

**МИНИСТЕРСТВО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ И НАУКИ РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ**

**Федеральное государственное бюджетное образовательное учреждение  
высшего профессионального образования**

**«НИЖЕГОРОДСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ  
ЛИНГВИСТИЧЕСКИЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ  
им. Н.А. ДОБРЮЛОВА»**

## **MY BACKGROUND**

### **Я и мое окружение**

**Учебное пособие**

**для студентов переводческого факультета  
(начальный этап обучения, английский язык)**

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## Unit 1

### THE FAMILY I COME FROM

#### LEAD-IN

1. Sort the words and phrases into the following categories.

Relations/Members of the Family	Marriage	Age	Appearance	Preferences
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elder brother, to fall in love, grandson, to marry sb, cousin, to get married, father, siblings, to propose to sb, nephew, to separate, to be interested in, to fall out of love with sb, niece, to split up, daughter, a sixteen-year-old boy/girl, to hate, elderly woman/man, to be fond of, son, to be in one's early/mid/late forties, parents, to look/not to look one's age, an only child, to be crazy about, to look old/young for one's age, grandparents, to adore, granddaughter, to dote on, sister-in-law, to be/to look like sb, grandmother, to be over/about twenty, uncle, to be keen on, brother-in-law, to take after sb, to be/to look alike, mother, to fall in love with sb, mother-in-law, to be the very picture/image of sb, aunt, son-in-law, twins, daughter-in-law, husband, to be engaged to, wife, to divorce sb, to be single/unmarried, to be married to sb, to be middle-aged, to be under age, to be of age, father-in-law, to like/dislike, a younger sister, to be out of this world, to admire, identical twins.

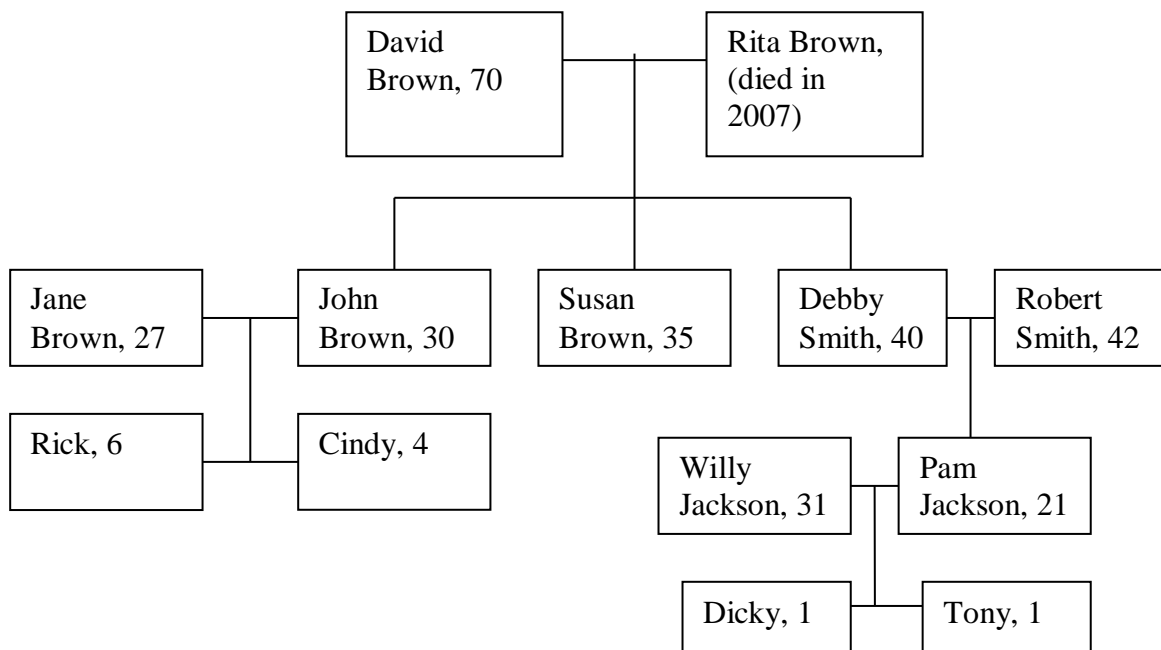
2. Give one word for the following.

*Example: a woman whose husband is dead is a widow.*

1. A son of one's brother or sister;
2. a daughter of one's brother or sister;
3. two children born at the same time of the same woman;;
4. a son's wife;
5. a daughter's husband;

6. to offer marriage;
7. to separate husband and wife by law;
8. one's daughter's or son's son;
9. one's father's or mother's mother;
10. one's father's or mother's brother;
11. one's mother's or father's sister;
12. a child of one's uncle or aunt;
13. a child from 13 to 19;
14. to be over thirty;
15. to be in one's forties.

3. Study the family tree of the Brown family.



**A.** Complete the sentences about the Browns' relations in the family in all possible variants.

*Example:*

*Rick and Cindy are brother and sister;*

*Jane and John's children;*

*David and Rita's grandchildren;*

*Debby and Robert's nephew and niece;  
cousins to Pam and Willy;  
uncle and aunt to Dicky and Tony.*

David and Rita Brown are ... .

Jane and John Brown are ... .

Susan Brown is ... .

Debby and Robert Smith are ... .

Willy and Pam Jackson are ... .

Dicky and Tony are ... .

John, Susan and Debbie are ... .

**B.** Answer the questions about the Browns.

Who is the oldest in the family?

Who are the same age?

Who are twins?

Who is older, Debby or Robert Smith?

How many children do the Jacksons have?

Is Cindy an only child in the family?

How many aunts does Pam Jackson have?

Susan is unmarried, isn't she?

Is David Brown a widower?

How much younger is Susan than her siblings?

**C.** Make up your own questions of different types about the Brown family.

**D.** Compose a story about the Browns as a member of their family.

*Example:*

*My name is John Brown. I come from an ordinary British family. I'm 30 years*

*old. I am married with two children, Rick and Cindy. They are 6 and 4 respectively. My wife's name is Jane. She is 27 so she is 3 years younger than I am. Jane is from Scotland. Before our marriage her surname was McMurphy. It was her maiden name, but now she is Mrs Brown.*

Continue

**E.** Draw your own family tree and tell your group-mates about your family.

Make use of the words and phrases from exercise 1.

## **READING, SPEAKING**

### 1. Get to know the Cornfords.

#### AN ENGLISH FAMILY

The Cornfords live in Rugby at 28 Coronation Street. John Cornford is a rich businessman of about fifty. He's tall and dark. He wears dark suits but at weekends he wears casual clothes. He usually gets up at six, does some exercises and goes to the office. He never gets back before ten o'clock at night, so he doesn't see much of his family. He is interested in collecting pictures of horses. At the moment he is travelling on business in America because he's opening an office over there next year. Sarah, Mr Cornford's wife, is forty-five. She is an attractive woman with blond hair and soft blue eyes. She is kind and gentle, very practical and full of common sense. Sarah is a housewife. She looks after the house and the family.

The Cornfords have two children: a son and a daughter. Their son's name is Steve. He is 22. He is a clever young man. He works at a design office. He is a very outdoor person — he is a keen sailor and a member of the local yacht club. When he has a chance Steve and his friends get down to the coast for the weekend, camping there and sailing in competitions. He plays football sometimes for a Rugby team, but prefers watching the game, either on television or at the local ground where he goes with his father sometimes.

Steve has a number of close friends and a beautiful girlfriend, Pauline, by

name. Pauline studies at a teacher's training college. Steve and Pauline often go out for the evening to the cinema or else they go skating at the Rugby skating rink. Pauline is a very good skater and she is trying to teach Steve how to skate well. Both Steve and Pauline are very friendly and sociable. Sometimes Steve takes Pauline to a pub where they meet some of their friends and sit and chat for an hour or so and sometimes they go dancing at the Mecca Ballroom. Steve is very fond of Pauline. They are going to get married in a year.

Steve's sister, Alice, is a lovely, quiet, serious girl. She goes to grammar school. She is a bright girl and does very well at school. Alice reads a lot, she is fond of music. She is good at drawing. She takes lessons in drawing at the local art school.

Sarah's mother, Grandma, as the children call her, also lives with them. She is in her late sixties. Her kind face is wrinkled, her hair is grey, but she is still quite young in spirit. She likes reading and gardening and she often goes for long walks. She's a very active person. Either she's making something or mending something or doing something to entertain herself. She's extremely generous, but not very tolerant with the people who don't agree with her.

Vocabulary notes:

casual clothes – повседневная одежда

see much of his family – часто видаться с семьей

to be interested in sth – интересоваться (увлекаться) чем-то

common sense – здравый смысл

looks after sb/sth – присматривать за кем-то/чем-то

get down to the coast – отправиться на побережье

to get married – жениться

to be fond of sth – любить что-то

**A. Read the text and answer the questions about the Cornford family.**

1. Is the Cornford family large?
2. How many are they?
3. Where do they live?
4. What does Mr Cornford do?
5. What does he look like?
6. What is he interested in?
7. What is he doing in America at the moment?
8. What is Mrs Cornford like?
9. What does she do?
10. How old is Steve?
11. What's his job?
12. Is Steve married?
13. Do Steve and Pauline often go out?
14. What is Alice like?
15. What is she fond of?
16. How old is Sarah's mother?
17. What does she look like?
18. What kind of woman is she?

Make up your own questions of different types about the Cornfords.

**B. Paraphrase using the sentences.**

- To be interested in

*Example: Betty is into tennis. - Betty is interested in tennis.*

1. I am into classical music. 2. Roger is into fishing. 3. Are you into gardening?
4. Mike isn't into chess. 5. Betty isn't into detective stories. 6. Jack is into history. 7. Is your brother into reading? 8. My father isn't into travelling. 9. Are you into collecting coins?



- To be good at

*Example: Mike can skate well. - Mike is good at skating.*

1. Robert can play chess very well. 2. Mary can swim very well. 3. Can you cook very well? 4. Can Jane speak Spanish very well? 5. Mike can draw well. 6. Can Betty play tennis well? 7. Can Peter sing well? 8. Can you ski well?

- To be full of

*Example: There are a lot of books on Jack's shelf. - Jack's shelf is full of books.*

1. There is a lot of wine in the bottle. 2. There are a lot of apples in the basket. 3. There is a lot of milk in the jug. 4. There are a lot of oranges in the bag. 5. There is a lot of tea in the box.

- To be fond of

*Example: I like to play football. - I am fond of playing football.*

*OR*

*I am fond of football.*

1. Jane likes to go shopping. 2. Mary likes to knit. 3. I like to travel by train. 4. She likes to swim. 5. Jim likes to drive a car. 6. Victor prefers to rest on the sea-side. 7. My brother likes to go fishing. 8. Helen prefers to collect CDs. 9. Jack likes to play computer games in his free time. 10. John prefers watching football on television.

- Either... or

*Example: When are you going to the country? - I'm going there either on Saturday or Sunday.*

1. When are you going to have your English exam? 2. When does the meeting start? 3. Who is going to do this work? 4. Where are the Johnsons going to

spend their holidays? 5. Who is going to help her? 6. When does the shop open?

- Both... and

*Example: Jack likes football. His brother likes it too. - Both Jack and his brother like football.*

1. Mary is going to come to the party. Her sister is also going to come. 2. Jack wants to go fishing. His father also wants to go fishing. 3. Mary travels a lot. Jane also travels a great deal. 4. Jack speaks French. His friend also speaks French. 5. Mary plays tennis. Lucy also plays tennis. 6. Jane can dance well. Her sister is also good at dancing. 7. Jim plays tennis. He also plays golf. 8. Helen is fond of music. She is also fond of arts.

**C.** Agree or disagree with the following and give your grounds.

1. John Cornford is a driver.
2. John Cornford is married.
3. Steve isn't a very outgoing person.
4. Steve is going to get married.
5. Steve is an only child. 6. Sarah's mother lives with the Cornfords, too.

**D.** Ask questions of all types about the following people.

1. Mr Cornford (age, appearance, daily routine, hobbies, present occupation).
2. Mrs Cornford (age, character, occupation).
3. Steve (age, job, character, hobbies, friends).
4. Alice (character, abilities).
5. Sarah's mother (age, appearance, character, likes).

**E.** Speak about the following people.

1. The Cornfords, husband and wife.
2. Steve, his friends and hobbies.

3. Alice, her character and abilities.

4. Sarah's mother.

*Make use of the following vocabulary in your reports.*

At weekends; casual clothes; to see much of sb; to travel on business; to be full of common sense; to look after sb / sth; an outdoor person; to get down to; to play for a team; a number of; Pauline by name; to go out for the evening; to get married; to do well at school; a bright girl; to be in one's late sixties; to be young in spirit.

**F.** Speak about the Cornfords as a member of their family.

## 2. Dialogue.

### MR CLIFF'S FAMILY

A student wants to write an article about Alexander Cliff. She is calling Cliff at home.

**Student:** Mr Alexander Cliff, please.

**Cliff:** This is Alex Cliff.

**Student:** Mr Cliff, my name is Silvia Rios. I'm a student at the University of California. Mr Cliff, I am writing an article about you for the school newspaper, and I'd like to include some details about you personally - about your family... or your interests.

**Cliff:** Yes.

**Student:** Well, do you mind if I ask you a few questions?

**Cliff:** I'd be happy to answer your questions, Ms Rios. Go ahead.

**Student:** Well, sir, ah, let's see, how many children do you have?

**Cliff:** I have two daughters. Tricia, my elder daughter, is a doctor. My younger daughter, Lana, is also a student at the University of California. She's studying business. Perhaps you know her. She plays the piano in the university orchestra.

**Student:** No, sir, I don't think I do, but the university is a big place.

**Cliff:** I guess it is.

**Student:** Ah, what does your wife do, Mr Cliff?

**Cliff:** My wife works as a volunteer for Readers of America. She helps teach adults to read and write.

**Student:** I understand you are a lawyer.

**Cliff:** Yes, I've been a lawyer for over twenty years.

**Student:** Do you have any interests or hobbies that you could tell me about?

**Cliff:** Well, as you know, I write novels — mostly stories about crime and the law. I also play golf and I jog every morning with my wife. And, of course, I read a lot. You have to read a lot in my profession. And I play the piano... not well... but I enjoy it.

