76 run something by/past somebody

Study  Read these sentences carefully.
- Let me run some numbers by you to give you an idea of the cost.
- I ran a few ideas past him.
- I'd like to run it by my accountant.
- Could you run that one past me again?
- When the idea was run past the employees there were strong objections.

Check
Use the sentences in the Study box to help you do these exercises.

MEANING
Choose the words that best complete the meaning of run something by somebody.
to promise/tell/take somebody something so that they can give
you their answer/email/opinion.

GRAMMAR
Which of these are grammatically possible?
a  I'd like to run a few ideas by you.
b  I'd like to run past a few ideas you.
c  I ran a few ideas by him.
d  I'd like to run it past you.
e  It was run past a few people.

Now check your answers in the key.

Practise

1 Complete the sentences using a suitable form of run by/past and the word or phrase in brackets.
   a I'll have to ______________ my line manager
       before I can give you an answer. (it)
   b She ______________ the sales team to see what
       they thought. (the figures)
   c Do you mind if I ______________ you concerning the advertising campaign?
       (some suggestions)
   d I was nervous about ______________ the bank manager. (my business plan)

2 Write a suitable answer to each of these questions, using an appropriate form of run something by/past somebody.
   a Why did you go to see your accountant?

   __________________________________________________________

   b What do you want to see me about?

   __________________________________________________________

   c What were you talking to the Marketing Manager about?

   __________________________________________________________

Now check your answers in the key.