

Excuses, excuses

Vocabulary Parts of the body; illnesses and injuries

Grammar Linking words: *and, but, so*

Speaking Apologizing and making excuses

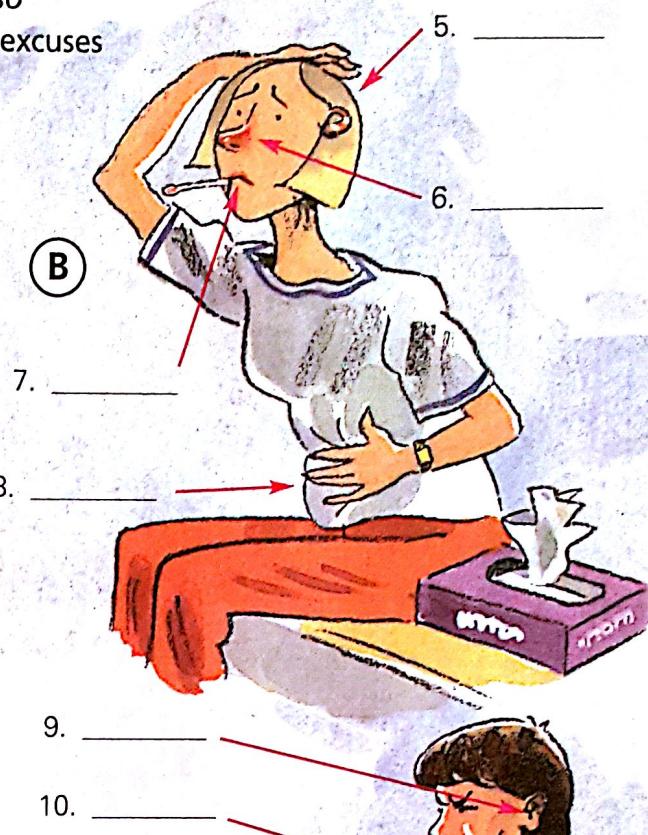
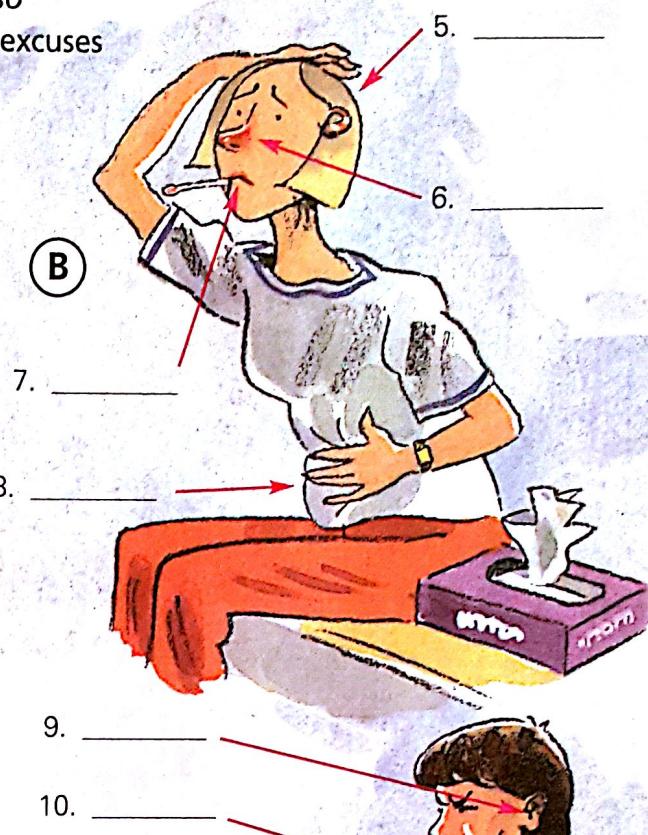
1. eye

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

(A)



5. _____

(B)

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

5. _____

(C)

Getting started

- 1 Look at the pictures. Label the parts of the body with the words in the box.

arm	back	ear	eye	foot	hand
head	leg	mouth	nose	stomach	throat

- 2 Listen and check your answers. Then listen and repeat.

- 3 Write the letter of the person in the picture next to the complaint.

1. "I have a headache." B
2. "I have a sore throat."
3. "My back is sore."
4. "I have a stomachache."
5. "I have a fever."
6. "I hurt my arm."
7. "I have a bad cold."
8. "I have a cough."



11. _____

12. _____

- 4 **PAIRS.** Test your partner on the names of illnesses and injuries. Student A, point to a part of your body and act out the problem (for example, touch your throat). Student B, say the problem (for example: *Oh, you have a sore throat!*).



Listening

5

- Listen to Tony tell his boss, Roger, why he can't come to work. Put his excuses in the correct order.

- He has a cough and a sore throat.
- He hurt his back.
- He has a fever.
- He has a stomachache.

- 6 What does Tony say to apologize? How does Roger respond? Listen again. Match Tony's apologies with Roger's responses.

Apology

1. I'm really sorry, but ...
2. I'm afraid I can't ...
3. I'm sorry, but ...

Sympathetic response

- a. That's OK. Hope you get better soon.
- b. That's too bad.
- c. That's OK. Don't worry.

- 7 **PAIRS.** Take turns. Student A, use the ideas below and the complaints from Exercise 3 to apologize and make an excuse. Student B, give a sympathetic response.

A: *I'm sorry, but I can't come to work today. I have a fever.*

B: *That's OK. Hope you get better soon.*

Apology

I'm afraid ...

- I can't play soccer today.
- I can't give my report today.
- I can't go out for dinner with you.
- I can't come to work today.
- I can't help you lift that box.
- I can't sign my name on the check.
- I can't do my homework.

