web designer.
5 We like working on our own.
6 You like being a football manager.
7 The job’s going well.

4 Rewrite the sentences in Exercise 3 as questions.
1 Is he good at singing?......

5 Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

What a week! I’m very tired but the course 1) **(be)** great and things 2) ...... (go) well! I 3) ...... (meet) lots of people and I 4) ...... (enjoy) it a lot. The good thing is 5) ...... (like) my teacher, Brad. He 6) ...... (be) very talented and I 7) ...... (learn) a lot. He’s an expert on opera music which I 8) ...... (not know) anything about, but I think I 9) ...... (begin) to like it!

6 Do you want to change how you look/talk/behave? Why/Why not? What is least/most difficult to change: your appearance or your personality?
My kind of music

Get ideas
1. When and where do you listen to music? What type of music do you enjoy listening to? Who is your favourite singer or group?

Time to listen
2. Think of English words to describe each picture in Exercise 3.
3. Listen and look at the pictures. For each question, choose the correct answer, A, B or C.

Are you going to listen only once? Look at each group of pictures carefully. Try to decide what each conversation might be about. Think about what words you expect to hear.

Listen again and find a type of music to match each of these moods.
1. calm and serious
2. relaxing and fun
3. exciting and lively
Get ideas

1. Imagine you are the DJ for an hour on the local radio. What song would you play first and why?

2. Complete the questionnaire for yourself. Find out if you would make a good DJ.

**QUESTIONNAIRE**

**MAKE ME A DJ**

I really agree ++++, I agree ++, I don't know 0,
I disagree --, I really disagree ---

1. I have a lot of energy.
2. I'm interested in trying new things.
3. I like speaking in front of my class.
4. I enjoy competition.
5. I like talking about things with friends.
6. I stay calm under pressure.
7. I'm good at most things I try.
8. I have a good sense of humour.
9. I enjoy being the centre of attention.
10. I listen to different kinds of music.

**Time to speak**

3. Tell your partner five important things about yourself.

- I have a lot of energy.
- I like talking about things with friends.

4. Ask your partner questions to find out more answers.

- Do you stay calm under pressure?
- Are you interested in trying new things?

5. Work with a partner. You are the interviewer and your partner is applying to take part in the Make me a DJ TV programme. Ask questions and make notes.

6. Work with a partner. Ask and answer the questions. Use the Useful phrases to help you.

- Can you tell me a bit about your hobbies?
- Have you got any other interests?
- What sports are you good at?
- Have you got any bad habits?
- Is it ever OK to tell a 'white lie'?
- Imagine you are a DJ. Give some examples of the type of music you would choose.

**Useful phrases**

- I love ...
- I'm (really) into ...
- I like ...
- I hate / I can't stand ...
- I enjoy ...
Adjectives

Choose the correct form to complete the sentences.

1. Sian felt very frightened/frightening the first time she mixed records for an audience.
2. Anne and Lottie find Sian's appearance surprising/surprised when they first meet her.
3. Mickey gets annoyed/annoying with his brother because he can't stand classical music.
4. Mickey thinks Eminem's lyrics are amazed/amazing.
5. Sian doesn't find house music interested/interesting.
6. The audience at Sian's first evening as a DJ felt bored/boring, so they left.

Complete the sentences with the correct prepositions:

about at by in of on with

1. I get really annoyed ........... with ........... my brother when he plays his music too loudly.
2. I sometimes get really worried ......................... tests at school.
3. My friend Ray is a great DJ. He's keen ................. all types of music.
4. I'm not interested ......................... classical music. I prefer R & B.
5. Our teacher is fed up ......................... my friend chewing gum in class.
6. I love music, but I'm bad ......................... singing and dancing.
7. My mum's got a phobia about spiders. She's really frightened ......................... them.
8. We were surprised ......................... Grandad's practical joke.

Complete the article with one word which best fits each gap.

Do you always tell the truth? Or is it sometimes OK to tell a small 'white lie'? When a friend says 'Are you annoyed 1) ................. me?' you may well say 'No!' Even though we try to be honest 2) ................. things, it's unusual to find someone who never lies.

Can you spot when someone is telling a lie? In the USA, tests showed that only a few people always know when another person is lying. Scientists were surprised 3) ......................... the results. They think that these people were good 4) ......................... reading tiny changes in someone's expression when they lie.

Good liars can stay very calm. People who are bad 5) ......................... lying often blush bright red or stare at the ground! The most common way of finding whether someone is lying is to use a 'lie detector' machine. This picks up small changes in your heart rate and skin heat. These changes happen when someone is worried 6) ......................... lying.

