



Unidad

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Un puente levadizo

Estaba de compras en el centro de Chicago. Después de terminar, decidí visitar un amigo mío que vive al otro lado del río Chicago. Cuando traté de cruzar el río vi que el puente levadizo se estaba levantado para permitir el paso de un gran bote, entonces detuve el automóvil y esperé pacientemente a que bajara el puente. Al cabo de unos diez minutos una larga fila de carros se había formado detrás de mí.

Algunos conductores se impacientaron y empezaron a tocar sus bocinas. El barco había pasado y no se veían más botes. Bajé del auto y me dirigí hacia el puente. Entonces vi un gran letrero tirado en el suelo. Lo tomé y lo coloqué al lado de la carretera. Miré para ver si encontraba al operario, pero no había nadie por allí. Cuando me dirigía de nuevo al automóvil, eché una mirada al letrero al lado del camino. Decía: PUENTE CERRADO POR REPARACIÓN.



Práctica de preguntas y respuestas

1. ¿Dónde detuvo el conductor su auto?

Ella lo detuvo junto al puente levadizo.

2. ¿Por qué se detuvo ella?

Porque el puente levadizo estaba levantado para permitir el paso de un bote.

3. ¿Había alguno detrás de ella cuando se detuvo?

No, cuando llegó al puente estaba sola.

4. ¿Pasó un bote?

Sí, un gran bote pasó.

5. ¿Se bajó el puente después de un tiempo?

No, no bajó.

6. ¿Qué sucedió al cabo de unos diez minutos?

Algunos conductores se impacientaron y empezaron a tocar sus bocinas.

7. ¿De dónde vinieron esos conductores?

Llegaron mientras ella estaba esperando que el puente bajara. Ellos también estaban esperando, en una fila detrás de su carro.

8. ¿Qué hizo entonces el conductor?

Ella bajó de su carro y se dirigió hacia el puente.

9. ¿Vio ella algo?

Sí, frente del puente ella vio un gran letrero tirado en el suelo.

10. ¿Qué hizo luego?

Miró para ver si encontraba al operario.

11. ¿Había alguien allí?

No, no había nadie allí. Nadie podía ayudar.

12. ¿A qué dirigió su mirada cuándo regresaba a su automóvil?

Echó una ojeada al letrero que estaba al costado de la vía.

13. ¿Leyó el letrero esta vez?

Sí, lo leyó.

14. ¿Qué decía el cartel?

Decía: PUENTE CERRADO POR REPARACIÓN.

Unit 19

A drawbridge

I was in Chicago shopping in the downtown area. After I finished, I decided to visit a friend of mine who lives across the Chicago River. When I tried to cross the river, I saw that the drawbridge was opened up to allow a large boat to pass so, I stopped the car and waited patiently for the bridge to go down. After about ten minutes, a long line of cars had formed behind me.

Some drivers became impatient and began to honk their horns. The big boat had passed, and no more boats were in sight. I got out of the car and walked towards the bridge. Then, I saw a large sign lying on the ground. I picked it up and placed it by the side of the road. I looked to see if I could find a bridge-keeper but there was nobody around. As I walked back to the car, I glanced to the notice on the side of the road. It read: BRIDGE CLOSED FOR REPAIRS.



Practice of questions and answers

1. Where did the driver stop the car?
She stopped it at the drawbridge.
2. Why did she stop?
Because the drawbridge was opened up to let a boat pass.
3. Was there anyone behind her when she stopped?
No, when she arrived at the bridge she was alone.

4. Did a boat go by?

Yes, a large boat went by.

5. Did the bridge close after a while?

No, it didn't.

6. What happened after about ten minutes?

Some drivers became impatient and began to honk their horns.

7. Where did these drivers come from?

They arrived while she was waiting for the bridge to go down. They were waiting too in a line behind her car.

8. What did the driver do then?

She got out of her car and walked towards the bridge.

9. Did she see anything?

Yes, in front of the bridge she saw a large sign lying on the ground.

10. What did she do next?

She looked to see if there was a bridge keeper.

11. Was there anybody there?

No, there wasn't anybody there. Nobody could help.

12. What did she glance at as she returned to her car?

She glanced at the sign on the side of the road.

13. Did she read the sign this time?

Yes, she did.

14. What did the sign say?

It read: BRIDGE CLOSED FOR REPAIRS.

New Vocabulary

Nouns

- Bridge-keeper
- Drawbridge
- Horns
- Repairs

Verbs

- Allow
- Become
- Begin
- Finish
- Form
- Glance
- Honk
- Open
- Pass
- Shop

Adjectives

- Impatient
- Large
- Lying
- Placed



Now, something important!

Prepositions

Up: towards a higher value, number or level.

Example: I saw the bridge was opened **up**.

