

Ejercicios resueltos > Complete the sentences

Singing

Each of us with hearing and vocal cords can sing, but many of us do not enjoy this primitive pleasure because of self-consciousness and shame at the sounds we make. As with any other human capacity, the less we sing, the less we believe we are capable of doing it well.

An inability to sing has become so common that there are now classes and camps to help people make, hear, and appreciate the sounds of their own voices. Paul Winter, a gifted musician and composer, often holds summer singing camps for adults. Though he travels and performs internationally to bring musical traditions of different cultures together, and has pioneered the use of natural sounds in his compositions, he finds that getting the silent to sing is one of the most gratifying things in music. With the simple act of singing people's lives change.

Perhaps the need to use all our senses explains why a decrease in such school "extras" as music, art, dance, and gym often seems to parallel the loss of student self esteem caused by other academic subjects. And as adults, we tend to narrow our forms of self-expression even more. Any one of our human capacities, when unused, leaves a small hole in the fabric of our self-esteem. Think of the times you have said: "I can't write," "I can't paint," "I can't run", "I can't dance", "I can't sing." Since this was not literally true, you were really saying: "I'm not acceptable as I am."

Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the words in brackets when given.

a) Mozart's symphonies were written (write) when the musician was thirty-two years old.

Ayuda: debemos emplear la voz pasiva del verbo (*be+ past participle*) en el primer espacio ya que la oración carece de agente (persona que realiza la acción). Debemos utilizar el pasado simple (*was/were + past participle*) ya que la acción expresada ocurrió en el pasado. En el segundo espacio, para indicar la edad el inglés utiliza el verbo *to be*, de nuevo en pasado (*was*) pues estamos refiriéndonos a un acontecimiento pasado.

b) Maria Callas, who was a soprano, made (make) her debut with the Athens Opera in 1945

Ayuda: estamos ante una oración de relativo explicativa (non-defining relative clause). Podemos identificarla porque la oración de relativo va entre comas y es un dato añadido a la frase. Si se omitiera, no habría ningún problema para entender la oración principal. El antecedente de esta oración es una persona (Maria Callas), por lo tanto debemos utilizar el pronombre relativo *who* (en estas oraciones nunca se puede utilizar el pronombre *that*). En el segundo espacio debemos utilizar el pasado simple del verbo proporcionado, puesto que la oración expresa un acontecimiento que ocurrió en un momento definido del pasado (*in 1945*). El verbo *make* es irregular.

c) She achieved her first success, as an opera singer, in 1947 when she sang (sing) the title role in La Gioconda

Ayuda: en inglés, delante de las profesiones, se utiliza el artículo indeterminado *a/an* (*She is a teacher; I am a doctor; He works as an actor* ...). En el segundo espacio, utilizaremos el pasado simple del verbo ya que nos referimos a un momento concreto del pasado (*in 1947*). El verbo *sing* es irregular

d) "Will you join the university choir next year?" "No, I won't. I would like to, but I have been told (tell) that you have to spend hours practising."

Ayuda: la primera oración es una pregunta a la que le falta su auxiliar. La respuesta (*No, I won't*) nos indica que debemos utilizar *will* ya que se debe emplear el mismo auxiliar en la pregunta que en la respuesta. *Will* es un verbo modal que utilizamos para hablar del futuro (*next year*). En el segundo espacio emplearemos la voz pasiva (*be + past participle*) ya que la oración carece de agente (persona que realiza la acción). Utilizaremos el presente perfecto (*have been + past participle*) porque la oración expresa una acción pasada pero no especifica el momento en que ha ocurrido. El verbo *tell* es irregular (*tell-told-told*).