

Straightforward Intermediate

P O R T F O L I O



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Straightforward Intermediate
P O R T F O L I O


MACMILLAN

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Me

My life

Write about yourself using all of the words in the box.



My name's _____

Describe yourself

Write a short description of your appearance.

My taste & opinions

Write *Love it, Hate it, I don't mind, It annoys me, Fantastic* or any other opinion under each of these things.

spicy food



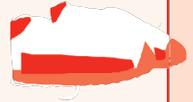
football

computer games



office work

jogging



credit cards

teenagers

reality TV



my boss

driving very fast

pizza



homework

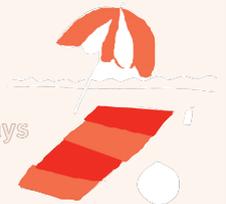
mobile phones



brand-name clothes

the internet

beach holidays



Language passport

My school/college

I go/went to _____.

Write the names of some teachers who have helped you. Say why they were good.

School subjects

The subjects I studied: _____

My favourite subjects: _____

My most difficult subjects: _____

I would like to learn more about: _____

I never want to have any more lessons on: _____

Examinations, qualifications & experience

Examinations I have passed:

Qualifications I have:

Things I have learnt outside school:

Work experience:

Experience of other cultures (travel, meeting people, reading, etc.):

My languages

My mother tongue is _____.

What languages can you speak? Complete the table. (1 = just a little, 5 = fluently)

Language:															
Speaking	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Writing	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Listening	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Reading	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Number of years studied															

These languages would be useful for me to learn in the future:

Circle the best phrase to complete these sentences for you.

I find it very easy / quite easy / quite difficult / very difficult to learn a language.

I think that the most important thing in learning a language is to be able to speak / listen / read / write in the new language.

The most difficult thing for me is speaking / listening / reading / writing.

I would like to improve my pronunciation / spelling / vocabulary / grammar / fluency.



My English

I can do these things easily in English:

I can also do these things in English, but not easily:

These things are still very difficult for me:

I would really like to be able to do these things in English:

‘A different language is a different vision of life.’

Federico Fellini (Italian film director)

My grammar

The following grammar items are studied at Common European Framework levels A1 to A2. How confident do you feel about your own understanding and use of each one? (1 = I don't know this very well. 2 = I know this fairly well. 3 = I have few problems with this.)

Grammar item	For example	1	2	3
Questions with <i>to be</i>	<i>Are you happy? Is he old?</i>			
Questions with auxiliary verbs	<i>Where do you live?</i>			
<i>How</i> & <i>what</i> questions	<i>How often do you fly?</i>			
Past simple	<i>We went to the cinema.</i>			
Used to	<i>She used to be a teacher.</i>			
Past continuous	<i>They were dancing.</i>			
Countable & uncountable nouns with <i>some, any</i> & <i>no</i>	<i>Have you got any rice? There's no milk.</i>			
<i>Some, many</i> & <i>most</i>	<i>Many Scots live abroad.</i>			
Quantifiers	<i>We haven't got enough milk.</i>			
Present simple & adverbs of frequency	<i>I usually walk to work.</i>			
Present continuous, dynamic & stative verbs	<i>I'm enjoying the film. I love the film.</i>			
Prepositions of time	<i>in a year, on Monday, at 10 a.m.</i>			
Going to & present continuous for future plans	<i>She's going to leave. I'm visiting there next week.</i>			
Will for decisions	<i>I'll get it. We'll pay.</i>			
Modifiers	<i>a bit hungry, extremely tired</i>			
Comparatives	<i>taller, more expensive</i>			
Superlatives	<i>the tallest, the most expensive</i>			
Present perfect simple	<i>She's been to China.</i>			
Present perfect simple with <i>already</i> & <i>yet</i>	<i>Have you been there yet?</i>			
<i>May, might</i> & <i>will</i> for predictions	<i>It might happen.</i>			
<i>Maybe, probably, certainly, etc.</i> for predictions	<i>They will certainly win.</i>			
Present tenses in future time clauses	<i>When she arrives ...</i>			
Passive	<i>This was made in Ireland.</i>			
Passive with agent	<i>He was found by the police.</i>			
Present perfect simple with <i>for</i> & <i>since</i>	<i>I've lived here since 1999. She hasn't worked for three years.</i>			
Present perfect simple for unfinished time	<i>I've been on holiday twice this year.</i>			
Present perfect simple with <i>been</i> & <i>gone</i>	<i>She's gone to France. He's been to Spain.</i>			
Infinitive of purpose	<i>I bought it to help you.</i>			
Modals of obligation (present time)	<i>You must leave. She has to go.</i>			
Modals of obligation (past time)	<i>They had to work all day. We couldn't talk in the exam.</i>			
Prepositions of movement	<i>around, along, through</i>			
Relative clauses	<i>We saw a café that had lovely cakes.</i>			

Needs analysis

English is important for me because _____

I will need English in the future to _____

Tick the boxes to show how important these things are for you.

	not	quite	very
	important		
Describe people and things	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tell a story	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Express opinions and discuss topics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Participate in meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Make presentations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socialize in English	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reserve hotels or book tickets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Order food in restaurants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Receive visitors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read newspaper and magazine articles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Make telephone calls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read business or technical texts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read for enjoyment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Understand information on the internet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Understand presentations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Understand movies and TV programmes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Write and read notes and memos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Write and read emails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Write and read personal letters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Write and read business letters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pass an exam	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Which two or three are your priorities? Mark them with a *.

Diary

You will find diary sections throughout this Portfolio. These are for you to write your thoughts while you study the course. How you use it is up to you. You can answer the question or use the diary space to write down:

- your answer to other questions on the page.
- interesting things that happen during lessons or study time.
- important or useful things you learn during the course.
- thoughts about what you are learning and how you are studying.
- things that are easy or difficult for you.
- things that you enjoy or don't enjoy.
- conversations you have with teachers or other students.

Look at the sample diary entry from page 46 of this Portfolio. It gives you an idea of the kind of thing you could write.

What is the secret to success in English? Do you have any 'tricks of the trade'?

Every night before I go to bed I spend 20 to 30 minutes looking at the vocabulary word lists from the Student's Book.

This really helps me to remember new words. Maybe this is because I'm relaxed and my brain thinks about the new words while I am sleeping. Sometimes I dream in English too! I watch a lot of British and American movies on DVD with subtitles, and this helps my listening. I also try to speak with my friends in English as often as possible. Once a month we have an 'English evening' when we all meet and talk to each other in English. It's a lot of fun.

I suppose the reason why diaries are so rarely kept nowadays is that nothing ever happens to anybody.

A.A. Milne (author of *Winnie the Pooh*)



1A | Double lives

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand a radio review of a television programme.
- I can understand the main ideas in magazine articles and TV listings.
- I can discuss what people are likely to lie about.
- I can use stative verbs to describe my emotions and opinions.

Lying

Why do you think some people might lie about the following things?

their age

their qualifications

their phone number

their job

Annoying lies

Which lies do you find the most annoying when other people lie to you?



The 'Lie Detector' used by the California Police in the 1920s. The detector records a person's heart rate and any lies spoken are noted by an increase in the rate.

My imaginary lives

Imagine that you are like Walter Mitty and you live your life as if you are a dream character having an exciting life. Who will you be? Describe your character.

Now imagine that you are participating in the TV show *Faking It*. What job (completely different from your real work) would you like to try? Would you be successful in it?

Political parties

Write a short description of the main political parties in your country and what they stand for.

Diary

You are starting *Straightforward* Intermediate. What do you think will be good about studying this course?

Stative & dynamic

No more lies! Write some true sentences about you using the verbs in the forms given.

think seeing have having see thinking



1B | Britishness

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand different opinions about a topic.
- I can talk about my self-image.
- I can make subject and object questions.
- I can discuss my national culture.

When you think about Britain ...

Which of these things do you associate with Britain?

bad weather literature the sea football tea with milk
 double-decker buses cricket Big Ben good food

Write three other things that you associate with Britain.

Who said what about Britain?

Can you match the quotes to their authors?

1 *England is a nation of shopkeepers.*

2 *Britain is a world by itself.*

3 *When two Englishmen meet,
 first talk is of the weather.*

a William Shakespeare

b Dr Johnson

c Napoleon Bonaparte



Facts about Britain – True or false?

