

ENGLISH

as a Foreign Language

NIVEL A2 · PLATAFORMA / WAYSTAGE

Marco Común Europeo de Referencia para las Lenguas (MCER)

Recursos de preparación para el examen de inglés como lengua extranjera, Nivel A2

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Introduction

This text is part of a series of six English-as-a-Foreign-Language teaching materials, developed by UIIX (Universidad de Investigación e Innovación de México) for levels A1, A2, B1, B2, C1 and C2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). This volume corresponds to level A2 (Waystage / Elementary) and serves as a preparation resource for UIIX's English-as-a-Foreign-Language competency exam, available in the virtual classrooms of its online courses.

The text is designed for adult students who have completed level A1 or have equivalent basic knowledge of English. Each of the ten units combines a contextualized reading, practice with high-frequency vocabulary, an English Usage section with practical communication expressions and its own practice exercise, an explanation of grammar structures with examples and figures, and a multiple-choice practice quiz in the style of international exams, designed to prepare students for UIIX's competency exams.

This book was developed with structural reference to well-established English-as-a-Foreign-Language publishers as well as the official Council of Europe descriptors ("can-do statements") for level A2. The vocabulary in each unit (40 words and expressions) was selected from validated linguistic frequency lists (Oxford 3000, New General Service List and Brown Corpus), filtered by thematic relevance and level appropriateness; word meanings are provided, in Spanish, in the Dictionary at the end of the book.

CEFR Structure for Level A2

The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) describes level A2 as "Waystage", the second level of the communicative-competence scale. Below are the official Council of Europe descriptors that this book aims to develop, organized by skill, quoted verbatim from the CEFR Self-Assessment Grid, Table 3 (qualitative aspects of spoken language use) and the CEFR Companion Volume illustrative scales.

Listening

"I can understand phrases and the highest frequency vocabulary related to areas of most immediate personal relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local area, employment). I can catch the main point in short, clear, simple messages and announcements."

Reading

"I can read very short, simple texts. I can find specific, predictable information in simple everyday material such as advertisements, prospectuses, menus and timetables and I can understand short simple personal letters."

Vocabulary

"Has sufficient vocabulary to conduct routine everyday transactions involving familiar situations and topics." (Vocabulary range, CEFR Companion Volume)

Speaking

"I can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar topics and activities... I can use a series of phrases and sentences to describe in simple terms my family and other people, living conditions, my educational background and my present or most recent job."

Range: "Uses basic sentence patterns with memorised phrases, groups of a few words and formulae in order to communicate limited information in simple everyday situations."

Accuracy: "Uses some simple structures correctly, but still systematically makes basic mistakes."

Fluency: "Can make him/herself understood in very short utterances, even though pauses, false starts and reformulation are very evident."

Coherence: "Can link groups of words with simple connectors like 'and', 'but' and 'because'."

Writing

"I can write short, simple notes and messages relating to matters in areas of immediate needs. I can write a very simple personal letter, for example thanking someone for something."

Grammar

"Uses some simple structures correctly, but still systematically makes basic mistakes; nevertheless, it is usually clear what they are trying to say." (Grammatical accuracy, CEFR Companion Volume)

Course Overview – Ten Units

Each unit develops, in an integrated way, vocabulary, practical language use (English Usage), reading comprehension and grammar.

#	Topic	Vocabulary	English Usage	Reading	Grammar
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1	My Story	Life stories and career vocabulary	Phrases for narrating personal life events	A Life of Many Chapters	Past Simple with regular and irregular verbs
2	What Happened?	Storm and city emergency vocabulary	Reacting to news and interrupting a story	The Storm That Stopped the City	Past continuous interrupted by past simple
3	Better Than Before	City and country life vocabulary	Expressing opinions and preferences	The City or the Country? Comparing Two Lifestyles	Comparative and superlative adjectives
4	Have You Ever...?	Travel and life experience vocabulary	Asking about and reacting to experiences	Confessions of a Restless Traveler	Present perfect with ever and never
5	Achievements	Achievements, goals, and career vocabulary	Phrases for congratulating and discussing progress	Turning an Idea Into Impact: The Story of Amara Osei	Present Perfect with just/already/yet vs Past Simple
6	Future Plans	Vocabulary for future plans and life decisions	Functional phrases for discussing intentions and plans	Turning Point: One Woman's Plan for the Next Chapter	Future forms: going to, will, Present Continuous
7	Rules and Advice	Rules, obligations, and safety vocabulary	Giving advice and warning politely	Know the Rules: A Practical Guide for Work, Travel, and Health	Must, have to, and should
8	If This Happens...	Weather emergencies and safety preparation vocabulary	Making contingency plans and asking about conditions	Ready for Anything: How People Prepare for Extreme Weather	First conditional for real future possibilities
9	Technology and Everyday Life	Devices, internet, and daily technology habits	Giving opinions about technology's pros and cons	How Technology Quietly Runs Your Day	Adverbs of manner and linking words
10	People and Places	Hometown, community, and rebuilding vocabulary	Phrases for describing people and places	The Woman Who Rebuilt Her Hometown	Relative clauses with who, which, that, where

UNIT 1

My Story

Objective (CEFR A2): to understand and use expressions related to describing life stories, career milestones, and past events, and to communicate in simple, routine tasks that require a direct exchange of information on familiar matters.

Reading: A Life of Many Chapters

Every person has a story, and every story has many chapters. This is the story of Maria Torres, an ordinary woman who lived an extraordinary life.

Maria was born in 1958 in a small town in the north of Spain. Her hometown was quiet, with narrow streets and old stone houses. She grew up in a large family with four brothers and sisters. Her childhood was simple but happy. She remembered long summers with her cousins and traditional festivals in the town square. Her family's background was humble: her parents worked on a small farm, and money was often tight. Every evening, her father told stories about his own childhood, and Maria loved listening to them. In many ways, those quiet evenings shaped the adult she later became.

When Maria was eighteen, she made an important decision. She decided to leave her hometown and study at university in Madrid. This was a big change for a young woman from a small town in the 1970s. She worked hard and graduated four years later with a degree in engineering. It was not easy — she was often the only woman in her classes — but she achieved her goal.

After university, Maria began her career at a construction company. She loved her job, but she also had a dream: she wanted to travel and see the world. In 1985, she got an opportunity to work on a project in Brazil. She didn't hesitate. She packed her bags and moved to São Paulo.

Her journey abroad changed her life. She learned Portuguese, made new friends, and discovered a completely different culture. It wasn't always easy. She faced many challenges: a new language, a new country, and long hours at work. She also made mistakes — once she signed an important contract without reading it carefully, and the error cost her company a lot of money. However, this experience taught her a valuable lesson: always check the details before you sign.

In Brazil, Maria met Carlos, an architect from Rio de Janeiro. They fell in love quickly, and two years later, they married in a small ceremony by the beach. It was one of the happiest milestones of her life, and her parents traveled from Spain to celebrate the event with her. They had two children, and for a decade, the family lived happily between Brazil and Spain, moving between two homes, two languages, and two very different ways of life.

Unfortunately, not every chapter of Maria's story had a happy ending. After fifteen years of marriage, Maria and Carlos divorced. It was a difficult and painful event, but Maria didn't give up. She focused on her children and her career, and slowly, she rebuilt her life. She often said that failure and success were both part of the same journey, and that every difficult experience brought personal growth.

Maria's children grew up between two cultures and two languages. She never forgot where she came from, so she taught them old family recipes and songs from her own childhood. She wanted them to remember and respect both their traditions, Spanish and Brazilian. Her son and daughter became part of a new generation that felt at home in more than one country.

Maria worked for almost forty years before she retired in 2018. On her last day at the company, her colleagues organized a party to celebrate her long career. She looked back at her life and felt proud. She had traveled to more than twenty countries, raised two successful adults, and built a career from nothing.

Today, Maria lives near the sea in Portugal. She wakes up early every morning — an old habit from her years in Brazil — and takes a long walk on the beach before breakfast. In the afternoons, she volunteers at a local school, where she helps young students who dream of studying abroad one day, just as she once did. She likes to write about her past and share her memories with her grandchildren. When people ask her about the secret to a good life, she smiles and says: "There isn't just one secret. Life is a story with many chapters, and some chapters are difficult. But if you learn from your mistakes and never stop dreaming, you can achieve almost anything."

Maria's story teaches us something important: a life well lived isn't a straight line. It has changes, surprises, successes, and failures. But every chapter, even the hard ones, is part of the same beautiful journey.

Reading Comprehension – True or False

Read the text again and decide if each statement is true (T) or false (F).

1. Maria was born in a small town in Spain. ____ (T / F)
2. Maria studied engineering at a university in Brazil. ____ (T / F)
3. Maria met Carlos while she was working in Brazil. ____ (T / F)
4. Maria and Carlos stayed married for the rest of their lives. ____ (T / F)
5. Maria retired from her career in 2018. ____ (T / F)

Reading Comprehension – Multiple Choice

Read each question and choose the correct answer.

1. Where was Maria born?

- A) Portugal
- B) Brazil
- C) Spain
- D) Rio de Janeiro

2. What did Maria study at university?

- A) Medicine
- B) Engineering
- C) Architecture
- D) Languages

3. Why did Maria move to Brazil in 1985?

- A) She got an opportunity to work on a project
- B) She wanted to retire early
- C) She married Carlos there
- D) She wanted to learn Portuguese

4. What mistake did Maria make at work in Brazil?

- A) She missed an important flight
- B) She signed a contract without reading it carefully
- C) She forgot about an important meeting
- D) She lost her passport

5. What does Maria do every morning today?

- A) She goes to the office
- B) She writes emails to her old company
- C) She takes a walk on the beach
- D) She visits her hometown

Key Vocabulary

High-frequency words and expressions (Oxford 3000, New General Service List and Brown Corpus), filtered by topic relevance and A2 level. Meanings are in the Dictionary at the end of the book.

1–10	11–20	21–30	31–40
1. birth	11. abroad	21. challenge	31. retirement
2. childhood	12. journey	22. decision	32. grandchildren
3. graduate	13. milestone	23. relationship	33. success
4. engineer	14. memory	24. childhood friend	34. failure
5. career	15. raise	25. hometown	35. change
6. marriage	16. wedding	26. immigrant	36. adapt
7. divorce	17. anniversary	27. degree	37. settle down
8. retire	18. decade	28. university	38. grow up
9. achieve	19. experience	29. company	39. fall in love
10. move	20. opportunity	30. promotion	40. get married

Vocabulary Practice

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

1. What is your "hometown"?

- A) The town or city where you were born or grew up
- B) A town you are visiting for the first time
- C) The most modern city in a country
- D) A city where you have never lived

2. If you "graduate" from university, you...

- A) Start your first day of school
- B) Fail an important exam
- C) Take a long vacation
- D) Finish your studies and receive a degree

3. When people "retire", they...

- A) Stop working permanently, usually because of age
- B) Begin a new career
- C) Move to a new city for a job
- D) Attend university for the first time

4. If you "achieve" a goal, you...

- A) Forget about it completely
- B) Fail to reach it
- C) Successfully complete or reach it
- D) Change your opinion about it

5. A "memory" is...

- A) A plan you have for next year
- B) A rule that you must obey
- C) A type of celebration
- D) Something you remember from the past

6. An "opportunity" is...

- A) A good chance to do something useful
- B) A serious problem or difficulty
- C) A mistake that costs you money
- D) A strict rule at work

7. A "challenge" is something that is...

- A) Very simple and requires no effort
- B) Difficult and tests your skills or ability
- C) A type of holiday tradition
- D) A relaxing daily habit

8. If you make a "mistake", you...

- A) Do something correctly
- B) Achieve a great success

- C) Do something wrong, often without meaning to
- D) Complete a difficult task perfectly

9. A "generation" usually refers to...

- A) A single event in history
- B) People who were born and lived around the same time
- C) A place where people study
- D) A type of traditional food

10. A "milestone" in your life is...

- A) A small, unimportant mistake
- B) A daily habit you rarely notice
- C) A short trip you take for work
- D) An important event or achievement

Grammar Focus: Past Simple: Regular and Irregular Verbs

We use the Past Simple to talk about actions or situations that started and finished at a specific time in the past. For regular verbs, we add -ed to the base form: work becomes worked, live becomes lived, and study becomes studied (the y changes to i before -ed). This is the most common pattern, and it is used for the vast majority of English verbs, including many verbs in this unit, such as travel (traveled), move (moved), marry (married), and graduate (graduated).

However, many very common verbs are irregular, which means their past form does not follow the -ed rule and must simply be learned. Some important examples are: go/went, have/had, see/saw, take/took, make/made, come/came, get/got, meet/met, and forget/forgot. The verb be is also irregular and has two past forms: was (for I/he/she/it) and were (for you/we/they).

To make negative sentences and questions in the Past Simple, we usually use the auxiliary verb did with the base form of the main verb — not the past form. For example: I didn't graduate that year and Did you graduate last year? Notice that the base verb (graduate) does not change, because did already shows that the sentence is in the past. Finally, past time expressions help us say exactly when something happened: in 2015, when I was young, last year, three years ago, during the 1990s, and for a decade are all common examples that appear naturally with the Past Simple.

Figure 1

1. Sentence structure



2. Forms and examples

+ Regular (-ed) She traveled to Brazil in 1985.	Irregular She went to Brazil in 1985.	? Did + base form Did she travel to Brazil in 1985?
--	--	--

Reference Table: Past Simple — regular and irregular verbs

Verb type	Base form	Past Simple	Example sentence
Regular	work	worked	I worked in Madrid for two years.
Regular	travel	traveled	She traveled to Brazil in 1985.
Irregular	go	went	He went to university in 2005.
Irregular	make	made	She made an important decision.
Negative/Question	do (with did)	didn't / Did...?	I didn't graduate that year. / Did you graduate that year?

Examples

1. I was born in 1995.
2. She grew up in a small village near the coast.
3. They didn't travel abroad when they were children.
4. Did you graduate from university last year?
5. My grandparents got married three decades ago.
6. He moved to a new city in 2010 and changed his career completely.

English Usage

Learn and practice these useful expressions.

- It all started when...
Use to begin telling a life story
- After that,
Use to sequence events in a narrative
- A few years later,
Use to move the story forward in time
- That's when I decided to...
Use to mark a turning point or decision
- Looking back,
Use to reflect on past experiences from today
- Eventually,
Use to show something happened after a delay
- In the end,
Use to introduce the final result of a story
- To make a long story short,
Use to summarize before finishing a story

Sample Dialogue

- A: Hi Maria, tell me about your life. It all started when...?
- B: It all started when I was born in a small town in Mexico.
- A: Really? What happened after that?
- B: After that, I studied engineering at university and I graduated in 2005.
- A: Wow! Then what?
- B: A few years later, I moved to Brazil for a new job.
- A: That's exciting. Did you like it there?
- B: Yes, I did. That's when I decided to stay and build a life there.
- A: Looking back, are you happy with your choices?
- B: Looking back, I am very proud of what I achieved.
- A: To make a long story short, how does your story end?
- B: To make a long story short, I raised my children, worked hard, and eventually I retired last year.

Practice

Choose the best expression for each situation.

- 1. Which phrase is best used to begin telling your life story?**
- A) In the end,
 - B) It all started when...
 - C) Eventually,
 - D) Looking back,

2. You want to summarize your story quickly before finishing. Which phrase do you use?

- A) After that,
- B) A few years later,
- C) To make a long story short,
- D) That's when I decided to...

3. Which phrase shows you are reflecting on the past from today's perspective?

- A) Looking back,
- B) Eventually,
- C) It all started when...
- D) After that,

4. Which phrase introduces the final result of a story?

- A) A few years later,
- B) That's when I decided to...
- C) Eventually,
- D) In the end,

5. Which phrase means something happened after some delay?

- A) Eventually,
- B) After that,
- C) It all started when...
- D) In the end,

Practice Quiz (25 Questions)

Choose the only correct answer for each question, based on international exams. Answers are in the Answer Key at the end of the book.

1. Choose the correct Past Simple form: "She ____ to Brazil in 1985."

- A) traveled
- B) travel
- C) travels
- D) traveling

2. "They ____ married in a small ceremony by the beach."

- A) get
- B) got
- C) gets
- D) getting

3. Choose the correct negative form: "He ____ finish university that year."

- A) doesn't
- B) don't

- C) didn't
- D) not

4. Choose the correct question form: "___ you graduate from university?"

- A) Do
- B) Does
- C) Are
- D) Did

5. "I ___ my keys yesterday, so I couldn't open the door."

- A) forgot
- B) forget
- C) forgetted
- D) forgetting

6. Choose the correct time expression: "She moved to Spain ___ 2010."

- A) on
- B) in
- C) at
- D) since

7. "My grandfather ___ born in a small village."

- A) is
- B) were
- C) was
- D) be

8. Choose the correct Past Simple form of "go".

- A) goed
- B) gone
- C) going
- D) went

9. "We ___ many photos during our journey."

- A) took
- B) take
- C) taken
- D) taking

10. "She ___ her degree five years ago."

- A) achieve
- B) achieved
- C) achieves
- D) achieving

11. Choose the correct time expression: "I met my husband ____ I was twenty-five."

- A) since
- B) for
- C) when
- D) ago

12. "How long ____ they married before they divorced?"

- A) did
- B) was
- C) do
- D) were

13. Choose the correct sentence.

- A) She didn't graduate last year.
- B) She didn't graduated last year.
- C) She not graduated last year.
- D) She don't graduated last year.

14. "This event ____ place ten years ago."

- A) take
- B) took
- C) takes
- D) taking

15. Which word means "the place where you were born or grew up"?

- A) journey
- B) generation
- C) hometown
- D) milestone

16. Which word means "a period of ten years"?

- A) century
- B) generation
- C) season
- D) decade

17. "Losing my job was difficult, but it taught me an important ____."

- A) lesson
- B) habit
- C) tradition
- D) failure

18. Which word means "to stop working, usually because of age"?

- A) graduate
- B) retire
- C) achieve
- D) travel

19. Choose the correct question sentence.

- A) Did she moved to Brazil in 1985?
- B) Does she moved to Brazil in 1985?
- C) Did she move to Brazil in 1985?
- D) She did move to Brazil in 1985?

20. "My parents got divorced ____ I was ten years old."

- A) ago
- B) for
- C) during
- D) when

21. Which word means "a difficult situation that tests your ability"?

- A) challenge
- B) opportunity
- C) habit
- D) background

22. Choose the correct Past Simple form of "have".

- A) haved
- B) had
- C) has
- D) having

23. "She ____ a very important decision when she left her hometown."

- A) make
- B) makes
- C) made
- D) making

24. Which sentence uses a time expression correctly?

- A) I graduated university ago three years.
- B) I graduated from university in three years ago.
- C) Ago three years, I graduated from university.
- D) Three years ago, I graduated from university.

25. Which word means "an important event or achievement in someone's life"?

- A) milestone
- B) mistake

- C) habit
- D) failure

UNIT 2

What Happened?

Objective (CEFR A2): to understand and use expressions related to describing interrupted actions and events during a citywide storm, and to communicate in simple, routine tasks that require a direct exchange of information on familiar matters.

Reading: The Storm That Stopped the City

Last October, I was working late in my office on the fifteenth floor of a large building downtown. It was a normal Tuesday evening, and nothing seemed unusual. Outside, dark clouds were gathering, but nobody was really watching the sky.

At about seven o'clock, a sudden storm hit the city. Thunder was rolling in the distance, and a few minutes later, bright flashes of lightning lit up the windows. While I was finishing an email, the lights suddenly went out. The whole building was in a blackout, and the storm had completely interrupted the power supply.

At first, people thought it was just a short power cut, the kind that happens sometimes during bad weather. But this time was different. While the storm continued outside, the emergency alarm started ringing inside the building. Nobody knew exactly what was happening, and for a moment, everyone froze.

Then someone shouted, "Fire! There's smoke on the tenth floor!" Immediately, panic spread through the office. People began to scream, and some wanted to hide under their desks or run away in different directions. Meanwhile, I was trying to find my phone in the dark, and I couldn't see anything.

Fortunately, one of my colleagues, a calm and experienced woman named Elena, took charge. "Don't panic," she said loudly. "Walk, don't run. Follow me." Her voice helped everyone calm down a little, and slowly, in a long line, we started to evacuate down the stairs.

While we were walking down, I noticed a strange smell, like burning plastic. I realized that the accident had probably started with an electrical problem, not a real fire, but nobody wanted to take any risks.

When we finally reached the street, a large crowd had already gathered outside. Sirens were approaching in the distance. A few minutes later, two fire trucks arrived, and several firefighters ran into the building to begin the rescue operation. At the same time, a police officer arrived to keep the crowd away from the entrance and to control the traffic.

It was an unusual coincidence that an ambulance happened to be driving past the building at that exact moment, on its way to a different emergency. The paramedics stopped immediately when they saw the crowd and offered to help.

