

Pre-Intermediate Self-Study Pack

Pack A: Weeks 1 – 6

Welcome to TREE's Pre-Intermediate Self-Study Pack A

Introduction

This pack offers links to a range of content, organised according to level and theme.

For each week we provide a link to at least three specially selected activities which you can work through in your own time. You can check answers at the end of each activity and re-do any activities which you found challenging.

If you are not sure of your level, you can do this quick online test:

<https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/content>

Organise your time



We suggest you set aside regular short periods of time during the week to work on your English. The schedule we provide allocates tasks for you to complete on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, but please feel free to change the days and times to suit your schedule.

Keep a notebook



Remember to record new words and phrases in your notebook during each session. Try to include an example of the new word in a sentence, or maybe include a drawing, or translate the word into Myanmar. All of these things will help you to remember them.

Keep any written work in this notebook too, so you can refer to it and see how your English has improved over time.

Record your progress



On the contents page, there is a chart like this one:

Task	Completed √ / x
LISTENING: Transport Announcements	
READING PRACTICE- Bangkok	
LISTENING: Panama Canal	

You can record your progress by ticking off the tasks as you complete them.

If you complete all of the tasks in 6 weeks, **CONGRATULATIONS!** Give yourself a reward before you move on to the next level.

Additional Materials



When you have finished **Pack A**, you can move onto **Pack B** which contains another 6 weeks' worth of materials.

In the meantime, you can also find additional free resources at <https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/> and <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/>

If you are teacher, you can find resources and information about teaching English at <https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/>

Links to Listening Files

Where there is a listening option, the links to the sound files are included on the contents page. If you don't have internet access, don't worry! We have also included the tapescript in the materials so you can read the dialogues instead.

Contents and Progress

Task	Completed v / x
Week 1 - Transport	
READING: Bangkok Travel Guide	
Week 2 – Talking about the Past	
READING / GRAMMAR: Sophie's terrible journey https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/grammar/beginner-grammar/past-simple-irregular-verbs	
READING / WRITING: My Last Holiday	
Week 3 - My Favourite Things	
VOCAB: everyday objects	
READING: My favourite things https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/intermediate-b1-listening/favourite-things	
READING and GRAMMAR: Carrot cake / <i>some, any, every, no</i> https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/grammar/beginner-grammar/some-any-every-no	
Week 4 – Making Plans	
WRITING and GRAMMAR: Future forms for making arrangements	
READING and WRITING: Cancelling plans	
READING: Changing plans https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/pre-intermediate-a2/changing-plans	
Week 5 – Instructions and Phone Messages	
READING and WRITING: Instructions for a colleague	
READING: Instructions for an assignment https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/pre-intermediate-a2/instructions-for-an-assignment	
Week 6 - Festivals	
READING and GRAMMAR: Fiesta Time https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/grammar/beginner-grammar/there-there-are-it	
READING and VOCAB: Edinburgh Summer Festivals	

A travel guide

Read a travel guide about Bangkok to practise and improve your reading skills.

Before reading

Do the preparation task first. Then read the text and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–f) with the vocabulary (1–6).

Vocabulary

1. polluted
2. noodles
3. alternative
4. authentic
5. express
6. a stand

Definition

- a. real or normal for a place, not specially for tourists
- b. dirty from traffic or chemicals
- c. fast
- d. another way to do something
- e. a table where food or other things are sold in a market
- f. a long, thin food made from flour, water and eggs

Reading text: A travel guide

Whether you're travelling to the islands or the mountains of Thailand, you're likely to spend at least one night in its capital city on the way. Bangkok might be noisy and polluted but it's also an exciting city with plenty of things to see and do. Why not make it a longer stay?

Where to stay

The Khao San Road was a famous traveller spot even before Leonardo di Caprio's character in the film *The Beach* stayed there. But it's noisy, not very pretty and not very Thai. For something more authentic, Phra Kanong offers an alternative place to stay, with its fantastic street markets where everyday Bangkok people eat, work and live. It's not as convenient for the main tourist sites, but it has a Skytrain station so you can be at the Grand Palace in 20 minutes.

How to get around

Bangkok's traffic can be a nightmare. Sure, you can easily take a taxi – if you want to spend hours stuck in traffic jams – but there are two much better ways to get around the city. To explore the temples and historical sites, catch an express boat river taxi or a longtail boat along the Chao Phraya river and the canals. For the modern part of the city, the Skytrain is a fast, cheap way to travel from the river to the shopping malls and nightlife of Sukhumvit, and the famous Chatuchak street market.

Where to eat

The simple answer is: everywhere! Thai street food is among the best in the world, and for around \$5 you can eat a filling and delicious meal. Some food stands have little plastic seats where you can sit and eat and they cook the same dish over and over, like fried chicken on rice or Pad Thai noodles. Head for Chinatown – Yaowarat Street – and choose whatever looks most interesting from the many excellent Chinese and Thai restaurants and food stands.

What to do

After you've seen the main sites like the Giant Buddha at the temple of Wat Pho and the spectacular Grand Palace, and shopped at Chatuchak market, check out the snake farm and watch the live snake show. You can even touch a snake yourself if you want to!

Tasks

Task 1

Match the Bangkok landmarks and places with the descriptions.

Wat Pho	Khao San Road	Sukhumvit
Yaowarat Street	Phra Kanong	Chao Phraya

- a place that you might see in the film *The Beach*
- a place where local Thai people go
- an alternative route through the city
- a place to go for shopping and bars
- a place to go for food
- an important sightseeing spot

Task 2

Are the sentences true or false?

	Answer	
1. One night is enough time to see Bangkok.	True	False
2. Khao San Road is an authentic Thai area of the city.	True	False
3. Phra Kanong is further away from the main tourist sites than Khao San Road is.	True	False
4. The river boat taxis often get stuck in traffic too.	True	False
5. Taking the Skytrain is a faster way to see the city than going by taxi.	True	False
6. You need to choose where to eat carefully, as not everywhere is good.	True	False

Discussion

Would you like to visit Bangkok? Why or why not?

Answers

Preparation task

1. b
2. f
3. d
4. a
5. c
6. e

Task 1

1. Khao San Road
2. Phra Kanong
3. Chao Phraya
4. Sukhumvit
5. Yaowarat Street
6. Wat Pho

Task 2

1. False
2. False
3. True
4. False
5. True
6. False



Watch the video on our website!



- Sophie:** I am so happy to be home!
- Oliver:** I bet. So, tell us what happened.
- Sophie:** Well, on Thursday afternoon I saw the weather forecast on the TV in the hotel and it said there was a big storm coming.
- Oliver:** Yes, that was when we spoke.
- Sophie:** That's right. So, I took a taxi to the airport straight away. I wanted to leave before the storm came.
- Daisy:** Good idea. Did you get to the airport OK?
- Sophie:** Yes, I got there, but hundreds of other people had the same idea. The storm arrived faster than anybody expected so there were no flights! The road to the airport was completely flooded, so nobody could go back into town. We got stuck in the airport!
- Oliver:** Did you think it would be for so long?
- Sophie:** Not at all. We all thought one night ... possibly two ...
- Daisy:** Did you have enough food?
- Sophie:** I bought some food on the first day, but it wasn't very good by the third day. On my birthday I had a packet of crisps and a two-day-old sandwich for lunch.
- Oliver:** Poor Mum.
- Daisy:** What about the bathrooms at the airport? Were you able to have a shower?
- Sophie:** No! The water pipes froze so after the first day there wasn't any water. It wasn't nice!
- Oliver:** That's disgusting!
- Sophie:** Don't worry. I'm clean now!
- Daisy:** So, what did you do all day in the airport?
- Sophie:** I met some really nice people! We talked, read, played cards. When they found out it was my birthday, one of them gave me his last bar of chocolate!
- Daisy:** Ah, cute!
- Sophie:** It was a strange feeling having no Internet connection, no phone line. It was horrible not being able to phone you two! We're all so used to being connected all the time. It was hard. I know you think I'm on holiday when I'm working, but it's not always easy you know!

Oliver and Sophie: Happy Birthday, Mum!



Remember to watch the video on our website first!