- 1 The average annual temperature in London is colder than Paris.
- 2 The UK is the only country in Europe where people drive on the left.
- 3 Fishing is the most popular participation sport in the UK.

Famous Britons

Which of these people are/were British or were born in Britain?

Charlie Chaplin Madonna Bono Alfred Hitchcock

*England and America are two countries
 separated by a common language.*

George Bernard Shaw (Irish writer, 1856–1950)

1c | First impressions

Can do (tick✓)

- I can talk about first impressions.
- I can describe someone's appearance.
- I can understand descriptions of people's jobs and characteristics.
- I can use the correct intonation for lists.

Meeting new people

What things do you usually notice about new people when you meet them for the first time? For example, do you typically notice their eyes, clothes, voice, character, hair, body language, or something else?



Diary

Do you think you have made a good impression in your English class? Why or why not?



Describing yourself

Which of these words would you use to describe yourself?

calm muscular friendly healthy slim
 bald wide-eyed organized tanned cheerful
 middle-aged

Now write a short description of yourself.



2A | Journeys

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand stories about unusual journeys.
- I can discuss travelling.
- I can describe a film I've seen or a book I've read recently.
- I can use phrasal verbs to ask questions.

Round the world

If you could travel around the world on an adventure, how would you prefer to travel? Why?

train skateboard bicycle yacht horse submarine
hang-glider ship hot-air balloon camel

Famous cities

Which of these places have you visited and which would you like to visit?

Beijing Rio de Janeiro Tokyo New York Moscow

Write three more places you would like to visit and why you would like to go there.

Crazy journey

Tony Hawk's hitch-hiked round Ireland with a fridge and then wrote a book about his experiences. What strange item would you take with you if you went on such a journey?

Describe a journey

Write about a journey you either enjoyed or hated, using these verbs.

leave arrive wait hope spend



The joy of travel ...

Which of these adjectives best describes your positive travel experiences?

exotic educational stimulating exciting relaxing challenging

Think of three more positive adjectives to describe your travel experiences.

The pain of travel ...

Put these negative aspects of air travel in order from 1 (= the most disliked) to 5.

- queuing at check-in
- delayed flights
- crowds
- bad weather
- lost luggage



Diary

In what ways is this course different from courses you have taken before? Do you think you are learning faster?

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.

Lao-tzu (Chinese philosopher, 604–531BC)

2B | Down under

Can do (tick ✓)

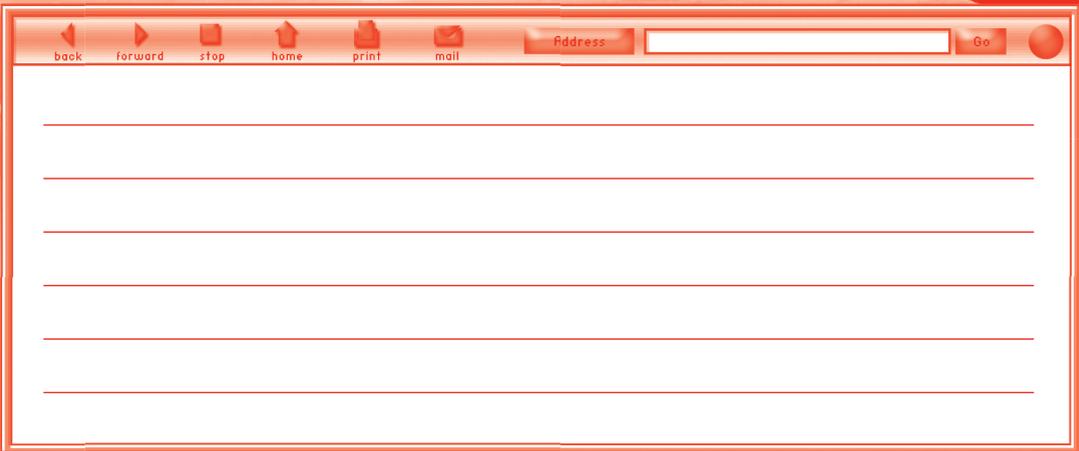
- I can understand a travel weblog.
- I can talk generally about another country.
- I can plan a long journey.
- I can describe a route across my country.

Australia

Have you ever been to Australia? Would you like to go there?
What things would you most like to see or do there?

Weblog

Where did you go on your last long journey or holiday?
Write a brief weblog entry about a day from this trip.



back forward stop home print mail Address Go

Finished & unfinished times

Complete these sentences to describe two things that have happened in your life.

Last month I _____.

Over the past year _____.

Vocabulary

Can you remember these words from lesson 2B?

- 1 If you **backpack**, do you usually stay in nice hotels?
- 2 If you are **spellbound**, do you find something boring?
- 3 If something is **sacred**, is it important in a religious way?
- 4 If something **inspires** you, does it make you feel miserable?

2c | Getting around

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand conversations about journeys.
- I can describe how to get around my town or city.
- I can use verb collocations associated with travel.
- I can ask for directions.



Getting to work or school

Circle the words that best describe your journey to work or school today.

uneventful smooth tiring
 boring crowded annoying
 hectic quick disastrous slow

Now write a sentence to describe today's journey.

Tourist: How much does it cost to the station?

Taxi-driver: That's eight pounds, sir.

Tourist: And how much for my luggage?

Taxi-driver: Oh, the luggage goes free.

Tourist: Great! Take the luggage. I'll walk.

Diary

What were the most important things you learnt in Units 1 & 2? What was your best lesson?

Indefinite article with travel words

With which of these words do you need the indefinite article (a/an)?

travel trip journey travelling flight

Check your answers by completing this sentence: *Did you have a good* _____ ?

3A | Dream homes

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can talk about where I live.
- I can understand someone talking about the advantages of where they live.
- I can persuade someone to do something.
- I can use modal verbs of obligation, permission and prohibition to talk about general rules.

Advantages & disadvantages

What are the advantages and disadvantages of your own home? Think about the building, facilities, furnishings and location.

My community

Imagine that you and your friends are going to start a new community (similar to Paradise Ridge in lesson 3A). What would it be like? What would the three main rules be?

Make, let & allow

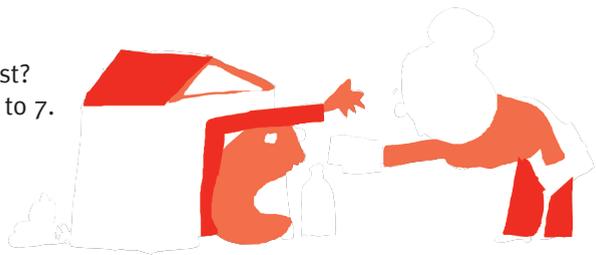
Complete these sentences so that they are true for you.

- 1 When I was young I was always allowed to _____.
- 2 I didn't want to but somebody made me _____.
- 3 I'd never let _____.

Favourite homes

Which home would you like to live in the most?
Number the homes from 1 (= your favourite) to 7.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> lighthouse | <input type="checkbox"/> houseboat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cave | <input type="checkbox"/> tree house |
| <input type="checkbox"/> flat | <input type="checkbox"/> mobile home |
| <input type="checkbox"/> windmill | |



'I wanted a bigger house but prices are so high nowadays.'

Now write a sentence to explain why 1 is your favourite and 7 is your least favourite.

Diary

In your English class, do you usually work with different people or always the same ones? Do you work well with other people?

Obligation, permission & prohibition

What are some of the things you can do, must do, mustn't do and don't have to do when you ...

go on holiday?

look after a young baby?

want to buy a home of your own?

Stress

Look at these patterns of word stress. Put the words in the box in the correct column.

1	2	3	4
<u>authorities</u>	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

authorities residents

apartment

suburbs facilities

community museum

hospital houseboat

“My home is not a place. It is people.”

Lois McMaster Bujold (American fantasy author)

3B | Bedrooms

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand the main idea in a short article.
- I can use collocations to talk about habits.
- I can use modal verbs of obligation, permission and prohibition to talk about rules in the past.
- I can use vocabulary related to sleep.

How much sleep do you need?

How many hours do you normally sleep each night? How do you feel if you get more or less than this?

