

FCE Part 4 - 10 Exercises

Sentence transformations • 10 different exercises • 10 sentences each

Instructions: Complete each sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Use between **two and five words**, including the word given. Do not change the word given.

Quick tips

1. Read the first sentence carefully.
2. Identify the grammar pattern.
3. Keep the key word unchanged.
4. Write 2-5 words only.
5. Check grammar, meaning and spelling.

Exercise 1 - Comparatives and structures of comparison

Use structures such as *not as ... as*, *much/far + comparative*, *too / enough*, and *comparison reformulation*.

1. This exam task is more difficult than the last one we did.

AS

This exam task is not _____ the last one we did.

2. Tom is the fastest runner in the class.

NO

No one in the class _____ Tom.

3. The film was much more interesting than I had expected.

FAR

The film was _____ I had expected.

4. Lucy is too young to stay at home alone.

ENOUGH

Lucy is not _____ stay at home alone.

5. This book is less entertaining than the one I read last week.

AS

This book is not _____ the one I read last week.

6. I have never eaten a better pizza than this one.

BEST

This is _____ ever eaten.

7. The test was easier than we thought it would be.

AS

The test was not _____ we thought it would be.

8. Mark and I are the same height.

AS

Mark is _____ I am.

9. Travelling by train is cheaper than travelling by plane.

EXPENSIVE

Travelling by plane is _____ travelling by train.

10. She speaks English more confidently than her brother.

AS

Her brother does not speak English _____ she does.

Exercise 2 - Passive voice

Rewrite using passive structures in the correct tense.

1. People speak English in many different countries.

SPOKEN

English _____ in many different countries.

2. Someone stole my bike yesterday afternoon.

WAS

My bike _____ yesterday afternoon.

3. They are building a new sports centre near the school.

IS

A new sports centre _____ near the school.

4. The teacher will announce the results tomorrow.

BE

The results _____ tomorrow.

5. They have cancelled the concert because of the weather.

BEEN

The concert _____ because of the weather.

6. Someone had cleaned the classroom before the lesson began.

BEEN

The classroom _____ before the lesson began.

7. People should wear seat belts at all times.

BE

Seat belts _____ at all times.

8. They gave us a lot of useful information.

WERE

We _____ a lot of useful information.

9. The school is organising a trip to London next month.

BEING

A trip to London _____ by the school next month.

10. They did not invite Anna to the party.

WASN'T

Anna _____ to the party.

Exercise 3 - Modal verbs, obligation, advice and permission

Practise *should*, *ought to*, *must*, *have to*, *needn't*, *be allowed to* and similar reformulations.

1. It is a good idea for you to revise every day.

SHOULD

You _____ every day.

2. It isn't necessary for students to wear uniform on Fridays.

HAVE

Students _____ uniform on Fridays.

3. Perhaps Marta forgot about the meeting.

MAY

Marta _____ about the meeting.

4. You are not allowed to use your phone during the exam.

MUSTN'T

You _____ your phone during the exam.

5. I advise you to speak to the teacher after class.

OUGHT

You _____ to the teacher after class.

6. Was it necessary for Sam to get up so early?

HAVE

Did Sam _____ up so early?

7. It was wrong of me to tell her the secret.

SHOULDN'T

I _____ her the secret.

8. Maybe they missed the bus.

MIGHT

They _____ the bus.

9. You are allowed to leave early today.

CAN

You _____ early today.

10. It is possible that he doesn't know the answer.

MAY

He _____ the answer.

Exercise 4 - Conditionals and unreal meaning

Practise first, second and third conditional reformulations, plus mixed conditional meaning at FCE level.

1. I didn't study, so I failed the test.

HAD

If I _____ the test.

2. If you don't hurry, you'll miss the bus.

OR

Hurry up, _____ the bus.

3. We won't go to the park if it rains.

UNLESS

We will go to the park _____.

4. He can't buy the laptop because he doesn't have enough money.

WOULD

If he had enough money, he _____ the laptop.

5. She didn't tell me about the party, so I didn't go.

HAVE

If she had told me about the party, I _____.

6. You won't pass the exam if you don't practise.

UNLESS

You won't pass the exam _____.

7. I don't know her email address, so I can't send her the photos.

WOULD

If I knew her email address, I _____ her the photos.

8. Take an umbrella or you'll get wet.

DON'T

If you _____ wet.

9. He was tired, so he made several mistakes.

HADN'T

If he _____ so tired, he wouldn't have made several mistakes.

10. You can borrow my notes if you return them tomorrow.

PROVIDED

You can borrow my notes _____ them tomorrow.

Exercise 5 - Reported speech

Transform direct meaning into reported statements, orders, requests and questions.

1. "I am working on my project now," Sara said.

WAS

Sara said that she _____ her project then.

2. "Please help me with this exercise," Ben said to me.

ASKED

Ben _____ him with that exercise.

3. "Don't forget to lock the door," Mum said.

TOLD

Mum _____ the door.

4. "We have finished our homework," the students said.

HAD

The students said that they _____ homework.

5. "Why are you late?" the teacher asked me.

WHY

The teacher asked me _____ late.

6. "I will call you tomorrow," Laura said.

WOULD

Laura said that she _____ the following day.

