



Kaplan Course Notes

English Language

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Part I

Communication Fundamentals

Chapter 1

Non-verbal Communication

1.1 Lesson Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn:

- Vocabulary related to body language and non-verbal communication
- How to form adverbs from adjectives using suffixes (-ly, -ed)
- How to describe personality traits based on body language

1.2 Reading Context

Dialogue: The Interview

Interviewer: Welcome, please sit down. I noticed you were waiting **quietly** in the lobby.

Candidate: Thank you. I was a bit nervous, so I tried to stay calm.

Interviewer: I see. Your **posture** is very confident now. That's good.

Candidate: I try to be aware of my body language. I don't want to **gesticulate** too much.

Interviewer: It's okay to be **expressive**. We are looking for someone who can communicate effectively.

Candidate: That's a relief! I was worried I might seem too **imposing** if I used big gestures.

Interviewer: Not at all. Just speak **naturally**.

1.3 Key Concepts: Body Language

Body language is a form of non-verbal communication where physical behaviors, as opposed to words, are used to express or convey information.

Key Vocabulary

- **Gesticulate** (verb): To use gestures, especially dramatic ones, instead of speaking or to emphasize one's words.
 - Example: "You gesticulate a lot, which means you're expressive."
 - (*Gesticular mucho*)
- **Posture** (noun): The position in which someone holds their body when standing or sitting.
 - Example: "Your posture can be pretty imposing."
 - (*Postura*)
- **Expressive** (adjective): Effectively conveying thought or feeling.
 - (*Expresivo/a*)
- **Imposing** (adjective): Grand and impressive in appearance.
 - (*Imponente*)

1.4 Grammar Focus: Suffixes (-ly and -ed)

Suffixes are added to the end of words to change their meaning or grammatical function.

The -ly Suffix (Adverbs)

Adding **-ly** to an adjective creates an adverb that describes *how* something is done.

Adjective + **-ly** = Adverb

Examples:

- Quiet + ly → **Quietly** (*Silenciosamente*)
- Sudden + ly → **Suddenly** (*De repente*)

The -ed Suffix (Adjectives from Verbs)

Adding **-ed** to some verbs creates adjectives that describe feelings or states.

Verb + **-ed** = Adjective (feeling/state)

Examples:

- Confuse + ed → **Confused** (*Confundido/a*)
- Relieve + ed → **Relieved** (*Aliviado/a*)

1.5 Vocabulary Reference

Word with suffix	Root word	Meaning in Spanish	Example Situation
quietly	quiet	silenciosamente	Monica quietly asks for a cup of water
grateful	gratitude	agradecido/a	Monica feels grateful because Heather opened door
curiously	curious	con curiosidad	Heather looks at Monica curiously
suddenly	sudden	de repente	Monica gets up suddenly leaving her glass on the table
seriously	serious	en serio	He looked at me seriously and said nothing
relieved	relieve	aliviado/a	I felt relieved when the exam was over
casually	casual	casualmente	She casually mentioned her new job
confused	confuse	confundido/a	He looked confused by the instructions
shyly	shy	tímidamente	She shyly introduced herself
troubled	trouble	preocupado/a	He seemed troubled by the news
cautiously	caution	con cautela	She cautiously opened the door
immediately	immediate	inmediatamente	He immediately called for help

Table 1.1: Words with suffixes analysis

1.6 Practice Exercises

1.6.1 Exercise 1: Identify the Root Word

Write the root word for each of the following:

1. Nervously → _____
2. Excited → _____
3. Happily → _____
4. Worried → _____

1.6.2 Exercise 2: Complete the Sentences

Use the correct form of the word in parentheses:

1. She spoke _____ (quiet) during the meeting.
2. I was _____ (confuse) by his explanation.
3. He _____ (sudden) stood up and left.
4. They looked _____ (trouble) about something.

1.6.3 Exercise 3: Describe Body Language

Write 3 sentences describing someone's body language using the vocabulary from this chapter.

1.7 Key Takeaways

- Non-verbal communication includes gestures, posture, and facial expressions.

- The suffix **-ly** transforms adjectives into adverbs.
- The suffix **-ed** can transform verbs into adjectives describing feelings.
- Body language can reveal personality traits like being expressive or imposing.

1.8 Online Practice

Resources to Practice

Online Practice Reinforce what you have learned with these interactive exercises:

- **Body Language Quiz:** <https://www.englishclub.com/business-english/body-language.php>
- **Adverbs with -ly:** <https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/adverbs-of-manner.html>
- **-ed/-ing Adjectives:** <https://test-english.com/grammar-points/a2/ed-ing-adjectives/>
- **Non-verbal Communication:** <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/vocabulary/b1-b2-vocabulary/body-parts-2>

Chapter 2

Business English and Adverbs

2.1 Lesson Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn:

- Business vocabulary related to partnerships and entrepreneurship
- Adverbs of comment and viewpoint
- How to express opinions in professional contexts

2.2 Reading Context

Dialogue: The Business Proposal

Entrepreneur: **Frankly**, I think this new app idea is going to be a game-changer.

Investor: It sounds interesting. **Obviously**, the market is competitive right now.

Entrepreneur: That's true. But **fortunately**, we have a unique feature that no one else has.

Investor: **Personally**, I like the concept. But I need to see a solid business plan.

Entrepreneur: **Clearly**, we need to work on the financial details. **Ideally**, we can present it next week.

Investor: **Surprisingly**, I'm free next Tuesday. Let's meet then.

2.3 Key Concepts: Business Fundamentals

Business Vocabulary

- **Partnership** (noun): A business relationship between two or more people.
– (*Sociedad / Asociación*)
- **Entrepreneur** (noun): A person who starts a business, taking on financial risks in the hope of profit.
– (*Emprendedor*)
- **Investor** (noun): A person who puts money into a business with the expectation of achieving a profit.
– (*Inversionista*)
- **Stakeholder** (noun): A person with an interest or concern in a business.
– (*Parte interesada*)
- **Revenue** (noun): Income, especially when of a company or organization and of a substantial nature.
– (*Ingresos*)

2.4 Grammar Focus: Adverbs of Comment

These adverbs express the speaker's opinion or attitude about what they are saying. They usually come at the beginning of a sentence.

Adverbs of Comment and Viewpoint

Structure:

Adverb + , + **Sentence**

Examples:

- **Frankly**, I don't think this will work. (*Francamente...*)
- **Unfortunately**, the meeting was cancelled. (*Desafortunadamente...*)
- **Obviously**, we need a new strategy. (*Obviamente...*)

Adverb	Spanish	Example Sentence
Frankly	Francamente	Frankly, I don't think this will work.
Obviously	Obviamente	Obviously, we need to change our strategy.
Unfortunately	Desafortunadamente	Unfortunately, the meeting was cancelled.
Fortunately	Afortunadamente	Fortunately, we finished on time.
Honestly	Honestamente	Honestly, I prefer the first option.
Clearly	Claramente	Clearly, there's been a misunderstanding.
Surprisingly	Sorprendentemente	Surprisingly, the project was a success.
Apparently	Aparentemente	Apparently, they're closing the office.
Personally	Personalmente	Personally, I think we should wait.
Ideally	Idealmente	Ideally, we should start next week.

Table 2.1: Adverbs of comment and viewpoint

2.5 Vocabulary Reference

2.6 Practice Exercises

2.6.1 Exercise 1: Complete with an Adverb

Choose the correct adverb of comment:

- _____, the weather was perfect for our event. (Fortunately/Frankly)
- _____, I don't understand why they made that decision. (Obviously/Honestly)
- The results were, _____, better than expected. (surprisingly/unfortunately)

2.6.2 Exercise 2: Business Partnership Discussion

Write 3 sentences about what makes a good business partnership using adverbs of comment.

2.7 Key Takeaways

- Business partnerships require trust, communication, and clear agreements.
- Adverbs of comment express the speaker's opinion or attitude.
- These adverbs usually come at the beginning of a sentence followed by a comma.

2.8 Online Practice

Resources to Practice

Online Practice Reinforce what you have learned with these interactive exercises:

- **Business English Vocabulary:** <https://www.businessenglishpod.com/category/business-english-vocabulary/>
- **Adverbs of Comment:** <https://test-english.com/grammar-points/b1/adverbs-of-comment/>
- **Business Discussions Practice:** <https://www.eslfast.com/robot/topics/business/business.htm>
- **Entrepreneurship Vocabulary:** <https://www.englishclub.com/business-english/vocabulary.htm>

Part II

Essential Grammar

Chapter 3

Comparatives and Superlatives

3.1 Lesson Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn:

- How to form comparative and superlative adjectives
- Rules for short, long, and irregular adjectives
- How to compare people, places, and things

3.2 Reading Context

Dialogue: Choosing a Vacation Destination

Sarah: Where should we go for our vacation? I think Paris is **more romantic than** London.

Mike: Maybe, but London is **cheaper than** Paris right now. And the museums are **better**.

Sarah: True, but the food in Paris is **the best** in the world!

Mike: What about Rome? It's **hotter than** both London and Paris.

Sarah: Rome is beautiful, but it's also **the most crowded** city in summer.

Mike: Okay, let's go to the beach. It's **the easiest** option.

3.3 Grammar Focus: Comparatives

Comparatives are used to compare **two** things, people, or places.

Comparative Structure

Subject + verb + **comparative adjective** + **than** +
object

Examples:

- London is **bigger than** Dublin. (*Londres es más grande que Dublín*)
- This book is **more interesting than** that one. (*Este libro es más interesante que ese*)

3.4 Grammar Focus: Superlatives

Superlatives are used to compare **three or more** things and show the extreme.

Superlative Structure

Subject + verb + **the** + **superlative adjective** + (in/of)

Examples:

- Tokyo is **the biggest** city in Japan. (*Tokio es la ciudad más grande de Japón*)
- This is **the most delicious** pizza. (*Esta es la pizza más deliciosa*)

3.5 Formation Rules Reference

Type	Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
Short (1 syllable)	tall	taller	the tallest
Short ending in -e	nice	nicer	the nicest
Short ending in CVC	big	bigger	the biggest
Ending in -y	happy	happier	the happiest
Long (2+ syllables)	expensive	more expensive	the most expensive
Irregular	good	better	the best
Irregular	bad	worse	the worst

Table 3.1: Adjective formation rules

3.6 Practice Exercises

3.6.1 Exercise 1: Write the Comparative and Superlative

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
fast	_____	_____
beautiful	_____	_____
hot	_____	_____
easy	_____	_____
bad	_____	_____

3.6.2 Exercise 2: Complete the Sentences

1. Mount Everest is _____ (high) mountain in the world.
2. My brother is _____ (young) than me.
3. This restaurant is _____ (good) than the one we went to yesterday.
4. English is _____ (easy) than Chinese for Spanish speakers.

3.6.3 Exercise 3: Compare Your City

Write 5 sentences comparing your city to London or another city you know.

3.7 Key Takeaways

- Comparatives compare TWO things (use "than").
- Superlatives compare THREE or more things (use "the").

- Short adjectives: add -er/-est.
- Long adjectives: use more/most.
- Memorize irregular forms: good-better-best, bad-worse-worst.

3.8 Online Practice

Resources to Practice

Online Practice Reinforce what you have learned with these interactive exercises:

- **Comparatives Exercises:** <https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/comparatives-exercises.html>
- **Superlatives Exercises:** <https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/superlatives-exercises.html>
- **Interactive Practice:** <https://test-english.com/grammar-points/a2/comparative-superlative-adjectives/>
- **British Council Practice:** <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/english-grammar-reference/comparative-and-superlative-adjectives>

Chapter 4

Modal Verbs: Can, Could, May, Might

4.1 Lesson Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn:

- How to use modal verbs to express ability, possibility, and permission
- The difference between can, could, may, and might
- How to make polite requests

4.2 Reading Context

Dialogue: Planning a Party

Alice: Can you help me organize the office party?

Bob: Sure, I **can** help. When is it?

Alice: It **might** be next Friday, but we haven't decided yet.

Bob: We **could** have it at the new Italian restaurant.

Alice: That's a good idea. **May** I ask you to call them for a reservation?

Bob: Of course. **Could** you send me the number?

Alice: Yes. Oh, and it **may** rain, so we should check if they have indoor seating.

4.3 Grammar Focus: Modal Verbs Overview

Modal verbs are special auxiliary verbs that express ability, possibility, permission, obligation, or advice.

General Rules

- They do not change form (no -s for third person).
- They are followed by the base form of the verb (infinitive without "to").
- They do not need auxiliary verbs for questions or negatives.