Then read the conversation between Sophie and Lucia, a student Sophie met on her travels. Sophie is helping Lucia understand past simple irregular verbs.



**Grammar
Snacks**

Some verbs are irregular. Their past forms do not end in -ed.



Lucia

So how do I know which verbs are regular and which are irregular?

You have to learn them!

Learn them from the list? Oh no!



Sophie

It's not so bad. There aren't really so many verbs to learn and remember that English is much easier than many languages. The past forms don't change.

*I **took** a taxi to the airport. (take → took)*

*That was when we **spoke**. (speak → spoke)*

*One person **gave** me his last bar of chocolate. (give → gave)*



I see what you mean. *I made, you made, he made, she made, it made, we made, they made!*

Exactly! They're all the same. And the negatives are all formed with **did + not + the infinitive without to**. The question forms are very similar: **did + subject pronoun + the infinitive without to**.

*What **did you do** all day in the airport?*

***Did you have** enough food?*

***We didn't think** you would get home in time for your birthday.*



OK, you're right, that's not too bad. Are there any exceptions?

Yes the verb *to be*. The past form is *was* for *I, he, she* and *it*, but *were* for *you, we* and *they*.

*It **was** horrible not being able to phone you two!*

*There **wasn't** any food. I **was** so hungry!*

*We **were** stuck in the airport.*



So what about this verb list?

Right, here it is!

Present	Past Simple
be	was / were
break	broke
build	built
catch	caught
come	came
cut	cut
draw	drew
drive	drove
fall	fell
fight	fought
fly	flew
freeze	froze
give	gave
have	had
hold	held
keep	kept
learn	learnt
lead	led
lie	lay
make	made
meet	met
put	put
ride	rode
say	said

Present	Past Simple
begin	began
bring	brought
buy	bought
choose	chose
cost	cost
do	did
drink	drank
eat	ate
feel	felt
find	found
forget	forgot
get	got
go	went
hear	heard
hit	hit
know	knew
leave	left
let	let
lose	lost
mean	meant
pay	paid
read	read
run	ran
see	saw

Present	Past Simple
sell	sold
set	set
sing	sang
sleep	slept
spend	spent
steal	stole
take	took
tell	told
understand	understood
wear	wore
write	wrote

Present	Past Simple
send	sent
shut	shut
sit	sat
speak	spoke
stand	stood
swim	swam
teach	taught
think	thought
wake	woke
win	won



Wow! OK, so how do I learn these verbs?

There are lots of things you can try:

- Make cards to test yourself – put the infinitive on one side and the past on the other.
- Write sentences with different verbs in them. Include some negatives.
- Make up stories and record yourself. The story could just be about what you did last weekend.
- Do practice activities online. You can start by doing the ones on the LearnEnglish Teens website. Follow the link at the bottom of this page and search for 'Past simple irregular verbs'.



OK, I'm going to start learning them now!

Watch the video on our website!





Watch the video on our website and read the conversation between Sophie and Lucia. Then do these exercises to check your understanding of past simple irregular verbs.



**Grammar
Snacks**

1. Check your grammar: true or false – past simple irregular verbs

Are these sentences *True* or *False*?

- | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|--------------|
| 1. | To form the past simple, we add <i>-ed</i> to the end of regular verbs. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. | There are many different forms of irregular verbs in the past simple. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. | We use <i>did + not + infinitive</i> to form past simple negatives with all types of verbs. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. | We use <i>did + subject + infinitive</i> to form past simple questions with all types of verbs. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. | There are clear rules about how to form the past simple for irregular verbs. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. | You have to learn all the different irregular verb forms of the past simple. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

2. Check your grammar: multiple choice – past simple irregular verbs

Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- | | | |
|----|--|-----------------------|
| 1. | We _____ about the storm on the news. | hear
heard |
| 2. | They _____ that it was my birthday. | find out
found out |
| 3. | The waiter _____ us the menu to look at. | bring
brought |
| 4. | I didn't _____ very well last night. | sleep
slept |
| 5. | Did you _____ your coat in the cafe? | leave
left |
| 6. | It was so cold that the pipes _____. | freeze
froze |

- | | | |
|-------|--|--------------|
| 7. | She didn't _____ us what to do for homework. | tell
told |
| <hr/> | | |
| 8. | He _____ bad about failing the test. | feel
felt |

3. Check your grammar: gap fill – past simple irregular verbs

Put the irregular verb in the past simple tense to fill the gaps.

1. I _____ (buy) some food for lunch.
2. Who _____ (meet) you at the airport?
3. We all _____ (have) the same idea.
4. _____ (do) you speak to Sophie?
5. I _____ (see) the weather forecast earlier.
6. He _____ (give) us a lift into town.
7. She _____ (read) three books in one week!
8. They _____ (take) a taxi to the hotel.

Answers to The past simple – irregular verbs – exercises**1. Check your grammar: true or false – past simple irregular verbs**

- | | |
|---------|----------|
| 1. True | 4. True |
| 2. True | 5. False |
| 3. True | 6. True |

2. Check your grammar: multiple choice – past simple irregular verbs

- | | |
|--------------|----------|
| 1. heard | 5. leave |
| 2. found out | 6. froze |
| 3. brought | 7. tell |
| 4. sleep | 8. felt |

3. Check your grammar: gap fill – past simple irregular verbs

- | | |
|-----------|---------|
| 1. bought | 5. saw |
| 2. met | 6. gave |
| 3. had | 7. read |
| 4. Did | 8. took |

My last holiday

Learn how to write about your last holiday.

Before reading

Do the preparation task first. Then read the text and tips and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Put the words in the correct group.

statue	but	amazing	because
favourite	beautiful	history	historic
beauty	supermarket	and	so

Adjectives	Nouns	Linking words

My last holiday

My last holiday was a five-day trip to Prague in the Czech Republic. I know Prague well because I lived there when I was at university, more than ten years ago.

Instead of staying in a hotel, I stayed with one of my old friends. It was so much fun, and a little bit like my old life. I wanted to do all the same things I did in my university days, so I visited the university. It has changed a lot and looks more modern. I also went to the supermarket near my old house. I loved seeing all the different foods. I was really happy to find my favourite cheese and chocolate biscuits but they were a bit more expensive than I remember!

We did some touristy things too. We walked up beautiful Petrin Hill and around the castle. The views of the city are amazing up there. We walked across the historic Charles Bridge. My friend's flat is very near the TV Tower so we saw the famous baby statues climbing up it. Those things haven't changed, of course.

Tips

1. Try to make your writing interesting for the reader. To do this, you can make it personal with your own memories and experiences.
2. Use adjectives to add detail to your descriptions.
3. Write clear and simple sentences and organise your ideas in short paragraphs. Give each paragraph a different topic.
4. Use *so*, *but*, *and*, *because* and other linking words.

Tasks

Task 1

Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

1. The writer knows Prague because ...
 - a. they lived there for ten years.
 - b. they lived there before.
2. On their holiday, they wanted to ...
 - a. do new things.
 - b. do familiar things.
3. Staying with a friend was like ...
 - a. the writer's old life.
 - b. staying in a hotel.
4. They were surprised about ...
 - a. finding the cheese.
 - b. the price of the cheese.
5. Charles Bridge and the TV Tower ...
 - a. have changed a lot.
 - b. haven't changed a lot.

Task 2

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

and	because	but	but
because	so	so	and

1. We were tired when we arrived, we had dinner in the hotel and got an early night.
2. Our room was small beautiful, with views over the city.
3. On the first day we walked around the old town saw the clock tower.
4. It rained a lot on the second day, we visited the art gallery to stay dry.
5. The museum was very interesting there were a lot of people and long queues.
6. We went shopping I wanted to get presents for my family.
7. I didn't buy anything for myself it was expensive.
8. I loved this holiday would recommend it to anyone.

Task 3

Put the phrases in order to make sentences.

1. for the reader. Try your writing to make interesting
2. with personal Make memories and experiences. your own your writing
3. detail Use to your descriptions. to add adjectives
4. and organise in short paragraphs. Write sentences your ideas clear and simple
5. each topic paragraph. Give a different
6. like *so*, *but* words Use and *because*. linking

Discussion

Where was your last holiday?

