

English C1 Advanced

HSLU, Semester 1

Matteo Frongillo

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1 Course overview

1.1 Exam overview

- Use of English and Reading: **MEP (30%)**;
- Writing: **MEP (30 %)**;
- Listening: **Semester performance (20%)**;
- Speaking: **Semester performance (20%)**.

2 Past tenses

2.1 Simple tenses

2.1.1 Past simple

Past simple is used for:

- Finished past event at a specific past point in time.

2.2 Continuous tenses

Are focused on ongoing actions at past or present time.

2.2.1 Past continuous

Past continuous is used to:

- Express something was ongoing at a specific past point;
- Focus on an ongoing action in the past that is “crossed” by another past action.

2.3 Perfect tenses

Most often an action stretching over time that started in the past and continues either up until now (present perfect) or up until a past point (past perfect)

2.3.1 Past perfect simple

Past perfect simple is used to:

- Express something happened before another past time;
- Compare two past events.

2.4 Perfect and continuous tenses

2.4.1 Past perfect continuous

Past perfect continuous is used for:

- Past actions in progress up until another past point;
- Past actions in progress that are interrupted or unfinished.

3 Passive forms

Passive is used to say what happened to the subject.

Passive sentences are formed with “to be” in the appropriate tense + the past participle (+ed).

3.1 Impersonal passive

3.1.1 Form

When we use one of these verbs:

believe, claim, report, say, think, understand, know, consider, estimate, expect, be rumoured, be reputed, allege;
we have to structure the sentence as follow:

It +	"be" + (required tense)	reporting verb + (past participle)	that...
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subject +	"be" + (required tense)	reporting verb + (past participle)	main verb (to-infinitive → present or past)
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4 Linking words

5 Inversion

After certain words and phrases the **word order is inverted**. This kind of inversion is mainly found in formal speech and writing.

5.1 Application of the inversion

5.1.1 Negation adverbs

The negative adverbs **never** (before/again), **rarely**, **seldom**, **barely/hardly/scarcely...when/before**, **no sooner...than**, **nowhere**, **little** (with a negative meaning).

5.1.2 Negation

6 Formal letters

7 Reported speech