

Language Drills

Intermediate

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Comparison

Exercise 1

Listen to the examples.

e.g. Sydney is bigger than Perth.
Perth isn't as big as Sydney.

e.g. My car uses more petrol than hers does.
Her car doesn't use as much petrol as mine does.

Now you do it:

1. My car is faster than yours.
2. John is taller than Simon.
3. This suitcase is heavier than that one.
4. Gold is more valuable than silver.
5. The Nile is longer than the Amazon.
6. You are better at tennis than I am.
7. He knows more about cars than I do.
8. She reads more books than I do.
9. You drive more carefully than I do.
10. She can swim further than I can.

Exercise 2 The more...the more...

e.g. 1 As he grew older so he became more forgetful.

The older he grew, the more forgetful he became.

e.g.2 As the temperature rose so I sweated more profusely.

The more the temperature rose, the more profusely I sweated.

Now you do it:

1. As you use more electricity so you have to pay more.
2. As you grow older so you become wiser.
3. As you eat more so you put on more weight.
4. As you practise more so you become more fluent.
5. As you earn more so you spend more.
6. As the day becomes hotter so you need to drink more.
7. As you drive faster so you use more petrol.
8. As Samson's hair grew longer so he became stronger.
9. As you save more so you become richer.
10. As the rain became heavier so the river flowed faster.

Exercise 3

Listen to the example.

e.g. No-one in the club plays tennis as well as he does.

He's the best tennis player in the club.

Now you do it:

1. No-one in the world can run as fast as he can.
2. No-one in the class is as clever as he is.
3. No-one in the family is as tall as he is.
4. No-one in the world plays golf as well as she does.
5. No-one in the street drives as carefully as he does.
6. No-one in the state can swim as fast as she can.
7. No-one in the world is as strong as he is.
8. No-one in the country sings as well as she does.
9. No-one in the state plays the piano as well as he does.
10. No-one in the family cooks as well as she does.

Gerunds

Exercise 1 apologise for ...ing

Listen to the example:

e.g. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to hurt you.
I apologize for hurting you.

Now you do it:

1. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to offend you.
2. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to be rude.
3. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to spoil the surprise.
4. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to hurt your feelings.
5. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to let the side down.
6. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to cause any problems.
7. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to disturb you.
8. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to wake the children.
9. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to interrupt your work.
10. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to make too much noise.

Exercise 2 without ...ing

Listen to the example:

e.g. He crossed the road. He didn't look.
He crossed the road without looking.

Now you do it:

1. She walked by me. She didn't say 'hello'.
2. John completed the race. He didn't feel tired.
3. They got down to work. They didn't waste any time.
4. The team finished the season. They didn't lose a game.
5. The woman rescued the baby. She didn't think about the danger.
6. The driver went through the red light. He didn't stop.
7. The prisoner survived ten weeks. He didn't eat.
8. The girl got on the bus. She didn't queue.
9. The police officer dived into the icy water. He didn't think about the danger.
10. Paul left the house. He didn't eat any breakfast.

Exercise 3 prefer ...ing

Listen to the example:

e.g. I like swimming but I like jogging more.

I prefer jogging to swimming.

Now you do it:

1. I like going to discos but I like going to parties more.
2. Joe likes long-jumping but he likes high-jumping more.
3. Jenny likes cooking but she enjoys eating out more.
4. Anna likes painting but she likes sculpting more.
5. I like taking part but I enjoy winning more.
6. Linda likes horse-riding but she likes cycling more.
7. I like swimming in the pool but I like swimming in the sea more.
8. Fred enjoys snorkelling but he likes scuba-diving more.
9. Tanya likes watching videos but she enjoys going to the cinema more.
10. I like baking cakes but I enjoy eating them more.

Exercise 4 after ...ing

Listen to the example:

e.g. He put the cat out. Then he went to bed.

After putting the cat out, he went to bed.

Now you do it:

1. He did the washing-up. Then he watched football on TV.
2. She wrote two letters. Then she went out.
3. The plane took off. Then it climbed to 30,000 feet.
4. I finished the book. Then I went to bed.
5. She phoned for a taxi. Then she waited in the hallway.
6. He bought a blank video tape. Then he recorded the film.
7. She discovered the body. Then she called the police.
8. The boss dictated a letter. Then she attended a meeting.
9. I said 'goodbye' to the last guest. Then I locked the door.
10. He turned on the ignition. Then he put the car into gear.

Exercise 5 Despite / In spite of ...ing

Listen to the example

- e.g. He hurt his knee but he finished the race.
Despite hurting his knee, he finished the race.

Now you do it:

1. She felt ill but she came to school.
2. They were poor but they gave some money to charity.
3. He can't swim but he enjoys playing in the sea.
4. She didn't work very hard but she passed the exam.
5. He had to walk to work every day but he was never late.
6. They lost the game but they still won the championship.
7. I can't speak Japanese but I spend all my holidays in Tokyo.
8. I don't like windy weather but I enjoy living in Perth.
9. We were tired but we decided to go dancing.
10. She could read and write French but she couldn't speak it.

Exercise 6 Gerunds V Past Perfect

Listen to the examples

- e.g. The plane took off. Then it crashed.
After taking off the plane crashed.
- e.g. The sun went down. Then we had a drink.
After the sun had gone down, we had a drink.

Now you do it:

1. He put the cat out. Then he went to bed.
2. She turned the television off. Then she had a shower.
3. The program finished. Then she turned the TV off.
4. Tommy did his homework. Then he went out to play.
5. They completed the exercise but they still didn't understand it.
6. He had his car serviced but it still didn't run smoothly.
7. Mary checked her baggage in and went through immigration control.
8. The referee blew his whistle and the game started.
9. The athlete broke his leg and had to retire from athletics.
10. The secretary typed the letter and then the boss signed it.

Indirect speech

Exercise 1

Listen to the example:

e.g. 'You stole my watch,' the girl said to the man.
The girl accused the man of stealing her watch.

Now you do it:

1. 'You are lazy,' Mum said to Jack.
2. 'You ate all the cake,' Mary said to her sister.
3. 'You've lost my pencil,' Jeff said to his younger brother.
4. 'You're a liar,' the judge said to the defendant.
5. 'You robbed the bank,' the police officer said to the woman.
6. 'You cheated in the exam,' the examiner said to the candidate.
7. 'You've wasted all your money,' Bob said to his son.
8. 'You've created a monster,' the man said to Frankenstein.
9. 'You broke the window,' the woman said to the boys.
10. 'You were driving too fast,' the police officer said to the motorist.

Exercise 2

Listen to the example:

e.g. 'I'm tired,' said Fred.
Fred said he was tired.