4.4 Key Concepts: Usage Guide

Can vs. Could

CAN

- **Ability (Present):** I **can** speak English. (*Puedo hablar inglés*)
- **Permission (Informal):** **Can** I use your phone? (*¿Puedo usar tu teléfono?*)
- **Possibility (General):** It **can** be cold here. (*Puede hacer frío aquí*)

COULD

- **Ability (Past):** I **could** swim when I was five. (*Podía nadar...*)
- **Permission (Polite):** **Could** I leave early? (*¿Podría salir temprano?*)
- **Possibility (Uncertain):** It **could** rain. (*Podría llover*)

May vs. Might

MAY

- **Permission (Formal):** **May** I come in? (*¿Puedo entrar? (formal)*)
- **Possibility (Likely):** It **may** rain later. (*Puede que llueva*)

MIGHT

- **Possibility (Less Likely):** I **might** go to the party. (*Podría ir (quizás)*)

4.5 Politeness Scale

From least to most polite:

Can < Could < May

4.6 Practice Exercises

4.6.1 Exercise 1: Choose the Correct Modal

1. _____ I borrow your pen? (informal request)
2. She _____ speak French when she was a child. (past ability)
3. It _____ snow tonight, but I'm not sure. (uncertain possibility)
4. _____ I leave the room, sir? (formal permission)

4.6.2 Exercise 2: Rewrite More Politely

Transform these sentences to be more polite:

1. Can you help me? → _____
2. Can I sit here? → _____
3. Can you explain again? → _____

4.6.3 Exercise 3: Talk About Abilities

Write 5 sentences about what you can do now versus what you could do as a child.

4.7 Key Takeaways

- **Can:** present ability, informal permission.
- **Could:** past ability, polite requests.

- **May:** formal permission, likely possibility.
- **Might:** less likely possibility.
- Always use the base form of the verb after a modal.

4.8 Online Practice

Resources to Practice

Online Practice Reinforce what you have learned with these interactive exercises:

- **Modal Verbs Exercises:** <https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/modal-verbs-exercises.html>
- **Can/Could/May/Might:** <https://test-english.com/grammar-points/a2/can-could-may-might/>
- **Interactive Activities:** <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/english-grammar-reference/modal-verbs>
- **Permission & Ability Quiz:** <https://www.englishpage.com/modals/modalintro.html>

Chapter 5

Improvement, Action, and Verb Patterns

5.1 Lesson Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn:

- Vocabulary related to making improvements and taking action
- Collocations with "give"
- Grammatical patterns of the verb "give"
- How to describe change and progress

5.2 Reading Context

Dialogue: Improving Team Performance

Manager: Our sales numbers are down. We need to **boost** our performance.

Team Lead: I agree. Maybe we should **give** the new marketing strategy **a try**.

Manager: Good idea. It might **strengthen** our brand presence.

Team Lead: Also, the team seems tired. They need to **recharge their batteries**.

Manager: True. Let's **give them a break** this weekend.

Team Lead: Thanks. I'll **give you a hand** with the new schedule.

Manager: Great. Let's **give it our best** shot next month.

5.3 Key Concepts: Change and Improvement

Improvement Vocabulary

- **Boost** (verb): To help or encourage something to increase or improve.
– (*Impulsar, mejorar*)
- **Strengthen** (verb): To make something stronger or more effective.
– (*Fortalecer*)
- **Enhance** (verb): To improve the quality, value, or extent of something.
– (*Mejorar, realzar*)
- **Recharge batteries** (idiom): To rest and recover energy levels.
– (*Recargar las pilas*)

5.4 Grammar Focus: Verb Patterns with "Give"

The verb *give* is used in many fixed expressions and patterns in English.

Pattern 1: Give + It + a + Noun

Used to express attempting or trying something.

Expressions:

- **Give it a try** (*Intentarlo*)
- **Give it a go** (*Intentarlo (British)*)
- **Give it a shot** (*Darle una oportunidad (American)*)
- **Give it some thought** (*Pensarlo*)

Pattern 2: Give + Someone + Something

Used when giving something to a person (often abstract).

Expressions:

- **Give someone a hand** (*Echar una mano / Ayudar*)
- **Give someone a lift** (*Llevar a alguien (en coche)*)
- **Give someone a call** (*Llamar a alguien*)
- **Give someone a break** (*Dar un respiro*)

5.5 Collocations Reference

Verb	Common Collocations
Boost	confidence, morale, sales, performance, economy
Strengthen	relationship, bond, muscles, position, argument
Improve	skills, health, quality, situation, performance
Enhance	experience, quality, appearance, flavor, value
Weaken	position, argument, immune system, currency

Table 5.1: Common collocations with improvement verbs

5.6 Practice Exercises

5.6.1 Exercise 1: Complete with "Give" Expressions

1. I'm not sure if I'll like yoga, but I'll _____ (try it).
2. Can you _____ (help me) with my homework?
3. I need to _____ (think about it) before I make a decision.
4. Do you want me to _____ (drive you) to the station?

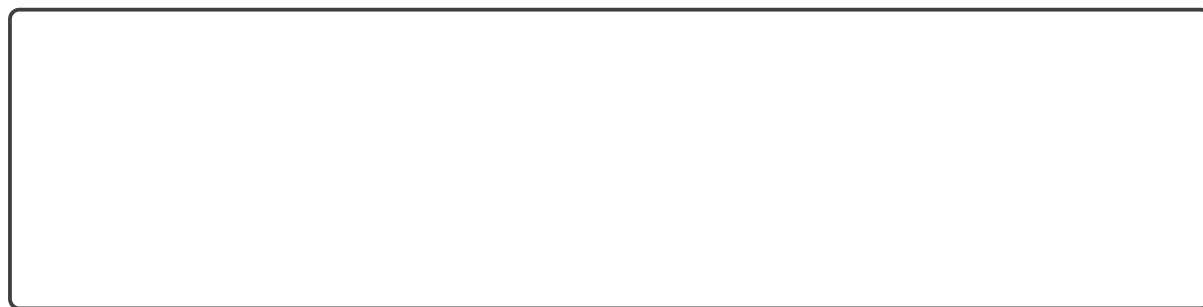
5.6.2 Exercise 2: Vocabulary in Context

Fill in the blanks with: *boost*, *strengthen*, *recharge*, *practical*.

1. We need to _____ our marketing to get more customers.
2. This course offers _____ advice for daily life.
3. I'm going on vacation to _____ my batteries.
4. Exercise helps to _____ your muscles.

5.6.3 Exercise 3: Discuss Improvements

Talk about something you want to improve in your life. Use at least 3 words from the vocabulary list.



5.7 Key Takeaways

- Use "boost" and "strengthen" to talk about positive changes.
- "Give it a try/go/shot" means to attempt something.
- "Give someone a hand" means to help someone.
- Learn collocations together with verbs for natural speech.

5.8 Online Practice

Resources to Practice

Online Practice Reinforce what you have learned with these interactive exercises:

- **Collocations with GIVE:** <https://www.englishclub.com/ref/Collocations/give/>
- **Verb Patterns Practice:** <https://test-english.com/grammar-points/b1-b2/verb-patterns-gerund-infinitive/>
- **Change Vocabulary:** <https://www.englishclub.com/vocabulary/>
- **Business Collocations:** <https://www.businessenglishpod.com/category/collocations/>

Part III

Professional Communication

Chapter 6

Meeting Language and Professional Communication

6.1 Lesson Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn:

- Professional vocabulary for meetings
- How to open, manage, and close meetings
- Expressions for agreeing, disagreeing, and making suggestions
- Formal vs. informal register in business contexts

6.2 Reading Context

Dialogue: The Project Kick-off

Chair: Right, let's get started. The purpose of this meeting is to plan the new marketing campaign.

Mark: How about we start with the budget? It's the most critical item.

Sarah: I see your point, but I think we should define our goals first.

Chair: I agree with Sarah. Let's set the goals, then look at the budget.

Mark: Fair enough. I suggest that we aim for a 20% increase in sales.

Sarah: That sounds good to me. It's ambitious but achievable.

Chair: Great. Let's move on to the timeline.

6.3 Key Concepts: Meeting Vocabulary

Essential Terms

- **Agenda** (noun): A list of items to be discussed at a formal meeting.
– (*Orden del día*)
- **Minutes** (noun): The written record of what was said at a meeting.
– (*Acta de la reunión*)
- **Chair** (verb/noun): To lead a meeting; the person leading.
– (*Presidir / Presidente*)
- **Action Item** (noun): A specific task assigned to someone during a meeting.
– (*Tarea asignada*)
- **AOB** (acronym): Any Other Business (discussed at the end).
– (*Otros asuntos / Ruegos y preguntas*)

6.4 Functional Language: Managing Meetings

Opening and Closing

Opening:

- "Right, let's get started." (*Empecemos*)
- "The purpose of this meeting is to..." (*El propósito es...*)
- "Thank you all for coming." (*Gracias por venir*)

Closing:

- "Let's wrap this up." (*Terminemos esto*)
- "To summarize what we've decided..." (*Para resumir...*)
- "The meeting is adjourned." (*Se levanta la sesión*)

Discussion Phrases

Making Suggestions:

- "How about we...?" (*¿Qué tal si...?*)
- "I suggest that we..." (*Sugiero que...*)

Agreeing:

- "I completely agree." (*Totalmente de acuerdo*)
- "That sounds good to me." (*Me parece bien*)

Disagreeing (Politely):

- "I see your point, but..." (*Entiendo tu punto, pero...*)
- "I'm not sure about that because..." (*No estoy seguro porque...*)

6.5 Formal vs. Informal Register

Informal (Colleagues)	Formal (Clients/Superiors)
Let's start.	Shall we begin?
What do you think?	What is your opinion on this?
I don't agree.	I'm afraid I have to disagree.
Can you say that again?	Could you please repeat that?
That's a bad idea.	I have some concerns about that.

Table 6.1: Register comparison

6.6 Practice Exercises

6.6.1 Exercise 1: Categorize the Expressions

Put each expression in the correct category: Opening, Suggesting, Agreeing, Disagreeing, or Closing.

1. "I see your point, but..." → _____
2. "Shall we begin?" → _____
3. "That sounds good to me." → _____
4. "Why don't we...?" → _____
5. "To summarize what we've decided..." → _____

6.6.2 Exercise 2: Make it More Formal

Rewrite these informal expressions in a more formal way:

1. "That's wrong." → _____
2. "Let's talk about the budget." → _____
3. "I like that." → _____

6.6.3 Exercise 3: Role Play Script

Write a short dialogue for a meeting where you suggest a new idea (e.g., "Casual Fridays") and a colleague disagrees politely.

6.7 Key Takeaways

- Meetings have a clear structure: open, discuss, summarize, close.
- Use polite phrases when disagreeing to maintain professional relationships.
- Adjust your formality based on who is in the meeting.
- "Minutes" are the notes, not the time!

6.8 Online Practice

Resources to Practice

Online Practice Reinforce what you have learned with these interactive exercises:

- **Meeting Language:** <https://www.businessenglishpod.com/category/meetings/>
- **Agreeing/Disagreeing:** <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/speaking/b1-speaking/agreeing-and-disagreeing>
- **Professional Communication:** <https://www.englishclub.com/business-english/meetings.htm>
- **Meeting Vocabulary:** <https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/business-english-meetings.html>

Chapter 7

Present Perfect Continuous

7.1 Lesson Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn:

- How to form the Present Perfect Continuous tense
- When to use Present Perfect Continuous vs. Present Perfect Simple
- The difference between "for" and "since"
- How to talk about duration and ongoing actions

7.2 Reading Context

Dialogue: Catching Up

Tom: Hi Sarah! I haven't seen you for ages. What **have you been doing**?

Sarah: Hey Tom! **I've been working** a lot. I started a new job in January.

Tom: Really? How long **have you been working** there?

Sarah: For about six months. What about you?

Tom: **I've been traveling**. I just got back from Asia.

Sarah: Wow! **Have you been learning** any new languages?

Tom: A little bit. **I've been trying** to learn Japanese **since** I visited Tokyo.

7.3 Grammar Focus: Present Perfect Continuous

This tense is used for actions that started in the past and continue until now, or have recently stopped with visible results.

