

Grammar Exercises

1. Write sentences in the Present Perfect Simple .Use the words in brackets.

a) I can ' t find my car keys. (You/ see/ them?)

.....

b) Why are you crying? (fail/ English exam)

.....

c) He cannot read his son's letter. (He/ lose/ reading glasses)

.....

d) He 's a very wealthy man now (win/ lottery)

.....

e) He 's not coming to work this month (have/ car accident?)

.....

f) It 's time to go. (you/ finish?)

.....

2. Fill in the blanks with the Present Perfect Simple or Past Simple form of the verbs in brackets.

a) This week I.....(not see) my family.

b) I.....(lose) my wallet.

c) I.....(lose) my wallet last week.

d) It 's the first time she.....(eat) frogs' legs.

e) When.....(arrive) in London? Yesterday.

f) He.....(teach) at the university for 20 years. He 's now retired.

g) He.....(teach) at the university for 20 years. He 's still teaching.

h) This morning my secretary.....(type) four letters.

i) She.....(fail) the same exam several times.

j) He.....(have) three girlfriends so far.

3. Choose the correct answer.

a) Has the postman been.....?

☐ just

☐ yet

☐ ever

☐ then

b) This is the worst book I've.....read

☐ ever

☐ often

☐ always

☐ since

c) I haven ' t gone out.....it started to rain

☐ for

☐ since

☐ already

☐ before

d) Be quiet! The babysitter has.....put the baby to sleep

☐ yet

☐ ever

☐ never

☐ just

e) Have you.....finished your homework?

☐ lately

☐ yet

☐ already

☐ for

f) Have you finished your homework.....?

Ⓔ just Ⓔ yet Ⓔ already Ⓔ often

g) They have worn black.....their daughter died

Ⓔ just Ⓔ yet Ⓔ ever Ⓔ since

h) I 've studied English.....several years

Ⓔ for Ⓔ since Ⓔ just Ⓔ often

i) We haven ' t visited our parents.....

Ⓔ then Ⓔ already Ⓔ never Ⓔ yet

4. Look at the pictures and answer these questions. Use the present perfect continuous tense.

a) Have they been jogging around the park?



No, they have been playing football.

b) Has Mary been singing in the choir?



No she.....

c) Has your landlady been making the beds?



No she.....

d) Has it been snowing all morning?



No it.....

e) Have your parents been playing cards?



No they.....

f) Has the gardener been having a rest?



No, he.....

g) Have you been reading a book?



No, I.....

5. Complete the sentences using the past simple and the past perfect of the verbs in brackets.

a) He..... (check) the brakes on his car because the day before he.....(have) an accident.

b) After we..... (get) married I..... (meet) my wife ' s family.

c) The power company.....(cut off) the electricity because the bill
.....(not be) paid.

d) Before you.....(rent) your flat we..... (buy) another in the same building.

e) My wife.....(phone) me to say she..... (miss) the train.

f) We.....(move) because my father.....(be) promoted and he had to work in another town.

g) A week after her husband..... (die) she.....(hold) a party.

Answers:

Exercise 1.

- a. Have you seen them
- b. I have failed my English exam
- c. He has lost his reading glasses / He's lost his
- d. He has won the lottery / He's won ...
- e. He has had a car accident / He's had
- f. Have you finished?

Exercise 2.

- a) This week I **haven't seen** my family.
- b) I've **lost** my wallet.
- c) **I lost** my wallet last week.
- d) It 's the first time she **has eaten** frogs' legs.
- e) When **did you arrive** in London? Yesterday.
- f) He **tought** at the university for 20 years. He 's now retired.
- g) He **has taught** at the university for 20 years. He 's still teaching.
- h) This morning my secretary **has typed** four letters.
- i) She **has failed** the same exam several times.
- j) He **has had** three girlfriends so far.

Exercise 3.

- a) yet b) ever c) since d) just e) already f) yet g) since h).for i) yet

Exercise 4.

- b. No, she has been dancing c. No, she has been cooking
- d. No it has been raining e. No, they have been playing chess
- f. No, he has been working g. No, I have been playing computer games

Exercise 5.

- a) He **checked** the brakes on his car because the day before he **had had** an accident.
- b) After we **had got** married I **met** my wife's family.
- c) The power company **cut off** the electricity because the bill **had not been** paid.
- d) Before you **rented** your flat we **had bought** another in the same building.
- e) My wife **phoned** me to say she **had missed** the train.
- f) We **moved** because my father **had been** promoted and he had to work in another town.
- g) A week after her husband **had died** she **held** a party.

Learning vocabulary:

Verb + preposition

O seguinte grupo de verbos vai seguido destas preposicións.

