

C. N. GRIVAS

READING & USE OF ENGLISH



Cambridge English
First (FCE) for Schools

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UNIT 1

1 SIMPLE PRESENT

2 PRESENT CONTINUOUS

3 SIMPLE PAST

4 PAST CONTINUOUS

1 SIMPLE PRESENT

The **simple present** is used:

- 1 for habitual actions, permanent states.
*Dave **walks** to school every day.*
*The Smiths **live** in York.*
- 2 in timetables, programmes with a future meaning (often with verbs of motion).
*The coach **arrives** at 9.30 tomorrow evening.*
- 3 in exclamatory sentences beginning with 'Here ...' and 'There ...' with the verbs 'come' and 'go'.
*Hurry up, David. Here **comes** our bus!*
- 4 in sports commentaries.
*Ronaldo **passes** the ball to Rooney – Rooney **scores**!*
What a goal!
- 5 in narratives or when summarising the plot of a book or film.
*She **gets** out of the car, **runs** into the house and **locks** the door behind her.*
- 6 in newspaper headlines.
PLANE CRASHES IN MEXICO.

2 PRESENT CONTINUOUS

The **present continuous** is used:

- 1 for actions happening at or around the time of speaking.
*Don't disturb him now, he's **watching** the game.*
*I'm **studying** Spanish this year.*
- 2 for arranged or planned actions for the (near) future (often with verbs of motion).
*Paul **is arriving** on Saturday morning.*
- 3 for temporary repeated actions or states.
*I'm **working** in my uncle's shop every day this week.*
- 4 with **always**, **constantly**, **continually** or **forever** to stress that the action happens **too often** or **very often** (usually to express annoyance).
*She **is always arguing** with her parents.*
*She **is always helping** the poor.*
- 5 to show progressive change or development.
*His pronunciation **is getting** better all the time.*

NOTE 1: The continuous form of **be** can be used with certain adjectives like **silly**, **lazy**, **noisy**, etc. to describe people's **behaviour at a particular moment / in a particular situation**.

*He's **being silly**! (= at this moment)*

BUT: *He's **silly**.* (= that's his nature)

NOTE 2: With verbs which describe a state rather than an action (e.g. **know**, **think**, **understand**, **love**, **see**, **hear**, **smell**, **taste**, **believe**, **agree**, **remember**, **belong**, **want**, **weigh**) we do not use continuous tenses. Some of these verbs can be used with continuous tenses, but there is a difference in meaning.

- *I **think** Joanne is really pretty.*
*I **am thinking** about going to Australia this year.*
(= considering)
- *Pete **sees** very little without his glasses.*
*I'm **seeing** my boyfriend tomorrow.* (= meeting)
- *This pizza **smells** / **tastes** good.*
(= has a particular smell / flavour)
*Helen **is smelling** / **tasting** the food to see if it's okay.*
(= checking the smell / flavour of)

NOTE 3: With the verbs **hurt**, **ache** and **feel** we can use either a simple or a continuous tense.

*I **feel** / **am feeling** better today.*

3 SIMPLE PAST

The **simple past** is used for:

- 1 an action done by someone no longer alive.
*Shakespeare **wrote** a lot of plays.*
[**NOT:** ... ~~has written~~ ...]
 - 2 completed past actions with the time mentioned or implied.
*Stephanie **passed** her driving test last week.*
 - 3 past habits or repeated actions.
*We **went** cycling every day when we were on holiday.*
(= We **were in the habit of going** cycling ...)
OR: *We **used to go** / **would go** cycling ...*
- NOTE 1:** Only **used to** (not **would**) is used for permanent past states.
*My dad **used to work** at Barclays.*
[**NOT:** ... ~~would work~~ ...]
- NOTE 2:** *I **used to** cycle to school.*
BUT: *I **am used to** cycling to school.*
(= I am accustomed to cycling ...)
- NOTE 3:** *It **is** / **has been** many weeks **since** I **heard** / **have heard** from Lucy.*