Answers

Preparation task

Adjectives	Nouns	Linking words
beautiful historic amazing favourite	history supermarket beauty statue	so because and but

Task 1

1. b
2. b
3. a
4. b
5. b

Task 2

1. so
2. but
3. and
4. so
5. but
6. because
7. because
8. and

Task 3




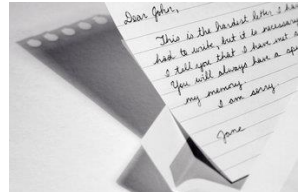






1. Try to make your writing interesting for the reader.
2. Make your writing personal with your own memories and experiences.
3. Use adjectives to add detail to your descriptions.
4. Write clear and simple sentences and organise your ideas in short paragraphs.
5. Give each topic a different paragraph.
6. Use linking words like *so*, *but* and *because*.

Do these exercises to help you learn words for everyday objects.

1. Check your vocabulary: picture matching

Write the correct words in the boxes below the pictures.

mobile phone	landline	letter	contact lenses	purse	glasses
briefcase	ticket	rucksack	wallet	keys	computer

2. Check your vocabulary: multiple choice

Read the sentence and circle the correct word.

1. You use this to carry bank cards and paper money.
a. wallet b. rucksack c. briefcase
2. You need these to open the door of your house.
a. contact lenses b. keys c. landline
3. Some people wear these on their face to help them see.
a. glasses b. rucksack c. ticket
4. You use this to call people from your home.
a. wallet b. contact lenses c. landline
5. A bag that you wear on your back.
a. rucksack b. purse c. wallet
6. You use this to carry coins (metal money).
a. rucksack b. purse c. glasses
7. A written message that comes in the post.
a. computer b. landline c. letter
8. A machine for the internet or playing games.
a. computer b. glasses c. briefcase
9. A small suitcase to carry things for work.
a. wallet b. purse c. briefcase
10. You need this paper to get on a train, bus or enter a museum.
a. ticket b. letter c. keys

Discussion

Which of these objects do you always take with you when you go out?

Answers to Everyday objects – exercises

1. Check your vocabulary: picture matching

			
keys	computer	briefcase	rucksack
			
contact lenses	letter	glasses	landline
			
mobile phone	wallet	ticket	purse

2. Check your vocabulary: multiple choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. a | 6. b |
| 2. b | 7. c |
| 3. a | 8. a |
| 4. c | 9. c |
| 5. a | 10. a |

Listening skills practice: My favourite things – transcriptTranscript for **My favourite things**

A (boy)

My favourite thing has to be my new tablet. It's really light and quite small, so I take it with me everywhere. I'm always writing messages to friends and it's big enough to do college work on it too. It takes really good photos, and I play games and listen to music on it as well, of course. I often download films onto it and watch them in bed. My mum says I'm addicted, because I'm always on it. I even read things on it at breakfast time. I'm not allowed to at dinner time, though. I have to be polite and talk to people then. "Welcome back to real life," my mum says.

B (girl)

My favourite thing? Does my cat count as a thing? She's not really a thing, but anyway. She's a really beautiful little cat. I've had her since she was four months old. You know how some cats are really independent and hardly talk to you? I know cats don't really talk, but you know what I mean. Well, she's not like that at all. She's really affectionate and comes up to me as soon as I get home, purring away like mad. She makes a lot of noise for a tiny thing. She loves being stroked and comes and curls up next to me when I'm on the sofa. She's great company.

C (boy)

My new scooter! It's quite small, but fun, and just what I needed for getting around the city. I used to have quite a long walk to the metro, then a longish walk at the other end to get to college. But now I can just whiz there on my scooter. And there's no problem parking, there's always space for it. You have to be careful with the cars and lorries – they don't always see you – and when it rains the surface of the road is terrible, it gets really slippery. But in general it's perfect for me, and I can fit a friend on the back too – I've got an extra helmet for a friend. It's great. Riding along makes me feel so free.

D (girl)

This might sound a bit old-fashioned, but my sewing machine is my favourite thing. I'm studying fashion and love making things, as well as designing them. I also love clothes myself and often buy second-hand clothes – everyone loves the "vintage" look at the moment – and then I adapt them to my size. It's much easier using a machine to do that than doing it by hand. I do alterations for my mum and my sister too. If I don't make it as a designer, I suppose I can always set up my own alterations and customising business. Customising clothes, by taking things off and adding things on, is actually very creative, so I wouldn't mind that.

E (boy)

My set of Japanese knives. That sounds a bit sinister, doesn't it, but I'm not a murderer or anything. They're chef's knives and the best ones come from Japan. Cooking is my new hobby. I got into it when I started watching Masterchef on TV. Then I went to an evening class for beginners, and I haven't looked back since. I try and have a dinner for between four and eight friends every two or three weeks. That gives me something to work towards and I always do new dishes so they can try them out and give me feedback. It's quite an expensive hobby if you use good ingredients, but now my friends help towards the cost. They still get a good meal for a very low price.

Listening skills practice: My favourite things – exercises

Listen to the speakers describing their favourite things and do the exercises to practise and improve your listening skills.

1. Preparation: matching

Do this exercise before you listen. Match the verb with the correct noun and write a – g next to the numbers 1 – 7.

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1..... take | a. a designer |
| 2..... listen to | b. your scooter |
| 3..... watch | c. a business |
| 4..... stroke (= move your hand gently over something) | d. films |
| 5..... park | e. photos |
| 6..... make it as (= be successful as) | f. the cat |
| 7..... set up (= start) | g. music |

2. Check your understanding: matching

Match the speakers with their favourite things. Write a – e next to the numbers 1 – 5.

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1..... Speaker A | a. a tablet |
| 2..... Speaker B | b. a sewing machine |
| 3..... Speaker C | c. a scooter |
| 4..... Speaker D | d. a set of knives |
| 5..... Speaker E | e. a cat |

3. Check your understanding: gap fill

Do this exercise while you listen. Write the word to fill the gaps.

1. My favourite thing has to be my new tablet. It's really light and quite _____, so I take it with me everywhere. I'm always writing to friends and it's big enough to do college work on it too. It takes really good _____, and I play games and listen to _____ on it as well, of course. I often download _____ onto it, and watch them in _____. My mum says I'm _____, because I'm always on it. I even read things on it at breakfast time. I'm not allowed to at _____ time, though. I have to be _____ and talk to people then. "Welcome back to real life," my mum says.

2. My favourite thing? Does my _____ count as a thing? She's not really a thing, but anyway. She's a really _____ little cat. I've had her since she was _____ months old. You know how some cats are really _____ and hardly talk to you? I know cats don't really talk, but you know what I mean. Well, she's not like that at all. She's really _____ and comes up to me as soon as I get home, purring away like mad. She makes a lot of _____ for a tiny thing. She loves being stroked and comes and curls up next to me when I'm on the _____. She's great _____.

3. My new scooter! It's quite small, but _____, and just what I needed for getting around the _____. I used to have quite a long walk to the _____, then a longish walk at the other end to get to _____. But now I can just whiz there on my _____. And there's no problem parking, there's always _____ for it. You have to be _____ with the cars and _____ – they don't always see you – and when it rains the surface of the road is _____, it gets really slippery. But in general it's perfect for me, and I can fit a _____ on the back too – I've got an extra _____ for a friend. It's great. Riding along makes me feel so free.

4. This might sound a bit old-fashioned, but my sewing _____ is my favourite thing. I'm studying _____ and love making things, as well as designing them. I also love _____ myself and often buy second-hand clothes – everyone loves the “vintage” _____ at the moment – and then I adapt them to my _____. It's much easier using a machine to do that than doing it by _____. I do alterations for my mum and my sister too. If I don't make it as a _____, I suppose I can always set up my own alterations and customising _____. Customising clothes, by taking things off and adding things on, is actually very _____, so I wouldn't mind that.