I'm sorry, but ...

I'm really sorry, but ...

Grammar focus

- 1 Study the examples with the linking words *and*, *but*, and *so*.

I have a bad cough, **and** my throat is very sore.
I can't come in today, **but** I'll probably be there tomorrow.
I have a fever, **so** I can't come to work today.

- 2 Look at the examples again. Complete the rules in the chart with *and*, *but*, or *so*.

Linking words: *and*, *but*, *so*

Use _____ to add a similar idea.

Use _____ to add a different idea.

Use _____ to show the result of something.

Grammar Reference page 143

- 3 Combine the sentences with the linking words in parentheses.

1. She hurt her arm. She can't use the computer. (so)
She hurt her arm, so she can't use the computer.
2. I have a cough. I don't have a sore throat. (but)
I have a cough, but I don't have a sore throat.
3. My father hurt his back. My brother hurt his leg. (and)
My father hurt his back, and my brother hurt his leg.
4. I have a stomachache. I'm going to stay home. (so)
I have a stomachache, so I'm going to stay home.
5. She doesn't have a fever. She feels sick. (but)
She doesn't have a fever, but she feels sick.
6. He has a headache. I gave him some aspirin. (so)
He has a headache, so I gave him some aspirin.



Pronunciation

- 4 Listen. Notice the way the voice goes up on the most important word in each part of the sentence, and then down.

I'm **sorry**, but I have a **cold**.
I have a **cough**, and my **throat** is sore.
I'm really **sorry**, but I'm not **feeling** very well.
I have a **fever**, so I can't come to **work**.

- 5 Listen again and repeat.

Speaking

6

PAIRS. Take turns apologizing and making excuses using the expressions below. Student A, look at page 136. Student B, look at page 138.

Apologize

I'm (really) sorry, but . . .
I'm afraid . . .

Show sympathy

That's OK.
Don't worry.
That's too bad!

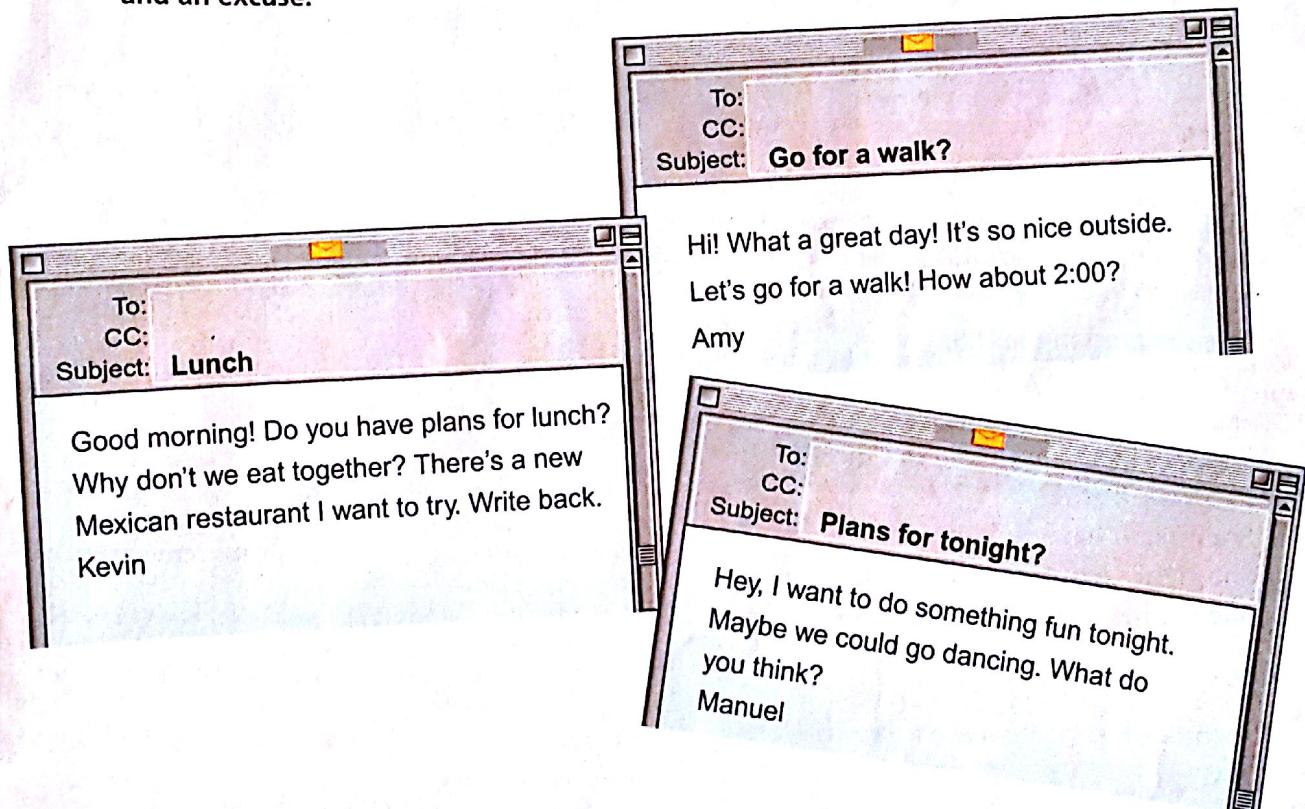
A: *I'm afraid I can't come to work. I have a terrible headache.*

B: *That's too bad!*

Writing

7

You don't feel well today. Reply to each email message. Give an apology and an excuse.



CONVERSATION TO GO

A: **I'm afraid** I can't come to work. I have a sore throat, and I
can't talk.

B: **That's too bad!**