Dreams

Which of these dreams have you experienced?

going on a journey
 being late for work or school
 being chased by a dangerous animal
 failing a test or exam
 wearing the wrong clothes
 flying



Write about a dream you have had.

Sleep – help or hindrance?

Which of these things can help you to get a good night's sleep and which do not help?

a hot bath hot milk or chocolate a glass of wine cheese
 watching TV the sound of the sea strong coffee reading

Getting to sleep

Complete these sentences so that they are true for you.

I always fall asleep in _____.

I can never sleep in _____.

*Laugh and the world laughs with you,
 snore and you sleep alone.*

3c | Dinner date

Can do (tick✓)

- I can understand conversations at a dinner party.
- I can make polite requests and respond to requests.
- I can use conversation fillers in a social situation.
- I can describe a meal I ate at someone's home.

Dinner date

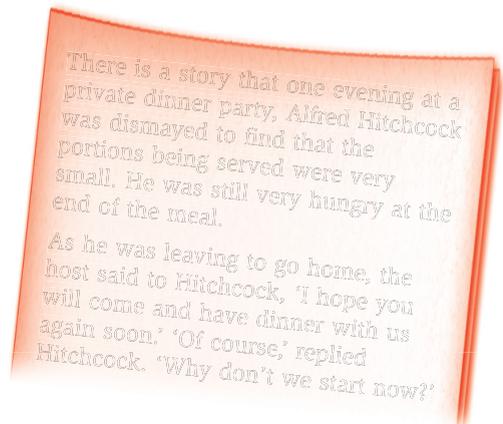
What was the most enjoyable dinner you have ever had at someone else's home? Why was it so good? Have you ever had a terrible dinner date? Why was it so bad?

Polite requests

Think of a polite request that you could make to your best friend, your teacher and your favourite pop or film star.

British food

What British food have you tried? What was it like? Which items would you like to try? Are any British foods similar to ones in your country?



Dinner party

Imagine that you can invite six guests to your dream dinner party. They can be alive or dead, from real life or fiction. Who would you invite – and why?



4A | Luck of the draw

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand the main ideas in an article.
- I can use idioms to talk about taking risks.
- I can use the past simple and past continuous to tell a story.
- I can distinguish between the strong and weak forms of the pronunciation of *was* and *were*.

Lucky & unlucky numbers

Which numbers are lucky or unlucky in your country? Do you have a personal lucky number? Which six numbers would you choose for your lottery ticket? Why?

The lottery, gambling & competitions

Have you ever done any of the following?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> bought a winning lottery ticket | <input type="checkbox"/> won a prize in a competition |
| <input type="checkbox"/> won money on the result of a sporting event | <input type="checkbox"/> won money in a casino or on a gaming machine |

Write a sentence about your experiences.

Where's the stress?

Where would you usually find the main stress in these expressions?

a bit of a gamble a lot at stake against the odds play safe try my luck

Diary

What is the most interesting thing that has happened in your English class so far?

Why do you never see a headline like “Psychic wins lottery”?

Jay Leno (American comedian)

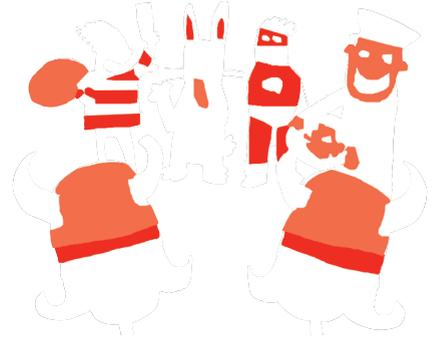
4B | Coincidences

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand a conversation about lifestyle.
- I can discuss similarities and differences.
- I can use *both* and *neither* to compare people and things.
- I can recognize the main topics discussed in informal conversations.

Coincidences

Do you believe in coincidences? Have there been any strange coincidences in your own life?



In 1975, while riding a moped in Bermuda, a man was accidentally hit and killed by a taxi. On the same day, a year later, this man's brother was killed in the same way. In fact, he was riding the very same moped. And even more of a coincidence, he was hit by the same taxi with the same driver – carrying the same passenger.

My family

Write some things that are true about your family using *neither* and *both*.

Responding

Write true responses to these comments for you, e.g. *So do I*, *Neither am I*, *I don't*, etc.

I love chocolate.

I can drive.

I've never been to America.

I can't stand folk music.

4c | Twists of fate

Can do (tick ✓)

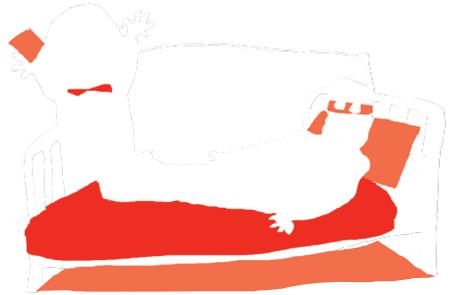
- I can understand specific facts in a news story.
- I can give explanations for common injuries.
- I can use the past perfect to talk about a sequence of events in the past.
- I can discuss superstitions and beliefs in my country.

Injuries

Which of these injuries have you had?

a twisted ankle a black eye a burn
a cut that needed stitches a broken arm

Write about your injury. Where were you? What happened?
How long did it take you to recover?



'Good news, Mr Anderson. We've found your lottery ticket!'

A lucky escape

Have you ever had a lucky escape? What happened?

Some bad experiences

Complete these sentences with some imaginary endings.

I couldn't get into my house because _____.

I wasn't allowed to enter the nightclub because _____.

I had to walk home because _____.

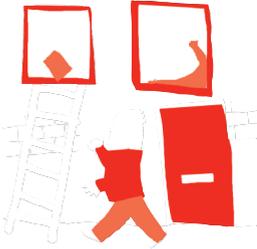
Now write a sentence to describe a true bad experience.

What can you remember?

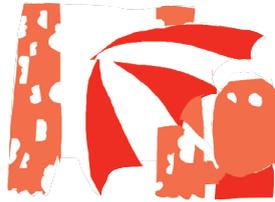
What can you remember about the things that happened to Frane Selak in lesson 4c?
Is he really lucky ... or unlucky?

Superstitions

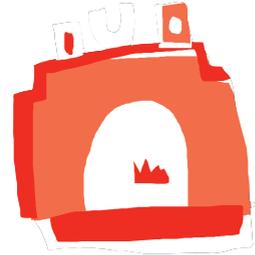
Which of these superstitions exist in your country?



It's bad luck to walk under a ladder.



It's bad luck to open an umbrella indoors.



It's good luck if you have a horseshoe hanging over your fireplace.

Write two more superstitions that are common in your country.

Diary

You are now a third of the way through *Straightforward* Intermediate. How are you getting on? Do you feel your English is improving?

Lottery quiz

1 What are your chances of winning a national lottery big prize?

- a 1 in 1 million
- b 1 in 14 million
- c 1 in 100 million

2 If you play the same lottery numbers every week, week after week, how often are you likely to win the top prize?

- a once every 2,300 years
- b once every 56,000 years
- c once every 250,000 years

*‘Fear is the main source of superstition ...
to conquer fear is the beginning of wisdom.’*

Bertrand Russell (English philosopher, 1872–1970)

5A Hard sell

Can do (tick✓)

- I can do a market research survey.
- I can talk about my favourite brands.
- I can give a small presentation to a group of people.
- I can use *as + adjective* to talk about the differences and similarities between two things.

Brand names

Are brand names important to you? Is it sensible to pay more money for a brand name product? Which brand names do you like? Which brands do you avoid?

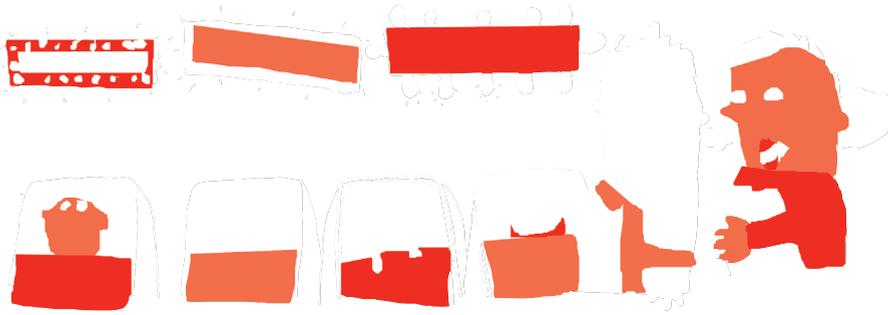
Diary

Is there a place you like to go to study English? Do you have a favourite shop where you buy your English books?

