B2 FIRST

USE OF ENGLISH PART 4

MASTER PRACTICE PACK

68 transformation exercises based on the structures you have been practising, plus phrasal verbs and collocations.

Format	Key Word Transformation
Rule	Use 2–5 words in the gap
Sections	Grammar & structures • Phrasal verbs • Collocations
Answer key	Complete key at the end

Important: The key word must not be changed. Write between 2 and 5 words in the gap. Do not look at the answer key until you have finished the section.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

QUICK FORMULA BANK

Use this as a last-minute revision sheet before doing the exercises.

Comparisons & superlatives

- the most + adjective + noun + subject + have/has ever + V3
- far / much / a lot + comparative
- not nearly as + adjective + as
- more than enough + noun / adjective + enough + to-infinitive

Wish, regret & perfect modals

- wish + subject + had + V3
- should have + V3 = criticism/regret about the past
- might/may have + V3 = possibility in the past
- can't have + V3 = strong deduction that something did not happen

Verb patterns

- decide against + -ing
- apologise for + -ing
- insist on + -ing / noun
- have no intention of + -ing
- advise/remind/urge + person + to-infinitive

Passive & causative

- is/are said/believed/thought + to-infinitive
- have/get + object + V3
- have/get + object + V3 = arrange for someone to do something

Contrast & condition

- in spite of / despite + noun / -ing
- provided (that) + subject + verb
- providing (that) + subject + verb

Inversions & time

- No sooner had + subject + V3 + than ...
- Hardly/Scarcely had + subject + V3 + when ...
- Not until + clause + did + subject + base verb ...
- It is + period + since + past simple
- subject + have/has + V3 + since + point in time

Common fixed patterns

- be underwhelmed by + noun
- be likely/unlikely to + infinitive
- my first time in/to + place
- such + (a/an) + adjective + noun + that ...

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• so + adjective/adverb + that ...

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SECTION A — GRAMMAR & CORE PART 4 STRUCTURES

Questions 1–48. Write 2–5 words in the gap. The key word must remain unchanged.

1. We have never had such an exciting trip before.

EVER

This is the most _____ had.

2. In the end, we changed our decision about buying the boat.

AGAINST

In the end, we _____ buying the boat.

3. Can you still draw well?

TO

Are you _____ draw well?

4. All I wanted was to escape this place.

GET

All I wanted was to _____ this place.

5. There was plenty of food for everyone at the party.

MORE

There was _____ for everyone at the party.

6. "Have you ever thought about retiring?" asked Suze.

CONSIDERED

Suze wanted to know if I _____ retirement.

7. I expected more from the meeting.

UNDERWHELMED

I _____ the meeting.

8. I have never been to this city before.

TIME

This is _____ this city.

9. She decided to donate most of the money to various charities.

AWAY

She _____ the money to various charities.

10. Richard is much less experienced than Dan.

FAR

Dan _____ experience than Richard.

11. I regret not studying harder for the exam.

WISH

I _____ harder for the exam.

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12. It was a mistake to tell him the truth.

SHOULD

I _____ the truth.

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13. Perhaps Maria forgot to call us.

MIGHT

Maria _____ us.

14. I'm sure Jack didn't steal your phone.

CAN'T

Jack _____ your phone.

15. Perhaps they are waiting outside.

MAY

They _____ outside.

16. People believe that the company is going to close.

BELIEVED

The company _____ going to close.

17. People say that she lives in London.

SAID

She _____ in London.

18. The mechanic is repairing my car tomorrow.

HAVING

I _____ tomorrow.

19. Someone stole my wallet on the bus.

HAD

I _____ on the bus.

20. The teacher advised us to revise before the test.

ADVISED

The teacher _____ before the test.

21. "Don't touch that button," the technician said to me.

COMMAND

The technician _____ that button.

22. The manager insisted that we leave immediately.

ON

The manager _____ immediately.

23. She apologised because she had broken the vase.

FOR

She _____ the vase.

24. He reminded me that I shouldn't forget to send the email.

REMIND

He _____ the email.

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25. I don't intend to move abroad.

INTENTION

I _____ abroad.

26. I last ate sushi in May.

SINCE

I _____ May.

27. The last time I saw Tom was in June.

SEEN

I _____ June.

28. The film was so boring that we left early.

SUCH

It was _____ we left early.

29. The bag was so expensive that I couldn't buy it.

TOO

The bag was _____ .

30. The coffee wasn't hot enough for me to drink.

TOO

The coffee was _____ comfortably.

31. Despite being tired, she finished the report.

SPITE

In _____ she finished the report.