Now you do it:

1. 'I can't read your writing,' said the little boy.
2. 'I don't like my nose,' said Carole.
3. 'I won't be late,' said Joseph.
4. 'I didn't go to the shops,' said Aunt Hilda.
5. 'I've already seen this film,' said Rita.
6. 'I'm thirsty,' said Richard.
7. 'I can't come to your party,' said Sue.
8. 'I'll finish the job tomorrow,' said the workman.

Exercise 3

Listen to the example.

e.g. 'Where does he live?'
I don't know where he lives.

Now you do it:

1. 'Who broke this window?'
2. 'How much does it cost?'
3. 'Where can I buy some chillies?'
4. 'When did the show begin?'
5. 'Why did she run away?'
6. 'Which suit are you going to wear?'
7. 'Who did you speak to?'
8. 'What's in that bag?'
9. 'When did the prisoner escape?'
10. 'Why is the door locked?'

Exercise 4

Listen to the example.

e.g. 'Have you finished?'
He wanted to know if I had finished.

Now you do it:

1. 'Is it raining?'
2. 'Will it shrink in the wash?'
3. 'Do you like me?'
4. 'Have you ever been to New Zealand?'
5. 'Did you watch TV?'
6. 'Are you playing badminton this evening?'
7. 'Can you speak Japanese?'
8. 'Does the dog bite?'
9. 'Were you at the club last night?'
10. 'Have you seen my pencil?'

Passive Voice

Exercise 1

Listen to the example

- e.g. The policeman arrested the robber.
The robber was arrested.

Now you do it:

1. The postman delivered the parcel this morning.
2. The builders built this house last year.
3. The photographer used a filter for this picture.
4. The baker bakes the bread early in the morning.
5. The fisherman caught this fish in the lake.
6. The judge has sentenced the thief to three years in prison.
7. The publisher has published two of my books.
8. The waiter served the soup first.
9. The garbos clear away the rubbish every Friday.
10. The painter painted the fence last week.

Exercise 2

Listen to the example.

- e.g. John broke the window.
The window was broken by John.

Now you do it:

1. Martin usually buys the groceries.
2. A snake bit the dog.
3. A fishing boat rescued the sailors.
4. The boys are painting the fence.
5. My brother is doing my homework.
6. An eye-witness identified the robber.
7. Mr Roberts teaches Maths.
8. The Government provides money for tertiary education.
9. Senator Jones signed the peace treaty.
10. The Wildcats won the match.

Exercise 3

Listen to the examples:

- e.g. You must finish that letter today.
That letter must be finished today.
- e.g. Students may borrow this book.
This book may be borrowed by students.

Now you do it:

1. You ought to keep your bandage dry.
2. You should defrost this meat.
3. We will eat lunch at noon.
4. Paul will drive your car.
5. The students at the back couldn't hear the lecturer.
6. You shouldn't use petrol to light a fire.
7. You mustn't take bags into the library.
8. People will not tolerate that sort of behaviour.
9. You can't eat this meat; it's rotten.
10. Sandra won't win this race.

Present Perfect Continuous Tense

Exercise 1

Listen to the examples

- e.g. I started playing football a year ago.
I've been playing football for a year.
- e.g. She started playing the piano when she was ten.
She's been playing the piano since she was ten.

Now you do it:

1. Peter started smoking a pipe ten years ago.
2. Sandra started dancing professionally when she was sixteen.
3. I started collecting coins almost a year ago.
4. We started growing our own vegetables three years ago.
5. June started learning Japanese four weeks ago.
6. Paul started teaching at the university after he graduated.
7. Bill started surfing when he learnt how to swim.
8. I started driving a Rolls-Royce when I won Lotto.
9. We started redecorating the house three months ago.
10. You started writing your life history ten years ago.

Exercise 2

Listen to the example

- e.g. I started learning English two years ago.
I've been learning English for two years.
1. He started playing football when he was twelve.
 2. She began taking driving lessons when she got this new job.
 3. They started watching films six years ago.
 4. I began typing this letter at four o'clock.
 5. Dorothy started going out with boys when she was fifteen.
 6. Michael began to sniff glue last year.
 7. We started to travel at dusk.
 8. When the teacher arrived home from school, he started marking the essays.
 9. Julie began preparing dinner three hours ago.
 10. When he left school Bruce began acting.

Exercise 3

Listen to the example

e.g. I started learning Japanese last April.
I've been learning Japanese since last April.

e.g. He started driving ten years ago.
He's been driving for ten years.

Now you do it:

1. We started decorating the house last month.
2. I started using Word Perfect five years ago.
3. He started taking insulin when he got diabetes.
4. She started playing the guitar when she was ten years old.
5. The girls started painting the fence two hours ago.
6. I started working seriously last Sunday.
7. He started doing exercises when he had a heart attack.
8. We started collecting coins in 1989.
9. She started perming her hair when she got divorced.
10. He started listening to jazz music when his mother bought him a trumpet.

Prevent someone from doing something

Listen to the example

e.g. We couldn't drive because of the fog.

The fog prevented us from driving.

Now you do it:

1. The ship couldn't sail because of the rough sea.
2. The plane couldn't land because of the ice on the runway.
3. We couldn't import the food because of quarantine restrictions.
4. I couldn't hear the speaker because of the traffic noise.
5. He couldn't finish the essay because of the power cut.
6. We couldn't have the barbecue because of the rain.
7. He couldn't finish his studies because of the war.
8. The burglar couldn't break into the house because of the window locks.
9. The crops couldn't grow because of the lack of rain.
10. He couldn't set up business because of a lack of funds.

Verbs of perception

Exercise 1

Listen to the examples.

e.g. The cat caught a rat. I saw it.

I saw the cat catch a rat.

e.g. He slammed the door shut. Everybody heard him.

Everybody heard him slam the door shut.

Now you do it:

1. The boy broke the window. The policeman saw him.
2. The thief entered the house through the window. The neighbour saw him.
3. The people cheered when their team scored. The whole town heard them.
4. The convict escaped from the prison. Nobody saw him.
5. The swimmer broke the world record. The spectators watched her.
6. The school bell rang. The students heard it.
7. Gary Ablett kicked ten goals. The supporters watched him.
8. The woman cheated during the examination. The examiner saw her.
9. The truck slid down the hill. The anxious driver watched it.
10. The snake bit the dog. The farmer saw it.

Exercise 2

Listen to the example

e.g. The boy was climbing through the window. We saw him.

We saw the boy climbing through the window.

Now you do it:

1. The soup was burning. You could smell it.
2. The girl was screaming for help. The police officer heard her.
3. The rain was leaking through a hole in the roof. Nobody noticed it.
4. The plane was falling towards the ground. We saw it.
5. The cyclone was approaching the coast. The weather bureau watched it.
6. Smoke was pouring out of the house. The rescuers noticed it.
7. The phone was ringing. Nobody heard it.
8. The flood water was rising. The nervous residents watched it.
9. The suspect was carrying a sack. The police observed this.
10. I was trying to put out the fire. My friends saw me.