**Student:** Well, all that's very interesting, sir. I'm sure the other students at the university will be interested in knowing a little more about you, too.

**Cliff:** Well, I'm glad I could answer your questions. Good luck with your article.

**Student:** Thank you very much. And good luck to you too, sir.

**A.** Answer the questions about Mr Cliff and his family.

1. Why is Silvia phoning Mr Cliff?
2. How many children has Mr Cliff got?
3. What do they do?
4. What does Mr Cliff's wife do?
5. What is Mr Cliff's job?
6. What is he interested in?

**B.** Prove the following.

1. Mr Cliff is popular with students.
2. Mr Cliff's family is neither large nor small.
3. Mr Cliff's daughters' occupations are different.

4. Mr Cliff's wife is interested in helping other people.
5. Mr Cliff has hobbies of different kinds.

**C.** Speak about Mr Cliff and his family.

**D.** Ask one of your group-mates about their family. Make up a dialogue and act it out in class, using the underlined colloquial phrases.

### 3. Tony's letter.

Insert the following words into the text:

**in my free time, to the cinema, aged, MTV maniac, local hospital, parents, city centre, primary school, surgeon, grandparents**

43, St Catherine Street  
Montreal, PQ  
M3B 2Y7  
Canada

Dear Pierre,

I'm Tony Philips and I'm seventeen years old. I'm a student and I live in Montreal, Canada. I'm tall and slim with short dark hair and brown eyes.

There are seven of us in our family; my... , Steve and Sally, my... , Joe and Kate, my sister, Liz, ... nine, my brother, Leo, aged six, and of course, me. My father is a ... . He works at the ... and my mother is a teacher in a ... . We live in a big house about twenty minutes from the... .

... , I love playing computer games and listening to rock music. I'm an ... . My favourite group is Guns'n'Roses. Do you like them? I also like going to the cinema. I go ... every Saturday. I don't like going to the theatre, though.

Well, that's all about me. Write back and tell me about yourself.

Best wishes,

Tony

**A.** Make up questions to the missing words so that you could use them in your answers.

**B.** Compare Tony's family and interests with yours. Use various structures of comparison.

*Example: Tony is a year younger than me.*

*My family is not so big as Tony's*

*My brother is as small as Tony's brother*

*Tony has got short dark hair while I have long fair hair.*

*Both Tony and I like Guns 'n' Roses.*

*Tony doesn't like going to the theatre. Neither do I.*

*Tony's mum is a teacher. So is mine.*

**C.** Write a letter to your friend about your group-mate's family. Use the facts from the interview.

#### 4. Meet the Watson family.

**The paragraphs of the text are mixed up. Restore the text.**

The children respect their parents very much. Mr and Mrs Watson treat them with love and kindness. Like their mother the brother and the sister are very musical. They both are keen on playing the piano and singing.

There are four people in the Watson family: Mr John Watson, his wife Helen and their two children, Robert and Lucy. Mr Watson is the head of the family, a sociable, good-hearted and hardworking man. He is fifty years old, tall and stout with greyish hair and kind green eyes. The first thing that everybody notices about John is his broad friendly smile. Mr Watson works as an economist for a large computer company. Since his salary is rather high it is enough for the family's good living standard.

The Watsons live in a four-room flat with all modern conveniences. The

block of flats where the family lives is in the city center, of course it is noisy there but they say that it is a very convenient place for them. The children have their own rooms which are large and very cosy with all necessary pieces of furniture: desks, computer tables with computers on them, book shelves and sofas. The living room is the largest one in the flat, it is very light as there are two windows there. The room has air conditioning and double glazing, which stops the noise coming from the busy street. That's why the Watsons like to spend their time in the evening there watching TV or films on DVD. The family is very happy together.

Helen is a school teacher. Mrs Watson is a quiet woman full of common sense. She is five years younger than her husband. Helen is of medium height and built, with long fair hair and charming grey eyes. Though Mrs Watson is good at cooking she is not fond of staying in the kitchen for a long time. Helen works only five days a week as she has to keep the house.

**A.** Make up questions to the underlined words and phrases.

**B.** Imagine you are a journalist. You would like to write an article about a typical English family. Interview Mrs Watson.

**C.** Compare the Brown family, the Cornfords and the Watsons. Use different comparison structures.

## Unit 2

### APPEARANCE AND CHARACTER

#### LEAD-IN

#### SPEAKING ABOUT APPEARANCE

##### 1. Sort the words and phrases into the following categories.

*Face, cheeks, hair, chin, complexion, eyes, brows, nose, features, figure, build, height*

*Model: auburn hair, arched eyebrows, ... .*

Aquiline, almond-shaped, arched, attractive, auburn, bald, bearded, beardless, beautiful, blonde, blue, bobbed, bushy, charming, chiselled, chubby, clean-shaven, close-cut, close-cropped, close-set, comely, common, crisp, curled, curly, deep-set, delicate, dishevelled, double, dyed, fair, finely-cut, fleshy, freckled, gaunt, ginger, graceful, grizzled, grey, handsome, hazel, hollow, homely, hooked, irregular, jet-black, large, lean, long, luxuriant, muscular, neat, of medium height, oval, overweight, pale, pencilled, pink, plain, plump, pointed, pretty, protruding, receding, regular, rouged, round, ruddy, sallow, short, shoulder-length, slant, sleek, slender, slim, smooth, snub, solid, square, steel-grey, stern, stocky, stout, straight, stubby, sunken, superb, swarthy, tall, tanned, thick, thin, tiny, turned-up, violet, waved, wavy, well-built, well-cut, well-groomed, well-made, wide-open, wrinkled.

##### 2. Complete these sentences in a suitable way. (More than one answer may be possible).

- 1 She's got blonde ... .
- 2 He's got very pale ... .
- 3 They've both got curly ... .
- 4 I would say he was medium ... .
- 5 Her brother has got very broad ... .



- 6 She doesn't like men with hairy ... .
- 7 Last time I saw him he had grown a ... .
- 8 He's got very muscular ... .
- 9 Both men were very good-... .
- 10 All of them have got dark ... .

### 3. Read and practice.

- a) First man: What does Mike's sister look like?  
 Second man: Very plain. Long straight hair, high forehead and prominent cheek bones.
- b) Man: What's George like?  
 Woman: A bit like you, actually. Same build, same height, and similar colour eyes.
- c) First man: What is Mary like?  
 Second man: She's quite good-looking. The kind of girl you go for. But she's a bit too serious for me. You know, politics, literature, human rights, things like that.
- d) Paul: Anna, what was your first boyfriend like?  
 Anna: Goodness! Why do you want to know that?  
 Paul: I'm just interested.  
 Anna: Well, he was very good-looking, with dark hair and big, brown eyes. He was very romantic. He was always buying me flowers and presents. Of course, he wasn't as nice as you.
- e) Old lady: Help me somebody please! Oh policeman, stop that man!  
 Policeman: I...  
 Old lady: He stole my handbag!  
 Policeman: I think it's too late, madam.  
 Old lady: But...

- Policeman: He's escaped. Now tell me...
- Old lady: Yes...
- Policeman: What did he look like?
- Old lady: Ah well... He... He was medium height and err... quite well built and he had short dark hair. Oh I know he looked like that actor man, that David Starr, but he was taller than that.

A. Act out the dialogues above.

B. Make up similar dialogues about the Priestleys and the Watsons (from Unit 1).

## READING, SPEAKING

### 1. Those nice Priestleys.

Mr Priestley is not a young man, but he is not old. He is about forty-four years old. He is a good-looking man, tall, handsome, rather thin with dark-brown hair just beginning to go grey. He is always very well-dressed, but quietly, in good taste. He usually wears suits of dark brown, dark blue or dark grey.

He speaks quietly and pleasantly but there is strength under his quietness, and every student in his class knows this. He is quiet and pleasant because he is strong. Strength is generally quiet; weakness often is not.

Mrs Priestley is a pleasant-looking woman of about forty, with warm brown hair and soft dark-brown eyes. She is kind and gentle.

The Priestleys have two children, John and Margaret. John is eighteen, six foot tall, and a fine manly fellow. He is strong both in body and character, and quiet and thoughtful like his father.

Margaret is only eleven. She is a lovely little girl with golden hair and dark blue eyes and a spirit that is always bright and happy, full of joy.

Of all their relatives, the Priestleys like Emily Brown the best. She's Mrs

Priestley's older sister. She has never married, and lives alone in a small village near Bath. She is in her late fifties, but she's quite young in spirit. She has a fair complexion, thick brown hair which she wears in a bun, and dark brown eyes. She has a kind face, and when you meet her, the first thing you notice is her smile. Her face is a little wrinkled now but everyone finds her rather attractive. She is the sort of person one can always turn to for help if one has a problem.

She likes reading and gardening, and she still goes for long walks over the hills. She's a very active person. Either she's making something, or mending something or doing something to entertain herself. She's extremely generous, but not very tolerant with people who don't agree with her. Margaret is so fond of her aunt that she hopes, she is as contented as her aunt is when she's her age.

Vocabulary notes:

to go grey – седеть, становиться седым

in good taste – с хорошим вкусом

young in spirit – молод духом

in a bun – в пучке (о волосах)

to turn to sb for help – обратиться к кому-то за помощью

to entertain oneself – развлекаться

**A.** Read the text about the Priestleys and answer the questions.

1. Is Mr Priestley a young man?
2. Is he in his mid-thirties or mid-forties?
3. What does he look like?
4. Mr Priestley's dark-brown hair is just beginning to go grey, isn't it?
5. How is he usually dressed?
6. What are the colours of his suits?
7. What is the way he speaks?
8. Is there strength under his quietness?
9. Why is Mr Priestley quiet and pleasant?

10. What are strength and weakness like?

Make up your own questions about the Priestleys.

**B.** Agree or disagree with the following and give your grounds.

1. Mr Priestley is an old age pensioner.
2. Mr Priestley is an attractive man.
3. He is tastelessly dressed.
4. The way he speaks shows his weakness.
5. Mrs Priestley is plain and homely.
6. The Priestleys are married with children.
7. John Priestley takes after his father.
8. Margaret Priestley is a pretty little girl.
9. Emily Brown is Mr Priestley's younger sister.
10. Miss Brown is a good-looking woman.
11. Emily Brown is a helpful person.
12. Miss Brown leads a passive life.
13. Emily is not a flexible person.
14. Aunt Emily is different from Margaret.

**C.** Make up questions to the underlined words and phrases.

**D.** Retell the text.

2. Read the police description below and work out a logical structure of an appearance description.

Here's the description of a man whom the police wish to interview in connection with this morning's bank robbery. The man is in his early thirties, is slightly built and is about five feet eight inches tall. He has blue eyes and a pale complexion' and has shoulder-length dark hair. He's well dressed, wears a gold ring. Police believe he is still carrying the gun used in the robbery and members of the public are warned not to approach him but instead to notify the police immediately.

**Imagine that you saw the robber. Make up a dialogue with a police officer like dialogue f above.**

### 3. Quiz Yourself.

*Choose a famous person or someone in the class to describe. Talk about the person's face, general appearance, clothes, qualities and anything else that would help people to recognize him/her.*

Example: My friend is a fine-looking girl, her birthday is on the 10th of April. She has brown hair, grey eyes with long thick eyelashes and she is 160 cm tall. She's got a charming smile. She likes music. She is good at singing and playing the guitar. She is very popular with her friends. Today she looks very smart wearing her nice black dress. Who is she?

### 4. Make up dialogues.

#### **A.**

Ask your friend to meet your cousin at the airport, you can't do it because you are busy. Describe your cousin to your friend.

#### **B.**

You have lost your younger brother at the shopping mall. Give the radio announcer the description of your brother so that she could make an announcement.

#### **C.**

Imagine you are a little child who has got lost at the shopping mall. Describe your mother to the security officer so that he could find her.

**NOTE:** *while making up the dialogues follow the logical structure of the appearance description worked out in Practice C above.*

### 5. Beauty.

**The paragraphs of the text are mixed up. Restore the text.**

On the other hand, no one wants to be really ugly, and have a face that even your mother doesn't want to look at; and no one wants to be plain either — that is, to be neither attractive nor unattractive, and have a face that is easily forgotten.

Being attractive is like being rich — it can help you find happiness, but it doesn't always make you Happy. So maybe the best thing is not to worry too much about how you look, but simply try to be an interesting person. For interesting people have interesting faces, and interesting faces are almost always attractive.

How important is your appearance? Although everyone wants to be good-looking, are beautiful people always happier people? For example, it must be a problem to be a really beautiful woman, because some men may be more interested in looking at you than talking to you. They think of you as a picture rather than a person. There are also some people who think that women who are exceptionally pretty and men who are particularly handsome must be stupid. They believe that only unattractive people can be intelligent.

**A. Decide if these statements are true (T), false (F), or impossible to know (IK).**

1. Everyone wants to be attractive.
2. Most beautiful people are unhappy.
3. No one likes to talk to a very pretty woman.
4. Some people think that handsome men are unintelligent.
5. Attractive men and women are usually intelligent.
6. Ugly people are not happy people.
7. A plain face is easily forgotten.
8. Not many interesting people are also attractive.

**B. Make up questions of all types and ask your group-mates to answer them.**

## **SPEAKING ABOUT TRAITS OF CHARACTER**

1. Organise these words into pairs of opposites and put them in the columns below.

*Positive*

*Negative*

Warm, unreliable, friendly, insensitive, kind, horrible, nice, pleasant, generous, mean, optimistic, cheerful, honest, clever, unkind, pessimistic, miserable, tense, relaxed, easy-going, sensitive, unfriendly, dishonest, hard-working, punctual, lazy, reliable, stupid, flexible, ambitious, inflexible, cold, unpleasant, unambitious, charming, sociable, self-confident, self-conscious, industrious, talkative, sensible, naughty.

2. How can you describe the person in each of these descriptions?

- 1 He never bought me a drink all the time we were together.
- 2 I have to tell her what to do every minute of the working day. She wouldn't even open a window without someone's permission.
- 3 He often promises to do things but half the time he forgets.
- 4 She's always here on time.
- 5 I don't think he's done any work since he's been here.
- 6 She finds it difficult to meet people and talk to strangers.
- 7 He could work in any of the departments, and it doesn't matter to him if he's on his own or part of a team.
- 8 One of the great things about her is that she is so aware of what other people think or feel.
- 9 Bob, on the other hand, is the complete opposite. He is always making people angry or upset because he just doesn't consider their feelings.
- 10 The other thing about Bob is that he really wants to get the supervisor's job and then become boss for the whole department.