Structure

Subject + **have/has been** + **verb-ing**

Examples:

- I **have been studying** English for 3 years. (*He estado estudiando...*)
- She **has been waiting** since 9 AM. (*Ella ha estado esperando...*)

7.4 Key Concepts: For vs. Since

Time Expressions

FOR + Period of Time (Duration)

- for 2 hours (*por 2 horas*)
- for a long time (*por mucho tiempo*)
- for 10 years (*por 10 años*)

SINCE + Point in Time (Start date)

- since Monday (*desde el lunes*)
- since 2010 (*desde 2010*)
- since I was a child (*desde que era niño*)

7.5 Present Perfect Continuous vs. Simple

Continuous (Process/Duration)	Simple (Result/Completion)
I have been reading this book. (Still reading)	I have read this book. (Finished)
She has been cooking all day. (Activity)	She has cooked dinner. (Done)

Table 7.1: Continuous vs. Simple

7.6 Practice Exercises

7.6.1 Exercise 1: For or Since?

Complete with "for" or "since":

1. I've been waiting _____ 20 minutes.
2. She's been living in London _____ 2019.
3. We've been married _____ 10 years.
4. He's been sleeping _____ this morning.

7.6.2 Exercise 2: Correct the Errors

Find and correct the mistakes:

1. I have been learning English since 6 years. → _____
2. I am living here since 2020. → _____
3. How long you have been waiting? → _____

7.6.3 Exercise 3: Personal Questions

Answer these questions about yourself:

1. How long have you been studying English?
2. How long have you been living in your current city?

7.7 Key Takeaways

- Use Present Perfect Continuous for ongoing actions (have been -ing).

- Use "for" with a duration (for 2 years).
- Use "since" with a starting point (since 2020).
- Stative verbs (know, like, believe) are usually NOT used in continuous forms.

7.8 Online Practice

Resources to Practice

Online Practice Reinforce what you have learned with these interactive exercises:

- **Present Perfect Continuous:** <https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/present-perfect-continuous-exercise-1.html>
- **For vs Since:** <https://test-english.com/grammar-points/a2/for-since/>
- **Interactive Practice:** <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/english-grammar-reference/present-perfect-continuous>
- **Stative Verbs:** <https://www.englishpage.com/verbpage/presentperfectcontinuous.html>

Chapter 8

Writing Skills and Common Errors

8.1 Lesson Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn:

- How to plan, write, and check your written work
- Common errors in English writing and how to avoid them
- Linking words to connect ideas
- Common preposition collocations

8.2 Reading Context

Dialogue: Reviewing a Report

Editor: I read your draft. It's good, but there are a few errors.

Writer: Really? I thought I checked it carefully.

Editor: You missed some articles. For example, you wrote "I have car" instead of "I have **a** car".

Writer: Oh, I see. I'm always worried **about** making mistakes with articles.

Editor: Don't worry. Also, use more linking words. **However**, the content is excellent.

Writer: Thanks. I'll give it another look. I'm interested **in** improving my writing.

Editor: Great. Remember to plan before you write next time.

8.3 Key Concepts: The Writing Process

Good writing follows three key stages:

The 3 Stages

1. **Planning** (17% of time): Brainstorm ideas, organize structure, make notes.
2. **Writing** (60% of time): Write your first draft quickly, focus on content.
3. **Checking** (23% of time): Proofread for errors, revise and improve.

8.4 Grammar Focus: Common Errors

Error Correction Guide

1. **Missing Articles:**
 - Incorrect: I have car.
 - Correct: I have **a** car.
2. **Wrong Prepositions:**
 - Incorrect: I'm interested for music.
 - Correct: I'm interested **in** music.
3. **Run-on Sentences:**
 - Incorrect: I went home I was tired.
 - Correct: I went home **because** I was tired.

8.5 Vocabulary: Linking Words and Prepositions

Linking Words

- **Addition:** Furthermore, Moreover, Also (*Además*)
- **Contrast:** However, Although, On the other hand (*Sin embargo*)
- **Result:** Therefore, Consequently, As a result (*Por lo tanto*)
- **Sequence:** First, Then, Next, Finally (*Primero, Luego...*)

Collocation	Spanish	Example
Interested in	Interesado en	I'm interested in art.
Good at	Bueno en	She's good at math.
Responsible for	Responsable de	He's responsible for it.
Depend on	Depender de	It depends on you.
Afraid of	Miedo de	I'm afraid of spiders.

Table 8.1: Common Preposition Collocations

8.6 Practice Exercises

8.6.1 Exercise 1: Find and Correct the Errors

Each sentence has one error. Find and correct it.

1. I have been living in London since 3 years.
2. She is very good in cooking.
3. I went to store and bought some milk.
4. However I think we should wait.

8.6.2 Exercise 2: Complete with Linking Words

Fill in the blanks with: *However*, *Therefore*, *Furthermore*, *First*.

1. I studied hard. _____, I passed the exam.
2. The food was delicious. _____, it was expensive.
3. _____, we need to buy tickets. Then, we can enter.

8.6.3 Exercise 3: Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph (50-80 words) about your city using at least 2 linking words and 2 preposition collocations.

8.7 Key Takeaways

- Always plan before writing and leave time for checking.
- Watch out for missing articles and wrong prepositions.
- Use linking words (However, Therefore) to connect ideas.
- Memorize collocations: interested IN, good AT, depend ON.

8.8 Online Practice

Resources to Practice

Online Practice Reinforce what you have learned with these interactive exercises:

- **Writing Skills:** <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/writing>
- **Linking Words:** <https://www.englishclub.com/writing/linking-words.htm>
- **Common Errors:** <https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/common-mistakes.html>
- **Preposition Collocations:** <https://test-english.com/grammar-points/a2-b1/dependent-prepositions/>

Part IV

Past Tenses and Storytelling

Chapter 9

Mishaps and Past Experiences

9.1 Lesson Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn:

- Vocabulary for describing accidents and mishaps
- How to use adjectives ending in -ed and -ing correctly
- Structures for narrating past experiences
- Collocations with common verbs like *lose*, *miss*, *spill*

9.2 Reading Context

Dialogue: A Terrible Morning

Sarah: You look stressed. What happened?

Mark: I had a terrible morning. First, I **overslept** because my alarm didn't go off.

Sarah: Oh no. Did you miss your bus?

Mark: Yes! I ran to the bus stop, but I **missed** it by one minute. It was so **frustrating**.

Sarah: So how did you get here?

Mark: I had to take a taxi. But then, I realized I had **left** my wallet at home.

Sarah: That's **embarrassing**. What did you do?

Mark: The driver was nice. I paid him with my phone app. But then I **spilled** coffee on my shirt!

Sarah: Wow. You really need a break.

9.3 Key Concepts: Common Mishaps

A **mishap** is an unlucky accident. Here are common collocations:

Mishap Collocations

- **Lose** your keys / phone / wallet (*Perder llaves/teléfono/billetera*)
- **Miss** a flight / bus / train / deadline (*Perder (transporte/plazo)*)
- **Spill** coffee / water / wine (*Derramar café/agua/vino*)
- **Slip** on ice / the floor (*Resbalar en hielo/piso*)
- **Drop** your phone / a glass (*Dejar caer...*)
- **Break down** (car / machine) (*Averiar*)
- **Bang** your head / knee (*Golpear la cabeza/rodilla*)

9.4 Grammar Focus: Adjectives and Narration

-ED vs -ING Adjectives

- **-ED** adjectives describe how **you** feel.
- **-ING** adjectives describe the **cause** of the feeling.

Examples:

- I was **bored** (feeling). The movie was **boring** (cause).
- I was **embarrassed** (feeling). The situation was **embarrassing** (cause).

Narrating Past Events

Use these phrases to tell a story:

- **Starting:** I once... / One time... / I remember when...
- **Sequencing:** First... / Then... / Suddenly... / In the end...
- **Background:** I was walking when... (Past Continuous + Past Simple)

9.5 Practice Exercises

9.5.1 Exercise 1: Match the Verb and Noun

Match the verb on the left with the noun on the right.

- | | |
|----------|--------------|
| 1. Lose | a. coffee |
| 2. Miss | b. your head |
| 3. Spill | c. your keys |
| 4. Bang | d. the bus |

9.5.2 Exercise 2: Choose the Correct Adjective

Select the correct option (-ed or -ing).

1. The news was (shocked / shocking).
2. I was (annoyed / annoying) because he was late.
3. It was a very (tired / tiring) journey.

4. She was (disappointed / disappointing) with the result.

9.5.3 Exercise 3: Complete the Story

Fill in the blanks with: *First, Then, Finally, Unfortunately*.

_____, I woke up late. _____, I couldn't find my keys. _____, I found them under the sofa. _____, I arrived at work on time.

9.5.4 Exercise 4: Writing Task

Write a short paragraph (60-80 words) about a mishap you had. Use at least 3 mishap verbs and 2 feeling adjectives.

9.6 Key Takeaways

- Use **miss** for transport/events and **lose** for objects.
- Remember: -ED for feelings (I am bored), -ING for things (It is boring).
- Use sequence words (First, Then, Finally) to structure your stories.
- Common mishaps: spill coffee, slip on ice, car broke down.

9.7 Online Practice

Resources to Practice

Online Practice Reinforce what you have learned with these interactive exercises:

- **-ED vs -ING Adjectives:** <https://test-english.com/grammar-points/a2/ed-ing-adjectives/>
- **Mishap Vocabulary:** <https://www.englishclub.com/vocabulary/disasters.php>
- **Past Experiences:** <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/english-grammar-reference/past-simple>
- **Story Telling Practice:** <https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/narrative-tenses.html>

Chapter 10

Past Habits: Would and Used To

10.1 Lesson Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn:

- How to use “used to” for past habits and states
- How to use “would” for past repeated actions
- The difference between “used to” and “would”
- Stative verbs that cannot be used with “would”

10.2 Reading Context

Dialogue: Childhood Memories

Grandpa: This photo brings back memories. I **used to** live in a small village.

Grandson: Really? What was it like?

Grandpa: It was quiet. We didn’t have TV. Every evening, my father **would** tell us stories.

Grandson: That sounds nice. Did you play video games?

Grandpa: No! We **used to** play outside all day. In the summer, we **would** go swimming in the river.

Grandson: I **used to** be afraid of swimming.

Grandpa: Me too, at first. But I loved it later.

10.3 Key Concepts: Past Habits

We use two structures to talk about things we did in the past but don't do now.

Used To vs. Would

- **Used to + Verb:** For past habits AND states.
- **Would + Verb:** ONLY for past repeated actions.

10.4 Grammar Focus: The Rules

Rule 1: Action Verbs

For repeated actions (play, go, visit, eat), you can use both:

- I **used to** play football. ✓
- I **would** play football. ✓

Rule 2: Stative Verbs

For states (be, have, live, love, know), use ONLY **used to**:

- I **used to** be shy. ✓
- I **would** be shy. **X** (Incorrect)
- I **used to** have a car. ✓
- I **would** have a car. **X** (Incorrect)

Stative Verbs (Use 'Used to')	Action Verbs (Use 'Used to' or 'Would')
Be, Have, Live, Love, Like, Know	Go, Play, Visit, Walk, Eat, Read

Table 10.1: Stative vs. Action Verbs

10.5 Practice Exercises

10.5.1 Exercise 1: Used To or Would?

Mark if the sentence is Correct (C) or Incorrect (I).

1. I would live in Paris. (___)
2. She used to have long hair. (___)

3. Every Sunday, we would visit grandma. (__)
4. He would know the answer. (__)

10.5.2 Exercise 2: Fill in the Blanks

Use *would* if possible. If not, use *used to*.

1. I _____ (be) a teacher.
2. Every summer, we _____ (go) to the beach.
3. She _____ (love) chocolate.
4. He _____ (play) the guitar every night.

10.5.3 Exercise 3: Writing Task

Write a short paragraph (60-80 words) about your childhood. Use **used to** for states and **would** for repeated actions.

10.6 Key Takeaways

- **Used to** works for everything (habits and states).
- **Would** only works for actions (running, playing), not states (being, having).
- Negative: **didn't use to** (no 'd').
- Question: **Did you use to...**?

10.7 Online Practice

Resources to Practice

Online Practice Reinforce what you have learned with these interactive exercises:

- **Used To / Would:** <https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/used-to.html>
- **Past Habits Exercises:** <https://test-english.com/grammar-points/b1/used-to-would/>
- **Interactive Practice:** <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/intermediate-to-upper-intermediate/used-to>
- **Past Habits Quiz:** <https://www.englishpage.com/verbpage/usedto.html>

Chapter 11

Narrative Tenses: Telling Stories

11.1 Lesson Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn:

- How to use the four past tenses to tell a story
- The difference between Past Simple, Continuous, and Perfect
- Vocabulary: Watch vs. Look
- How to sequence events in the past

11.2 Reading Context

Dialogue: A Travel Mishap

Alice: Why were you late yesterday?