Comparatives

Think of some things that you own. Write some comparisons between them using these words and phrases.

much cheaper much more old-fashioned better quality as good as



'We believe in catching them young.'

Advertising

Do you like looking at adverts? Are they useful or annoying? What do you think about advertising to children at school? Is it OK or not? When is advertising not suitable?

Advertisements

Here is a great new product: a pair of sunglasses with a built-in DVD and MP3 music player! Think of some adjectives to describe it and write a few sentences to make an advertisement for it.

Sunglasses with DVD and MP3 player!



Prefixes

How many words can you remember beginning with these prefixes?

dis:
in:
un:
im:

/s/, /z/ & /ʃ/

Look at the underlined letters. Some words are in the wrong column. Write them in the correct place.

/s/	/z/	/ʃ/
<u>centre</u>	advice	<u>she</u>
wa <u>s</u>	tr <u>ie</u> s	st <u>ati</u> on
no <u>s</u> e	pa <u>ti</u> ent	la <u>z</u> y

Adjectives

Which two adjectives best describe you?

healthy patient fashionable successful impatient strong happy
surprising busy reliable old-fashioned efficient stylish popular

5B | The office

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can find the information I need in an article.
- I can share my opinions in a meeting.
- I can use comparing nouns to compare myself to other people.
- I can use phrases with comparatives and superlatives.

The ideal office

Which of these items do you consider to be essential for an office?

filing cabinet water fountain coffee machine printer clock calendar

Add three more items and say why you think they are important.

Desk items

These items are commonly found on an office desk. What are they for?

stapler paperclip hole punch
in-tray rubber band

The perfect boss

Put these qualities of a boss in order from 1 (= the most important) to 5.

- a good listener
- open to ideas
- always gives plenty of information
- fair – applies the same rules to everyone
- friendly

Complete this sentence.

The perfect boss should _____



Joke

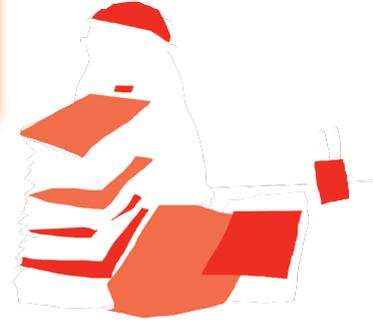
When I don't do it, I'm lazy.
When my boss doesn't do it, he's too busy.

Never do today that which will become someone else's responsibility tomorrow.

5c | Paperwork

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can answer the phone in a company.
- I can understand someone placing an order on the phone.
- I can place an order on the phone.
- I can describe an office.



Phoning

Do you like making phone calls connected with work or business? What are the most annoying things about phoning a business company (e.g. automatic systems, answering machines, holding on for a long time)?

Phone expressions

Can you remember a complete phone expression with each of these words in it?

hold

leave

take

Office supplies

How many office supplies can you list in one minute? Time yourself.

biro, pencil ...

Diary

How much writing do you do in English? What kinds of text do you find the most difficult to write?

6A | Summer holiday

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand people talking about their holiday plans.
- I can describe my last holiday.
- I can understand different tourist brochures.
- I can make predictions about a situation.

Winter & summer holidays

Which of these items would you take on a winter holiday and which on a summer holiday (or both)?

sunglasses sun block gloves lots of books driving licence warm clothes
umbrella beach towel

What do you look for in a summer holiday?

Put these things in order of importance for you from 1 (= the most important) to 5.

- a nice beach
- warm sun
- interesting, historical places to visit
- good food
- nightlife

Now write a sentence about your ideal holiday destination and why you would like to go there.



Toby's mother decides to apply total sun block.

The best & the worst

Think of some good and bad holidays you have had. Write about the best and the worst.

Holiday disaster!

Here are some common problems experienced by holidaymakers. Have any of these happened to you?

food poisoning sunburn theft lost luggage airport delays

Pronunciation

Underline the syllables with unstressed /ə/ sounds in these words from lesson 6A.

agent brochure similar arrival water sports picturesque weather

I'm looking forward to ...

When are you next going on holiday? What are you most looking forward to?

Describing a holiday

Circle the words or phrases that best describe your last summer holiday.

boring incredible expensive tiring
 a real adventure stimulating relaxing
 educational fun restful

Now write a sentence about your holiday.



Diary

What kind of homework do you enjoy? What do you find the hardest to do?
 Is homework useful for you or not?

‘Laughter is an instant vacation.’

Milton Berle (American TV presenter, 1908–2002)

6B | Perfect day

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can talk about the best place to go for a day out in my area.
- I can use present tenses to talk about future time.
- I can understand different tourist brochures.
- I can discuss cultural aspects of cities.

Day out

What is your perfect day out? Where would you go? Who with? What would you do?

Perfect day

Which of these things would make a day perfect for you?

laughter chocolate money beach wine bed football
sun music children

Add three more words, then write about the most perfect day you have ever had.

*‘Summer afternoon; to me those have always been the
the two most beautiful words in the English language.’*

Henry James (American writer, 1843–1916)

6c | Travel plans

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand telephone travel enquiries.
- I can respond to personal news with appropriate phrases and intonation.
- I can use indirect questions to make polite enquiries.
- I can make collocations with the verb *sound*.

How can you book a trip?

Which of these would you use to book a trip? Which would you never use? Why not?

internet travel agent telephone airline office

Diary

What new grammar have you learnt in Units 1–6? What grammar is easy for you now, and what do you still find difficult?

How does that sound?

How many adjectives can you remember from lesson 6c? Respond to these suggestions for a holiday using *That sounds ...*

- a trip to Australia
- two weeks in a capital city
- a hiking trip in the Sahara desert
- camping in Scotland
- a cruise with your family
- a working holiday with an aid agency

Travel

Rearrange the letters to find holiday and travel words.

otehl habce gltihf
rtrseo ktietc

*Travel is only glamorous
in retrospect.*

Paul Theroux (American writer)

7A | Life changes

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand phrasal verbs in a reading passage.
- I can understand metaphorical language in a short poem.
- I can discuss the consequences of life-changing events.
- I can use *for*, *since* and *how long* with the present perfect continuous.

Life changes

What are the biggest changes that have happened in your own life?
What was difficult about them? Were there positive results?



The road

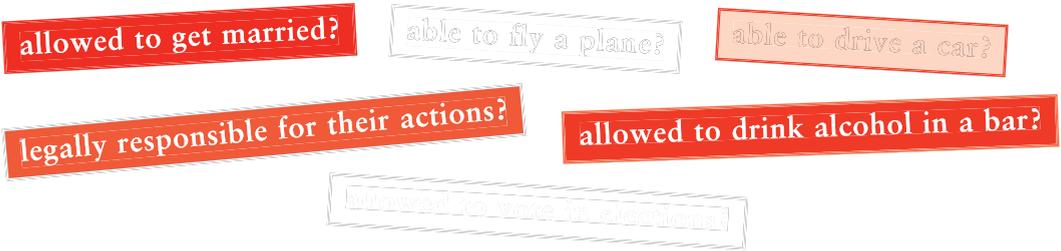
Imagine the last two weeks of your life as a road. Was it a straight path?
Did it have unexpected turns? Was there a crossroads?

Diary

Apart from your Student's Book, what reading (if any) do you do in English? Could you read more? What? Would it be useful?

Legal ages

Imagine you are the president of your country. What age do you think people should be ...



Complete these metaphors about yourself. Use some of the suggestions or choose your own.

My life is _____ (a lottery / a beautiful garden / a rollercoaster / a hurricane / a comedy film).

Studying English is _____ (a marathon / a bike ride downhill / swimming in mud / flying like an eagle / walking in the dark / a battle).