### 3. Which prefix forms the opposite of these words: un-, dis-, in-, im-, ir-?

When you add these prefixes to a word, you add the meaning of "not".

*Example: He is not very sincere. = He is very insincere.*

Model:

kind – unkind, honest – dishonest, polite – impolite, sensitive – insensitive.

Sensible, reliable, sincere, sociable, punctual, happy, friendly, flexible, ambitious, pleasant, patient, perfect, mature, balanced, considerate, attentive, inclined, loyal, obedient, orderly, passionate, respectful, dependent, responsible, kind, selfish, secure, honest

### 4. Continue the list below. How far can you go?

Traits of character: modest, honest,...

Attitudes towards people: kind, friendly,...

Attitudes towards life: optimistic, sensible,...

### 5. Explain the traits of character below

cruel, easy-going, envious, even-tempered, hard-working, honest, impolite, ill-mannered, jealous, quarrelsome, reliable, rude, sadistic, sensible, sensitive, sincere, sociable

*Model:*

*A person who is always enjoying others' company is sociable and easygoing.*

- Who is always enjoying others' company?
- Who is always disagreeing with others?
- Who may take pleasure in others' pain?
- Who is not polite to others?
- Who is always telling the truth to others?
- Who is usually unhappy if others have what he/she does not have?
- Who is taking life easily?



- Who usually works very hard and with pleasure?
- Who has a lot of common sense?
- Whose feelings are easily hurt, who is easily offended?

**Do you know people of these kinds? What kind of person are you?**

6. Match these adjectives with definitions. Then compare with your partner.

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| a) easygoing   | someone who is very intelligent   |
| b) forgetful   | someone who has good manners  |
| c) funny       | someone who always keeps a promise  |
| d) generous    | someone who thinks deeply about things  |
| e) polite      | someone who doesn't worry about things  |
| f) reliable    | someone who likes giving things to people                                       |
| g) serious     | someone who doesn't remember things   |
| h) shy         | someone who likes to be around people   |
| i) smart       | someone who likes making people laugh   |
| j) sociable    | someone who doesn't say much in front of other people                           |
| k) emotional   | someone who doesn't often ask for other people's help or advice                 |
| l) independent | someone who is often gloomy or depressed  |
| m) moody       | someone who waits calmly for things and doesn't worry if things are not on time |
| n) patient     | someone who has a high opinion of their own importance                          |
| o) proud       | someone who doesn't do what they say they will                                  |
| p) unreliable  | someone who shows their feelings easily   |

**Now give definitions of these words:**

ambitious, punctual, selfish, confident, outgoing, careful, careless, impatient

### 7. Who are these people describing?

1. She's absolutely adorable. I think she's very pretty, she makes me laugh a lot, um... she tells terrible jokes but I like the way she tells them. She's a bit naughty sometimes and I curse her when she gets me up at six o'clock in the morning, but when I hear her singing in the morning, well, all is forgiven. She can twist me round her little finger, of course.

2. He was very boring and predictable. The kind of person who remembered birthdays and anniversaries, but who made you angry because there was absolutely nothing spontaneous about him. His ideas of fun were so unadventurous. Well, the first few years were OK, but after that I'd just had enough. Reliable, stable, dependable, and boring.

3. Well, he's quite well-dressed and punctual. Sometimes he's cheerful and tells us jokes, but other times we have to do a lot of work. We don't really know him very well. Oh, I know he's married, but I've never met him socially or anything like that. He seems very professional.

#### **A. Answer the questions.**

Do you know such people?

Would you like to have such people among you friends?

Which of them is fun to be with?

Which of them is the most boring person?

#### **B. Make up a dialogue to discuss the above mentioned people.**

### 8. The way I am.

**Max:** I am just like my father — obstinate and determined. I know exactly where I want to go. I've got a pretty good idea about my future. That is why I think it's important to study well.

**Ann:** Perhaps I'm a bit of an individualist because I always do only what really interests me. I don't like to mix with the crowd. I like to use the computer but only for work. I'm interested in lots of things and always want to learn something new. If it is worth my while, of course.

**Eustace:** I'm sociable, communicative, joyful and optimistic. That's why I have a lot of friends. I am an easy-going person with a sense of humour. I am not a bore, so my friends never get bored when I'm around.

**Jane:** I'm ambitious and success-oriented. I do only what is worthwhile. I am not the sort of person who would waste her time going to parties and failing exams. I know how much depends on passing them well.

**John:** I'm curious about everything. I'd rather work with a group than by myself. I'd enjoy a career in research. Maths is my best subject. I find math problems a challenge rather than a chore. My friends often ask for help in science labs or borrow my notes to study for a test.

**Carol:** I am very particular about my clothes. I like to dress well keeping up with the latest fashions. I'm always on the lookout for something special which will single me out from the others. I love to dance and have fun at parties. I love music with rhythm you can dance to. I spend most of my time playing computer games. I have always been keen on them.

**Jennifer:** Well, I think that in life you have to think about others, not only study and have fun. It's important to give a hand to those who need it. In my spare time I work with a group which is interested in social and ecological problems. We help to clean beaches and woods or organize charity concerts, things like that. It sounds like hard work but we really enjoy ourselves. I believe it is necessary for every young person to participate in community service. I also like music but mostly singers and groups who are involved in something worthwhile. I think it's crazy to spend all your money on fashion. I prefer to spend it on a good film or book.

**A.** Make up questions to the underlined words.

**B.** How can you describe the personality of the people above?

**C.** What kind of person are you? Make up a situation about yourself and present it to your group-mates.

### 9. Read and practice.

a) Woman: What do you think of the new French teacher?

Man: Well, she's kind of strange and she seems to be pretty moody.

b) First man: Everyone says Kathy is hardworking and always very careful in her job.

Second man: Yes, and she's very enthusiastic about her work, too.

c) First man: Hey! Look at what the teacher said about me on my report: I'm "creative, reliable, and intelligent."

Second man: Oh, that's great!

d) Man: Hey, what's wrong?

Woman: I'm fed up with my brother! He's so hot-tempered. He always gets angry with me.

Man: Really?

Woman: Yeah. He gets upset so easily. I don't know what's the matter with him.

e) Man: Look what Mary gave me! Isn't this a nice book?

Woman: Yes. It's great! That's Mary, she's so generous — she always likes to treat people and give presents to her friends.

f) Woman: How do you like your new boss?

Man: Oh, she's too serious.

Woman: Really? Why?

Man: Oh, she never enjoys a joke. She never laughs. It's hard to even get a smile out of her.

g) First man: What is Paul's wife like?

Second man: I can't stand her. She's everything I don't like in a woman.  
She's bossy, she's superior, and she thinks she can do everything better than other people.

**A.** Act out the dialogues above.

**B.** Make up similar dialogues about the people in Practice 7 and Practice 8.

Here are some helpful phrases:

*To feel at ease, to feel ill at ease, not to see eye to eye, to chat one's head away, to get on well with sb, to be on friendly terms, to have something (nothing, a lot) in common, to see the bright side of things.*

10. Ask your group-mate the questions and draw up their character sketch (10 sentences). Give grounds.

*Model:*

*I think, that Val is very sociable, because he prefers to be in the company of other people. He doesn't like to stay alone too long. ...*

1. Do you prefer to be in the company of other people?
2. Your glass is half filled with water, do you think "my glass is half empty"?
3. Do you lie awake at night if someone has said something unkind to you?
4. Do you often disagree with what other people say?
5. Do you like to give presents to your relatives and friends?
6. Do you always look out of the window if you hear a car draw up?
7. Are you quick to buy the thing you like in a shop?
8. Are you always ready to give money on charity?
9. Do you generally get on well with various kinds of people?
10. Do you often get angry?

**These words may help you draw the character sketch of your group-mate:**

argumentative, even-tempered, adaptable, generous, inquisitive, optimistic, pessimistic, punctual, quiet, reliable, sensitive, sociable, stingy, thrifty, curious

11. Nora's letter.

Insert the following words into the text:

**good-looking / patient / lazy and rude / beautiful / lovely / gorgeous / bossy /  
pretty and clever / kind /**

Dear Sarah,

My name is Nora Smith. I am sixteen years old and I live In Swansea, in Wales.

There are five of us in our family. My father, Brett, is an artist He's a very ... person. My mother, Emily, is an actress. She's very ... with fair hair and ... green eyes. She's also very .... My brother, Mark, is fifteen. He's got brown hair and blue eyes. He is ..., but he's a bit .... My sister, Melanie, is twelve with fair hair and ... green eyes. She's ... but she's a bit ....

Please write soon and tell me about your family.

Best wishes,

Nora

**Make up questions to the missed words so that you could use them in your answers.**

12. Sports personality of the year.

I would like to name Gary Lineker as Sports Personality of the Year. I think he is not only a good footballer, he is also a very nice person and very different from other football stars. First of all, in spite of being intelligent, talented and good-looking, he is actually very modest. He never boasts about what he's done or pretends to be somebody he isn't. Even though he obviously earns a lot of money and lives in a nice house in London, he doesn't throw his money around

like others do.

Secondly, he is much more open-minded than other football stars. Many footballers work and live abroad but not many try to become part of the culture of the country. When Lineker lived in Barcelona, he made Spanish friends, lived a Spanish way of life and made a point of learning to speak Spanish.

Another thing that makes him different from other footballers is his sense of fair play on the field. Since he started his career, he has never been reported in the newspapers for bad behaviour and he has never been sent off for fouling or swearing.

Finally, you get the impression that Lineker is a human being with human emotions like anybody else. When his baby developed a life-threatening illness, he and his wife went through a very difficult time. He showed that he is not only capable of strong emotion, he is also prepared to show it in public.

For all these reasons, I think he deserves the title of "Sports Personality of the Year".

Vocabulary notes:

in spite of sth – несмотря на что-то

to boast about sth – хвастаться о чем-то

to pretend to be somebody one isn't – притворяться кем-то, кем не являешься

to make friends – заводить друзей (подружиться)

to live a Spanish way of life – жить, как испанцы

to go through a very difficult time – пережить трудное время

**A.** Answer the questions.

1. What aspects of Gary Lineker's personality are mentioned?
2. What details, if any, do you learn about:
  - his football career?
  - his family?

his lifestyle ?

**B.** Prove the following.

1. Gary Lineker is an unpretentious person.
2. Gary Lineker is open-minded.
3. Gary Lineker always behaves fairly.
4. Gary Lineker is emotional.

**C.** Speak about Gary Lineker.

13. Do you have a "**Type A**" or "**Type B**" personality?

Some doctors believe there are two main types of personalities: "Type A" and "Type B". Type A people are ambitious, aggressive, hard-working, and competitive; they are sometimes impatient and are often in a hurry. Type B people are more relaxed and don't get bothered easily. Doctors say that because they are so hard driving, Type A personalities often suffer from stress and high blood pressure.

**A .** Interview as many group-mates as possible. Which of them are a Type A or Type B personality? How about you?

- a) Are you always in a hurry to finish things?
- b) Are you ambitious and always looking for new challenges?
- c) Are you often impatient with other people?
- d) Do you get upset when people are late for appointments?
- c) Do you often do two things at once, such as watching TV while eating?
- f) Do you get upset easily when things go wrong?
- g) Do you sometimes stop listening when people are talking to you?
- h) Do you expect to be the best at everything you do?
- i) Do you often interrupt people while they are speaking?
- j) Do you think the best way to get a job done is to do it yourself?



**To score: Six or more Yes answers = Type A; six or more No answers = type B.**

**B.** Sum up the information and make up a report about the people studying in your group.

14. Say it in English.

1. Мой брат очень застенчивый. 2. Люди, которые постоянно опаздывают, ненадежные, по-моему. 3. Не люблю жадных людей. 4. Петр очень гордый человек. Он никогда не попросит помощи, он всегда старается сделать все сам. 5. - Что ты думаешь о нашем новом преподавателе? - Мне кажется, он очень знающий человек, и надеюсь, справедливый. 6. Света очень общительная. В любой компании у нее через пять минут появляются друзья. 7. Если ты хочешь быть хорошим студентом, ты должен быть трудолюбивым и аккуратным. Ты должен серьезно относиться к учебе. 8. Нина очень трудно приспосабливается к новым условиям жизни. 9. Никогда не встречала таких ленивых людей, как Жанна. 10. Евгений и Борис два брата. Более того, они близнецы. Но один брат - спокойный, уравновешенный, немногословный, а другой, наоборот, шумный, болтливый и вспыльчивый.

15. Describe your best friend or one of your relatives. Don't forget to mention the person's appearance.

16. Speak with your friend about your boyfriend / girlfriend.

17. Think of a family, draw a family tree, make up a family album using pictures. Speak about the members of the family (don't forget to mention what they look like, what kind of people they are, add any other information to make you your story true to life).

