

# Advanced Grammar in Use

A self-study reference and practice book  
for advanced learners of English

Third Edition

with answers and CD-ROM

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## Exercises

- 4.1 Complete the sentences using these pairs of verbs. Use the past simple in one gap and the past continuous in the other. **A–D**

come – show    ~~get – go~~    hope – give    live – spend  
look – see    play – break    start – check in

- Just as I was getting into the bath all the lights went off.
- I ..... to go away this weekend, but my boss ..... me some work that I have to finish by Monday.
- When I ..... in Paris, I ..... three hours a day travelling to and from work.
- A friendly American couple ..... chatting to him as he ..... at the hotel reception.
- I bumped into Lena last week. She ..... a lot better than when I last ..... her.
- My boss ..... into the office just as I ..... everyone my holiday photos.
- I ..... badminton four times a week before I ..... my ankle.



This time, use the **same** tense, either past simple or past continuous, in both spaces.

add – taste    go off – light    not listen – explain    push – run    not watch – dream

- The smoke alarm ..... when he ..... a candle underneath it.
- I can't remember how to answer this question. I must confess that I ..... while the teacher ..... it to us.
- She ..... more salt to the soup, and then it ..... much better.
- Although the television was on, I ..... it. Instead I ..... about my holidays.
- She ..... open the door and ..... into the room.

- 4.2 Look again at numbers 1, 4, 7 and 11 in 4.1. Which of these sentences could have both verbs in the past simple? What difference in meaning, if any, would there be?

- 4.3 Complete this email with either the past simple or the past continuous form of the verbs in brackets. Where alternatives are possible, think about any difference in meaning. **A–C**

I (1) ..... (buy) a new alarm clock the other day in Taylor's the jewellers, when I actually (2) ..... (see) somebody shoplifting. I'd just finished paying for my clock and as I (3) ..... (turn) round, an elderly woman (4) ..... (slowly put) a silver plate into a bag that she (5) ..... (carry). Then she (6) ..... (walk) over to another part of the shop and (7) ..... (pick up) an expensive-looking watch a number of times. When she (8) ..... (think) that nobody (9) ..... (look), she (10) ..... (drop) it into the bag. Before I (11) ..... (have) a chance to tell the staff in the shop, she (12) ..... (notice) that I (13) ..... (watch) her and (14) ..... (hurry) out. Unfortunately for her, two police officers (15) ..... (walk) past just at that moment and she (16) ..... (run) straight into them.