5. My set of Japanese knives. That sounds a bit sinister, doesn't it, but I'm not a _____ or anything. They're chef's knives and the best ones come from _____. Cooking is my new hobby. I got into it when I started watching Masterchef on TV. Then I went to an evening _____ for beginners, and I haven't looked back since. I try and have a _____ for between four and eight _____ every two or three _____. That gives me something to work towards and I always do new _____ so they can try them out and give me feedback. It's quite an _____ hobby if you use good _____, but now my friends help towards the _____. They still get a good _____ for a very low price.

What's your favourite thing?

Why is it important to you?

Vocabulary Box

Write any new words you have learnt in this lesson.

Answers to **Listening skills practice: My favourite things – exercises.**

1. Preparation: matching

1. e
2. g
3. d
4. f
5. b
6. a
7. c

2. Check your understanding: matching

1. a tablet
2. a cat
3. a scooter
4. a sewing machine
5. a set of knives

3. Check your understanding: gap fill

1. small / messages / photos / music / films / bed / addicted / dinner / polite
2. cat / beautiful / four / independent / affectionate / noise / sofa / company
3. fun / city / metro / college / scooter / space / careful / lorries / terrible / friend / helmet
4. machine / fashion / clothes / look / size / hand / designer / business / creative
5. murderer / Japan / hobby / class / dinner / friends / weeks / dishes / expensive / ingredients / cost / meal



Watch the video on our website!



**Grammar
Snacks**

- Daisy:** Shall we look for somewhere to get some coffee and some cake?
- Amy:** Alright. I'm not very hungry, but I'd love something to drink. Where do you fancy going?
- Daisy:** Anywhere you like.
- Amy:** Well, how about this place?
- Daisy:** Oooh, there's nobody else here! Where is everyone? Ah well, it's all for us! Hi!
- Waiter:** Hi! What can I get you?
- Daisy:** I'd like a cappuccino, please, and have you got any cake?
- Waiter:** Oh yes, we do. We've got some amazing chocolate cake, and some carrot cake – that's my personal favourite – and there's a lemon and ginger cake ... and ...
- Daisy:** No, no, I'll have some carrot cake – I haven't had any for ages, and I love it!
- Waiter:** A great choice. And can I get you anything?
- Amy:** Yes, I'd like some green tea with mango, please.
- Daisy:** Ooh, that sounds good!
- Waiter:** Anything else?
- Amy:** Do you have any cookies?
- Waiter:** I'm sorry, there are none left.
- Amy:** OK, nothing else then. Just the tea.
- Waiter:** So, one green tea with mango, one cappuccino and some carrot cake. A large piece and two forks.
- Daisy:** So. How's it all going? New town, new school, new people ...
- Amy:** Well, I haven't really made any friends yet, apart from you, but I'm OK. I just need some time to adapt.
- Daisy:** Yeah, of course.
- Amy:** And the teachers all seem nice. There's no one really boring or unfriendly.
- Daisy:** No. School's OK. The headmaster's new – Mr. Oliveira – I don't think anyone really knows him yet, but he seems fine.
- Amy:** Yeah, someone told me he's almost 50. Can you believe it?
- Daisy:** No way. He looks like somebody in that film about the millionaire ... ummm ... Hey, look! That's my brother over there! Oliver! Ollie! Come and meet Amy!
- Oliver:** Hi, girls. What are you up to?
- Daisy:** Nothing. Just chatting and having some cake. Mm!! Have some, it's delicious!
- Oliver:** It looks tasty, I might get some. Hi, I'm Oliver, Daisy's brother.
- Amy:** Hi, I'm Amy.
- Oliver:** Amy. Cool. Excuse me, have you got any chocolate cake at all?
- Waiter:** Yes, we've got three different kinds – all home-made. There's chocolate biscuit cake, white chocolate cake and chocolate and orange cake.
- Oliver:** Any will do. Surprise me. And a glass of water, please. Thanks. So, Amy. Where are you from? Anywhere exotic and exciting, like the places our mother visits? Singapore? ...
- Amy:** I'm from Cambridge. Cambridge, England.
- Oliver:** Ah right! Cambridge! Haha, that's somewhere Mum hasn't been! It's too near home! Thanks.
- Daisy:** Ignore him, he's just jealous. Our mum travels a lot.
- Oliver:** Huh! Me!!?? Jealous?! Who needs travel when you have cake?! So, Amy, Daisy told me you're new, right? Welcome to our town! You'll like it here. Nice people, good cake. Now tell me about yourself...
- Daisy:** Ollie! It's not a job interview! So, anyway there's Mr Oliveira, and – oh – and Miss Pinkerton is cool, everyone likes her, she teaches maths and she can tell you everything about ... well, about anything! And then there's ...



Remember to watch the video first! Then read the conversation between Sophie and Hakan. Sophie's helping Hakan understand how to use *some*, *any* and *no* to talk about numbers or the amount of things.



**Grammar
Snacks**

We use *some* and *any* for talking about indefinite numbers or amounts of things. We use them with nouns or on their own, as pronouns.



Hakan

I know about *some* and *any*. You use *some* in positive sentences and *any* in questions and negatives, right?

Well, yes, often.

*We've got **some** amazing chocolate cake, and **some** carrot cake.
Have you got **any** chocolate cake?
I haven't had **any** carrot cake for ages.*

But we also use *any* in positive sentences.

***Any** cake will do. Surprise me.
She can tell you everything about ... well, about **anything**!*



Sophie



Oh, so what's the rule?

We use *some* for talking about a limited number or amount; and we use *any* for an unlimited number or amount. For example, imagine you are talking about different kinds of cake. All these sentences are possible:

- A. *I like **any** kind of cake. (= all kinds of cake, unlimited)*
- B. *I **don't** like **any** kind of cake. (= 0 kinds of cake, unlimited)*
- C. *I like **some** kinds of cake. (= a limited number of kinds of cake)*
- D. *I **don't** like **some** kinds of cake. (= a limited number of kinds of cake)*



OK, I think that's clear. I like *any* kind of music. I don't like *some* dogs.

Yes, if you like all music and if you also like *some* dogs.



Yes, I like most dogs, but not dogs that bite, or dogs that are ill.

OK, then.



And what about questions? Can we use both *some* and *any* in questions?

Yes, we use *both*.

*Would you like **some** more coffee?*

*Would you like **any** more to eat?*

Here the difference is very small. The speaker is thinking of a limited amount in the first question, and an unlimited amount in the second question. In both questions we could use *some* or *any*.

Sometimes we use *some* when we expect the answer to be "yes". We use *any* when we don't know what the answer will be; we are asking whether something exists.

*Can I have **some** sugar? (I know there's some sugar)*

*Is there **any** cake left? (I don't know whether there's any cake)*

*Are you waiting for **somebody**? (I think you are)*

*Is **anybody** coming to meet you? (I don't know)*



Did you say we can use *some* and *any* on their own, as pronouns?

Yes, we don't need to repeat the noun.

*Is there **any** cake?*

*Yes, do you want **some**? / Sorry, there isn't **any**. / Sorry, there's **none** left.*



Ah, none. That's new to me.

Yes, we can use *none* or *no + noun* instead of *not any*.

*Have we got **any** onions?*

*No, there aren't **any**. / There are **none** left.*

*We haven't got **any** money. = We have **no** money.*



What about *somebody*, *anybody*, *everybody* and *nobody*? Can you tell me more about how you use those words?

Of course. *Somebody/anybody/nobody/everybody* are used as singular nouns, even though *everybody* refers to more than one person and *anybody* can mean more than one person.

*I saw **somebody** outside the window. (= 1 person)*

*There's **nobody** there. (= 0 person)*

***Everybody** knows that The Beatles were from Liverpool. (= all people)*

*Has **anybody** seen my keys? (= 1+ people)*



Is *somebody* the same as *someone*?

Yes, it's the same. We also use:

People: *someone* - *anyone* - *no one* - *everyone*

Things: *something* - *anything* - *nothing* - *everything*

Places: *somewhere* - *anywhere* - *nowhere* - *everywhere*



OK, I think that's everything for today. I've got to go *somewhere* to meet *somebody*.

You don't want to ask *anything* else?



No, thank you!



Watch the video on our website!





Watch the video and read the conversation between Sophie and Hakan. Then do these exercises to check your understanding of *some*, *any*, *every* and *no*.