4 PAST CONTINUOUS

The **past continuous** is used:

- 1 for actions in progress at a certain time in the past.
*At 7.30 this morning, I **was waiting** for the bus.*
*When I **was washing** the dishes, I broke a glass.*
*While my husband **was reading** a book, the children and I **were watching** TV.*
- 2 for temporary past actions or states.
*I **was working** in a bar near the beach that summer.*
- 3 with **always**, **continually**, **constantly** or **forever** to emphasise the idea of **too often** or **very often** in the past (usually to express annoyance).
*She **was always arguing** with her parents.*
*She **was always helping** the poor.*

GRAMMAR PRACTICE

1 Choose the correct answer.

- 1 I **don't understand** / **am not understanding** what you are saying to me.
- 2 I **used to** / **would** be a great runner when I was a boy.
- 3 We **eat** / **are eating** out tonight, so you don't have to cook.
- 4 There **goes** / **is going** Bob with his new wife.
- 5 I **taste** / **am tasting** the soup to see if it needs more salt.
- 6 At nine o'clock last night, I **sat** / **was sitting** on the couch with a huge bowl of ice cream on my lap.
- 7 I **used to** / **am used to** eating much earlier – that's why I'm so hungry.
- 8 I **take** / **am taking** all Martin's calls while he's away this week.
- 9 When was the last time that dog had a bath? It **smells** / **is smelling** awful.
- 10 This Saturday, I **run** / **am running** a marathon.
- 11 Every August, I **was working** / **worked** on a farm, but I hated it.
- 12 His condition **is improving** / **improves** as days go by.

2 Complete each sentence with two to five words, including the word given.

- 1 As a child, I got ill very often.
USED As a child, I
ill very often.
- 2 I'm sick of you laughing at my ideas all the time.
FOREVER Why
at my ideas?
- 3 She seldom travels by plane.
TRAVEL She
by plane very often.
- 4 The last time I went to Switzerland was ten years ago.
LAST It's been ten years
..... to Switzerland.
- 5 I haven't had an answer to my question yet.
STILL I am
an answer to my question.
- 6 There's the bus at last.
COMES Here
at last!
- 7 I injured my ankle during the football match.
I While
I injured my ankle.
- 8 I don't usually walk long distances, so I get tired easily.
USED I am
long distances, so I get tired easily.
- 9 When did you meet the Browns?
AGO How
the Browns?
- 10 I haven't seen Adam since he moved house.
LAST The
Adam was before he moved house.

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

A WORD FORMATION

1 Fill in the correct form of the word in capitals to complete the sentence.

- 1 What an child! He's
always smiling. **ADORE**
- 2 Your handwriting is, Peter.
Take this essay back and rewrite it. **ACCEPT**
- 3 Tanya suggested going to the beach and Pete
nodded his head in **AGREE**
- 4 Some preparation is
before you go on such a long trip. **ADVICE**
- 5 I have great for your
courage. **ADMIRE**

2 Use the correct form of the word in colour to complete the sentences.

- 1 **alarm**
 - There has been an increase in crime.
 - Prices have risen
- 2 **amaze**
 - We stood as Rupert dived off the bridge into the icy water.
 - He looked at her in
- 3 **amuse**
 - Gloria couldn't hide her
 - I know Jimmy can be annoying, but I find him quite at times.

B PHRASAL VERBS

- back out:** withdraw from an agreement
back up: support
be after: try to get / obtain sth
be behind with: be late or delayed
be down with: have / catch an illness
be off: not be fit to eat / drink because it has gone bad
- be up to:** 1 be as good as expected
2 be doing sth (*usually sth one shouldn't*)
blow up: 1 explode
2 enlarge
3 exaggerate
break away: separate (from)



1 Fill in the correct form of the appropriate phrasal verb.

I (1) the position of department manager for years, so when it became available, I thought I could rely on Douglas, my good friend, to (2) me However, when I had to stay at home because I (3) flu, he told the boss I (4) my work. It was obvious what he (5) – he wanted the job for himself. He tried to make me look bad by (6) a minor problem into something important. I told him exactly what I thought of him and we haven't spoken since.