Bob: It was a nightmare. I **was waiting** for the bus when it started to rain.

Alice: Oh no. Did you have an umbrella?

Bob: No. And I **had left** my jacket at home. By the time the bus arrived, I **had been waiting** for 30 minutes and I was soaking wet.

Alice: That sounds terrible. What happened next?

Bob: The bus was full, so it didn't stop! I **had to** walk home.

11.3 Key Concepts: Watch vs. Look

Confusing Verbs

- **Watch:** For things that move or change (TV, sports, people).
 - I **watch** football on weekends. (*Miro fútbol...*)
- **Look (at):** For things that are still (pictures, art, objects).
 - **Look at** this photo! (*¡Mira esta foto!*)

11.4 Grammar Focus: Narrative Tenses

To tell a good story, we use four tenses:

1. Past Simple

Use for: Completed actions in the past. The main events of the story.

- I **woke** up and **got** out of bed.

2. Past Continuous

Use for: Actions in progress at a specific time. Setting the scene.

- The sun **was shining** and the birds **were singing**.

3. Past Perfect

Use for: Actions that happened **before** the main story.

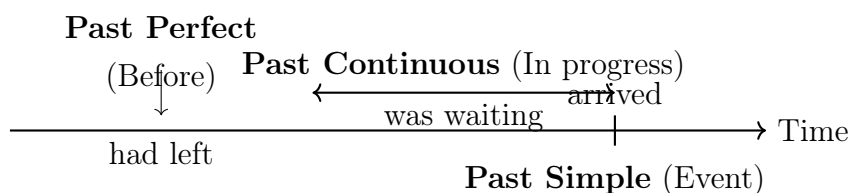
- When I arrived, the train **had left**. (The train left *before* I arrived)

4. Past Perfect Continuous

Use for: Actions in progress up to a point in the past. Emphasizes duration.

- I **had been waiting** for 2 hours when he finally arrived.

11.5 Visualizing the Tenses



11.6 Practice Exercises

11.6.1 Exercise 1: Watch or Look?

Choose the correct verb.

1. I like to (watch/look) the sunset.
2. Can you (watch/look) at this report?
3. We (watched/looked) a movie last night.
4. She (watched/looked) at him in surprise.

11.6.2 Exercise 2: Choose the Correct Tense

Select the best option.

1. When I arrived, they (finished / had finished) dinner.
2. It (rained / was raining) when I left the house.
3. I (was working / had been working) for 3 hours when the computer crashed.
4. She (opened / was opening) the door and walked in.

11.6.3 Exercise 3: Complete the Story

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct narrative tense.

Last night, I _____ (walk) home when I _____ (see) a strange light. It _____ (shine) brightly. I _____ (never / see) anything like it before.

11.6.4 Exercise 4: Writing Task

Write a short story (80-100 words) about a travel experience. Use at least three different past tenses.

11.7 Key Takeaways

- Use **Past Simple** for the main events (I went, I saw).
- Use **Past Continuous** for background (The sun was shining).
- Use **Past Perfect** for things that happened earlier (I had forgotten my passport).
- Remember: Watch (moving) vs. Look at (still).

11.8 Online Practice

Resources to Practice

Online Practice Reinforce what you have learned with these interactive exercises:

- **Narrative Tenses:** <https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/narrative-tenses.html>
- **Story Telling Practice:** <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/intermediate-to-upper-intermediate/narrative-tenses>
- **Past Tenses Mix:** <https://test-english.com/grammar-points/b1/narrative-tenses/>
- **Interactive Stories:** <https://www.englishpage.com/verbpage/verbtenseintro.html>

Number 5

You were dancing salsa in the city centre at 2am

Part V

Culture and Traditions

Chapter 12

Cultural Traditions and Festivals

12.1 Lesson Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn:

- Vocabulary related to traditions, customs, and celebrations
- How to describe festivals and holidays
- The Passive Voice (Present and Past) to describe traditions
- Cultural differences in celebrations around the world

12.2 Reading Context

Dialogue: Christmas in Summer?

Tom (UK): I can't imagine Christmas without snow. It must be strange in Australia. **Sarah (Australia):** Not at all! For us, it's normal. Christmas **is celebrated** in summer. **Tom:** So what do you do? Do you eat roast turkey? **Sarah:** Sometimes, but often we have a barbecue on the beach. Seafood **is eaten** instead of heavy meat. **Tom:** That sounds different. In the UK, stockings **are hung** by the fireplace. **Sarah:** We do that too, but Santa Claus **is sometimes depicted** wearing shorts!

12.3 Key Concepts: Describing Traditions

Vocabulary

- **Custom:** A traditional way of behaving (e.g., taking off shoes). (*Costumbre*)
- **Tradition:** A belief or behavior passed down within a group. (*Tradición*)
- **Celebration:** A social gathering for a special event. (*Celebración*)
- **Parade:** A public procession with music and costumes. (*Desfile*)
- **Feast:** A large meal. (*Banquete*)
- **To take place:** To happen. (*Tener lugar*)

12.4 Grammar Focus: The Passive Voice

We often use the ****Passive Voice**** to describe traditions when the action is more important than who does it.

Structure

Subject + Be + Past Participle (+ by Agent)

Examples

Present Passive (am/is/are + V3):

- Christmas **is celebrated** on December 25th. (Active: People celebrate Christmas...)
- Gifts **are exchanged** between friends.
- Special food **is eaten**.

Past Passive (was/were + V3):

- The tradition **was started** in the 19th century.
- The poem **was written** by Clement Clarke Moore.
- The city **was decorated** with lights.

Country	Name	Tradition
USA	Santa Claus	Jolly man in red suit, influenced by Coca-Cola ads.
UK	Father Christmas	Originally associated with adult feasting.
Netherlands	Sinterklaas	Arrives on a steamboat from Spain on Dec 5th.
Chile	Viejito Pascuero	Brings gifts; families eat <i>pan de pascua</i> .
Japan	Santa-san	Couples go on dates; KFC is eaten.

Table 12.1: Santa Claus Variations

12.5 Cultural Spotlight: Santa Claus

12.6 Practice Exercises

12.6.1 Exercise 1: Active to Passive

Rewrite the sentences in the Passive Voice.

1. People celebrate Halloween in October. → Halloween _____
2. They eat turkey on Thanksgiving. → Turkey _____
3. Coca-Cola popularized the red suit. → The red suit _____
4. Someone wrote this song in 1950. → This song _____

12.6.2 Exercise 2: Vocabulary Match

Match the word to the definition.

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Parade | a. A large meal |
| 2. Custom | b. A public procession |
| 3. Feast | c. To happen |
| 4. Take place | d. A traditional behavior |

12.6.3 Exercise 3: Writing Task

Write a short paragraph (60-80 words) about a tradition in your country. Use the passive voice at least twice (e.g., "It is celebrated...", "Food is prepared...").

12.7 Key Takeaways

- Use the **Passive Voice** (is/was + past participle) to focus on the action/event.
- Vocabulary: Custom, Tradition, Parade, Feast.
- Traditions vary greatly around the world (e.g., KFC in Japan for Christmas).

12.8 Online Practice

Resources to Practice

Online Practice Reinforce what you have learned with these interactive exercises:

- **Passive Voice Exercises:** <https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/passive-exercise-1.html>
- **Traditions Vocabulary:** <https://www.englishclub.com/vocabulary/fl-holidays.php>
- **Cultural Topics:** <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/reading/intermediate-b1/traditions-around-the-world>
- **Passive Voice Quiz:** <https://test-english.com/grammar-points/b1/passive-voice/>

Part VI

Advanced Verbal Patterns

Chapter 13

Verb Patterns: Gerunds and Infinitives

13.1 Lesson Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn:

- When to use the Gerund (verb + -ing)
- When to use the Infinitive (to + verb)
- Common verbs that follow each pattern
- How to give recommendations and talk about plans

13.2 Reading Context

Dialogue: Weekend Plans

Anna: What do you **plan to do** this weekend? **Ben:** I **want to go** to the cinema. I **suggest watching** the new Marvel movie. **Anna:** I **avoid going** to the cinema on Saturdays. It's too busy. **Ben:** Really? I **enjoy seeing** movies with a big crowd. **Anna:** I **prefer to stay** home. I **decided to cook** a nice dinner. **Ben:** That sounds good. Do you **need to buy** ingredients? **Anna:** Yes. I **hope to find** fresh fish at the market.

13.3 Key Concepts: Verb Patterns

In English, when one verb follows another, the second verb changes its form.

Pattern 1: Verb + -ing (Gerund)

Use **-ing** after these verbs:

- **Enjoy:** I enjoy **reading**. (*Disfrutar*)
- **Avoid:** She avoids **driving** at night. (*Evitar*)
- **Finish:** He finished **working**. (*Terminar*)
- **Suggest:** I suggest **going** by bus. (*Sugerir*)
- **Recommend:** They recommend **booking** early. (*Recomendar*)
- **Consider:** We considered **moving**. (*Considerar*)

Pattern 2: Verb + to + Infinitive

Use **to + verb** after these verbs:

- **Want:** I want **to sleep**. (*Querer*)
- **Hope:** I hope **to see** you. (*Esperar (deseo)*)
- **Decide:** She decided **to leave**. (*Decidir*)
- **Plan:** We plan **to visit**. (*Planear*)
- **Promise:** He promised **to help**. (*Prometer*)
- **Refuse:** They refused **to pay**. (*Rehusar*)
- **Learn:** I learned **to swim**. (*Aprender*)

13.4 Grammar Focus: Common Mistakes

Watch Out!

- **Incorrect:** I enjoy to play football.
- **Correct:** I enjoy **playing** football.
- **Incorrect:** I want going home.
- **Correct:** I want **to go** home.

13.5 Practice Exercises

13.5.1 Exercise 1: Gerund or Infinitive?

Choose the correct form.

1. I promise (helping / to help) you tomorrow.

2. She suggested (going / to go) to the park.
3. We decided (buying / to buy) a new car.
4. He finished (eating / to eat) his dinner.
5. Do you enjoy (watching / to watch) TV?

13.5.2 Exercise 2: Categorize the Verbs

Put these verbs in the correct column: *avoid, learn, offer, consider, expect, mind*.

+ -ING	+ TO + VERB

13.5.3 Exercise 3: Correct the Text

Find and correct 5 mistakes in this text about Sharon.

Sharon is a teacher. She enjoys to teach and meet new people. In her free time, she likes watch documentaries. She plans visiting Ireland next year. She wants learning French.

13.5.4 Exercise 4: Writing Task

Write sentences about yourself using:

- I plan...
- I avoid...
- I enjoy...
- I hope...

13.6 Key Takeaways

- Memorize which verbs take **-ing** (enjoy, avoid, suggest).
- Memorize which verbs take **to + infinitive** (want, hope, decide).
- **Recommend** and **Suggest** are followed by -ing (I recommend visiting...).

13.7 Online Practice

Resources to Practice

Online Practice Reinforce what you have learned with these interactive exercises:

- **Gerunds & Infinitives:** <https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/gerunds-and-infinitives-exercise-1.html>
- **Verb Patterns Practice:** <https://test-english.com/grammar-points/b1-b2/verb-patterns-gerund-infinitive/>
- **Interactive Exercises:** <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/intermediate-to-upper-intermediate/verbs-followed-by-ing-or-infinitive>
- **Complete List:** https://www.englishpage.com/gerunds/gerund-infinitive_list.htm

Chapter 14

Advanced Verb Patterns

14.1 Lesson Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn:

- Using Gerunds as the subject of a sentence
- Verbs that change meaning with Gerund vs. Infinitive (Stop, Remember, Try)
- Expressing purpose with the Infinitive

14.2 Reading Context

Dialogue: Changing Habits

Mike: I need to get fit. **Running** is too hard for me.

Lisa: Have you tried **swimming**? It's great exercise.

Mike: I remember **going** swimming as a child. I loved it.

Lisa: You should start again. But remember **to bring** goggles.

Mike: Good idea. I stopped **exercising** last year because of work.

Lisa: Well, stop **to think** about your health. It's important.

14.3 Key Concepts: Gerund as Subject

We often use the Gerund (-ing) as the subject of a sentence. It acts like a noun.

