



Grammar starter test

Use this test to find out how much you know, and where to focus your practice.

1 Units 1 to 9

A Choose the best answer.

- 1 What *will you do/are you doing* this evening? Do you want to come to the cinema?
- 2 Where were you going when *I saw/I was seeing* you yesterday?
- 3 Since the end of June, *I am/I have been* in France.
- 4 When I got home, I realized *I left/I had left* my books at school.
- 5 By the time we get to the theatre, the play *will have started/has started*.
- 6 What do you think of the party? *Are you having/Do you have* a good time?
- 7 This is the best ice cream *I had ever tasted/I have ever tasted*.
- 8 How much *is a ticket to London costing?/does a ticket to London cost?*

B Put the words in brackets in a suitable tense.

- 1 What time (the shops close) *do the shops close* on Thursday?
- 2 How long (you study) English?
- 3 I can't play tennis at the moment. I (break) a bone in my foot.
- 4 You'd better take a pullover in case you (feel) cold.
- 5 Sorry I'm late. (you wait) for long?
- 6 Where (Sam go) for his holidays last year?
- 7 The Egyptians (build) the pyramids over 4,500 years ago.
- 8 This time next week we (sit) on the plane to New York.

2 Units 10 to 18

A Put one word in each space.

- 1 Pat me to wait outside until he came back.
- 2 I wish I swim.
- 3 If I some money in the street, I'd keep it.
- 4 If I you, I'd take an umbrella.
- 5 Jan to be home by midnight.
- 6 Peter has his car stolen.
- 7 If you harder, you would get better marks.
- 8 More oil has found in Scotland.

INTERMEDIATE LANGUAGE PRACTICE

B Choose the best answer.

- 1 Will you *be able/have* to help me with the cooking?
- 2 I don't think you *must/should* eat any more.
- 3 I *might have left/might leave* my wallet in the shop, I suppose.
- 4 That *mustn't/can't be* Ann. She's in Canada.
- 5 We *must have brought/should have brought* our raincoats. We're going to get wet.
- 6 The children *haven't/don't have* to go to school tomorrow.
- 7 We *needn't have bought/must not have bought* so much food. There is plenty for everyone.
- 8 I'll wait here. Mary *should/can* be back soon.

3 Units 19 to 28

A Choose the best answer.

- 1 We haven't got *bread enough/enough bread*.
- 2 *What/Which* I really want is something to eat!
- 3 Let's *going/go* to the cinema tonight.
- 4 Harry continued playing football *despite/in spite* injuring his leg.
- 5 Which bus *does leave/leaves* from here?
- 6 Jane was *very tired/too tired* to do any more work.
- 7 The woman *who/who she* helped me spoke very good English.
- 8 Would you *mind/like* carrying this for me?

B Put one word in each space.

- 1 It wassuch.....a..... beautiful day that I went for a walk.
- 2 I'm in the wrong seat, ?
- 3 Tina was too ill to go to school so she stayed
- 4 Would a soft drink, or some water?
- 5 We waited for the bus for ages and we decided to walk.
- 6 to be something wrong with the camera.
- 7 Jeff bought a ladder he could pick all the apples.
- 8 it was raining, we went swimming.

4 Units 29 to 37

A Choose the best answer.

- 1 Wear a heavy coat today. It's *very freezing/really freezing*.
- 2 *The French/French* drink a lot of wine.
- 3 *There is/It is* someone waiting for you outside.

- 4 Tom has lived here *since four years/for four years*.
- 5 I hope to be back here *until four o'clock/by four o'clock*.
- 6 This film is *better as/better than* the last one we saw.
- 7 Mark has *long hair/long hairs*.
- 8 Helen was *grown up/brought up* by her aunt and uncle.

B Put one word in each space.

- 1 Alan *takes* *after* his father. They are very similar.
- 2 The room was empty. So far, the guests had arrived.
- 3 We drove to the beach we had hired.
- 4 Maria is student in the class. She is 1m 80cms.
- 5 The 14.00 bus to Leeds left exactly at 14.00.
- 6 My teacher gave me useful advice.
- 7 I'm really forward to my trip to Brazil.
- 8 The news on TV at nine o'clock.

5 Units 38 to 46

A Put one word in each space.