A police officer began asking questions to understand exactly what had happened. Elena and a few other colleagues had to describe the whole incident carefully, from the first flash of lightning to the moment the alarm rang. It wasn't easy to explain something so confusing in just a few sentences, but the officer listened patiently and wrote down every detail.

Luckily, nobody was seriously hurt. One young stranger, who worked on the tenth floor, had a small injury on his hand from a broken window, but it wasn't serious. The paramedics checked him quickly and explained that he didn't need to go to the hospital.

While the firefighters were investigating inside, a witness who worked in the building next door told a reporter what she had seen. She said that during the storm, lightning had probably struck a cable near the tenth floor, and this had caused a short circuit and some smoke, but not a real fire. Nearby, a falling tree branch had also crashed onto a parked car, but no one was hurt.

By the time the firefighters came out again, everyone inside had managed to escape safely, and the storm was already calming down. The rain was getting lighter, and the thunder was moving away. The building manager thanked everyone for staying calm and explained that the power would probably return within an hour.

Unfortunately, some people had left important documents and laptops inside, and they had to wait outside in the cold for almost two hours before they could go back in. However, nobody complained too much. After the disaster that almost happened, everyone was simply relieved.

Later that night, when the story appeared in the local news, it became clear how lucky the building had been. If the fire had spread instead of stopping quickly, the accident could have been much worse. As one firefighter said, "Sometimes a small incident can turn into a real emergency in seconds. Tonight, we were lucky."

I still remember that evening very clearly. While most people in the city were watching the storm from their windows, we were experiencing something much more dramatic. It taught me an important lesson: during an emergency, staying calm can make all the difference between a frightening incident and a real disaster.

Reading Comprehension – True or False

Read the text again and decide if each statement is true (T) or false (F).

1. The storm began while the narrator was working late in the office. ____ (T / F)
2. A serious fire spread through the entire building and destroyed several floors. ____ (T / F)
3. Elena helped the office workers stay calm and organized the evacuation. ____ (T / F)
4. Everyone was allowed to go back into the building immediately after the storm ended. ____ (T / F)
5. In the end, nobody was seriously injured in the incident. ____ (T / F)

Reading Comprehension – Multiple Choice

Read each question and choose the correct answer.

1. What was the narrator doing when the power went out?

- A) Talking to Elena
- B) Finishing an email
- C) Waiting for a police officer
- D) Watching the storm from the window

2. Why did the emergency alarm start ringing?

- A) Because of a fire drill
- B) Because a window broke
- C) Because of smoke on the tenth floor
- D) Because the storm caused flooding

3. What did the witness think probably caused the smoke?

- A) A cigarette left burning
- B) Lightning striking a cable and causing a short circuit
- C) A broken gas pipe
- D) An overloaded computer

4. How badly injured was the young stranger?

- A) He broke his arm
- B) He wasn't injured at all
- C) He had a serious head injury
- D) He had a small injury to his hand

5. According to the text, what lesson did the narrator learn?

- A) Storms are more dangerous than fires
- B) Staying calm during an emergency is very important
- C) Ambulances are always late
- D) It's better to work from home during storms

Key Vocabulary

High-frequency words and expressions (Oxford 3000, New General Service List and Brown Corpus), filtered by topic relevance and A2 level. Meanings are in the Dictionary at the end of the book.

1–10	11–20	21–30	31–40
1. storm	11. warning	21. sidewalk	31. firefighter
2. thunder	12. forecast	22. roof	32. police officer
3. lightning	13. weather report	23. window	33. news report
4. rain	14. umbrella	24. tree	34. suddenly
5. wind	15. puddle	25. branch	35. meanwhile
6. flood	16. street	26. flashlight	36. while
7. power outage	17. traffic	27. candle	37. crash
8. electricity	18. traffic light	28. generator	38. damage
9. emergency	19. subway	29. siren	39. broken

10. shelter	20. bus stop	30. ambulance	40. safe
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Vocabulary Practice

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

1. During the storm, the electricity in our house stopped working for two hours. This is called a _____.

- A) rescue
- B) power cut
- C) crash
- D) disaster

2. A person who sees an accident happen and can describe what happened is called a _____.

- A) stranger
- B) firefighter
- C) witness
- D) crowd

3. When there is danger, people often have to leave a building quickly and in an organized way. This is called to _____ the building.

- A) evacuate
- B) escape
- C) interrupt
- D) hide

4. It was an amazing _____ that we met on the same street exactly one year after the accident.

- A) disaster
- B) injury
- C) alarm
- D) coincidence

5. After the crash, the driver had a small _____ on his arm, but nothing serious.

- A) incident
- B) injury
- C) alarm
- D) blackout

6. When the fire alarm rang, some people began to shout and run because they were in _____.

- A) crowd
- B) rescue
- C) panic
- D) coincidence

7. The firefighters worked quickly to _____ the man trapped inside the car.

- A) rescue

- B) describe
- C) hide
- D) interrupt

8. The storm caused a total loss of electricity across the whole city, a complete _____.

- A) power cut
- B) crash
- C) disaster
- D) blackout

9. I didn't _____ that my phone was missing until I got home.

- A) describe
- B) realize
- C) witness
- D) explain

10. I was cooking dinner. _____, my sister was doing her homework in the other room.

- A) While
- B) Suddenly
- C) Meanwhile
- D) During

Grammar Focus: Past Continuous vs. Past Simple

The Past Continuous (also called the Past Progressive) describes an action that was in progress at a specific moment in the past. We form it with was or were plus the -ing form of the verb: I was working, they were talking, it was raining. We use was with I, he, she, and it, and were with you, we, and they.

We often use the Past Continuous to set the scene of a story, describing what was happening in the background before something else occurred: "It was raining, and people were hurrying home." It is also very common to combine the Past Continuous with the Past Simple to talk about an interrupted action: a longer action was already in progress (Past Continuous) when a shorter, sudden action or event happened (Past Simple) and interrupted it. For example: "I was walking home when it started to rain."

In these sentences, when usually introduces the shorter, completed action (the interruption), and while usually introduces the longer, ongoing action. While is also used to connect two actions that were happening at the same time: "While I was cooking, my brother was setting the table." Notice that after while, the verb can be in the Past Continuous (for an action in progress) or the Past Simple (for a shorter action), depending on the meaning.

Figure 2

1. Sentence structure



2. Forms and examples

 Past Continuous I was walking home.	 Past Simple The storm started suddenly.	 Two actions at once While I was cooking, she was studying.
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Reference Table: Past Continuous vs. Past Simple

Use	Structure	Example
Action in progress (interrupted)	was/were + -ing ... when + past simple	I was cooking when the phone rang.
Two actions at the same time	while + was/were + -ing, ... was/were + -ing	While I was cooking, my brother was setting the table.
Background scene-setting	was/were + -ing (describes the atmosphere)	It was raining, and people were hurrying home.
Negative and question forms	wasn't/weren't + -ing / Was/Were + subject + -ing?	She wasn't sleeping when the alarm rang. Were you watching the news when it happened?

Examples

1. I was watching TV when the power cut happened.
2. While the storm was raging outside, we were sitting quietly inside.
3. She was walking to work when she noticed the accident.
4. The children were playing in the park while their parents were talking.
5. What were you doing when the alarm went off?
6. He wasn't paying attention while the teacher was explaining the rules.

English Usage

Learn and practice these useful expressions.

- Guess what!

Introduce surprising news to a listener

- What happened?
Ask someone to explain a past event
- Really?
Show surprise or mild disbelief
- Wait, what happened next?
Interrupt to ask for more details
- You won't believe this!
Build interest before telling a story
- I couldn't believe it!
Express shock about a past event
- All of a sudden, ...
Introduce an unexpected interruption in a story
- Thankfully, everyone was safe.
Close a story with a relieved conclusion

Sample Dialogue

- A: Hey, guess what! There was a huge storm yesterday.
- B: Really? What happened?
- A: I was walking home when it suddenly started to rain really hard.
- B: Wait, what happened next?
- A: The wind was so strong that a tree fell across the street!
- B: You won't believe this — the same thing happened near my house!
- A: All of a sudden, the power went out in my building.
- B: I couldn't believe it when the lights went off downtown too.
- A: Were you at home when the storm started?
- B: No, I was working at the store. My boss closed early.
- A: Thankfully, everyone was safe in the end.
- B: Yes, but the streets were flooded for hours.

Practice

Choose the best expression for each situation.

1. You want to tell a friend some exciting news. What do you say first?
 - A) Guess what!
 - B) Thankfully, everyone was safe.
 - C) Wait, what happened next?
 - D) All of a sudden...
2. Your friend says, "There was a big storm last night." What is the best way to ask for more information?
 - A) I couldn't believe it!

- B) What happened?
- C) Really?
- D) Thankfully, everyone was safe.

3. Someone tells you a surprising piece of news. Which phrase best shows disbelief?

- A) Guess what!
- B) What happened?
- C) Really?
- D) All of a sudden...

4. In the middle of a story, you want the speaker to continue with more details. What do you say?

- A) Thankfully, everyone was safe.
- B) You won't believe this!
- C) Guess what!
- D) Wait, what happened next?

5. You are finishing a story about a scary storm and want to reassure your listener. What do you say?

- A) All of a sudden...
- B) Thankfully, everyone was safe.
- C) What happened?
- D) You won't believe this!

Practice Quiz (25 Questions)

Choose the only correct answer for each question, based on international exams. Answers are in the Answer Key at the end of the book.

1. Choose the correct form: "While I _____ dinner, my brother _____ the table."

- A) cooked / was setting
- B) was cooking / was setting
- C) was cooking / set
- D) cook / set

2. The loud sound that warns people of danger is called a(n) _____.

- A) crowd
- B) coincidence
- C) witness
- D) alarm

3. The phone rang while she _____ in the shower.

- A) was
- B) were
- C) is
- D) has been

4. A group of people gathered together in one place is called a ____.

- A) stranger
- B) disaster
- C) crowd
- D) rescue

5. Choose the correct question: " ____ you doing when the lights went out?"

- A) Did
- B) Were
- C) Was
- D) Do

6. I ____ TV when I heard a loud crash outside.

- A) was watching
- B) watched
- C) watching
- D) am watching

7. To leave a dangerous situation successfully is to ____.

- A) interrupt
- B) hide
- C) notice
- D) escape

8. They ____ sleeping when the storm started; they were still awake.

- A) don't
- B) didn't
- C) weren't
- D) wasn't

9. A vehicle that takes injured people to the hospital is called a(n) ____.

- A) fire truck
- B) ambulance
- C) police car
- D) taxi

10. While the children ____ in the garden, it began to rain heavily.

- A) play
- B) plays
- C) played
- D) were playing

11. When something bad happens without warning, we can say it happened ____.

- A) suddenly
- B) meanwhile
- C) during
- D) while

12. Choose the correct sentence.

- A) I was walk home when it started to rain.
- B) I walking home when it started to rain.
- C) I was walking home when it started to rain.
- D) I walked home when it was starting to rain.

13. The professional who puts out fires is called a _____.

- A) police officer
- B) witness
- C) stranger
- D) firefighter

14. What _____ when the accident happened?

- A) did you doing
- B) were you doing
- C) you were doing
- D) do you doing

15. To become quiet and relaxed again after being upset is to _____.

- A) calm down
- B) panic
- C) evacuate
- D) interrupt

16. She _____ a book when the power cut happened.

- A) reads
- B) is reading
- C) was reading
- D) read

17. An unplanned event in which two things happen at the same time by chance is a _____.

- A) disaster
- B) emergency
- C) accident
- D) coincidence

18. Which sentence correctly combines two past actions?

- A) While I was driving, the storm was start.
- B) While I was driving, the storm started.

- C) While I drove, the storm was starting.
- D) While I drive, the storm started.

19. During a fire, people sometimes _____ loudly to warn others.

- A) whisper
- B) explain
- C) shout
- D) describe

20. Lightning struck the tree while we _____ under it.

- A) were standing
- B) stood
- C) stand
- D) are standing

21. A situation that needs immediate action, such as a fire or accident, is called an _____.

- A) incident
- B) injury
- C) alarm
- D) emergency

22. He wasn't listening _____ the teacher was explaining the rules.

- A) when
- B) while
- C) during
- D) during that

23. To give reasons for something or make it clear is to _____.

- A) describe
- B) witness
- C) explain
- D) rescue

24. We _____ the news on TV when the blackout happened.

- A) were watching
- B) watched
- C) watch
- D) are watching

25. Sadly, or in a way that causes disappointment, can be expressed with the word _____.

- A) luckily
- B) suddenly
- C) meanwhile
- D) unfortunately

UNIT 3

Better Than Before

Objective (CEFR A2): to understand and use expressions related to comparing city and country living, and to communicate in simple, routine tasks that require a direct exchange of information on familiar matters.

Reading: The City or the Country? Comparing Two Lifestyles

Which is better: life in a big city or life in a small town? This is one of the oldest questions about modern lifestyles, and there is no single correct answer. To understand the differences, let's compare two real kinds of places: a large urban center like Harborview and a small rural community like Millbrook.

Harborview is the largest city in the region, with a population of nearly two million people. Its skyline is full of tall modern buildings, and downtown is always busy with workers, tourists, and students. Millbrook, on the other hand, is a small town in the countryside, with fewer than three thousand residents. Life there is much quieter and more peaceful than life in Harborview.

One of the biggest differences between the two places is the cost of living. Housing in downtown Harborview is expensive, and many young families cannot afford an apartment near the center. In fact, apartments in the suburbs are often more affordable than apartments downtown, so many workers choose to live outside the city and commute every day. In Millbrook, houses are much cheaper, and the cost of living is lower than in almost any big city in the country. For people with a limited budget, Millbrook is clearly the more affordable option.

Transport is another important point of comparison. Harborview has an excellent public transport system, with buses, trains, and a subway that connect every neighborhood. This makes the city more convenient for people without a car. However, traffic jams are common, especially during rush hour, and congestion can make even a short commute feel endless. Millbrook has no subway and only a few buses, but the town is small and walkable, so most residents can reach the shops, the school, and the clinic on foot. In this way, getting around Millbrook is actually easier than getting around a crowded city like Harborview.

Pollution is a real concern in Harborview. The air quality downtown is often worse than in the suburbs, because of traffic and factories near the port. Noise pollution is also a problem: the streets are noisy day and night. Millbrook, in contrast, is one of the most peaceful places in the region. The air is cleaner, the streets are quieter, and the surrounding countryside is scenic, with green hills and a slow river. For people who want a healthier and calmer lifestyle, rural areas like Millbrook can be a better choice than urban ones.

Of course, city life has clear advantages too. Harborview is more diverse than Millbrook, with people from many different cultures and backgrounds living side by side. The city is also more vibrant, with theaters, restaurants, and markets open until late at night. Its facilities are impressive: modern hospitals, several universities, and excellent infrastructure make daily life more convenient in many ways. Ancient landmarks stand next to modern skyscrapers, giving the city a unique character that a small town cannot easily copy.

Safety is a topic people often discuss when they compare urban and rural communities. Statistically, small towns tend to be safer than big cities, with less crime and a stronger sense of community. In Millbrook, neighbors usually know each other by name, and the community feels close and friendly. In Harborview, the neighborhoods are more varied: some are as safe as any small town, while others have higher crime rates than average. It really depends on which part of the city you compare.

So, which lifestyle is better than before? Fifty years ago, both places looked very different. Harborview was smaller and less polluted, while Millbrook had fewer facilities than it has today. Both places have improved their infrastructure and quality of life over time, although in different ways. Public services are more efficient than before, and both towns and cities now offer better healthcare and education than earlier generations ever had.

In the end, the best choice is not the same for everyone. A busy student might prefer the excitement and energy of urban life, while a retired couple might prefer the slow, peaceful rhythm of the countryside. Some people even choose a middle option: a quiet suburb that is more spacious than downtown but still close enough for an easy commute. The most important thing is to compare your own needs, your budget, and your priorities, and decide which lifestyle suits you best. After all, the best place to live is simply the one that feels like home.

Reading Comprehension – True or False

Read the text again and decide if each statement is true (T) or false (F).

1. Harborview has a much larger population than Millbrook. ____ (T / F)
2. Housing in downtown Harborview is cheaper than housing in the suburbs. ____ (T / F)
3. Millbrook is easier to get around on foot than Harborview's crowded downtown. ____ (T / F)
4. Small towns like Millbrook are generally more dangerous than big cities. ____ (T / F)
5. According to the article, both Harborview and Millbrook have improved their infrastructure and quality of life over time. ____ (T / F)

Reading Comprehension – Multiple Choice

Read each question and choose the correct answer.

1. What is the population of Harborview, according to the article?

- A) About three thousand
- B) Nearly two million
- C) Exactly one million
- D) Fewer than one hundred thousand

2. Why do many workers choose to live in the suburbs instead of downtown Harborview?

- A) Because the suburbs have better weather
- B) Because there is no public transport downtown
- C) Because the suburbs have more ancient landmarks
- D) Because apartments there are often more affordable than downtown

3. What problem does traffic cause in Harborview, according to the text?

- A) It makes commutes longer during rush hour
- B) It makes public transport free
- C) It closes downtown on weekends
- D) It reduces the population

4. Why is Millbrook described as walkable?

- A) It has an excellent subway system
- B) It has no traffic jams because cars are not allowed
- C) It is small, so residents can reach places on foot
- D) It has more facilities than Harborview

5. What does the article suggest about choosing between city and country life?

- A) City life is always better than country life
- B) The best choice depends on a person's own needs and priorities
- C) Country life is always better than city life
- D) Nobody should live in a city

Key Vocabulary

High-frequency words and expressions (Oxford 3000, New General Service List and Brown Corpus), filtered by topic relevance and A2 level. Meanings are in the Dictionary at the end of the book.

1–10	11–20	21–30	31–40
1. city	11. quiet	21. public transport	31. safe
2. countryside	12. noisy	22. commute	32. dangerous
3. rural	13. crowded	23. job opportunities	33. expensive
4. urban	14. peaceful	24. entertainment	34. cheap
5. village	15. lifestyle	25. nature	35. modern
6. neighbor	16. pace of life	26. fields	36. traditional
7. neighborhood	17. cost of living	27. farm	37. spacious
8. traffic	18. rent	28. skyscraper	38. convenient
9. pollution	19. apartment	29. suburb	39. healthy
10. fresh air	20. farmhouse	30. community	40. polluted

Vocabulary Practice

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

1. The streets downtown were so _____ during rush hour that we could hardly move.

- A) peaceful
- B) scenic
- C) spacious
- D) crowded

2. After a long day at work, she loves the _____ atmosphere of her quiet garden.

- A) peaceful
- B) noisy
- C) polluted
- D) congested

3. Because rent downtown was too expensive, they moved to a suburb where housing was more _____.

- A) polluted
- B) dangerous
- C) affordable
- D) ancient

4. The city's _____ has grown quickly in the last ten years, from one million to two million people.

- A) skyline
- B) population
- C) infrastructure
- D) landmark

5. On weekends, many city residents drive out to the _____ to enjoy fresh air and green fields.

- A) downtown
- B) suburb
- C) neighborhood
- D) countryside

6. Because traffic is so heavy, his _____ to work takes almost two hours every morning.

- A) commute
- B) lifestyle
- C) community
- D) facility

7. The neighborhood is very _____, with families from many different countries and cultures.

- A) similar
- B) rural
- C) diverse
- D) modern

8. The new sports center offers excellent _____, including a pool, a gym, and a running track.

- A) congestion
- B) facilities

- C) pollution
- D) infrastructure

9. Traffic _____ during rush hour is one of the biggest problems for drivers in big cities.

- A) community
- B) lifestyle
- C) quality
- D) congestion

10. The old town center is very _____, so tourists can visit most landmarks on foot.

- A) polluted
- B) walkable
- C) crowded
- D) dangerous

Grammar Focus: Comparative and Superlative Adjectives

We use comparative and superlative adjectives to compare people, places, and things. For short adjectives, usually one syllable (or two syllables ending in -y), we add -er for the comparative and -est for the superlative: cold, colder, the coldest. If the adjective ends in -y, we change the y to i before adding the ending: noisy, noisier, the noisiest. If it ends in a single vowel and consonant, we usually double the final consonant: big, bigger, the biggest.

For long adjectives, usually two or more syllables, we do not add -er or -est. Instead, we use more before the adjective for the comparative and the most for the superlative: modern, more modern, the most modern; convenient, more convenient, the most convenient. Remember to use "the" before a superlative form: This is the most convenient neighborhood in the city.

A few common adjectives are irregular and do not follow either pattern: good becomes better and then the best, and bad becomes worse and then the worst. Finally, we use as + adjective + as to say that two things are equal in some way, and not as + adjective + as to say that one thing has less of a quality than another: This city is as safe as that one, but it is not as vibrant as the capital.