Gerund Subjects

- **Swimming** is good for you. (*Nadar es bueno...*)
- **Learning** English takes time. (*Aprender inglés...*)
- **Smoking** is forbidden here. (*Fumar está prohibido...*)

14.4 Detailed Verb Patterns

This comprehensive chart summarizes the key patterns discussed throughout the chapter, helping you understand which verbs accept gerunds, infinitives, or both.

14.4.1 Verbs with Same Meaning (Gerund or Infinitive)

When these verbs are followed by either a gerund or infinitive, the meaning remains essentially the same:

Same Meaning Pattern

- **Recommend + Gerund/Infinitive**
 - I recommend **studying** English daily. (or: I recommend **to study** English daily.)
- **Avoid + Gerund** (Note: avoid typically takes gerund only)
 - You should avoid **eating** too much sugar.
- **Want + Infinitive** (Note: want typically takes infinitive only)
 - I want **to learn** French next year.
- **Love + Both Gerund and Infinitive** (Both are correct)
 - She loves **swimming**. / She loves **to swim**.
 - I love **reading** novels. / I love **to read** novels.
- **Hate + Both Gerund and Infinitive** (Both are correct)
 - He hates **waiting**. / He hates **to wait**.
 - They hate **cleaning** the house. / They hate **to clean** the house.
- **Like + Both Gerund and Infinitive** (Both are correct)
 - I like **jogging**. / I like **to jog**.
 - We like **traveling**. / We like **to travel**.
- **Start + Both Gerund and Infinitive** (Both are correct)
 - She started **learning** Spanish. / She started **to learn** Spanish.
 - They started **working** on the project. / They started **to work** on the project.

14.4.2 Verbs with Different Meaning (Gerund vs. Infinitive)

These verbs change their meaning dramatically depending on whether they are followed by a gerund or infinitive:

Stop

Stop + Doing vs. Stop + to Do

- **Stop doing:** Cease or quit an activity permanently.
 - I stopped **smoking** five years ago. (I no longer smoke)
- **Stop to do:** Pause one activity in order to do something else.
 - We stopped **to eat** lunch during our road trip. (We paused our journey to eat)

Forget

Forget + Doing vs. Forget + to Do

- **Forget doing:** Fail to recall a past action or event. (it did happens)
 - I forgot **closing** the windows this morning. (I can't remember if I closed them)
- **Forget to do:** Neglect or fail to perform a necessary task. In other words, you didn't do it.
 - Don't forget **to lock** the door when you leave. (Remember to do this)

Remember

Remember + Doing vs. Remember + to Do

- **Remember doing:** Recall a past action or event.
 - I remember **visiting** Paris last summer. (I have a memory of it)
- **Remember to do:** Recall a task that needs to be performed.
 - Please remember **to send** the email before noon. (Don't forget!)

Try

Try + Doing vs. Try + to Do

- **Try doing:** Experiment with something as a possible solution.
 - If it doesn't work, try **turning** it off and on again. (Experiment with this solution)
- **Try to do:** Make an effort or attempt to accomplish something difficult.
 - I tried **to open** the jar, but it was sealed tight. (I made an effort)

Effort

Effort + Doing vs. Effort + to Do

- **Effort doing:** Engage in an activity as a way to achieve a goal.
 - She made an effort **studying** every day to improve her grades. (Engaging in the activity)
- **Effort to do:** Make a conscious attempt to accomplish something.
 - He made an effort **to finish** the project on time. (Conscious attempt)

Regret

Regret + Doing vs. Regret + to Do

- **Regret doing:** Feel sorry about a past action.
 - I regret **telling** him the truth. (I feel sorry about it)
- **Regret to do:** Feel sorry about having to do something.
 - We regret **to inform** you that your application was unsuccessful. (We are sorry to have to tell you this)

14.4.3 Comprehensive Verb Pattern Chart

Verbs that are followed by gerunds, infinitives, or both are summarized in the table below:

Gerund	Infinitive	Both (Same Meaning)	Both (Different Meaning)
Admit	Expect	Like	Stop
Admission	Want	Hate	Forget
Consider	Wish	Love	Try
Enjoy	Decide	Prefer	Remember
Imagine	Afford	Start	Effort
Involve	Learn	Begin	
Recommend	Arrange	Continue	
Suggest	Fail		
	Expect		
	Hesitate		
	Need		
	Manage		
	Plan		
	Seem		
	Teach		

Table 14.1: Table showing verbs followed by gerunds, infinitives, or both.

14.5 Practice Exercises

14.5.1 Exercise 1: Gerund Subjects

Complete the sentences with a gerund.

1. _____ (eat) vegetables is healthy.
2. _____ (drive) fast is dangerous.

3. _____ (read) books helps you learn.

14.5.2 Exercise 2: Stop, Remember, Try

Choose the correct form based on the meaning.

1. I stopped (buying / to buy) coffee because it was too expensive.
2. On my way home, I stopped (buying / to buy) some milk.
3. Remember (calling / to call) your mother today.
4. I remember (playing / to play) in this park when I was young.
5. The window is stuck. Try (pushing / to push) it harder.

14.5.3 Exercise 3: Writing Task

Write 3 sentences about things you:

- Stopped doing recently.
- Remember doing as a child.
- Try to do every day.

14.6 Writing and Discussion

14.6.1 Creative Writing: Christmas Story

Write a Christmas story and have a dark twist.

A long time ago, in a small village, there was a tradition of giving gifts on Christmas Eve. However, one day, a mysterious stranger arrived, offering a special gift to each villager. The gifts were beautiful, but they came with a curse. Each person who accepted a gift found themselves trapped in a never-ending nightmare. But one child, named Clara, discovered the truth behind the gifts. She bravely confronted the stranger, only to find out that he was a dark spirit feeding on their fears. In the end, Clara sacrificed her own freedom to save the village, becoming a guardian spirit herself, forever watching over the villagers on Christmas Eve.

14.6.2 Discussion: Future Dreams

What are your 3 biggest dreams for the future?

1. Live in a forest, surrounded by nature and wildlife.
2. Have cows and horses roaming freely on my property.
3. Find a partner of life

a) Why is it sometimes hard to follow your dreams?

Sometimes it is hard to follow your dreams because of fear of failure and uncertainty about the future, and be realistic about what is achievable.

b) Do your family/friends support your dreams?

c) Have you ever felt pressured to follow someone else's expectations?

14.7 Key Takeaways

- Gerunds (-ing) can be the subject of a sentence (e.g., **Running** is fun).
- **Stop** + **-ing** = Quit. **Stop** + **to** = Pause to do something else.
- **Remember** + **-ing** = Memory. **Remember** + **to** = Task.
- Use infinitives to express purpose (I went to buy...).

14.8 Additional Resources

To reinforce your understanding of gerund and infinitive patterns, practice with interactive exercises and quizzes online. Here are some recommended resources:

- Test-English.com: Gerund or Infinitive
Practice with clear explanations and interactive quizzes for B1-B2 level learners.
- Perfect English Grammar: Gerunds and Infinitives Exercises
A variety of exercises to test your knowledge and improve your skills.
- EnglishPage.com: Gerund or Infinitive Quiz
Multiple quizzes with instant feedback and explanations.

- **British Council: Verbs followed by -ing or to + infinitive**
Detailed grammar reference and practice activities.
- **Agenda Web: Gerund and Infinitive Exercises**
Multiple exercises organized by difficulty level with interactive practice.
- **Lingolia: Infinitive and Gerund Free Exercise**
Exercises with automatic correction and instant feedback.
- **English Grammar Online: Gerund-Infinitive Index**
Wide variety of online exercises for different proficiency levels.
- **Grammarism: 2080 Infinitive Gerund Exercises**
101 different tests with over 2000 exercises for extensive practice.
- **GrammarBank: Gerunds and Infinitives Exercises**
8 different exercises with downloadable PDFs for offline practice.
- **British Council Teens: Verb + ing or infinitive**
Videos with subtitles and interactive exercises for teenage learners.
- **Premier Skills English: Understanding Grammar Podcast**
Educational podcast with listening activities and practical exercises.
- **Englisch-Hilfen: Gerund and Infinitive Online Exercise**
Fill-in-the-blank exercises with immediate correction and scoring.
- **Advanced Verb Patterns:** <https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/gerunds-and-infinitives-exercises.html>
- **Stop/Remember/Try:** <https://test-english.com/grammar-points/b2/verb-patterns-gerund-infinitive/>
- **Purpose Infinitives:** <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/english-grammar-reference/infinitives-with-and-without-to>
- **Complete Practice:** https://www.englishpage.com/gerunds/advanced_gerund_infinitive.htm

Tip

Regular practice with these resources will help you master the difference between gerunds and infinitives in real-life contexts.

Part VII

Future Tenses

Chapter 15

Future Tenses

Future tenses describe actions or events that will happen. They help you express plans, predictions, schedules, and actions that will be completed at a later time. Mastering these forms improves clarity and effectiveness in everyday communication.

15.1 Future Simple (Will)

The future simple with “will” expresses decisions made at the moment of speaking, general predictions, promises, offers, and future facts.

Future Simple (Will)

Structure:

- Affirmative: Subject + will + base verb
- Negative: Subject + will not (won't) + base verb
- Interrogative: Will + subject + base verb?

Examples:

- “I’ll call you later.” (decision now)
- “It will rain tomorrow.” (prediction)
- “We won’t be late.” (negative)
- “Will you help me?” (offer/request)

15.2 Future Simple (Going To)

The future simple with “going to” is used for planned actions or intentions and predictions based on present evidence.

Future Simple (Going To)

Structure:

- Affirmative: Subject + am/is/are + going to + base verb
- Negative: Subject + am/is/are not + going to + base verb
- Interrogative: Am/Is/Are + subject + going to + base verb?

Examples:

- “I am going to start a new job next month.”
- “She is not going to attend the meeting.”
- “Are they going to move to a new house?”

15.3 Going To vs Will for Future Plans and Predictions

Two common ways to express future actions in English are using “going to” and “will”. Understanding the difference between these two forms is essential for effective communication.

Future Tense Comparison

“Going to” is used for plans or intentions that have already been decided before the moment of speaking.

Example. “I am going to visit my grandparents next weekend.”

This indicates a pre-planned action.

“Will” is used for spontaneous decisions made at the moment of speaking or for predictions about the future.

Example. “I will help you with your homework.”

This indicates a decision made on the spot or a prediction based on current knowledge.

15.4 Present Continuous for Future Arrangements

The present continuous is often used to talk about fixed plans and arrangements, usually when a time is specified.

Present Continuous (Future Arrangements)

Structure:

- Affirmative: Subject + am/is/are + verb-ing + time reference
- Negative: Subject + am/is/are not + verb-ing + time reference
- Interrogative: Am/Is/Are + subject + verb-ing + time reference?

Examples:

- “I’m meeting the manager at 3 p.m.”
- “She’s flying to Madrid next Monday.”
- “Are you having dinner with them tonight?”

15.5 Future Perfect Tense

The future perfect tense is used to describe an action that will be completed before a specific point in the future. It is formed using “will have” followed by the past participle of the verb.

Future Perfect Tense

Structure:

- Affirmative: Subject + will have + past participle
- Negative: Subject + will not have + past participle
- Interrogative: Will + subject + have + past participle?

Example. “By next year, I will have completed my degree.”

15.6 Future Continuous Tense

The future continuous tense is used to describe actions that will be in progress at a specific time in the future. It is formed using “will be” followed by the present participle (verb + -ing).

Future Continuous Tense

Structure:

- Affirmative: Subject + will be + verb-ing
- Negative: Subject + will not be + verb-ing
- Interrogative: Will + subject + be + verb-ing?

Example. “This time tomorrow, I will be flying to Paris.”

15.7 Future Perfect Continuous

The future perfect continuous focuses on the duration of an activity up to a point in the future. It is formed with “will have been” + verb-ing.

Future Perfect Continuous

Structure:

- Affirmative: Subject + will have been + verb-ing
- Negative: Subject + will not have been + verb-ing
- Interrogative: Will + subject + have been + verb-ing?

Example:

- “By noon, they will have been working for five hours.”

15.8 Time Expressions

Common future time markers help identify the correct tense: *tomorrow, next week/month/year, in two days, soon, later, this evening, by 2026, at 5 p.m., on Monday.*

15.9 Common Mistakes with Future Tenses

Learners often confuse the use of “going to” and “will”. Here are some common mistakes to avoid:

- Using “will” for planned actions instead of “going to”.
- Confusing the future perfect with the future continuous.
- Omitting the past participle after “will have” in the future perfect.