7. "Can you open the window?" Tom asked.

ASKED

Tom _____ the window.

8. "I didn't break the vase," Jack said.

BROKEN

Jack said that he _____ the vase.

9. "Where do you live?" she asked him.

LIVED

She asked him where _____ .

10. "Let's meet after school," Nina said.

SUGGESTED

Nina _____ after school.

Exercise 6 - Linkers, contrast, reason and result

Use *although, despite, because, so, such, in order to* and similar linking devices accurately.

1. Although he was tired, he finished his homework.

DESPITE

He finished his homework _____ tired.

2. She stayed at home because she was ill.

SO

She was ill, _____ at home.

3. The weather was so bad that we cancelled the picnic.

SUCH

It was _____ we cancelled the picnic.

4. He studied hard because he wanted to pass.

ORDER

He studied hard _____ pass.

5. Despite the heavy rain, they kept playing.

ALTHOUGH

They kept playing _____ heavily.

6. The film was boring, so we left early.

BECAUSE

We left early _____ boring.

7. In spite of being nervous, she gave an excellent presentation.

ALTHOUGH

She gave an excellent presentation _____ nervous.

8. He trained a lot, so he improved quickly.

RESULT

He trained a lot and _____ improved quickly.

9. She wore a coat because she didn't want to feel cold.

ORDER

She wore a coat in _____ cold.

10. Although the task was difficult, everyone completed it.

SPITE

Everyone completed the task _____ difficulty.

Exercise 7 - Verb patterns and phrasal structures

Practise verb patterns with infinitive / -ing and common phrasal reformulations.

1. I started learning French three years ago.

BEEN

I _____ French for three years.

2. He stopped playing football because of his injury.

GAVE

He _____ football because of his injury.

3. Would you like to come to the cinema with us?

FEEL

Do you _____ to the cinema with us?

4. They continued talking even after the teacher arrived.

ON

They _____ even after the teacher arrived.

5. I regret telling her the truth.

WISH

I _____ her the truth.

6. She succeeded in solving the problem.

MANAGED

She _____ the problem.

7. We arrived too late to see the beginning of the film.

EARLY

We didn't arrive _____ the beginning of the film.

8. Tom and I have a good relationship.

GET

Tom and I _____ each other.

9. Please complete this form before the interview.

OUT

Please _____ before the interview.

10. I haven't decided yet, but I am considering joining the drama club.

THINKING

I am _____ the drama club.

Exercise 8 - Wishes, regrets and preferences

Use wish, if only, would rather and similar structures.

1. I am sorry that I can't come to your party.

WISH

I _____ to your party.

2. It is a pity that we didn't leave earlier.

ONLY

If _____ earlier.

3. I would prefer not to travel by bus.

RATHER

I _____ by bus.

4. I'm sorry I said that to her.

WISH

I _____ that to her.

5. Tom prefers watching films at home to going to the cinema.

RATHER

Tom would _____ at home than go to the cinema.

6. I want my neighbours to stop making so much noise.

WISH

I _____ making so much noise.

7. It's a pity that she doesn't live nearer.

ONLY

If _____ nearer.

8. He regrets not studying harder last year.

WISHES

He _____ harder last year.

9. I'd prefer you not to tell anyone about this.

RATHER

I'd _____ anyone about this.

10. I am sorry that I spent all my money.

WISH

I _____ all my money.

Exercise 9 - Causative, have/get something done, and related reformulations

Practise causative meaning and closely related sentence patterns.

1. A mechanic repaired Dad's car yesterday.

HAD

Dad _____ yesterday.

2. The hairdresser is cutting my hair this afternoon.

HAVING

I _____ this afternoon.

3. Someone cleaned the windows for us last week.

HAD

We _____ last week.

4. A technician is going to install their new internet tomorrow.

INSTALLED

They are going to _____ tomorrow.

5. The dentist checked my teeth last Monday.

HAD

I _____ last Monday.

6. Someone stole her phone while she was on the bus.

HAD

She _____ while she was on the bus.

7. A professional photographer took our school photo.

HAD

We _____ by a professional photographer.

8. Someone is painting our kitchen at the moment.

BEING

We _____ at the moment.

9. A designer has decorated their living room.

HAD

They _____ .

10. The optician tested my eyes yesterday.

HAD

I _____ yesterday.

Exercise 10 - Mixed exam-style transformations

A final mixed set combining the most common B2 First transformation patterns.

1. I last saw Nina in June.

SINCE

I _____ June.

2. The lesson was so boring that Paul nearly fell asleep.

SUCH

It was _____ Paul nearly fell asleep.

3. This is the first time I have tried sushi.

NEVER

I _____ sushi before.

4. Perhaps Alex forgot to send the email.

MAY

Alex _____ to send the email.

5. You should not spend so much time online.

BETTER

You _____ so much time online.

6. The book was too difficult for me to finish.

ENOUGH

I wasn't _____ finish the book.

7. They cancelled the match because of the storm.

CALLED

The match _____ because of the storm.

8. Maria started playing the violin when she was eight.

PLAYING

Maria _____ she was eight.

9. I advise you to check your answers carefully.

IF

If _____ check your answers carefully.

10. Although he had little experience, he got the job.

SPITE

In _____ experience, he got the job.