Stages of my life

Put these life events in a likely order for your own life. You may not need all the events.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> getting married | <input type="checkbox"/> moving to a new town |
| <input type="checkbox"/> leaving home | <input type="checkbox"/> leaving school |
| <input type="checkbox"/> retiring | <input type="checkbox"/> going to college / university |
| <input type="checkbox"/> being born | <input type="checkbox"/> starting a new job |
| <input type="checkbox"/> having children | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> graduating | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> starting school | |



Youth is a wonderful thing. What a crime to waste it on children.

7B | Happy birthday

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand the main topics in an article.
- I can talk about the advantages and disadvantages of different life stages.
- I can summarize a topic I've discussed in class.
- I can distinguish between the present perfect simple and present perfect continuous.

The secrets of a long life

Put these secrets of a long life in order of importance from 1 (= the most important) to 5.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> not smoking | <input type="checkbox"/> avoiding alcohol |
| <input type="checkbox"/> eating healthy food | <input type="checkbox"/> doing plenty of exercise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> going to bed early each night | |

Celebrating birthdays

How do people celebrate birthdays in your country?

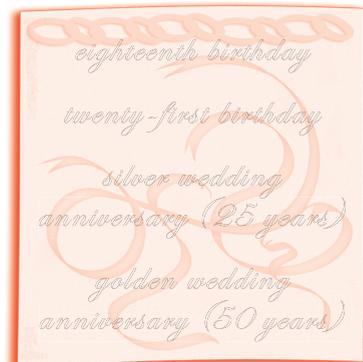
give presents send cards meet friends
 have a meal not do anything special
 have a birthday party

Write about your last birthday. What did you do?



Anniversaries

These are some important birthdays and anniversaries in the UK. Are they the same in your country?



Pronunciation

Underline the stress in each word.

pensioner toddler adolescent teenager anniversary

***Marriage is the alliance of two people,
 one of whom never remembers birthdays
 and the other never forgets them.***

Ogden Nash (American poet, 1902–1971)

7c | Dilemmas

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand two friends discussing a personal problem.
- I can talk about someone's personal problems.
- I can give advice to someone.
- I can respond to new information using exclamations with *what*.

When are you going to choose my name, Mum?



Difficult decisions

What have been the most difficult dilemmas of your life in the last few years? How did you decide what to do?

Diary

What is the best advice your English teacher or another student has given you recently?

Expensive advice

A doctor met a lawyer at a party. While they were chatting an old man came up and asked the doctor for advice about his sore back. When the man had gone, the doctor turned to the lawyer and said, 'When someone comes up to me in my free time, I never know whether I should send them a bill for the advice. What do you think I should do?' 'Oh, you should certainly send a bill,' said the lawyer. So the next day the doctor sent the old man a bill. And in the post the following day, the doctor received a bill from the lawyer!

What a good idea!

Here are some words that come after *What a/an ...!*
Can you unscramble them?

fileer

hemsa

tidio

manhigter

oceanins

8A | Breaking news

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand general topics and details in a radio interview.
- I can understand the connections between newspaper headlines and articles.
- I can understand the main ideas in short newspaper articles.
- I can use *would* + infinitive to give an opinion about hypothetical future situations.

News

Are you someone who likes to keep up with the latest news? How often? Where do you get your news from?

the internet television radio friends & family
national newspaper local newspaper I'm not interested

Big news story

Write about an important news story that you particularly remember, either from your country or around the world.

Tabloid or broadsheet?

What should a newspaper be like? Circle the words you agree with.

serious informative fun varied simple colourful
full of pictures topical educational provocative

Diary

What is easy or difficult about reading newspaper articles in English? Which of the British newspapers from lesson 8A would you choose to read? Why?

Jobs

Circle the newspaper job that would most interest you.

editor news journalist photographer *feature writer*

Would you be a good newspaper person? Why or why not?

Famous newspapers from around the world

Can you match the newspapers to the countries?

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 1 Le Monde | a Germany |
| 2 Die Welt | b Spain |
| 3 The Herald Tribune | c Italy |
| 4 El Pais | d Russia |
| 5 Pravda | e USA |
| 6 Corriere della Sera | f France |



Which page?

Which page do you look at first in the newspaper?

sports domestic news foreign news
 TV page small ads games & puzzles
 weather crime

Do you start reading at the front of the newspaper, in the middle or at the back?

Newspaper headlines

Here are some genuine newspaper headlines with two possible meanings. Can you see both meanings? Check your ideas on page 64.

1

POLICE FOUND DRUNK
 IN SHOP WINDOW

3

20-YEAR FRIENDSHIP
 ENDS WITH WEDDING

2

MINERS REFUSE TO
 WORK AFTER DEATH

4

STOLEN PAINTING
 FOUND BY TREE

It's amazing that the amount of news that happens in the world every day always just exactly fits the newspaper.

Jerry Seinfeld (American comedian)

8B | Speeding

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand details of a conversation between two friends.
- I can talk about driving.
- I can offer to help someone.
- I can discuss the advantages and disadvantages of a hypothetical situation.

Speeding

What do you think about speeding? Is it OK to speed – or not?
Do you think speed cameras are a good thing? Do you think men speed more than women?



'What makes you think we were speeding, officer?'

Driving vocabulary

Match the verbs to the noun phrases.

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 be caught by | a your seat belt |
| 2 put on | b your driving test |
| 3 drive the wrong way up | c a speed camera |
| 4 stop at | d the speed limit |
| 5 pass | e a one-way street |
| 6 break | f the traffic lights |

Diary

What do you find difficult when listening to English being spoken? What helps you to listen more successfully?

8c | Bank robbers

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand reasons for action in a newspaper article.
- I can describe film plots.
- I can use conditional clauses to talk about imaginary situations.
- I can use a set of words related to law and order.

Stop thief!

Match the people to the pictures.

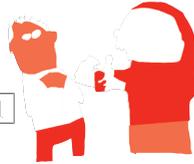
burglar

robber

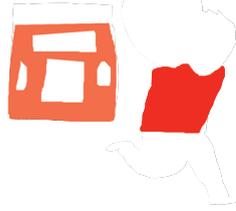
pickpocket

mugger

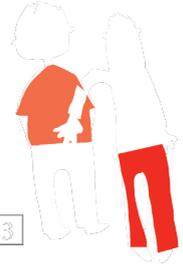
1



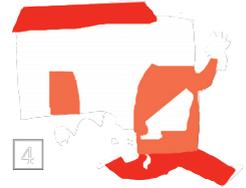
2



3



4



A lawyer defended a man accused of burglary with this argument, 'My client just put his arm into the window and took a few things. It would not be fair to punish the whole person for a crime committed by his arm.'

'Then following your logic,' the judge replied, 'I sentence the defendant's arm to one year in prison. He can accompany it or not, I don't mind.'

The defendant smiled. With a little help from his lawyer, he removed his artificial arm, laid it on the table and walked out.

Crime

What crimes are in the news at the moment?

Get rich quick

Put these in order from 1 (= the best way to get rich quickly) to 6.



rob a bank



buy a lottery ticket



marry someone rich



get a job as a self-employed builder



print your own money



become an English teacher

Word stress

Number these words according to their stress: 1 ■■■, 2 ■■ or 3 ■■.

witness

evidence

arrest

criminal

launderette

treatment

demand

guilty

injury

9A Shops & shoppers

Can do (tick✓)

- I can understand specific questions in a radio interview.
- I can make notes from a reading passage.
- I can prepare an argument for and against a proposal.
- I can present a proposal to a group of people.

Shopping

Do you enjoy shopping or not? What kind of shops are your favourites? Do you spend too much?

Quantifiers

Complete these sentences about shopping so that they are true for you.

- 1 I spend most of my money on _____
- 2 Some of the best websites on the internet are _____
- 3 I don't enjoy any of _____
- 4 Many of my friends _____
- 5 None of the people in my country _____

My supermarket shopping basket

What are some things you would find in a typical supermarket shopping basket in your country? Is your own basket similar to the average basket in your country?

Containers

Think about your kitchen at home. Write some of the things you have in the correct columns.

bottle	can	jar	packet	box

Diary

Is your pronunciation improving? Which of these areas are difficult for you: sounds, intonation, stress? Are there some sounds in English that are hard for you to hear or pronounce. Which ones?