Conditional sentences 2

Exercise 1

Listen to the example

e.g. What would you do if you won Lotto? (buy a new car)
If I won Lotto, I'd buy a new car.

Now you do it:

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. What would you do if you found a Redback in your bag? | (kill it) |
| 2. What would you do if you saw a swimmer in difficulty? | (tell the surfguard) |
| 3. What would you do if you had a headache? | (take a pill) |
| 4. What would you do if you felt ill one morning? | (stay in bed) |
| 5. What would you do if your computer broke down? | (get it fixed) |
| 6. What would you do if your house caught fire? | (call for help) |
| 7. What would you do if the weather turned hot? | (go for a swim) |
| 8. What would you do if you found a diamond ring? | (keep it) |
| 9. What would you do if you were offered the job? | (accept it) |
| 10. What would you do if someone stole your car? | (report it) |

Exercise 2

Listen to the example

e.g. We never go on holiday because we can't afford it.
But if we could afford it, we would go on holiday.

Now you do it:

- I never come to visit you because I don't have a car.
- She never goes to parties because she's very shy.
- People never understand him because he doesn't speak clearly.
- They never use the internet because they don't have a computer.
- He never goes to the pool because he can't swim very well.
- I never go to the cinema because I'm too busy.
- Simon doesn't buy a lot of books because he can't read very well.
- Paula never gets up on time because she doesn't have an alarm clock.
- I don't drive a Porsche because I'm not rich enough.
- Richard never passes his exams because he plays around in class all the time.

Giving Advice

Exercise 1

Listen to the example

- e.g. You ought to get your eyes tested.
It's time you got your eyes tested.

Now you do it:

1. You ought to go to bed.
2. You ought to learn some manners.
3. She ought to get a haircut.
4. We ought to have a holiday.
5. I ought to get down to some hard work.
6. They ought to move into their own flat.
7. He ought to get a move on.
8. You ought to get your finger out.
9. She ought to fight her own battles.
10. We ought to have some food.

Exercise 2

Listen to the examples.

- e.g. I'm tired. I went to bed too late last night.
You shouldn't have gone to bed too late last night.

- e.g. I failed the exam. I didn't work hard enough.
You should have worked hard enough.

Now you do it:

1. I've got a hangover. I drank too much last night.
2. I'm broke. I spent all my money on the horses.
3. It's raining. I didn't bring an umbrella.
4. I fell into a hole. I didn't look where I was going.
5. I can't do my homework. I didn't pay attention in class.
6. I feel sick. I ate too much for lunch.
7. I've missed my plane. I left home too late.
8. I got lost. I didn't take a compass with me.
9. I can't remember what you told me to do. I didn't pay attention.
10. Someone has stolen my bike. I didn't lock it up.

Exercise 3

Listen to the example.

e.g. My hair needs cutting.
You ought to get it cut.

Now you do it:

1. My eyes need testing.
2. My trousers need shortening.
3. My tooth needs taking out.
4. My car oil needs changing.
5. My watch battery needs replacing.
6. My drains need sweeping.
7. That clock needs fixing.
8. That knife needs sharpening.
9. The car battery needs recharging.
10. This suit needs dry-cleaning.

Exercise 4

Listen to the example

e.g. I've got a bad headache. (take a pill)
If I were you, I'd take a pill.

Now you do it:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. I've lost my purse. | (report it) |
| 2. My husband keeps beating me. | (leave him) |
| 3. I'm exhausted. | (go to bed early) |
| 4. There's no future in my job. | (re-train) |
| 5. I'm really overweight. | (eat less fat) |
| 6. I got sunburnt yesterday. | (stay out of the sun) |
| 7. My new car keeps breaking down. | (take it back) |
| 8. This milk smells sour. | (throw it away) |
| 9. I've got a bad cough. | (quit smoking) |
| 10. I've got indigestion. | (eat more slowly) |

It's ages since....

Exercise 1

e.g. He hasn't visited his parents for months.

It's months since he last visited his parents.

Now you do it:

1. She hasn't watered the plants for ages.
2. You haven't washed the car for weeks.
3. We haven't eaten curry for months.
4. Bob hasn't come to see us for ages.
5. We haven't been to the cinema for almost two years.
6. Carol hasn't played netball for ages.
7. David hasn't paid income tax for years.
8. We haven't visited our relatives in Melbourne for months.
9. You haven't smoked a cigarette for six months.
10. She hasn't seen her children for nearly a year.

Exercise 2

Listen to the example

e.g. It's weeks since he had his last haircut.

He hasn't had a haircut for weeks.

Now you do it:

1. It's months since she had her last cigarette.
2. It's years since he had his last eye-test.
3. It's ages since you had your last tetanus injection.
4. It's a long time since I had my last nightmare.
5. It's weeks since she had her last interview.
6. It's years since he had his last check-up.
7. It's months since my car had its last service.
8. It's ages since we had our last meal out.
9. It's almost a year since he had his last drink.
10. It's a long time since they had their last holiday.

Past Continuous Tense

Exercise 1

Listen to the examples:

e.g. The phone rang. We were eating dinner.
The phone rang while we were eating dinner.

e.g. The plane was taking off. The tyre burst.
While the plane was taking off, the tyre burst.

Now you do it:

1. I was having a bath. I slipped and hurt myself.
2. She was walking to work. It started to rain.
3. The car broke down. He was driving to work.
4. The thunderstorm began. The boys were playing football.
5. The politician was giving a speech. Someone threw a tomato at him.
6. The traffic lights were not working. A number of accidents occurred.
7. The salvage workers were trying to save the ship. It caught fire.
8. There was a power cut. They were watching an exciting film.
9. The plane developed engine trouble. It was flying from Perth to Adelaide.
10. The man was walking across the street. He slipped on a banana skin.

Present Perfect Tense

Exercise 1

Listen to the example

e.g. I've never eaten spaghetti before.
This is the first time I've ever eaten spaghetti.

Now, you do it:

1. I've never travelled by air before.
2. She's never tasted squid before.
3. He's never been to China before.
4. They've never drunk red wine before.
5. I've never driven a Rolls Royce before.
6. She's never considered leaving home before.
7. I've never heard that one before.
8. They've never owned their own home before.
9. I've never tried fish-heads before.
10. He's never been fishing at night before.

Exercise 2

Listen to the example

e.g. Have you ever been to Japan? (1986)
Yes, I have. I went there in 1986.