### Unit 3

## MY HOME

### Lead-in

#### 1. What is there in each room?

*Example: There is a sofa in the living room.*

<u>living-room</u>	bookcase, desk, cooker, single bed, cupboards, toilet,
<u>dining-room</u>	washbasin, wardrobe, chair, armchair, sink, fridge, bedside
<u>kitchen</u>	cabinet, mirror, chairs, dining-table, table, fireplace, sofa,
<u>main bedroom</u>	bath, double bed, dressing-table, curtains, picture, dishwasher,
<u>bathroom</u>	lamp.
<u>child's bedroom</u>	
<u>study</u>	

Where do we find these rooms in the house? – on the ground floor

on the first floor

in the attic

#### 2. List the words under the headings.

#### ROOMS

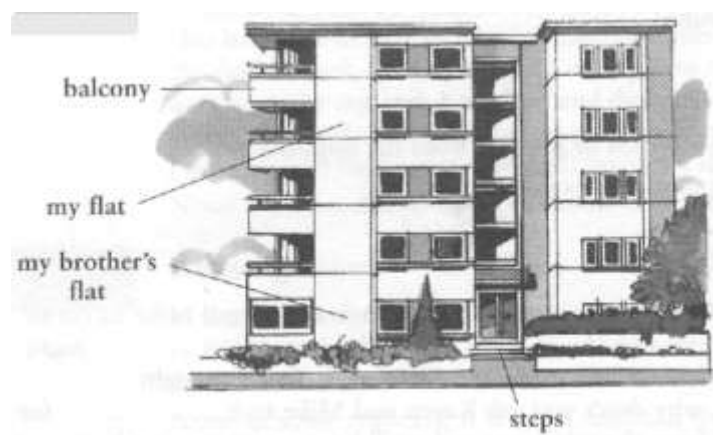
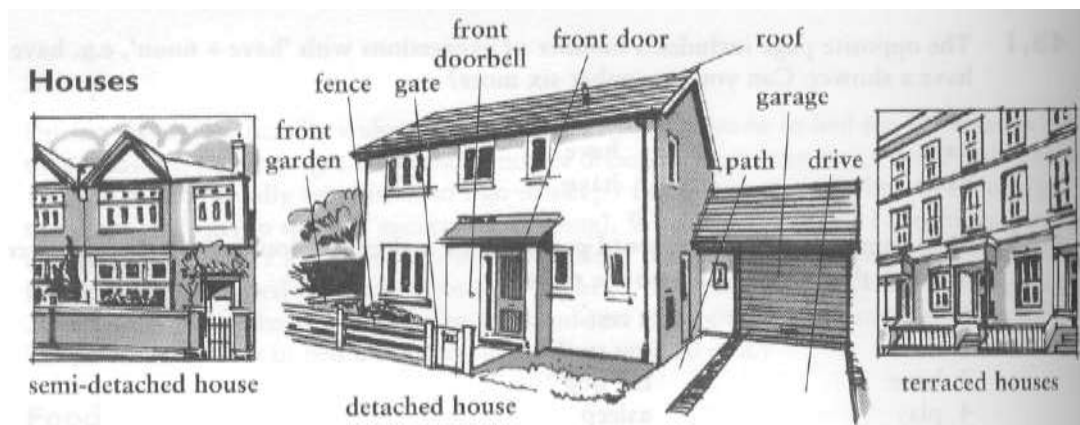
#### FEATURES: Indoor / Outdoor

#### FURNITURE / APPLIANCES

attic, living room, kitchen, garden, rug, floor, fence, pillows, windows, porch, balcony, cushions, hall, fireplace, brick walls, lamp, bedroom, dining room, four-poster beds, cupboard, carpet, wardrobe, mirror, fridge, cooker, towels, shower, staircase, garage, chest of drawers, chimney.

### 3. Have a look at typical English houses.

#### **A. Homes and buildings.**



Find out what: a detached house, a semi-detached house, a terraced house, a block of flats, a cottage, a villa, a bungalow, an igloo are.

#### **B. Answer these questions:**

- 1 Does the detached house have a garage?
- 2 Does it have a fence around the front garden?
- 3 Is there a window in the roof?
- 4 Is the gate open or shut?
- 5 How many steps are there in front of the entrance to the block of flats?
- 6 Does each flat have a balcony?

7 Does the brother live on the first floor?

8 Do the flats have a view of the countryside?

4. Pay attention to the way the English speak about their homes.

I live in a block of flats. My brother lives on the ground floor, and I have a flat on the third floor. Unfortunately there is no lift, so I have to climb three flights of stairs to reach my flat. But I do have a balcony with a wonderful view of the park opposite the flats. Still I like my flat.

As for my brother, he is quite unhappy about his. The rooms on the ground floor are quite dark because they don't get very much sun. They are also quite noisy because they are near the roads and the traffic. The other negative thing is that the rooms are draughty. This means it is expensive to heat the rooms. Fortunately my brother has a very good central heating system. In other ways, it is also very nice: it's in good condition, and the rooms are huge.

My flat is very clean and tidy, but my brother is very untidy; he leaves his clothes all over the floor and never makes his bed. What's worse, he doesn't clean his flat very often, so most of the time it is quite dirty.

I do the washing-up every evening after dinner, and I normally do the washing and ironing at the weekend when I have a bit more free time. I also Hoover the carpets and polish the dining room table once a week.

**A.** Write down some more positive and negative things about the accommodation above.

*Positive*

*Negative*

*the rooms are very light*

*the rooms are very dark*

**B.** Which positive features are the most important for you? Which negative features do you hate most of all?

**C.** What about your home?

1 Do you live in a house or a flat?

2 If you live in a flat, what floor is it on?

3 If you live in a house, do you have a garden?

4 Does the house / flat belong to you (or your family), or do you rent it?

5 Do you have your own garage or personal parking space?

6 Would you describe your house/flat as dark or light?

7 Is it noisy or quiet?

8 Do you have central heating?

**Ask your group-mates these questions, sum up the information and make a report.**

## **READING, SPEAKING**

### 1. Our flat.

Our flat is very nice. It's in Chelsea. It's got two rooms: a living-room and a bedroom. There's a kitchen and a bathroom. The flat's got central heating. It's £ 40 per week.

Let's have a look at our living-room. It's large and comfortable. Opposite the door there's a big piano. There's a bookcase next to the piano. On the right there's a fireplace. There's an armchair on each side of the fireplace. Opposite the fireplace there's a small table with an ash-tray and some newspapers on it. By the table there's a small chair. On the extreme right there's a TV set. There's a comfortable sofa on the left. There are two red cushions on the sofa. There's a standard-lamp beside the sofa. There are two pictures and a big oval mirror on the wall. On the floor there's a thick carpet. Our living-room is light because there are two large windows in it. There are nice white curtains at the windows. The room is very cosy.

The bathroom is a beautiful room with a big window, but the kitchen is rather small. There is a refrigerator there. It is on the right. There is an electric cooker. It is on the left. There is a table in the middle of the room. There is a vase of flowers on the table.

The flat is near a park and it's near the shops. The underground station is within five minutes' walk. We are very happy here.

Our neighbours are very nice. They are Jane and Bill Robinson. They are in the flat downstairs. Jane is a nurse in a hospital and Bill is an engineer in a factory.

**A. Answer the questions.**

1. Where do they live?
2. How large is the flat?
3. Is there a big piano opposite the door?
4. What is there on the right in the living room?
5. Is there a coffee table opposite the fireplace?
6. Where is the small chair in the living room?
7. Is there a TV in the living room?

**Make up your own questions about the flat.**

**B. Put questions to the underlined parts.**

**C. Interview your group-mates and find out:**

1. what advantages and disadvantages of the flat are;
2. if they like it (why? why not?);
3. if they would like to change anything (what? how?);
4. if they buy it (why? why not?);
5. what makes the flat comfortable.

**D. There is very little information about the kitchen and no information about the bedroom. What do you think they are like?**

**E. Reproduce the text in class.**

**F. Make up a description of your flat. Don't forget to mention why there is this or that piece of furniture in your flat, what adds to the comfort, what creates a friendly relaxed (or any other) atmosphere, what furniture or utensils might come in useful.**

## 2. My favourite room.

My favourite room is our kitchen. Perhaps the kitchen is the most important room in many houses, but it is particularly so in our house because it's not only where we cook and eat but it's also the main meeting place for family and friends. I have so many memories of times spent there: special occasions such as homecomings or cooking Christmas dinner; troubled times, which led to comforting cups of tea in the middle of the night; ordinary daily events such as making breakfast on dark, cold winter mornings for cross, sleepy children before sending them off to school, then sitting down to read the newspaper with a steaming hot mug of coffee.

Whenever we have a party, people gravitate with their drinks to the kitchen. It is always the fullest and noisiest room in the house. So what does this special room look like? It's quite big, but not huge. It's big enough to have a good-sized rectangular table in the centre, which is the focal point of the room. There is a large window above the sink, which looks out onto two apple trees in the garden. The cooker is at one end, and above it there is a wooden pulley, which is old-fashioned but very useful for drying clothes in wet weather. At the other end there is a wall with a large notice-board, which tells the story of our lives, past, present, and future, in words and pictures: a school photo of Megan and Kate, a postcard from Auntie Nancy in Australia, the menu from a takeaway Chinese restaurant, a wedding invitation for next Saturday. All our world is there for everyone to read!

The front door is hardly ever used in our house, only by strangers. All our friends use the back door, which means they come straight into the kitchen and join in whatever is happening there. The kettle goes on immediately and then we all sit round the table, drinking tea and putting the world to rights! Without doubt some of the happiest times of my life have been spent in our kitchen.

Vocabulary notes:

it is particularly so – это в особенности так

to lead to sth – приводить к чему-то

people gravitate with their drinks to the kitchen – люди собираются («стягиваются») со своими напитками в кухне

focal point – центральное место

looks out onto – выходить на (об окнах)

hardly ever – редко

the kettle goes on – зд. ставить чайник кипятиться

join in – присоединяться

to put the world to rights – зд. обсудить новости

**A.** Make up questions of all types and ask them in class.

**B.** Prove the following.

1. The kitchen is the main place for socializing.
2. The kitchen is the centre of attraction in the house.
3. A lot of the memories are connected with the kitchen.
4. The kitchen is a convenient place to receive guests.
5. The kitchen is the principal room in the house.

**C.** Describe the kitchen to your group-mates by heart.

**D.** Write a similar description of your favourite room.

**E.** Compare the kitchen in the previous text with this one.

**F.** Imagine this is your kitchen at home. Now you have been away for a long time and you miss the kitchen and speak with your partner about it.

### 3. Parts of the House.

**The paragraphs of the text are mixed up. Restore the text.**

Mr Hernandez sells houses. At the moment he is showing 736 Pearblossom Avenue to Mr and Mrs Willis.

"O.K. Let's go in here through the front gate and up the walk to the front



door. Follow me. I'll just open the door and here we are inside. Here's a little hall where you can hang your hats and coats. On your right is the living room, and this door on your left leads into a small dining room. As you can see, it has a lovely wooden floor. The dining room and the kitchen are connected, so you can cook in the kitchen and serve the meals in the dining room. From the kitchen window you have a nice view of the backyard, which, as you can see, has a wooden fence around it. You could have a nice flower or vegetable garden back there.

"Before we go in, let's take a look at the house from the outside. I think you'll agree that the front yard is a nice size and the hedge around it makes it a little more private. There's a two-car garage next to the house, and, as you can see, the driveway is in very good condition. Now, look up there at the roof. It was repaired only four months ago, so you won't have any trouble from the rain. As you can see, there's a chimney up there. The house has a working fireplace. And the present owners put in a new furnace, so you'll have plenty of heat all winter.

"The house is in excellent condition. You'll have no problems with any of the walls, floors or ceilings. So, any questions? Ah, yes, the price. Three bedrooms, a garage and a yard. Well, what do you think?"

"Here we are. As you can see, Mr and Mrs Willis, it's really quite a big house, with two storeys. Upstairs there are three bedrooms and a bathroom, and downstairs we have a large living room, a dining room, and a kitchen. There is no basement under the house.

**A.** Decide whether these statements are true (T), false (F), or impossible to know (IK) according to the passage.

1. It is a huge two-storeyed villa.
2. The kitchen is well-equipped.
3. All the bedrooms are upstairs.
4. The basement is converted into a garage.

5. The roof is in a good condition.
6. The hedge adds some extra privacy to the house.
7. You can place only one car in the garage.
8. Though there is a chimney on the roof, it is only a decoration.
9. There is a lot of coal for the fireplace in the shed by the house.
10. They start exploring the house from the upstairs.
11. The dining room and the kitchen are separated.
12. The kitchen window faces the backyard.
13. There is a nice vegetable garden behind the house.
14. The house is in a very good condition.

**B.** Describe the house to your group-mates in class, saying what is to your liking and what you dislike about it.

#### 4. For Sale and For Rent

Below there are two advertisements of a house for sale and a flat for rent. The texts of the adverts are mixed up.

**A.** Restore the ads and put them under the headings:

**For Sale £370,000 / For Rent £180/month**

**B.** Fill in the gaps with the words below.

**attractive / pretty / expensive / quiet / huge large / modern / spacious /  
pleasant / comfortable / lovely / wonderful / beautiful**

Address: 11, Hawk's Lane, Canterbury; this \_\_\_\_ house is half a mile from the city centre, and is near the shops and the main road. Address; 6, Shell Street, Canterbury; this \_\_\_\_ flat is in a \_\_\_\_ street near the city centre. It is rather small, but it is in a very \_\_\_\_ area. It is quite \_\_\_\_, but it is very large. Upstairs, there are three bedrooms, each with a wardrobe and a bathroom, there is also a study with a big bookcase. It is also very cheap. Downstairs, there is a small

bathroom with a shower and a toilet, a \_\_\_\_ kitchen, a dining-room and a \_\_\_\_ living-room with a fireplace. It has got a \_\_\_\_ bedroom, a bathroom with a shower and a toilet, a \_\_\_\_ kitchen with a cooker, a dishwasher and a fridge, and a \_\_\_\_ living-room. The house has also got a \_\_\_\_ garden and a swimming-pool. The flat has also got a big balcony with a \_\_\_\_ view and there is a \_\_\_\_ garage behind the building.

**C.** Make up questions to the missing parts.

**D.** Make up presentations of these places for those who want to buy and to rent, add details so that you could convince them.

### 5. The Flat.

Estate Agent: And here's the kitchen, madam. It's bigger than the average kitchen and modern.

Jill: And it's very light and sunny.

Estate Agent: And here's the bathroom, with a bath, a shower and a large wash-basin.

Steve: Is it as big as our bathroom, Jill?

Jill: No, it isn't as big as our bathroom, but it's nicer. It's a bit smaller, but cosier.

Estate Agent: And this is the living-room. Very spacious, big windows, balcony, and a pleasant view.

Jill: Oh, yes, I like this room. The Windows are bigger than our windows, but the view isn't as pleasant.

Estate Agent: And very reasonable at £75 a week, madam.

Jill: That's bigger than our rent. It's much more expensive.

Steve: But it's more reasonable than other flats in this area.

Estate Agent: Oh, yes, sir, and the flat's very quiet.

Steve: Well, it can't possibly be noisier than our flat and this is a better area. Well, thank you very much. We'll phone next week and tell you our decision. Good-bye!

Estate Agent: Goodbye, sir. Goodbye, madam.