Determiners

Find four places where you need to add 'the' to these sentences.

There are more than a hundred shops in town centre.

Could you buy me some potatoes at market, please?

When I go to supermarket, I always spend too much money.

I've started buying things on internet.

Shopping collocations

How many collocations and compounds with the word *shop* or *shopping* can you remember from page 88 of your Student's Book?

shopping ma _____

shoplif _____

high s _____ shopping

onl _____ shopping

cor _____ shop



'You've been shopping online again, haven't you?'

Whoever said money can't buy happiness simply didn't know where to go shopping.

9B | E-shopping

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand complaints.
- I can find information on a website.
- I can understand collocations with *take*.
- I can prepare and answer quiz questions.

E-shopping – secure or not?

Which of these statements do you agree with?

‘Shopping on the internet is quick, easy and efficient.’

‘I never shop on the internet because I don’t want to give my credit card details online.’

‘Internet shopping will force a lot of real shops to close.’



Feelings

How do you feel today? Have you had a good week? Complete these sentences so that they are true for you.

I feel a bit _____.

I feel extremely _____.

I don't feel very _____.

I'm fairly _____.

Internet shopping

Which of these things would you happily buy on the internet? Which would you never buy on the internet? Why or why not?

clothes books a holiday food CDs / DVDs a house a car a pet

Take

How many expressions with *take* can you remember from lesson 9B?

Shopping is cheaper than a psychiatrist.

Tammy Faye Bakker (former wife of US evangelist Jim Bakker)

9c | Telephone bills

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand general and specific information in conversations.
- I can talk about the design of products.
- I can complain about a product I'm not happy with.
- I can discuss phone services in my country.

Telephoning

Do you have a mobile phone? Is it an essential or a luxury item? How much time do you spend on it? What's the best thing about your phone?

Complaints

Do you often complain about things? What was the last thing you complained about? Was your complaint successful or not?



Diary

What do you think about the characters (Camilla, Derek, etc.) in the story in *Straightforward Intermediate*? What do you think is going to happen at the end of the story?

Middle age is when you're sitting at home on a Saturday night and the telephone rings and you hope it isn't for you.

Ogden Nash (American poet, 1902–1971)

10A | Secrets

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand contrasting opinions on a radio talk show.
- I can describe a process.
- I can argue for and against a topic.
- I can change the meaning of a sentence by stressing different words.

A kind of magic

Circle the words you most associate with magic and magicians.

fake incredible skill illusion suspicious
fascinating trick entertaining

Magic tricks

Have you seen magic tricks involving any of the following?

knives fire locks animals playing cards

Describe the best magic trick you have ever seen.



Diary

What is the secret to success in English? Do you have any 'tricks of the trade'?

Mysterious places

Match these places and things to the countries.

- | | |
|-----------------|----------|
| 1 Easter Island | Egypt |
| 2 Machu Pichu | Chile |
| 3 Stonehenge | Peru |
| 4 Angkor | England |
| 5 The Sphinx | Cambodia |



A strange experience

Write about a strange experience you have had (or someone you know has had).

Opposites

Use prefixes to form the negative of these adjectives.

probable possible likely certain definite

Your day

What was your day like today? Circle the best words.

stressful relaxed busy boring dull rewarding up and down
so-so exciting routine

Now write a sentence to describe your day.

*The true mystery of the world
is the visible, not the invisible.*

Oscar Wilde (Irish writer, 1854–1900)

10B | Mysteries

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand the order of events in a description of a film.
- I can use different forms of speculation to guess the solution to a mysterious situation.
- I can use modal verbs + *have* + past participle to make guesses about the past.
- I can make sentences using verb + *to* infinitive.

Missing

If someone you knew really well went away for eight years and then came back, do you think ...

- 1 you would definitely recognize them?
- 2 you might have some problems identifying them?
- 3 you would have real trouble being certain of their identity?

What is your opinion of the Martin Guerre story in lesson 10B?

Mysteries

What is the most mysterious true story that you know from your own country?

What happened?

What is the most likely explanation for each of these situations?

A friend of yours suddenly gives you £500.

When you switch on the TV there is no picture.

You come back to your home and find the front door open.

Mysterious deaths

Can you work out what happened in each of these situations? Check your ideas on page 64.

1 A man is found dead in a phone box. There is glass everywhere and two broken windows. How did he die?

2 A woman is lying face down in the middle of a desert. On her back is something that could have saved her life. What happened?

3 Romeo and Juliet are found dead in the middle of the room. All around them is water and some broken glass. How did they die?

10c | Strictly confidential

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand the advantages and disadvantages of a plan.
- I can talk about the advantages and disadvantages of a decision.
- I can explain the reasons behind my decisions.
- I can understand and use certain idioms.

Confidential information

Put these in order according to how confidential they are from 1 (= the most private and secret) to 5.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> your bank details | <input type="checkbox"/> your personal diary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> your medical history | <input type="checkbox"/> your political opinions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> your private correspondence | |

Taboos

In Britain you never ask someone how much they earn as this is generally considered to be very impolite. Are there any similar taboos in your country?



Diary

Look back through *Straightforward Intermediate*. Which of the lessons had the most interesting topics?

11A | Olympic dreams

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand someone describing how to play a sport.
- I can understand ideas in a radio programme.
- I can describe someone's personality.
- I can use verbs with two objects to give extra information about myself.

Sport ambitions

Do you have (or did you have) any ambitions to be successful in a sport? What sport? What happened?

Athlete stars

Who are the sports people or athletes that you most admire? Why do you like them?

New sport

You are going to take up a new sport. Which of these would you choose and why?

paragliding taekwondo snowboarding skydiving water polo rugby

Olympic sports

In this list of Olympic sports there are three spelling mistakes. Can you find them?

ATHLETICS
WEIGHTLIFTING
CANOEING
ARCHARY
BADMINGTON
SKIING
JUDO
GYMNASTIKS
TAEKWONDO



'That is the plastic shark we use for training, isn't it?'

Describing yourself

Are you ambitious? How determined are you to achieve the things you want to do? Are you ruthless in business? Are you agile?

Child sports stars

Many sports stars have to begin practising seriously when they are very young. What is your opinion of this? Is it acceptable for children to have to work so hard?

Diary

How well do you remember new vocabulary? Do you have a system for recording it or are your records a bit random? Do you go back and look at words or just forget about them?

Sports alphabet

Can you continue this list? With the exception of q, u, x and z, there is a sport for each letter.

archery basketball cricket darts equestrianism

11B | The sporting year

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand a sports guidebook.
- I can use the causative to talk about actions that someone has done for me.
- I can use regular and irregular past participles.
- I can distinguish between and use the phonemes /rə/ and /eə/.

Sports quiz

Can you complete these sentences about sports?

cricket

skiing

football

golf

baseball

sumo wrestling

- 1 _____ was invented in Scotland.
- 2 The most popular sport in India is _____.
- 3 In Japan _____ is incredibly popular.
- 4 Brazil have been world _____ champions five times.
- 5 Switzerland has a long history of alpine _____.
- 6 The World Series in _____ is held in the USA.

Sports event

Think about the last sports event you watched (either at a stadium or on TV). Circle the adjectives that best describe it.

boring exciting predictable average amazing cool wonderful
dreadful funny frustrating

Now write a sentence to describe the event.

Burning calories

Here are some sports that burn a lot of calories. Do you know which one burns the most? Which ones have you tried? Which would you like to try?

cross-country skiing swimming
marathon running water polo
rock climbing squash



11c | Sport relief

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand conversations about money.
- I can talk about different ways to raise money for charity.
- I can present a group decision and explain the reasons for making it.
- I can use question tags to check information.

Charity

Which charities do you think are most deserving of support? Why do you think they are good?

Raising money

Have you ever done something to raise money for charity (e.g. a charity walk)? What did you do and was it successful?

Diary

You have nearly finished *Straightforward* Intermediate. What do you think about your level of English? What are your strengths and weaknesses?

The royal family

What is your opinion about the British royal family? Are you interested in them or not? Who is the most (or least) interesting person?

12A | Money matters

Can do (tick ✓)

- I can understand a business presentation.
- I can talk about social issues.
- I can discuss a questionnaire.
- I can use reported speech to talk about conversations I've had recently.