Now you do it:

1. Have you ever eaten sushi? (last week)
2. Have you ever met Paul Keating? (at the meeting)
3. Have you ever been wind-surfing? (last weekend)
4. Have you ever travelled by hovercraft? (1980)
5. Have you ever climbed Mount Everest? (1992)
6. Have you ever played squash? (last month)
7. Have you ever swum with a whale? (last summer)
8. Have you ever caught a shark? (3 days ago)
9. Have you ever camped on the beach? (last year)
10. Have you ever read 'War and Peace'? (5 years ago)

Exercise 3

Listen to the examples

e.g. Has Richard finished yet? (✓)
Yes, he's *already finished*.

e.g. Have you eaten yet? (X)
No, I *haven't eaten yet*.

Now, you do it:

1. Has John read the newspaper yet? (✓)
2. Have you finished the book yet? (✓)
3. Has Sharon arrived yet? (X)
4. Have the girls left yet? (✓)
5. Has the baby woken up yet? (X)
6. Have you decided yet? (X)
7. Have the children tidied their room yet? (X)
8. Have you checked the mailbox yet? (✓)
9. Has the teacher marked the essays yet? (X)
10. Have you heard the news yet? (✓)

The first, the last, the only one.

Exercise 1

Listen to the example:

- e.g. No-one had swum the Atlantic before Ali did.
Ali was the first person to swim the Atlantic.

Now you do it:

1. No-one had reached the North Pole before Amundsen did.
2. No-one had used rubber tyres before Mr Dunlop did.
3. No European had visited China before Marco Polo did.
4. No country had given the vote to women before New Zealand did.
5. No-one had produced cheap motor cars before Henry Ford did.

Exercise 2

Listen to the example

- e.g. No-one finished the exercise except Paula.
Paula was the only one to finish the exercise.

Now you do it:

1. No-one spoke to the president except Sandra.
2. No-one applied for the job except Pete.
3. No-one passed the driving test except Anna.
4. No-one ate all their dinner except Simon.
5. No-one broke any world records except Kieren Perkins.
6. No-one arrived late for the meeting except Kevin.

Exercise 3

Listen to the example

- e.g. No-one has crossed the Alps on an elephant since Hannibal.
Hannibal was the last person to cross the Alps on an elephant.

Now you do it:

1. No-one has won two Nobel Prizes since Marie Curie.
2. No-one has borrowed this book since I did.
3. No-one has won six Olympic gold medals since Mark Spitz.
4. No-one has seen him alive since you did.
5. No-one has used the phone since the secretary did.

Answer Key

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Comparison

Exercise 1

1. My car is faster than yours.
Your car isn't as fast as mine.
2. John is taller than Simon.
Simon isn't as tall as John.
3. This suitcase is heavier than that one.
That suitcase isn't as heavy as this one.
4. Gold is more valuable than silver.
Silver isn't as valuable as gold.
5. The Nile is longer than the Amazon.
The Amazon isn't as long as the Nile.
6. You are better at tennis than I am.
I am not as good at tennis as you are.
7. He knows more about cars than I do.
I don't know as much about cars as he does.
8. She reads more books than I do.
I don't read as many books as she does.
9. You drive more carefully than I do.
I don't drive as carefully as you do.
10. She can swim further than I can.
I can't swim as far as she can.

Exercise 2 The more...the more...

1. As you use more electricity so you have to pay more.
The more electricity you use, the more you have to pay.
2. As you grow older so you become wiser.
The older you grow, the wiser you become.
3. As you eat more so you put on more weight.
The more you eat, the more weight you put on.
4. As you practise more so you become more fluent.
The more you practise, the more fluent you become.
5. As you earn more so you spend more.
The more you earn, the more you spend.
6. As the day becomes hotter so you need to drink more.
The hotter the day becomes, the more you need to drink.
7. As you drive faster so you use more petrol.
The faster you drive, the more petrol you use.
8. As Samson's hair grew longer so he became stronger.
The longer Samson's hair grew, the stronger he became.
9. As you save more so you become richer.
The more you save, the richer you become.
10. As the rain became heavier so the river flowed faster.
The heavier the rain became, the faster the river flowed.

Exercise 3

1. No-one in the world can run as fast as he can.
He is the fastest runner in the world.
2. No-one in the class is as clever as he is.
He is the cleverest person in the class.
3. No-one in the family is as tall as he is.
He is the tallest person in the family.
4. No-one in the world plays golf as well as she does.
She is the best golf player in the world.
5. No-one in the street drives as carefully as he does.
He is the most careful driver in the street.
6. No-one in the state can swim as fast a she can.
She is the fastest swimmer in the state.
7. No-one in the world is as strong as he is.
He is the strongest person in the world.
8. No-one in the country sings as well as she does.
She is the best singer in the country.
9. No-one in the state plays the piano as well as he does.
He is the best piano player in the state.
10. No-one in the family cooks as well as she does.
She is the best cook in the family.

Gerunds

Exercise 1

1. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to offend you.
I apologize for offending you.
2. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to be rude.
I apologize for being rude.
3. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to spoil the surprise.
I apologize for spoiling the surprise.
4. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to hurt your feelings.
I apologize for hurting your feelings.
5. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to let the side down.
I apologize for letting the side down.
6. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to cause any problems.
I apologize for causing any problems.
7. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to disturb you.
I apologize for disturbing you.
8. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to wake the children.
I apologize for waking the children.
9. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to interrupt your work.
I apologize for interrupting your work.
10. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to make too much noise.
I apologize for making too much noise.

Exercise 2

1. She walked by me. She didn't say 'hello'.
She walked by me without saying 'hello'.
2. John completed the race. He didn't feel tired.
John completed the race without feeling tired.
3. They got down to work. They didn't waste any time.
They got down to work without wasting any time.
4. The team finished the season. They didn't lose a game.
The team finished the season without losing a game.
5. The woman rescued the baby. She didn't think about the danger.
The woman rescued the baby without thinking about the danger.
6. The driver went through the red light. He didn't stop.
The driver went through the red light without stopping.
7. The prisoner survived ten weeks. He didn't eat.
The prisoner survived ten weeks without eating.
8. The girl got on the bus. She didn't queue.
The girl got on the bus without queuing.
9. The police officer dived into the icy water. He didn't think about the danger.
The police officer dived into the icy water without thinking about the danger.
10. Paul left the house. He didn't eat any breakfast.
Paul left the house without eating any breakfast.

