

# ENGL2113

# INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH

Topic 1: Relationships (Unit 1)

Grammar & Vocabulary

Ms. Joanna Bunga Noah

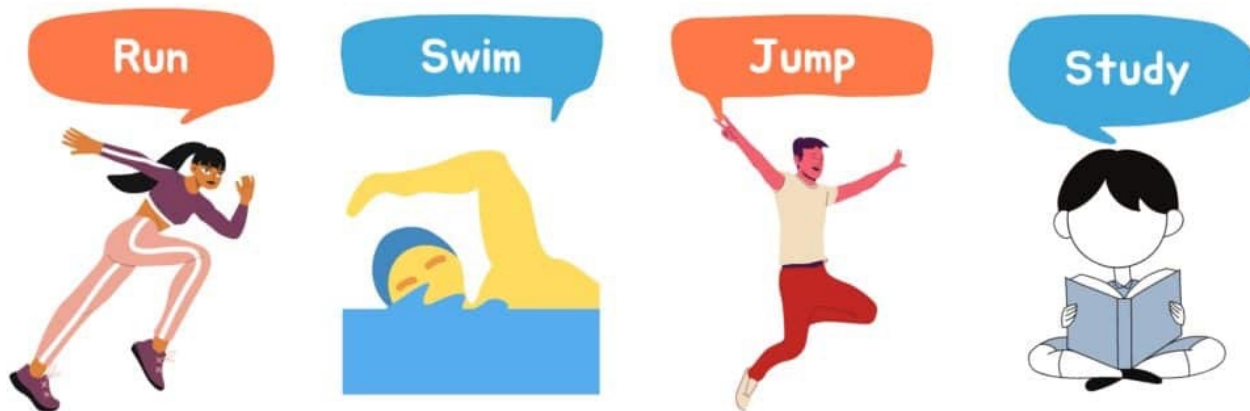
0127567794

[joanna@sc.edu.my](mailto:joanna@sc.edu.my)

Let's  
recall –  
what is a  
verb?



- A **verb** is a word that is usually one of the main parts of a sentence and that **expresses an action, an occurrence, or a state of being.**



- In the English language, there are “tenses”.
- Verbs come in three tenses: past, present, and future.
- The past tense is used to describe things that have already happened.
- The present tense is used to describe things that are happening right now, or things that are continuous.
- The future tense describes things that have yet to happen.



*Present tense:*

At the picnic, they **jump** in the air to take a group photo.

*Past tense:*

Yesterday at the picnic, they **jumped** in the air to take a group photo.

*Future tense:*

Tomorrow at the picnic, they **will jump** in the air to take a group photo.

GRAMMAR

PRESENT TENSES: SIMPLE,  
CONTINUOUS AND PERFECT

## Present tenses: simple, continuous and perfect

We use the present simple to express something we see as permanent or unchanging  
This can be:

- a fact, e.g. *Water **boils** at 100°C.*
- a habit, e.g. *He **eats** a lot of junk food.*
- a routine, e.g. *Michela **calls** her sister every day.*

We use the present continuous to express:

- something happening at the time of speaking.

*I'm **waiting** for the train to come – it's late again.*

- a temporary situation.

*Juan's **working** for a bank at the moment but he wants to change career.*

- something happening around the time of speaking.

*She's **trying** to find a new job.*

- a currently changing situation.

*The future of some animals **is becoming** less certain every year.*

Remember that we don't use stative verbs (verbs that describe states) with a continuous tense.

*I don't **know** my cousins very well. (not ~~I'm not knowing~~)*



We use the present perfect (simple and continuous) to express a connection between the present and the past. This can be:

- when a past event has an impact on, or relevance in, the present.

*Poor Sam – he's **broken** his leg.* (= He broke his leg, and it's broken now.)

- when something started in the past and continues into the present.

*I've **been** best friends with Ian since we were at university.* (= We became friends at university, and we are still friends.)

### Present perfect simple and continuous

We use the present perfect simple and continuous to talk about the same time periods. We use the present perfect continuous when we want to emphasize the duration of the event. We use it to talk about:

- past events that have an impact on the present.

*She's tired – she's **been working** all day.* (The event may or may not still be in progress now.)

- repeated past events that have an impact on the present.

*A: You look fit and healthy! B: Thanks – I've **been exercising** a lot recently.*

- prolonged (long) events that started in the past and continue in the present.

*We've **been waiting** for the bus for over an hour!*

- repeated events that started in the past and continue in the present.

*I've **been coming** to this café for years.*



**Present Simple:** root verb (+s for singular noun).

I eat the noodles. She eats the noodle. We eat the noodles.

**Present Continuous:** am/is/are + verb-ing

I am eating. She is eating. We are eating.

**Present Perfect:** has/have + verb-en

I have eaten. She has eaten. We have eaten.

**Present Perfect Simple:** has/have + participle

She has lived in the house since 2010.

I have written a lot of emails this morning.

**Present Perfect Continuous:** has/have + been + verb-ing

She has been living in the house since 2010.

I have been writing emails all morning.

## ► PRESENT TENSES: SIMPLE, CONTINUOUS and PERFECT

### Present simple

*Suryia **lives** with his keepers.*

*Most dogs **avoid** apes.*

*Each day the dog **comes** into the compound.*

### Present continuous

*It's clear they **are having** the time of their lives.*

*His understanding of the dog **is growing** day by day.*

*This week we're **looking** at animal friendships.*

### Present perfect (simple and continuous)

*The story of Suryia **has attracted** a lot of interest.*

*Over four million viewers **have watched** them since their video was put up on Youtube.*

*They **have recognized** a basic social need in each other.*

*Recently, he **has been spending** time with a local dog.*

*They **have been doing** this every day since they first met.*

## Exercise 1

Look at the grammar box. Match the tenses with the uses (1–3).