2 Fill in the correct form of the appropriate phrasal verb.

- 1 the service at the hotel standard?
- 2 This photo is so nice, I think I'll have it
- 3 Some members tried to and form their own union.
- 4 If you of the deal now, I will never forgive you.
- 5 Someone the Prime Minister's car last night.
- 6 This milk You should throw it out.

C PREPOSITIONS

1 Choose the correct preposition.

- 1 As long as the terms are **acceptable to / from** you, we can go ahead with the deal.
- 2 **According to / with** witnesses, the bank robber looked a lot like Keanu Reeves.
- 3 The police **accused** him **for / of** stealing the woman's purse.
- 4 After ten years in Canada, I have become **accustomed with / to** its bitterly cold winters.
- 5 This deal gives us a great **advantage to / over** our main competitors.
- 6 I have the deepest **admiration for / about** that doctor.
- 7 Dave asked his uncle for some **advice on / to** which car to buy.
- 8 Many small children are **afraid from / of** the dark.
- 9 Some people are **allergic of / to** everyday things – like peanuts, for example.
- 10 I was so **angry with / about** John that I refused to speak to him.

2 Fill in at, on or in.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| the morning | the weekend |
| Christmas | Sunday |
| 9 o'clock | the fifth century BC |
| 2005 | midday |
| 23rd June | Sunday morning |
| May | the 1960s |



TOP SECRET

3 Fill in the correct preposition.

at, for, in, off, on, out of, under

The world was (1) war and everything was (2) control. I was asked to find out (3) certain if a high-ranking officer was giving away secrets to the enemy (4) exchange for money. I followed him while he was (5) duty. He got (6) a bus where I caught him handing over some documents to an enemy spy. I placed them both (7) arrest and the officer agreed to tell us everything, (8) condition that his family were protected.



D WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

- 1 It's raining in London.
It's always raining in London.
It rains a lot in London.
- 2 She always answers the phone for him.
She's always answering the phone for him.
- 3 I travelled abroad a lot.
I was travelling a lot last summer.
- 4 You are rude.
You are being rude.
- 5 He used to play outdoors.
He was used to playing outdoors.
- 6 Did you see Susan yesterday?
Didn't you see Susan yesterday?



E WORD CONFUSION

Fill in the correct word.

1 wage, salary

- 1 Will your weekly increase now that you've been promoted, Dad?
- 2 My older brother always runs out of money before he receives his at the end of the month.

2 childish, childlike

- 1 Despite her age, she still had a innocence.
- 2 Stop being so and give the doll back to your little sister!

3 sensible, sensitive

- 1 Our babysitter would never leave a child alone; she is a very person.
- 2 You have to be careful what you say to Jenny – she's very and gets upset easily.

4 portion, helping

- 1 I liked the pie so much that I asked Mum for a second
- 2 Ten pounds for a of fish and chips is ridiculous!

ADDITIONAL PRACTICE

1 Complete each sentence with two to five words, including the word given.

- 1 How long has he been here?
GET When here?
- 2 Look! Your teacher is leaving.
GOES Look! your teacher.
- 3 When I lived in Newcastle I cycled to work every day.
WOULD When I lived in Newcastle to work every day.
- 4 We plan to go and live in East Africa for a couple of years.
THINKING We to live in East Africa for a couple of years.
- 5 I haven't been to a concert for years.
SINCE It's to a concert.
- 6 My sister doesn't want to get a job right now.
LOOKING My sister a job at the moment.
- 7 Tina relaxed once her son came home.
UNTIL Tina her son came home.
- 8 I didn't go out until I had finished writing the letter.
SOON I I had finished writing the letter.
- 9 When was the first time you met Charles?
MEET When Charles for the first time?
- 10 When did you last speak to your mother?
SINCE How long is to your mother?
- 11 They would constantly fight when they were young.
FIGHTING They when they were young.
- 12 He didn't usually eat late at night.
HABIT He wasn't late at night.
- 13 You are behaving very stupidly about this.
BEING You about this.
- 14 When was the last time you ate Chinese food?
DID When Chinese food?
- 15 She didn't begin talking until all the students had sat down.
BEFORE She waited until all the students had sat down talking.