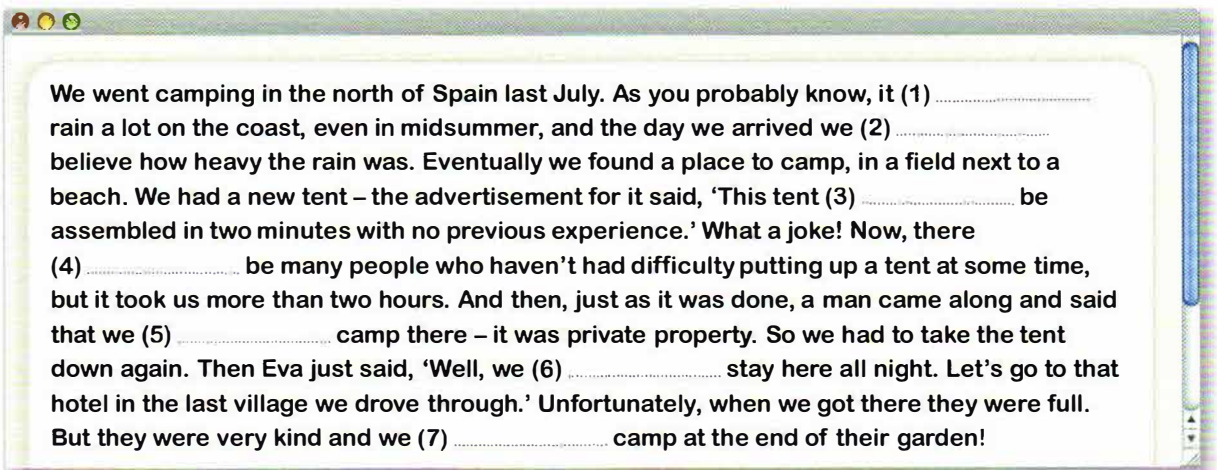
## Exercises

## 15.1 Underline the correct or more natural option (or both if possible). A &amp; B

- 1 Valuables *can / are able to* be left in the hotel safe. Please ask at the reception desk.
- 2 We *could / were able to* finish the hockey match before it started snowing too heavily.
- 3 The rebels *could / were able to* draw on the support of over 20,000 soldiers.
- 4 *Could you / Were you able to* understand Professor Larsen's lecture? I found it really difficult.
- 5 A: Do you want a game? B: Sorry, I *can't / 'm not able to* play chess.
- 6 Look at me, I *can / 'm able to* ride my bike without any help.
- 7 When the firefighters arrived they *could / were able to* put out the flames in a couple of minutes.
- 8 The air was so polluted in the city centre, I *could hardly / was hardly able to* breathe.
- 9 I knew Petra had been decorating. I *could / was able to* smell the paint when I came in.
- 10 *Can you / Are you able to* drive without your glasses?
- 11 No changes *can / are able to* be made to this rail ticket after purchase.
- 12 He *could / was able to* untie the ropes without the guards noticing.
- 13 She looked all over the house, but *couldn't / wasn't able to* find her keys anywhere.
- 14 I was very busy at work, but I *could / was able to* have a couple of days off last week.

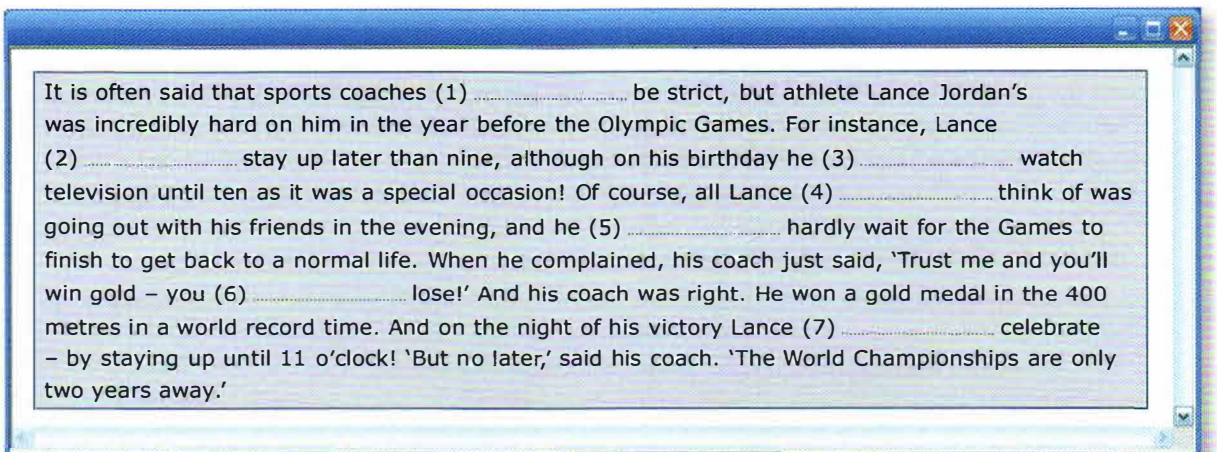
15.2 Complete these blog posts with **can**, **could** and **be allowed to** (or two forms if possible). Use negative forms where necessary. A–E