Figure 3

1. Sentence structure



2. Forms and examples

+ -er (short adj.) The countryside is quieter.	more + adjective The city is more expensive.	★ the -est / the most It's the most peaceful town.
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Reference Table: Comparatives and superlatives

Adjective type	Comparative	Superlative	Example
Short (1 syllable)	bigger	the biggest	This city is bigger than mine.
Long (2+ syllables)	more convenient	the most convenient	This neighborhood is more convenient than that one.
Irregular	better / worse	the best / the worst	The new infrastructure is better than the old system.
Two-syllable -y	noisier	the noisiest	Downtown is noisier than the suburbs.

Examples

1. This street is quieter than the main road.
2. Millbrook is the safest town in the region.
3. The downtown area is more crowded than the suburbs.
4. Harborview is the most diverse city in the country.
5. The new bus system is better than the old one, but the traffic is worse than before.
6. My neighborhood is as safe as yours, but it is not as vibrant as downtown.

English Usage

Learn and practice these useful expressions.

- In my opinion, ...
used to introduce your personal view

- I think that...
used to state a belief or opinion
- I'd rather...
used to express a preference between two options
- It depends on...
used when your answer is not fixed or certain
- Compared to...
used to introduce a comparison between two things
- On the other hand, ...
used to introduce a contrasting idea or viewpoint
- What do you think about...?
used to ask someone for their opinion
- I prefer... to...
used to say which of two things you like more

Sample Dialogue

A: Are you thinking about moving to the countryside?

B: Yes, actually. In my opinion, life is much quieter there than in the city.

A: That's true, but I'd rather stay here. The city has more job opportunities.

B: I think that's the biggest advantage of the city, yes.

A: What do you think about the pollution, though? The countryside is definitely cleaner.

B: It depends on where exactly you live. Some cities are greener than others.

A: Compared to my hometown, this city is much more crowded and noisier.

B: On the other hand, you have better public transport and more entertainment here.

A: That's a good point. I prefer convenience to peace and quiet, I guess.

B: For me, the countryside is still the most peaceful place to live.

A: Maybe the best choice just depends on what a person values most.

B: Exactly. There's no single right answer.

Practice

Choose the best expression for each situation.

1. Someone asks, "Is it better to live in the city or the countryside?" You are not sure, because it changes from person to person. Which answer fits best?

- A) It depends on what you're looking for.
- B) I prefer the city to the countryside.
- C) Compared to the city, the countryside is calmer.
- D) What do you think about that?

2. You want to know your classmate's opinion about country life. Which question should you ask?

- A) I think that country life is peaceful.
- B) What do you think about country life?
- C) It depends on the weather.
- D) Compared to the city, it's quieter.

3. You want to compare Mexico City with a small village. Which phrase introduces the comparison correctly?

- A) I'd rather live in a village.
- B) In my opinion, villages are nicer.
- C) Compared to a small village, Mexico City is much noisier.
- D) I prefer villages to big cities.

4. You want to say clearly which lifestyle you like more, out of two options. Which sentence is correct?

- A) It depends on my mood.
- B) On the other hand, cities have more jobs.
- C) What do you think about rural areas?
- D) I prefer quiet towns to busy cities.

5. You want to give your personal view about where it is best to live. Which phrase should you use?

- A) In my opinion, small towns offer a better quality of life.
- B) Compared to small towns, cities are bigger.
- C) It depends on the person.
- D) What do you think about small towns?

Practice Quiz (25 Questions)

Choose the only correct answer for each question, based on international exams. Answers are in the Answer Key at the end of the book.

1. This apartment is _____ than the one we saw yesterday.

- A) spacious
- B) spaciousest
- C) more spacious
- D) most spacious

2. Of all the cities we visited, Harborview was _____.

- A) the noisiest
- B) noisier
- C) more noisy
- D) most noise

3. The new highway is _____ than the old road.

- A) safe
- B) most safe
- C) more safe

D) safer

4. This is _____ landmark in the entire country.

- A) more ancient
- B) the most ancient
- C) ancientest
- D) most ancient

5. My commute is _____ my sister's; we both take about thirty minutes.

- A) as long as
- B) longer than
- C) the longest
- D) as long

6. Life in the countryside is often _____ than life in a big city.

- A) peaceful
- B) most peaceful
- C) more peaceful
- D) peacefuller

7. The public transport system used to be terrible, but it is much _____ now.

- A) gooder
- B) more good
- C) best
- D) better

8. Traffic congestion is getting _____ every year in the capital.

- A) bad
- B) worse
- C) more bad
- D) worst

9. Choose the correct sentence.

- A) This city is bigger than that one.
- B) This city is more big than that one.
- C) This city is big than that one.
- D) This city is biggest than that one.

10. Downtown is _____ area in the whole city.

- A) crowded
- B) more crowded
- C) crowdest
- D) the most crowded

11. This bus route is not _____ the train line, so it takes longer.

- A) more convenient than
- B) the most convenient
- C) as convenient as
- D) convenient than

12. Choose the correct sentence.

- A) The new mall is gooder than the old one.
- B) The new mall is better than the old one.
- C) The new mall is more good than the old one.
- D) The new mall is bestest than the old one.

13. This is _____ building in the skyline.

- A) the tallest
- B) taller
- C) more tall
- D) tall

14. If a place is very _____, it has too many people and not enough space.

- A) spacious
- B) peaceful
- C) rural
- D) crowded

15. A city's _____ is the total number of people who live there.

- A) infrastructure
- B) population
- C) skyline
- D) landmark

16. When air, water, or land becomes dirty and unhealthy, we say it is _____.

- A) affordable
- B) diverse
- C) polluted
- D) scenic

17. A famous building or place that people recognize is called a _____.

- A) landmark
- B) suburb
- C) facility
- D) neighborhood

18. If something is easy to reach or use without much effort, it is _____.

- A) dangerous

- B) ancient
- C) congested
- D) convenient

19. The area of small houses just outside a city center is usually called the ____.

- A) downtown
- B) countryside
- C) suburb
- D) skyline

20. When cars move very slowly because there are too many of them, this is called a ____.

- A) landmark
- B) traffic jam
- C) facility
- D) commute

21. The amount of money people need to pay for housing, food, and daily life in a place is called the ____.

- A) cost of living
- B) quality of life
- C) infrastructure
- D) lifestyle

22. A group of people living in the same area, often with a shared sense of identity, is called a ____.

- A) skyline
- B) suburb
- C) infrastructure
- D) community

23. The basic systems a city needs, like roads, water, and electricity, are called its ____.

- A) facilities
- B) landmark
- C) infrastructure
- D) congestion

24. To find the differences and similarities between two things, you ____ them.

- A) improve
- B) compare
- C) commute
- D) collect

25. A place that has a mix of many different cultures, people, or things is ____.

- A) diverse
- B) different
- C) similar

D) urban

UNIT 4

Have You Ever...?

Objective (CEFR A2): to understand and use expressions related to talking about past travel experiences you have or haven't had, and to communicate in simple, routine tasks that require a direct exchange of information on familiar matters.

Reading: Confessions of a Restless Traveler

I have worked as a travel writer for twelve years, and people often ask me the same question: "What is the most amazing place you have ever visited?" It is not an easy question to answer, because every trip abroad has taught me something new about the world, and about myself.

I still remember my first big adventure very clearly. I was twenty-two years old, and I had never left my home country before. I bought a cheap backpack, got my passport and a visa for Southeast Asia, and booked a one-way flight without a clear itinerary. I just wanted to explore.

My first night in a hostel was a small shock. I had never shared a room with ten strangers before, and I felt real culture shock when I heard the local language, smelled unfamiliar cuisine, and saw a completely different way of life. But by the third day, I had already made new friends, and I started to enjoy the adventure instead of fearing it.

Since that first trip, I have visited more than forty countries. I have tried strange and exotic dishes, from fried insects in Thailand to raw fish in Japan. I have never refused to taste something new, even when it looked a little frightening. That is one rule I follow when I travel: never say no to local food.

Not every journey has been smooth, of course. I have had flights delayed for hours, and one cruise was cancelled because of a storm just one day before departure. I have missed a connecting flight during a long layover and spent an unexpected night at the airport, sleeping on an uncomfortable chair. I have also suffered from terrible jet lag after crossing several time zones in a single day. Have you ever arrived somewhere so tired that you could barely remember the arrival? That happened to me once in Buenos Aires, and I slept for almost fourteen hours.

Some experiences, however, have been truly unforgettable. Three years ago, I joined a small expedition to a remote part of Patagonia. We had no phone signal, no hotels, and no resort nearby, only breathtaking scenery, wild rivers, and incredible wildlife. I saw condors flying above the mountains, and I have never forgotten that view. The cold, dry climate made every night difficult, but the beauty of the landscape made it completely worth it.

I have also learned some practical lessons along the way. Before any trip, I always check the exchange rate, because currency can lose value quickly, and I never carry too much cash. I have learned to reserve accommodation in advance during busy seasons, because good hostels and hotels fill up fast. I have crossed many borders, and I always keep my documents ready for customs, because officers sometimes ask questions about duty-free purchases.

People sometimes ask if I ever get tired of sightseeing. Honestly, I never do. Whether I am walking through an old European city or joining a short excursion into the jungle, I always discover something new. Have you ever stood in front of a famous building and felt smaller than you expected? I have felt that many times, and it never gets old, no matter how many times it happens.

My bucket list keeps growing instead of getting shorter. I have never been to Antarctica, and I have never seen the northern lights, so those two adventures are next on my list. I have not decided on a date yet, but I have already started planning the itinerary for next year.

If you have never traveled far from home, I understand the fear completely. The first trip abroad is always the hardest one. But once you have felt that mix of excitement and nervousness at the airport, once you have tasted a completely new cuisine, and once you have met local people who welcomed you like family, you will understand why so many of us never really stop traveling.

Travel has not always been comfortable, and it has not always been easy. But it has always been worth it. Every delay, every strange meal, and every moment of culture shock has become part of a story that I am proud to tell.

So, have you ever packed a bag and left everything familiar behind, just to discover what is out there? If you have not, I hope you try it soon. And if you have, I am sure you already understand exactly what I mean.

Reading Comprehension – True or False

Read the text again and decide if each statement is true (T) or false (F).

1. The writer has worked as a travel writer for twelve years. ____ (T / F)
2. The writer's first night in a hostel was completely comfortable and relaxing. ____ (T / F)
3. The writer has visited more than forty countries. ____ (T / F)
4. The cruise the writer mentions was cancelled because of a mechanical problem. ____ (T / F)
5. The writer has never been to Antarctica. ____ (T / F)

Reading Comprehension – Multiple Choice

Read each question and choose the correct answer.

1. Why did the writer feel culture shock on the first night in the hostel?

- A) The hostel was too expensive
- B) Everything was unfamiliar, including the language and the food
- C) The flight had been delayed
- D) The passport had been lost

2. What is the writer's rule about trying new food?

- A) Never eat local food
- B) Only eat food from home
- C) Always avoid exotic dishes
- D) Never say no to trying new food

3. What happened to the writer in Buenos Aires?

- A) The writer arrived extremely tired because of jet lag
- B) The writer missed a connecting flight
- C) The writer's cruise was cancelled
- D) The writer lost a passport

4. What did the writer see during the expedition in Patagonia?

- A) A busy resort
- B) A crowded hostel
- C) Condors and breathtaking scenery
- D) A cruise ship

5. What two experiences are still on the writer's bucket list?

- A) Visiting Japan and Thailand
- B) Antarctica and the northern lights
- C) Crossing a border and going through customs
- D) A cruise and an excursion

Key Vocabulary

High-frequency words and expressions (Oxford 3000, New General Service List and Brown Corpus), filtered by topic relevance and A2 level. Meanings are in the Dictionary at the end of the book.

1–10	11–20	21–30	31–40
1. journey	11. discover	21. hotel	31. foreign
2. adventure	12. experience	22. hostel	32. language
3. abroad	13. culture	23. campsite	33. currency
4. backpack	14. tradition	24. beach	34. visa
5. passport	15. souvenir	25. mountain	35. border
6. suitcase	16. landmark	26. island	36. map
7. destination	17. scenery	27. desert	37. guide
8. tourist	18. trip	28. jungle	38. ticket
9. traveler	19. flight	29. climate	39. delay
10. explore	20. airport	30. local	40. cuisine

Vocabulary Practice

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

1. A document that shows your identity and citizenship when you travel is called a...

- A) passport
- B) visa
- C) currency
- D) itinerary

2. A visa is best described as...

- A) a type of food
- B) an official document or stamp that allows you to enter a country
- C) a piece of luggage
- D) a type of hotel room

3. "Culture shock" refers to...

- A) a sudden storm during travel
- B) a delay at the airport
- C) the confusion or discomfort a person feels in an unfamiliar culture
- D) a type of local food

4. "Cuisine" means...

- A) a form of transportation
- B) a travel document
- C) a piece of luggage
- D) a style of cooking or type of food

5. If the "exchange rate" changes, what is affected?

- A) the value of one currency compared to another
- B) the departure time of your flight
- C) the type of visa you need
- D) the length of your itinerary

6. A "hostel" is a type of...

- A) luxury resort
- B) inexpensive, shared accommodation for travelers
- C) local market
- D) travel document

7. "Jet lag" happens when...

- A) your flight is cancelled
- B) you lose your passport
- C) your body feels tired after crossing several time zones
- D) you miss your connecting flight

8. A "layover" is...

- A) a long vacation
- B) a type of accommodation

- C) a border crossing
- D) a wait between two flights at an airport

9. A person's "bucket list" is...

- A) a list of experiences they want to have before they die
- B) a list of things they have already done
- C) a shopping list for a trip
- D) a list of required documents

10. "Duty-free" shops are usually found...

- A) in local markets
- B) at airports, where travelers can buy goods without paying certain taxes
- C) in hostels
- D) on cruise ships only

Grammar Focus: Present Perfect: Ever and Never

We form the Present Perfect with have or has plus the past participle of the verb: I have visited, she has tried, they have seen. Use have with I, you, we, and they, and use has with he, she, and it. Many past participles are regular and end in -ed (visited, traveled, booked), but many common verbs are irregular (been, seen, gone, tried, eaten), so it is useful to learn these forms by heart.

We often use the Present Perfect with ever and never to talk about life experiences, without saying exactly when they happened. Ever means "at any time in your life" and is mainly used in questions: "Have you ever been abroad?" Never means "at no time in your life" and is used in negative statements: "I have never tried octopus." In both cases, the exact time of the experience is not important — what matters is that the experience has, or has not, happened at some point up to now.

This is very different from the Past Simple, which we use for a finished action at a specific, known time in the past: "I visited Japan in 2019" or "I went backpacking last summer." Compare: "I have never been to China" (no specific time — a life experience) with "I went to China in 2015" (a specific, finished event). We often use both together: we introduce an experience with the Present Perfect, then give details with the Past Simple, as in "I have been to Peru. I went there in 2020 and stayed for three weeks."

Figure 4

1. Sentence structure



2. Forms and examples

? Have you ever...? Have you ever traveled alone?	+ I have... I have visited ten countries.	– I have never... I have never been to Japan.
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Reference Table: Present Perfect with ever / never

Subject	Auxiliary	Past participle	Example
I / You / We / They	have	been, tried, seen...	Have you ever been to Peru?
He / She / It	has	been, tried, seen...	Has she ever traveled by boat?
I / You / We / They	have never	tried, visited, seen...	I have never tried octopus.
I / You / We / They	have / haven't	(short answer)	Yes, I have. / No, I haven't.

Examples

- Have you ever traveled alone?
- I have never eaten octopus.
- She has visited more than ten countries.
- Has your brother ever gone backpacking?
- We have never stayed in a five-star resort.
- I visited Mexico last year, but I have never visited Canada.

English Usage

Learn and practice these useful expressions.

- Have you ever...?
Ask if someone has done something at any time before now
- I've never...

Say something you have not done in your life

- Really? Tell me more!
Show interest and ask for details
- That sounds amazing!
Express excitement about someone's experience
- I've always wanted to...
Express a long-held desire or goal
- Me too!
Agree that you share the same experience
- What was it like?
Ask someone to describe an experience
- I can't believe you've never...!
Express surprise about something someone hasn't done

Sample Dialogue

- A: Have you ever traveled outside your country?
- B: Yes, I have! I've visited six countries so far.
- A: Wow, really? Tell me more!
- B: Well, I've climbed a mountain in Peru and I've tried amazing food in Thailand.
- A: That sounds amazing! I've always wanted to visit Thailand.
- B: You should go! What was it like the last time you traveled somewhere new?
- A: Actually, I've never left my country.
- B: I can't believe you've never traveled abroad!
- A: I know, but I've saved some money for a trip next year.
- B: Me too! Maybe we can travel together.
- A: That would be great. Have you ever been to Japan?
- B: No, I haven't, but it's on my list!

Practice

Choose the best expression for each situation.

1. Your friend tells you she has visited ten countries. What do you say to show surprise and interest?

- A) I don't like traveling.
- B) What's your name?
- C) Really? Tell me more!
- D) I've never done that.

2. Someone asks, "Have you ever been to Paris?" and you have not. What is the correct way to answer?

- A) I've never been to Paris.
- B) Paris is nice.

- C) I am going to Paris.
- D) Yes, I have ever been there.

3. You want to ask a friend to describe her trip to Egypt. What do you say?

- A) Me too!
- B) Have you ever...?
- C) I've always wanted to...
- D) What was it like?

4. Your friend says, "I've climbed Mount Everest!" Which response best expresses excitement?

- A) Where is that?
- B) That sounds amazing!
- C) I don't believe you.
- D) That's boring.

5. You want to share a dream you have had for a long time but have not done yet. Which phrase do you use?

- A) I've always wanted to...
- B) What was it like?
- C) Have you ever...?
- D) I've never wanted to...

Practice Quiz (25 Questions)

Choose the only correct answer for each question, based on international exams. Answers are in the Answer Key at the end of the book.

1. Choose the correct form: "___ you ever been to Australia?"

- A) Have
- B) Do
- C) Did
- D) Are

2. "She ___ never traveled by train."

- A) have
- B) has
- C) is
- D) did

3. Complete: "I have never ___ sushi."

- A) try
- B) tries
- C) tried
- D) trying

4. A document that shows your identity and citizenship when you travel is called a...

- A) visa
- B) itinerary
- C) currency
- D) passport

5. Which sentence uses the Present Perfect correctly?

- A) I have visited Peru three times.
- B) I have visit Peru three times.
- C) I has visited Peru three times.
- D) I visiting Peru three times.

6. If your flight is "delayed," it means...

- A) it left earlier than planned
- B) it will leave later than planned
- C) it was cancelled completely
- D) it changed destination

7. "Have you ever ____ backpacking alone?"

- A) go
- B) went
- C) gone
- D) going

8. Choose the correct negative form: "They ____ never seen the ocean."

- A) has
- B) had
- C) did
- D) have

9. A short trip to visit a nearby place, often organized for tourists, is called an...

- A) excursion
- B) expedition
- C) itinerary
- D) exchange

10. Present Perfect with "ever" is used to ask about...

- A) a specific time in the past
- B) experiences at any time up to now
- C) future plans
- D) actions happening right now

11. A place where wild animals live naturally is home to the local...

- A) scenery

- B) climate
- C) wildlife
- D) cuisine

12. Complete: "We ____ our hotel room for next weekend."

- A) have already book
- B) has already booked
- C) had already book
- D) have already booked

13. The weather conditions typical of a place over a long period are called the...

- A) climate
- B) currency
- C) itinerary
- D) border

14. Choose the sentence that correctly contrasts Present Perfect with Past Simple.

- A) I have visited Italy in 2018.
- B) I visited Italy in 2018, but I have never visited Spain.
- C) I have visit Italy in 2018.
- D) I visited Italy since 2018.

15. Officials who check your luggage and documents when you enter a country work at...

- A) duty-free shops
- B) hostels
- C) customs
- D) resorts

16. "Has your sister ever ____ abroad?"

- A) study
- B) studying
- C) studies
- D) studied

17. A large ship used for long vacations at sea, stopping at different ports, is called a...

- A) cruise
- B) layover
- C) expedition
- D) excursion

18. Which auxiliary verb is correct with "he / she / it" in the Present Perfect?

- A) have
- B) has
- C) had

D) do

19. If you "book" a flight, you...

- A) cancel it
- B) delay it
- C) reserve it in advance
- D) discover it

20. Choose the correct short answer to "Have you ever been to Egypt?"

- A) Yes, I do.
- B) Yes, I am.
- C) Yes, I did.
- D) Yes, I have.

21. A journey with a clear purpose, often to explore a remote or difficult place, is called an...

- A) expedition
- B) itinerary
- C) accommodation
- D) layover

22. "I ___ never seen anything so breathtaking."

- A) has
- B) have
- C) am
- D) did

23. The plan that shows the places you will visit during a trip is called the...

- A) border
- B) currency
- C) itinerary
- D) accommodation

24. Which sentence correctly uses the Past Simple for a finished, specific action?

- A) I have gone to Japan last year.
- B) I have never gone to Japan.
- C) I go to Japan last year.
- D) I went to Japan last year.