Exercise 3

1. I like going to discos but I like going to parties more.
I prefer going to parties to going to discos.
2. Joe likes long-jumping but he likes high-jumping more.
Joe prefers high-jumping to long-jumping.
3. Jenny likes cooking but she enjoys eating out more.
Jenny prefers eating out to cooking.
4. Anna likes painting but she likes sculpting more.
Anna prefers sculpting to painting.
5. I like taking part but I enjoy winning more.
I prefer winning to taking part.
6. Linda likes horse-riding but she likes cycling more.
Linda prefers cycling to horse-riding.
7. I like swimming in the pool but I like swimming in the sea more.
I prefer swimming in the sea to swimming in the pool.
8. Fred enjoys snorkelling but he likes scuba-diving more.
Fred prefers scuba-diving to snorkelling.
9. Tanya likes watching videos but she enjoys going to the cinema more.
Tanya prefers going to the cinema to watching videos.
10. I like baking cakes but I enjoy eating them more.
I prefer eating cakes to baking them.

Exercise 4

1. He did the washing-up. Then he watched football on TV.
After doing the washing-up, he watched football on TV.
2. She wrote two letters. Then she went out.
After writing 2 letters, she went out.
3. The plane took off. Then it climbed to 30,000 feet.
After taking off, the plane climbed to 30,000 feet.
4. I finished the book. Then I went to bed.
After finishing the book, I went to bed.
5. She phoned for a taxi. Then she waited in the hallway.
After phoning for a taxi, she waited in the hallway.
6. He bought a blank video tape. Then he recorded the film.
After buying a blank video tape, he recorded the film.
7. She discovered the body. Then she called the police.
After discovering the body, she called the police.
8. The boss dictated a letter. Then she attended a meeting.
After dictating a letter, the boss attended a meeting.
9. I said 'goodbye' to the last guest. Then I locked the door.
After saying 'goodbye' to the last guest, I locked the door.
10. He turned on the ignition. Then he put the car into gear.
After turning on the ignition, he put the car into gear.

Exercise 5 Despite / In spite of...

1. She felt ill but she came to school.
Despite feeling ill, she came to school.
2. They were poor but they gave some money to charity.
Despite being poor, they gave some money to charity.
3. He can't swim but he enjoys playing in the sea.
Despite not being able to swim, he enjoys playing in the sea.
4. She didn't work very hard but she passed the exam.
Despite not working very hard, she passed the exam.
5. He had to walk to work every day but he was never late.
Despite having to walk to work every day, he was never late.
6. They lost the game but they still won the championship.
Despite losing the game, they still won the championship.
7. I can't speak Japanese but I spend all my holidays in Tokyo.
Despite not being able to speak Japanese, I spend all my holidays in Tokyo.
8. I don't like windy weather but I enjoy living in Perth.
Despite not liking windy weather, I enjoy living in Perth.
9. We were tired but we decided to go dancing.
Despite being tired, we decided to go dancing.
10. She could read and write French but she couldn't speak it.
Despite being able to read and write French, she couldn't speak it.

Exercise 6 Gerunds V Past Perfect

1. He put the cat out. Then he went to bed.
After putting the cat out, he went to bed.
2. She turned the television off. Then she had a shower.
After turning the television off, she had a shower.
3. The program finished. Then she turned the TV off.
After the program had finished, she turned the TV off.
4. Tommy did his homework. Then he went out to play.
After doing his homework, Tommy went out to play.
5. They completed the exercise but they still didn't understand it.
After completing the exercise, they still didn't understand it.
6. He had his car serviced but it still didn't run smoothly.
After he had had his car serviced, it still didn't run smoothly.
7. Mary checked her baggage in and went through immigration control.
After checking her baggage in, Mary went through immigration control.
8. The referee blew his whistle and the game started.
After the referee had blown his whistle, the game started.
9. The athlete broke his leg and had to retire from athletics.
After breaking his leg, the athlete had to retire from athletics.
10. The secretary typed the letter and then the boss signed it.
After the secretary had typed the letter, the boss signed it.

Indirect speech

Exercise 1

1. 'You are lazy,' Mum said to Jack.
Mum accused Jack of being lazy.
2. 'You ate all the cake,' Mary said to her sister.
Mary accused her sister of eating all the cake.
3. 'You've lost my pencil,' Jeff said to his younger brother.
Jeff accused his younger brother of losing his pencil.
4. 'You're a liar,' the judge said to the defendant.
The judge accused the defendant of being a liar.
5. 'You robbed the bank,' the police officer said to the woman.
The police officer accused the woman of robbing the bank.
6. 'You cheated in the exam,' the examiner said to the candidate.
The examiner accused the candidate of cheating in the exam.
7. 'You've wasted all your money,' Bob said to his son.
Bob accused his son of wasting all his money.
8. 'You've created a monster,' the man said to Frankenstein.
The man accused Frankenstein of creating a monster.
9. 'You broke the window,' the woman said to the boys.
The woman accused the boys of breaking the window.
10. 'You were driving too fast,' the police officer said to the motorist.
The police officer accused the motorist of driving too fast.

Exercise 2

1. 'I can't read your writing,' said the little boy.
The little boy said he couldn't read my writing.
2. 'I don't like my nose,' said Carole.
Carole said she didn't like her nose.
3. 'I won't be late,' said Joseph.
Joseph said he wouldn't be late.
4. 'I didn't go to the shops,' said Aunty Hilda.
Aunty Hilda said she hadn't been to the shops.
5. 'I've already seen this film,' said Rita.
Rita said she had already seen that film.
6. 'I'm thirsty,' said Richard.
Richard said he was thirsty.
7. 'I can't come to your party,' said Sue.
Sue said she couldn't come to my party.
8. 'I'll finish the job tomorrow,' said the workman.
The workman said he would finish the job the next day.

Exercise 3

1. 'Who broke this window?'
I don't know who broke that window.
2. 'How much does it cost?'
I don't know how much it costs.
3. 'Where can I buy some chillies?'
I don't know where you can buy some chillies.
4. 'When did the show begin?'
I don't know when the show began.
5. 'Why did she run away?'
I don't know why she ran away.
6. 'Which suit are you going to wear?'
I don't know which suit I'm going to wear
7. 'Who did you speak to?'
I don't know who I spoke to.
8. 'What's in that bag?'
I don't know what is in that bag.
9. 'When did the prisoner escape?'
I don't know when the prisoner escaped.
10. 'Why is the door locked?'
I don't know why the door is locked.

Exercise 4

1. 'Is it raining?'
He wanted to know if it was raining.
2. 'Will it shrink in the wash?'
She wanted to know if it would shrink in the wash.
3. 'Do you like me?'
He wanted to know if I liked him.
4. 'Have you ever been to New Zealand?'
She wanted to know if I had ever been to New Zealand.
5. 'Did you watch TV?'
He wanted to know if I had watched TV.
6. 'Are you playing badminton this evening?'
She wanted to know if I was playing badminton that evening.
7. 'Can you speak Japanese?'
He wanted to know if I could speak Japanese.
8. 'Does the dog bite?'
She wanted to know if the dog bit.
9. 'Were you at the club last night?'
He wanted to know if I had been at the club the night before.
10. 'Have you seen my pencil?'
She wanted to know if I had seen her pencil.