**A.** Answer the questions.

1. What are Steve and Jill doing at the moment?
2. What is the kitchen like?
3. Is it bigger or smaller than their kitchen?
4. And what about the bathroom?
5. What does Jill like and what doesn't she like about the living-room?
6. What does Jill say about the rent?

**B.** Act out the conversation.

**C.** Imagine you are Jill (or Steve) share your impressions of the flat with your friend.

**D.** Act as a real estate agent and show the house and the flat in Practice 4 to your clients.

## 6. Comparisons.

Now let's compare our sitting-room with the Bakers'. The Bakers are friends of ours. They live next door to us. Our room is a little larger than theirs and it has more furniture in it. There is no TV in the Bakers' room. There isn't a bookcase either. Mine is in my sitting-room, but Mr Baker's is in his study. There's a piano in our sitting-room and there's a piano in the Bakers' sitting-room. Both my wife and Mrs Baker are very fond of music and both play the piano very well. But my wife doesn't play as well as Mrs Baker. Mrs Baker not only plays much better than my wife does, but she's also the best pianist in the district.

**A. Answer the questions.**

1. What is the difference between the writer's and the Bakers' sitting-rooms?
2. Does the writer's wife play the piano as well as Mrs Baker?

**B. Compare your flat and your friend's flat (comfortable, large, small, cosy, light, dark, etc.)**

7. Housing in Great Britain.

*Read about housing in Great Britain from the book "Understanding Britain" by Karen Hewitt, professor of literature at Oxford University. She has been to Russia many times since 1984 and has had the opportunity to observe various aspects of life in Russia and analyse differences between the Russians and the British.*

1. Every country has its distinctive housing. Cross from England into Scotland or from France into Germany or Spain, and you know instantly that you are in another country. It's partly a matter of architecture, partly a matter of the way people choose to domesticate their immediate surroundings.

The English are distinctive in their aversion to Oats and their devotion to rows of small brick houses. Travel from Western France across Europe to the Urals and you will see cities surrounded by modern blocks of high-rise flats. The details of architecture will vary, but all countries have found that the obvious solution to cheap new housing to accommodate families moving in from the countryside or demanding improved conditions within the towns is to build blocks of flats. They stand in rows and clusters, not beautiful, not spacious, but convenient and efficient. The problems are similar: noise, cramped public areas, unpredictable water supplies, broken lifts... but they are homes for millions of people who prefer them to the more primitive conditions they have left. In England, however, this is not so.

2. Of course some English people enjoy flat-life, but for the vast majority of us, the basic idea of home is a brick house with rooms upstairs and downstairs. The

English use the word *house* for a dwelling intended for one family. We would never say of a *block of flats* that it is a *house*. The brick house is a legacy of the industrial revolution. Employers had to build accommodation for the millions of workers pouring into the cities and at that time the cheapest solution was to build rows (terraces) of small houses, each with two small rooms downstairs and two small rooms upstairs. Lavatories were common to several houses and out in the back yard. The rooms were small because they were heated by open fires, not by stoves, and families tended to huddle in one room (the kitchen). Bedrooms were unheated and to this day many English people find it impossible to sleep except in a cold room with the windows wide open.

Most of our housing schemes thereafter are logical improvements to this pattern. Houses became larger; millions still exist with two rooms, a kitchen and sometimes a scullery downstairs, and two rooms-plus-a-tiny-one upstairs.

### 3. What things do people have in their homes?

British homes have similar basic furniture - beds (double beds for married couples), tables, chairs, armchairs, cupboards, shelves (we are less fond than we used to be of glass-fronted shelves), lamps, television, stereo record players, and, increasingly, compact-disc players. But we have far more variety in our choice of basic furniture. We can choose our styles and materials; we can select our favourite patterns and shapes of lamps, crockery, cutlery, towels, linen, chairs, and their furnishings, curtains and materials.

Our floors are usually carpeted with modern synthetic carpets. Kitchen floors are covered with vinyl or tiles. Our kitchens" and bathrooms are full of useful consumer goods and useless gadgets. (In a market economy where you are encouraged to 'buy', it is very easy to buy first and wish afterwards that you had not spent the money. Of course from *your* point of view that is a luxury complaint.)

### 4. Our cookers use either electricity or gas, and although more sophisticated than yours, are essentially much the same. Many people also have a microwave oven

which can re-heat food very quickly. Fridges are smaller than yours, but families with freezers can keep prepared frozen food or freeze their own home-grown food. (Hence there is far less jam-making and home-preserving.) We can buy excellent kitchen knives and other tools, expensive but good-quality pans and saucepans. Washing machines are almost universal for family homes (individuals can take their dirty clothes to a launderette.) In Britain, too, we still traditionally hang our laundry outside. Tumble driers which dry the clothes but leave them unfresh are common in America but not here.

5. For cleaning our homes we have vacuum cleaners, as well as brooms, brushes, dusters and all kinds of polishes and creams for dirty windows, damp, filthy baths and so on. We may not run out of detergent or toilet paper, and we may have all sorts of electrical gadgets (which sometimes don't work) but daily life has many similarities: sinks do get blocked; damp walls grow mould; children spill sticky food onto carpets and telephones mysteriously refuse to make connections. We too lead lives of domestic complication: in films doors only refuse to open in farces; in real life I have watched men struggle with front doors in Britain (and France and America) and Russia, until they are reduced to pulling, kicking and cursing as the door refuses to open.

**A.** The passage is divided into sequences; match these headings with the parts they fit.

- a) Facilities to make our life easier.
- b) Domestic problems.
- c) Every country is very specific.
- d) How the British furnish their homes.
- e) The English solved their housing problems in their own way.

**B.** Complete the following sentences according to the message in the text.

1. If you travel around various countries you are sure to notice the difference between them. It is partly a matter of architecture, partly a matter of the way

- a) people take care of the natural environment.
  - b) people treat domestic animals.
  - c) people make their homes cosy and comfortable.
  - d) people do their household chores.
2. The English are famous
- a) for their liking houses as well as flats.
  - b) for their aversion to flats and their devotion to houses.
  - c) for their preference to high-rise flats rather than to small houses.
  - d) for their dislike of small houses as well as of cheap flats which are even smaller.
3. In many countries people started building blocks of high-rise flats because
- a) it was cheaper.
  - b) of the new trends in modern architecture towards high-rise buildings.
  - c) of the demographic reasons due to which many people left cities to settle in more spacious country houses.
  - d) of the necessity to solve demographic problems.
4. The English call a house
- a) a dwelling in which many families live.
  - b) a dwelling only for people who are close relatives.
  - c) any building made of bricks or pre-fabs.
  - d) a one- or two-storeyed building.
5. Terrace houses
- a) are the invention of the industrial revolution.
  - b) were built after the industrial revolution.
  - c) were built by employers to attract people into cities.
  - d) were built for workers to improve their living conditions.
6. The rooms in terrace houses were small because
- a) families felt more comfortable in them.
  - b) they were not heated.



- c) the heating facilities didn't allow to keep them warm for a long time.
- d) they were cheaper for tenants.

7. Today Englishmen

- a) find it impossible to sleep in a cold bedroom.
- b) find it impossible to sleep in a warm bedroom.
- c) find it normal to sleep in a cold bedroom.
- d) find it normal to sleep in a warm bedroom.

8. Most of British housing schemes

- a) haven't changed much since the industrial revolution.
- b) haven't improved since the industrial revolution.
- c) have changed completely since the industrial revolution.
- d) have improved a little since the industrial revolution.

9. All English homes

- a) look absolutely alike because the basic furniture is similar.
- b) look different because each family decorates their homes according to their taste.
- c) look different because they have a wide choice of various styles of basic furniture and adornments.
- d) look very much alike because the British are not very particular about the look of their dwellings.

10. A luxury complaint means

- a) a complaint of the poor.
- b) a complaint of the rich.
- c) a worthless complaint.
- d) a complaint about a trifling thing.

11. The cookers in English homes are

- a) less convenient than in Russian homes.
- b) more convenient than in Russian homes.

- c) allow to cook more delicious dishes than in Russia.
- d) allow more opportunities for cooking.

12. The British are fond of

- a) home-made food.
- b) frozen food.
- c) jam-making and home-preserving.
- d) growing fruits and vegetables in their own gardens.

13. Which of these domestic problems are not familiar to the British?

- a) blocked sinks.
- b) mouldy walls.
- c) lack of detergent or toilet paper.
- d) dirty carpets.
- e) broken telephones.
- f) doors refusing to open.

**C.** Sum up the information about the housing in Great Britain and make up a report.

**D.** Compare the housing situation in Great Britain and in Russia.

## Unit 4

### GRAMMAR PRACTICE

#### PRESENT CONTINUOUS

The present continuous is used:

- **for actions taking place now, at the moment of speaking, or for temporary actions; that is actions that are going on around now, but not at the actual moment of speaking.**

*Helen is working hard these days. Right now she's reading a newspaper. (She is not working at the moment of speaking.)*

- **for actions that we have already arranged to do in the near future, especially when the time and place have been decided.**

*Melanie is getting married at 3 this afternoon. (The time and the place for the wedding ceremony have been decided.)*

- **for changing or developing situations.**

*More and more forests are disappearing because of fires.*

- **The present continuous is used with the following time expressions:**

*now, at the moment, these days, at present, tonight, nowadays, still, etc.*

1. Express your agreement with the following statements. Give some additional information. Use the prompts.

*Example: Lucy is reading (a magazine). - Yes, she is. She is reading a magazine.*

1. Dick is writing (a letter). 2. Donald is working (in the garden). 3. The girls are playing (volley-ball). 4. Betty and Kate are typing (the documents). 5. Jane is washing (the floor). 6. The men are drinking (juice). 7. Mary is drawing (a picture of a house). 8. Miss Grey is reading (a book). 9. Mrs. Ford is cooking (dinner). 10. Mike is playing chess (with his father). 11. Jane and Mary are singing (a folk song). 12. Peter and John are going to school (by bus). 13. The

boys are watching a film (on TV). 14. Jim is having breakfast (with his parents).  
15. Tony is sitting (at the table).

## 2. Express your disagreement.

*Example: John is reading the Times (the Telegraph). - No, he isn't. He's reading the Telegraph.*

1. They are playing cricket (basketball). 2. She's dancing with Paul (Jack). 3. The Browns are travelling about Italy (France). 4. Victor is listening to the news (music). 5. John is sitting beside Ann (Mary). 6. He is talking to Lucy (Alice). 7. She is waiting for Jane (Mary). 8. Dick is writing a letter (an e-mail). 9. John is working in the garden (in his study). 10. The girls are playing volley-ball (tennis). 11. Betty and Kate are typing documents (reports). 12. Jane is washing the floor (the windows). 13. The men are drinking juice (beer). 14. Mary is drawing a picture of a house (a forest). 15. Miss Grey is reading a book (a fashion magazine).

## 3. Make up general questions using the prompts.

*Example: you/watch TV - Are you watching TV at the moment?*

*- Yes, I am. or No, I am not. I'm fixing the sink.*

1. the students/write a test. 2. Lucy/have an English class. 3. Roger/swim 4. Peter/listen to the news 5. you/wait for Alice. 6. Mary/do her homework 7. you/look for your gloves. 8. Mrs. Ford/cook dinner. 9. Mike/play chess with his father. 10. Jane and Mary/sing a folk song. 11. Peter and John/go to school by bus. 12. The boys/watch an exciting film. 13. Jim/have breakfast. 14. Tony/sit at the table. 15. They/play cricket.

4. Respond to the following using an alternative question.

*Example: Helen is reading (a newspaper or a magazine). - Is she reading a newspaper or a magazine?*

1. The children are playing (volley-ball or tennis). 2. Mary is typing (a letter or an article). 3. Mrs Jones is cooking (lunch or dinner). 5. The students are writing (a test or a dictation). 6. She's dancing (with Paul or Jack). 7. The Browns are travelling (about Italy or France). 8. Victor is listening (to the news or music). 9. John is sitting (beside Ann or Mary). 10. He is talking (to Lucy or Alice). 11. She is waiting (for Jane or Mary). 12. Dick is reading (a letter or a book). 13. John is working (in the garden or in his study). 14. The girls are chatting (about their studies or boyfriends). 11. Betty and Kate are watching (a film or the latest news).

5. Respond to the following using a disjunctive question:

*Example: Dick is writing (a letter). - He's writing a letter, isn't he?*

1. The Baxters are travelling (about France). 2. The boys are playing football (in the yard). 3. Jane is reading (an English book). 4. Judy is cooking (meat). 5. Miss Green is typing (documents). 6. The children are eating (cheese). 7. Donald is working (in the garden). 8. The girls are playing (volley-ball). 9. Jane is washing (the floor). 10. The men are drinking (juice). 11. Mary is drawing (a picture of a house). 12. Jane and Mary are singing (a folk song). 13. Peter and John are going to school (by bus). 14. The boys are watching a film (on TV). 15. Jim is having breakfast (with his parents).

6. Make up similar dialogues. Use the prompts.

**A.**

*Example: - Is Nancy busy?*

*- Yes, she is washing her car.*

**Prompts:**

1. you - clean our yard; 2. Bob - fix his bicycle; 3. Lucy and Dick - wash their windows; 4. you - read the newspaper; 5. Mrs and Mr Jones - paint their kitchen; 6. Kate - do her homework; 7. you - fix my TVset; 8. Henry - clean his garage; 9. Mr and Mrs Smith - eat dinner; 10. Robert - cook supper; 11. Maria - study English; 12. Frank - sleep; 13. Sam and Betty - watch TV; 14. Judy - play the piano; 15. Martha - dance.

**B.**

*Example: - Is Mike still answering?*

*- No, he isn't answering.*

**Prompts:**

1. Peter - smoke; 2. you - translate the text; 3. Lucy - cook; 4. the children - sleep; 5. Jack - eat; 6. Jane - work; 7. Kitty - watch TV; 8. Mary - type; 9. John - draw; 10. you - read the newspaper; 11. Mr and Mrs Jones - talk; 12. Henry - study English; 13. Maria - wash up; 14. you - do grammar exercises; 15. Ted - sing.