a



We went camping in the north of Spain last July. As you probably know, it (1) ..... rain a lot on the coast, even in midsummer, and the day we arrived we (2) ..... believe how heavy the rain was. Eventually we found a place to camp, in a field next to a beach. We had a new tent – the advertisement for it said, 'This tent (3) ..... be assembled in two minutes with no previous experience.' What a joke! Now, there (4) ..... be many people who haven't had difficulty putting up a tent at some time, but it took us more than two hours. And then, just as it was done, a man came along and said that we (5) ..... camp there – it was private property. So we had to take the tent down again. Then Eva just said, 'Well, we (6) ..... stay here all night. Let's go to that hotel in the last village we drove through.' Unfortunately, when we got there they were full. But they were very kind and we (7) ..... camp at the end of their garden!

b



It is often said that sports coaches (1) ..... be strict, but athlete Lance Jordan's was incredibly hard on him in the year before the Olympic Games. For instance, Lance (2) ..... stay up later than nine, although on his birthday he (3) ..... watch television until ten as it was a special occasion! Of course, all Lance (4) ..... think of was going out with his friends in the evening, and he (5) ..... hardly wait for the Games to finish to get back to a normal life. When he complained, his coach just said, 'Trust me and you'll win gold – you (6) ..... lose!' And his coach was right. He won a gold medal in the 400 metres in a world record time. And on the night of his victory Lance (7) ..... celebrate – by staying up until 11 o'clock! 'But no later,' said his coach. 'The World Championships are only two years away.'

# Exercises

**30.1** If possible, rewrite these sentences using the possessive form of the object. If not, write X. **A**

- 1 I really hate you having to be away from home so much.  
I really hate your having to be away from home so much.
- 2 We don't approve of the developer locating the factory so close to houses.
- 3 I have always detested the dog jumping up at me when I visit them.
- 4 No one heard the man shouting for help.
- 5 It is difficult to imagine him accepting the decision without any objection.
- 6 No one in the crowd that day will forget Ashe fighting so hard to win the match.
- 7 I remember them arguing a great deal when they were children.
- 8 The police investigated him stealing cars from the city centre.

**30.2** Rewrite the italicised part of each sentence so that it has a similar meaning. Use one of the verbs from the box and an **-ing** form. **B & C**

adapt    approve    discourage    end    own-up    rely

- 1 In a survey, 65% of dentists *said that they had made* mistakes in treating patients.  
owned up to making
- 2 I don't *think children should wear* jewellery in school.
- 3 I would like to *finish with a summary of* the main points of my talk.
- 4 My parents *said they thought I shouldn't go* to university.
- 5 You can't *trust Sophie to turn up* on time.
- 6 I grew up in the countryside, and I found it difficult to *get used to life* in a big city.

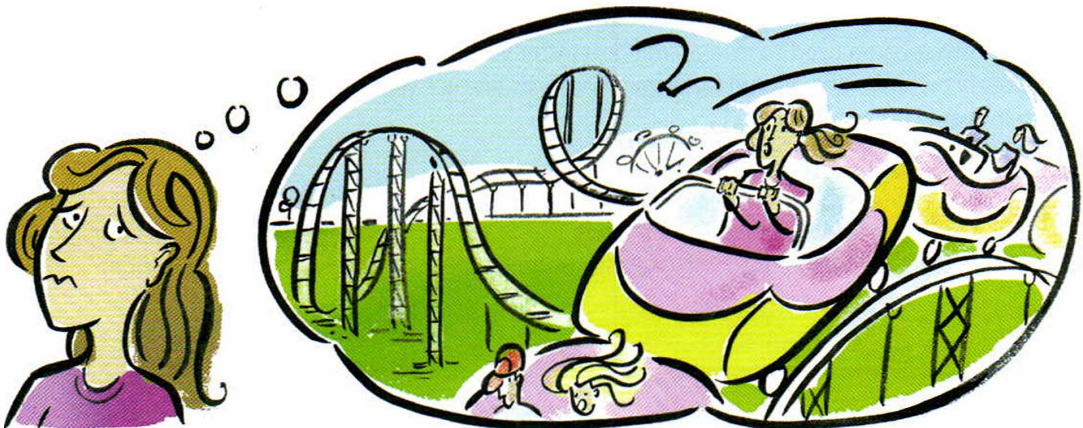
**30.3** Underline the most likely verb form. Consider why it is the most likely. **A**