25. A place designed for tourists to relax, often with a beach, pools, and organized activities, is called a...

- A) resort
- B) hostel
- C) border
- D) layover

UNIT 5

Achievements

Objective (CEFR A2): to understand and use expressions related to talking about recent achievements and career progress, and to communicate in simple, routine tasks that require a direct exchange of information on familiar matters.

Reading: Turning an Idea Into Impact: The Story of Amara Osei

Ten years ago, Amara Osei was just another engineering student with a big ambition and very little money. Today, she is the founder of CleanWave, a startup that has already changed the way three African countries handle clean water. Her story shows that talent alone is not enough; persistence and dedication matter just as much.

Amara grew up in a small town where clean water was not always available. She decided early that she wanted to solve this problem, so she studied hard and earned a degree in environmental engineering. After graduation, she also completed a certificate in water technology to strengthen her credentials.

Her first job was at a large engineering firm. She worked there for four years, and she received a promotion and a raise after only two years because of her excellent results. However, Amara felt that something was missing. She had a bigger target in mind: she wanted to create her own low-cost water filter for rural communities.

In 2019, Amara reached a turning point. She left her stable job, invested her savings, and started researching a new filtration method in a small rented lab. The first year was extremely difficult. She has never forgotten those early months of doubt. "I worked alone for a long time," she says. "I didn't have a team yet, and I hadn't found any investors yet either."

Her effort finally paid off. After many failed experiments, Amara achieved a breakthrough: a filter that removes contaminated particles using recycled materials. This innovation was cheaper and more effective than existing products. She quickly filed a patent to protect her invention, and soon after, she published her research in an international engineering journal.

With this achievement, Amara found the confidence to found CleanWave. She has already launched three products, and the company has already sold more than fifty thousand filters. She has also hired a team of ten engineers who share her ambition and potential.

Recognition has followed. Last year, Amara received an award from a national innovation council, and this year she won a prize for young entrepreneurs. She has just accepted an honor from a university that wants to give her an honorary degree for her contribution to public health. "I am incredibly proud of what we have accomplished together," Amara said at the award ceremony. "This accomplishment belongs to my whole team, not just to me."

Have you ever wondered what separates people like Amara from others with similar qualifications? According to her mentor, the answer is simple: skill matters, but persistence matters more. "Amara has real

talent, but many talented people never achieve their goals because they give up. She hasn't given up, and she probably never will."

Amara's progress has not stopped. She has already set a new target: to bring clean water to one million people by 2030. Has she reached that goal yet? Not yet, but she has already made significant progress this year alone, and her company recently broke its own sales record.

Interestingly, Amara did not always plan a career in business. As a teenager, she trained as a swimmer and competed in regional championships, where she won two medals. She says that sport taught her an important skill: how to accept failure and keep trying. She still uses that lesson every day. "In swimming, you don't master a stroke overnight," she explains. "You practice, you fail, and you try again. Starting a company is exactly the same."

Amara's team members also share in the rewards. Employees receive an annual bonus when the company reaches its yearly targets, and everyone earns credit for the company's achievements together.

Amara has also started a mentorship program for young women who want to study engineering. She has already trained more than thirty students, teaching them both technical skills and the dedication needed to finish a difficult project. "I want them to see their own potential," she explains. "Effort and persistence are just as important as talent, and nobody has ever accomplished something great completely alone."

When asked what advice she would give to young entrepreneurs, Amara laughed. "Don't wait for the perfect moment. I didn't have much money, and I didn't have powerful connections yet when I started. What I had was an idea and the persistence to test it, again and again, until it finally worked."

Ten years after that difficult first year, Amara Osei has already accomplished more than she ever imagined at university. And judging by her ambition, she is not finished yet.

Reading Comprehension – True or False

Read the text again and decide if each statement is true (T) or false (F).

1. Amara Osei is the founder of a startup called CleanWave. ____ (T / F)
2. Amara received her promotion after working for six years at the engineering firm. ____ (T / F)
3. Amara left her job and invested her own savings to start her business. ____ (T / F)
4. Amara found investors immediately after she started her research. ____ (T / F)
5. Amara has already sold more than fifty thousand water filters. ____ (T / F)

Reading Comprehension – Multiple Choice

Read each question and choose the correct answer.

1. What did Amara study at university?

- A) Environmental engineering
- B) Business management
- C) Medicine

D) Computer science

2. Why did Amara leave her job at the engineering firm?

- A) The company closed down.
- B) She wanted to create her own water filter.
- C) She was fired for poor performance.
- D) She retired early.

3. What breakthrough did Amara achieve in her lab?

- A) A faster computer chip
- B) A new medical device
- C) A water filter using recycled materials
- D) A new teaching method

4. What did Amara do as a teenager?

- A) She started a company.
- B) She worked as an engineer.
- C) She wrote a research paper.
- D) She trained as a swimmer.

5. What is Amara's target for 2030?

- A) To win an Olympic medal
- B) To bring clean water to one million people
- C) To open ten new offices
- D) To publish a book

Key Vocabulary

High-frequency words and expressions (Oxford 3000, New General Service List and Brown Corpus), filtered by topic relevance and A2 level. Meanings are in the Dictionary at the end of the book.

1–10	11–20	21–30	31–40
1. achievement	11. prize	21. yet	31. business
2. achieve	12. certificate	22. just	32. project
3. goal	13. diploma	23. still	33. training
4. accomplish	14. graduate	24. finish	34. course
5. accomplishment	15. graduation	25. complete	35. qualify
6. success	16. skill	26. start	36. qualification
7. successful	17. improve	27. launch	37. experience
8. career	18. progress	28. found (a company)	38. opportunity

9. promotion	19. recently	29. founder	39. challenge
10. award	20. already	30. entrepreneur	40. proud

Vocabulary Practice

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

1. Which word means "a document that proves you have finished a course or training"?

- A) bonus
- B) medal
- C) certificate
- D) target

2. Which word means "an increase in salary"?

- A) raise
- B) patent
- C) championship
- D) research

3. A person who starts and runs a new business, often taking financial risks, is a(n) ____.

- A) qualification
- B) reward
- C) master
- D) entrepreneur

4. To "____" a company means to create it from the very beginning.

- A) invest
- B) found
- C) publish
- D) accomplish

5. A sudden and important discovery or development is called a ____.

- A) credentials
- B) prize
- C) breakthrough
- D) skill

6. Legal protection that stops other people from copying your invention is called a ____.

- A) patent
- B) medal
- C) honor
- D) progress

7. Continuing to try something difficult without giving up shows ____.

- A) recognition
- B) promotion
- C) prize
- D) persistence

8. Extra money given to an employee as a reward for good performance is a ____.

- A) qualification
- B) bonus
- C) record
- D) breakthrough

9. A moment when an important change happens in someone's life or career is called a ____.

- A) turning point
- B) accomplishment
- C) championship
- D) potential

10. Feeling pleased and satisfied about an achievement is feeling ____.

- A) ambitious
- B) dedicated
- C) proud
- D) honored

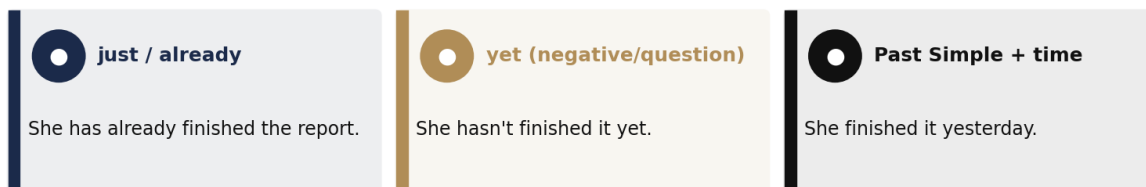
Grammar Focus: Present Perfect (just / already / yet) vs. Past Simple

We use the Present Perfect with "just" to talk about something that finished a very short time ago. "Just" usually goes between "have/has" and the past participle. For example, "I've just finished my report" means the action ended a moment ago, and the result is still important right now.

"Already" shows that something happened before now, often sooner than expected. It usually goes between "have/has" and the past participle, although it can also go at the end of a sentence for extra emphasis. For example, "She has already won two awards this year." "Yet" is used mainly in negative sentences and questions to talk about something that has not happened, but is expected to happen soon. It usually goes at the end of the sentence, as in "He hasn't received his certificate yet" or "Have you finished the project yet?"

We use the Present Perfect, often with just, already, or yet, when we do not mention exactly when something happened, because the focus is on the result now, not on the time of the action. However, when we mention a specific finished time (yesterday, last year, in 2019, two days ago), we must use the Past Simple instead. Compare "I've already finished the report" (no specific time; the result matters now) with "I finished the report yesterday" (a specific time is given). Remember: never combine a specific past time expression with the Present Perfect.

Figure 5

1. Sentence structure**2. Forms and examples****Reference Table: just / already / yet**

Word	Used in	Position	Example
just	affirmative	between have/has and past participle	I've just finished the report.
already	affirmative	between have/has and past participle (or at the end for emphasis)	She has already won an award.
yet	negative	at the end of the sentence	He hasn't received his certificate yet.
yet	questions	at the end of the sentence	Have you finished the project yet?

Examples

1. I've just received a promotion at work.
2. She has already published two research papers this year.
3. Have you finished your qualification yet?
4. They haven't launched the new product yet.
5. We have already achieved our sales target for this month.
6. He finished his degree in 2020, but he hasn't found a job yet.

English Usage

Learn and practice these useful expressions.

- Congratulations!

Use to celebrate someone's achievement or good news

- I've just finished...

Use to talk about something completed a moment ago

- I've already...

Use to say something happened before now, sooner than expected

- I haven't...yet, but...

Use to say something hasn't happened but is expected soon

- Well done!

Use to praise someone for something they did well

- That's fantastic news!

Use to react with enthusiasm to good news

- How's it going with...?

Use to ask about progress on a goal or project

- I'm really proud of...

Use to express pride in an achievement

Sample Dialogue

A: Hi Tom! I heard the good news. Congratulations!

B: Thanks! I've just finished my project management certificate.

A: That's fantastic news! How long did the course take?

B: About six months. I've already started looking for a new position.

A: Well done! How's it going with the job search?

B: Good, actually. I haven't found a new job yet, but I've had two interviews this week.

A: I'm really proud of you. You've worked so hard for this.

B: Thank you! Have you finished your English course yet?

A: Not yet, but I've already passed two exams.

B: That's great! You'll finish soon.

A: I hope so. Congratulations again on your certificate!

B: Thanks a lot!

Practice

Choose the best expression for each situation.

1. Your friend just got a promotion. What is the best thing to say?

- A) Congratulations!
- B) How's it going with...?
- C) I haven't...yet, but...
- D) I've just finished...

2. You want to ask about the progress of a colleague's project. What do you say?

- A) Well done!
- B) How's it going with your project?
- C) That's fantastic news!
- D) I'm really proud of...

3. You finished a report two minutes ago. Which phrase describes this?

- A) I've already...
- B) I haven't...yet, but...
- C) I've just finished...
- D) Well done!

4. Your classmate passed a difficult exam. Which phrase shows praise for their success?

- A) How's it going with...?
- B) I haven't...yet, but...
- C) I've just finished...
- D) Well done!

5. You haven't finished a task, but you expect to soon. Which phrase best fits?

- A) I haven't...yet, but...
- B) I've already...
- C) Congratulations!
- D) That's fantastic news!

Practice Quiz (25 Questions)

Choose the only correct answer for each question, based on international exams. Answers are in the Answer Key at the end of the book.

1. She ___ her degree last year.

- A) finished
- B) has finished
- C) has just finished
- D) is finishing

2. After five years at the company, Maria received a ___ and became the new sales manager.

- A) prize
- B) promotion
- C) medal
- D) startup

3. ___ you finished the report yet?

- A) Did
- B) Do
- C) Have

D) Has

4. To work as a doctor, you need the correct ____, such as a medical degree.

- A) reward
- B) bonus
- C) target
- D) qualification

5. He has just ____ the meeting; he'll call you in five minutes.

- A) left
- B) leaves
- C) leaving
- D) leave

6. James studied for four years at university and earned a ____ in economics.

- A) certificate
- B) degree
- C) championship
- D) record

7. I ____ my English course in 2021.

- A) have completed
- B) am completing
- C) completed
- D) has completed

8. The scientist won a ____ of \$10,000 for her research on clean energy.

- A) target
- B) skill
- C) master
- D) prize

9. We ____ already ____ two products this year, and a third one will be in stores next week.

- A) have / launched
- B) did / launch
- C) has / launched
- D) are / launching

10. Finishing the marathon was a huge ____ for her, since she had never run more than five kilometers before.

- A) startup
- B) achievement
- C) credentials
- D) progress

- 11. — Has she received her certificate yet? — No, she ____.**
- A) didn't yet
 - B) doesn't yet
 - C) hasn't yet
 - D) wasn't yet
- 12. The researcher decided to ____ her findings in a scientific journal so other scientists could read them.**
- A) invest
 - B) master
 - C) launch
 - D) publish
- 13. They ____ the company two years ago.**
- A) founded
 - B) have founded
 - C) has founded
 - D) are founding
- 14. Many young people ____ small amounts of money in the stock market to save for the future.**
- A) reward
 - B) invest
 - C) accomplish
 - D) publish
- 15. I can't go to lunch now because I ____ my report yet.**
- A) am not finishing
 - B) don't finish
 - C) haven't finished
 - D) didn't finish
- 16. A small new business, especially in technology, is often called a ____.**
- A) qualification
 - B) championship
 - C) credentials
 - D) startup
- 17. She ____ won three awards, and the year isn't even over yet.**
- A) has already
 - B) is already
 - C) was already
 - D) already
- 18. After his research was published, he received international ____ for his work.**
- A) record

- B) recognition
- C) target
- D) bonus

19. — When ___ you receive your promotion? — Last month.

- A) have
- B) do
- C) did
- D) has

20. The athlete won a gold ___ at the international competition.

- A) certificate
- B) reward
- C) prize
- D) medal

21. He hasn't found a new job ___, but he's still looking.

- A) yet
- B) ago
- C) already
- D) just

22. Before starting her business, she spent months doing ___ on the local market.

- A) effort
- B) research
- C) skill
- D) progress

23. I've ___ spoken to my manager; that's why I know about the changes.

- A) yesterday
- B) ago
- C) just
- D) yet

24. His strong ___ pushed him to work harder than anyone else on the team.

- A) credentials
- B) record
- C) qualification
- D) ambition

25. The company set a new sales ___ for this quarter: one million dollars.

- A) target
- B) reward
- C) honor

D) potential

UNIT 6

Future Plans

Objective (CEFR A2): to understand and use expressions related to talking about future plans, predictions, and life decisions, and to communicate in simple, routine tasks that require a direct exchange of information on familiar matters.

Reading: Turning Point: One Woman's Plan for the Next Chapter

Ana Delgado is twenty-nine years old, and this year she is making some of the biggest decisions of her life. Like many young professionals, she is thinking carefully about her career path, her finances, and her personal life. "I made a New Year's resolution to stop postponing my dreams," she says with a smile. "Now I have a clear vision for the future."

For the past six years, Ana has worked as a graphic designer for a large advertising agency. The job has given her valuable experience, but she says it is time for a change. "I've decided to resign from my position at the end of the month," she explains. "It's a difficult decision, but I'm going to start my own freelance business instead."

Ana's plan did not happen overnight. She spent months considering different options before she made up her mind. She arranged several meetings with a career coach, and she has an appointment with a business advisor next week to discuss her strategy. "My short-term objective is simple: find three regular clients soon after I resign," she says. "My long-term aim is to build a design studio with two or three employees."

In the upcoming weeks, Ana will finalize her business plan and register her company officially. There is a deadline for the paperwork, so she cannot postpone this part of the process for long.

Freelance work is not the only big change in Ana's near future. She is also planning to relocate. "I'm going to move to Valencia in September," she says. "The cost of living is lower there, and the design community is growing fast. It's a great opportunity for someone starting a new career path."

Ana is not the only person in her family with ambitious plans. Her younger brother, Diego, is twenty-two and has just finished an internship at a technology company. He is now considering an apprenticeship program that will train him as a software developer. "The company offered him a contract," Ana says, "but he's still undecided. He wants to compare it with other opportunities first."

Diego's plans are closely connected to Ana's. In fact, the two of them are travelling together this winter. "We're flying to Portugal on the fifteenth of December," Ana says. "We've already booked the flights and arranged the hotel." This trip, unlike Ana's career change, has a fixed date and clear arrangements.

What does Ana predict for her business? "My prediction is cautiously positive," she says. "It's likely that I'll face challenges in the first year, but the economic forecast for freelance designers is generally good, so I'm optimistic. I probably won't earn much money at first, but eventually, I believe my business will grow." She adds, "Nobody can be completely certain about the future. Plans change, deadlines get postponed, and

sometimes you have to reschedule everything. But I'm committed to this vision, and that commitment matters more than certainty."

Not every part of Ana's life is uncertain, however. She is engaged to her partner, Marco, and their wedding is planned for next spring. "We're getting married in May," she says happily. "The venue is booked, and the invitations will be sent next month." Ana and Marco also intend to settle down in Valencia once they are married, and they plan to buy a small apartment near the coast.

When asked what advice she would give to other young professionals who are considering a similar change, Ana pauses. "Don't wait for the perfect moment," she says. "It's unlikely that everything will be perfect at once. Instead, make a plan, take one step at a time, and stay flexible. Some things you can control, like your daily commitment to your goals. Other things, like the economy or the job market, you cannot control."

Looking at the year ahead, Ana seems calm and confident. Her forthcoming wedding, her move to Valencia, and her new freelance career are all part of one bigger vision: a life that reflects her own values and choices. "I don't know exactly what will happen," she admits, "but I definitely know what I'm working towards. And that, for me, is enough."

Someday, Ana hopes to open her own small studio and mentor other young designers who want to follow a similar path. For now, though, she is focused on the near future — one appointment, one deadline, and one decision at a time.

Reading Comprehension – True or False

Read the text again and decide if each statement is true (T) or false (F).

1. Ana has decided to resign from her job at the advertising agency. ____ (T / F)
2. Ana is going to stay in her current city and not relocate. ____ (T / F)
3. Diego has finished an internship and is now considering an apprenticeship program. ____ (T / F)
4. Ana and Diego are going to travel to Portugal in the summer. ____ (T / F)
5. Ana's wedding is planned for next spring. ____ (T / F)

Reading Comprehension – Multiple Choice

Read each question and choose the correct answer.

1. What is Ana's short-term objective for her freelance business?

- A) To hire ten employees immediately
- B) To find three regular clients soon after resigning
- C) To move to another country
- D) To close her design studio

2. Why does Ana want to relocate to Valencia?

- A) Because her family already lives there
- B) Because the advertising agency has an office there

- C) Because the cost of living is lower and the design community is growing
- D) Because her wedding will take place there

3. What is Diego considering instead of the contract the technology company offered him?

- A) An apprenticeship program to become a software developer
- B) Starting his own freelance business
- C) A trip to Portugal
- D) A career in graphic design

4. According to Ana, what matters more than certainty about the future?

- A) Money
- B) Luck
- C) A fixed deadline
- D) Commitment to her vision

5. What advice does Ana give to other young professionals?

- A) Wait for the perfect moment before making any plan
- B) Make a plan, take one step at a time, and stay flexible
- C) Never change a decision once it is made
- D) Avoid taking any risks in their career

Key Vocabulary

High-frequency words and expressions (Oxford 3000, New General Service List and Brown Corpus), filtered by topic relevance and A2 level. Meanings are in the Dictionary at the end of the book.

1–10	11–20	21–30	31–40
1. plan	11. opportunity	21. travel	31. deadline
2. goal	12. career	22. explore	32. weekend
3. dream	13. move	23. settle down	33. tomorrow
4. decision	14. relocate	24. retire	34. soon
5. intend	15. save	25. promotion	35. eventually
6. future	16. invest	26. challenge	36. likely
7. decide	17. start a business	27. risk	37. certain
8. prediction	18. quit a job	28. chance	38. forecast
9. resolution	19. apply for	29. schedule	39. expect
10. change	20. graduate	30. appointment	40. arrange

Vocabulary Practice

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

1. She _____ to study abroad next year, but she hasn't booked anything yet.

- A) intends
- B) postpones
- C) arranges
- D) resigns

2. I need to _____ a meeting with my manager to discuss the new contract.

- A) resign
- B) arrange
- C) relocate
- D) forecast

3. Every January, many people make a New Year's _____ to change a habit.

- A) deadline
- B) apprenticeship
- C) resolution
- D) forecast

4. After she got the job offer, she decided to _____ to a new city.

- A) postpone
- B) reschedule
- C) resign
- D) relocate

5. An _____ usually combines paid work with structured training for a trade or craft.

- A) apprenticeship
- B) internship
- C) resolution
- D) forecast

6. We had to _____ our flight because of bad weather; now it leaves two hours later.

- A) postpone
- B) reschedule
- C) resign
- D) settle down

7. The project has a strict _____ ; we must finish the report by Friday.

- A) forecast
- B) prediction
- C) deadline
- D) objective

8. According to the weather _____, it will be sunny all week.

- A) prediction

- B) resolution
- C) strategy
- D) forecast

9. He is still _____ about which job offer to accept.

- A) undecided
- B) forthcoming
- C) freelance
- D) long-term

10. Ana feels a strong _____ to her new business; she works on it every single day.

- A) opportunity
- B) commitment
- C) vision
- D) strategy

Grammar Focus: Future Forms: going to, will, and Present Continuous

We use going to + base verb to talk about future plans and intentions — things we have already decided to do, even if we have not arranged every detail yet. For example, "I'm going to change my career path this year" shows a decision made before the moment of speaking. Going to is also common when there is present evidence for a future event, such as "Look at those clouds — it's going to rain."