**C.**

*Example: Walter / in the kitchen / eat breakfast*

*- Where is Walter?*

*- He's in the kitchen.*

*- What's he doing?*

*- He's eating breakfast.*

**Prompts:**

1. Betty / in the park / eat lunch; 2. Mr and Mrs Smith / in the dining-room / eat dinner; 3. you / in the bedroom / listen to the news; 4. Peter, Jack and Lucy / in

the living-room / play cards; 5. Tom and Mary / in the yard / play baseball; 6. Miss Jackson / at the bar / drink coffee; 7. Mike / in the library / study English; 8. Gloria / at a discotheque / dance; 9. Mr. Larson / in the cafeteria / drink lemonade; 10. Tommy / in the classroom / study mathematics; 11. Harry / in the bathroom / sing; 12. Barbara / in hospital / watch TV; 13. you / in the park / listen to the radio; 14. Tony / in his bedroom / sleep; 15. The Roberts / in front of their house / wash their car.

### D.

*Example:*

- *Who is calling?*

- *Peter is.*

### Prompts:

1. answer - Mike; 2. play the guitar - my sister; 3. sing - Helen; 4. speak to the dean - John; 5. cook dinner - Gwen; 6. dance - Alice; 7. brush the teeth - the children; 8. clean the garage - Henry; 9. fix TV - my father; 10. feed the cat - Michael; 11. wash the windows - Bob and Judy; 12. clean the apartment - the parents; 13. do the exercises - Peter; 14. paint the kitchen - Mr and Mrs Jones; 15. play computer games - Bobby.

### 7. What's the question?

*Example:*

Where are you? --- *I'm in the bedroom.*

1. \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ --- *She's playing cards.*

2. \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ --- *He's in the discotheque.*

3. \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ --- *I'm studying English.*

4. \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ --- *He's having breakfast.*

5. \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ --- *They're in the bank.*

6. \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ --- *We're in the library.*

7. \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ --- *It's in the garage.*

8. \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ --- She's in the park.
9. \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ --- It's sleeping.
10. \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ --- They are playing baseball.
11. \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ --- We're dancing.
12. \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ --- They are in the living room.
13. \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ --- She is washing up.
14. \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ --- Bob is the cinema.
15. \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ --- His sisters are reading.

### PRESENT SIMPLE

The present simple is used:

**- for permanent states, repeated actions and daily routines.**

*He works at a hotel, (permanent state) He lays the tables and serves dinner every day. (daily routine/repeated actions)*

**- for general truths and laws of nature.**

*It rarely rains in the desert.*

**- for timetables (trains, planes, etc.) and programmes.**

*The plane to London takes off at 6:50 am.*

**- The present simple is used with the following time expressions:**

*always, usually, etc., every day/week/ month/year, etc., on Mondays / Tuesdays, etc., In the morning / afternoon / evening, at night / the weekend, etc.*

1. Respond to the following utterances. Use the prompt words.

**A.**

*Example:*

*I read "The Times". And Tom? ("The Express") - Tom reads "The Express".*

1. I study English. And Mary? (German) 2. I spend very little. And Jack?



(much) 3. Mary teaches French. And her sister? (English) 4. We live on the top floor. And Peter? (on the ground floor) 5. I visit my parents every year. And Mike? (every month) 6. They want to study English. And Helen? (German) 7. I finish work at 7. And your sister? (at 6) 8. Bob and Sue like apples. And Tom? (pears) 9. Jack and John go to the gym three times a week. And Tony? (twice a week) 10. My brothers prefer comedies. And your brother? (horror films) 11. Jack's cousins adore summer. And your cousin? (winter) 12. In winter my mum and dad go skating. And your uncle? (skiing) 13. My parents go for mushrooms in summer. And your sister? (for berries) 14. Peter and Sarah go out every Sunday. And Bob? (every Saturday) 15. They go fishing in the morning. And your father? (in the evening)

## B.

*Example:*

*Victor goes to work by bus. And his parents? (by car) - His parents go to work by car.*

1. I like tea. And you? (coffee) 2. We begin our work at 8. And they? (at 9) 3. They leave home at 7. And you? (at 10) 4. They spend their holidays in the country. And your parents? (in town) 5. I collect records. And you? (stamps) 6. You watch films. And they? (cartoons) 7. They go to school. And you? (college) 8. I listen to rock and roll. And they? (hip hop) 9. We have a lot of newspapers. And they? (magazines) 10. They eat lunch in the canteen. And you? (in the restaurant) 11. They play cards every evening. And you? (chess) 12. I study English. And they? (Spanish) 13. You grow vegetables in your garden. And they? (fruit) 14. I like coca-cola. And you? (sprite) 15. You read poetry. And they? (prose).

**C.***Example:**Jack works hard. And his brother? - His brother doesn't work hard.*

1. My daughter reads much. And Peter? 2. Roger plays golf. And David? 3. I come home late on Monday. And Helen? 4. As a rule I have dinner at home. And John? 5. I get up early. And your brother? 6. Mike swims well. And his friend? 7. I make a lot of mistakes in my dictations. And Helen? 8. Eric plays the drums. And Bob? 9. We watch "Comedy Club". And Natasha? 10. She has a boyfriend. And Rita? 11. Tom teaches Spanish at school. And Rick? 12. We like gardening. And Sue? 13. I like hard rock music. And your sister? 14. They read poetry. And Jack? 15. Peter uses a computer every day. And his mother?

**D.***Example:**Robert likes football. And his friends? - His friends don't like football.*

1. My children go to school. And Mr Brown's children? 2. We write much at our lessons. And they? 3. Alice studies French. And her sisters? 4. Jack gets up early. And his parents? 5. Tom works on Saturdays. And his co-workers? 6. Peter goes to school every day. And his friends. 7. We go to the gym regularly. And your friends? 8. I sing folk songs. And you? 9. My brother reads English books. And your cousins? 10. I visit my granny every weekend. And you? 11. They like football. And the girls? 12. We do grammar exercises every day. And they? 13. She drives to university. And you? 14. We prefer horror films. And your parents? 15. Debora swims in winter. And Jane?

**2. Paraphrase the following sentences.***Example: Tom is a good tennis player. - Tom plays tennis very well.*

1. Mrs Green is a very good typist. 2. My wife is a good cook. 3. Jack is a hard worker. 4. Helen is a slow reader. 5. The girls are good singers. 6. Mary is a fast

runner. 7. Mr Robinson is a good speaker. 8. John and Tom are careful drivers. 9. Betty is a good student. 10. My friends are good swimmers. 11. Mr Jackson is a good writer. 12. Ann is a good skater. 13. Jack and Jane are good English teachers. 14. Robert is a good computer user. 15. Richard is a good diver. 16. Len and James are good actors.

### 3. Complete the utterances. Use the prompt words.

*Example:*

*Jack knows French ... (Italian). - Jack knows French but he doesn't know Italian.*

1. We write dictations ... (grammar tests). 2. They play hockey ... (cricket). 3. She likes tea ... (coffee). 4. He skates well ... (ski). 5. Mrs Smith teaches Spanish ... (French). 6. My friend speaks Italian ... (English). 7. We collect stamps ... (records). 8. We like pop music ... (folk music). 9 Jack loves tall girls ... (short girls). 10. Rita and Judy wear short skirts ... (long skirts). 11. They go swimming in the swimming-pool ... (the river). 12. She drives a car ... (a bike). 13. We watch films on TV ... (news programs). 14. Kate goes out with Tom ... (Peter). 15. He meets his friends at the weekend ... (during the week).

### 4. Express your agreement with the following. Give additional information using the prompt words.

*Example: You get up early, don't you? (at 7 a.m.) - Yes, I do. I get up at 7 a.m.*

1. Harry finishes work late, doesn't he? (at 9 p.m.) 2. Mr. Robinson lives in London, doesn't he? (in King Street) 3. Your brother teaches German, doesn't he? (at the University) 4. You go to work by bus, don't you? (on the 8 o'clock bus) 5. Your parents often visit you, don't they? (every week) 6. You often watch TV, don't you? (every evening) 7. Bob goes out with Mary, doesn't he? (every weekend) 8. They like watching films, don't they? (comedies) 9. She goes to the gym, doesn't she? (three times a week) 10. You like swimming,

don't you? (in the sea) 11. Sebastian plays the guitar, doesn't he? (in a rock group) 12. Julia and Ann dance at a disco, don't they? (every Sunday) 13. He loves singing, doesn't he? (English folk songs) 14. You eat out very often, don't you? (every other day) 15. He reads English books, doesn't he? (in the original)

### 5. Express your disagreement.

#### **A.**

*Example:*

*Mike finishes work at 5, doesn't he? (at 6) - No, he doesn't. He finishes work at 6.*

1. Betty likes tennis, doesn't she? (volley-ball) 2. Mrs Smith teaches Spanish, doesn't she? (Russian) 3. Mr Baxter works at a plant, doesn't he? (at an office) 4. Jack makes many mistakes in his dictations, doesn't he? (few) 5. You usually travel by air, don't you? (by train) 6. She usually gets up at 7, doesn't she? (at 6) 7. They often go to the country, don't they? (hardly ever) 8. Jack sometimes goes to the theatre, doesn't he? (to the cinema) 9. You always have lunch at 1, don't you? (at 2) 10. He goes to work by car, doesn't he? (by bus) 11. Your parents go to Hawaii for their vacation, don't they? (Sochi) 12. Robert loves watching films on TV, doesn't he? (at the cinema) 13. Their friends visit them every week, don't they? (every month) 14. She occasionally phones her parents in London, doesn't she? (very often) 15. They go skiing in winter, don't they? (skating).

#### **B.**

*Example:*

*Mary doesn't know Italian, does she? - Yes, she does. She knows Italian very well.*

1. Mike doesn't skate, does he? 2. Your friend doesn't drive, does he? 3. You don't work on Saturdays, do you? 4. Jack doesn't like hockey, does he? 5. They

don't play cards, do they? 6. Victor doesn't smoke, does he? 7. Ann doesn't read much, does she? 8. Tom doesn't get up early, does he? 9. Jack and Mary don't work in London, do they? 10. Peter doesn't come home by bus, does he? 11. They don't start work at 9, do they? 12. Ann doesn't take a long shower every morning, does she? 13. Helen and her sister don't read a lot, do they? 14. My brother doesn't smoke much, does he? 15. You don't study English, do you?

6. Express solidarity with the following statements.

**A.**

*Example: I walk to my office. And you? - So do I.*

1. Ann likes pop-music. And Betty? 2. I know French. And your brother? 3. We go out in the evening. And you? 4. I spend very little. And Mary? 5. We watch football on television. And you? 6. They go away for weekends. And the Robinsons? 7. I often write to Peter. And Helen? 8. Tom collects stamps. And Jack? 9. My sister teaches English. And Lucy? 10. I sleep with the windows open. And you? 11. I want ice-cream. And you? 12. My son studies English. And your daughter? 13. The boys swim well. And what about the girls? 14. Tim gets up at 6.30. And his brother? 15. We go to the cinema every Sunday. And they?

**B.**

*Example:*

*Gemma doesn't speak French. And Lucy? - Lucy doesn't speak French either.*

1. I don't know him. And you? 2. Jack doesn't smoke. And his brother? 3. I don't type. And Mary? 4. Nick doesn't play cricket. And his father? 5. I don't see anything there. And you? 6. My sister doesn't read much. And your brother? 7. I don't do morning exercises. And you? 8. Mike doesn't write to her. And Peter? 9. I don't like football. And you? 10. Henry doesn't know Italian.

And Roger? 11. I never read in bed. And you? 12. Mr Green doesn't smoke. And Mr Smith? 13. Kate doesn't play the piano. And her sister? 14. The Browns don't travel much. And you? 15. I don't speak Chinese. And Alec?

7. Respond to the following statements asking for additional information. Use the prompt words.

**A.**

*Example:*

- *Peter knows French (his sister).*
- *Does his sister know French?*
- *Yes, she does. (No, she doesn't).*

1. Mrs. Robinson types well (Miss Smith). 2. Mike enjoys pop-music (you). 3. Jane watches television every day (her husband). 4. He likes his work (you). 5. My son goes to school (your daughter). 6. Mary plays the piano (Lucy). 7. I smoke much (your father). 8. I like my tea strong (you). 9. Alice works at an office (her sister). 10. Peter teaches Spanish (Victor). 11. The Browns travel a lot (the Baxters). 12. Steve listens to the radio every day (watch television). 13. They like English tea (English coffee). 14. Tom reads the Times (the Guardian). 15. They speak English (other languages). 16. I like English people (the English weather). 17. Steve cooks Chinese food (Indian food). 18. We visit our friends at the weekend (during the week).

**B.**

*Example:*

- *We speak English at our English lessons (Russian).*
- *Do you ever speak Russian at the lessons?*
- *Sometimes we do.*

1. Mrs Wilson often travels about the country (abroad). 2. I often translate English texts (French texts). 3. They usually go to the Institute in the

morning (in the evening). 4. He usually has dinner at 2 (at 4). 5. She often goes to the cinema (theatre). 6. Mary usually spends her holiday in the country (in town). 7. We usually have breakfast at 7 (at 8). 8. She always comes to her lessons on time (late). 9. They go skiing every weekend in winter (go skating). 10. He always reads English books in the original (in adaptation). 11. We listen to rock music (jazz music). 12. Rick swims in the sea every weekend (every day). 13. The sisters tidy up the flat every Saturday (Sunday). 14. She goes shopping with her parents (with the friends). 15. They go for a walk every evening (after classes).

### C.

*Example:*

- *Paul comes home late (often).*

- *Does he often come home late?*

- *Yes, he does.*

1. They go for a walk in the evening (often). 2. I go to the seaside for my holidays (always). 3. He leaves home at 10 (always). 4. He sometimes visits me (often). 5. They sometimes play golf (often). 6. Jack goes to the cinema with his girlfriend (sometimes). 7. Bob and Mary go to the country for a picnic (hardly ever). 8. Stacy reads comics (every day). 9. Her friends go skiing in winter (occasionally). 10. Tom arrives home from work after midnight (often). 11. They borrow money from their friends (from time to time). 12. Stanley plays the drums at home (sometimes). 13. His parents spend their free time watching TV (often). 14. Jane sleeps late at the weekend (always). 15. His friends go to a night club on Saturday (sometimes).