- 1 I heard the tyre *burst / bursting* and then the lorry skidded across the road.
- 2 Carl noticed someone *watch / watching* him from an upstairs window.
- 3 She felt the wasp *sting / stinging* her just before she brushed it off her arm.
- 4 With a good telescope you can see the eagles *feed / feeding* their chicks in the nest.

**30.4** Match the sentence beginnings and endings, adding an appropriate object where necessary and write **(to)** where this might be included. **E**

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1 When Lana thought of going on the roller-coaster it made ... | a prevent hay fever.            |
| 2 The new course is intended to help ...                       | b <del>feel quite ill.</del>    |
| 3 Scientists hope the new drug will help ...                   | c control the speed of the fan. |
| 4 We didn't agree with the decision, but we didn't dare ...    | d wait outside my office.       |
| 5 When Ethan arrives, have ...                                 | e understand modern art.        |
| 6 The dial on the left lets ...                                | f protest against it.           |

1 + b When Lana thought of going on the roller-coaster it made her feel quite ill.





## Exercises

34.1 Match sentence beginnings 1–10 to endings a–j and choose an appropriate **wh-word** to connect them. If necessary, add an appropriate object. **A & B**

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Before the meeting finished they arranged ...              | a ... to fit the parts back together. |
| 2 He took my hands and showed ...                            | b ... she went after that.            |
| 3 I explained carefully so that the students understood ...  | c ... to put their coats.             |
| 4 Anna was new in the office and I had to keep reminding ... | d <del>... to meet next.</del>        |
| 5 I saw Sarah leave the building, but I didn't notice ...    | e ... Helen wasn't with him.          |
| 6 When I saw Hugo alone at the party I wondered ...          | f ... many sweets were in the jar.    |
| 7 As we walked over the hills the guide warned ...           | g ... they had to do in the test.     |
| 8 After I'd dismantled the motor I couldn't remember ...     | h ... the path was dangerous.         |
| 9 To win a prize you had to guess ...                        | i ... everyone was.                   |
| 10 As the guests came in Diego told ...                      | j ... to hold the golf club properly. |

1 + d Before the meeting finished they arranged when / where to meet next.

34.2 Underline the correct or more appropriate verb. **D**

- 1 She was *thinking* / *debating* whether to invite Jeremy over for dinner.
- 2 The council is meeting this morning to *discuss* / *ask* whether to increase local taxes.
- 3 Apparently Louis and Eva are *considering* / *speculating* whether to emigrate to Australia.
- 4 I have to *imagine* / *choose* whether to get a job or apply to go to college.
- 5 Scientists will have to *decide* / *conclude* soon whether to start testing the new drugs on people.

34.3 Zak Miles has written a book about mountain climbing in the Andes. Correct any mistakes in these extracts. **A–F**

The villagers warned <sup>me</sup> ~~me~~ what the conditions were like at higher altitudes, and advised to take enough food for a week. There was some discussion through the day as whether the snow would arrive before my descent from the mountain, but I never imagined how hard the conditions would be. In the morning they showed me the way how to get to the track up the mountain.

When the snow started falling it was very light, and I couldn't decide if to carry on or go back down. Soon, however, I couldn't see where to go.

I wondered if to retrace my steps and try to find the track again, but by the time I decided whether I should go back, the track had disappeared.

As the snow got heavier I began to realise whether my life was in danger. Fortunately, my years in the Andes had taught what to do in extreme conditions. I knew that there was a shepherd's hut somewhere on this side of the mountain that I could shelter in, but I didn't know that it was nearby or miles away.