32. Although he was nervous, he gave an excellent speech.

SPITE

In _____ he gave an excellent speech.

33. You can borrow my laptop if you promise to be careful.

PROVIDED

You can borrow my laptop _____ to be careful.

34. If you finish your homework, you can go out.

PROVIDING

You can go out _____ your homework.

35. It is unlikely that he will arrive on time.

LIKELY

He _____ on time.

36. It is likely that they will win the match.

LIKELY

They _____ the match.

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37. I had never seen such a beautiful view before.

MOST

It was the _____ ever seen.

38. She is not nearly as experienced as her colleague.

THAN

Her colleague is _____ than she is.

39. I haven't visited London for five years.

SINCE

It is _____ London.

40. The moment I arrived, it started raining.

SOONER

No _____ it started raining.

41. As soon as she left, he called me.

HARDLY

Hardly _____ he called me.

42. I had just finished dinner when the phone rang.

SCARCELY

Scarcely _____ the phone rang.

43. I didn't realise how difficult the exam was until I started it.

UNTIL

Not _____ did I realise how difficult it was.

44. The first time I went abroad was when I was sixteen.

NEVER

I _____ I was sixteen.

45. She started learning English three years ago and still learns it.

BEEN

She _____ three years.

46. I started working here in 2024 and I still work here.

WORKED

I _____ 2024.

47. It wasn't necessary for us to bring any food.

NEED

We _____ any food.

48. It was a bad idea to leave so late.

BETTER

We _____ so late.

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SECTION B — PHRASAL VERBS

Questions 49–58. These are also in Key Word Transformation style.

49. I need to tolerate his bad habits.

PUT

I need to _____ his bad habits.

50. The children became happier when the singer appeared.

UP

The children _____ the singer appeared.

51. She resembles her mother.

AFTER

She _____ her mother.

52. We need to postpone the meeting.

OFF

We need to _____ the meeting.

53. He invented an excuse for being late.

UP

He _____ an excuse for being late.

54. Please continue with your work.

ON

Please _____ your work.

55. I met my old teacher unexpectedly at the airport.

ACROSS

I _____ my old teacher at the airport.

56. They cancelled the concert because of the storm.

OFF

They _____ the concert because of the storm.

57. Can you take care of my dog this weekend?

LOOK

Can you _____ my dog this weekend?

58. We need to find out what happened.

OUT

We need to _____ what happened.

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SECTION C — COLLOCATIONS & FIXED EXPRESSIONS

Questions 59–68. Focus on combinations that frequently cause mistakes.

59. The news that she had won came as a surprise to everyone.

SURPRISE

Her victory _____ to everyone.

60. I don't understand why he is angry.

REASON

I can see _____ his anger.

61. We need to discuss this matter.

WORD

We need to _____ this matter.

62. This problem has nothing to do with you.

DO

This problem _____ with you.

63. The two sisters have very similar tastes in music.

SAME

The two sisters have _____ music.

64. She was extremely happy when she got the news.

DELIGHTED

She _____ the news.

65. He made a promise to help us.

PROMISED

He _____ us.

66. I strongly recommend booking in advance.

HIGHLY

I _____ in advance.

67. They reached a decision after a long discussion.

MADE

They _____ a long discussion.

68. He took responsibility for the mistake.

RESPONSIBLE

He _____ the mistake.

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ANSWER KEY

Answers are given as the exact words that go in the gap. Equivalent answers are not listed unless they produce the same intended transformation.

A. Grammar & core structures

1	EVER	exciting trip we have ever	This is the most **exciting trip we have ever** had.
2	AGAINST	decided against	In the end, we **decided against** buying the boat.
3	TO	still able to	Are you **still able to** draw well?
4	GET	get out of	All I wanted was to **get out of** this place.
5	MORE	more than enough food	There was **more than enough food** for everyone at the party.
6	CONSIDERED	had ever considered	Suze wanted to know if I **had ever considered** retirement.
7	UNDERWHELMED	was underwhelmed by	I **was underwhelmed by** the meeting.
8	TIME	my first time in	This is **my first time in** this city.
9	AWAY	gave away most of	She **gave away most of** the money to various charities.
10	FAR	has far more	Dan **has far more** experience than Richard.
11	WISH	wish I had studied	I **wish I had studied** harder for the exam.
12	SHOULD	should not have told him	I **should not have told him** the truth.
13	MIGHT	might have forgotten to call	Maria **might have forgotten to call** us.
14	CAN'T	can't have stolen	Jack **can't have stolen** your phone.
15	MAY	may be waiting	They **may be waiting** outside.
16	BELIEVED	is believed to be	The company **is believed to be** going to close.
17	SAID	is said to live	She **is said to live** in London.
18	HAVING	am having my car repaired	I **am having my car repaired** tomorrow.
19	HAD	had my wallet stolen	I **had my wallet stolen** on the bus.
20	ADVISED	advised us to revise	The teacher **advised us to revise** before the test.
21	COMMAND	commanded me not to touch	The technician **commanded me not to touch** that button.
22	ON	insisted on our leaving	The manager **insisted on our leaving** immediately.
23	FOR	apologised for breaking	She **apologised for breaking** the vase.
24	REMIND	reminded me to send	He **reminded me to send** the email.
25	INTENTION	have no intention of moving	I **have no intention of moving** abroad.
26	SINCE	haven't eaten sushi since	I **haven't eaten sushi since** May.
27	SEEN	haven't seen Tom since	I **haven't seen Tom since** June.
28	SUCH	such a boring film that	It was **such a boring film that** we left early.
29	TOO	too expensive to buy	The bag was **too expensive to buy** .
30	TOO	too cold to drink	The coffee was **too cold to drink** comfortably.