**D.***Example 1:*

- *Mike leaves home at 7 (you).*
- *When do you leave home?*
- *At 8 as a rule.*

*Example 2 :*

- *My sister lives in London (your brother).*
- *Where does your brother live?*
- *In Manchester.*

1. Ann usually finishes work at 5 (Fred). 2. John works at a factory (his wife). 3. My mother usually goes shopping on Tuesday (you). 4. Philip studies at the University (his friend). 5. Lucy has dinner at 2 (Mary). 6. I have dinner at a restaurant (you). 7. Donald comes home at 7 (his father). 8. We rest in the country (the Browns). 9. Jane has her classes in the morning (you). 10. I do my homework in the reading-room (you). 11. My son goes to bed at 9 (your children). 12. Mike keeps his bicycle in the garage (Peter). 13. Our classes begin at 10 (your classes). 14. She does a lot of exercises in the gym (Mike). 15. We go to the sea-side in summer (you).

**E.***Example 1:*

- *My sister studies art (you).*
- *What do you study?*
- *Chemistry.*

*Example 2:*

- *Mike trains every day (Steve).*
- *How often does Steve train?*
- *Twice a week.*

1. Donald collects coins (his friend). 2. Donald plays golf once a week (his friend). 3. Betty likes comedies (Helen). 4. Jill phones her parents every week (Mary). 5. Mrs Baxter teaches English (Mrs Robinson). 6. I have toast and coffee for breakfast (you). 7. I go to the pictures once a month (you). 8. I prefer fish to meat (you). 9. Betty has music lessons once a week (Jane). 10. Mr Smith



writes poetry (Mr Wilson). 11. I go shopping twice a week (your mother). 12. Mrs Morgan types accounts (Miss Green). 13. Victor works in the library every day (Roger). 14. Ted plays the flute (Jack). 15. They go out once a week (you).

## F.

*Example 1:*

- *I get to work by bus (Mike).*
- *How does Mike get to work?*
- *By car as a rule.*

*Example 2:*

- *It usually takes me an hour to do my homework (you).*
- *How long does it take you to do your homework?*
- *About an hour and a half.*

1. Mrs Smith spends her weekends gardening (your mother). 2. It takes John half an hour to get to work (his father). 3. I pay by cheque (you). 4. Mike stays at work till 5. (Peter) 5. Donald does very well at school (your son). 6. John drives carefully (his friend). 7. We walk in the park about an hour (you). 8. Harry usually travels by air (his wife). 9. We stay at the Mr Smith for a week every summer (Mr Brown). 10. We play volley-ball for two hours every Sunday (they). 11. Peter studies German hard (Francine). 12. Mrs Smith teaches history well (Mrs Brown). 13. Bob runs very well (Ted). 14. Peter practices the piano for an hour every day (Lily). 15. They dance beautifully (their friends).

## G.

*Example 1:*

- *Someone phones Mary every day.*
- *Who phones her every day?*

*Example 2:*

- *She meets someone every day.*
- *Who does she meet every day?*

1. Someone sends her flowers every day. 2. Someone always waits for her every evening. 3. Betty goes out with someone every Saturday. 4. She loves someone.

5. Someone sends her parcels every month. 6. She talks to someone on the phone every day. 7. Someone visits her every week. 8. She phones someone every evening. 9. Someone goes to bed at 12 o'clock. 10. They go to someone every day. 11. Someone goes home by car from work. 12. She gives someone a lift to work every morning. 13. Someone goes to the cinema every Sunday. 14. She always helps someone. 15. Someone has breakfast at 10 o'clock every morning.

## H.

*Example:*

- *I see Robert every day (where).*

- *Where do you see him?*

- *In the library.*

1. I come home late (why). 2. Mike has supper at home (when). 3. It doesn't take him long to get to work (how long). 4. Mary often writes to her sister (how often). 5. Betty usually invites a lot of guests to her parties (whom). 6. Arthur earns a lot (how much). 7. Jane studies at the University (what subject). 8. We often play tennis in the evening (where). 9. My brother smokes much (how many cigarettes). 10. Harry doesn't come to our place (why). 11. I see Robert every day (where). 12. I come here very often (why). 13. Alec doesn't like tennis (what games). 14. My sister studies foreign languages (what foreign languages). 15. I want to take some books (which books). 16. I sometimes see Mary (how often). 17. We rest in the country (how long). 18. This tape-recorder costs a lot (how much). 19. Victor works hard (how many hours a day). 20. I go to the cinema (how often). 21. I have dinner in the evening (what time).

**I.**

*Example:*

*I like tea (strong or weak)?*

*- Do you like your tea strong or weak?*

*- I prefer my tea strong.*

1. I go in for sports (football or hockey). 2. Miss Smith delivers mail (letters or telegrams). 3. Donald collects records (old or modern). 4. Alice enjoys music (pop music or classical music). 5. Henry plays tennis (lawn tennis or table tennis). 6. Roger always goes to the seaside for a month (in July or August). 7. Jack reads a lot of English books (in the original or in adaptation). 8. Jane's parents live abroad (Great Britain or The United States). 9. I finish work early (at 2 o'clock or 3 o'clock). 10. They play tennis very often (every day or every other day). 11. She gets up very early (at 5 or at 6). 12. He smokes (cigars or cigarettes). 13. He likes girls (blondes or brunettes). 14. He travels every summer (by sea or by air). 15. They have a flat of their own (a large flat or a small flat).

**J.**

*Example:*

*- My sister teaches German (at school).*

*- She teaches at school, doesn't she?*

*- No, she doesn't. She teaches at the Linguistic University.*

1. Mary often goes to the country (on Sunday). 2. Alec lives in River Street (with his parents). 3. John plays football (well). 4. My son studies at the University (maths). 5. Betty enjoys music (jazz). 6. We usually walk in the evening (in the park). 7. She often visits them (every month). 8. He comes home late (at 9 o'clock). 9. They play golf (every day). 10. He speaks French (at home). 11. He cleans teeth (in the evening). 12. You get up at 7 o'clock (on

Sunday). 13. They go to cinema (every day). 14. He watches TV (all day long).  
15. They drink whiskey (from morning till night).

8. Ask the speaker to repeat what he has just said.

*Example:*

- *I rest in the south (where).*

- *Pardon? (Sorry?) Where do you rest?*

- *In the South.*

1. The lesson begins at 8 (when). 2. Helen speaks English well (who). 3. Alec has dinner at two (when). 4. I get to the office by bus (how). 5. John works at a plant (where). 6. I am very busy on Monday (when). 7. Jane plays chess well (who). 8. Robert lives in King Street (where). 9. My sister is at the library at 9 (when). 10. I go to the pictures twice a month (how often). 11. My son studies French (what language). 12. I need a dozen eggs (how many). 13. It takes me an hour to get to work (how long). 14. Peter earns 1000 dollars (how much). 15. I want to use Jane's typewriter (whose).

9. Make questions to which the following prompts are possible answers.

*Example:*

*At the canteen - Where do you usually have dinner?*

*- At the canteen.*

1. Twice a month. 2. At 7 a. m. 3. On Saturday. 4. French. 5. Mary. 6. At a plant.  
7. 50 pounds. 8. By bus. 9. At the seaside. 10. Physics. 11. In River Street. 12.  
At 6 a. m. 13. At the University. 14. Mary does. 15. On Sunday. 16. Every week.  
17. About an hour. 18. I am too busy now. 19. From 5 tilt 9. 20. Once a week.  
20. Two pounds.

## PRESENT SIMPLE AND PRESENT CONTINUOUS

### 1. Respond as in the example:

**A.**

*Example:*

*A: Tom's making a lot of mistakes!*

*B: But he doesn't usually make mistakes.*

1. Steve's answering the telephone! 2. Paul's taking the children to school! 3. Mike's helping his wife! 4. Jack's looking after the baby! 5. Peter's walking the dog! 6. Steve's carrying his wife's basket! 7. John's cleaning the window! 8. The Baxters are spending their holidays at home! 9. They are working late! 10. The dog's sleeping on your bed! 11. Mary's driving her husband's car!

**B.**

*Example:*

*A: Mike usually smokes Turkish cigarettes.*

*B: But today he's smoking French cigarettes.*

He usually ...

1. drives a German car; 2. travels by air; 3. lectures in Spanish; 4. reads a German paper; 5. plays Italian music; 6. drinks English beer; 7. uses an English dictionary; 8. has lunch in a Japanese restaurant; 9. listens to the news in English; 10. writes in Spanish; 11. speaks English; 12. goes to Indian films; 13. sits beside Margaret; 14. walks to his office.

### 2. Make up dialogues by analogy.

**A.**

*Example:*

*Why are you smiling? (happy) - Why are you smiling?*

*- I'm smiling because I'm happy. I always smile when I'm happy.*

1. Why are you crying? (sad) 2. Why is he shouting? (angry) 3. Why is she smoking? (nervous) 4. Why is he drinking? (thirsty) 5. Why are they going to Stanley's Restaurant? (hungry) 6. Why is he going to the doctor? (ill) 7. Why are they shivering? (cold) 8. Why are they perspiring? (hot) 9. Why is she yawning? (tired) 10. Why is he blushing? (embarrassed). 11. Why is Henry getting pale? (scared). 12. Why is Terry running? (late). 13. Why are they playing cards? (bored) 14. Why are they hiding? (terrified) 15. Why is Jack closing his eyes? (sleepy).

## B.

*Example:*

*What are you doing? (practise the piano) - What are you doing?*

*- I'm practising the piano.*

*- Do you practise the piano very often?*

*- Yes, I do. I practise the piano every day.*

1. What's Edward doing? (bake bread) 2. Who is Mrs Lopez calling? (her daughter in San Francisco) 3. What's Jane doing? (swim) 4. Who are you writing to? (my uncle) 5. What are Mr and Mrs Green doing? (exercise) 6. Who is Walter visiting? (his neighbours across the street) 7. What are you doing? (read Shakespeare) 8. Who is Mrs Morgan writing to? (her son in the army) 9. What are you and your friend doing? (study English). 10. Who is Mr Davis arguing with? (his landlord) 11. What's Mary doing? (write to her parents) 12. What are the students complaining about? (their homework) 13. What's your neighbour doing? (play baseball with his son) 14. Who is Mr Black shouting at? (his employees) 15. What are Mr and Mrs Baker doing? (meditate)

### 3. Fill in the blanks as in the example.

*Example:*

*Tony is playing the guitar today. - That's strange! He never plays the guitar.*

1. My sister is cooking dinner today.	That's strange! She never ____ .
2. The children are studying English today.	That's strange! They never ____ .
3. I am cleaning my room today.	That's strange! You never ____ .
4. David is playing with his brother.	That's strange! He never ____.
5. The cat ____ in the garage today.	That's strange! It never sleeps in the garage.
6. Mr and Mrs Wilson ____ .	That's strange! They never dance.
7. Our mother ____ the dishes today.	That's strange! She never ____ the dishes.
8. Our teacher ____ today.	That's strange! She never smiles.
9. We're watching TV today.	That's strange! You never ____ .
10. Mr and Mrs Jones ____ the newspaper today.	That's strange! They never read the newspaper.
11. Sally is helping her sister today.	That's strange! She never ____.
12. My brother and I ____ football today.	That's strange! You never play football.
13. My mother and father are shouting.	That's strange! They never ____.
14. I'm ____ coffee today.	That's strange! You never ____.
15. My grandfather is listening to rock and roll music.	That's strange! He never ____ .

## STATE VERBS

State verbs are verbs which do not normally have continuous tenses because they describe a state rather than an action. These include:

**- verbs which express likes and dislikes:**

*like, love, hate, dislike, enjoy, prefer, etc.*

*e.g. Cathy likes romantic films.*

**- verbs of perception:**

*believe, know, notice, remember, forget, recognise, understand, realise, seem, think, etc.*

*e.g. I don't believe a word he's saying.*

**- verbs of the senses:**

*see, hear, feel, taste, look, smell, sound.* (We often use *can* or *could* with these verbs when we refer to what we see, hear, etc. at the moment of speaking.)

*e.g. The soup tastes delicious.*

*John must be in the attic. I can hear his footsteps,*

**- some other verbs:**

*be, contain, fit, include, matter, need, belong, cost, owe, mean, own, appear, want, have (=possess), etc.*

*e.g. This book is mine. It belongs to me.*

Some state verbs have continuous tenses, but there is a difference in meaning.

Study the following examples:

1) *I think she's Italian.* (=believe)

2) *I'm thinking about my holiday.* (=am considering)

3) *The soup tastes awful.* (=has an awful flavour)

4) *She's tasting the soup.* (=is testing the flavour of)

5) *I can see an aeroplane in the sky.* (=perceive with my eyes)

*I'm seeing Jill tonight.* (=am meeting)

4) *Susan looks tired.* (=appears)



*Susan is looking at some photos. (=is studying)*

5) *The room smells of perfume. (=has the smell)*

6) *The cat is smelling its food. (=is sniffing)*

7) *This towel feels soft. (=has a soft texture)*

*Jill is feeling her son's forehead. (=is touching)*

7) *He is selfish. (character — permanent state)*

*He is being selfish. (behaviour — temporary situation)*

8) *He has a sports car. (=possesses)*

*He's having lunch now. (-is eating — idiom)*

**- Some idioms with HAVE include:**

*breakfast / lunch / dinner, etc. a bath / shower / swim / party, etc. have a(n) accident / experience / dream, etc. a baby / difficulty / fun / trouble, etc.*

1. Stative vs. progressive verbs. Use either the simple present or the present continuous of the verbs in parentheses.

1. Tim (*have*)\_\_\_ a car.

1. Tim (*have*)\_\_\_ trouble with his car, so he has to take the bus to work these days.

2. This box (*weigh*)\_\_\_ a lot. It's too heavy for me to lift.

3. I just handed the box to the postal worker. Right now she (*weigh*) \_\_\_ it to see how much postage it (*need*)\_\_\_ .

5. I (*do*)\_\_\_ this practice at the moment. It (*consist*)\_\_\_ of both nonprogressive and progressive verbs.

6. I (*think*)\_\_\_ about the verbs in this grammar practice right now. I (*think*) \_\_\_ all of my answers are correct, but I'll use the answer key to check them when I finish, just to make sure.

7. Mrs. Edwards is at the market. Right now she (*look*)\_\_\_ at the apples. They (*look*) \_\_\_ fresh.

8. My cousin is an actor. She (*appear*)\_\_\_ currently in the popular TV series

called "Doctors of Mystery." Have you seen that show?