- 1 for something happening at or around the time of speaking, including changing situations
- 2 for something seen as permanent or unchanging, including facts or habits and routines
- 3 for a past event that has an impact on or relevance in the present; or for something that started in the past and continues into the present

## Exercise 2

Choose the correct tense to complete the sentences.

- 1 More and more people are becoming / become vegetarians.
- 2 A: Who's that? B: It's Mateo. He has bought / buys a new car.
- 3 They know / have known each other for a long time.
- 4 I often meet / I'm meeting my friends on Saturday evenings.
- 5 She's staying / She stays with her parents until she finds a flat.
- 6 Martha is always being / is always a very reliable person.
- 7 It rains / It's raining again – we can't go to the park.
- 8 I learn / I'm learning French at the moment.

### Exercise 3

I have - I've  
I am - I'm  
she is - she's

Complete the sentences with the present perfect simple or continuous of the verbs in brackets. Sometimes both forms are possible.

- 1 I'm really fed up! I Have been waiting (wait) for the bus for over an hour!
- 2 A: Is that a new car? B: No, I have had (have) it for three years now.
- 3 He has been going (go) to Japan five times. He loves it there!
- 4 A: Why are you so red? B: I have been working (work) outside in the sun all morning.
- 5 How long have they been (they / be) married for?
- 6 My eyes hurt. I have been looking (look) at a computer screen for too long.
- 7 A: Do you want to watch *The Martian*?  
B: No, I have seen it (see) already.



GRAMMAR

PAST SIMPLE AND  
PRESENT PERFECT

# Present Perfect vs Past Simple

Past  
Simple

I lived in Korea for  
2 years.



Past

Now

Future

Meaning: I lived in Korea  
for 2 years but don't  
live in Korea now.

Present  
Perfect

I have lived in Korea  
for 2 years.



Past

Now

Future

Meaning: I started living  
in Korea 2 years ago  
and still live there now.

*To refer to something at a specific time in the past, use -*

**Past Simple:** root verb+ed (*\*irregular verbs*)

He jumped the fence.

She ate the donuts.

## ► PAST SIMPLE and PRESENT PERFECT

### Past simple

*When she was little, she **agreed** with all my opinions.*

### Present perfect (simple and continuous)

*Bella **has been studying** English for five years.*

*In spoken English she **has overtaken** them.*

*She **has** already, in her short life, **learned** much more about the outside world than they have.*

## Exercise 4

Choose the correct options to complete these sentences about different generations.

- ✓ 1. Children *grew* / *have been growing* up faster over the last twenty years. At thirteen, they want to be adults. It's sad.
- ✓ 2. All the new technology that kids use *left* / *has left* the older generation behind.
- ✓ 3. My grandparents' generation *probably worked* / *have probably worked* harder than we do, but they *didn't have* / *haven't had* so much fun.
4. **Most of my parents' generation** *already retired* / *have already retired* with good pensions. We won't retire until we're 70 and we'll be poor.
5. Our parents were no different to us when they were young: they *had* / *have* *had* the same interests, the same hopes and fears.
- ✓ 6. In recent years respect for money *replaced* / *has replaced* respect for wisdom and knowledge.
- ✓ 7. **When I was young**, I *rebelled* / *have been rebelling* against my parents because they *were* / *have been* very strict. **Now my children** want to rebel, but in fact they *have* nothing to rebel against.
- ✓ 8. People criticize the younger generation for being selfish and having no values, but that's their parents' fault: they *spoil* / *have spoilt* them.

VOCABULARY  
DESCRIBING  
CHARACTERS



considerate dependable energetic good fun laid-back outgoing selfish serious shy unreliable

1. which adjectives are positive, which are negative and which could be either.
2. which make pairs of opposites (or near opposites).
3. which adjective(s) you think describe you.

Example answers:

1. **Positive:** considerate, dependable, energetic, good fun, outgoing

**Negative:** selfish, unreliable

**Either positive or negative:** laid-back, serious, shy

2. (Near) **opposites:** considerate/selfish; dependable/unreliable;  
energetic/laid-back; outgoing/shy; good fun/serious

VOCABULARY

PHRASAL VERBS

**get on (with)** = to have a good relationship with

**stand by (someone)** = to support and be friends in difficult times

**hang out (with)** = an informal way of saying to spend time with (e.g. go for a coffee, to clubs or parties together)

**hang around** = to stay in a place doing nothing or waiting for something to happen

**meet up** = to come together with someone, either as planned or unexpectedly

**keep up (with)** = to stay in contact and share news

**come round** = to visit (when a friend comes to visit you at your house)

## Exercise 5

Complete the sentences with the correct phrasal verbs.

- 1 We come from different backgrounds, but we get on really well.
- 2 We don't have to do anything special, like going to a show. It would just be nice to hang out together for a bit.
- 3 I made some good friends at university, but I haven't keep up with many of them since.
- 4 Why don't you come round to my house for supper tonight?
- 5 Some friends are great to have fun with, but real friends are the ones who stand by you when things aren't going so well.
- 6 I'm busy at six thirty, but we could meet up later, if you like. Say, eight?