ACCUSE OF : acusar de	LONG FOR : anhelar
ASK FOR : pedir	PAY FOR : pagar por
BELIEVE IN : crer en	PREVENT FROM : previr de
CARE ABOUT : preocuparse por	RELY ON : confiar en
CONSIST OF : consistir en	SMILE AT : sorrir a
DEPEND ON : depender de	SPEAK TO : falar con
DIE OF : morrer d	SUCCEED IN : triunfar en
DREAM OF : soñar con	TAKE CARE OF : coidar
INSIST ON : insistir en	THINK OF/ABOUT : pensar en
LISTEN TO : escoitar	WAIT FOR : esperar

1. Complete the sentences using one of the following verbs + the correct preposition

~~accuse~~ depend succeed prevent insist
dream rely wait consist smile

- a) He was.....**accused of**...raping his wife.
- b) I was.....the bus for a whole hour.
- c) She 's very happy because her favourite singer..... her in the concert.
- d) The team.....eleven players.
- e) Police have finally.....solving the mystery.
- f) After our quarrel she.....apologizing to me.
- g) What time we start having dinner.....when our guests arrive.
- h) I wouldn't.....getting that job.
- i) Parents should.....their children.....drinking alcohol.
- j) You can't.....him. He 's an unscrupulous person

Answers:

b. waiting for c. smiled at d. consists of e. succeeded in f. insisted on
g. depends on h. dream of i. prevent from j. rely on

Exercises:

1. Write the adjectives for the nouns and verbs in the boxes in the correct column

NOUNS

a) care	b) politics	c) prestige
d) thirst	e) region	f) dirt
g) thought	h) environment	i) industry
j) fun	k) job	l) privacy

VERBS

a) decide	b) produce	c) envy
d) attract	e) understand	f) convert
g) wash	h) destroy	i) irritate
j) act	k) eat	l) recognize

-OUS	-IVE	-ABLE	-IBLE	-Y	-AL	-ATE	-FUL	-LESS

2. Complete the sentences with adjectives from the previous exercise.

- They live in a very..... suburb in the best part of town.
- Is your silk blouse.....? Yes, it can be washed without damaging it.
- It 's wrong to read people's..... letters without permission.
- These fungi are not.....because they are poisonous.
- She 's very beautiful. Although she 's over sixty she 's still very.....
- The government.....policy tries to prevent pollution.
- The town has changed very much but it is still.....

Answers:

1.

-OUS	-IVE	-ABLE	-IBLE	-Y	-AL	-ATE	-FUL	-LESS
prestigious	decisive	enviable	convertible	thirsty	political	private	careful	jobless
envious	productive	understandable	edible	dirty	regional		thoughtful	
	attractive	washable		funny	environmental			
	destructive	irritable			industrial			
	active	eatable						
		recognizable						

2.

- a. prestigious
- b. washable
- c. private
- d. edible / eatable
- e. attractive
- f. environmental
- g. recognizable

Preposición + Xerundio

- Se unha preposición vai seguida de verbo, este ha de ir en xerundio (-ing).

I went to work <u>in spite of</u> being ill	Fun traballar a pesar de estar mal
I 'm interested <u>in</u> learning music	Estou interesado en aprender música
They left <u>without</u> saying anything	Fóronse sen dicir nada

- O verbo que funciona como suxeito vai en Xerundio

Os verbos substantivados que funcionan como suxeito da oración van en xerundio (-ing)

Smoking is unhealthy	Fumar non é saudable
Living in London is very expensive	Vivir en Londres é moi caro
Watching television so many hours isn ' t adequate for the children.	Ver televisión tantas horas non é adecuado para os nenos

Practise:

