

Lesson 2B

GRAMMAR | quantifiers

VOCABULARY | nature

PRONUNCIATION | connected speech: quantifiers

VOCABULARY

nature

1 A Match the sentence beginnings (1–6) with the endings (a–f) to make sentences.

- 1 Look at the way the sunlight is
- 2 I love deserted beaches like this –
- 3 The coastline stretches for 3,000 km
- 4 This entire area is
- 5 You can cycle down this track
- 6 I just sat on the river bank,
 - a from one end of the country to another.
 - b creating a beautiful pattern on the ground.
 - c known for its amazing scenery.
 - d watching the boats go by.
 - e all the way into the city.
 - f no one around for miles and miles.

B Complete the text with nature words or phrases.



WILLOWS WELL-BEING RETREAT

Location

Surrounded by ¹..... the only thing interrupting the peace at the Willows Well-being Retreat is the sound of birdsong and leaves moving on the trees. Or if you find yourself standing on the ²....., the gentle sound of water rushing by.

Facilities

- World-class dining
- Freshwater swimming pool
- Large ³..... amongst the trees for yoga classes.

Activities

From forest bathing to hiking along ancient ⁴..... through the landscape, there is a wide variety of well-being activities to choose from during your stay. For those who prefer being less active, simply sit and enjoy the beautiful ⁵..... around you or bathe in the ⁶..... shining warmly through the trees.

We look forward to welcoming you at Willows!

GRAMMAR

quantifiers

2 A Choose the correct word or phrase to complete the sentences.

- 1 I suspect there are **few** / **a little** / **a few** rooftop gardens in this area because the houses don't have flat roofs.
- 2 **No** / **None** / **Not any** wildflowers should be taken from these woods as it will have a negative effect on the ecosystem.
- 3 Only **a little** / **majority** / **minority** of residents are in favour of the plans to change the shared lawn into a vegetable plot.
- 4 There's **a minority** / **a little** / **little** countryside left in the region – it's almost all been built on.
- 5 I found **a handful of** / **a lack of** / **plenty of** new cycling routes round here – not many, but it might be interesting to see where they go.
- 6 I know **a little** / **a few** / **few** people who really enjoy gardening, but it's not really my thing.

B Read the sentences and correct the quantifiers in bold.

- 1 There are only **a little** of vegan restaurants in the city where I live.
- 2 **Few** of my friends live in the countryside, but most live in urban areas.
- 3 **No** time I go to the beach I come back feeling refreshed and relaxed. It's awesome.
- 4 There are **a handful of** parks in my town at all, so we have to play football at the sports centre.
- 5 There's a definite **little** of green spaces in my local neighbourhood.
- 6 I see very **a little** wildlife in my garden because I live in the city.
- 7 I spend a good **majority** of time walking in the forest near my house.
- 8 There are **no** open spaces in my city, but the ones we do have are pleasant.


PRONUNCIATION

3 A 2.02 | connected speech: quantifiers | Draw a line between any words that link together in the phrases in bold. Then listen and check.


- 1 There's **a lack of** attractive green spaces in my town.
- 2 Only **a handful of** people I know live in the countryside.
- 3 I spend **a good deal of** time outdoors.
- 4 **Several of the** beaches nearby are quite good.
- 5 Young people who like gardening **are in a minority**.

B 2.02 | Listen and repeat.

LISTENING


4A  **2.03** | Listen to the introduction to a radio programme. Choose the correct topic (a–c).

- a The benefits of gardening as we get older
- b How people of all ages enjoy gardening together
- c Young people who enjoy gardening


B  **2.04** | Listen to the next part of the radio programme and answer the questions.

Which speaker ... ?

- a says how pleased they are that they have learned about plants?
- b became interested in gardening because of a local scheme?
- c noticed a difference in their mood after doing some gardening?
- d Is excited about something that is going to happen soon?
- e became suddenly more aware of their surroundings?
- f mentions one reason that gardening may have a particular benefit?

C  **2.04** | Listen again. Are the statements True (T) or False (F)?

- 1 Speaker 1 started gardening because she wanted to test a theory.
- 2 Speaker 1 is confident about why she had benefitted from time in the garden.
- 3 Speaker 2 likes getting away from her living accommodation for a while.
- 4 Speaker 2 quickly came to realise that gardening could be interesting.
- 5 Speaker 2 understands that different tasks should be done at different times of year.
- 6 Speaker 3 did not use to know exactly why seaside landscapes were so beautiful.
- 7 Speaker 3 has little idea of what she is really doing with the plants on her balcony.

D  **2.05** | Listen to the final speaker again and write what you hear. You will hear the sentence only once.



WRITING

a for-and-against essay

5A Read the article and choose the main topic (a–c).

- a The benefits of walking in the rain.
- b Why people dislike walking in the rain.
- c How to enjoy walking in the rain.

B Complete the article with *although*, *despite*, *however* or *while*.

Wet weather walking

Cary Stuart | Thurs 12 Aug | 10.12 GMT

¹..... the fact that we're repeatedly told to spend more time in nature, few of us actually do. ²..... it's true that it's often raining and cold in the UK, there are ways to making walking in wet weather more appealing.

You may have heard the expression, 'There's no such thing as bad weather – only bad clothing'.

³..... it's easy enough to buy wet weather gear, it means making a bit more effort to get out of the house. ⁴....., if you take that extra step, you might just find it was worth it.

To avoid getting really wet on your walk, try taking a route through woodland, where the trees provide cover. ⁵....., remember that rain can still drip through the branches, so don't take off your raincoat just yet!

The best way to enjoy a walk in the rain is to set off with the right attitude. Then, ⁶..... the fact you're getting a little wet, you can really start to appreciate nature in all weathers.

C Correct the mistakes in the sentences.

- 1 Despite I love living in the city, I also like getting out into the countryside from time to time.
- 2 My apartment has got a fantastic view. Although, I'm starting to find it a little small.
- 3 Despite many people I know prefer renting, I've decided to save up and buy a house.
- 4 However there can be a great sense of community in villages, everyone knows your business, too!
- 5 Although the fact that public transport is so good in the city, many people still insist on driving.
- 6 I think there are very few downsides to living in the country. Despite, I'll admit it can be boring at times.

D You are going to write a for-and-against essay about whether spending time indoors or outdoors is better for our well-being. Make notes in each column.

for	against

E Write your essay using your notes to help you. Write 100–140 words.