**Grammar
Snacks**

1. Check your grammar: grouping – some, any, every and no

Write the phrases in the correct group.

I really don't like some of his songs.	You won't find anywhere like this.	I'd like some advice.	Anything is better than this!
There was nothing he could do.	There was nobody at the door.	She can go anywhere she wants.	Anyone can answer that question!

Zero	Limited	Unlimited

2. Check your grammar: gap fill – some, any, every and no

Complete the gaps with a word.

- I think the house was empty because _____ one answered the door.
- Could I have _____ grapes, please? Just a few.
A: "_____ else, sir?"
- B: "No, thank you, that's everything."
- I wish I knew _____ who could help me with this.

5. There isn't _____ that sells sunglasses in the shopping centre. Try the High Street.
A: "Where would you like to go on holiday?"
6. B: "_____ with sun and a beach. I want a tan!"
7. Has _____ seen my purse?
8. Mum! There's _____ on the phone for you!

3. Check your grammar: gap fill – some, any, every and no

Complete the gaps with a word from the box.

anyone	nothing	None	anywhere
some	Nobody	somewhere	any

1. A: "Can I have a biscuit?"
B: "Sorry, there aren't _____ left."
2. She has an allergy which means she can't eat _____ types of cheese, but there are a few kinds that are OK.
3. I've never met _____ like her before.
4. _____ of us knew the answer. We didn't have a clue!
5. Can we sit _____ quieter, please? It's very noisy in here.
6. You can't buy real pizza _____ in this town!
7. _____ knows the exact date this planet was created.
8. There's _____ good on TV tonight, so we're going to the cinema.

Answers to **Some, any, every and no** – exercises



1. Check your grammar: grouping – some, any, every and no

Zero	Limited	Unlimited
There was nobody at the door.	I really don't like some of his songs.	Anyone can answer that question!
You won't find anywhere like this.	I'd like some advice.	She can go anywhere she wants.
There was nothing he could do.		Anything is better than this!

2. Check your grammar: gap fill – some, any, every and no

- I think the house was empty because **no** one answered the door.
- Could I have **some** grapes, please? Just a few.
- A: "**anything** else, sir?"
B: "No, thank you, that's everything."
- I wish I knew **someone/somebody** who could help me with this.
- There isn't **anywhere** that sells sunglasses in the shopping centre. Try the High Street.
A: "Where would you like to go on holiday?"
B: "**somewhere** with sun and a beach. I want a tan!"
- Has **anybody/anyone** seen my purse?
- Mum! There's **someone/somebody** on the phone for you!

3. Check your grammar: gap fill – some, any, every and no

- A: "Can I have a biscuit?" B: "Sorry, there aren't **any** left."
- She has an allergy which means she can't eat **some** types of cheese, but there are a few kinds that are OK.
- I've never met **anyone** like her before.
- None** of us knew the answer. We didn't have a clue!
- Can we sit **somewhere** quieter, please? It's very noisy in here.
- You can't buy real pizza **anywhere** in this town!
- Nobody** knows the exact date this planet was created.
- There's **nothing** good on TV tonight, so we're going to the cinema.

English for Emails

Unit 5: Making arrangements

Task 1

Put the phrases in the right group.

next week / when you are free / after work /
next time you come / at the weekend / on
Monday / yesterday / three days ago /
tomorrow / in 2009 / last month / in October

In the past

In the future

In the past or future

Task 2

Complete the sentences.

get / Monday / I'm coming / the evening / at /
week

Dear Nadia,

_____ to the 'Teaching for Change'
conference next _____. I'm glad
you are going, too. I'm arriving on _____
afternoon. I'll text you when I _____ to

the hotel. Perhaps we can
meet in _____. Are you free to go out
for a meal _____ about 7:30?
Hope to see you soon.
Lisa

Task 3

Match the endings of the sentences to the
beginnings.

next Saturday. / convenient for you? / to
seeing you tomorrow. / to meet? / free next
Tuesday afternoon?

1. What time would you like

2. I look forward

3. I'm coming to London

4. When would be

5. Are you

Task 4

Put the email in the right order.

- A. I can call you then if it is convenient.
- B. Nguyen Minh Chau
- C. Are you free to talk about it on the
phone tomorrow at about 3.30?
- D. Head Teacher – Vietnam
International School
- E. Could you please let me know?
- F. Dear Mr Chan,
- G. I look forward to hearing from you
soon.
- H. With best wishes,
- I. Thank you for your last email.

Task 5

Choose the correctly punctuated email.

1. dear mr chan
thank you for your last email are you
free to talk about it on the phone
tomorrow at about 3.30 I can call you
then if it is convenient could you
please let me know
I look forward to hearing from you
soon
with best wishes
Nguyen Minh Chau
Head Teacher – Vietnam
International School
2. Dear Mr Chan
Thank you for your last email Are you
free to talk about it on the phone
tomorrow at about 3.30 I can call you
then if it is convenient Could you
please let me know
I look forward to hearing from you
soon
With best wishes
Nguyen Minh Chau
Head Teacher – Vietnam
International School
3. Dear Mr Chan,
Thank you for your last email. Are you
free to talk about it on the phone
tomorrow at about 3.30? I can call
you then if it is convenient. Could you
please let me know?
I look forward to hearing from you
soon.
With best wishes,
Nguyen Minh Chau
Head Teacher – Vietnam
International School

Task 6

Choose the correctly spelt words. In each question, only one is correct.

1.
a) Tuesday
b) Tusday
c) Tuseday
2.
a) forwad
b) forward
c) forword
3.
a) tommorrow
b) tomorrow
c) tomowrrow
4.
a) evening
b) evning
c) evining
5.
a) meting
b) meating
c) meeting
6.
a) convennient
b) conveniant
c) convenient

Answers

Task 1

In the past

yesterday
three days ago
last month
in 2009

In the future

next week
when you are free
next time you come
tomorrow

In the past or future

after work
at the weekend
on Monday
in October

Task 2

Dear Nadia,
I'm coming to the 'Teaching for Change'
conference next week. I'm glad you are
going, too. I'm arriving on Monday
afternoon. I'll text you when I get to the
hotel. Perhaps we can meet in the
evening? Are you free to go out for a meal
at about 7:30?
Hope to see you soon.
Lisa

Task 3

1. What time would you like to meet?
2. I look forward to seeing you tomorrow.
3. I'm coming to London next Saturday.
4. When would be convenient for you?
5. Are you free next Tuesday afternoon?

Task 4

- F. Dear Mr Chan,
I. Thank you for your last email.
C. Are you free to talk about it on the
phone tomorrow at about 3.30?
A. I can call you then if it is convenient.
E. Could you please let me know?
G. I look forward to hearing from you
soon.
H. With best wishes,
B. Nguyen Minh Chau
D. Head Teacher – Vietnam
International School

Task 5

3. Dear Mr Chan,
Thank you for your last email. Are you
free to talk about it on the phone
tomorrow at about 3.30? I can call
you then if it is convenient. Could you
please let me know?
I look forward to hearing from you
soon.
With best wishes,
Nguyen Minh Chau
Head Teacher – Vietnam
International School

Task 6

1. a) Tuesday
2. b) forward
3. b) tomorrow
4. a) evening
5. c) meeting
6. c) convenient

Messaging to cancel a plan

Learn how to write text messages to cancel plans.

Before reading

Do the preparation task first. Then read the text and tips and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Match the functions (a–h) with the phrases (1–8).

Phrases

1. I can't make it.
2. Shout if you need anything.
3. Thx.
4. Poor you!
5. If you don't mind, can you ... ?
6. No problem!
7. Feeling any better?
8. Get well soon. / Hope you feel better soon.

Functions

- a. showing sympathy
- b. cancelling a plan
- c. offering help
- d. saying thank you
- e. checking how someone feels now
- f. asking for help
- g. ending the conversation when someone is ill
- h. agreeing to do something

Reading text: Messaging to cancel a plan

Yesterday 18:45

Hey, I don't think I can make it tomorrow. I'm feeling really ill

Oh no, poor you!

Have you been to the doctor?