15.10 Future Simple vs Future Continuous

The future simple describes actions that will happen, while the future continuous emphasizes actions that will be ongoing at a specific future time.

15.10.1 Timeline

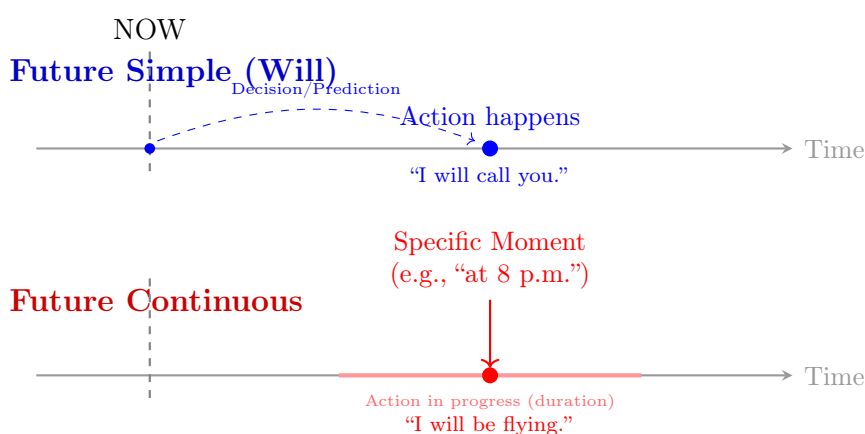


Figure 15.1: Visual Comparison: Future Simple vs. Future Continuous

15.11 Future Perfect vs Future Perfect Continuous

The future perfect describes actions that will be completed before a specific future time, while the future perfect continuous emphasizes the duration of an action up to that future point.

15.11.1 Timeline

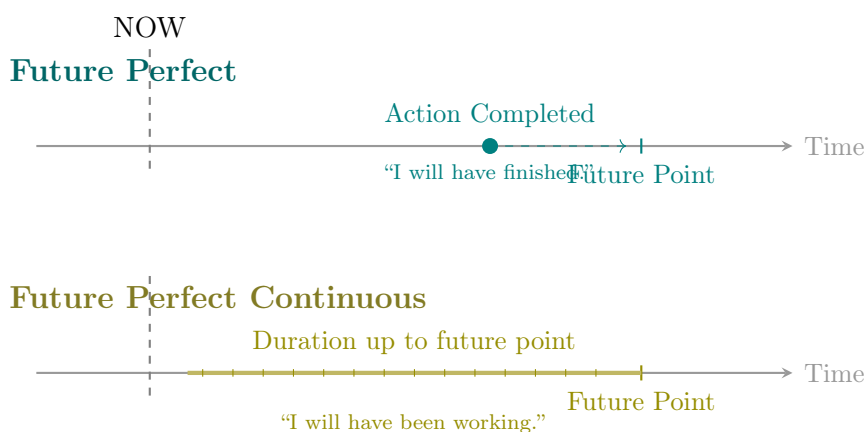


Figure 15.2: Visual Comparison: Future Perfect vs. Future Perfect Continuous

15.12 Future perfect continuous vs Future continuous

The future perfect continuous emphasizes the duration of an action up to a specific future point, while the future continuous focuses on an action that will be in progress at a specific future time.

15.12.1 Timeline

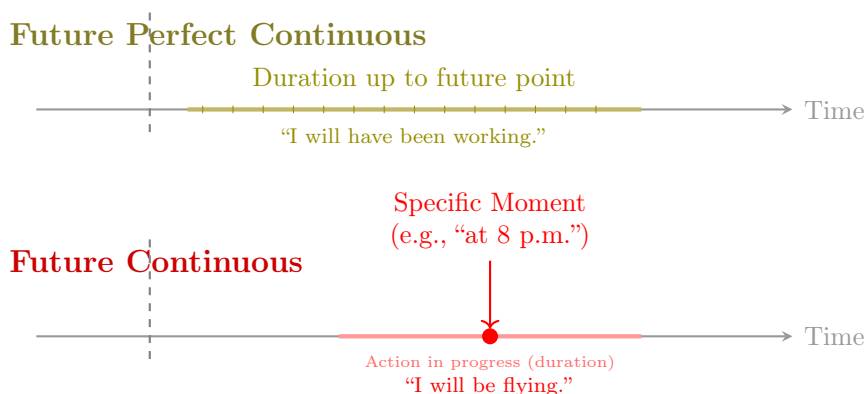


Figure 15.3: Visual Comparison: Future Perfect Continuous vs. Future Continuous

15.13 Practice Exercises

Exercise 1: Complete with the correct future form (“will”, “going to”, future continuous, or future perfect).

1. I _____ (go) to the store tomorrow.
2. By next month, she _____ (finish) her project.
3. This time next week, we _____ (travel) to Italy.

Exercise 2: Correct the mistakes in the following sentences.

1. I will going to the party tonight.
2. They will have complete the report by Friday.

15.14 Conclusion

Using future forms accurately lets you describe plans, make predictions, talk about schedules, and highlight completed actions by a future time. Practise choosing between “will” (decisions/predictions), “going to” (plans/intentions), the present continuous (arrangements), the future continuous (in-progress actions at a future time), the future perfect (completed by a future point), and the future perfect continuous (duration up to a future point).

15.15 Summary

Use “going to” for planned actions; “will” for spontaneous decisions, promises, and predictions; the *present continuous* for fixed arrangements; the *future continuous* for actions in progress at a future time; the *future perfect* for actions completed before a specific future time; and the *future perfect continuous* to emphasize duration up to a future point.

15.15.1 Timeline Diagram Summary

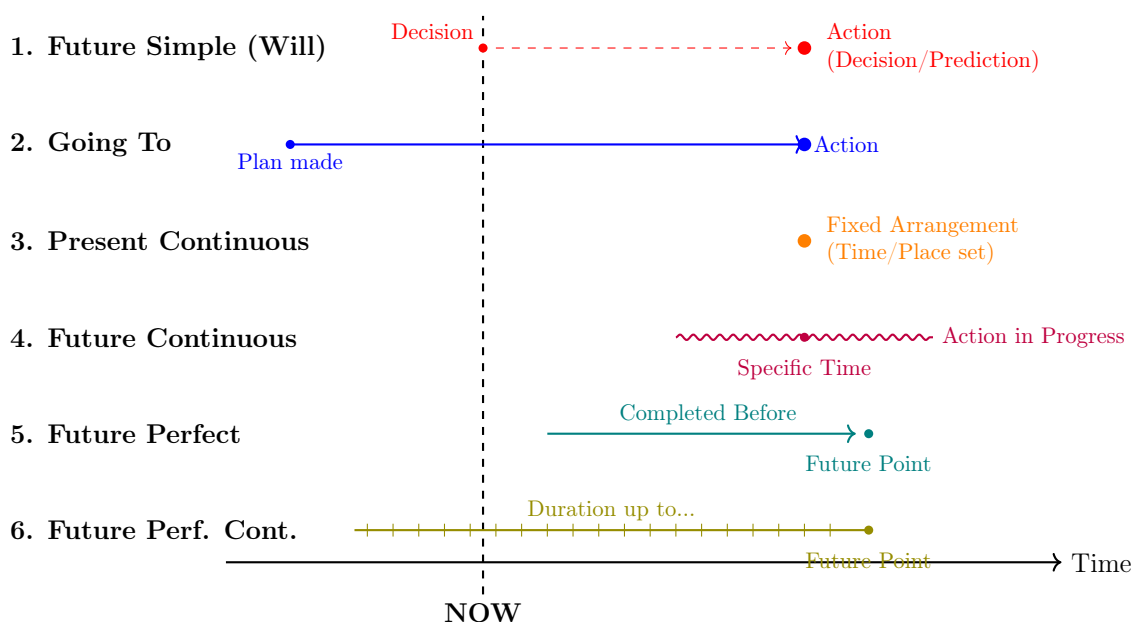


Figure 15.4: Visualizing Future Tenses

15.16 Usage Tips

- Use “going to” for pre-planned actions; “will” for spontaneous decisions and predictions.
- Use the present continuous for fixed arrangements with specified times.
- Use the future continuous to describe actions in progress at a specific future time.
- Use the future perfect to indicate actions completed before a future point.
- Use the future perfect continuous to emphasize the duration of an action up to a future point.

15.17 Key Takeaways

- **Will:** Spontaneous decisions and general predictions.
- **Going to:** Plans and predictions based on evidence.
- **Present Continuous:** Fixed arrangements with times.

- **Future Perfect:** Actions completed before a future point.

15.18 Online Practice

Resources to Practice

Online Practice Reinforce what you have learned with these interactive exercises:

- **Future Tenses Overview:** <https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/future-tenses-exercise-1.html>
- **Will vs Going To:** <https://test-english.com/grammar-points/a2/will-be-going-to/>
- **Future Perfect:** <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/intermediate-to-upper-intermediate/future-perfect>
- **All Future Forms:** <https://www.englishpage.com/verbpage/futuretenses.html>

Part VIII

Integrated Topics

Chapter 16

Technology and Communication

16.1 Lesson Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn:

- Vocabulary related to computers and technology
- How to explain technical concepts in simple terms
- Communication strategies for checking understanding
- Present your interests and abilities

16.2 Speaking Activity: Your Unique Talent or Interest

Personal Interests

Everyone has unique talents, abilities, or interests that make them special. Being able to talk about your passions in English is an important communication skill.

Sample Response:

I'm interested in mountain biking. I started riding when I was 14 years old. My first track in this sport was quite challenging, but it got me hooked. Generally, I ride with my brother now.

In mountain biking, we talk about different "lines" - these refer to the different paths that you can take on a track. Each line has its own challenges and requires different skills.

16.2.1 Discussion Questions

1. What is your unique talent, ability, or interest?
2. When did you start?
3. Who do you share this interest with?
4. What do you enjoy most about it?

16.3 Technology Vocabulary

16.3.1 Computers and Software Development

Technology and Computing Terms

- **Front-end** (*Interfaz de usuario / Cliente*)
 - The part of a website or application that users see and interact with
 - Example: "The front-end developer designs the user interface."
- **Back-end** (*Servidor / Sistema de fondo*)
 - The part that works behind the scenes to make everything function
 - Example: "The back-end handles data processing and storage."
- **Database** (*Base de datos*)
 - An organized collection of data stored electronically
 - Example: "User information is stored in the database."
- **Framework** (*Marco de trabajo*)
 - A set of tools and libraries that help developers create applications more easily
 - Example: "React is a popular front-end framework."
- **API (Application Programming Interface)** (*Interfaz de programación de aplicaciones*)
 - A way for different software applications to communicate with each other
 - Example: "The front-end sends requests to the back-end through an API."

Explaining Technical Concepts

Software Architecture Explanation:

To explain the architecture of any app's software, there are generally two principal components: the **front-end** and the **back-end**, plus a **database**.

- The **front-end** is the part that users see and interact with
- The **back-end** works behind the scenes to make everything function properly
- These two components work together to provide a seamless user experience

Communication between components:

The communication between front-end and back-end typically occurs through **APIs** (Application Programming Interfaces). The front-end sends requests to the back-end server, which processes these requests, interacts with the database if necessary, and then sends back the appropriate responses. This allows for dynamic content updates without needing to reload the entire page.

16.3.2 Popular Frameworks

- **React**: Front-end framework based on JavaScript, owned by Meta (Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp)
- **Django**: Back-end framework based on Python, owned by Django Software Foundation

16.4 Communication Skills: Checking Understanding

When explaining complex ideas or learning new concepts, it's important to check understanding.

Phrases for Checking Understanding

When you need clarification:

- Could you **explain** what you mean by that?
- Sorry, I'm not sure if I **understand**. What's [concept]?
- Could you **clarify** that point?
- What exactly do you mean by...?

When checking if others understand you:

- Is everything **clear** so far?
- Does that make sense?
- Do you follow me?
- Are there any questions?
- Do you see what I **mean**?

When confirming understanding:

- So, if I **understand** you correctly...
- Let me see if I've got this right...
- Just to clarify, you're saying that...
- In other words...

