

UNIT 2: LEISURE AND RECREATION

A. GRAMMAR – VOCABULARY:

Exercise 1 :

Choose the two correct sports or events for each group.

- 1 team games: ☐ basketball ☐ volleyball ☐ weightlifting
- 2 watersports: ☐ canoeing ☐ kickboxing ☐ rowing
- 3 running events: ☐ badminton ☐ marathon ☐ sprint
- 4 winter sports: ☐ gymnastics ☐ ice hockey ☐ ski jumping
- 5 ball games: ☐ hiking ☐ hockey ☐ table tennis
- 6 fighting sports: ☐ boxing ☐ karate ☐ triathlon

Exercise 2 :

Read the information and look at the examples. Then complete the sentences. Use the words in the box. You can use the words more than once.

You can use different adjectives to describe how much you do something or how much you like doing something.

Examples:

I'm a **keen** musician. (= I enjoy playing music. / I'm very interested in playing music.)

I'm an **avid** musician. (= I spend as much time as possible playing music.)

I'm an **amateur** musician. (= I play music for fun / as a hobby, not for money.)

I'm a **dedicated** musician. (= I take my hobby very seriously; I do it as much as I can.)

amateur avid dedicated keen

- 1 I enjoy gardening. I'm a gardener.
- 2 I'm extremely interested in bird-watching. I'm an bird-watcher.
- 3 I do photography for fun. I'm not paid for it. I'm an photographer.
- 4 I'm very interested in mountain-climbing. I'm a mountain-climber.
- 5 I spend all my free time blogging. I'm a blogger.
- 6 I really like cycling. I've been told that I'm good enough to be a professional cyclist, but I prefer to be an and cycle for fun.
- 7 Many people think that playing video games isn't a real hobby. However, I take it very seriously. You could say that I'm a gamer.

- 8 My friends say that I'm such a good cook I should enter a national competition for cooks.
- 9 I'm extremely interested in collecting stamps from across the world and have a book of my collection.
I've been an stamp collector since I was a child.

Exercise 3 :

Choose the correct prepositions to complete the sentences.

1. I'm keen about/ in/ on board games like chess, where you have to think a lot.
2. I'm good at/ from/ on most sports, but I'm terrible at tennis
3. I'm interested for/ in/ of politics, so I spend a lot of time reading political newspapers and blogs.
4. I'm passionate about/ on/ to the environment, and I'm a member of a local wildlife centre.
5. I spend all my free time building and fixing things like cars. I'm fascinated at/ by/ for anything with an engine.
6. My hobby is dressmaking. I don't spend a lot of time on/ over/ to it though – just a few hours a week.

Exercise 4 :

Read the information and think carefully about the way *like*, *love* and *prefer* are used in the sentences. What does each sentence mean? Choose the correct answers.

Verb forms with *like*, *love* and *prefer*

- After some verbs (e.g. *enjoy*, *finish*), the next verb must be an *-ing* form.
Example: *I enjoy swimming.*
- After some verbs (e.g. *want*, *decide*), the next verb must be a *to*-infinitive.
Example: *I want to go.*
- After some verbs (e.g. *like*, *love* and *prefer*), both forms are possible, with a small difference in meaning.
Example:
I like swimming. (= *I enjoy the action or experience of swimming.*)
I like to swim every day. (= *Swimming is a habit or something I prefer to do.*)

- 1 *I like to go to the gym twice a week.*
☐ The person has a lot of fun at the gym.
☐ The speaker feels positive about his/her routine.
- 2 *I like going for long walks in the countryside.*
☐ The person feels happy while he/she is walking.
☐ The person thinks it's important to go for long walks.
- 3 *Board games are OK but I prefer playing video games.*
☐ The person is happier about the fact that he/she plays video games than board games.
☐ The person thinks video games are more fun than board games.
- 4 *I prefer to read a book before I watch the film version.*
☐ The person enjoys reading books more than watching films.
☐ The person thinks it's better to read the book before watching the film version of the book.

5 I love to get up really early and take photos of the sunrise.

- ☐ The person enjoys the process of getting up early.
- ☐ The person often gets up early, and enjoys being awake at that time of day.

6 I love playing football.

- ☐ The person has a good time when he/she plays football.
- ☐ The person is happy about the fact that he/she often plays football.

Exercise 5 :

Complete the conversation. Use the words in the box.

active

busy

exhausted

free

relax

running

social

stressful

A: Do you get a lot of _____ time?

B: Not really. I spend most of my time at work. I've got quite a _____ job.

A: So what do you do to _____ after a day at work?

B: I usually like to sit and watch TV. I'm always too _____ to do anything else.

A: Maybe you should take up a sport or a hobby. Then you might have a bit more energy. For example, I go _____ twice a week, and now I feel great.

B: I know what you mean, but I'm too _____ to find the time.

A: Well, that's what I thought. But I prefer to be _____. It's good to spend time on something I actually enjoy. It's even been good for my _____ life. I've met some really great people since I started.