No, I think it's just a cold

Well, get well soon

Shout if you need anything!

Thx, I will

Today 9:03

Feeling any better?

A bit thanks but staying in bed today I think!

I can pop round on my way home if you need anything?

Actually, if you don't mind, pls can you get me some green tea?

No problem!

See you about 6 then

Thx so much!!

Get plenty of rest! Hope you feel better soon!

Tips

1. You don't have to write complete sentences in text messages.
2. You can use short forms, e.g. *thx* (thanks) and *pls* (please).
3. To cancel a plan, say *I don't think I can make it*. Add the date (e.g. *I don't think I can make it tomorrow*) and/or *to* + the activity (e.g. *I don't think I can make it to the party tomorrow*).
4. To show sympathy, say *Poor you* and *Hope you feel better soon*.
5. Exclamation marks (!) sound positive and they are used a lot in text messages. Two exclamation marks (!!) shows you really, really mean it!

Tasks

Task 1

Are the sentences true or false?

	Answer	
1. The ill person asks to meet at a different time.	True	False
2. The doctor said it was a cold.	True	False
3. The ill person doesn't need anything on the first day.	True	False
4. The ill person feels worse on the second day.	True	False
5. The ill person is planning to get a lot of rest.	True	False
6. The two people know each other quite well.	True	False

Task 2

Circle the best way to respond.

1. I don't think I can make it to the dinner tonight. I'm not feeling well.
 - a. Fine.
 - b. Oh no! Poor you!
 - c. Feeling any better?
2. Call me if you need anything!
 - a. I think so.
 - b. Yes, please.
 - c. Thanks, I will.
3. Feeling any better today?
 - a. A bit, thanks.
 - b. That's right.
 - c. Thanks so much.
4. If you have time, could you get me some chicken soup from the supermarket?
 - a. I could.
 - b. No problem!
 - c. Thanks, I'd love to!
5. I'll bring you the soup around 7 p.m. See you then.
 - a. Bye.
 - b. Yes.
 - c. Thanks so much!!

Task 3

Match the end of the sentence (a–h) with the beginning (1–8).

Beginning

1. I don't think I can
2. Oh no,
3. Shout if you
4. If you don't mind, pls can you
5. I can pop round if you
6. Get plenty
7. Hope you
8. Get

End

- a. poor you!
- b. make it tomorrow.
- c. get me some orange juice?
- d. of rest!
- e. need anything?
- f. need anything!
- g. well soon!
- h. feel better soon!

Discussion

When was the last time you cancelled a plan? Why did you cancel?

Answers

Preparation task

1. b
2. c
3. d
4. a
5. f
6. h
7. e
8. g

Task 1

1. False
2. False
3. True
4. False
5. True
6. True

Task 2

1. b
2. c
3. a
4. b
5. c

Task 3

1. b
2. a
3. f
4. c
5. e
6. d
7. h
8. g

Changing plans

Listen to two people talking about changing their plans to practise and improve your listening skills.

Before listening

Do the preparation task first. Then listen to the audio and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Write the words in the correct groups.

a ballet	an artist	a concert	a show
a band	a group	a theatre	a play
a musician	a cinema	an opera house	a gallery

Entertainment events	Places for entertainment	People and entertainment

Tasks

Task 1

Listen and choose Francesco (the man) or Sachi (the woman) to complete the sentences.

1. runs across the street.

a. Francesco

b. Sachi

2. is going to buy tickets for the play.

a. Francesco

b. Sachi

- ## Task 2

free then

- ## Discussion

www.britishcouncil.org/learnenglish

Transcript

Francesco: Sachi? Sachi? Sachiko!

Sachi: Francesco! Is everything OK?

Francesco: Yes. Yes. Sorry, I saw you and I was across the street ... I ran.

Sachi: I see. What's up?

Francesco: Do you have the tickets ... for the play?

Sachi: No, I don't. I'm going to buy them this afternoon.

Francesco: Oh good, good. Listen, don't buy tickets for this Friday.

Sachi: Oh? Why not?

Francesco: I can't go to the theatre on Friday. Something's come up. I have a concert this Friday.

Sachi: Another concert? But you said ...

Francesco: I know, I know. I'm sorry. I forgot.

Sachi: Francesco!

Francesco: How about next week? Are you free then? I can definitely go next Friday.

Sachi: Francesco. You did this two weeks ago, remember? I had cinema tickets for the new Marvel movie and you changed the plans then too. For band practice.

Francesco: I know, and I ...

Sachi: We also missed my favourite dance group. Because your band was playing at some child's birthday party.

Francesco: It was my nephew's birthday ...

Sachi: Ha!

Francesco: OK, why don't we go out for dinner before my concert? Then, next Friday we can go to the play.

Sachi: Oh ...

Francesco: Come on, Sachi. Just this one more time.

Sachi: OK, but promise me next Friday. OK?

Francesco: I promise. I promise!

Answers

Preparation task

Entertainment events	Places for entertainment	People and entertainment
a concert a ballet a play a show	a theatre an opera house a cinema a gallery	a band an artist a musician a group

Task 1

1. a
2. b
3. a
4. a
5. b
6. b
7. b
8. a

Task 2

1. the theatre on Friday
2. next Friday
3. free then
4. go next Friday
5. out for dinner
6. I forgot

Instructions for a colleague

Learn how to write instructions for a colleague.

Before reading

Do the preparation task first. Then read the text and tips and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Write the phrases in the correct group.

Remember to turn off the ...	Don't go near the ...
Watch out for the ...	Careful of the ... !
Don't forget to start the ...	Make sure you close the ...

Things to remember	Warnings (Be careful of this)

Reading text: Instructions for a colleague

Checklist for opening the shop

Start at 8 a.m.

1. Firstly, when you enter the shop, remember to turn off the alarm.
 - Do this by holding your key card to the alarm panel. It's behind the door near the light switches.
2. Open all the blinds and turn on the lights.
3. Please don't forget to start the coffee machine so your colleagues have fresh coffee for when they arrive.

4. At 8.15 a.m., watch out for the fresh deliveries at the back door. They usually arrive at that time.
 - Pay attention to the order list and what is actually delivered.
 - Remember not to sign for anything that isn't in the delivery as there are often items missing.
5. Check the answer phone and shop email account for any new messages.
6. Leave the heating and the air conditioning alone. They are on an automatic timer. So please, don't go near the control panels.

Finally, you need to finish everything above before 8.45 a.m. and open the shop at 9 a.m. There is a red logbook under the counter. Make sure you sign it for each day when you have completed all points on this checklist. Make a note of any issues.

If you have any problems, call your supervisor or the 24-hour support line number below.

.....

Tips

1. Use imperative verb forms to give orders and instructions:
Turn off the alarm / make sure to sign the logbook.
2. Tell people exactly what you want them to do and when:
You need to do everything above before 8.45 a.m.
3. Tell people where things are – they might not know:
It's near/behind/over/under the ...
4. Give emergency contact information.
5. Have a sheet for people to sign after they have completed the process, e.g. cleaning a machine or balancing the cash register.

Tasks

Task 1

Circle the best answer.

1. The alarm ...
 - a. turns itself off automatically.
 - b. doesn't need to be turned off.
 - c. panel is not far from the light switches.

2. The blinds ...
 - a. are closed at night.
 - b. are open at night.
 - c. are near the lights.

3. The coffee machine ...
 - a. makes coffee instantly in the morning.
 - b. takes time to make coffee in the morning.
 - c. is only for the customers to use.

4. The morning deliveries ...
 - a. come to the front door.
 - b. are always correct.
 - c. are not always correct.

5. Whoever opens the shop ...
 - a. has to sign the logbook.
 - b. has to leave a comment in the logbook.
 - c. has to call the support line when they are finished.

Task 2

Write a number (1–5) to put the sentences in order to make instructions for a procedure.

- _____ Finally, pay attention to the dietary requirements of the team and make sure the catering service know.
- _____ Next, remember to book the room in the meeting room booking tool.
- _____ First, look at the team calendar to find a day and time when most people are available.
- _____ After you've finished booking the room, make sure you tell the catering service that we'll need lunch brought in for everyone.
- _____ When you've identified a good day and time, send out invites to all project team members. Don't forget to include the head of the department, just in case they feel like attending.