Ways of paying

Which of these methods of payment do you usually use? Why?

cheque credit card cash money transfer

How much money?

How much money do you usually carry? Tick the boxes that apply to you.

- I usually carry enough cash to cover emergencies.
- I just carry enough cash to cover my needs for the day.
- I don't carry any cash. I use a credit card.
- I carry quite a lot of cash in case I see something I want to buy.
- It's different every day. Sometimes I carry a lot of cash but on other days I don't have anything in my pocket.

Currencies

Where do these currencies come from? Match the currencies to the countries.

- | | |
|----------|-------------|
| 1 rouble | India |
| 2 rupee | Sweden |
| 3 yen | UK |
| 4 pound | Russia |
| 5 franc | Japan |
| 6 krona | Turkey |
| 7 lira | Switzerland |



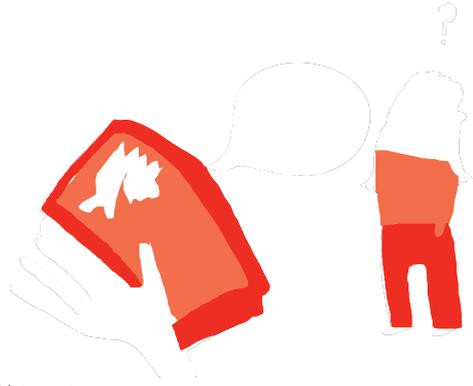
Yesterday

Write about what you bought yesterday. How much money did you spend?

Money idioms

Match these money idioms to their meanings.

- 1 money for old rope
 - 2 to throw your money around
 - 3 money is no object
 - 4 money talks
-
- a it doesn't matter how expensive something is
 - b money can buy you power and influence
 - c money that you can earn very easily without much effort
 - d to waste money



Money sayings

Choose the correct form to complete these popular sayings about money.

- 1 Money **makes** / **doesn't make** the world go around.
- 2 Money **can** / **can't** buy you love.
- 3 Money **is** / **isn't** everything.
- 4 Money **is** / **isn't** the root of all evil.
- 5 Time **is** / **isn't** money.



Which of them do you agree with? Why?

Did you know?

The world's oldest coin is said to be the Lydian Lion, originating in modern-day Turkey around 600 BC.

The world's first banknotes were issued in 7th-century China.

The world's highest denomination banknote was the Hungarian 100,000,000,000,000,000 pengo note issued in 1946. It was worth 20 US cents at the time.

A bank is a place that will lend you money if you can prove that you don't need it.

Bob Hope (American comedian, 1903–2003)

12c | Gifts of gold

Can do (tick✓)

- I can understand someone giving important news.
- I can talk about important life events.
- I can use friendly intonation in social situations.
- I can give an appropriate response to someone telling me their news.

Word search

Can you find five metals in this word search (across and down)?

U	G	O	L	D	A	L	E	O
B	Y	T	P	E	W		S	A
W	E	B	E	A		H	O	
C	O	P	P	E	R	E	N	R
S	Y	E	M	L	O	T		L
C	T	J	N	A	N	A	N	E
T		X	E	E	O	P	E	A
P	P	E	R	D	R	Y	O	D
V		S		L	V	E	R	S

A book holds a house of gold.

Chinese proverb

The wrong response!

These responses are not appropriate.
Match them to the correct statement.

- 1 A: I've passed my driving test!
B: Well, have a safe journey.
- 2 A: I must be going. The plane leaves in half an hour.
B: Congratulations!
- 3 A: I didn't get the job.
B: Not at all. It was my pleasure.
- 4 A: Thanks. It was very kind of you.
B: Oh, what a shame. That's really bad luck.

How do you feel?

You have finished the course. Circle the adjectives that best describe how you feel about it.

happy satisfied frustrated
motivated good relieved
sad excited sorry
exhausted

Now write a sentence to describe your feelings about the Student's Book and the course you have followed.

Can you remember?

Now that you have finished the course ... how much can you remember about the characters and topics from *Straightforward* Intermediate?

Don't look back at your Student's Book – see what you can remember!

1 What did Tony Hawks take with him when he hitch-hiked around Ireland (lesson 2A)?

- a a fridge
- b a washing machine
- c a television set

2 Which Scottish city was featured in the extract from the tourist brochure in lesson 2c?

- a Glasgow
- b Aberdeen
- c Edinburgh

3 Who protested against the Vietnam War by spending a week in bed at the Amsterdam Hilton (lesson 3B)?

- a The Beatles
- b John Lennon and Yoko Ono
- c Paul McCartney

4 Which two American presidents did you read about in lesson 4B?

- a Clinton and Carter
- b Reagan and Bush
- c Kennedy and Lincoln

5 Where are the resorts of Negril and Port Antonio (lesson 6A)?

- a Dominican Republic
- b Jamaica
- c Cuba

6 Which country does Emerald Tours promote in lesson 6B?

- a Ireland
- b Scotland
- c Wales

7 What is Britain's best-selling daily newspaper (lesson 8A)?

- a The Daily Mirror
- b The Times
- c The Sun

8 What colour were traditional telephone boxes in the UK (lesson 9c)?

- a Green
- b Red
- c Yellow

9 What was the English town with connections with King Arthur in lesson 10A?

- a Shrewsbury
- b Shaftesbury
- c Glastonbury

10 What is Louise Crandal's sport (lesson 11A)?

- a canoeing
- b paragliding
- c skiing

My grammar now

You have studied the following grammar items in *Straightforward* Intermediate. How confident do you feel about your own understanding and use of each one? (1 = I don't know this very well. 2 = I know this fairly well. 3 = I have few problems with this.)

Grammar item	For example	1	2	3
Dynamic verbs	<i>Quiet! I'm thinking.</i>			
Stative verbs	<i>I think it's terrible.</i>			
Subject & object questions	<i>What happened? What did he do?</i>			
Present perfect simple & past simple	<i>When did you go to China? How many countries have you visited?</i>			
Modal verbs of obligation, permission and prohibition	<i>You have to buy a ticket. You don't need to register.</i>			
Make, let & allow	<i>We weren't allowed in after 10 p.m.</i>			
Modal verbs in the past	<i>We had to. They couldn't.</i>			
Past simple & past continuous	<i>It was raining when we arrived.</i>			
Both & neither	<i>We both like football. Neither of us can drive.</i>			
Past perfect simple	<i>We had never seen such a scary film.</i>			
Time linkers: <i>as, when, as soon as, by the time, the moment, while</i>	<i>While I was walking down the street ...</i>			
Comparatives and superlatives	<i>much higher, the least popular</i>			
<i>as + adjective</i>	<i>not as good as</i>			
Comparing nouns	<i>more time than, less time than</i>			
Going to & the present continuous for future plans	<i>We're going to drive to Paris. We're leaving on Friday.</i>			
Will & going to for predictions	<i>It'll probably rain. It's definitely going to rain.</i>			
Predictions with <i>maybe, probably, certainly, etc.</i>	<i>They will certainly win.</i>			
Present tenses in future time clauses	<i>When we receive it, we'll call you.</i>			
Present perfect continuous	<i>I've been living here for six months.</i>			
Present perfect continuous & present perfect simple	<i>She's been writing letters. She's written more than twenty.</i>			
Would + infinitive	<i>I'd hate to do that.</i>			
Unreal conditions	<i>If I met the president ...</i>			
Unreal conditions in the past	<i>If I had met the president ...</i>			
Articles & determiners	<i>a, the, some, any, most, many, all</i>			
Quantifiers	<i>a few, a little, not much/many, etc.</i>			
Modals of speculation (present & past)	<i>You must be tired. She must have known the truth.</i>			
Passive in different tenses	<i>It is being shown on TV.</i>			
Causative sentences	<i>We're having a new one delivered.</i>			
Reported speech	<i>He asked me whether I had a savings account.</i>			

Now I can ...

Listening

- I can understand a review of a television programme.
- I can understand stories about unusual journeys and conversations about how to get somewhere.
- I can understand conversations at a dinner party.
- I can understand a conversation about lifestyle.
- I can understand someone placing an order on the telephone.
- I can understand people talking about their holiday plans.
- I can understand someone's reasons for making a decision.
- I can understand general and specific information in conversations.
- I can understand complaints.
- I can understand contrasting opinions in a radio talk show.
- I can understand the advantages and disadvantages of a plan.
- I can understand a business presentation.
- I can understand someone giving important news.

