Exercise 1
Write the names of the skills in the box under the correct pictures.

public speaking, playing the guitar, creative writing, money management, painting and drawing, gardening, language learning, coding, speed reading, cooking and baking, meditation, photography

ONE MONTH, ONE NEW SKILL









_____ _____ _____ _____









_____ _____ _____ _____









_____ _____ _____ _____

Exercise 2
Discuss with a partner.

- Which of these things can you do?
- Which ones would you like to learn? Why?
- When was the last time you tried to learn something new?
- What was it? How did you try to learn it?
- Which ones do you think are the easiest to learn? Why?
- Which ones do you think are the most difficult?

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Exercise 3
Read the conversation between Ben and Anna.

Anna: Hey Ben, have you got any plans for the summer?
Ben: Yes. **I want to improve my English** because I need it for my job.
Anna: That sounds like a good idea. How are you going to do that?
Ben: I **need to practise** speaking, so I'm going to join an English conversation club.
Anna: Oh, great! **I want to learn to** speak Spanish, but **I don't know how to** practise by myself.
Ben: You could try a language app. **I'm going to try** one this summer.
Anna: Maybe I'll try one too. **I have no idea how to** choose a good one, though.
Ben: You can ask some friends for advice. **I'm not very good at** choosing apps either!
Anna: Have you ever tried learning any other languages?
Ben: Yes, I studied French when I was at school. **I've never tried** to learn English before.
Anna: I always wanted to learn French **but never did**. Maybe I should try it now.
Ben: You should! I also tried to learn Italian last year, but **I gave up after one lesson**.
Anna: Why did you give up so quickly?
Ben: The class was too difficult. Sometimes I think **I'm too old to learn** a new language — (**or am I?)**
Anna: Of course you're not! And understanding **English is easy for me**, but I still need to practise speaking.
Ben: Why don't we practise our English together? It will be much more fun that way.
Anna: What a good idea! We can start by going to the cinema and watching an English film.

Answer the questions about the conversation below.
1. What does Ben want to do this summer?
2. Why is he going to join a conversation club?
3. What has Anna always wanted to learn?
4. What did Ben try to learn once?
5. Why did he give up?



Exercise 4
Complete the sentences using expressions from the box.

know how to, to improve, idea how to, old to learn, always wanted to, easy for me, never tried, to practise more, going to try, good at, up after one lesson, to learn to

1. I want to pass my ballet exam, so I need _____ often.
2. I don't _____ use this camera yet.
3. I'm _____ a yoga class this summer.
4. I _____ learn to sing but never did.
5. I tried to learn meditation, but I gave _____ because it was too hard.
6. I sometimes think I'm too _____ a new language — or am I?
7. I've _____ learning Japanese before, but I'd like to.
8. Speaking English is _____, but writing in English is more difficult.
9. I have no _____ choose a good language course. Can you help me?
10. I want _____ drive because I don't like taking the bus to work.
11. I want _____ my fitness, so I exercise every morning.
12. I'm not very_____ remembering new words, so I need more practice.



Exercise 5
Complete the always profiles by putting the words in brackets in the correct order.

Profile 1 – Maria
Maria is 34 and works in a hotel. She 1. _____ (learn / wants / to / to) drive. She 2. _____ (know / doesn't / to / how) start a car because has never had lessons. She 3. _____ (going / is / to / try) a driving course this summer. She 4._____ (very / isn't / good / at) riding a bicycle and she hopes driving will be easier.

Profile 2 – David

David is 52 and works in an office. He has always wanted to learn a musical instrument. He 5. _____ (idea / no / how / has / to) play the guitar. He 6. _____ (tried / never / has) playing an instrument before. He 7. _____ (always / wanted / to / has) learn the piano, but never did. He tried art lessons last year, but he 8. _____ (after / gave / lesson / one / up).



Profile 3 – Lisa

Lisa is 41 and loves being outdoors. She wants to try some new activities. She 9._____ (to / easy / finds / it) a ride a bike but finds swimming difficult. She 10. _____ (going / is / to / try) yoga this summer. Sometimes she thinks she 11. _____ (old / to / too / is / learn) a new sport, but her friends don't agree. Lisa also loves art but she 12. _____ (know / doesn't / how / to) draw very well.

Exercise 6

A. Underline the correct words in the questions below.

1. *What* / *why* do you do? (job)

_____

2. What *would* /*do* you like to learn how to do?

_____

3. *What* / *why* do you want to learn it?

_____

4. *How* / *what* would you like to learn it? (through lessons, online, etc)

_____

5. What *is* / *are* something that is difficult for you? Why?

_____

6. *What* / *why* is something you are good at?

_____

7. *Do* / *have* you ever tried to learn something but given up? Why?

_____

8. What *is* / *are* something that you think you are too old to learn to do? Why?

_____

_____



ESL LAB

B. Find a different partner. Ask them the questions and write down their answers in the space provided. Then, use your notes to write a short profile of your partner.

e.g, --- is a ---. He/She would like to learn to --- because... He/She would like to learn it --- (online, in a class). He/She is good at --- but finds it difficult to --- because. He/She once tried to learn --- but gave up after one class because...

_____
_____
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