- 1 ... *Everything* ... has gone wrong today! I can't believe it!
- 2 Do you waiting outside for a moment?
- 3 Sue will be in the team tomorrow of Anna.
- 4 I wish the other students in the class stop talking!
- 5 I don't understand what you are talking Can you explain?
- 6 This is Jim. He's a friend of
- 7 I must for being so late. I'm so sorry.
- 8 Does this bike to you?

B Make one correction in each sentence.

- 1 Someone phoned and I told ~~it~~ that you were out. *them*
- 2 Don't forget being here by nine o'clock.
- 3 Helen was cut herself with a knife while she was cooking.
- 4 Who's books are these? Are they yours?
- 5 I offered carry her bags but she refused to let me.
- 6 On the way home, I stopped buying some milk at the supermarket.
- 7 Could you explain me something please?
- 8 I took and my raincoat and my umbrella with me.

1

GRAMMAR

Introduction

Understanding grammar words

1 Match the examples (1–14) with the grammar words (a–n).

- 1 *a/an, the*^l.....
- 2 *at, to, for*
- 3 *do, have*
- 4 *can, must*
- 5 *If you do that, I'll*
- 6 *she, someone, myself*
- 7 *all, some, both, either*
- 8 *past simple, present perfect*
- 9 *What's your name? Where do you live?*
- 10 *happy, important, good*
- 11 *slowly, carefully, well*
- 12 *get up in the morning, look up a word*
- 13 *The letter that arrived this morning is for you.*
- 14 *It is made of wood. The book was written in 2001.*

- | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|---|----------------------|---|-----------------|
| a | verb tenses | f | adjectives | k | phrasal verbs |
| b | auxiliary verbs | g | adverbs | l | articles |
| c | modal auxiliaries | h | conditional sentence | m | determiners |
| d | prepositions | i | passive voice | n | relative clause |
| e | questions | j | pronouns | | |

2 Match the tenses in *italics* (1–8) with their names (a–h).

- 1 Helen *is leaving* first thing in the morning.^b.....
- 2 I've *been studying* English for two years.
- 3 If I *had* a helicopter, I'd get to school more easily!
- 4 I *get up* at 7.30 every day.
- 5 Next year I'll *be taking* my final exams at university.
- 6 By the time we got to the station, the train *had left*.
- 7 I've *lived* in Athens all my life.
- 8 While I *was walking* along the street a dog ran in front of a car.

- | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---|-------------------|
| a | present simple | e | past simple |
| b | present continuous | f | past continuous |
| c | present perfect | g | past perfect |
| d | present perfect continuous | h | future continuous |

Thinking about language in context

3 For each situation (1–4) underline the best expression. The other alternatives may be wrong in grammar, or too informal/impolite, or too formal/polite for the situation.

- 1 It's your birthday on Saturday. Invite a friend to your party.
 - a) I'll have a party on Saturday. You will come.
 - b) I'm having a party on Saturday. Do you want to come?
 - c) I have a party on Saturday. Are you coming?
- 2 You are on the bus. Ask a stranger to open the window.
 - a) Could you open the window, please?
 - b) Open the window.
 - c) Excuse me, but do you think you could possibly open the window?
- 3 You arrive late for class and apologize to your teacher.
 - a) I'm late, I apologize.
 - b) Sorry I'm late.
 - c) Please accept my most sincere apologies.
- 4 You are a witness to a minor accident. Explain what you saw to a policeman.
 - a) This car comes down the road and hits a tree, bang!
 - b) A car had come down the road and had hit a tree.
 - c) A car came down the road and hit a tree.

Other ways of learning

4 Which ways of learning English do you use? What could you start doing now?

- 1 Reading for pleasure.
- 2 Translating.
- 3 Making lists of words, or problem points, in a notebook.
- 4 Using a dictionary.
- 5 Listening to songs.
- 6 Keeping a diary.
- 7 Reviewing your written work.
- 8 Looking at English-language Internet sites.
- 9 Watching television, watching films or listening to the radio.
- 10 Using a self-study grammar/vocabulary book.

Which English?

English is a world language, and the English spoken in the USA or Australia differs from the English spoken in Britain. There are also differences between speakers from Scotland, Ireland and England, and between different parts of the same country. This book uses what is generally called Standard British English. References are also made to some differences in American English.