We use will + base verb in two main situations. First, we use it for predictions about the future, especially when we are not completely certain, often together with words like probably, definitely, or likely: "I think freelance work will become more popular." Second, we use will for spontaneous decisions — choices we make at the moment of speaking, with no plan in advance: "The phone is ringing. I'll answer it."

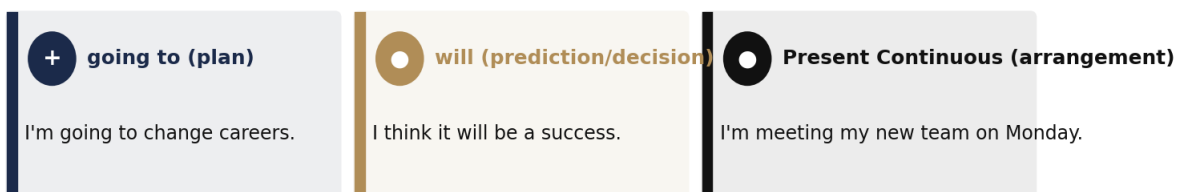
We use the present continuous (am/is/are + verb-ing) for fixed arrangements in the near future, usually when a specific time or place has already been confirmed. This is different from going to because the arrangement usually involves another person, a booking, or an entry in a calendar: "We're flying to Portugal on the fifteenth of December" means the flights are already booked. Compare this to "I'm going to travel next year," which is only a general intention without confirmed details yet.

Figure 6

1. Sentence structure



2. Forms and examples



Reference Table: Future forms

Form	Use	Example
going to	plan or intention	I'm going to start a new job.
will	prediction	Experts believe the economy will improve.
will	spontaneous decision	I'm thirsty. I'll get some water.
present continuous	fixed arrangement (with time/place)	We're having dinner with Marco at eight tonight.

Examples

1. I'm going to start my own freelance business next year.
2. She's going to relocate to Valencia in September.
3. I think it will rain later, so take an umbrella.
4. A: The printer isn't working. B: Don't worry, I'll call the technician.
5. We're meeting the business advisor at ten o'clock on Tuesday.
6. They're getting married in May; the venue is already booked.

English Usage

Learn and practice these useful expressions.

- I'm planning to...
Use to talk about a future plan or intention
- I'm going to...
Use to state a decided plan or intention

- I'll help you with that.
Use to offer spontaneous help with 'will'
- What are you going to do?
Use to ask about someone's future plans
- I haven't decided yet.
Use to say you are still undecided
- I'm thinking about...
Use to talk about a possible future plan
- I'm meeting...
Use to talk about a fixed future arrangement
- That sounds like a great idea.
Use to respond positively to someone's plan

Sample Dialogue

- A: Hey Sofia, I heard you're making some big changes this year.
- B: Yes! I'm planning to leave my job and start my own business.
- A: Wow, that's huge. What are you going to do exactly?
- B: I'm going to open a small bakery downtown. I've always dreamed about it.
- A: That sounds like a great idea. When are you starting?
- B: I'm meeting the bank next Tuesday to talk about a loan.
- A: Do you know where the bakery will be yet?
- B: I haven't decided yet, but I'm thinking about the space near the market.
- A: If you need anything, I'll help you with that.
- B: Thanks! I'll probably need help painting the walls next month.
- A: No problem. I'm sure it will be a big success.
- B: I hope so. This is going to change my whole life.

Practice

Choose the best expression for each situation.

1. You want to offer spontaneous help to a friend. Which phrase do you use?

- A) I'm thinking about...
- B) I'll help you with that.
- C) I haven't decided yet.
- D) That sounds like a great idea.

2. Which phrase do you use to ask about someone's future plans?

- A) I'm meeting...
- B) I'm planning to...
- C) What are you going to do?

D) I haven't decided yet.

3. You have a fixed appointment next week. Which phrase best describes it?

- A) I'm meeting...
- B) I'm thinking about...
- C) That sounds like a great idea.
- D) I'll help you with that.

4. Your friend tells you their plan and you want to respond positively. What do you say?

- A) I haven't decided yet.
- B) That sounds like a great idea.
- C) What are you going to do?
- D) I'm planning to...

5. You are still unsure about your future plans. Which phrase fits?

- A) I'm going to...
- B) I'll help you with that.
- C) I'm meeting...
- D) I haven't decided yet.

Practice Quiz (25 Questions)

Choose the only correct answer for each question, based on international exams. Answers are in the Answer Key at the end of the book.

1. Look at the sky! It _____ rain soon.

- A) is going to
- B) will
- C) is
- D) rains

2. A: I forgot my wallet at home. B: Don't worry, I _____ lend you some money.

- A) am going to
- B) will
- C) am
- D) am lending

3. We _____ dinner with the Garcias at seven o'clock on Saturday; it's already arranged.

- A) will have
- B) have
- C) are having
- D) are going to having

4. I _____ start my own business next year. I've already made the decision.

- A) will
- B) am
- C) go to
- D) am going to

5. Experts believe the job market _____ improve over the next decade.

- A) will
- B) is going to
- C) is
- D) are

6. The phone is ringing. I _____ answer it.

- A) am going to
- B) will
- C) am
- D) answer

7. She _____ the doctor at eleven tomorrow; the appointment is already in her calendar.

- A) will see
- B) sees
- C) is seeing
- D) is going to seeing

8. I think it _____ be a difficult year for the economy.

- A) is going to
- B) is
- C) going to
- D) will

9. They _____ married in June; the church and the caterer are already booked.

- A) are getting
- B) will
- C) are going to
- D) get

10. A: This box is too heavy for you. B: I _____ help you carry it.

- A) am going to
- B) will
- C) am
- D) help

11. Based on current sales figures, the company _____ open two new stores next year.

- A) will
- B) is opening

- C) is going to
- D) opens

12. I have an _____ with the dentist at three o'clock tomorrow.

- A) contract
- B) opportunity
- C) forecast
- D) appointment

13. After much thought, she finally _____ to accept the job offer.

- A) decided
- B) considered
- C) postponed
- D) rescheduled

14. Before making a decision, it's wise to _____ all your options carefully.

- A) decide
- B) consider
- C) resign
- D) forecast

15. After years in finance, he changed his _____ and became a teacher.

- A) deadline
- B) contract
- C) career path
- D) forecast

16. She left her office job to become a _____ writer, working for different clients.

- A) forthcoming
- B) undecided
- C) apprenticeship
- D) freelance

17. He signed a two-year _____ with the company before starting the job.

- A) contract
- B) resolution
- C) forecast
- D) commitment

18. After the wedding, they plan to _____ in a small town near the coast.

- A) postpone
- B) settle down
- C) resign
- D) forecast

19. Their _____ will take place in a beautiful garden next spring.

- A) internship
- B) apprenticeship
- C) wedding
- D) deadline

20. Her _____ for the company's future is very optimistic.

- A) resolution
- B) commitment
- C) internship
- D) prediction

21. He will _____ pass the exam; he has studied very hard.

- A) definitely
- B) uncertain
- C) undecided
- D) forthcoming

22. The results are still _____ ; we won't know until next week.

- A) probably
- B) uncertain
- C) definitely
- D) commitment

23. In the _____ , I don't have any specific plans, just general ideas for next year.

- A) deadline
- B) appointment
- C) near future
- D) contract

24. She didn't get the promotion this year, but she will _____ reach her goal.

- A) forthcoming
- B) undecided
- C) short-term
- D) eventually

25. Studying abroad is a great _____ to improve your language skills and meet new people.

- A) opportunity
- B) deadline
- C) resolution
- D) contract

UNIT 7

Rules and Advice

Objective (CEFR A2): to understand and use expressions related to talking about rules, obligations, and advice in everyday situations, and to communicate in simple, routine tasks that require a direct exchange of information on familiar matters.

Reading: Know the Rules: A Practical Guide for Work, Travel, and Health

Every part of modern life comes with rules. At work, when you travel, and even when you think about your health, there are laws, regulations, and guidelines that tell you what you must do, what you must not do, and what is simply good advice. Understanding the difference between an obligation and a suggestion can save you time, money, and sometimes serious trouble.

In the workplace, safety rules exist for a good reason. Every company has a policy that explains the basic requirements for a safe environment. Employees must wear protective equipment in areas with machinery, and workers must not remove warning signs near a hazard. These rules are not optional; they are compulsory. A company that does not enforce its safety rules can face a heavy fine if an inspector visits and finds a violation. In some industries, workers also have to follow a strict dress code. For example, a chef has to wear a hat and clean clothes, but a graphic designer usually does not have to follow the same requirement. Employers must give clear instructions about duties and responsibilities, and every new employee should read the company's code of conduct before starting the job. It is also wise to ask about the process for a breach of the rules: what should you do if you see a colleague ignoring safety instructions? Most companies recommend that you report it to a supervisor rather than ignore it.

Travel brings a different set of rules. Before you leave your country, you should check whether you need a visa or a special permit to enter another country. Some countries require travelers to carry a license or an identity document at all times, while others only ask for a passport. Airlines have their own restrictions too: you must not carry certain liquids in your hand luggage, and some items are completely forbidden. If airport security finds something illegal, the authority in charge can apply a penalty, and in serious cases, there can be legal consequences. Once you arrive, local laws may include a curfew in some regions, especially during festivals or emergencies, so residents and visitors must stay indoors after a certain hour. A good traveler always checks government websites for the latest regulations before booking a trip, because rules can change without much warning.

Health is another area full of both obligations and advice. In many workplaces, employees do not have to take a medical exam every year, but it is often a sensible precaution, and doctors usually recommend regular check-ups anyway. During a public health emergency, however, certain measures can become mandatory. Governments sometimes require citizens to follow specific guidelines, such as wearing a mask in hospitals. Breaking a mandatory health rule can lead to a fine, while ignoring general advice, like eating well or sleeping enough, will not result in any legal penalty, only in poorer health. This is the key difference between a strict duty and a friendly suggestion: one is enforced by an authority, and the other is simply good sense.

So how can you tell the difference between something you must do and something you should do? Ask yourself whether a rule is written in an official document, like a law, a contract, or a company policy. If the answer is yes, it is probably an obligation, and there is likely a real consequence if you do not comply. If a friend, a doctor, or a colleague is simply giving helpful advice, then it is optional, and you are free to decide for yourself. Of course, there are always exceptions. A rule that usually applies to everyone might not apply to you in a specific situation, so when in doubt, ask someone with real authority on the subject, such as a manager, an official, or a licensed professional.

Learning to read rules carefully, whether at work, at an airport, or at the doctor's office, is an important adult skill. It helps you avoid unnecessary trouble and also helps you give better advice to other people. The next time you see a sign, a policy, or a set of instructions, take a moment to ask yourself a simple question: is this compulsory, or is it just a helpful suggestion?

Reading Comprehension – True or False

Read the text again and decide if each statement is true (T) or false (F).

1. Company safety policies are compulsory for all employees. ____ (T / F)
2. Every job requires employees to follow the same strict dress code. ____ (T / F)
3. Airport security can apply a penalty if illegal items are found in luggage. ____ (T / F)
4. Employees always have to take a medical exam every year. ____ (T / F)
5. Checking whether a rule is written in an official document can help you decide if it is an obligation. ____ (T / F)

Reading Comprehension – Multiple Choice

Read each question and choose the correct answer.

1. Why do workplace safety rules exist, according to the text?

- A) To protect workers and prevent accidents
- B) To reduce employee salaries
- C) To limit the number of new employees
- D) To make offices look more professional

2. What does the text say about dress codes at work?

- A) Dress codes are illegal in most companies
- B) Dress code requirements can differ between jobs
- C) All employees must wear the same uniform
- D) Only managers need to follow a dress code

3. What should travelers do before leaving their country, according to the text?

- A) Buy a new passport every year
- B) Ignore visa requirements
- C) Check if they need a visa or permit
- D) Cancel any travel plans

4. What can happen if health guidelines become mandatory during an emergency?

- A) Hospitals close completely
- B) Doctors stop giving any advice
- C) People can choose to ignore them freely
- D) People must follow them or risk a fine

5. How does the text suggest telling the difference between an obligation and a suggestion?

- A) By checking if it is written in an official document
- B) By guessing based on personal feelings
- C) By always assuming everything is optional
- D) By asking a friend for their opinion

Key Vocabulary

High-frequency words and expressions (Oxford 3000, New General Service List and Brown Corpus), filtered by topic relevance and A2 level. Meanings are in the Dictionary at the end of the book.

1–10	11–20	21–30	31–40
1. rule	11. policy	21. prescription	31. penalty
2. law	12. workplace	22. symptom	32. license
3. obligation	13. employee	23. checkup	33. speed limit
4. advice	14. employer	24. passport	34. dress code
5. permission	15. manager	25. visa	35. curfew
6. safety	16. schedule	26. customs	36. recommend
7. helmet	17. break	27. luggage	37. forbidden
8. seatbelt	18. overtime	28. security check	38. allowed
9. uniform	19. sick leave	29. warning sign	39. required
10. deadline	20. medicine	30. fine	40. mandatory

Vocabulary Practice

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

1. What does "forbid" mean?

- A) to allow something officially
- B) to pay for permission
- C) to say that something is not allowed
- D) to recommend something strongly

2. A "requirement" is...

- A) something you must have or do because it is necessary
- B) an optional activity for free time
- C) a type of vehicle
- D) a place where you buy tickets

3. Which word means "a task or action that you are morally or legally required to do"?

- A) hobby
- B) vacation
- C) suggestion
- D) duty

4. A company "policy" is best described as...

- A) a small piece of paper money
- B) a set of official rules or guidelines that a company follows
- C) a foreign language document
- D) a type of insurance for cars only

5. If there is a "restriction" on something, it means...

- A) it is completely free for everyone
- B) it has been cancelled
- C) there is a limit on what you can do
- D) it is very cheap

6. If you park illegally, you might have to pay a...

- A) salary
- B) discount
- C) gift
- D) fine

7. If a safety helmet is "mandatory" at a construction site, it means...

- A) it is required by rule
- B) it is optional but nice to wear
- C) it is forbidden
- D) it is only for visitors

8. A "hazard" at work is...

- A) a type of holiday
- B) a danger or risk
- C) a form of payment
- D) a company party

9. If someone commits a "breach" of the rules, they...

- A) follow every rule perfectly
- B) create a new rule

- C) break or fail to follow a rule
- D) receive an award

10. A "regulation" is...

- A) a piece of furniture
- B) a type of food
- C) a musical instrument
- D) an official rule made by an authority

Grammar Focus: Obligation and Advice: must, have to, should

We use **must** and **have to** to talk about obligation, but they are not always identical. **Must** often expresses a rule, a strong personal feeling, or something the speaker considers necessary, and it is common in written rules and formal notices ("Visitors **must** sign in at reception"). **Have to** usually describes an obligation that comes from outside the speaker, such as a law, a company, or another person ("She **has to** work on Saturdays because her manager schedules the shifts"). In everyday speech, native speakers often use the two almost interchangeably for present obligations, but **have to** is the more natural choice for the past and future forms (**had to**, **will have to**), since **must** does not change form.

The negative forms are very different in meaning, and this is one of the most important points for students to remember. **Mustn't** means prohibition: it tells you that something is not allowed at all ("You **mustn't** park here" means parking here is forbidden). **Don't have to** (or **doesn't have to**) means there is no obligation: the action is not necessary, but it is not forbidden either, so you are free to choose ("You **don't have to** bring your own laptop; the office has spare ones"). Confusing these two forms is a common mistake, so it helps to remember that **mustn't** stops you, while **don't have to** simply gives you a choice.

Should and **shouldn't** are weaker than **must** and **have to**; they express advice, a recommendation, or the speaker's opinion about what is a good or a bad idea, rather than a strict rule. If you **don't** follow **should**, there is usually no punishment, only a less favorable result ("You **should** read the instructions carefully" simply means it is a good idea). **Shouldn't** works the same way in the negative: it warns against an action without forbidding it completely ("You **shouldn't** ignore safety warnings" means it is not wise to ignore them). Together, **must/mustn't**, **have to/don't have to**, and **should/shouldn't** allow English speakers to express a full range of meaning, from strict legal obligation down to friendly, optional advice.

Figure 7

1. Sentence structure



2. Forms and examples

! must (rule) You must wear a helmet.	○ have to (obligation) I have to finish this today.	○ should (advice) You should get some rest.
---	---	---

Reference Table: Modals of obligation and advice

Modal	Meaning	Example
must	strong obligation	You must wear a helmet.
mustn't	prohibition	You mustn't park here.
don't have to	no obligation / not necessary	You don't have to wear a suit.
should	advice / recommendation	You should see a doctor.

Examples

1. You must wear a seatbelt in the car; it's the law.
2. Passengers mustn't smoke on the plane.
3. She has to finish the report by Friday because her boss requires it.
4. You don't have to bring your own equipment; the gym provides everything.
5. You should drink more water in hot weather.
6. You shouldn't ignore a doctor's warning about your health.

English Usage

Learn and practice these useful expressions.

- You should really...
Give strong advice or a recommendation
- You'd better...
Warn someone about a possible problem
- Make sure you...
Remind someone to do something important

- Don't forget to...
Remind someone about a necessary task
- It's a good idea to...
Suggest a helpful action politely
- You mustn't...
Say something is strictly forbidden
- Why don't you...?
Offer friendly advice as a suggestion
- Is it okay if...?
Ask politely for permission

Sample Dialogue

- A: Welcome to your first day! There are a few rules you need to know.
- B: Okay, what do I have to do?
- A: First, you must wear your uniform every day.
- B: Got it. Anything else?
- A: You'd better arrive on time — the manager doesn't like late employees.
- B: I understand. Is it okay if I take a break at noon?
- A: Sure, but make sure you clock out first.
- B: No problem. What about my phone during work?
- A: You mustn't use your phone on the floor. It's against company policy.
- B: That makes sense. Why don't you show me the break room?
- A: Good idea. Don't forget to bring your ID badge every day too.
- B: I won't forget. Thanks for the advice!
- A: You're welcome. It's a good idea to ask questions if you're not sure.
- B: I will. Thanks again!

Practice

Choose the best expression for each situation.

1. Your coworker is about to walk into a meeting late. What is the best warning to give them?

- A) It's a good idea to relax.
- B) You'd better hurry, the meeting already started.
- C) Why don't you take a break?
- D) Don't forget to smile.

2. You want to politely ask your manager for permission to leave early. What do you say?

- A) You mustn't leave early.
- B) Make sure you leave early.
- C) Is it okay if I leave early today?

D) You should really leave early.

3. A new employee forgets important safety equipment. What is the best reminder?

- A) Don't forget to wear your helmet.
- B) Why don't you wear a helmet?
- C) It's a good idea to guess.
- D) You'd better guess.

4. Something is strictly forbidden at your workplace, like smoking indoors. Which phrase fits best?

- A) You should really smoke.
- B) Make sure you smoke.
- C) Is it okay if I smoke?
- D) You mustn't smoke indoors.

5. You want to give a friendly suggestion without sounding too strong. Which phrase is best?

- A) Why don't you try the new café?
- B) You mustn't try the new café.
- C) Don't forget the new café.
- D) Is it okay if the café?

Practice Quiz (25 Questions)

Choose the only correct answer for each question, based on international exams. Answers are in the Answer Key at the end of the book.

1. You _____ wear a seatbelt in this country; it's the law.

- A) must
- B) might
- C) could
- D) can

2. Employees _____ smoke inside the building; it is strictly forbidden.

- A) don't have to
- B) should
- C) can
- D) mustn't

3. I _____ finish this report today; my boss needs it by 5 p.m.

- A) should
- B) have to
- C) mustn't
- D) could

4. You _____ bring a gift to the party; it's completely optional.

- A) mustn't
- B) have to
- C) don't have to
- D) shouldn't

5. You look tired. You _____ get more sleep.

- A) should
- B) mustn't
- C) have to
- D) forbid

6. Passengers _____ use their phones during takeoff; it is against the rules.

- A) should
- B) don't have to
- C) can
- D) mustn't

7. In my country, drivers _____ carry a license when they drive.

- A) shouldn't
- B) have to
- C) mustn't
- D) don't have to

8. She doesn't need her ID for this activity; she _____ show it.

- A) must
- B) mustn't
- C) doesn't have to
- D) should

9. Which sentence expresses strong advice, not an obligation?

- A) You should see a doctor.
- B) You must have a permit.
- C) You have to pay a fine.
- D) You mustn't enter that area.