Now, there is a new way of finding out who is telling the truth. Scientists measure the activity in the brain when they ask simple questions, for example: 'Are you frightened 7) ......................... snakes? 'Are you bored 8) ......................... doing tests at school?' If a person is lying, there is more activity in certain parts of the brain. Scientists are very interested 9) ......................... these results – they show that it is usually more difficult to lie!
Adverbs of frequency

Questions

Write sentences. Put the words in the correct order.

always
usually
frequently/often
sometimes
rarely/occasionally
never

1. We / our friends / talk to / in class. / sometimes
2. all evening. / I'm / happy / TV / often / to watch
3. I / do / usually / my homework / the lesson. / before
4. I / loud music. / occasionally / to / really / listen
5. in the classroom. / I / chew gum / eat sweets / never / or
6. I'm / awake / school the next day. / rarely / when / I / have / after 11 p.m.
7. on Monday. / always / We / an English lesson / have

Choose the word or phrase (A, B, C or D) that best completes the sentence.

1. I .................. my hand under the desk at school because it's covered in old gum!
   A. I'm never putting
   B. never putting
   C. I'm never put
   D. never put

2. In Spain, .................. of celebrities in public places and people cover them with gum.
   A. they put often pictures
   B. they often put pictures
   C. they often pictures put
   D. they put pictures often

3. People .................. on the street wouldn't like it if it got stuck on their shoe. It's very hard to clean up.
   A. who usually throw their gum
   B. usually who throw their gum
   C. who throw usually their gum
   D. who throw their gum usually

4. I .................. swallow my gum when I have finished so I rarely throw it in the bin. It's a really bad habit!
   A. usually
   B. always
   C. never
   D. occasionally

Time to talk

Ask and answer the questions in Exercise 2 with a partner.
Get ideas

1. What type of TV shows do you most/least like to watch? Add two more to the list and choose.
   - Films
   - Quizzes
   - Talk shows
   - Nature programmes

What programmes do you watch that are about people of your age?

Find the right words

2. Read the advertisements and find what skills you need for each TV challenge.

Your chance to appear on TV!

A. Do you want to be a superstar?
   Do you dream of being a pop singer? You sing like a professional and work under pressure, then we want you.

B. Sporting challenge
   You're good at sport, you like working in a team, and you're looking for a challenge. What are you waiting for?

C. How wild are you?
   You don't like giant spiders and snakes? Then don't call us, we need ten people who learn fast and are good at making decisions to join us on an unforgettable jungle experience.

3. Read Mark's email and decide which TV programme he wants to go on.

4. Write five sentences about Mark using the information in his email.

Mark is fourteen years old. He...

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Mailbox

From: Mark
Subject: All about me

Hi,

My name’s Mark and I’m fourteen. I live in Budapest with my nan and my dad. We live in a small flat near the city centre but my dad is building a new house in the countryside. I’m really looking forward to having a garden.

Well, what can I tell you about myself? I like school and I am good at science. In fact, I’m especially interested in nature and animals. At home I’ve got three cats, two rabbits and a scorpion. I love looking after them and am never bored when I’m near my animals. My scorpion is fascinating.

Actually, sometimes I go with my dad to the zoo to feed the monkeys. It’s amazing how they hold their food just like humans. When I grow up I want to be a vet.

I don’t travel much but I’m not worried about being away from home. I’m good at making friends and know that I make people laugh.

I hope to hear from you soon.

Mark

PS By the way, I love spiders!
### Plan ahead

5. Put the words or phrases in the correct place in the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start your email</th>
<th>Dear (name)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduce yourself</td>
<td>My name's ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start describing yourself</td>
<td>Well, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Give more information</td>
<td>Actually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finish your email</td>
<td>Hope to hear from you soon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add extra information at the end</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Find the phrases in Exercise 5 that Mark uses in his email.

7. Find examples of the present simple and present continuous in Mark's email.

8. Read the information about Joanne and complete her email.

**Joanne:**
- **Age:** 15
- **Home:** flat, centre of Madrid
- **Family:** mum, dad, 2 brothers
- **Hobbies:** all types of sport especially volleyball, swimming, seeing friends
- **Extra information:** captain of school volleyball team

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### Time to write an email

- **Skillzone:**
  - Do you need to write an email?
  - Begin and end it in a polite and friendly way.
  - Use interesting words and phrases as you do when you're talking.
  - Put what you want to say in order.
  - Finally, don't forget to check your punctuation!

9. Choose one of the advertisements on page 16 and send them an email describing yourself. Write about 120–150 words. Use the Skillzone and Mark's email to help you.

### Time to watch Faking it

- **DVD:** Watch the DVD and do the activities on page 152.