2

GRAMMAR

Present time 1

Present simple: form

- Form the present simple with the infinitive form of the verb (without *to*). Add *s* in the third person singular *he/she/it*.

I like You like He/She/It likes We like They like

Some verbs are irregular: *have, be*.

I have You have He/She has We have They have

I am You are He/She is We are They are

- **Spelling changes**

Verbs ending in *o, s, ch, sh, x* add *-es* for the third person singular.

He goes She misses She watches He wishes He relaxes

- **Questions**

Form *yes/no* questions with *do* + the infinitive (without *to*). Use *does* for *he/she/it*.

Do you like Italian food? Does she like Italian food?

Use *do/does* to form questions with *when, what, why, where, how* and, in certain situations, *who*.

What do you want? Where does she live?

- **Negatives**

Form negatives with *do not* + the infinitive (without *to*). Use *does not* for *he/she/it*.

I do not like that. She does not like that.

- **Short forms (contractions)**

In speech and informal writing, *do not* becomes *don't*, and *does not* becomes *doesn't*.

I don't like that. She doesn't like that.

Present simple: meaning

- The present simple can describe:

1 Habitual actions.

*I usually **get up** at 7.30.*

2 Actions and situations that are generally or usually true.

*Liz **plays** in the school basketball team.*

*We **like** ice cream.*

3 Facts which are always true.

*The sun **rises** in the east.*

- The present simple also has some future meanings (see Grammar 9).

Present simple: pronunciation

Verbs which end in /z/, /dʒ/, /s/, /ʃ/, /tʃ/ and /ks/ have an extra syllable in the third person, pronounced /ɪz/.

watches misses relaxes

After /f/, /k/, /p/, /t/, third person sound is /s/: *hits /hɪts/*

Other third person /s/ endings are pronounced as /z/: *sees /si:z/*

Present continuous: form

- Form the present continuous with the auxiliary *be* and the *-ing* form of the main verb.

I am relaxing. You are relaxing. He/She is relaxing.

We are relaxing. They are relaxing.

- Spelling changes

Verbs ending *-e* drop the *-e* when they add *-ing*.

like liking decide deciding write writing

Verbs with one syllable, ending in one vowel and one consonant, double the consonant when they add *-ing*.

sit sitting swim swimming dig digging

Verbs ending *-ie* change *-ie* to *-y*.

lie lying tie tying die dying

- Short forms (contractions)

In speech and informal writing, there are short forms:

I'm writing. You're writing. He's/She's writing.

We're writing. They're writing.

- Questions

Form *yes/no* questions by putting the auxiliary *be* before the subject.

Am I writing? Are you writing? Is he/she writing?

Are we writing? Are they writing?

Wh- questions follow the same pattern.

What are you writing? Why are we writing?

- Negatives

Form negatives with the verb *be* + *not*.

I am not writing. He is not writing. They are not writing.

In speech and informal writing, there are short forms:

I'm not writing. He's not writing. They're not writing.

He isn't writing. They aren't writing.

Present continuous: meaning

- Use the present continuous to describe:

1 Actions in progress at the present moment.

Sorry, I can't speak to you, I'm washing my hair.

2 Actions happening 'around now', but not at the moment of speaking.

I'm reading The Lord of the Rings.

- The present continuous also has future meanings (see Grammar 8).

INTERMEDIATE LANGUAGE PRACTICE

1 Underline the correct phrase in each sentence.

- 1 What time *go you*/do you go to bed on Saturdays?
- 2 Why *are you waiting*/do you waiting outside the door?
- 3 Don't ask Tim. He *doesn't know*/not knows the answer.
- 4 *I having*/I'm having my lunch at the moment.
- 5 When *you leave*/do you leave the house in the morning?
- 6 I don't understand. What *is happening*/is happen?
- 7 Excuse me, *does you know*/do you know the time?
- 8 This is a great party. *I'm having*/Am I having a lovely time.

2 Read the answers and then complete the questions.

- 1 Where does Sue live ?
Sue? She lives at the end of Axwell Road.
- 2 Do ?
Jim? No, I don't know him.
- 3 What ?
At the moment? I'm doing my homework.
- 4 Are ?
Here? No, I'm sitting over there.
- 5 Do ?
Here? No, we change trains at the next station.
- 6 Why ?
I'm wearing two pullovers because I feel cold!