Notice:

Phrasal Verbs: go out – opened up – picked up

Modal Auxiliaries:

Could

| Uses | Present/future | Past |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| Past ability | | - <i>I could run fast when I was a child.</i> |
| Polite request | - <i>Could I borrow your pen?</i> - <i>Could you help me?</i> | |
| Suggestion (affirmative only) | - <i>If you need help in math, you could talk to your teacher.</i> | - <i>If you needed help in math, you could have talked to your teacher.</i> |
| Less than 50% of certainty | - <i>Where's John?</i> - <i>He could be at home.</i> | - <i>He could have been at home.</i> |
| Impossibility (negative only) | - <i>That couldn't be true!</i> | - <i>That couldn't have been true!</i> |

Example: I looked to see if I could find a bridge-keeper but there was nobody around.

Ref

For better reference, see **Finding Out About Grammar Book**, Unit 9, page 154.

Unidad

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El restaurante

Yo soy la dueña de un restaurante de primera clase en Washington D.C. Esta tarde, la secretaria del presidente me llamó. Ella quería saber si podríamos organizar un banquete especial para el presidente y unos invitados importantes. Le respondí:



¡Por supuesto que podremos!

Cuando le comenté a la gente que trabajaba en el restaurante, todos se emocionaron. Pero después me puse un poco nervioso y empecé a preocuparme si todo estaba listo.



¿Has limpiado suficientes cucharas?



Sí, he limpiado cincuenta de nuestras cucharas especiales de plata.



¿La camarera ha preparado suficientes tazas y platillos?



Sí, la camarera ha preparado todas las tazas y platillos del restaurante.



¿Se han lavado todos los vasos?



Creo que el lavaplatos ha lavado todos los vasos.



¿Qué ha estado haciendo el limpiador?



El limpiador ha estado limpiando las mesas.



¿Qué ha preparado el chef para esta noche?



Ha cocinado carne al vapor y pastel de manzana. Es el plato preferido del presidente.



¿Han limpiado el restaurante?



Sí, hemos pasado toda la tarde limpiando el restaurante.



¿El mesero encargado ha escrito el plan de ubicación?



Sí, él ha escrito la ubicación muy cuidadosamente.



¿Las meseras han planchado sus faldas negras?



Sí, han planchado tanto sus faldas negras como sus blusas blancas.



¿Alguien ha comprado treinta velas?



Sí, uno de los meseros ha comprado diez velas rojas, diez velas blancas y diez azules.



¿Los manteles se mandaron a lavar?



Sí, ¡Todos se lavaron ayer!



¿He estado muy nerviosa toda la tarde?



Sí!

Unit 20

The restaurant

I am the owner of a first class restaurant in Washington, D.C. This afternoon, the president's secretary called me. She wanted to know if we could host a special banquet for the president and some important guests. I said:



Of course, we could!

When I told the people who worked in the restaurant, they were all very excited. But then, I became a little nervous and started to worry if everything was ready.



Have you cleaned enough spoons?



Yes, I've cleaned fifty of our special silver spoons.



Has the busgirl prepared enough cups and saucers?



Yes, the busgirl has prepared all the cups and saucers in the restaurant.



Have all the glasses been washed?



I think the dishwasher has washed all of the glasses.



What has the cleaner been doing?



The cleaner has been wiping the tables.



What has the chef cooked for tonight?



He has cooked pot roast and apple pie. It's the President's favorite!



Have you cleaned up the restaurant?



Yes, we've spent all of the afternoon cleaning up the restaurant.



Has the headwaiter written out the seating plan?



Yes, he's written out the plan very neatly.



Have the waitresses ironed their black skirts?



Yes, they've ironed both their black skirt and their white shirts.



Has anyone bought thirty candles?



Yes, one of the waiters has bought ten red, ten white and ten blue candles.



Have the tableclothes been sent to be washed?



Yes, they were washed yesterday?



Have I been very nervous all afternoon?



Yes!



Now, something important!

The Present Perfect (Review)

We use the **Present Perfect** to say that an action happened at an unspecified time before now. The exact time is not important. The Present Perfect is not used with specific time expressions such as: yesterday, one year ago, last week, when I was a child, at that moment, that day, one day, etc. We use the **Present Perfect** with unspecific expressions such as: ever, never, once, many times, several times, before, so far, already, yet, etc.

For expressing an idea in **Present Perfect**, we need the auxiliary "have" with the pronouns **I, you, we, and they**; or "has" for the pronouns **he, she** and **it**; and the main verb in **past participle**.

Examples:

Affirmative form: *I have seen that movie many times.*

Question form: *Have you seen that movie many times?*

Negative form: *You have not seen that movie many times.*

Other Uses of "have"

Have to + verb:

We can use "have to" to express a strong obligation. When we use "have to" this usually means that some external circumstance makes the obligation necessary.

Examples:

The cleaner has to clean the tables.

We have to have everything ready.

Have + object:

We use "have" to express possession.

I have a new computer.

She has a cat as a pet.

Ref For better reference, see **Finding Out About Grammar Book**, Unit 12, pages 175-176.