Reading

- I can understand the main ideas in a magazine article.
- I can understand specific facts and figures in a news story.
- I can find information in a website.
- I can understand the order of events in a magazine article.
- I can understand the main ideas and issues in a newspaper article.
- I can understand a questionnaire.
- I can understand tourist brochures.
- I can understand metaphorical language in a short poem.
- I can make notes from a reading passage.
- I can summarize a short article.
- I can understand a survey.

Speaking

- I can talk about different lifestyles, political parties in my country and my self-image.
- I can discuss travelling and plan a long journey.
- I can describe a film I've seen or a book I've read recently.
- I can persuade someone to do something.
- I can make polite requests and respond to requests.
- I can discuss similarities and differences.
- I can share my opinions in a meeting.
- I can give a small presentation to a group of people.
- I can make predictions about a situation.
- I can summarize and give my opinions about news stories.
- I can argue for and against a proposal.
- I can describe a process.
- I can present a group decision and explain the reasons for making it.
- I can compare and explain my ideas.
- I can give an appropriate response to someone telling me their news.

Writing

- I can write a description of a friend.
- I can write a description of a town or city.
- I can write about the advantages and disadvantages of a situation.
- I can write a story.
- I can write an advertisement.
- I can write a section of a holiday brochure.
- I can write a letter of advice.
- I can write a formal complaint email.
- I can use adverbs to make a story more interesting and dynamic.
- I can write a description of a sporting event.
- I can write a report.

The way forward

Hopefully you will now be ready now to move on to *Straightforward* Upper Intermediate. What else can you do to help improve your English?

Reading

- Try to read something in English every day (internet web pages, news items or news websites, magazine articles).
- Watch movies in your own language with English subtitles.

I often read ...

Listening

- Watch English movies and DVDs with English subtitles.
- Listen to radio news items on internet radio.

I often listen to ...

Writing

- Write emails and text messages to your friends in English.
- Write messages on internet forums.

I have written these things in English ...

Vocabulary

- Keep a vocabulary notebook. Write down interesting and useful new words that you meet when you read or listen to English.

I practise vocabulary by ...

Grammar

- Look back over the grammar in your Student's Book and test yourself.
- Practise trying to use more difficult structures when you speak English.

I practise grammar by ...

Goodbye!

To help you finish this Portfolio with a smile – here are a few puzzles.

An Intermediate puzzle

The answers to these questions can all be found in the letters of the word *INTERMEDIATE*.

- 1 A bad _____ is called a nightmare.
- 2 Helen's room is always _____ and tidy.
- 3 Newspapers and television are examples of the mass _____.
- 4 Professional sportsmen have to _____ every day.
- 5 Today's _____ is the 6th of September.
- 6 Business between different countries is known as foreign _____.

Anagrams – American & British English

Unscramble the words on the right to find the British equivalents of these American words.

- | | |
|----------------|----------|
| 1 elevator | flit |
| 2 cookie | icubist |
| 3 potato chips | sprics |
| 4 apartment | talf |
| 5 movie | milf |
| 6 sidewalk | vepetman |

How many words?

How many English words of three or more letters can you make from the letters of this word? Each letter may be used only once.

Example: *late*

RELATIONS

Target: 10–15 = fair
16–20 = good
more than 20 = excellent!

Odd one out

Which word in each group is different from the others?

- 1 mother, aunt, niece, son, grandmother
- 2 football, golf, running, cricket, tennis
- 3 tiger, lion, elephant, dog, leopard
- 4 winter, autumn, weather, summer, spring
- 5 Oxford, Cambridge, London, Chicago, Manchester
- 6 shirt, burn, meet, earn, word

My dossier

Your dossier is a collection of the work that you have done by yourself, either in class or at home. It is a record of your level and also of the progress that you make.

Put your work in a folder or a file to keep it safe.

Remember to put a date on all your work.

include dated 'can do' checklists in your dossier to record the progress you are making.

Take photos of your school, classroom, classmates and teacher to decorate your dossier.

Keep one dossier for each level of *Straightforward*.

include recordings of you speaking. Use them to hear how your pronunciation, accuracy and fluency improve.

Divide your work into categories:

- writing
- speaking
- reading
- listening
- vocabulary
- grammar
- pronunciation
- tests

You could keep two dossiers:

- a 'Working' dossier for the work you do on a day-to-day basis, and
- a 'Showcase' dossier for your most recent and best work.

Answers

- 1B** Who said what: 1c, 2a, 3b Facts: 1F, 2F, 3T
Charlie Chaplin and Alfred Hitchcock were born in Britain.
- 2B** 1 no, 2 no, 3 yes, 4 no
- 2C** trip, journey, flight
- 3A** 1 authorities, community, facilities; 2 apartment, museum; 3 suburbs, houseboat; 4 residents, hospital
- 4A** gamble, stake, odds, safe, luck
- 4C** 1b, 2c
- 5A** /s/ centre, advice; /z/ was, nose, tries, lazy; /ʃ/ she, station, patient
- 6A** agent, brochure, similar, arrival, water sports, picturesque, weather
- 6C** hotel, beach, flight, resort, ticket
- 7B** pensioner, toddler, adolescent, teenager, anniversary
- 7C** relief, shame, idiot, nightmare, nuisance
- 8A** 1f, 2a, 3e, 4b, 5d, 6c
Newspaper headlines: 1 Did the police find a drunk man or did they find drunk police officers? 2 Did the miners refuse to work after somebody died or after they died? 3 Did the friends get married or did one get married and the friends fell out? 4 Did the tree find the painting or was the painting found next to the tree?
- 8B** 1c, 2a, 3e, 4f, 5b, 6d
- 8C** Stop thief: 1 mugger, 2 robber, 3 pickpocket, 4 burglar
Word stress: 1 evidence, criminal, injury; 2 arrest, launderette, demand; 3 witness, treatment, guilty
- 9A** Determiners: in the town centre, at the market, to the supermarket, on the internet
Collocations: mall, shoplifter, street, online, corner
- 10A** 1 Chile, 2 Peru, 3 England, 4 Cambodia, 5 Egypt
improbable, impossible, unlikely, uncertain, indefinite
- 10B** Mysterious deaths: 1 The man was phoning his friend to tell him about a fish he had caught. As he threw his arms out to demonstrate 'how big', he broke the windows on either side of him and cut his wrists on the broken glass. 2 The woman was parachuting from a plane, but the parachute on her back didn't open. 3 Romeo and Juliet were two goldfish. Their bowl had been knocked over.
- 11A** archery, badminton, gymnastics
- 11B** 1 Golf, 2 cricket, 3 sumo wrestling, 4 football, 5 skiing, 6 baseball Burning calories: swimming
- 12A** 1 Russia, 2 India, 3 Japan, 4 UK, 5 Switzerland, 6 Sweden, 7 Turkey Money idioms: 1c, 2d, 3a, 4b
Money sayings: 1 makes, 2 can't, 3 isn't, 4 is, 5 is
- 12B** 1 tell / told, 2 ask, 3 told, 4 ask, 5 tell
- 12C** Across: gold, copper, silver; Down: iron, lead
1 Congratulations! 2 Well, have a safe journey.
3 Oh, what a shame. That's really bad luck.
4 Not at all. It was my pleasure.
- Can you remember?** 1a, 2c, 3b, 4c, 5b, 6a, 7c, 8b, 9c, 10b
- Goodbye!** An Intermediate puzzle: 1 dream, 2 neat, 3 media, 4 train, 5 date, 6 trade
Anagrams: 1 lift, 2 biscuit, 3 crisps, 4 flat, 5 film, 6 pavement
How many words? Answers include: are, ear, earn, late, learn, learnt, nail, near, neat, rail, rain, rate, real, rise, rose, sail, sale, stair, stare, strain, tail, tale, tear, train
Odd one out: 1 son (not female), 2 running (not a ball game), 3 dog (not a wild animal), 4 weather (not a season), 5 Chicago (in USA not UK), 6 meet (not the sound /ɜ:/)

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