3 Rewrite each sentence so that the verb in *italics* is a negative contraction.

- 1 Naomi and Bill *are watching* television.
.....
Naomi and Bill aren't watching television.
- 2 Peter *likes* chocolate cake.
.....
- 3 *I'm using* this pencil at the moment.
.....
- 4 The children *are having* lunch in the kitchen.
.....
- 5 I *get up* early on Saturday.
.....
- 6 Elena *is writing* a novel.
.....

4 Complete each sentence with a present simple or present continuous form of the words in bold.

- 1 ... *Do you like* cheese sandwiches?
you like
- 2 What time?
the sun rise
- 3 What at the moment?
you read
- 4 I'll talk to you later. a bath.
I have
- 5 We at school.
not use computers
- 6 Look out of the window!
it snow
- 7 This is an examination! Why ?
you talk
- 8 Ann to school by bus every day.
go
- 9 a uniform at your school?
you wear
- 10 Pat has got an interesting hobby. a boat.
she build

5 Choose the correct spelling from each pair of words.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 <u>writing</u> /writting | 9 using/useing |
| 2 diging/digging | 10 waiting/waitting |
| 3 takeing/taking | 11 washeing/washing |
| 4 deciding/decideing | 12 riding/rideing |
| 5 swiming/swimming | 13 flyeing/flying |
| 6 having/haveing | 14 studing/studying |
| 7 lying/lieing | 15 going/goeing |
| 8 readding/reading | |

→ SEE ALSO

Grammar 3: Present time 2

Grammar 8: Future 1

Grammar 9: Future 2

3

GRAMMAR

Present time 2

Present simple: frequency adverbs

- Frequency adverbs explain how often something happens. The frequency adverb usually comes between subject and verb.

<i>always</i>	✓✓✓✓✓	<i>I always get up at 7.00.</i>
<i>usually</i>	✓✓✓✓	<i>It usually rains when I go on holiday!</i>
<i>often</i>	✓✓✓	<i>Pat often goes to football matches.</i>
<i>sometimes</i>	✓✓	<i>We sometimes eat pizza for lunch.</i>
<i>rarely</i>	✓	<i>Jane rarely listens to jazz.</i>
<i>never</i>	–	<i>My bus never arrives on time.</i>

- With the verb *be* the adverb comes after the verb.
*Jim is **usually** late.*
- Other frequency adverbs are: *frequently* (✓✓✓✓✓), *normally* (✓✓✓✓), *occasionally* (✓✓), *seldom* (✓), *hardly ever* (✓).
- Present continuous with *always*

We can use *always* with the present continuous when we are exaggerating or complaining. We emphasize *always* in speech in this case.

*You're **always** forgetting your keys!*

State verbs and action verbs

A state is when something stays the same. An action is when something happens. State verbs are not usually used in any continuous form.

*I **know** what you mean. (NOT ~~I am knowing what you're meaning.~~)*

Examples of state verbs are:

- senses: *appear, hear, look like, see, taste*
- feeling: *like, hate, love, prefer, want, wish*
- thinking: *agree, believe, forget, know, think, understand*
- possession: *belong to, contain, have, own*
- being: *be, exist*
- other: *cost, depend on, mean, need*

Some of the verbs in the previous list can have a 'state' meaning and an 'action' meaning. Examples include *be, have, taste, think*.

*I **have** two sisters. (permanent state)*

*I'm **having** problems with this computer. (temporary action)*

Some state verbs can describe a temporary feeling.

How is your new school? I'm really loving it at the moment!

- *feel*

There is almost no difference of meaning between the simple and continuous with *feel*.

I feel awful! I'm feeling awful!

How do you feel now? How are you feeling now?

Present simple or continuous?

Compare:

Present simple

permanent

habits and routines

facts that are always true

general situations

I live in Budapest.

I'm living in Budapest.

This plane lands in Frankfurt.

We're landing.

Present continuous

temporary

in progress now

events happening at the moment

a particular situation

(all the time)

(for a few months)

(routine)

(in progress now)

Present simple in narrative

In speech we can use the present simple to make a story or joke with past events appear more immediate and interesting.