Task 3

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

out	Don't	attention
Remember	sure	forget

SHUTTING THE SHOP

1. Make you always answer the phone, even if it rings after the shop has closed.
2. Don't to put returned products in the storeroom.
3. not to count cash in the main shop where customers can see you.
4. turn off any lights until all customers have left the building.
5. Watch for customers who may be in the toilets or car park.
6. Pay to who is in the building before closing.

Discussion

Who do you need to give instructions to? What for?

Answers

Preparation task

Things to remember	Warnings (Be careful of this)
Remember to turn off the ...	Watch out for the ...
Don't forget to start the ...	Don't go near the ...
Make sure you close the ...	Careful of the ... !

Task 1

1. c
2. a
3. b
4. c
5. a

Task 2

1. First, look at the team calendar to find a day and time when most people are available.
2. When you've identified a good day and time, send out invites to all project team members. Don't forget to include the head of the department, just in case they feel like attending.
3. Next, remember to book the room in the meeting room booking tool.
4. After you've finished booking the room, make sure you tell the catering service that we'll need lunch brought in for everyone.
5. Finally, pay attention to the dietary requirements of the team and make sure the catering service know.

Task 3

1. sure
2. forget
3. Remember
4. Don't
5. out
6. attention

Instructions for an assignment

Listen to a university teacher giving instructions for an assignment to practise and improve your listening skills.

Before listening

Do the preparation task first. Then listen to the audio and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with vocabulary (1–8).

Vocabulary

1. a deadline
2. a quote
3. to hand in
4. an essay
5. a subheading
6. an assignment
7. to reference
8. alphabetical order

Definition

- a. a piece of writing
- b. the date you have to finish something
- c. a piece of work for school or university
- d. to give to a teacher
- e. the exact words another person has said
- f. the order A, B, C, D ...
- g. to show who an idea belongs to
- h. the title for a section of a piece of writing

Tasks

Task 1

Circle the best answer.

1. What day should you hand in your essay?
 - a. 18 October
 - b. 19 October
 - c. 28 October

2. It's OK to ...
 - a. give it to the teacher two days late.
 - b. give it to the teacher a week late.
 - c. give it to the teacher early.

3. How do you write the teacher's email address?

- a. j.hartsorn@lmu.ac.uk
- b. j.hartshorn@nmu.ac.uk
- c. j.hartshorn@lmu.ac.uk

4. What goes on the last page of the essay?

- a. The alphabet
- b. The books you used
- c. Quotes and ideas

5. Which font should you write the essay with?

- a. Arial
- b. Comic Sans
- c. Calibri

6. What size font should you use for the essay?

- a. 12
- b. 14
- c. Any size is OK.

Task 2

Match the two parts of the sentences.

First part

- 1. If your essay is late,
- 2. If your computer breaks,
- 3. If the teacher doesn't write back to you,
- 4. If you want to be kind to trees,
- 5. If you use other people's ideas,
- 6. If you want to make your essay easy to read,

Second part

- a. you still have to hand the essay in on time.
- b. don't print your assignment.
- c. you won't pass the assignment.
- d. use font size 12, subheadings and page numbers.
- e. you can email him to check he got your essay.
- f. you have to say where you get them from.

Discussion

What do you find difficult about writing essays?

Transcript

I want to explain a few things about your essay.

First of all, the deadline. The deadline for this essay is October the 18th. Not the 19th, not the 28th, not two days later because your dog was ill or your computer broke – the 18th. If it's late, I won't mark it. I won't even read it – you'll fail the assignment! So, please hand it in on time. You can even hand it in early, if you like!

You can email me the essays at j.hartshorn@lmu.ac.uk. That's H-A-R-T-S-H-O-R-N. I'll reply to say I've got it. If I don't reply within a day, it might mean I didn't get it, so please email me again to make sure. You can also bring a paper copy of the essay to my office, but let's be kind to the trees, OK? Email is better for the trees and for me.

Don't forget that you must reference every idea or quote you use that isn't your own idea. And the last page of your essay should be a list of all the books you used, in alphabetical order, not in the order you used them!

And lastly, make it easy for me to read! That means use a clear font. Arial is best, but Times New Roman is fine too. Not Comic Sans please! Size 12 font for the essay, and size 14 for the titles and subheadings. And use page numbers. Any questions?

Answers

Preparation task

1. b
2. e
3. d
4. a
5. h
6. c
7. g
8. f

Task 1

1. a
2. c
3. c
4. b
5. a
6. a

Task 2

1. c
2. a
3. e
4. b
5. f
6. d



Watch the video on our website!



- Mum:** Hi, Oliver!
- Oliver:** Hi, Mum. Are you having a good time? Where are you now?
- Mum:** Can't you remember? You have to guess then! I'll give you some clues! It's warm and sunny and it's the city's 'fiesta' week. There's so much happening.
- Oliver:** Oh yeah, like what?
- Mum:** Well, when I arrived, there were fire-breathing dragons in the streets.
- Oliver:** Really?
- Mum:** Yeah, totally crazy. Hey, I'll send you a photo.
- Oliver:** Wow, that looks a bit dangerous! Were there any accidents?
- Mum:** No, it seems to be quite normal here! They're used to it. Now there are giants walking down the street.
- Oliver:** Uh-huh? Mum, are you sure you're feeling OK?
- Mum:** Yes, love, look – there's a photo coming!
- Oliver:** Cor! They're huge!
- Mum:** And this morning I saw human castles. You know, where people climb on top of each other and make a tower. Then a little child climbs to the top. I was so nervous, just watching!
- Oliver:** I don't get it! Photo, please!
- Oliver:** Wow! Look at that little girl at the top. Ahh! So, where are you?
- Mum:** Have a guess, Ollie.
- Oliver:** Oh I don't know, Mum ... just tell me. Wherever you are I'm sure it's better than being here. It's raining and it's dark and it's only 6 o'clock.
- Mum:** Sorry, love. I am working though, you know! It's not all fun and games.
- Oliver:** Yeah, right. So where are you?
- Mum:** Barcelona!
- Oliver:** Oh, Mum ... Barcelona? You said I could come with you next time!
- Mum:** Oh, I know, next time for sure. I promise.
- Oliver:** Yeah, OK, Mum.
- Mum:** Tell Daisy I'll call her later. Is there anything much going on at the moment?
- Oliver:** No, you know, Mum, there's nothing new here! Just the same old London as always. Hey, Mum, I've got to go. See you Friday!
- Mum:** All right, love. Take care now.



Remember to watch the video first! Then read the conversation between Sophie and Maria, a student she met on her trip to Spain. Sophie's an expert on English grammar and Maria needs some help with her homework.



**Grammar
Snacks**

We often use *there + to be* and *It...* as a subject but they do not refer to any object. *There is / are* is used to introduce a topic, or say that something exists. *It...* is often used for the weather, time and distance.



Maria

Can I have some examples of *there is / there are*, please?

There's so much happening.
Is there anything much going on at the moment?
There are two new students in our class.
There aren't any good football matches on TV this week.



Sophie



What about other tenses? Is *there is / there are* only used in the present?

No, you can change the tense.

There were fire-breathing dragons in the streets.
Were there any accidents?
*I think ***there'll be*** loads of people at the festival.*
There haven't been many entries for the competition.



I'm a bit confused about when to use *there is / there are* and when to use *it* or *they*.

Have a look at these sentences. The topic is introduced with *there is / are*, then *it* and *they* refer back to something already mentioned.

There's a good film on channel 2. ***It*** starts at 10 o'clock. (It = the film)
There are two new students in our class. ***They're*** from Brazil. (They = the students)



So you can't use *it* or *they* as subjects in the first sentences?



OK, but you can start some sentences with *it*, can't you? Like, '*It's* very hot today.'

No, you can't.



Yes. We use *it* for talking about the weather, time, distance and days and dates.

It's warm and sunny

What time ***is it***? > ***It's*** only 6 o'clock

How far ***is it*** to the shopping centre? > ***It's*** three km to my house from here. ***It's*** a long way to walk.