Passive Voice

Exercise 1

1. The postman delivered the parcel this morning.
The parcel was delivered this morning.
2. The builders built this house last year.
This house was built last year.
3. The photographer used a filter for this picture.
A filter was used for this picture.
4. The baker bakes the bread early in the morning.
The bread is baked early in the morning.
5. The fisherman caught this fish in the lake .
This fish was caught in the lake.
6. The judge has sentenced the thief to three years in prison.
The thief has been sentenced to three years in prison.
7. The publisher has published two of my books.
Two of my books have been published.
8. The waiter served the soup first.
The soup was served first.
9. The garbos clear away the rubbish every Friday.
The rubbish is cleared away every Friday.
10. The painter painted the fence last week.
The fence was painted last week.

Exercise 2

1. Martin usually buys the groceries.
The groceries are usually bought by Martin.
2. A snake bit the dog.
The dog was bitten by a snake.
3. A fishing boat rescued the sailors.
The sailors were rescued by a fishing boat.
4. The boys are painting the fence.
The fence is being painted by the boys.
5. My brother is doing my homework.
My homework is being done by my brother.
6. An eye-witness identified the robber.
The robber was identified by an eye-witness.
7. Mr Roberts teaches Maths.
Maths is taught by Mr Roberts.
8. The Government provides money for tertiary education.
Money for tertiary education is provided by the government.
9. Senator Jones signed the peace treaty.
The peace treaty was signed by Senator Jones.
10. The Wildcats won the match.
The match was won by the Wildcats.

Exercise 3

1. You ought to keep your bandage dry.
Your bandage ought to be kept dry.
2. You should defrost this meat.
This meat should be defrosted.
3. We will eat lunch at noon.
Lunch will be eaten at noon.
4. Paul will drive your car.
Your car will be driven by Paul.
5. The students at the back couldn't hear the lecturer.
The lecturer couldn't be heard by the students at the back.
6. You shouldn't use petrol to light a fire.
Petrol shouldn't be used to light a fire.
7. You mustn't take bags into the library.
Bags mustn't be taken into the library.
8. People will not tolerate that sort of behaviour.
That sort of behaviour will not be tolerated.
9. You can't eat this meat; it's rotten.
This meat can't be eaten; it's rotten.
10. Sandra won't win this race.
This race won't be won by Sandra.

Present Perfect Tense

Exercise 1

1. I've never travelled by air before.
This is the first time I've ever travelled by air.
2. She's never tasted squid before.
This is the first time she's ever tasted squid.
3. He's never been to China before.
This is the first time he's ever been to China.
4. They've never drunk red wine before.
This is the first time they've ever drunk red wine.
5. I've never driven a Rolls Royce before.
This is the first time I've ever driven a Rolls-Royce.
6. She's never considered leaving home before.
This is the first time she's ever considered leaving home.
7. I've never heard that one before.
This is the first time I've ever heard that one.
8. They've never owned their own home before.
This is the first time they've ever owned their own home.
9. I've never tried fish-heads before.
This is the first time I've ever tried fish-heads.
10. He's never been fishing at night before.
This is the first time he's ever been fishing at night.

Exercise 2

1. Have you ever eaten sushi? (last week)
Yes, I have. I ate sushi last week.
2. Have you ever met Paul Keating? (at the meeting)
Yes, I have. I met Paul Keating at the meeting.
3. Have you ever been wind-surfing? (last weekend)
Yes, I have. I went wind-surfing last weekend.
4. Have you ever travelled by hovercraft? (1980)
Yes, I have. I travelled by hovercraft in 1980.
5. Have you ever climbed Mount Everest? (1992)
Yes, I have. I climbed Mt Everest in 1992.
6. Have you ever played squash? (last month)
Yes, I have. I played squash last month.
7. Have you ever swum with a whale? (last summer)
Yes, I have. I swam with a whale last summer.
8. Have you ever caught a shark? (3 days ago)
Yes, I have. I caught a shark 3 days ago.
9. Have you ever camped on the beach? (last year)
Yes, I have. I camped on the beach last year.
10. Have you ever read 'War and Peace'? (5 years ago)
Yes, I have. I read 'War and Peace' 5 years ago.

Exercise 3

1. Has John read the newspaper yet? ()
Yes, he's already read the newspaper.
2. Have you finished the book yet? ()
Yes, I've already finished the book.
3. Has Sharon arrived yet? (X)
No, she hasn't arrived yet.
4. Have the girls left yet? ()
Yes, they've already left.
5. Has the baby woken up yet? (X)
No, it hasn't woken up yet.
6. Have you decided yet? (X)
No, I haven't decided yet.
7. Have the children tidied their room yet? (X)
No, they haven't tidied their room yet.
8. Have you checked the mailbox yet? ()
Yes, I've already checked the mailbox.
9. Has the teacher marked the essays yet? (X)
No, she hasn't marked the essays yet.
10. Have you heard the news yet? ()
Yes, I've already heard the news.

Prevent someone from doing something

1. The ship couldn't sail because of the rough sea.
The rough sea prevented the ship from sailing.
2. The plane couldn't land because of the ice on the runway.
The ice on the runway prevented the plane from landing.
3. We couldn't import the food because of quarantine restrictions.
Quarantine restrictions prevented us from importing the food.
4. I couldn't hear the speaker because of the traffic noise.
The traffic noise prevented me from hearing the speaker.
5. He couldn't finish the essay because of the power cut.
The power cut prevented him from finishing the essay.
6. We couldn't have the barbecue because of the rain.
The rain prevented us from having the barbecue.
7. He couldn't finish his studies because of the war.
The war prevented him from finishing his studies.
8. The burglar couldn't break into the house because of the window locks.
The window locks prevented the burglar from breaking into the house.
9. The crops couldn't grow because of the lack of rain.
The lack of rain prevented the crops from growing.
10. He couldn't set up business because of a lack of funds.
A lack of funds prevented him from setting up business.

Verbs of perception

Exercise 1

1. The boy broke the window. The policeman saw him.
The policeman saw the boy break the window.
2. The thief entered the house through the window. The neighbour saw him.
The neighbour saw the thief enter the house through the window.
3. The people cheered when their team scored. The whole town heard them.
The whole town heard the people cheer when their team scored.
4. The convict escaped from the prison. Nobody saw him.
Nobody saw the convict escape from the prison.
5. The swimmer broke the world record. The spectators watched her.
The spectators watched the swimmer break the world record.
6. The school bell rang. The students heard it.
The students heard the bell ring.
7. Gary Ablett kicked ten goals. The supporters watched him.
The supporters watched Gary Ablett kick ten goals.
8. The woman cheated during the examination. The examiner saw her.
The examiner saw the woman cheat during the examination.
9. The truck slid down the hill. The anxious driver watched it.
The anxious driver watched the truck slide down the hill.
10. The snake bit the dog. The farmer saw it.
The farmer saw the snake bite the dog.

