

5

Growing up

- * Present simple passive
- * *let / be allowed to*
- * Vocabulary: describing a person's age



Where boys become crocodile men

When does a teenager become an adult? In many countries, it happens on your 18th birthday, but in some parts of the world, you have to do something special to enter the world of adults.

On the island of Papua New Guinea, the Niowra tribe lives near the Sepik River, which is full of crocodiles. The people believe that crocodiles made the Earth and its people. When it is time for teenage boys to become men, a 'crocodile ceremony' takes place.

The boys are taken to a hut called 'The Crocodile Nest'. The hut is full of crocodile teeth and skulls. The boys are told to think of their crocodile 'fathers and mothers' to help them to be strong and brave. Then they are beaten several times a day for six weeks and bamboo is used to make cuts on their chests and their backs. The boys play the drums together during their time in the hut – this helps them to feel that they are not alone. The Niowra believe that this ceremony makes the boys stronger and braver, so that they can survive in the dangerous forest. They also say that the boys don't feel the pain if they believe in their crocodile 'fathers and mothers'. And the amazing thing is that some of the boys sleep through the most painful parts of the ceremony!

When the ceremony is over, there is singing and dancing and the crocodile men are given adult responsibilities in the village.



1 Read and listen

- a** Where is the man in the picture from? What do you think he has got on his back? Read the text quickly and check your ideas.
- b** ▶ **CD1 T25** Read the text again and listen. Answer the questions.
- 1 What is special about the place where the Niowra tribe lives?
 - 2 What do the Niowra believe?
 - 3 What is 'The Crocodile Nest' and why do the boys go there?
 - 4 What do the boys do during the ceremony?
 - 5 How does a boy's life change after the ceremony?
- c** Do you know of any ceremonies for teenagers to become adults in other countries? Are there any in your country?

2 Grammar

* Present simple passive

a We form the present simple passive with the verb *be* + the past participle of the main verb. Look at the examples.

The boys are taken to a hut ... bamboo is used ...

b Underline other examples of the present simple passive in the text on page 40.

c Read the rule and complete it with *is important* or *isn't important*. Then complete the grammar table.

RULE: Use the passive when it who does the action, or when we don't know who does it.

Positive	Negative	Question	Short answer
A boy is taken to a hut.	Bamboo isn't (is not) used. bamboo used ?	Yes, it
The boys taken there.	Knives (are not) used. knives used ?	No, they

d Complete the sentences with the present simple passive form of the verbs. Check with the list of irregular verbs on page 127.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Millions of pizzas <u>are eaten</u> (eat) in the world every year. | 4 Rice (not grow) in England, but it (grow) in Spain. |
| 2 How many emails (write) every day? | 5 most emails (send) from home computers? |
| 3 Chocolate (sell) in almost every country in the world. | 6 Ferrari cars (make) in Italy. |

e Rewrite the sentences. Use the present simple passive.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 People make jeans in the USA.
<i>Jeans are made in the USA</i> | 4 People waste too much water.
Too much |
| 2 Someone picks up the litter every morning.
The litter | 5 Postal workers deliver thousands of letters.
Thousands |
| 3 People cut down a lot of trees every year.
A lot | 6 Do they make successful films in Hollywood?
Are |

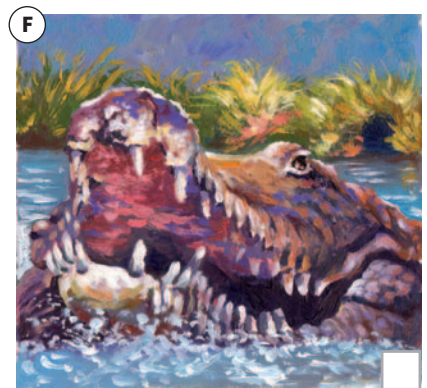
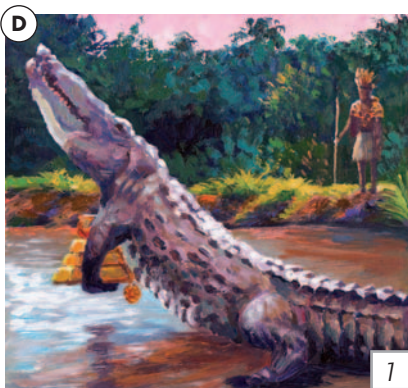
f Look at the pictures. Make sentences about the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games. Use the present simple passive.



- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 torch / take / to the Olympic city
..... | 3 flame / light / with the torch
..... |
| 2 flag / carry / into the stadium
..... | 4 Games / open / with a speech
..... |

3 Listen and speak

a These pictures tell a story from Papua New Guinea about a man and a crocodile. Work with a partner and try to guess the correct order. Write 1–6 in the boxes.



b ▶ CD1 T26 Listen to the story and check your answers.

4 Vocabulary

★ Describing a person's age

a ▶ CD1 T27 Match the words with the photos. Write 1–6 in the boxes. Then listen, check and repeat.

- 1 a young adult 2 a child 3 a teenager 4 a baby
 5 a toddler 6 a pensioner



b Complete the sentences with your own ideas.

- You're a baby until you are years old.
- You're a toddler from the age of to
- I think you're a child until you are years old.
- You're a teenager from the age of to
- I think you become an adult when you are years old.
- In my country, you become a pensioner when you are years old.

c How old is someone who is *middle-aged*, do you think? How old is someone who is *elderly*? How do you say *elderly* and *middle-aged* in your language?

Vocabulary bank

Turn to page 113.

5 Grammar

* let / be allowed to

a ▶ **CD1 T28** Read and listen to the dialogue. Then answer the questions.

Melissa: Hey Andy – what's wrong?
Andy: I really want to go to the music festival in Leeds next weekend – but I'm not allowed to go. My parents say I'm too young.
Melissa: I know how you feel! I had the same problem last month – my mum didn't let me go to the Liverpool match.
Andy: Actually, my parents usually let me do things. I'm allowed to stay out until midnight at weekends.
Melissa: Really? That's cool! My mum never lets me do anything. Sometimes I think school's better than home – at least we're allowed to breathe at school!
Andy: Does your mum let you stay up late to watch TV?
Melissa: Well, yes, sometimes – but only if I've done all my homework!

- 1 Where does Andy want to go?
- 2 Why can't he go?
- 3 Why didn't Melissa go to the match last month?
- 4 What does Andy say about his parents and weekends?
- 5 What does Melissa's mum sometimes let her do?

b Look at the examples.

... my mum **didn't let me go** to the match
 I'm **allowed to stay out** until midnight

Underline other examples of *let* and *be allowed to* in Exercise 5a. Then complete the rule with *let* and *be allowed to*.

RULE: Use to say you do or don't have permission to do something.

Use to say that someone gives or doesn't give you permission to do something.

Both *let* and *be allowed to* are followed by the infinitive: I'm not allowed to go. My mum didn't let me go.

With *let*, use *let* + person + infinitive without *to*: Does she let you stay up late?



c Complete the sentences with the correct form of *be allowed to*.

- 1 Look at the sign, Dad! You aren't allowed to turn right here.
- 2 You can take photos in the museum, but you use a flash.
- 3 It's OK to take our bikes into the park, Steve – we cycle there.
- 4 There's a river in our town, but we swim in it.
- 5 My dad smokes but he smoke at home.
- 6 you use your mobile phone at school?

d Write sentences using *let (someone) do*.

- 1 I don't listen to music after midnight – my parents say no. My parents don't let me listen to music after midnight.
- 2 I watch the late-night film on Fridays – my parents say I can.
- 3 My brother doesn't use my computer – I say he can't.
- 4 We never run in the corridors at my school – the teachers say we can't.
- 5 We don't wear trainers to school – the head teacher says we can't.
- 6 I drive our car sometimes – my dad says it's OK!

e What are you (not) allowed to do at your school? At home? Make a list. Then talk to other people in your class.

- A: *Are you allowed to stay up late at weekends?*
 B: *Yes, I am. Do your parents let ...*

6 Pronunciation

▶ **CD1 T29 and T30** Turn to page 110.