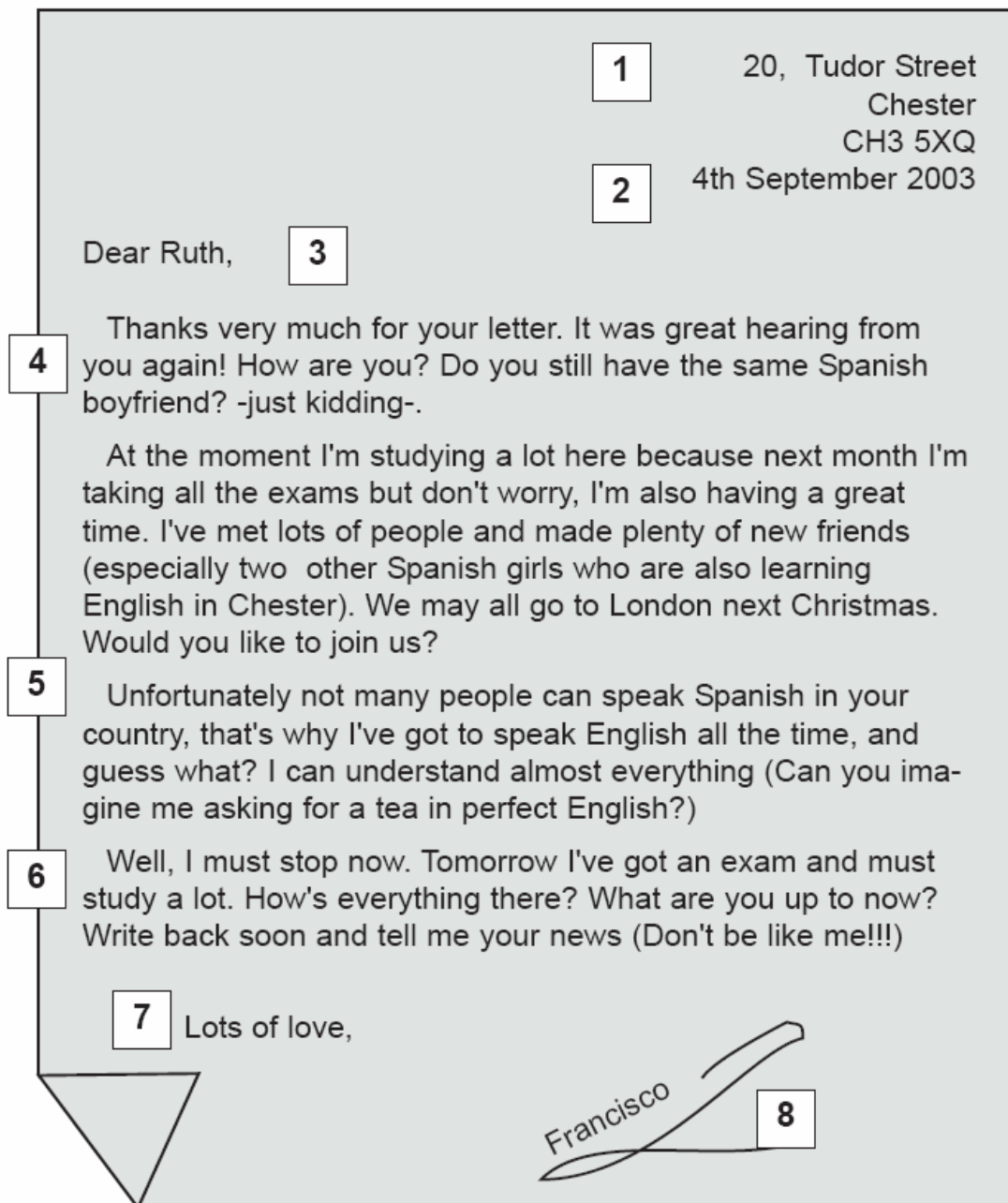
13. Translate these sentences using a gerund as a subject.

- a) Estar desempregado é preocupante
- b) Ver esa película tantas veces é raro
- c) Tomar unha copa despois de rematar o seu traballo era inusual
- d) Foi difícil atopar un hotel barato porque era verán
- e) Coidar bebés non é divertido

Answers:

- a) Being unemployed is worrying
- b) Watching that film so many times is strange
- c) Having a drink after finishing his work was unusual
- d) Finding a cheap hotel was difficult because it was summer
- e) Looking after babies is not fun.

1. Read Francisco's letter to his friend Ruth. Which parts of the letter make it sound informal? Find examples of the punctuation features.



1 20, Tudor Street
Chester
CH3 5XQ

2 4th September 2003

Dear Ruth, 3

4 Thanks very much for your letter. It was great hearing from you again! How are you? Do you still have the same Spanish boyfriend? -just kidding-.

At the moment I'm studying a lot here because next month I'm taking all the exams but don't worry, I'm also having a great time. I've met lots of people and made plenty of new friends (especially two other Spanish girls who are also learning English in Chester). We may all go to London next Christmas. Would you like to join us?

5 Unfortunately not many people can speak Spanish in your country, that's why I've got to speak English all the time, and guess what? I can understand almost everything (Can you imagine me asking for a tea in perfect English?)

6 Well, I must stop now. Tomorrow I've got an exam and must study a lot. How's everything there? What are you up to now? Write back soon and tell me your news (Don't be like me!!!)