10. Which modal verb usually expresses an obligation that comes from an outside authority, like a law or an employer?

- A) should
- B) might
- C) could
- D) have to

11. "You don't have to wear a uniform" means...

- A) It is forbidden to wear a uniform.

- B) It is not necessary, but you can if you want.
- C) It is necessary to wear a uniform.
- D) It is dangerous to wear a uniform.

12. Choose the correct sentence.

- A) You mustn't to smoke here.
- B) You must not smoking here.
- C) You must not smoke here.
- D) You must not smokes here.

13. "We shouldn't ignore safety warnings" means...

- A) It is not a good idea to ignore them.
- B) It is a good idea to ignore them.
- C) It is illegal to read them.
- D) It is required to ignore them.

14. Which sentence uses "should" correctly to give advice?

- A) You should to read the instructions first.
- B) You should reading the instructions first.
- C) You should reads the instructions first.
- D) You should read the instructions first.

15. My doctor gave me some advice, but it's not an obligation. I _____ follow it if I don't want to.

- A) mustn't
- B) don't have to
- C) have to
- D) am forbidden to

16. The hotel has a strict _____: guests must check out by 11 a.m.

- A) hazard
- B) curfew
- C) policy
- D) exception

17. Before you can drive a car, you need a valid _____.

- A) license
- B) fine
- C) breach
- D) inspector

18. Wearing safety glasses in the lab is a simple _____ against eye injuries.

- A) penalty
- B) violation
- C) authority

D) precaution

19. The city introduced a night _____, so people must stay home after midnight.

- A) requirement
- B) curfew
- C) suggestion
- D) license

20. If you break a company rule, there could be serious _____, such as losing your job.

- A) instructions
- B) recommendations
- C) consequences
- D) exceptions

21. Employees at the factory must _____ with the safety guidelines at all times.

- A) comply
- B) forbid
- C) enforce
- D) permit

22. It is _____ for restaurants to display their hygiene rating; there is no choice.

- A) optional
- B) forbidden
- C) suggested
- D) mandatory

23. The safety _____ visited the factory to check that all rules were being followed.

- A) permit
- B) inspector
- C) duty
- D) authority

24. Smoking is _____ in most public buildings nowadays.

- A) allowed
- B) recommended
- C) forbidden
- D) required

25. New employees receive a copy of the company's _____, which explains how to dress and behave at work.

- A) code of conduct
- B) penalty
- C) restriction
- D) violation

UNIT 8

If This Happens...

Objective (CEFR A2): to understand and use expressions related to predicting and responding to extreme weather emergencies, and to communicate in simple, routine tasks that require a direct exchange of information on familiar matters.

Reading: Ready for Anything: How People Prepare for Extreme Weather

Every day, weather forecasters study the sky, the ocean, and the wind to predict what will happen next. Their job is not easy, because the weather does not always follow a clear pattern. Still, if scientists collect enough data, they will often see a real possibility of a storm forming days before it arrives. A reliable forecast can save many lives, because it gives people time to prepare.

Some weather events are more common than others. A short rain shower is very likely in many parts of the world, but a powerful earthquake is much less predictable. Experts talk about likely and unlikely outcomes based on past patterns, but nobody can say for certain what will happen. There is always a chance that conditions will change quickly. If a forecaster says that rain is unlikely, most people will still carry an umbrella, just in case the situation changes.

Natural disasters take many forms. If heavy rain continues for several days, a river will often flood the towns nearby. If a region gets very little rain for months, it will suffer a serious drought instead, and farmers will lose their crops. In warmer areas near the ocean, if the water temperature rises enough, a hurricane will form and move toward land. Many scientists believe that a changing climate is making these storms stronger and more frequent.

Other dangers depend on different conditions. If dry forests do not get rain for a long time, a small fire will quickly turn into a dangerous wildfire. If the ground moves suddenly along a fault line, an earthquake will shake buildings and roads. And if very cold air meets strong wind and heavy snow, the result will be a blizzard that closes roads for days. Even ordinary summer weather can become a risk: if temperatures stay dangerously high for many days, doctors will call it a heatwave, and it can be deadly for older people.

Because these events are real possibilities, governments and families prepare for them carefully. If the weather service predicts a hurricane, officials will usually issue a warning to everyone in the area. In serious cases, they will also order an evacuation, and people will need to leave their homes for a safe shelter until the danger passes. Every community has its own emergency plan, but the basic idea is the same everywhere: if people receive information early, they will have more time to make good decisions.

Preparation, however, does not start on the day of the storm. If a family wants to feel safe during any emergency, they will build an emergency kit long before they need it. A good kit will include water, food, a flashlight, batteries, and important documents. Families also create a backup plan, or contingency, in case their first plan does not work. For example, if the main road out of town is closed, drivers will need an alternative route to reach safety.

Preparing for a possible disaster is not only about the emergency itself. It is also about reducing risk in daily life. If people build houses far from rivers and coastlines, they will avoid many of the worst floods and storms. If cities plant more trees and manage forests well, they will prevent some wildfires before they start. Small choices like these can change the outcome of a difficult situation, and knowing your options in advance is always a smart choice. City planners study each possible scenario carefully, because a decision made today will affect how a community handles an emergency many years from now.

Of course, no plan is perfect, and every scenario is different. Unless a family checks their emergency kit regularly, some supplies will expire without anyone noticing. Provided that people follow official warnings and leave early, most evacuations will end safely. Otherwise, the consequences of staying behind can be very serious.

In the end, nobody can control the weather or stop every natural disaster. However, if people understand the risks and prepare for different circumstances, they will handle emergencies with much more confidence. The outcome of any dangerous situation often depends on one simple thing: whether people are ready before it happens. If more communities take preparation seriously today, fewer families will face an unexpected emergency without a plan tomorrow.

Reading Comprehension – True or False

Read the text again and decide if each statement is true (T) or false (F).

1. Weather forecasters use data to predict possible storms before they happen. ____ (T / F)
2. According to the text, an earthquake is just as easy to predict as a rain shower. ____ (T / F)
3. A drought happens when a region does not get enough rain for a long time. ____ (T / F)
4. According to the reading, wildfires only happen in areas that get too much rain. ____ (T / F)
5. Families should build an emergency kit before a disaster happens, not during it. ____ (T / F)

Reading Comprehension – Multiple Choice

Read each question and choose the correct answer.

1. According to the text, what usually causes a river to flood?

- A) Very little rain for several months
- B) Heavy rain that continues for several days
- C) A sudden earthquake near the coast
- D) Cold air meeting strong wind

2. What is a contingency, according to the reading?

- A) An official government warning
- B) A type of natural disaster
- C) A backup plan for when the first plan does not work
- D) A place where people go during an evacuation

3. Why do families build an emergency kit before a disaster happens?

- A) Because the government requires every family to have one
- B) Because supplies are always cheaper before an emergency
- C) So they are prepared instead of waiting until the emergency starts
- D) So they can share it with neighbors during a storm

4. Based on the reading, what will most likely happen if people build houses far from rivers and coastlines?

- A) They will experience more heatwaves
- B) They will avoid many of the worst floods and storms
- C) They will need a much bigger emergency kit
- D) They will stop receiving weather warnings

5. According to the text, what usually happens if people follow official warnings and leave early during an evacuation?

- A) The outcome is usually unsafe for everyone
- B) Most evacuations end safely
- C) People must build their own shelter
- D) They will experience a sudden blizzard

Key Vocabulary

High-frequency words and expressions (Oxford 3000, New General Service List and Brown Corpus), filtered by topic relevance and A2 level. Meanings are in the Dictionary at the end of the book.

1–10	11–20	21–30	31–40
1. hurricane	11. shelter	21. generator	31. prepare
2. flood	12. evacuate	22. rescue	32. plan ahead
3. storm	13. warning	23. damage	33. stock up
4. thunder	14. alert	24. risk	34. board up
5. lightning	15. emergency	25. safe	35. stay indoors
6. earthquake	16. supplies	26. dangerous	36. seek shelter
7. wildfire	17. flashlight	27. forecast	37. flood insurance
8. tornado	18. batteries	28. temperature	38. evacuation route
9. blizzard	19. first aid kit	29. wind speed	39. disaster
10. drought	20. sandbags	30. power outage	40. survival kit

Vocabulary Practice

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

1. Which word means "something that might happen, but is not certain"?

- A) possibility

- B) outcome
- C) shelter
- D) climate

2. "There is a good ____ that it will snow tonight." (This means a good probability.)

- A) climate
- B) chance
- C) shelter
- D) circumstance

3. A powerful storm with strong winds that forms over warm ocean water is called a ____.

- A) blizzard
- B) drought
- C) hurricane
- D) heatwave

4. A large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through dry land is called a ____.

- A) flood
- B) earthquake
- C) blizzard
- D) wildfire

5. Before a big decision, an organization often prepares a ____ in case something goes wrong.

- A) contingency
- B) forecast
- C) temperature
- D) climate

6. Officials issue a ____ to tell people that danger is coming.

- A) option
- B) outcome
- C) alternative
- D) warning

7. Every difficult ____ has more than one possible solution.

- A) forecast
- B) drought
- C) situation
- D) blizzard

8. "Please arrive on time; ____, we will start the meeting without you." (This word means "if not, if this doesn't happen.")

- A) unless
- B) otherwise

- C) provided that
- D) in case

9. The final result of a situation or event is called the ____.

- A) risk
- B) condition
- C) contingency
- D) outcome

10. If your first choice is not possible, you need an ____.

- A) alternative
- B) climate
- C) evacuation
- D) temperature

Grammar Focus: First Conditional: Real Future Possibility

The First Conditional describes real and possible situations in the future. It has two parts: the if-clause and the result clause. In the if-clause, we use the present simple, even though the meaning is future. In the result clause, we use will + the base form of the verb (the infinitive without "to"). For example: "If it rains, we will stay home." The if-clause can also come second, with no comma: "We will stay home if it rains."

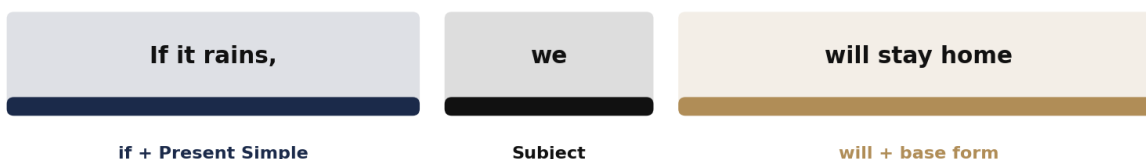
We use the First Conditional when we believe a future situation is genuinely possible, not imaginary or impossible. It connects a condition with a likely result: if the condition happens, the result will follow. This structure is especially useful for talking about weather, forecasts, and natural events, because we often cannot be certain what will happen, but we can describe what will probably happen if a certain condition is true. For example: "If the storm gets stronger, the city will issue an evacuation warning."

English also offers useful alternatives to "if" in conditional sentences. "Unless" means "if not," so "Unless you leave now, you will miss the bus" means the same as "If you do not leave now, you will miss the bus."

"Provided that" (or "providing that") means "only if" or "on the condition that," and it often introduces a requirement: "Provided that everyone follows the plan, the evacuation will go smoothly." "In case" is used for precautions, describing something we prepare for even if it may not happen: "Take a flashlight in case the power goes out." Finally, "otherwise" is not exactly a conjunction, but it introduces the negative result if a condition is not met: "Follow the warning; otherwise, you may be in danger."

Figure 8

1. Sentence structure



2. Forms and examples

+ If + present If it rains, the game will stop.	● will / won't We won't go out if it storms.	? Question form What will you do if it floods?
---	--	--

Reference Table: First Conditional

Clause	Verb form	Example
If-clause	present simple	If it rains,
Result clause	will + infinitive	...it will flood the streets.
Negative result	won't + infinitive	If people don't prepare, they won't be ready.
Unless clause	unless + present simple	Unless it stops raining, the flood will get worse.

Examples

1. If it rains tomorrow, the outdoor concert will start late.
2. We will need an umbrella if the forecast is correct about the storm.
3. Unless the hurricane changes direction, it will reach the coast tonight.
4. Provided that everyone follows the evacuation plan, the town will stay safe.
5. If the river rises above the warning level, it will flood the nearby fields.
6. Families should know their shelter location in case of a sudden earthquake.

English Usage

Learn and practice these useful expressions.

- Just in case...
Use to mention a precaution for a possible future event
- As long as...
Use to state a necessary condition for something to happen
- What happens if...?

Use to ask about the result of a possible situation

- Better safe than sorry.

Use to explain why you are taking extra precautions

- I'd better...

Use to suggest a wise action to avoid a problem

- In case of emergency,...

Use to give instructions for an emergency situation

- If all else fails,...

Use to mention a last resort option

- Make sure (that)...

Use to remind someone to complete a necessary step

Sample Dialogue

A: The weather report says a big storm is coming this weekend.

B: Really? What happens if it hits before Saturday?

A: If it arrives early, we won't have much time to prepare.

B: Then I'd better buy some batteries and candles today, just in case.

A: Good idea. As long as we have water and food, we'll be fine.

B: What about the car? Should we fill up the gas tank?

A: Yes, if the power goes out, we will need to leave quickly.

B: Better safe than sorry. I'll fill it up this afternoon.

A: Also, make sure that you charge your phone tonight.

B: I will. And in case of emergency, we'll go to my sister's house.

A: Perfect. If all else fails, we can always call the emergency services.

B: I hope we won't need to, but it's good to have a plan.

Practice

Choose the best expression for each situation.

1. What do you say to give someone instructions for an emergency situation?

- A) Better safe than sorry.
- B) What happens if...?
- C) As long as...
- D) In case of emergency,...

2. "Better safe than sorry" is used to...

- A) ask a question about the future
- B) explain why you are taking extra precautions
- C) describe a past mistake
- D) give a command

3. Which phrase means "on the condition that"?

- A) As long as...
- B) Just in case...
- C) I'd better...
- D) If all else fails,...

4. You want to remind a friend to complete a necessary step before a trip. What do you say?

- A) What happens if...?
- B) Better safe than sorry.
- C) Make sure that you pack your umbrella.
- D) If all else fails,...

5. When should you use "If all else fails,..."?

- A) When describing a last resort option
- B) When asking for directions
- C) When thanking someone
- D) When describing the weather forecast

Practice Quiz (25 Questions)

Choose the only correct answer for each question, based on international exams. Answers are in the Answer Key at the end of the book.

1. Choose the correct form: "If it rains tomorrow, we ____ the picnic."

- A) cancel
- B) canceled
- C) canceling
- D) will cancel

2. Choose the correct form: "If she studies hard, she ____ the exam."

- A) will pass
- B) passes
- C) passed
- D) is passing

3. Complete the sentence: "____ you don't leave now, you will miss the bus."

- A) If
- B) Otherwise
- C) Unless
- D) Provided that

4. Which sentence is a correctly formed First Conditional sentence?

- A) If it will rain, we stay home.

- B) If it rains, we will stay home.
- C) If it rain, we will stay home.
- D) If it rains, we stayed home.

5. "We will have a picnic tomorrow ____ it doesn't rain."

- A) unless
- B) otherwise
- C) in case
- D) provided that

6. "If the forecast is correct, the storm ____ the coast tonight."

- A) will reach
- B) reach
- C) reaching
- D) reached

7. "You should prepare an emergency kit ____ a natural disaster happens."

- A) unless
- B) otherwise
- C) in case
- D) provided that

8. "If the government issues a warning, residents ____ evacuate immediately."

- A) would
- B) will
- C) are
- D) were

9. "If the temperature ____ above 40 degrees, the city will declare a heatwave."

- A) will rise
- B) rose
- C) rising
- D) rises

10. Which sentence correctly uses "unless"?

- A) Unless you prepare, you will not be ready.
- B) Unless you prepare, you will be ready.
- C) Unless you will prepare, you are ready.
- D) You will not be ready, unless you prepared.

11. "The town will flood ____ the river level drops soon."

- A) if
- B) because
- C) unless

D) so

12. Which sentence is the correct negative First Conditional form?

- A) If it don't rain, we won't need umbrellas.
- B) If it doesn't rain, we won't need umbrellas.
- C) If it not rains, we won't need umbrellas.
- D) If it doesn't raining, we won't need umbrellas.

13. "If people ____ the warning, they will stay safe."

- A) follows
- B) followed
- C) will follow
- D) follow

14. A ____ is an official prediction of future weather conditions.

- A) forecast
- B) shelter
- C) outcome
- D) drought

15. "If a region gets no rain for months, it experiences a ____."

- A) blizzard
- B) heatwave
- C) drought
- D) flood

16. "During a hurricane, officials may order an ____, asking people to leave the area."

- A) alternative
- B) evacuation
- C) contingency
- D) circumstance

17. "A ____ is a second plan that people use if the first plan fails."

- A) risk
- B) temperature
- C) forecast
- D) backup plan

18. "If something is ____, it will probably happen."

- A) likely
- B) impossible
- C) rare
- D) unlikely

19. "To ____ a disaster means to stop it from happening."
- A) avoid
 - B) depend on
 - C) prevent
 - D) result
20. "The ____ of not preparing for a storm can be very serious, such as property damage."
- A) option
 - B) consequence
 - C) alternative
 - D) climate
21. A safe building where people go during a dangerous storm is called a ____.
- A) scenario
 - B) circumstance
 - C) chance
 - D) shelter
22. "If your success ____ good preparation, you should always be ready."
- A) depends on
 - B) prevents
 - C) avoids
 - D) results in
23. "' ____ ' means 'if not' and is often used instead of 'if...not' in conditional sentences."
- A) Provided that
 - B) Otherwise
 - C) Unless
 - D) In case
24. A sudden, violent shaking of the ground is called an ____.
- A) wildfire
 - B) earthquake
 - C) blizzard
 - D) heatwave
25. "If you don't wear a seatbelt, you increase your ____ of injury in an accident."
- A) option
 - B) outcome
 - C) alternative
 - D) risk

UNIT 9

Technology and Everyday Life

Objective (CEFR A2): to understand and use expressions related to discussing how technology has changed daily habits and routines, and to communicate in simple, routine tasks that require a direct exchange of information on familiar matters.

Reading: How Technology Quietly Runs Your Day

Every morning, before you even open your eyes, technology is already working for you. Your smartphone has connected automatically to the wireless network in your home, and its software has quietly downloaded the latest news and weather updates while you were asleep. This is one small example of how digital devices have gradually become part of almost every task in daily life.

Think about the gadgets you use before breakfast. You might check messages on a touch screen, ask a virtual assistant for the time, or glance at a smartwatch that tracks your sleep. Each device has its own function, but together they form a system that works smoothly, often without you noticing it at all. Because these devices are wireless, they can connect and disconnect from different networks throughout the day without any cables or complicated setup.

Modern technology depends on both hardware and software working together properly. Hardware is the physical part of a device — the screen, the battery, the camera. Software is the set of instructions that tells the hardware what to do. When you install a new application, you are adding new software to your device so it can perform a new function. Because software changes so often, companies regularly release an update that fixes small problems or adds new features. If you do not update your applications, they may not work efficiently, and some features could stop working properly.

Artificial intelligence, or AI, is one of the biggest changes in everyday technology. AI allows devices to learn patterns and make decisions automatically, without a person controlling every step. For example, when a photo application sorts your pictures by date and place instantly, artificial intelligence is doing that work quietly in the background. Many apps also use AI to recommend music, suggest routes, or answer questions, and they usually complete this task efficiently and quickly.

Of course, technology does not always work smoothly. Sometimes a device will malfunction: the screen freezes, an application closes suddenly, or the battery will not charge properly. When this happens, it helps to know how to troubleshoot the problem step by step. First, check whether the device is connected to power or to the internet. Then, close the application and open it again. After that, if the problem continues, restart the device completely. Although this simple process does not always solve every problem, it fixes many common issues quickly and easily.

Another important part of modern technology is storage. In the past, people saved files directly onto a device, but today much of this data moves to the cloud instead. The cloud is a network of remote computers that store information so you can reach it from any device, at any time. This is useful because you can access

your files remotely, but it also means you should backup important documents regularly, in case a device is lost or a malfunction damages its storage.

Learning to use technology carefully is also a matter of safety. Before you connect to a public wireless network, for example, it is wise to check that the connection is secure. Before you upload personal photos or download an unknown file, think carefully about where that information will go. Good digital habits do not happen automatically; they develop gradually, through practice.