Exercise 2

1. The soup was burning. You could smell it.
You could smell the soup burning.
2. The girl was screaming for help. The police officer heard her.
The police officer heard the girl screaming for help.
3. The rain was leaking through a hole in the roof. Nobody noticed it.
Nobody noticed the rain leaking through a hole in the roof.
4. The plane was falling towards the ground. We saw it.
We saw the plane falling towards the ground.
5. The cyclone was approaching the coast. The weather bureau watched it.
The weather bureau watched the cyclone approaching the coast.
6. Smoke was pouring out of the house. The rescuers noticed it.
The rescuers noticed smoke pouring out of the house.
7. The phone was ringing. Nobody heard it.
Nobody heard the phone ringing.
8. The flood water was rising. The nervous residents watched it.
The nervous residents watched the flood water rising.
9. The suspect was carrying a sack. The police observed this.
The police observed the suspect carrying a sack.
10. I was trying to put out the fire. My friends saw me.
My friends saw me trying to put out the fire.

Conditional sentences 2

Exercise 1

1. What would you do if you found a Redback in your bag? (kill it)
If I found a Redback in my bag, I'd kill it.
2. What would you do if you saw a swimmer in difficulty? (tell the surfguard)
If I saw a swimmer in difficulty, I'd tell the surfguard.
3. What would you do if you had a headache? (take a pill)
If I had a headache, I'd take a pill.
4. What would you do if you felt ill one morning? (stay in bed)
If I felt ill one morning, I'd stay in bed.
5. What would you do if your computer broke down? (get it fixed)
If my computer broke down, I'd get it fixed.
6. What would you do if your house caught fire? (call for help)
If my house caught fire, I'd call for help.
7. What would you do if the weather turned hot? (go for a swim)
If the weather turned hot, I'd go for a swim.
8. What would you do if you found a diamond ring? (keep it)
If I found a diamond ring, I'd keep it.
9. What would you do if you were offered the job? (accept it)
If I were offered the job, I'd accept it.
10. What would you do if someone stole your car? (report it)
If someone stole my car, I'd report it.

Exercise 2

1. I never come to visit you because I don't have a car.
But if I had a car, I would come to visit you.
2. She never goes to parties because she's very shy.
But if she weren't very shy, she would go to parties.
3. People never understand him because he doesn't speak clearly.
But if he spoke clearly, people would understand him.
4. They never use the internet because they don't have a computer.
But if they had a computer, they would use the internet.
5. He never goes to the pool because he can't swim very well.
But if he could swim very well, he would go to the pool.
6. I never go to the cinema because I'm too busy.
But if I weren't too busy, I would go to the cinema.
7. Simon doesn't buy a lot of books because he can't read very well.
But if he could read very well, he would buy a lot of books.
8. Paula never gets up on time because she doesn't have an alarm clock.
But if she had an alarm clock, she would get up on time.
9. I don't drive a Porsche because I'm not rich enough.
But if I were rich enough, I would drive a Porsche.
10. Richard never passes his exams because he plays around in class all the time.
But if he didn't play around in class all the time, he would pass his exams.

Giving Advice

Exercise 1

1. You ought to go to bed.
It's time you went to bed.
2. You ought to learn some manners.
It's time you learnt some manners.
3. She ought to get a haircut.
It's time she got a haircut.
4. We ought to have a holiday.
It's time we had a holiday.
5. I ought to get down to some hard work.
It's time I got down to some hard work.
6. They ought to move into their own flat.
It's time they moved into their own flat.
7. He ought to get a move on.
It's time he got a move on.
8. You ought to get your finger out.
It's time you got your finger out.
9. She ought to fight her own battles.
It's time she fought her own battles.
10. We ought to have some food.
It's time we had some food.

Exercise 2

1. I've got a hangover. I drank too much last night.
You shouldn't have drunk too much last night.
2. I'm broke. I spent all my money on the horses.
You shouldn't have spent all your money on the horses.
3. It's raining. I didn't bring an umbrella.
You should've brought an umbrella.
4. I fell into a hole. I didn't look where I was going.
You should've looked where you were going.
5. I can't do my homework. I didn't pay attention in class.
You should've paid attention.
6. I feel sick. I ate too much for lunch.
You shouldn't have eaten too much for lunch.
7. I've missed my plane. I left home too late.
You shouldn't have left home too late.
8. I got lost. I didn't take a compass with me.
You should've taken a compass with you.
9. I can't remember what you told me to do. I didn't pay attention.
You should've paid attention.
10. Someone has stolen my bike. I didn't lock it up.
You should've locked it up.

Exercise 3

1. My eyes need testing.
You ought to get them tested.
2. My trousers need shortening.
You ought to get them shortened.
3. My tooth needs taking out.
You ought to get it taken out.
4. My car oil needs changing.
You ought to get it changed.
5. My watch battery needs replacing.
You ought to get it replaced.
6. My drains need sweeping.
You ought to get them swept.
7. That clock needs fixing.
You ought to get it fixed.
8. That knife needs sharpening.
You ought to get it sharpened.
9. The car battery needs recharging.
You ought to get it recharged.
10. This suit needs dry-cleaning.
You ought to get it dry-cleaned.

Exercise 4

1. I've lost my purse. (report it)
If I were you, I'd report it.
2. My husband keeps beating me. (leave him)
If I were you, I'd leave him.
3. I'm exhausted. (go to bed early)
If I were you, I'd go to bed early.
4. There's no future in my job. (re-train)
If I were you, I'd re-train.
5. I'm really overweight. (eat less fat)
If I were you, I'd eat less fat.
6. I got sunburnt yesterday. (stay out of the sun)
If I were you, I'd stay out of the sun.
7. My new car keeps breaking down. (take it back)
If I were you, I'd take it back.
8. This milk smells sour. (throw it away)
If I were you, I'd throw it away.
9. I've got a bad cough. (quit smoking)
If I were you, I'd quit smoking.
10. I've got indigestion. (eat more slowly)
If I were you, I'd eat more slowly.

It's ages since....