2 Fill in the correct form of the word in capitals to complete the sentence.

- 1 Is there anywhere in this house I can work ? **DISTURB**
- 2 After his father's death, the of the company became his responsibility. **MANAGE**
- 3 The doctor has assured me that the treatment is quite **PAIN**
- 4 Do you know the name of the of the film? **DIRECT**
- 5 In a moment of he asked her to marry him. **MAD**
- 6 Andrew wouldn't tell me where he had been, which made me very **SUSPECT**
- 7 Phil's is really awful; sometimes he can't even read it himself. **WRITE**
- 8 It is commonly known that junk food is of little value. **NUTRIENT**
- 9 Going back into the burning house to rescue the dog was very of you. **HERO**
- 10 The into the robbery has not been completed. **INVESTIGATE**

READING & USE OF ENGLISH EXAM TASK (PART 1)

For questions 1-8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

On Solid Ground?

Though the ground we stand on seems to be firm, it is actually in constant motion, and has been since it formed about four billion years ago. The first land was one huge mass which began to separate about 200 million years ago to form the continents we have today. This process has not stopped, and in another 150 million years a very different (1) will emerge. Scientists believe that Africa will break in two, the larger upper area becoming part of Europe, the rest breaking (2) to become a huge island off the (3) of India. Australia and the Antarctic will join together.

The earth is divided into huge plates which move (4) of one another. It is their movement that created great mountain (5) like the Himalayas, which were the result of the Indian and Eurasian plates (6) They are also responsible for earthquakes and volcanic activity. Where two plates move in opposite (7) , you will often have volcanoes and wide deep valleys. When two plates slide sideways past one another, they sometimes get stuck. When they jerk apart, we can feel their power in the (8) of earthquakes.

- | | | | | |
|---|----------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1 | A image | B illustration | C picture | D shape |
| 2 | A down | B up | C out | D away |
| 3 | A coast | B edge | C shore | D end |
| 4 | A individually | B independently | C separately | D alone |
| 5 | A series | B areas | C ranges | D groups |
| 6 | A hitting | B smashing | C crashing | D colliding |
| 7 | A directions | B paths | C ways | D routes |
| 8 | A way | B kind | C form | D type |

TO ALL CANDIDATES

Phrasal verbs are often tested in Part 1, as in Q2 here.

READING & USE OF ENGLISH EXAM TASK (PART 2)

For questions 1-8, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only **one** word in each gap.

Coming Clean about the Cost

When told by richer industrial nations about the importance (1) protecting the planet, many developing countries replied: 'You are (2) being fair. You used up your natural resources and polluted your environment. The forests you had were almost completely cut (3) to make the ships which sailed the earth's oceans to conquer us. The water in many of your lakes and rivers (4) become polluted; the air is (5) of smog and chemicals. You did all this to become the rich nations you are today. Now you say we must protect our land. But how can we (6) so when our people are still very poor? Don't we have a duty to them as well as to the planet?'

Proposals to reduce the amount of pollutants produced globally were unacceptable (7) developing nations. They say the developed nations must give them money (8) order to do so. Who can blame them for this, when the biggest polluter of all, America itself, has refused to reduce its own pollutants?

TO ALL CANDIDATES

Always read the text first. Having a general impression about what it is about will help you make the right choice of words.

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