16.5 Practice Exercises

16.5.1 Exercise 1: Complete the Phrases

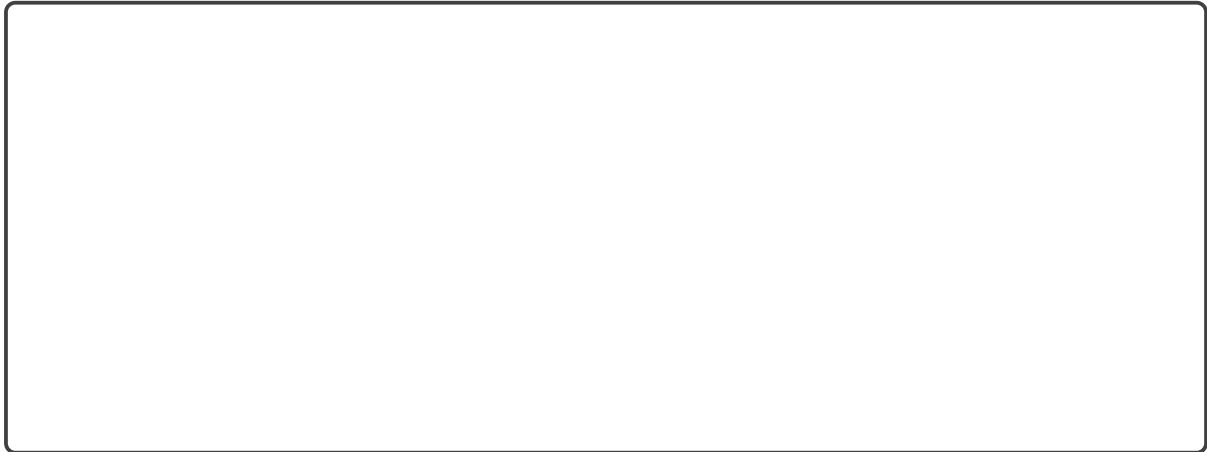
Fill in the blanks with appropriate words:

1. Could you _____ what you mean by that?
2. Sorry, I'm not sure if I _____. What's identity theft?
3. Is everything _____ so far?
4. So, if I _____ you correctly...
5. Do you see what I _____?

Answers: 1. explain, 2. understand/follow, 3. clear, 4. understand, 5. mean

16.5.2 Exercise 2: Explain Your Interest

Write a short paragraph (80-100 words) explaining a hobby, interest, or talent you have. Use some of the communication phrases from this chapter.



16.6 Key Takeaways

- Use simple language when explaining technical concepts
- Always check understanding when discussing complex topics
- Break down explanations into smaller, manageable parts
- Use examples to illustrate abstract concepts
- Practice active listening and ask for clarification when needed

Chapter 17

Superstitions, Travel, and Prepositions

17.1 Lesson Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn:

- How to discuss superstitions and cultural beliefs
- Prepositions of place: in, at, and on
- Travel vocabulary and expressions
- How to form questions about past experiences

17.2 Speaking Activity: Find Someone Who...

This activity helps practice forming past tense questions and having conversations about recent experiences.

17.3 Grammar Focus: Prepositions IN, AT, and ON

Prepositions *in*, *at*, and *on* are used to indicate place and time, but each has specific rules.

Activity	Question	Person	Details
Went to a different country	Did you go to a different country?	Jason	Went to Edinburgh
Tried some new food	Did you try some new food?	Rose	Tried Japanese food
Slept at a fancy hotel	Did you sleep at a fancy hotel?	Rose	Never did
Had a party	Did you have a party?	Cinar	Christmas party
Visited another part of England	Did you visit another part of England?	Valentina	Edinburgh
Saw an amazing monument	Did you see an amazing monument?	Jason	None
Bought something expensive	Did you buy something expensive?	Jason	Shoes
Didn't leave Oxford	Did you leave Oxford?	Adrien	Left Oxford and went to Paris
Went to the theatre/opera	Did you go to the theatre/opera?	Adrien	No
Visited a famous city	Did you visit a famous city?	Jason	London

Table 17.1: Find someone who... activity results

Preposition IN

Usage:

- Large or general spaces: cities, countries, rooms
- Enclosed vehicles: cars, helicopters, taxis
- Periods of time: months, years, centuries

Examples:

- I live **in** London. (*Vivo en Londres*)
- The keys are **in** the drawer. (*Las llaves están en el cajón*)
- She arrived **in** 2020. (*Llegó en 2020*)

Preposition AT**Usage:**

- Specific locations or points
- Events and gatherings
- Specific times

Examples:

- She is **at** the bus stop. (*Ella está en la parada de autobús*)
- We met **at** the entrance. (*Nos encontramos en la entrada*)
- The meeting is **at** 3 PM. (*La reunión es a las 3 PM*)

Preposition ON**Usage:**

- Surfaces
- Public transportation where you can walk (except motorcycles)
- Days and dates

Examples:

- The book is **on** the table. (*El libro está sobre la mesa*)
- He is **on** the train. (*Él está en el tren*)
- I'm riding **on** a motorcycle. (*Voy en motocicleta*)
- See you **on** Monday. (*Nos vemos el lunes*)

Preposition	Use	Example
IN	Inside an area/space	in a room, in a car, in London
AT	Specific point	at the door, at 5 PM, at home
ON	On a surface	on the table, on the bus, on Monday

Table 17.2: Quick reference for prepositions

17.4 Common Mistakes

Word Order in Embedded Questions

When asking an indirect question, the word order changes:

- **Incorrect:** I don't know what is the name.
- **Correct:** I don't know what the name is.
- **Correct:** I don't know the name.

Rule: In embedded questions, use statement word order (subject + verb), not question word order.

17.5 Travel Vocabulary and Expressions

17.5.1 Travel Idioms and Expressions

Common Travel Expressions

- **See how the mood takes me** (*Decidir según cómo me siento*)
 - Make decisions depending on how you're feeling in the moment
 - Example: "I don't have fixed plans; I'll just see how the mood takes me."
- **Off the beaten track** (*Fuera de lo común / Poco turístico*)
 - A place without many tourists; unexplored areas
 - Example: "We prefer traveling to places off the beaten track."
- **Culture shock** (*Choque cultural*)
 - Feeling uncomfortable or disoriented in a new place or culture
 - Example: "I experienced culture shock when I first arrived in Tokyo."
- **Watch our backs** (*Tener cuidado / Estar alerta*)
 - Be careful and aware of potential dangers
 - Example: "We need to watch our backs in crowded tourist areas."
- **Travel light** (*Viajar con poco equipaje*)
 - Travel without much luggage or belongings
 - Example: "I always travel light with just a backpack."
- **Travel on a shoestring** (*Viajar con presupuesto limitado*)
 - Not spend much money while traveling; budget travel
 - Example: "As a student, I had to travel on a shoestring."
- **Got the travel bug** (*Adicto a viajar*)
 - Be addicted to traveling; have a strong desire to travel
 - Example: "After my first trip abroad, I got the travel bug."
- **Culture vulture** (*Aficionado a la cultura*)
 - Someone who likes museums, art galleries, and cultural activities
 - Example: "She's a real culture vulture; she visits every museum in town."
- **Feel right at home** (*Sentirse como en casa*)
 - Feel very comfortable in a new place
 - Example: "The host family was so welcoming; I felt right at home."
- **Get up at the crack of dawn** (*Levantarse muy temprano*)
 - Wake up very early in the morning
 - Example: "We got up at the crack of dawn to catch the sunrise."
- **Savour the local delicacies** (*Saborear las delicias locales*)
 - Enjoy and appreciate local food
 - Example: "Don't forget to savour the local delicacies when you visit Italy."

17.6 Superstitions and Cultural Beliefs

17.6.1 Key Vocabulary: Myth

Word Focus: Myth

Definition: A traditional story, especially one concerning the early history of a people or explaining a natural or social phenomenon, and typically involving supernatural beings or events. (*Mito*)

Examples:

- The myth of Atlantis tells the story of a lost civilization.
- Many cultures have myths about creation and the origins of the world.
- Greek myths often feature gods and heroes.

Common Collocations:

- ancient myth (*mito antiguo*)
- popular myth (*mito popular*)
- urban myth (*mito urbano*)
- read a myth (*leer un mito*)
- tell a myth (*contar un mito*)

17.6.2 Superstition Vocabulary

Key Terms for Discussing Superstitions

- **Old wives' tales** (*Cuentos de viejas / Supersticiones populares*)
 - Traditional beliefs or superstitions, often passed down through generations
 - Example: "Breaking a mirror brings seven years of bad luck is an old wives' tale."
- **Association** (*Asociación*)
 - A mental connection between ideas or things
 - Example: "Many superstitions are based on associations between unrelated events."
- **Blessing** (*Bendición*)
 - God's favor and protection; something that brings good fortune
 - Example: "Some people see finding a penny as a blessing."
- **Coincidence** (*Coincidencia*)
 - A remarkable occurrence of events at the same time by chance
 - Example: "It was just a coincidence that it rained on Friday the 13th."
- **Irrational** (*Irracional*)
 - Not logical or reasonable
 - Example: "Believing in superstitions is often considered irrational."
- **Remnants** (*Remanentes / Restos*)
 - Small remaining parts of something
 - Example: "These superstitions are remnants of ancient beliefs."
- **Illusion** (*Ilusión*)
 - A false perception or belief
 - Example: "The idea that lucky charms work is just an illusion."
- **Lightning strike** (*Rayo / Caída de un rayo*)
 - When lightning hits something
 - Example: "The chances of a lightning strike are very small."

17.6.3 Expressing Beliefs and Doubts about Superstitions

Asking About Superstitions

Ways to ask:

- Do you **buy into** superstitions? (*¿Crees en las supersticiones?*)
- Do you **fall for** superstitions? (*¿Te crees las supersticiones?*)
- Do you **believe in** superstitions? (*¿Crees en las supersticiones?*)

Expressing Doubt and Disbelief

Formal expressions:

- I have some **reservations**. (*Tengo algunas reservas/dudas*)
- I have some **doubts**. (*Tengo algunas dudas*)
- I **doubt that...** (*Dudo que...*)
- I doubt that's true. (*Dudo que eso sea cierto*)

Informal expressions:

- You're **pulling my leg**! (*¡Me estás tomando el pelo!*)
 - Meaning: You're joking, right?
- That's **ridiculous**! (*¡Eso es ridículo!*)
 - Meaning: That's absurd
- Oh, **give me a break**! (*¡Venga ya!* / *¡Por favor!*)
 - Used to express disbelief or annoyance
- **Funny that...** (*Qué curioso que...*)
 - Meaning: That's interesting or ironic
- That's **silly**! (*¡Eso es tonto!*)
 - Meaning: That's foolish or absurd

17.7 Grammar Note: Fewer vs Less

Countable vs Uncountable

Fewer is used with *countable* nouns:

- There are **fewer** people here today.
- We have **fewer** chairs than we need.
- I made **fewer** mistakes this time.

Less is used with *uncountable* nouns:

- There is **less** water in the bottle.
- We have **less** time than before.
- She has **less** experience.

Memory tip: If you can count it, use **fewer**. If you can't count it, use **less**.

17.8 Additional Useful Expressions

General Expressions

- **Per se** (*En sí mismo / Intrínsecamente*)
 - Meaning: Intrinsically, by itself
 - Example: "The book isn't per se bad, but it's not my favorite genre."

Appendix A

Vocabulary

This chapter contains useful vocabulary words and phrases that were covered in previous classes. It includes definitions and example sentences to help you understand how to use them in context.

A.1 Vocabulary

Vocabulary	Meaning	Example
bursary	a scholarship to attend a college or university.	She received a bursary to help pay for her tuition.
career break	a period of time when someone stops working in their profession to rest or pursue other interests.	She took a career break to travel the world.
coach	a bus used for long-distance travel.	We took a coach to the countryside for the weekend.
commute	travel some distance between one's home and place of work on a regular basis.	I commute to the city every day for work.
crutches	a support used by a person who is unable to walk without assistance.	He had to use crutches after breaking his leg.
delightful	highly pleasing.	The cake she baked was absolutely delightful.

Vocabulary	Meaning	Example
gap year	a year spent away from formal education, typically to travel or gain work experience.	He took a gap year before starting university.
get up to	to do something, often something bad.	What did you get up to at the party last night?
hangover	a painful physical condition following the excessive consumption of alcohol.	He had a terrible hangover after the party.
milestone	a significant event or stage in the development of something.	Graduating from college is a major milestone in life.
mishap	an unfortunate accident.	He had a mishap while hiking and sprained his ankle.
nicked	stolen (informal).	My car was nicked last night.
nightshifts	working during the night hours.	She works the nightshifts at the hospital.
outstanding	exceptionally good.	Her performance in the play was outstanding.
perk	a benefit or advantage.	One of the perks of the job is free lunch.
placement	the action of placing someone in a job or position.	The placement of the new employee was successful.
proofread	read (printer's proofs or other written or printed material) and mark any errors.	I need to proofread my essay before submitting it.
purse	a small bag used by women to carry money.	I am looking for my purse.
revision	the action of revising.	The document is under revision for accuracy.
sandal	a light shoe with either an openwork upper or straps attaching the sole to the foot.	She wore sandals to the beach.

