

Practice

1 GRAMMAR IN USE Complete the text with the words and phrases from the box.
4.34 Listen and check. Listen and check.

did did so do do it does done that if not so do that thought so

Diary of an aspiring novelist

DO YOU DREAM of being the next J K Rowling?
 The large print in the advert caught my eye as the train picked up speed. We've all (1), haven't we? I couldn't make out the rest of the advert before it disappeared from sight, and I don't pass through that station regularly. But a good friend (2)! So I asked him to find out what it was about when he next used the train. A few days later he (3), and he sent me the website address of a distance-learning creative writing course.

I thought about it, I hesitated, but eventually I sent off for the details and then read them voraciously when they arrived. Did I really want to commit my time to doing this course? I (4), but I wondered if I was being silly. I mean, why should a 65-year-old retired accountant study creative writing?



Who starts a new career at that age? 'Mary Wesley (5), ' said my friend, 'and she published several novels before she died. Apply for it – you have to (6), I think. (7), you'll regret it for the rest of your life.'

(8) was all the encouragement I needed. The next day I phoned the college and enrolled for the next course, starting after the summer in late September, just two weeks from now. The course materials arrived in August. I think they look really good, and (9) my children, both of whom have been to university. I can't wait to start working on the assignments, and getting my tutor's comments, and when I (10), I'll know whether I'm likely to be the next J K Rowling or not!

2 Read the sentences below and underline the parts that are unnecessary repeats of verbs or clauses. Then rewrite these parts, using a substitute phrase, as in the example. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.

- 0 There is little point in starting out early to avoid the traffic, as everyone else starts out early, too. *does / does so*
- 1 Harris maintained that he had had no involvement in the publication of the photographs, but very few of the other editors believed that he had had no involvement.
- 2 If the player answers the question correctly, he/she moves his/her piece according to the number on the dice. If he/she doesn't answer the question correctly, the turn passes to the next player.
- 3 Such light skin wounds do not generally hurt a cat as much as they hurt a human, since the cat has much tougher skin.
- 4 The management understands the wish to applaud during play but we ask you to refrain from applauding during play as it distracts the players.
- 5 I know that some days I push myself too hard. I've pushed myself too hard all my life.