



GENERAL ENGLISH 2 A – USE OF ENGLISH

Teacher: Miss Cecilia

Student: _____

1- 1 Complete the sentences. Use the correct form of the verb in brackets.

Example: Shhh. The film has just started (start).

- 1 '_____ you _____ (wash) the car yet?' 'No, I haven't.'
- 2 I _____ (like) vegetarian food.
- 3 Kate often _____ (go out) with Dinis, but they aren't a couple.
- 4 Laila and Jumaid _____ (watch) TV at 10 o'clock last night.
- 5 I _____ (call) you in five minutes. Is that OK?
- 6 'What _____ you _____ (do)?' 'I'm a shop assistant.'
- 7 'I promise I _____ (make) the bed', said Ricardo.
- 8 It _____ (rain) when Rachael arrived at her new office.
- 9 Faisal is over there. He _____ (stand) next to the tall man in the black hat.
- 10 Good news! Agnieska and Theo _____ (sold) their house.

2 Put the words in the correct order.

Example: old you how are ? How old are you?

- 1 do you last what did weekend ? _____
- 2 you any pets do have ? _____
- 3 to do of you listen music kind what ? _____
- 4 speak you other can languages any ? _____
- 5 Hong Kong you have to ever been ? _____

3 Underline the correct form.

Example: Kim broke / **has broken** her arm while she was on holiday.

- 1 Lianne **has been** / **has gone** to Moscow more than once.
- 2 I **every day exercise** / **exercise every day**.
- 3 When you called I **ate** / **was eating** my lunch.
- 4 Ali **is cycling** / **cycles** to work every day.
- 5 What **are you doing** / **do you do** this weekend?
- 6 This song isn't **too good as** / **as good as** his last one.
- 7 **They're meeting** / **They meet** Jan at the cinema tonight.

8 My little brother is tired and **he's needing / he needs** a rest.

9 Look at the traffic. We're **being / going to be** late.

10 Vikram **does / is doing** an engineering course.

4 Match 1–11 with a–k.

1 wait _e_

2 do ____

3 make ____

4 drop off ____

5 have ____

6 unload ____

7 come back ____

8 go ____

9 leave ____

10 miss ____

11 take back ____

a work early

b abroad

c the dishwasher

d something to the shop

e for my friend

f from a holiday

g a mistake

h a friend at the airport

i some exercise

j a wonderful time

k a bus

5 Complete the sentences using the words from the box. There are two words that you don't need

looking next-day keys harbour
luggage ironing failed polluted
camping bridge name medium-sized
basket

Example: I went camping with my cousins. We slept in a tent for three nights.

1 I don't need a trolley. A _____ is big enough for my shopping today.

2 'Did you pass your maths exam?' 'No, I _____.'

3 Then we will cross the _____ to reach the historic centre of the town.

4 We need to get our _____ now. Which way is baggage reclaim?

5 It will arrive tomorrow because I paid for _____ delivery.

6 'Can I help you, sir?' 'No, I'm just _____, thank you.'

7 They're your shirts so you can do the _____.

8 The town is quite _____ so they clean the dirt off the historic buildings every year.

9 It's a pretty town with colourful fishing boats in the _____.

10 I'm so sorry. I've forgotten your _____.

6 Complete the sentences with the correct word(s).

Example: Mill Street Café only sells healthy salads.

a) medical b) nutritionist c) healthy

1 Phoebe has _____ hair.

- a) medium b) tall c) curly
- 2 Javier often stays in bed all morning. He's a bit _____.
- a) lazy b) hard-working c) relaxed
- 3 I don't like people who tell _____. We need to be honest with each other.
- a) stories b) lies c) the truth
- 4 The hotel was _____ and uncomfortable. What a disaster!
- a) a bit b) clean c) dirty
- 5 On Saturdays, the shopping centre is too _____.
- a) crowded b) very noisy c) many people

READING

- 1 Read the article and tick (✓) A, B, or C

New year, old customs by travel editor, Lauren Briard

Have you ever made a New Year's resolution? Perhaps you have decided to learn a new language, or take up more exercise? You are not alone. In many cultures, people choose to change something about their life at the beginning of the year. And all over the world, people celebrate the new year with interesting customs.

My favourite traditions come from Mexico and other Latin American countries. For example, at midnight on New Year's Eve in many Spanish-speaking cultures, everyone eats twelve grapes – one grape for each month of the year. People say that eating the grapes brings good fortune for the new year. And don't be surprised if your friend from Peru wants to walk around the outside of his or her house with heavy luggage. Traditionally, if you complete this challenge you will be a successful traveller in the new year. Would you like to go on a dream holiday next year? Then try it!

Cleaning the house is perhaps the most common new year tradition. From Mexico to Japan people sweep their homes from top to bottom. Some people believe this removes bad luck and allows good luck to enter the house. In other countries, such as Britain and Iran, the cleaning happens later in the year, so it's called 'spring cleaning'. In Iran, just before the March spring festival, people empty their houses of all their furniture. They clean the house from top to bottom, mend broken furniture or replace old items. People bring flowers and herbs indoors too so their homes smell fresh and clean.