Vocabulary	Meaning	Example
scholarship	a grant or payment made to support a student's education, awarded on the basis of academic or other achievement.	She received a scholarship for her excellent grades.
shy	being reserved or having or showing nervousness or timidity in the company of other people.	She is shy and doesn't like speaking in public.
sightseeing	visiting famous places.	I went sightseeing in London.
stomach ache	dolor de estómago.	I have a stomach ache.
stuck	unable to move or be moved.	The car got stuck in the mud.
thin	having little, or too little, flesh or fat on the body.	The thin cat looked hungry.
mob	a large crowd of people, especially one that is disorderly and intent on causing trouble or violence.	A mob gathered outside the courthouse.
mobbing	the act of a large group of people attacking or overwhelming someone.	The celebrity was mobbed by fans at the airport.
rigorous	extremely thorough and careful.	The rigorous training prepared the athletes for the competition.
thorough	complete with regard to every detail; not superficial or partial.	The detective conducted a thorough investigation.
remains	the parts left over after other parts have been removed, used, or destroyed.	The remains of the ancient building were discovered by archaeologists.
remnants	a small remaining quantity of something.	The remnants of the ancient building were discovered by archaeologists.
leftovers	food remaining after a meal.	We had leftovers from dinner last night.

A.2 Informal Contractions

Contraction	Meaning	Example
gonna	going to	I'm gonna study tonight
wanna	want to	Do you wanna go?
gotta	got to	I gotta leave now
kinda	kind of	It's kinda cold today
gimme	give me	Gimme a break
cya	see you later	Cya tomorrow

A.3 British Slang & Expressions

Expression	Meaning	Example
a bloke	a man	There's a bloke at the door
a catch up	meet with someone to talk	We should have a catch up
a tenner	a 10 pound note	Can you lend me a tenner?
cheap as chips	very cheap	That shirt was cheap as chips
chop chop	hurry up	Come on, chop chop
dodgy	untrustworthy, suspicious	That looks a bit dodgy
fancy	I really want to	I fancy a coffee
feel right as rain	feel well again	I feel right as rain now
give someone a bell	call someone	Give me a bell later
grab some food	get something to eat	Let's grab some food
gutted	very disappointed	I was gutted to miss it
-ish	approximately	Meet me at 3-ish
knackered	very tired	I'm absolutely knackered
on and off	not consistently, not always	It's been raining on and off
peckish	snack	I'm feeling a bit peckish
shuteye	sleep	I need some shuteye
skint	broke, no money temporarily	I'm a bit skint this week
up for something	agree to do something	Are you up for a movie?
went off	exploded, made a loud noise	The alarm went off at 6am

A.4 General Expressions

Expression	Meaning	Example
bare-feet	without shoes	He walked barefoot on the grass
encourage	give support, confidence, or hope to (someone)	She encouraged me to apply
fire away	is used to give someone permission to ask questions or make comments	Fire away, I'm ready
get back in touch	contact someone again	I'll get back in touch next week
hop	jump on one foot	The kids like to hop around
pay attention	focus on something	Please pay attention to the instructions
ran me over	hit me with a vehicle	A car ran me over
ran out of	have no more of (something)	I've run out of time
stay out	remain outside	We decided to stay out late
take it easy	relax	Take it easy this weekend
wander around	walk around without a specific purpose	We wandered around the city

A.5 Order Words/Phrases

Word/Phrase	Meaning	Example
after that	following that; subsequently	After that, we can make a decision
finally	at the end; lastly	Finally, we will summarize our findings
firstly	used to introduce the first point or reason in a list	Firstly, we need to gather information
following that	after that; subsequently	Following that, we will review the plan
next	after that; then	Next, we will discuss the results

Word/Phrase	Meaning	Example
secondly	used to introduce the second point or reason in a list	Secondly, we need to analyze the data

A.6 Collocations

Preposition	Usage	Example
at	used with "the weekend"	At the weekend
in	used with parts of the day	In the morning/afternoon/evening
on	used with days	On Saturday

Appendix B

Verbs

B.1 Irregular Verbs

Present	Past	Participle	Español infinitivo
abide	abode/abided	abode/abided	cumplir/tolerar
arise	arose	arisen	surgir/levantarse
awake	awoke	awoken	despertar
be	was/were	been	ser/estar
bear	bore	born/borne	soportar/dar a luz
beat	beat	beaten	golpear/batir
become	became	become	convertirse
begin	began	begun	comenzar
bend	bent	bent	doblar
bet	bet	bet	apostar
bind	bound	bound	atar
bite	bit	bitten	morder
bleed	bled	bled	sangrar
blow	blew	blown	soplar
break	broke	broken	romper
breed	bred	bred	criar
bring	brought	brought	traer
broadcast	broadcast	broadcast	transmitir
build	built	built	construir
burn	burnt/burned	burnt/burned	quemar
burst	burst	burst	reventar
buy	bought	bought	comprar

Present	Past	Participle	Español infinitivo
cast	cast	cast	lanzar/ echar
catch	caught	caught	atrapar
choose	chose	chosen	elegir
cling	clung	clung	aferrarse
come	came	come	venir
cost	cost	cost	costar
creep	crept	crept	arrastrarse
crouch	crouched	crouched	agacharse
cut	cut	cut	cortar
deal	dealt	dealt	tratar/ repartir
dig	dug	dug	cavar
do	did	done	hacer
draw	drew	drawn	dibujar
dream	dreamt/ dreamed	dreamt/ dreamed	soñar
drink	drank	drunk	beber
drive	drove	driven	conducir
dwell	dwelt/ dwelled	dwelt/ dwelled	habitar/ residir
eat	ate	eaten	comer
fall	fell	fallen	caer
feed	fed	fed	alimentar
feel	felt	felt	sentir
fight	fought	fought	pelear/ luchar
find	found	found	encontrar
flee	fled	fled	huir
fly	flew	flown	volar
forbid	forbade	forbidden	prohibir
forecast	forecast	forecast	pronosticar
foresee	foresaw	foreseen	prever
forget	forgot	forgotten	olvidar
forgive	forgave	forgiven	perdonar
freeze	froze	frozen	congelar
get	got	gotten	obtener
give	gave	given	dar
go	went	gone	ir

Present	Past	Participle	Español infinitivo
grind	ground	ground	moler
grow	grew	grown	crecer
hang	hung	hung	colgar
heave	heaved/hove	heaved/hove	levantar con esfuerzo
hew	hewed	hewn/hewed	talar/labrar
have	had	had	tener
hear	heard	heard	oír
hide	hid	hidden	esconder
hit	hit	hit	golpear
hold	held	held	sostener
hurt	hurt	hurt	herir/doler
keep	kept	kept	mantener
kneel	knelt	knelt	arrodillarse
know	knew	known	saber/conocer
lay	laid	laid	poner/colocar
lead	led	led	liderar/conducir
lean	leant/leaned	leant/leaned	apoyarse
leap	leapt/leaped	leapt/leaped	saltar
learn	learnt/learned	learnt/learned	aprender
leave	left	left	dejar/salir
lend	lent	lent	prestar
let	let	let	permitir
lie	lay	lain	yacer/acostarse
light	lit	lit	encender/iluminar
lose	lost	lost	perder
make	made	made	hacer
mean	meant	meant	significar
meet	met	met	conocer/reunirse
mistake	mistook	mistaken	equivocarse
mow	mowed	mown/mowed	cortar el césped
outbid	outbid	outbid	ofertar más
outdo	outdid	outdone	superar
overcome	overcame	overcome	superar
overhang	overhung	overhung	sobresalir

Present	Past	Participle	Español infinitivo
overhear	overheard	overheard	oír por casualidad
overlay	overlaid	overlaid	cubrir/recubrir
overpay	overpaid	overpaid	pagar de más
override	overrode	overridden	anular/invalidar
overrun	overran	overrun	invadir/rebasar
oversee	oversaw	overseen	supervisar
oversleep	overslept	overslept	quedarse dormido
overtake	overtook	overtaken	adelantar/alcanzar
overthrow	overthrew	overthrown	derrocar
pay	paid	paid	pagar
put	put	put	poner
quit	quit	quit	dejar/renunciar
read	read	read	leer
rebuild	rebuilt	rebuilt	reconstruir
redo	redid	redone	rehacer
remake	remade	remade	rehacer
rend	rent	rent	desgarrar
repay	repaid	repaid	reembolsar
reread	reread	reread	releer
rerun	reran	rerun	volver a correr
resell	resold	resold	revender
reset	reset	reset	restablecer
reshoot	reshot	reshot	volver a filmar
retell	retold	retold	volver a contar
rethink	rethought	rethought	reconsiderar
rewind	rewound	rewound	rebobinar
rewrite	rewrote	rewritten	reescribir
ride	rode	ridden	montar
ring	rang	rung	sonar/llamar
rise	rose	risen	levantarse/subir
run	ran	run	correr
say	said	said	decir
see	saw	seen	ver
seek	sought	sought	buscar

Present	Past	Participle	Español infinitivo
sell	sold	sold	vender
send	sent	sent	enviar
set	set	set	establecer
sew	sewed	sewn/sewed	coser
shake	shook	shaken	sacudir
shine	shone	shone	brillar
shoot	shot	shot	disparar
show	showed	shown	mostrar
shrink	shrank	shrunk	encoger
shut	shut	shut	cerrar
slay	slew	slain	matar
sleep	slept	slept	dormir
sing	sang	sung	cantar
sink	sank	sunk	hundir
sit	sat	sat	sentarse
slay	slew	slain	matar
sleep	slept	slept	dormir
slide	slid	slid	deslizar
sling	slung	slung	lanzar/colgar
slink	slunk	slunk	escabullirse
slit	slit	slit	cortar/rajar
smell	smelt/smelled	smelt/smelled	oler
speak	spoke	spoken	hablar
speed	sped/speeded	sped/speeded	acelerar
spell	spelt/spelled	spelt/spelled	deletrear
spend	spent	spent	gastar/pasar tiempo
spill	spilt/spilled	spilt/spilled	derramar
split	split	split	dividir
spread	spread	spread	extender
spring	sprang	sprung	saltar
spoil	spoilt/spoiled	spoilt/spoiled	estropear
stand	stood	stood	estar de pie
spoil	spoilt/spoiled	spoilt/spoiled	estropear
stand	stood	stood	estar de pie

Present	Past	Participle	Español infinitivo
steal	stole	stolen	robar
stride	strode	stridden	caminar a zancadas
strike	struck	struck	golpear
string	strung	strung	ensartar/atar
strive	strove/strived	striven/strived	esforzarse
stick	stuck	stuck	pegar
sting	stung	stung	picar
stride	strode	stridden	caminar a zancadas
strike	struck	struck	golpear
string	strung	strung	ensartar/atar
strive	strove/strived	striven/strived	esforzarse
swear	swore	sworn	jurar
sweep	swept	swept	barrer
swell	swelled	swollen/swelled	hinchar
swim	swam	swum	nadar
swing	swung	swung	balancear
take	took	taken	tomar/llevar
teach	taught	taught	enseñar
tear	tore	torn	rasgar
tell	told	told	contar/decir
think	thought	thought	pensar
throw	threw	thrown	lanzar
thrust	thrust	thrust	empujar/clavar
tread	trod	trodden/trod	pisar
understand	understood	understood	entender
undergo	underwent	undergone	experimentar/someterse
undertake	undertook	undertaken	emprender
undo	undid	undone	deshacer
upset	upset	upset	molestar/alterar
wake	woke	woken	despertar
wear	wore	worn	llevar puesto
weave	wove	woven	tejer
wed	wed/wedded	wed/wedded	casar
weep	wept	wept	llorar

Present	Past	Participle	Español infinitivo
wet	wet/wetted	wet/wetted	mojar
win	won	won	ganar
wind	wound	wound	enrollar/dar cuerda
withdraw	withdrew	withdrawn	retirar
withhold	withheld	withheld	retener
withstand	withstood	withstood	resistir
wring	wrung	wrung	retorcer/escurrir
write	wrote	written	escribir

Appendix C

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