A man walks into a bar and asks for a glass of water. The barman says ...

We also use the present simple in written summaries such as plots of television series.

The story so far: Michael meets Susan in the library and tells her about the missing earrings ...

Present continuous: future meanings

The present continuous can be used with a future meaning to describe:

- 1 A fixed future arrangement. There is usually a future time expression.

Paul is leaving early tomorrow morning.

My parents are buying me a mountain bike for my birthday.

- 2 A social arrangement.

Are you doing anything on Saturday? We're going skating.

INTERMEDIATE LANGUAGE PRACTICE

1 Underline the correct sentence for each situation.

- 1 You want to invite a friend to your party on Friday. You say:
 - a) I have a party on Friday. Do you want to come?
 - b) I'm having a party on Friday. Do you want to come?
- 2 You find a wallet on your desk and ask the people nearby:
 - a) Who does this wallet belong to?
 - b) Who is this wallet belonging to?
- 3 A friend invites you to a snack bar at lunch time. You say:
 - a) Thanks, but I always go home.
 - b) Thanks, but I'm always going home.
- 4 A friend opens the door and says: What are you doing? You reply:
 - a) I work as a secretary.
 - b) I'm repairing the computer.
- 5 You haven't decided yet about buying a new bike. You say:
 - a) I think about it.
 - b) I'm thinking about it.
- 6 A friend asks: Do you like lemon tea? You reply:
 - a) I prefer tea with milk.
 - b) I'm preferring tea with milk.
- 7 A friend asks you if you have finished the book she lent you. You say:
 - a) Sorry, I still read it.
 - b) Sorry, I'm still reading it.
- 8 It's a hot day, but a friend has a heavy coat on. You ask:
 - a) Why do you wear a heavy coat?
 - b) Why are you wearing a heavy coat?

2 Underline the correct word or phrase in each sentence.

- 1 That can't be right! I don't believe/I'm not believing it!
- 2 Caroline can't swim today. She has/is having a cold.
- 3 See you in the morning. I leave/I'm leaving now.
- 4 What do you do/are you doing? If you drop it, it will explode!
- 5 Stop doing that, Bill! You're/You're being very silly.
- 6 I drive/I'm driving! You can sit in the back with Martin.
- 7 What do we eat/are we eating this evening? I'm really hungry!
- 8 You're a great cook! This cake tastes/is tasting wonderful.
- 9 Where do you go/are you going? I haven't finished speaking to you!
- 10 Chemistry is hard. I don't understand/I'm not understanding it.

3 Put each verb in brackets into the present simple or present continuous.

- 1 Ugh, take it away! I (hate) *hate* mice!
- 2 Who (you, go) to the match on Saturday with?
- 3 In the winter, what (you, wear) ?
- 4 I can't stand horror films. I (think) they're silly!
- 5 Diana (not, usually, sit) next to Ellen.
- 6 Why (you, look at) me like that?
- 7 Excuse me. (this bus, stop) outside the station?
- 8 I (not take) the bus to school today.

4 Match each sentence (1–8) with a suitable response (a–h).

- 1 What do you usually do on your birthday? *a*....
 - 2 Would you like to meet again on Saturday?
 - 3 What do you usually do at the weekend?
 - 4 Have you finished your homework?
 - 5 What are you doing?
 - 6 What are you doing on Friday?
 - 7 Are you in the school basketball team?
 - 8 What do you do?
- a I have a party.
 - b I go out cycling with my friends.
 - c I work in a travel agency.
 - d Yes, we play every Friday.
 - e I'm still doing it.
 - f It's hot in here. I'm opening some windows.
 - g I'm going back to Canada tomorrow.
 - h I'm having a party.

5 Put each verb in brackets into the present simple or present continuous.

- 1 What (usually, you, do) *do you usually do* after school?
- 2 Don't worry about the cat. It (only, eat) once a day.
- 3 I can't work out the answer. (you, know) what it is?
- 4 What's the matter? Why (you, stare) at me like that?
- 5 (you, speak) English? I'm looking for a hotel.
- 6 Elena (stay) with me while her house is being decorated.
- 7 You should go on a diet. (you, put) on weight.
- 8 (they, speak) French or German? I can't tell the difference.