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31	SPITE	spite of being tired,	In **spite of being tired,** she finished the report.
32	SPITE	spite of being nervous,	In **spite of being nervous,** he gave an excellent speech.
33	PROVIDED	provided you promise	You can borrow my laptop **provided you promise** to be careful.
34	PROVIDING	providing you finish	You can go out **providing you finish** your homework.
35	LIKELY	is unlikely to arrive	He **is unlikely to arrive** on time.
36	LIKELY	are likely to win	They **are likely to win** the match.
37	MOST	most beautiful view I had	It was the **most beautiful view I had** ever seen.
38	THAN	far more experienced	Her colleague is **far more experienced** than she is.
39	SINCE	five years since I visited	It is **five years since I visited** London.
40	SOONER	sooner had I arrived than	No **sooner had I arrived than** it started raining.
41	HARDLY	had she left when	Hardly **had she left when** he called me.
42	SCARCELY	had I finished dinner when	Scarcely **had I finished dinner when** the phone rang.
43	UNTIL	until I started the exam	Not **until I started the exam** did I realise how difficult it was.
44	NEVER	had never been abroad before	I **had never been abroad before** I was sixteen.
45	BEEN	has been learning English for	She **has been learning English for** three years.
46	WORKED	have worked here since	I **have worked here since** 2024.
47	NEED	didn't need to bring	We **didn't need to bring** any food.
48	BETTER	had better not leave	We **had better not leave** so late.

B. Phrasal verbs

49	PUT	put up with	I need to **put up with** his bad habits.
50	UP	cheered up when	The children **cheered up when** the singer appeared.
51	AFTER	takes after	She **takes after** her mother.
52	OFF	put off	We need to **put off** the meeting.
53	UP	made up	He **made up** an excuse for being late.
54	ON	carry on with	Please **carry on with** your work.
55	ACROSS	came across	I **came across** my old teacher at the airport.
56	OFF	called off	They **called off** the concert because of the storm.
57	LOOK	look after	Can you **look after** my dog this weekend?
58	OUT	find out	We need to **find out** what happened.

C. Collocations & fixed expressions

59	SURPRISE	came as a surprise	Her victory **came as a surprise** to everyone.

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60	REASON	no reason for	I can see **no reason for** his anger.
61	WORD	have a word about	We need to **have a word about** this matter.
62	DO	has nothing to do	This problem **has nothing to do** with you.
63	SAME	the same taste in	The two sisters have **the same taste in** music.
64	DELIGHTED	was delighted to hear	She **was delighted to hear** the news.
65	PROMISED	promised to help	He **promised to help** us.
66	HIGHLY	highly recommend booking	I **highly recommend booking** in advance.
67	MADE	made a decision after	They **made a decision after** a long discussion.
68	RESPONSIBLE	was responsible for	He **was responsible for** the mistake.

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FINAL SELF-CHECK

- ■ Did I keep the key word exactly as given?
- ■ Did I use between 2 and 5 words?
- ■ Did I check whether the verb needs -ing or to + infinitive?
- ■ Did I check prepositions such as for, on, against, by and of?
- ■ Did I check tense changes in reported speech?
- ■ Did I check the correct auxiliary in inversions?
- ■ Did I check whether the sentence needs a perfect form (have + V3)?
- ■ Did I check whether the expression is a fixed collocation or phrasal verb?

Best way to use this pack: do Section A under exam conditions, correct it, then rewrite every mistake as a formula. After that, do Sections B and C without looking at the key.

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