B: Really? OK, you've convinced me. How do I sign up?

Exercise 6 :

Complete the conversations using the past continuous form of the verbs in brackets. Use contractions (e.g. *wasn't*), where possible. The first question has been done for you.

1 A: Wow! Those are great photos. When did you take them?

B: While we were walking in the mountains. The views were amazing. (walk)

2 A: How did you hurt your back?

B: I _____ at the gym this morning, and I think I did too much! (work out)

3 A: I saw David this morning. He was jogging in the park.

B: Really? Why _____? He never goes jogging! (he / jog)

4 A: Why didn't you answer the phone earlier?

B: Oh, sorry. I _____ some decorating and I didn't hear the phone ring. (do)

5 A: I saw a lot of your friends in the park earlier. I think they were fighting.

B: They _____, Mum. They were playing rugby. (not / fight)

6 A: I saw an eagle this morning while I was bird-watching.

B: Really? _____ or was it on the ground? (it / fly)

7 A: I don't know what to do. I didn't hear the trainer's instructions.

B: That's because you _____ when she was telling us what to do. (not / listen)

Exercise 7 :

Each sentence has one mistake with the past simple or past continuous verb form. Correct the mistakes. Use contractions (e.g. *wasn't*), where possible.

- 1 Everything was going really well in the archery tournament until I completely was missing the target.
- 2 Thousands of fans was in the stadium, singing and waving flags.
- 3 Lisa finished fourth in the race so she wasn't winning a medal.
- 4 I was trying to take a photo while I was cycling, but I was dropping my phone.
- 5 My team scored an amazing goal, but I didn't see it because I stood in a queue for a hot dog.

Exercise 8 :

Read the information. Then complete the sentences with the comparative form of the adjectives or adverbs in brackets.

Comparative forms of adjectives

- One syllable: add *-er* (e.g. *strong* → *stronger*; *hot* → *hotter*)
- One or two syllables ending in *-y*: change *-y* to *-ier* (e.g. *dry* → *drier*; *happy* → *happier*)
- Most other long adjectives: add *more* (e.g. *modern* → *more modern*; *difficult* → *more difficult*)
- Two irregular adjectives: *good* → *better*; *bad* → *worse*

Comparative forms of adverbs

- When the adverb has the same form as a short adjective (e.g. *early*, *fast*, *hard*, *late*, *soon*), follow the same rules for adjectives.
- All other adverbs: add *more* (e.g. *clearly* → *more clearly*)
- One irregular adverb: *far* → *further/farther*

- 1 I wasn't very fit before I started jogging, but I'm a lot _____ now. (fit)
- 2 The gallery manager said I can't have an exhibition until I can take _____ photographs. (good)
- 3 I was much _____ when I was younger, but now I don't have much time for sports. (active)
- 4 Of course you've got time to go to the gym. You just need to get up 30 minutes _____. (early)
- 5 That was a _____ race than the one last week. I'm exhausted! (demanding)
- 6 The team played well, but they need to pass the ball _____ if they want to win next time. (often)
- 7 We started playing well, but we got _____ as the match continued. (bad)

Exercise 9 :

Read the information. Then complete the text. Use the words in the box.

caber (pronunciation: 'keɪ.bər)

= a long, heavy wooden pole (from the trunk of a tree) that people throw as a test of strength in traditional sports competitions in Scotland.

as

closer

far

less

more

popular

straighter

than

Throwing, or 'tossing', the caber is a very old and [] sport in Scotland. The sport involves throwing a caber, which can be [] long as six metres. A lot of people think the competitors have to toss the caber as [] as possible. However, it's a lot more interesting [] that. In fact, the aim is to throw the caber so that it turns over and lands pointing in a straight line away from the thrower. The [] the caber is when it lands, the [] points the competitor gets. The winner is the competitor whose caber is [] to the '12 o'clock' mark on a clock face than the others. However, when you're throwing a caber that weighs around 80 kg, that's a lot [] simple than it sounds!

Exercise 10 :

Read the sentences from the story. Each sentence has one mistake with either the past simple, past continuous or comparatives. Correct the mistakes. You may need to add a new word.

- 1) I wasn't feeling confident before the race. I knew the other runners were faster and experienced than I was.
- 2) But I still wanted to do my best and run the race as fastest possible.
- 3) When I heard the whistle to start the race, I wasn't ready – I looked for my parents in the crowd at the time.
- 4) So I got off to a slow start than the other runners.
- 5) Over the next 400 metres, I fell even far behind.
- 6) But then, just as I was starting to think the race was over, I was seeing my parents in the crowd.
- 7) So I started running a little more fast and I noticed that I was catching up with the others.
- 8) I gradually got closer and closer to the other runners, who were a lot more tired that I was.
- 9) Then, with less than 100 metres to go, I tried even hard, and I ran past the leader. I was in the lead!
- 10) In the end, I was winning the race by two seconds! It was my best time ever.