7 Lots of love,

Francisco 8

2. Match a-h with the parts of the letter 1-8.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| a) the date | b) the main body of the letter | c) the signature |
| d) the opening paragraph | e) the writer's address | f) The greeting |
| g) the final paragraph | h) the closing | |

3. Write a letter of about 100 words to a friend or relative telling them about what has been happening to you recently. Follow the structure of the example letter and use the ideas below:

Ideas

- ⌘ Thank your friend/relative for his/her letter
- ⌘ Apologize for not having written before because you were on holidays
- ⌘ Say you have been on the Welsh coast
- ⌘ Say you haven't enjoyed yourself because of the weather
- ⌘ Say what you have done: visit castles instead of going to the beach
- ⌘ Say tomorrow you have to start working again
- ⌘ Ask him/her about his/her news
- ⌘ Indicate that you are going to end the letter

Writing tips

- ⌘ Use contractions and informal English
- ⌘ Begin your letter with 'Dear...'
- ⌘ End your letter in one of these ways: 'Love'; 'Best wishes'
- ⌘ Use appropriate punctuation

Answers to exercise 2

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| a) the date - 2 | b) the main body of the letter- 5 | c) the signature - 8 |
| d) the opening paragraph- 4 | e) the writer's address- 1 | f) The greeting - 3 |
| g) the final paragraph- 6 | h) the closing- 7 | |

1. Which phrase or type of language would you find in a **formal letter**? Which phrase or type of language would you find in an **informal letter**? Put the letter **F** next to those phrases or language types that are used in formal letters and **I** next to those used in informal letters.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I am sorry to inform you that...• phrasal verbs• I am very grateful for...• Why don't we...• I will not be able to attend the...• idioms and slang• contracted verb forms like <i>we've</i>, <i>I'm</i>, <i>etc.</i>• Give my regards to...• I look forward to hearing from you...• Let me know as soon as...• short sentences | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dear Tom,• Dear Ms Smithers,• Best wishes,• Yours faithfully,• I'm really sorry I...• Unfortunately, we will have to postpone...• We had a little bit of luck...• Our computers are used for a variety...• I use my pencil sharper for...• polite phrases• fewer passive verb forms |
|--|---|

2. Look at the phrases 1-11 and match them with a purpose A-K

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. That reminds me,...2. Why don't we...3. I'd better get going...4. Thanks for your letter...5. Please let me know...6. I'm really sorry...7. Love,8. Could you do something for me?9. Write soon...10. Did you know that..11. I'm happy to hear that... | <ol style="list-style-type: none">A. to finish the letterB. to apologizeC. to thank the person for writingD. to begin the letterE. to change the subjectF. to ask a favourG. before signing the letterH. to suggest or inviteI. to ask for a replyJ. to ask for a responseK. to share some information |
|---|--|

ANSWERS:

1.

- | | |
|---|---|
| • I am sorry to inform you that... F | • Dear Tom, I |
| • phrasal verbs I | • Dear Ms Smithers, F |
| • I am very grateful for... F | • Best wishes, I |
| • Why don't we... I | • Yours faithfully, F |
| • I will not be able to attend the... F | • I'm really sorry I... I |
| • idioms and slang I | • Unfortunately, we will have to postpone... F |
| • contracted verb forms like <i>we've</i> , <i>I'm</i> , <i>etc.</i> I | • We had a little bit of luck... I |
| • Give my regards to... F | • Our computers are used for a variety... F |
| • I look forward to hearing from you... F | • I use my pencil sharper for... I |
| • Let me know as soon as... I | • polite phrases F |
| • short sentences I | • Fewer passive verb forms I |

2.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 12. That reminds me,... | A. to finish the letter |
| 13. Why don't we... | B. to apologize |
| 14. I'd better get going... | C. to thank the person for writing |
| 15. Thanks for your letter... | D. to begin the letter |
| 16. Please let me know... | E. to change the subject |
| 17. I'm really sorry... | F. to ask a favour |
| 18. Love, | G. before signing the letter |
| 19. Could you do something for me? | H. to suggest or invite |
| 20. Write soon... | I. to ask for a reply |
| 21. Did you know that.. | J. to ask for a response |
| 22. I'm happy to hear that... | K. to share some information |



1. Completa as frases. Fíxate na preposición que acompaña a cada verbo e na forma de xerundio que o segue.



Mix and match

Are you interested	for forgetting my birthday.
She apologised	of waiting for him to call.
They succeeded	about meeting the actors.
Thank you	in reaching their target.
I am very good	on having the most expensive room.
We're very excited	for coming.
I am fed up	in working with us?
They insisted	at getting people to do what I want.
He was sorry	at remembering people's names.
I don't know his name. I am very bad	for being late.

at remembering people's names.	I don't know his name. I am very bad
for forgetting my birthday.	He was sorry
on having the most expensive room.	They insisted
of waiting for him to call.	I am fed up
about meeting the actors.	We're very excited
at getting people to do what I want.	I am very good
for coming.	Thank you
in reaching their target.	They succeeded
for being late.	She apologised
in working with us?	Are you interested

Mix and match