9. Jack (*appear*) \_\_\_\_ happy this morning. He's smiling.

10. A: This tooth is killing me!

B: It's a good thing you (*see*) \_\_\_\_ a dentist today.

11. Susan is looking at some people across the street, but she (*see, not*) \_\_\_\_ anyone she knows.

12. A: What are you thinking about? You have such a pleasant expression on your face.

B: I (*imagine*) \_\_\_\_ what it would be like to be on a tropical beach right now.

13. A: Why isn't Richard here?

B: I (*imagine*) \_\_\_\_ he'll be here soon. Don't worry about him.

14. A: When is Jessica's birthday?

B: I (*forget*) \_\_\_\_ when her birthday is. Sometime in November, isn't it?

15. A: Are you happy with the school you decided to send your daughter to?

B: Yes, indeed. But it's pretty expensive. It (*cost*) \_\_\_\_ us an arm and a leg to send her there, but we think it's worth it. And it won't last forever.

16. A: What's the price on that lamp? I really like it.

B: Let me see. Well, no wonder. It (*cost*) \_\_\_\_ three times as much as the other one. You certainly have expensive tastes.

17. A: What are you doing?

B: I (*smell*) \_\_\_\_ the scent of this candle. It (*smell*) \_\_\_\_ good.

18. A: Watch out, Tommy! Those scissors are sharp, (you, be) \_\_\_\_ careful? Don't cut yourself.

B: It's okay. I won't hurt myself.

19. A: Do you let Tommy use scissors? He's very young.

B: It's not a problem. He (*be*) \_\_\_\_ very careful when he cuts something with scissors. He knows how to use scissors carefully.

20. A: That's a big stack of bills on your desk, Sam. Haven't you paid your bills

this month?

B: No. Nor last month. I know I (*be*)\_\_\_ irresponsible about paying my bills right now, but I've been really busy. I'll take care of them soon. Generally, I (*be, not*)\_\_\_ an irresponsible person.

2. Put the verbs in brackets into the present simple or the present continuous.

1. A: ... (you/know) that man over there?

B: Actually, I do. He's Muriel's husband.

2. A: Are you doing anything tomorrow evening?

B: Yes. I ... (see) Jack at nine o'clock.

3. A: I ... (see) you're feeling better.

B: Yes, I am, thank you.

4. A: What's that noise?

B: The people next door... (have) a party.

5. A: Graham ... (have) a new computer.

B: I know. I've already seen it.

6. A: This dress ... (not/fit) me any more.

B: Why don't you buy a new one?

7. A: Your perfume ... (smell) nice. What is it?

B: It's a new perfume called Sunshine.

8. A: What is Jane doing?

B: She ... (smell) the flowers in the garden.

9. A: What ... (you/look) at?

B: Some photos I took during my holidays. They aren't very good, though.

10. A: You ... (look) very pretty today.

B: Thank you. I've just had my hair cut.

11. A: I ... (think) we're being followed.

B: Don't be silly! It's just your imagination.

12. A: Is anything wrong?

B: No. I ... (just/think) about the party tonight.

13. A: This fabric ... (feel) like silk.

B: It is silk, and it was very expensive.

14. A: What are you doing?

B: I ... (feel) the radiator to see if it's getting warm.

15. A: She ... (be) generous, isn't she?

B: Yes, she has never been a mean person.

16. A: He ... (be) very quiet today, isn't he?

B: Yes, I think he has some problems.

17. A: Would you like some cherries?

B: Yes, please. I ... (love) cherries. They're my favourite fruit.

18. A: I'm sorry, but I ... (not understand) what you mean.

B: Shall I explain it again?

19. A: The children are making lots of noise today.

B: I know, but they ... (have) fun.

20. A: This cake ... (taste) awful.

B: I think I forgot to put the sugar in it!

21. A: Why ... (you/smell) the soap?

B: It ... (smell) lovely. It's like roses!

22. A: Why ... (you/taste) the soup?

B: To see if it ... (taste) good. I think it needs more salt.

23. A: I ... (feel) very tired.

B: You should go to bed early.

24. A: I ... (see) Andy this evening.

B: I ... (see). So, you don't want to come to the cinema with me, do you?

25. A: How much ... (the bag of apples/weigh)?

B: I don't know yet. The man ... (weigh) the bag now.

26. A: I ... (think) about buying a new car soon.

B: Why? I ... (think) your car is fine. You don't need a new one.

27. A: What ... (you/look) at?

B: The sky. It ... (look) as if it's going to rain.

28. A: I really ... (enjoy) home-made food.

B: So do I, and I ... (enjoy) every bit of this meal.

29. A: Why ... (you/feel) the radiator?

B: It ... (feel) cold in here. Is the heating on?

30. A: That famous opera singer ... (appear) at the opera house tonight.

B: Yes. He ... (appear) to be feeling better after his operation.

31. A: Chris ... (be) a sensible person, isn't he?

B: Yes, but in this case he ... (be) rather foolish.

32. A: My dad ... (fit) the old blind from the living room in my bedroom today.

B: Really? ... (it/fit) that window?

33. A: My back ... (hurt).

B: Why don't you lie down for a while?

3. Make a sentence with each group of words. Use either the present simple tense or the present continuous tense.

1. I/think about/ litter

2. I/think/ litter is ugly

3. The children / have / kites

4. The children / have / a good time

5. The fashion model / look at / new clothes

6. New clothes/look / beautiful

7. Blind man / look for / dog

8. Blind man / see / dog

9. Musician / listen to / instrument

10. Musician / hear / instrument

11. Cars / sound / loud

12. Surgeon / feel / patient's face

13. Patient / feel / hot

14. Chef / smell / meal

15. Food / smell / ready to eat

### TENSE REVISION

Open the brackets.

1. Alice (*take, not*) the bus to school every day. She usually (*walk*) instead. (*Take, you*) the bus to get to school everyday, or (*walk, you*)?

2. It (*rain, not*) right now. The sun (*shine*). (*Rain, it*) a lot here?

3. Right now I (*look*) at the board. (*I, see*) some words on the blackboard.

4. I (*need*) to call my parents today and tell them about my new apartment. They can't call me because they (*know, not*) my new telephone number.

5. The tea is good. I (*like*) it. What kind is it? I (*prefer*) tea to coffee. How about you?

6. Right now the children (*be*) at the beach. They (*have*) a good time. They (*have*) a beach ball and they (*play*) with it. They (*like*) to play catch. Their parents (*sunbathe*). They (*try*) to get a tan. They (*listen*) to some music on a transistor radio. They also (*hear*) the sound of sea gulls and the sound of the waves.

7. Right now I (*think*) about sea gulls and waves. I (*think*) that sea gulls are beautiful birds.

8. Sam is at the library. He (*sit*) at a table. He (*write*) a composition. He (*use*) a dictionary to look up the spelling of some words. The dictionary (*belong, not*) to him. It (*belong*) to his roommate. Sam (*look*) up words in the dictionary because he (*want*) to make sure that he doesn't have any misspelled words in his paper.

9. A: Which colour (*prefer, you*), red or blue?

B: I (*like*) blue better than red. Why?

A: According to this magazine article I (*read*) right now, people who (*prefer*) blue to red (*be*) calm and (*value*) honesty and loyalty in their friends. A

preference for the colour red (*mean*) that a person (*be*) aggressive and (*love*) excitement.

B: Oh? That (*sound*) like a bunch of nonsense to me.

10. A: (*Believe, you*) in flying saucers?

B: What (*talk, you*) about?

A: You know, spaceships from outer space with alien creatures aboard.

B: In my opinion, flying saucers (*exist*) only in people's imagination.

11. Janice: What (*write, you*) in your notebook?

Diane: I (*make*) notes about questions I want to ask the teacher.

Janice: (*Prepare, you, always*) so thoroughly for every class?

Diane: I (*try, always*) to.

12. Bob: Jack really makes me angry!

Sue: Why?

Bob: Well, for one thing, he (*interrupt, always*) me. I can barely get a whole sentence out of my mouth.

Sue: Is that all?

Bob: No. He (*ask, always*) me to do his homework for him. I have enough homework of my own without doing his homework too!

13. Mother: Susie! Get your fingers out of the dessert! What (*do, you*)?

Susie: I (*taste*) the cake. It (*taste*) good.

Mother: Well, you'll just have to wait until dinnertime. You can have some then.

14. This morning it (*rain*). I can see Janet from my window. She (*stand*) at the corner of 5th and Pine. She (*hold*) her umbrella over her head. She (*wait*) for the bus. 15. Right now I (*look*) at Janet. She (*look*) angry. I wonder what's the matter. She (*have*) a frown on her face. She certainly (*have, not*) any fun right now.

## DEGREES OF COMPARISON

For comparison, adjectives have got two forms: **the comparative** and **the superlative**.

- We use **the comparative form + THAN** to compare two people or things.

*e.g. Alec is taller than Jim.*

*My house is more attractive than yours.*

- We use **THE + SUPERLATIVE FORM + OF / IN** to compare one person or thing with more than one person or thing in the same group. We use **IN** when we talk about places.

*e.g. Alec is the tallest of all.*

*New York is the most exciting city in the USA.*

### Comparative and Superlative Forms of Adjectives

- **The comparative of one-syllable and two-syllable adjectives is formed by adding -ER, and the superlative by adding -EST.**

*e.g. small - smaller - smallest*

- **The comparative of adjectives of three or more syllables is formed with MORE and the superlative with MOST**

*e.g. difficult - more difficult - most difficult*

- **The comparative and the superlative of some two-syllable adjectives, such as *clever, stupid, narrow, gentle, friendly*, etc. are formed either with -ER / -EST or with MORE/MOST.**

*e.g. friendly - friendlier - friendliest      friendly - more friendly - most friendly*

- **One-syllable adjectives ending in -E take -R in the comparative form and -ST in the superlative form.**

*e.g. nice - nicer - nicest*

- **Two-syllable adjectives ending in -Y turn the -Y into -I and then take -ER / -EST.**

*e.g. busy - busier - busiest*



- Adjectives ending in a stressed vowel between two consonants double the final consonant and take -ER/-EST.

*e.g. big - bigger - biggest*

**but:** *strong - stronger – strongest*

Irregular Comparatives and Superlatives		
adjective	comparative	superlative
<b>good/well</b>	<b>better</b>	<b>best</b>
<b>bad/badly</b>	<b>worse</b>	<b>worst</b>
<b>much/many</b>	<b>more</b>	<b>most</b>
<b>little</b>	<b>less</b>	<b>least</b>
<b>far</b>	<b>further/farther</b>	<b>furthest/farthest</b>

**Note:** **further/farther (adj) = a longer distance**

*e.g. His house is further/farther away from the post office than ours.*

**further (adj) = more**

*e.g. Don't hesitate to ask me if you need any further information.*

We use adjectives or their comparative or superlative forms with the following words:

- **very** + adjective

*e.g. This is a very expensive gift.*

- **much/a lot/far/a little/a bit/slightly** + comparative

*e.g. It's much hotter today than yesterday.*

- **by far** + superlative

*e.g. He's by far the best student in the class.*

## Types of Comparison

- We use **AS+ADJECTIVE+AS** to show that two people or things are similar in some way. In negative sentences, we use **NOT AS / SO... AS**.

*e.g. Paul is as old as Richard.*

*Alison is not as/so clever as Cynthia.*

- We use **LESS + ADJECTIVE + THAN** for two people or things. It is the opposite of **MORE...THAN**.

*e.g. This film is less exciting than the other anew saw. (=The other film we saw was more exciting than this one.)*

- We use **THE LEAST + ADJECTIVE + OF/IN** for more than two people or things. It is the opposite of **THE MOST...OF/IN**.

*e.g. The game we played yesterday was the least interesting of all we've played so far.*

- We use **COMPARATIVE + AND + COMPARATIVE** to show that something increases or decreases.

*e.g. He tried harder and harder until he opened the door.*

*As time went by, he got more and more impatient*

- We use **THE + COMPARATIVE... THE + COMPARATIVE** to show that two things change together or that one thing depends on another thing.

*e.g. The longer he talked, the more confused they became.*

### 1. Compare the size or quality of the objects.

*Example:*

*Your garden and your friend's garden (large). - My garden is larger than yours.*

1. Your kitchen and your neighbour's kitchen, (small)
2. Gemma and Helen, (pretty)
3. Your typewriter and your friend's typewriter, (good)
4. your spelling and your friend's spelling (bad)
5. the grey suit and the black suit (cheap)
6. Moscow and St. Petersburg, (old)
7. January and March, (cold)
8. Spring and summer, (warm)
9. Regent Street and Queen Street (long)
10. Mike and David,

(tall) 11. Your holiday and your friend's holiday, (short).

## 2. Disagree with the following statements.

*Example:*

- *Mike is the oldest in the group, (young) - No, he is the youngest in the group.*

1. Mary's drawing is the best, (bad) 2. Jack is the shortest of his friends, (tall) 3. This room is the largest at the office, (small) 4. Victor has the most mistakes in his dictation, (few) 5. The 22nd of June is the shortest day in the year. (long). 6. January is the hottest month, (cold) 7. The Indian Ocean is the coldest, (warm) 8. The Baxters' house is the worst in the district, (good) 9. Donald does the most work, (little).

## 3. Compare.

*Example:*

*The film, the book and the play (interesting) - The film is interesting, the play is more (less) interesting than the film, the book is the most (the least) interesting.*

1. Chinese, English, German (difficult); 2. Ann's dress, Helen's dress. Lucy's dress (fashionable); 3. The hotel in Regent Street, the hotel in King Street, the hotel in River Street (comfortable); 4. The typewriter, the TVset, the radio-set (expensive); 5. Spring, winter, summer (pleasant); 6. Mary, Jane, Alice (beautiful).

## 4. Say that the things below are of equal quality.

*Example:*

*Chinese is difficult. And Japanese? - Japanese is as difficult as Chinese.*

1. Our house is old. And yours? 2. Our sitting-room is large. And yours? 3. This raincoat is expensive. And what about that one? 4. My car is comfortable. And yours? 5. June is lovely here. And what about July? 6. The book is interesting. And what about the film? 7. I am very busy and you?

# **MY BACKGROUND**

## **Я и мое окружение**

**Учебное пособие**

**для студентов переводческого факультета  
(начальный этап обучения, английский язык)**

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