

Raising a Glass to England's Unlikely Boom — Answer Key

C1 Business English | Fluency Space | Answers for Exercises B & C

Exercise B — Key Words & Phrases

Answers to the matching and example-sentence gap in the vocabulary exercise. Some forms change slightly to fit the example sentence (e.g. tense, plural).

No.	Answer
1	on the verge of
2	overhaul
3	on a par with
4	gain a foothold on
5	holds sway
6	step up
7	prevalent
8	plough
9	flopped
10	attributed to
11	facilitate
12	inhibit

Exercise C — Comprehension Questions

Model answers only — learners' own wording will vary. Look for the key facts below rather than exact phrasing.

1. According to the article, why is England's Best in Show win at the DWWA 2026 considered statistically significant?

Model answer: Only 50 of the nearly 17,000 wines entered — just 0.3% — were awarded Best in Show, and England won this top prize for the second year running, suggesting a genuine trend rather than a one-off result.

2. What role does climate change play in both England's rise and Champagne's difficulties?

Model answer: Warmer temperatures have made high-quality sparkling wine production possible in southern England for the first time, while those same rising temperatures are causing frost, hail, and heatwaves that are

damaging harvests and long-term vineyard viability in Champagne.

3. How have French Champagne houses responded to changing conditions, and what does this suggest about the future?

Model answer: Houses such as Taittinger and Pommery have invested tens of millions of pounds buying land and planting vineyards in southern England, suggesting they see it as a serious long-term hedge against Champagne's declining viability, not just a curiosity.

4. According to the article, what limits England's ability to fully capitalise on its improving wine quality?

Model answer: English sparkling wine can never legally be labelled "Champagne," and long-established brand history and prestige still carry significant weight with consumers, so England must build its own reputation rather than borrow one.

Exercise C — Gap Fill Answers

"A Tense Meeting About the New Market Entry" — correct form of each key word/phrase, in order.

No.	Answer
1	overhaul
2	gain a foothold
3	holds a lot of sway
4	step up
5	prevalent
6	ploughed
7	flop
8	attributed to
9	facilitate

Discussion & Role-Play (Pages 5–6)

These sections are open-ended and have no fixed answers. Encourage learners to use today's target vocabulary naturally in their responses and in the role-play discussion.