New Year is often celebrated with friends, so my final story is from Denmark. If you are in Denmark at New Year, you will probably see piles of broken plates outside front doors. What's going on? Well, traditionally, people take their old or broken plates and smash them on their friend's front door. It brings good luck to your friend. It's great fun, too! So, a big pile of broken plates means you are a popular person.

Enjoy the new year festival, wherever you are in the world. I hope you are ready with your grapes, luggage and plates!

Example: New Year is a special day all over the world.

A True ✓ B False C Doesn't say

1 One of the writer's favourite New Year traditions comes from Latin America.

A True B False C Doesn't say

2 At midnight, there is a tradition of eating one grape.

A True B False C Doesn't say

3 The person who eats the fastest wins a prize.

A True B False C Doesn't say

4 In Peru, there is a New Year tradition that includes suitcases.

A True B False C Doesn't say

5 The tradition from Peru will give you good dreams in the new year.

A True B False C Doesn't say

6 House cleaning is a very popular new year tradition.

A True B False C Doesn't say

7 In Britain, people clean their homes at New Year.

A True B False C Doesn't say

8 In Iran, the first month of the calendar is March.

A True B False C Doesn't say

9 In Denmark, there is a special tradition between friends.

A True B False C Doesn't say

10 The most popular people have the most broken plates.

A True B False C Doesn't say

2- Read the article and answer the questions below:

The perfect picture

Last autumn I was helping my sister to find a photographer for her wedding. I was looking at wedding photographs online when I saw my first sakura picture. Sakura, or cherry blossom, are light pink flowers that arrive in spring on cherry trees. The flowers are very beautiful, and very popular in wedding photos in Japan. In fact, the sakura flowers are very popular with everyone in Japan.

After my sister's wedding, I needed a quiet holiday. I decided to visit Tokyo and see the cherry blossom. I booked a week in a hotel at the end of April. I bought a new camera and searched online for the best places to look at the trees. I arrived safely and checked into my clean, comfortable hotel. I slept well and got ready for my first day of sakura photography.

Then the problems started. Although it was morning, when I arrived at Inokashira Park it was already very busy. Large families were having picnics. Couples were on dates. I couldn't get near to the trees. My pictures were a disaster. At the end of the day, I went back to my hotel feeling quite sad. But when I was looking at my photos that evening, I found one picture of a little boy looking at the flowers. He was laughing. It was a great picture.

The next day I returned to Inokashira Park but this time I only took pictures of people. I spoke to people who I thought looked interesting – people with colourful hats, or unusual hair, or nice faces – and I asked to take their picture with the flowers. I had fun and I met lots of friendly people. Now when I look at my sakura pictures, I remember the cherry blossom but I also remember the stories.

- 1 What was the writer doing when he saw a sakura photo for the first time?
- 2 What do sakura flowers look like?
- 3 What did the writer buy before he travelled to Japan?
- 4 How did the writer sleep in Tokyo?
- 5 Which picture did the writer think was great?

LISTENING

1 Listen to a tour guide talking about a town. Write T for true, F for false

- 1 Turlton is a small town
- 2 The church is famous because it is beautiful.....
- 3 The Old School has a café in the garden.....
- 4 You can visit a museum in the town hall.....
- 5 The tourists who want to visit the old bridge need boots.....

2 Listen to five conversations. Where are the people? Match them with places A–E.

Conversation 1	A in a clothes shop
Conversation 2	B in a hotel
Conversation 3	C in traffic
Conversation 4.....	D in a doctor's waiting room
Conversation 5.....	E in a cinema

Writing:

- **Task 1:** Write your profile for the Student Status website. Write about these things. (100–150 words) • your personal details • your job / studies • your interests
- **Task 2:** Choose 1 of these writing prompts. Write between 100-150 words
 - a) Write a short essay about a holiday you really enjoyed. Answer these questions.
 - Where did you go on holiday?
 - Who did you go with?
 - How did you travel?

- What activities did you do?
- What was the weather like?

b) Choose a photo you like and write a description. Answer these questions.

- Why do you like it?
- What is happening in the photo?
- Who took the photo? Where was it taken?

Extensive Reading: 'How to be an Alien' by George Mikes

1- Read the extract from How to Be an Alien (e.g. from "The Weather"):

"In England, it is nearly always raining, or it has just finished raining, or it is just going to rain. The English talk about the weather when they have nothing else to say. They say, 'Lovely day, isn't it?' even if it's pouring with rain."

A. Match the words/phrases with their meanings:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. pouring with rain | a) to speak when there's nothing important to say |
| 2. lovely day | b) very rainy |
| 3. have nothing else to say | c) a polite comment about the weather |

B. True or False – Based on the extract:

The English only talk about the weather when it's nice. (T/F)

"Lovely day, isn't it?" is always an honest comment. (T/F)

The English use weather talk as a social tool. (T/F)

C. Compare the weather in England and Argentina.