Exercise 1

1. She hasn't watered the plants for ages.
It's ages since she last watered the plants.
2. You haven't washed the car for weeks.
It's weeks since you last washed the car.
3. We haven't eaten curry for months.
It's months since we last ate curry.
4. Bob hasn't come to see us for ages.
It's ages since Bob last came to see us.
5. We haven't been to the cinema for almost two years.
It's almost two years since we last went to the cinema.
6. Carol hasn't played netball for ages.
It's ages since Carol last played netball.
7. David hasn't paid income tax for years.
It's years since David last paid income tax.
8. We haven't visited our relatives in Melbourne for months.
It's months since we last visited our relatives in Melbourne.
9. You haven't smoked a cigarette for six months.
It's six months since you last smoked a cigarette.
10. She hasn't seen her children for nearly a year.
It's nearly a year since she last saw her children.

Exercise 2

1. It's months since she had her last cigarette.
She hasn't had a cigarette for months.
2. It's years since he had his last eye-test.
He hasn't had an eye-test for years.
3. It's ages since you had your last tetanus injection.
You haven't had a tetanus injection for ages.
4. It's a long time since I had my last nightmare.
I haven't had a nightmare for a long time.
5. It's weeks since she had her last interview.
She hasn't had an interview for weeks.
6. It's years since he had his last check-up.
He hasn't had a check-up for years.
7. It's months since my car had its last service.
My car hasn't had a service for months.
8. It's ages since we had our last meal out.
We haven't had a meal out for ages.
9. It's almost a year since he had his last drink.
He hasn't had a drink for almost a year.
10. It's a long time since they had their last holiday.
They haven't had a holiday for a long time.

Past Continuous Tense

1. I was having a bath. I slipped and hurt myself.
While I was having a bath, I slipped and hurt myself.
2. She was walking to work. It started to rain.
While she was walking to work, it started to rain.
3. The car broke down. He was driving to work.
The car broke down while he was driving to work.
4. The thunderstorm began. The boys were playing football.
The thunderstorm began while the boys were playing football.
5. The politician was giving a speech. Someone threw a tomato at him.
While the politician was giving a speech, someone threw a tomato at him.
6. The traffic lights were not working. A number of accidents occurred.
While the traffic lights were not working, a number of accidents occurred.
7. The salvage workers were trying to save the ship. It caught fire.
While the salvage workers were trying to save the ship, it caught fire
8. There was a power cut. They were watching an exciting film.
There was a power cut while they were watching an exciting film.
9. The plane developed engine trouble. It was flying from Perth to Adelaide.
The plane developed engine trouble while it was flying from Perth to Adelaide.
10. The man was walking across the street. He slipped on a banana skin.
While the man was walking across the street, he slipped on a banana skin.

Present Perfect Continuous Tense

Exercise 1

1. Peter started smoking a pipe ten years ago.
Peter's been smoking a pipe for ten years.
2. Sandra started dancing professionally when she was sixteen.
Sandra's been dancing professionally since she was sixteen.
3. I started collecting coins almost a year ago.
I've been collecting coins for almost a year.
4. We started growing our own vegetables three years ago.
We've been growing our own vegetables for three years.
5. June started learning Japanese four weeks ago.
June's been learning Japanese for four weeks.
6. Paul started teaching at the university after he graduated.
Paul's been teaching at the university since he graduated.
7. Bill started surfing when he learnt how to swim.
Bill's been surfing since he learnt how to swim.
8. I started driving a Rolls-Royce when I won Lotto.
I've been driving a Rolls-Royce since I won Lotto.
9. We started redecorating the house three months ago.
We've been redecorating the house for three months.
10. You started writing your life history ten years ago.
You've been writing your life history for ten years.

Exercise 2

1. He started playing football when he was twelve.
He's been playing football since he was twelve.
2. She began taking driving lessons when she got this new job.
She's been taking driving lessons since she got this new job.
3. They started watching films six years ago.
They've been watching films for six years.
4. I began typing this letter at four o'clock.
I've been typing this letter since four o'clock.
5. Dorothy started going out with boys when she was fifteen.
Dorothy's been going out with boys since she was fifteen.
6. Michael began to sniff glue last year.
Michael's been sniffing glue since last year.
7. We started to travel at dusk.
We've been travelling since dusk.
8. When the teacher arrived home from school, he started marking the essays.
The teacher's been marking the essays since he arrived home from school.
9. Julie began preparing dinner three hours ago.
Julie's been preparing dinner for three hours.
10. When he left school Bruce began acting.
Bruce's been acting since he left school.

Exercise 3

1. We started decorating the house last month.
We've been decorating the house since last month.
2. I started using Word Perfect five years ago.
I've been using Word Perfect for five years.
3. He started taking insulin when he got diabetes.
He's been taking insulin since he got diabetes.
4. She started playing the guitar when she was ten years old.
She's been playing the guitar since she was ten years old.
5. The girls started painting the fence two hours ago.
The girls have been painting the fence for two hours.
6. I started working seriously last Sunday.
I've been working seriously since last Sunday.
7. He started doing exercises when he had a heart attack.
He's been doing exercises since he had a heart attack.
8. We started collecting coins in 1989.
We've been collecting coins since 1989.
9. She started perming her hair when she got divorced.
She's been perming her hair since she got divorced.
10. He started listening to jazz music when his mother bought him a trumpet.
He's been listening to jazz music since his mother bought him a trumpet.

The first, the last, the only one.

Exercise 1

1. No-one had reached the North Pole before Amundsen did.
Amundsen was the first person to reach the North Pole.
2. No-one had used rubber tyres before Mr Dunlop did.
Mr Dunlop was the first person to use rubber tyres.
3. No European had visited China before Marco Polo did.
Marco Polo was the first European to visit China.
4. No country had given the vote to women before New Zealand did.
New Zealand was the first country to give the vote to women.
5. No-one had produced cheap motor cars before Henry Ford did.
Henry Ford was the first person to produce cheap motor cars.

Exercise 2

- 1 No-one spoke to the president except Sandra.
Sandra was the only one to speak to the president.
- 2 No-one applied for the job except Pete.
Pete was the only one to apply for the job.
3. No-one passed the driving test except Anna.
Anna was the only one to pass the driving test.
4. No-one ate all their dinner except Simon.
Simon was the only one to eat all their dinner.
5. No-one broke any world records except Kieren Perkins.
Kieren Perkins was the only one to break any world records.
6. No-one arrived late for the meeting except Kevin.
Kevin was the only one to arrive late for the meeting.

Exercise 3

1. No-one has won two Nobel Prizes since Marie Curie.
Marie Curie was the last person to win two Nobel Prizes.
2. No-one has borrowed this book since I did.
I was the last person to borrow this book.
3. No-one has won six Olympic gold medals since Mark Spitz.
Mark Spitz was the last person to win six Olympic gold medals.
4. No-one has seen him alive since you did.
You were the last person to see him alive.
5. No-one has used the phone since the secretary did.
The secretary was the last person to use the phone.