It's Saturday tomorrow, great!

What's the date? ***It's*** November 18th.



Phew! That's quite a lot of uses!

Yes, and there's more. We also use *it* + *to be* + *adjective* + *infinitive clauses*. In these sentences *it* refers forwards to the infinitive clause.

It's nice to meet you.

It's hard to hear anything with this noise.

Was ***it easy to understand*** him?

It'll be difficult to find the venue without a map.



OK, that's enough for one grammar snack. *It's* time to go.

That's a good *it* expression!



It's very good of you to say so!

Yes, *it* really is time to stop now! Bye.



Watch the video on our website!





Watch the video on our website and read the conversation between Sophie and Maria. Then do these exercises to check your understanding of the *There is / There are* and *It*.



1. Check your grammar: correct or incorrect

Are these sentences *correct* or *incorrect*?

- | | | | |
|----|---|---------|-----------|
| 1. | There's difficult to say. | Correct | Incorrect |
| 2. | There's really raining hard now. | Correct | Incorrect |
| 3. | It's six o'clock and there's dark already. | Correct | Incorrect |
| 4. | Sophie says it's time to go. | Correct | Incorrect |
| 5. | Don't look now, but it's a dragon behind you. | Correct | Incorrect |
| 6. | It's not all fun and games. | Correct | Incorrect |
| 7. | It's a good film on this evening. | Correct | Incorrect |
| 8. | They said there will be snow later. | Correct | Incorrect |

2. Check your grammar: multiple choice

Circle the best answer for these questions.

- | | | |
|----|--|-------------------|
| 1. | _____ a new girl in my class. | There's
It's |
| 2. | How far _____ to your house? | is there
is it |
| 3. | _____ anything happening? | Is there
Is it |
| 4. | _____ nice to meet you. | There's
It's |
| 5. | _____ a party at Alfie's tomorrow. | There's
It's |
| 6. | _____ time for a quick snack before we go? | Is there
Is it |

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 7. _____ Sunday tomorrow? | Is there
Is it |
| <hr/> | |
| 8. _____ always a lot going on in Barcelona. | There's
It's |

3. Check your grammar: ordering

Put the words in the correct order to make sentences.

1. it Today 's birthday ! my

2. where ? you are Is it sunny

3. . people of here lots are There

4. in the there giants Were ? street

5. It being was than better at home .

6. not are the holidays until left There days many .

Answers to There is / There are and It – exercises**1. Check your grammar: correct or incorrect**

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Incorrect | 5. Incorrect |
| 2. Incorrect | 6. Correct |
| 3. Incorrect | 7. Incorrect |
| 4. Correct | 8. Correct |

2. Check your grammar: multiple choice

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1. There's | 5. There's |
| 2. is it | 6. Is there |
| 3. Is there | 7. Is it |
| 4. It's | 8. There's |

3. Check your grammar: ordering

1. It's my birthday today!
2. Is it sunny where you are?
3. There are lots of people here.
4. Were there giants in the street?
5. It was better than being at home.
6. There are not many days left until the holidays.

Edinburgh, the capital city of Scotland, is famous for its summer festivals.

Edinburgh is the world's festival city. There are twelve festivals throughout the year, half of which are celebrated during the months of July and August. Hundreds of thousands of people visit the Scottish capital during the summer. Here are some of the events they can enjoy.

The Edinburgh International Festival

This is the original Edinburgh festival which began in 1947. Actors, musicians, dancers and opera singers from all over the world perform to huge audiences. You need tickets for most events which take place in theatres around the city.

The Edinburgh Art Festival

This festival is modern and has been celebrated for around ten years. It is a fantastic opportunity to see some of the city's best visual art in art galleries and museums. Most events are free and include events such as fashion shows and art exhibitions.

The Edinburgh Festival Fringe

This is the largest arts festival in the world with thousands of shows which take place across the city. Anyone can perform in the festival and over 20,000 artists take part, so there is always a huge variety of acts to choose from. Go to the Royal Mile, one of Edinburgh's main streets, to watch performers such as magicians, acrobats and comedians for free. However, it can get very busy as thousands of tourists and local people fill the city streets to enjoy the shows.

The Edinburgh International Book Festival

The largest book festival in the world began in 1983 and takes place every year in Charlotte Square Gardens in the centre of Edinburgh. There are over 700 events for children and adults who love books. You can meet many authors, talk to them, ask them to sign a book or listen to them talk about their stories. Children can listen to stories and watch illustrators draw pictures of the stories.

The Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival

Music lovers come to this festival to enjoy music shows around the city. One of the highlights of this musical festival is the street carnival which is free to all. Artists perform street theatre, dance and circus shows in amazing costumes and everyone can enjoy the music and join in the dancing.

The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

This show is 65 years old and takes place every evening during the festival outside Edinburgh Castle. You can listen to pipers and drummers in military bands, watch traditional Scottish dancing and enjoy a firework display in the Edinburgh night sky. More than 200,000 people buy tickets to watch the show live and around 100 million people watch it on TV all over the world.

Read UK: Edinburgh summer festivals – exercises

Do the preparation task first. Then read the article about Edinburgh Summer Festivals and do the exercises.

Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–f next to the numbers 1–6.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1..... jazz and blues | a. a special day or days with fun things to see and do |
| 2..... to take place | b. to sing, dance, act or do something else with people watching you |
| 3..... a tattoo | c. (for an event) to happen; to be organised |
| 4..... to perform | d. related to soldiers and the army |
| 5..... a festival | e. two styles of music |
| 6..... military | f. a show by soldiers with music and marching |

1. Check your understanding: matching

Which festival would these people like to go to? Match the festivals to the speakers and write a–f next to the numbers 1–6.

- | | | |
|--------|--|--------------------|
| 1..... | I like looking at pictures at exhibitions and I'm interested in clothes. | a. Book |
| 2..... | I like reading graphic novels and listening to stories. | b. Art |
| 3..... | I love comedy, but I don't want to buy a ticket for a show. | c. Military Tattoo |
| 4..... | I love watching plays and listening to opera music. | d. Jazz and Blues |
| 5..... | I want to watch a show with traditional Scottish music and dancing. | e. Fringe |
| 6..... | I want to watch some theatre in the street and dance. | f. International |

2. Check your vocabulary: gap fill

Fill the gaps with the correct verb phrase from the box.

take part	buy	includes	join in	visit	take place	listen to
-----------	-----	----------	---------	-------	------------	-----------

- You can _____ six festivals during the summer in Edinburgh.
- Most events at the International Festival _____ in theatres.
- The Edinburgh Art Festival _____ fashion shows and art exhibitions.
- Thousands of performers _____ in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.
- You can _____ stories at the Book Festival.
- At the Jazz and Blues Festival you can _____ the carnival celebrations.
- You need to _____ a ticket to go to the Military Tattoo Festival at the castle.

3. Check your vocabulary: spelling

Complete the people nouns with the correct ending: *-er*, *-or*, *-ian* or *-ist*.

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. act____ | 7. magic____ |
| 2. art____ | 8. music____ |
| 3. auth____ | 9. perform____ |
| 4. comed____ | 10. sing____ |
| 5. danc____ | 11. tour____ |
| 6. illustrat____ | |

Discussion

Which of Edinburgh's summer festivals would you most like to see?

Vocabulary Box

Write any new words you have learnt in this lesson.

Answers for **Edinburgh Summer Festivals – exercises****Preparation**

- | | |
|------|------|
| 1. e | 4. b |
| 2. c | 5. a |
| 3. f | 6. d |

1. Check your understanding: matching

- | | |
|------|------|
| 1. b | 4. f |
| 2. a | 5. c |
| 3. e | 6. d |

2. Check your vocabulary: gap fill

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. visit | 5. listen to |
| 2. take place | 6. join in |
| 3. includes | 7. buy |
| 4. take part | |

3. Check your vocabulary: spelling

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. actor | 7. magician |
| 2. artist | 8. musician |
| 3. author | 9. performer |
| 4. comedian | 10. singer |
| 5. dancer | 11. tourist |
| 6. illustrator | |