Not every solution to a technology problem needs an expert. Many small tasks — like clearing storage space, updating an application, or organizing files — can be done manually by anyone who follows the correct steps carefully. Larger problems, such as fixing damaged hardware, usually need a specialist, so it is useful to know the difference between a task you can manage yourself and one that requires professional help. Some newer devices even allow a technician to diagnose and repair a problem remotely, without visiting your home at all, which saves time for everyone involved.

In the end, technology has changed daily life so gradually that many people barely notice how dependent they have become on it. Devices connect us, inform us, and complete tasks efficiently so that we can focus on other things. Whether you are troubleshooting a malfunction, downloading a useful gadget, or simply enjoying a smoothly running application, understanding how these tools function makes everyday life easier — and, when something does go wrong, it helps you solve the problem quickly, calmly, and properly.

Reading Comprehension – True or False

Read the text again and decide if each statement is true (T) or false (F).

1. Software is the set of instructions that tells hardware what to do. ____ (T / F)
2. According to the text, updating applications is not important. ____ (T / F)
3. Artificial intelligence can help sort and organize photos automatically. ____ (T / F)
4. The text says storage problems never require backing up files. ____ (T / F)
5. Restarting a device is described as one common step in troubleshooting. ____ (T / F)

Reading Comprehension – Multiple Choice

Read each question and choose the correct answer.

1. What is one example of hardware mentioned in the text?

- A) an application
- B) a battery
- C) an update
- D) the cloud

2. According to the text, what is the first step in troubleshooting a malfunctioning device?

- A) restart the device completely
- B) buy a new device
- C) check the power or internet connection

D) delete all applications

3. Why do companies release updates, according to the text?

- A) to make devices more expensive
- B) to fix problems and add new features
- C) to remove artificial intelligence
- D) to disconnect users from wireless networks

4. What does the text say about the cloud?

- A) It only works with old devices.
- B) It stores information on remote computers.
- C) It cannot be reached remotely.
- D) It replaces all hardware.

5. According to the text, what should a person consider before connecting to a public wireless network?

- A) whether the connection is secure
- B) whether the battery is fully charged
- C) whether the device has artificial intelligence
- D) whether the screen is a touch screen

Key Vocabulary

High-frequency words and expressions (Oxford 3000, New General Service List and Brown Corpus), filtered by topic relevance and A2 level. Meanings are in the Dictionary at the end of the book.

1–10	11–20	21–30	31–40
1. technology	11. battery	21. upload	31. connection
2. device	12. charger	22. update	32. data
3. smartphone	13. password	23. search engine	33. storage
4. laptop	14. message	24. camera	34. file
5. tablet	15. email	25. photo	35. account
6. internet	16. video call	26. keyboard	36. quickly
7. Wi-Fi	17. social media	27. headphones	37. slowly
8. app	18. online	28. smartwatch	38. carefully
9. website	19. offline	29. speaker	39. easily
10. screen	20. download	30. network	40. constantly

Vocabulary Practice

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

1. Which word means a small electronic device, often used informally?

- A) gadget
- B) storage
- C) function
- D) process

2. If your phone has a "malfunction," it means it is...

- A) working perfectly
- B) not working correctly
- C) fully charged
- D) connected to the cloud

3. What do you call the physical parts of a computer, such as the screen and battery?

- A) software
- B) application
- C) hardware
- D) feature

4. Which word means to fix a problem step by step?

- A) troubleshoot
- B) disconnect
- C) upgrade
- D) upload

5. "The cloud" in technology refers to...

- A) a weather app
- B) a network of remote computers for storing data
- C) a type of hardware
- D) a virtual assistant

6. Which word describes something done without a person controlling it?

- A) manually
- B) automatic
- C) remotely
- D) gradually

7. Which adverb means "in a way that works well, without problems"?

- A) smoothly
- B) instantly
- C) quickly
- D) properly

8. What is the opposite of "connect" in technology?

- A) restart

- B) disconnect
- C) install
- D) charge

9. Which word means to copy files to keep them safe in case of a problem?

- A) backup
- B) download
- C) upload
- D) update

10. "AI" is short for which term used in the text?

- A) automatic internet
- B) application interface
- C) artificial intelligence
- D) advanced installation

Grammar Focus: Adverbs of Manner and Linking Words

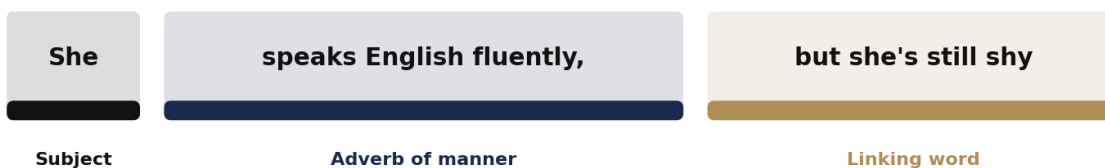
Adverbs of manner tell us how an action happens. Most adverbs of manner are formed by adding -ly to an adjective: quick becomes quickly, careful becomes carefully, and efficient becomes efficiently. When an adjective ends in -y, the y usually changes to i before -ly, as in easy, which becomes easily. A few common adverbs are irregular: the adjective good becomes the adverb well, not "goodly." Some words, such as fast and hard, have the same form as both an adjective and an adverb.

Adverbs of manner usually go after the main verb, or after the object if there is one: "She installed the update carefully." "The application runs smoothly." They answer the question "How?" and are especially useful when explaining a process, giving instructions, or describing how well something works.

Linking words help organize ideas clearly, especially when explaining a process step by step. Sequencing words such as first, then, after that, and finally show the order of steps: "First, restart the device. Then, check the connection." Other linking words show reason and result: because introduces a reason ("The screen froze because the battery was low"), and so introduces a result ("The battery was low, so the screen froze"). Words like although and but show contrast between two ideas: although usually introduces the less expected idea, often at the start of a sentence, while but usually joins two contrasting ideas in the middle of a sentence.

Figure 9

1. Sentence structure



2. Forms and examples

 -ly adverb He works quickly and carefully.	 because / so She learned fast because she practiced daily.	 although / however The app is useful, although it can be distracting.
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Reference Table: Adverbs of manner and linking words

Word	Type	Example
carefully	adverb of manner	She installed the update carefully.
then	sequencing word	First charge the device, then turn it on.
because	reason word	The app closed because of a malfunction.
although	contrast word	Although the update was small, it fixed the problem.

Examples

1. She updated the software quickly before the meeting started.
2. He carefully backed up all his files before the upgrade.
3. First, connect the device to the wireless network; then, install the application.
4. The device restarted automatically because it needed an update.
5. The application worked smoothly, so she did not need to troubleshoot it.
6. Although the storage was almost full, the device still ran efficiently.

English Usage

Learn and practice these useful expressions.

- I couldn't live without...
Say that something is essential to your daily life
- On the one hand, ...
Introduce the first point of a two-sided opinion

- On the other hand, ...
Introduce a contrasting point after "on the one hand"
- To be honest, ...
Give a sincere personal opinion
- In my opinion, ...
Introduce your personal point of view
- That's a good point, but...
Politely disagree after acknowledging someone's idea
- I totally agree.
Show strong agreement with what someone said
- It depends on...
Say that your answer changes based on a factor

Sample Dialogue

- A: In my opinion, smartphones have made life much easier.
- B: I totally agree. I couldn't live without my phone for messages and maps.
- A: On the one hand, we can communicate quickly with anyone, anywhere.
- B: On the other hand, people check their phones constantly, even during meals.
- A: That's a good point, but I think it depends on the person.
- B: To be honest, I sometimes use my laptop too carelessly late at night.
- A: Because you work online, you probably need it every day.
- B: Yes, although I really should turn it off earlier.
- A: So, do you think technology makes life simpler or more complicated?
- B: It depends on how carefully people use it, I think.
- A: That's true. If we use devices wisely, they help us a lot.
- B: Exactly, but if we don't, they can easily control our time.

Practice

Choose the best expression for each situation.

1. You want to say a device is essential and you use it every day. What do you say?

- A) It depends on...
- B) I couldn't live without...
- C) That's a good point, but...
- D) On the other hand, ...

2. Your friend gives an opinion about technology, and you want to introduce a contrasting idea. What do you say first?

- A) I totally agree.
- B) To be honest, ...

- C) On the other hand, ...
- D) I couldn't live without...

3. Someone asks if technology is good or bad, and your answer changes depending on the situation. What is the best response?

- A) It depends on...
- B) In my opinion, ...
- C) I totally agree.
- D) On the one hand, ...

4. You want to disagree politely with a classmate after admitting their idea has some value. What do you say?

- A) To be honest, ...
- B) That's a good point, but...
- C) I couldn't live without...
- D) In my opinion, ...

5. A classmate says smartphones are useful, and you want to show strong agreement. What do you say?

- A) It depends on...
- B) On the other hand, ...
- C) That's a good point, but...
- D) I totally agree.

Practice Quiz (25 Questions)

Choose the only correct answer for each question, based on international exams. Answers are in the Answer Key at the end of the book.

1. Choose the correct adverb form of "quick."

- A) quickly
- B) quicker
- C) quickness
- D) quick

2. "Careful" becomes which adverb?

- A) carefully
- B) carefullly
- C) carefulley
- D) carefull

3. Which sentence uses the adverb of manner correctly?

- A) She fixed the problem easy.
- B) She easy fixed the problem.
- C) She fixed the problem easily.
- D) She fixed easily the problem.

4. What is the adverb form of "good"?

- A) goodly
- B) gooder
- C) goodness
- D) well

5. He completed the task ____ before the deadline.

- A) efficiently
- B) efficient
- C) efficiency
- D) efficienting

6. ____, turn on the device. Then, connect it to the wireless network.

- A) Because
- B) First
- C) Although
- D) So

7. The battery was low, ____ the phone turned off automatically.

- A) although
- B) because
- C) so
- D) then

8. ____ the update was large, it installed quickly.

- A) So
- B) Because
- C) Then
- D) Although

9. Choose the best linking word: "The screen froze ____ the software was outdated."

- A) because
- B) so
- C) although
- D) then

10. Which sentence correctly shows contrast?

- A) The device is old, so it still works well.
- B) The device is old, but it still works well.
- C) The device is old, because it still works well.
- D) The device is old, then it still works well.

11. A "gadget" is best described as...

- A) a computer program
- B) an internet connection
- C) a small electronic device
- D) a type of storage

12. Which word means "to put a program onto a device so it can be used"?

- A) upload
- B) charge
- C) restart
- D) install

13. Which word means "to send files from your device to the internet or cloud"?

- A) upload
- B) download
- C) disconnect
- D) backup

14. Which word means "to receive files from the internet onto your device"?

- A) upload
- B) download
- C) charge
- D) connect

15. What does "wireless" describe?

- A) a broken device
- B) a type of software
- C) a connection without cables
- D) a virtual assistant

16. Which word means "a place, either physical or online, where data is kept"?

- A) function
- B) feature
- C) process
- D) storage

17. Which adverb best completes: "The technician repaired the device ____, without any mistakes."

- A) carefully
- B) instantly
- C) gradually
- D) remotely

18. Which word means "happening immediately, with no delay"?

- A) gradually
- B) instantly

- C) manually
- D) properly

19. Which word means "little by little, over time"?

- A) instantly
- B) quickly
- C) gradually
- D) automatically

20. Which word means "by hand, without a machine doing it automatically"?

- A) remotely
- B) efficiently
- C) smoothly
- D) manually

21. If you can control a device "remotely," you can control it...

- A) from a distance
- B) only when you touch it
- C) only when it is charging
- D) only with a touch screen

22. Which word refers to a specific ability or characteristic of a device or app?

- A) malfunction
- B) feature
- C) upgrade
- D) backup

23. Choose the correct sentence.

- A) The app works efficient and saves battery.
- B) The app work efficiently and saves battery.
- C) The app works efficiently and saves battery.
- D) The app works efficiently and save battery.

24. The system updated ____ while I was sleeping, so I didn't need to do anything.

- A) manually
- B) carefully
- C) hardly
- D) automatically

25. Which sentence correctly uses a sequencing word to explain a process?

- A) After that you charge the phone, first turn it on.
- B) Turn it on, first charge the phone after that.
- C) First charge the phone, after that turn it on.
- D) After that turn it on, so charge the phone.

UNIT 10

People and Places

Objective (CEFR A2): to understand and use expressions related to describing people and places you know, and to communicate in simple, routine tasks that require a direct exchange of information on familiar matters.

Reading: The Woman Who Rebuilt Her Hometown

Elena Ferreira is an architect who was born and raised in Porto, a historic city in the north of Portugal. In appearance, she is tall, with short grey hair and glasses that she has worn since university. She is the kind of person who notices small details that other people never see — the color of an old door, the shape of a window, the pattern of tiles on a wall. Her neighbors describe her as patient, creative, and hardworking, three traits that have shaped her whole career. Although she is talented and ambitious, she has never wanted to leave the city that made her who she is.

As a child, Elena was shy and quiet, but she was never afraid of hard work. She grew up in a small house near the river, in a neighborhood where many buildings were old and falling apart. "I used to walk past monuments and historic houses that nobody cared about," she remembers. "I always wondered why a city with so much heritage let its own history disappear."

That question became the roots of her career. After university, Elena started a small project which restored old buildings in the historic center of Porto. She was not rich or famous at the time, and many local residents thought her plan was impossible. But Elena is a stubborn woman who does not give up easily. She worked with a small team that shared her vision, and together they slowly transformed empty streets into a place where people wanted to live again.

Today, the neighborhood that Elena rebuilt is one of the most famous areas in the city. Visitors from all over the world come to see the landmark that her team created: a row of colorful houses which now stands where broken buildings once stood. There is also a small square, which used to be a parking lot, that is now full of cafés, musicians, and children playing after school. Local shops have opened, families have returned, and the community has grown stronger. Elena, who is now a well-known figure in Portuguese architecture, still lives in the same neighborhood where she grew up.

Ask anyone in Porto to describe Elena's personality, and they will use words like generous, honest, and confident. She is not the type of person who enjoys attention, however. Colleagues who work with her say that she is more sociable and easygoing than people expect, especially once you get to know her, although she can also be extremely stubborn when someone suggests demolishing an old building. In interviews, she remains humble and often gives credit to the workers, engineers, and residents who helped her turn an old idea into a real place. "This project only worked because of the people who believed in it," she says. "A building is not a legacy on its own. It is a legacy when a community decides that it belongs to everyone."

Elena's story shows why the connection between people and places matters so much. A hometown is not only a location on a map; it is where our identity begins. The streets where we played as children, the

neighbors who welcomed us, and the landmarks that surround us all become part of who we are. For many residents of Porto, Elena is a role model, a native daughter who never forgot where she came from.

Young architecture students often ask Elena what advice she would give to someone who wants to follow a similar path. Her answer is always the same: "Be curious about the place where you live. Talk to the people who know its history. And never be afraid to imagine a future that is different from the past." She also reminds them that a hometown is not defined only by its most famous monument; it is defined by the ordinary residents who live, work, and raise their families there every day. It is easy to understand why so many people admire her and why her influence continues to inspire new generations of architects, designers, and community leaders across the country.

Cities change constantly, but the best changes come from people who care about where they belong. Elena Ferreira, the woman who once walked past forgotten monuments as a shy teenager, is now the reason that thousands of visitors and residents can enjoy a neighborhood full of history, color, and life. Her hometown gave her a sense of identity, and she gave her hometown a new future.

Reading Comprehension – True or False

Read the text again and decide if each statement is true (T) or false (F).

1. Elena Ferreira grew up in Porto. ____ (T / F)
2. Elena was outgoing and confident as a child. ____ (T / F)
3. Elena started a project to restore old buildings in the historic center of Porto. ____ (T / F)
4. Local residents supported Elena's plan from the very beginning. ____ (T / F)
5. Elena still lives in the neighborhood that she rebuilt. ____ (T / F)

Reading Comprehension – Multiple Choice

Read each question and choose the correct answer.

1. What was Elena Ferreira's personality like as a child?

- A) She was outgoing and confident.
- B) She was talented and ambitious.
- C) She was stubborn and rude.
- D) She was shy and quiet.

2. Why did Elena start her restoration project?

- A) She cared about the historic buildings that people ignored.
- B) A government agency asked her to.
- C) She wanted to become famous quickly.
- D) She needed money to pay for university.

3. How did local residents react to Elena's plan at first?

- A) They gave her a lot of money.
- B) They thought it was impossible.

- C) They moved away immediately.
D) They asked her to leave the city.

4. According to Elena, why did the project succeed?

- A) Because she worked completely alone.
B) Because the government paid for everything.
C) Because of the people who believed in it.
D) Because tourists arrived immediately.

5. What advice does Elena give to young architecture students?

- A) Be curious about the place where you live.
B) Move to a different country.
C) Avoid talking to local residents.
D) Copy buildings from other cities.

Key Vocabulary

High-frequency words and expressions (Oxford 3000, New General Service List and Brown Corpus), filtered by topic relevance and A2 level. Meanings are in the Dictionary at the end of the book.

1–10	11–20	21–30	31–40
1. hometown	11. harbor	21. revive	31. fund
2. neighborhood	12. coast	22. thrive	32. investment
3. community	13. landmark	23. decline	33. opportunity
4. resident	14. historic	24. grow	34. generous
5. citizen	15. abandoned	25. growth	35. determined
6. mayor	16. empty	26. population	36. hardworking
7. local	17. rebuild	27. business	37. inspiring
8. downtown	18. renovate	28. shop owner	38. proud
9. square	19. restore	29. volunteer	39. return
10. market	20. improve	30. project	40. leave

Vocabulary Practice

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

1. Choose the best word: "My sister is very _____ — she always shares her time and money with others."

- A) stubborn
B) generous
C) shy
D) ambitious

2. A person who has clear goals and wants to be very successful is ____.

- A) humble
- B) easygoing
- C) ambitious
- D) reliable

3. If you can always trust someone to do what they promise, that person is ____.

- A) reliable
- B) sociable
- C) creative
- D) stubborn

4. Someone who does not like to talk about their own success is ____.

- A) confident
- B) outgoing
- C) humble
- D) talented

5. A person who refuses to change their opinion, even when they are wrong, is ____.

- A) patient
- B) kind
- C) sociable
- D) stubborn

6. A famous statue or building that people visit because it represents a city is called a ____.

- A) landmark
- B) resident
- C) community
- D) trait

7. The traditions, buildings, and culture that a country keeps from the past are its ____.

- A) identity
- B) heritage
- C) influence
- D) legacy

8. A person that other people respect and try to be like is a ____.

- A) native
- B) resident
- C) role model
- D) monument

9. Something that a person leaves behind, which continues to affect the future, is called a ____.

- A) legacy
- B) appearance
- C) character
- D) trait

10. A specific quality of someone's personality, such as honesty or patience, is called a ____.

- A) community
- B) trait
- C) hometown
- D) heritage

Grammar Focus: Relative Clauses: who, which, that, where

Defining relative clauses give essential information about a noun. This information tells us exactly which person, thing, or place we are talking about, so we cannot remove it without losing important meaning. Defining relative clauses come immediately after the noun they describe, and we do not use commas around them. For example, in the sentence "The woman who lives next door is a doctor," the clause "who lives next door" tells us exactly which woman we mean.

We use "who" to introduce information about people, both as the subject and the object of the clause: "She is the teacher who inspired me" or "He is the man who I met yesterday." We use "which" to introduce information about things, animals, or ideas: "This is the book which changed my life." In everyday speech, "that" is very common and can usually replace both "who" and "which" in defining relative clauses: "She is the teacher that inspired me" and "This is the book that changed my life" are both correct and natural.

We use "where" to introduce information about places. "Where" means "in that place," so we do not repeat the preposition: we say "This is the city where I was born," not "This is the city where I was born in." One more useful rule: when the relative pronoun is the object of the clause, it can often be left out completely, especially in speaking. "The book (that) I bought" and "the city (where) I was born" show two different situations — the object pronoun "that" can be omitted, but "where" usually stays in the sentence because it also shows the idea of location.

Figure 10

1. Sentence structure



2. Forms and examples

who (people) She's the woman who rebuilt the town.	which / that (things) It's a project that changed everything.	where (places) It's the town where she grew up.
--	---	---

Reference Table: Relative pronouns

Pronoun	Refers to	Example
who	people	She's the teacher who inspired me.
which	things or ideas	This is the book which changed my life.
that	people or things	He's the man that helped us. / This is the car that I bought.
where	places	That's the town where I was born.

Examples

- The scientist who discovered this vaccine won an international prize.
- This is the restaurant that serves the best coffee in town.
- My hometown is a small city which has a famous historic monument.
- That's the neighborhood where my grandparents used to live.
- The company that hired her last year has grown very quickly.
- She is the kind of role model who inspires young people to work hard.

English Usage

Learn and practice these useful expressions.

- She's someone who...
Use to describe a person's key quality or role
- It's the kind of place where...
Use to describe the atmosphere or purpose of a place
- I'd recommend visiting...

Use to suggest a place worth seeing

- What I love most about... is...

Use to highlight a favorite feature of a place

- The thing that impresses me most is...

Use to emphasize something remarkable

- It used to be..., but now...

Use to contrast the past and present of a place

- You should definitely check out...

Use to give an enthusiastic recommendation

- That's exactly why...

Use to explain the reason behind an opinion or fact

Sample Dialogue

A: Have you ever been to Porto? It's the kind of place where you can feel the history in every street.

B: I haven't, but I've heard about Elena Ferreira, the woman who rebuilt the old town.

A: Yes! She's someone who never gave up on her community, even when the shops were closing.

B: What I love most about her story is how she convinced local businesses to reopen.

A: It used to be a quiet, empty neighborhood, but now it's full of life again.

B: The thing that impresses me most is that she did it all as a volunteer at first.

A: I'd recommend visiting the market square where she started her first project.

B: You should definitely check out the harbor too, which she also helped restore.

A: That's exactly why so many people call her an inspiring leader.

B: I'd love to meet someone who has that much determination.

Practice

Choose the best expression for each situation.

1. You want to describe a person's most important quality or role. Which phrase is best?

- A) That's exactly why...
- B) It's the kind of place where...
- C) She's someone who...
- D) I'd recommend visiting...

2. A friend asks where to go on vacation. Which phrase best introduces your suggestion?

- A) It used to be..., but now...
- B) The thing that impresses me most is...
- C) What I love most about... is...
- D) I'd recommend visiting...

3. You want to contrast how a place used to look with how it looks today. Which phrase fits best?

- A) It used to be..., but now...
- B) You should definitely check out...
- C) She's someone who...
- D) That's exactly why...

4. Which phrase would you use to explain the reason behind your opinion?

- A) I'd recommend visiting...
- B) That's exactly why...
- C) It's the kind of place where...
- D) The thing that impresses me most is...

5. You want to give an enthusiastic recommendation about a specific landmark. Which phrase fits best?

- A) What I love most about... is...
- B) It's the kind of place where...
- C) You should definitely check out...
- D) She's someone who...

Practice Quiz (25 Questions)

Choose the only correct answer for each question, based on international exams. Answers are in the Answer Key at the end of the book.

1. Choose the correct relative pronoun: "The man _____ helped me carry my bags was very kind."

- A) who
- B) which
- C) where
- D) when

2. Choose the correct relative pronoun: "This is the book _____ I told you about last week."

- A) who
- B) that
- C) where
- D) when

3. Choose the correct relative pronoun: "That's the restaurant _____ we had our first date."

- A) who
- B) which
- C) where
- D) when

4. Choose the correct relative pronoun: "The company _____ makes this product is very successful."

- A) who
- B) where
- C) when

D) which

5. Choose the sentence that is grammatically correct.

- A) This is the town where I was born.
- B) This is the town who I was born.
- C) This is the town which I was born in it.
- D) This is the town that I was born in there.

6. Choose the correct relative pronoun: "The scientist _____ discovered this vaccine won an international prize."

- A) which
- B) who
- C) where
- D) when

7. Choose the correct relative pronoun: "I visited a museum _____ has the largest collection of modern art in the country."

- A) who
- B) where
- C) which
- D) when

8. Choose the correct relative pronoun: "Do you know the woman _____ is talking to the manager?"

- A) which
- B) where
- C) when
- D) who

9. In a defining relative clause, when the relative pronoun is the object of the clause, it can often be _____.

- A) omitted
- B) repeated twice
- C) replaced by "when"
- D) placed at the end of the sentence

10. Choose the sentence that uses a defining relative clause correctly.

- A) My brother, that lives in Canada, is a doctor.
- B) The city where I grew up has changed a lot.
- C) The teacher which taught me English was strict.
- D) The house whom we bought needs repairs.

11. Choose the correct relative pronoun: "The hotel _____ we stayed was very comfortable and quiet."

- A) which
- B) who
- C) where

D) when

12. Which sentence is grammatically INCORRECT?

- A) The girl who won the competition is my cousin.
- B) The car that I bought last year broke down.
- C) This is the village where my parents met.
- D) The book which about history is on the shelf.

13. Choose the correct relative pronoun: "We visited a small town _____ almost everyone knows each other."

- A) where
- B) which
- C) who
- D) that

14. Choose the best word: "My uncle is extremely _____; he never stops working, even on weekends."

- A) shy
- B) hardworking
- C) humble
- D) easygoing

15. Choose the best word: "She feels a strong connection to her _____, the place where her family has lived for generations."

- A) landmark
- B) legacy
- C) roots
- D) resident

16. Choose the best word: "The mayor gave a speech about protecting the city's cultural _____, including its old buildings and traditions."

- A) influence
- B) appearance
- C) identity
- D) heritage

17. Choose the best word: "He was born in Canada, but after twenty years in Mexico City, he now considers himself a _____ of the city."

- A) resident
- B) native
- C) monument
- D) role model

18. Choose the best word: "A _____ person enjoys meeting new people and feels comfortable talking in groups."

- A) stubborn

- B) sociable
- C) humble
- D) reliable

19. Choose the word that means the opposite of "confident" in this context.

- A) generous
- B) reliable
- C) shy
- D) creative

20. Choose the best word: "This monument is _____ around the world; millions of tourists visit it every year."

- A) local
- B) native
- C) humble
- D) well-known

21. Choose the best word: "A person's _____ includes qualities such as honesty, patience, and kindness."

- A) character
- B) appearance
- C) community
- D) legacy

22. Choose the word that means "to feel that you are part of a group or place."

- A) admire
- B) belong
- C) inspire
- D) describe

23. Choose the word closest in meaning to "admire."

- A) ignore
- B) forget
- C) respect
- D) avoid

24. Choose the best word: "My grandmother always says that where you grow up shapes your _____, or your sense of who you are."

- A) heritage
- B) trait
- C) community
- D) identity

25. Choose the best word: "The senator's decisions had a great _____ on how the city developed over the next twenty years."

- A) influence

- B) legacy
- C) community
- D) appearance

Answer Key

Below are the correct answers to all reading comprehension, vocabulary, English Usage and practice-quiz exercises in each unit.

Unit 1: My Story

True/False: 1. T 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. T

Reading Comprehension (multiple choice): 1. C 2. B 3. A 4. B 5. C

Vocabulary: 1. A 2. D 3. A 4. C 5. D 6. A 7. B 8. C 9. B 10. D

English Usage – Practice: 1. B 2. C 3. A 4. D 5. A

Practice Quiz: 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. A 6. B 7. C 8. D 9. A 10. B 11. C 12. D 13. A

14. B 15. C 16. D 17. A 18. B 19. C 20. D 21. A 22. B 23. C 24. D 25. A

Unit 2: What Happened?

True/False: 1. T 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. T

Reading Comprehension (multiple choice): 1. B 2. C 3. B 4. D 5. B

Vocabulary: 1. B 2. C 3. A 4. D 5. B 6. C 7. A 8. D 9. B 10. C

English Usage – Practice: 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. B

Practice Quiz: 1. B 2. D 3. A 4. C 5. B 6. A 7. D 8. C 9. B 10. D 11. A 12. C 13. D

14. B 15. A 16. C 17. D 18. B 19. C 20. A 21. D 22. B 23. C 24. A 25. D

Unit 3: Better Than Before

True/False: 1. T 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. T

Reading Comprehension (multiple choice): 1. B 2. D 3. A 4. C 5. B

Vocabulary: 1. D 2. A 3. C 4. B 5. D 6. A 7. C 8. B 9. D 10. B

English Usage – Practice: 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. A

Practice Quiz: 1. C 2. A 3. D 4. B 5. A 6. C 7. D 8. B 9. A 10. D 11. C 12. B 13. A

14. D 15. B 16. C 17. A 18. D 19. C 20. B 21. A 22. D 23. C 24. B 25. A

Unit 4: Have You Ever...?

True/False: 1. T 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. T

Reading Comprehension (multiple choice): 1. B 2. D 3. A 4. C 5. B

Vocabulary: 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. A 6. B 7. C 8. D 9. A 10. B

English Usage – Practice: 1. C 2. A 3. D 4. B 5. A

Practice Quiz: 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. A 6. B 7. C 8. D 9. A 10. B 11. C 12. D 13. A

14. B 15. C 16. D 17. A 18. B 19. C 20. D 21. A 22. B 23. C 24. D 25. A

Unit 5: Achievements

True/False: 1. T 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. T

Reading Comprehension (multiple choice): 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. B

Vocabulary: 1. C 2. A 3. D 4. B 5. C 6. A 7. D 8. B 9. A 10. C

English Usage – Practice: 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. A

Practice Quiz: 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. A 6. B 7. C 8. D 9. A 10. B 11. C 12. D 13. A

14. B 15. C 16. D 17. A 18. B 19. C 20. D 21. A 22. B 23. C 24. D 25. A

Unit 6: Future Plans

True/False: 1. T 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. T

Reading Comprehension (multiple choice): 1. B 2. C 3. A 4. D 5. B

Vocabulary: 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. A 6. B 7. C 8. D 9. A 10. B

English Usage – Practice: 1. B 2. C 3. A 4. B 5. D

Practice Quiz: 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. A 6. B 7. C 8. D 9. A 10. B 11. C 12. D 13. A

14. B 15. C 16. D 17. A 18. B 19. C 20. D 21. A 22. B 23. C 24. D 25. A

Unit 7: Rules and Advice

True/False: 1. T 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. T

Reading Comprehension (multiple choice): 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. A

Vocabulary: 1. C 2. A 3. D 4. B 5. C 6. D 7. A 8. B 9. C 10. D

English Usage – Practice: 1. B 2. C 3. A 4. D 5. A

Practice Quiz: 1. A 2. D 3. B 4. C 5. A 6. D 7. B 8. C 9. A 10. D 11. B 12. C 13. A

14. D 15. B 16. C 17. A 18. D 19. B 20. C 21. A 22. D 23. B 24. C 25. A

Unit 8: If This Happens...

True/False: 1. T 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. T

Reading Comprehension (multiple choice): 1. B 2. C 3. C 4. B 5. B

Vocabulary: 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. A 6. D 7. C 8. B 9. D 10. A

English Usage – Practice: 1. D 2. B 3. A 4. C 5. A

Practice Quiz: 1. D 2. A 3. C 4. B 5. D 6. A 7. C 8. B 9. D 10. A 11. C 12. B 13. D

14. A 15. C 16. B 17. D 18. A 19. C 20. B 21. D 22. A 23. C 24. B 25. D

Unit 9: Technology and Everyday Life

True/False: 1. T 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. T

Reading Comprehension (multiple choice): 1. B 2. C 3. B 4. B 5. A

Vocabulary: 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. A 5. B 6. B 7. A 8. B 9. A 10. C

English Usage – Practice: 1. B 2. C 3. A 4. B 5. D

Practice Quiz: 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. A 6. B 7. C 8. D 9. A 10. B 11. C 12. D 13. A

14. B 15. C 16. D 17. A 18. B 19. C 20. D 21. A 22. B 23. C 24. D 25. C

Unit 10: People and Places

True/False: 1. T 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. T

Reading Comprehension (multiple choice): 1. D 2. A 3. B 4. C 5. A

Vocabulary: 1. B 2. C 3. A 4. C 5. D 6. A 7. B 8. C 9. A 10. B

English Usage – Practice: 1. C 2. D 3. A 4. B 5. C

Practice Quiz: 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. A 6. B 7. C 8. D 9. A 10. B 11. C 12. D 13. A

14. B 15. C 16. D 17. A 18. B 19. C 20. D 21. A 22. B 23. C 24. D 25. A

Dictionary

Meaning of all key words and expressions in the book, organized by unit. (Meanings are given in Spanish.)

Unit 1: My Story

Word / expression	Meaning	Word / expression	Meaning
abroad	en el extranjero	graduate	graduarse
achieve	lograr	grandchildren	nietos
adapt	adaptarse	grow up	crecer
anniversary	añosario	hometown	ciudad natal
birth	nacimiento	immigrant	inmigrante
career	carrera	journey	trayectoria
challenge	desafío	marriage	matrimonio
change	cambio	memory	recuerdo
childhood	niñez	milestone	hito
childhood friend	amigo de infancia	move	mudarse
company	empresa	opportunity	oportunidad
decade	década	promotion	ascenso
decision	decisión	raise	criar
degree	título universitario	relationship	relación
divorce	divorcio	retire	jubilarse
engineer	ingeniero/a	retirement	jubilación
experience	experiencia	settle down	establecerse
failure	fracaso	success	éxito
fall in love	enamorarse	university	universidad
get married	casarse	wedding	boda

Unit 2: What Happened?

Word / expression	Meaning	Word / expression	Meaning
ambulance	ambulancia	rain	lluvia
branch	rama	roof	techo
broken	roto	safe	a salvo
bus stop	parada de autobús	shelter	refugio

candle	vela	sidewalk	acera
crash	choque	siren	sirena
damage	daño	storm	tormenta
electricity	electricidad	street	calle
emergency	emergencia	subway	metro
firefighter	bombero	suddenly	de repente
flashlight	linterna	thunder	trueno
flood	inundación	traffic	tráfico
forecast	pronóstico	traffic light	semáforo
generator	generador	tree	árbol
lightning	relámpago	umbrella	paraguas
meanwhile	mientras tanto	warning	advertencia
news report	reportaje de noticias	weather report	reporte del clima
police officer	policía	while	mientras
power outage	apagón	wind	viento
puddle	charco	window	ventana

Unit 3: Better Than Before

Word / expression	Meaning	Word / expression	Meaning
apartment	apartamento	nature	naturaleza
cheap	barato	neighbor	vecino
city	ciudad	neighborhood	vecindario
community	comunidad	noisy	ruidoso
commute	trayecto al trabajo	pace of life	ritmo de vida
convenient	conveniente	peaceful	pacífico
cost of living	costo de vida	polluted	contaminado
countryside	campo	pollution	contaminación
crowded	lleno de gente	public transport	transporte público
dangerous	peligroso	quiet	tranquilo
entertainment	entretenimiento	rent	renta
expensive	caro	rural	rural
farm	granja	safe	seguro
farmhouse	casa de granja	skyscraper	rascacielos

fields	campos	spacious	espacioso
fresh air	aire fresco	suburb	suburbio
healthy	saludable	traditional	tradicional
job opportunities	oportunidades de trabajo	traffic	tráfico
lifestyle	estilo de vida	urban	urbano
modern	moderno	village	pueblo

Unit 4: Have You Ever...?

Word / expression	Meaning	Word / expression	Meaning
abroad	en el extranjero	hostel	albergue
adventure	aventura	hotel	hotel
airport	aeropuerto	island	isla
backpack	mochila	journey	viaje
beach	playa	jungle	selva
border	frontera	landmark	monumento
campsite	campamento	language	idioma
climate	clima	local	local
cuisine	gastronomía	map	mapa
culture	cultura	mountain	montaña
currency	moneda	passport	pasaporte
delay	retraso	scenery	paisaje
desert	desierto	souvenir	recuerdo
destination	destino	suitcase	maleta
discover	descubrir	ticket	boleto
experience	experiencia	tourist	turista
explore	explorar	tradition	tradición
flight	vuelo	traveler	viajero
foreign	extranjero	trip	viaje corto
guide	guía	visa	visa

Unit 5: Achievements

Word / expression	Meaning	Word / expression	Meaning
accomplish	lograr, cumplir	graduation	graduación

accomplishment	logro	improve	mejorar
achieve	lograr	just	acabar de
achievement	logro	launch	lanzar
already	ya	opportunity	oportunidad
award	premio	prize	premio
business	negocio	progress	progreso
career	carrera	project	proyecto
certificate	certificado	promotion	ascenso
challenge	desafío	proud	orgullosa/a
complete	completar	qualification	título/calificación
course	curso	qualify	capacitarse
diploma	diploma	recently	recientemente
entrepreneur	emprendedor/a	skill	habilidad
experience	experiencia	start	empezar
finish	terminar	still	todavía
found (a company)	fundar	success	éxito
founder	fundador/a	successful	exitoso/a
goal	meta	training	capacitación
graduate	graduarse	yet	todavía/aún

Unit 6: Future Plans

Word / expression	Meaning	Word / expression	Meaning
apply for	postularse a	invest	invertir
appointment	cita	likely	probable
arrange	organizar	move	mudarse
career	carrera	opportunity	oportunidad
certain	seguro	plan	plan
challenge	reto	prediction	predicción
chance	oportunidad	promotion	ascenso
change	cambio	quit a job	renunciar al trabajo
deadline	fecha límite	relocate	reubicarse
decide	decidir	resolution	propósito
decision	decisión	retire	jubilarse

dream	sueño	risk	riesgo
eventually	finalmente	save	ahorrar
expect	esperar	schedule	horario
explore	explorar	settle down	establecerse
forecast	pronóstico	soon	pronto
future	futuro	start a business	iniciar un negocio
goal	meta	tomorrow	mañana
graduate	graduarse	travel	viajar
intend	tener la intención de	weekend	fin de semana

Unit 7: Rules and Advice

Word / expression	Meaning	Word / expression	Meaning
advice	consejo	overtime	horas extra
allowed	permitido	passport	pasaporte
break	descanso	penalty	sanción
checkup	chequeo médico	permission	permiso
curfew	toque de queda	policy	política
customs	aduana	prescription	receta médica
deadline	fecha límite	recommend	recomendar
dress code	código de vestimenta	required	requerido
employee	empleado	rule	regla
employer	empleador	safety	seguridad
fine	multa	schedule	horario
forbidden	prohibido	seatbelt	cinturón de seguridad
helmet	casco	security check	control de seguridad
law	ley	sick leave	permiso por enfermedad
license	licencia	speed limit	límite de velocidad
luggage	equipaje	symptom	síntoma
manager	gerente	uniform	uniforme
mandatory	obligatorio	visa	visa
medicine	medicina	warning sign	señal de advertencia
obligation	obligación	workplace	lugar de trabajo

Unit 8: If This Happens...

Word / expression	Meaning	Word / expression	Meaning
alert	alerta	plan ahead	planear con anticipación
batteries	pilas	power outage	corte de luz
blizzard	ventisca	prepare	preparar
board up	cubrir con tablas	rescue	rescate
damage	daño	risk	riesgo
dangerous	peligroso	safe	seguro
disaster	desastre	sandbags	sacos de arena
drought	sequía	seek shelter	buscar refugio
earthquake	terremoto	shelter	refugio
emergency	emergencia	stay indoors	quedarse en casa
evacuate	evacuar	stock up	abastecerse
evacuation route	ruta de evacuación	storm	tormenta
first aid kit	botiquín	supplies	suministros
flashlight	linterna	survival kit	kit de supervivencia
flood	inundación	temperature	temperatura
flood insurance	seguro contra inundaciones	thunder	trueno
forecast	pronóstico	tornado	tornado
generator	generador	warning	advertencia
hurricane	huracán	wildfire	incendio forestal
lightning	relámpago	wind speed	velocidad del viento

Unit 9: Technology and Everyday Life

Word / expression	Meaning	Word / expression	Meaning
account	cuenta	offline	sin conexión
app	aplicación	online	en línea
battery	batería	password	contraseña
camera	cámara	photo	foto
carefully	cuidadosamente	quickly	rápidamente
charger	cargador	screen	pantalla
connection	conexión	search engine	motor de búsqueda
constantly	constantemente	slowly	lentamente

data	datos	smartphone	teléfono inteligente
device	dispositivo	smartwatch	reloj inteligente
download	descargar	social media	redes sociales
easily	fácilmente	speaker	bocina
email	correo electrónico	storage	almacenamiento
file	archivo	tablet	tableta
headphones	audífonos	technology	tecnología
internet	internet	update	actualizar
keyboard	teclado	upload	subir
laptop	computadora portátil	video call	videollamada
message	mensaje	website	sitio web
network	red	Wi-Fi	wifi

Unit 10: People and Places

Word / expression	Meaning	Word / expression	Meaning
abandoned	abandonado/a	landmark	monumento
business	negocio	leave	irse/partir
citizen	ciudadano/a	local	local
coast	costa	market	mercado
community	comunidad	mayor	alcalde/alcaldesa
decline	decaer	neighborhood	vecindario
determined	decidido/a	opportunity	oportunidad
downtown	centro	population	población
empty	vacío/a	project	proyecto
fund	financiar	proud	orgullosa/a
generous	generoso/a	rebuild	reconstruir
grow	crecer	renovate	renovar
growth	crecimiento	resident	residente
harbor	puerto	restore	restaurar
hardworking	trabajador/a	return	regresar
historic	histórico/a	revive	revivir
hometown	ciudad natal	shop owner	dueño de tienda
improve	mejorar	square	plaza

inspiring	inspirador/a	thrive	prosperar
investment	inversión	volunteer	voluntario/a

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