## Exercises

## 40.1 Correct ten mistakes in the italicised verbs in this museum review. A &amp; B

Museums and  
historic sites

The Rivers Museum

Open: 9 am – 5 pm,

Mon – Sat

Entrance: Free

The Rivers Museum on the corner of Corn Street and New Road <sup>houses</sup> ~~house~~ a fascinating collection of art and other objects which begins as soon as you step through the door. Among the most eye-catching pieces in the whole collection <sup>is</sup> ~~are~~ the marble animal sculptures under two arches on the left of the entrance hall. Whoever created these figures apparently <sup>remain</sup> ~~remains~~ a mystery, but the skill of the craftspeople who worked on them <sup>is</sup> ~~are~~ obvious. Hanging on the wall directly opposite the carvings <sup>is</sup> ~~are~~ over a hundred swords from the 17th century. The narrow doorway between the arches <sup>lets</sup> ~~let~~ you into a series of smaller rooms where paintings from the 18th and 19th centuries <sup>are</sup> ~~is~~ on display. If paintings aren't your thing, the museum's incredible collection of seashells and fossils in the final room <sup>are</sup> ~~is~~ sure to be of interest. Perhaps what is most surprising about the building itself <sup>are</sup> ~~is~~ the bell tower in the small courtyard. Only since the restoration work was completed in 2011 <sup>have</sup> ~~has~~ the tower been open, and climbing the 150 steps to the top to take in the view over the city <sup>is</sup> ~~are~~ well worth the effort. Over 50 full-time staff and volunteers <sup>is</sup> ~~are~~ employed and having so many of them available to answer questions about the collection <sup>add</sup> ~~adds~~ to the pleasure of this must-see museum.

## 40.2 Complete each sentence with a noun from the box and an appropriate form of the verb in brackets (singular, plural or both). C

audience    class    jury    orchestra    press  
~~team~~    the United Nations    university

- The volleyball team play / plays twice a week in the summer. (*play*)
- If the ..... to host the conference, I just don't know where we will be able to hold it. (*refuse*)
- The worldwide television ..... for tomorrow's cup final ..... expected to be 200 million. (*be*)
- The ..... classical concerts throughout the year. (*perform*)
- The Waterman's Junior Book Prize ..... three adults and three children. (*include*)
- The ..... all passed the end-of-year exam. (*have*)
- The ..... a picture of chaos in our schools, but it's just not like that at all. (*present*)
- ..... ordered an investigation into the capture of members of its peace-keeping force in eastern Africa. (*have*)

## 40.3 If necessary, correct the mistakes in these sentences or write ✓ if they are already correct.

A–D

- The United States come top of the list of countries ranked by economic performance.
- The people I know who have seen the film say that it's really good.
- The *New Straits Times* report that tourism is booming in Malaysia.
- Northern Lights* are one of Suzanne's favourite books.
- The stairs leading to the first floor were steep and poorly lit.
- Chequers is the country house of the British Prime Minister.
- Whoever made all the mess in the kitchen have to clear it up.
- The phrase 'men in white coats' are used to talk about psychiatrists.
- The public needs to be kept informed about progress in the peace talks.
- Musical chairs are a party game where everyone dashes for a seat when the music stops.

## Exercises

**46.1** If necessary, correct any mistakes in these sentences. If they are already correct, write ✓. **A-C**

- 1 She was determined to be author one day.
- 2 She recently became the minister in the new government.
- 3 A: What make is your computer? B: It's Mac.
- 4 I found myself talking to George Clooney! Not George Clooney, of course, but someone with the same name.
- 5 I didn't even know Clara was interested in art until I heard that she owns Van Gogh.
- 6 I've been offered the position of Director of Personnel.
- 7 We're going on holiday with Niensens.
- 8 He's really keen on athletics. He likes to think of himself as the Usain Bolt.

**46.2** Put a / an, the or zero article (-) in the spaces. Give all possible answers. **A-C**

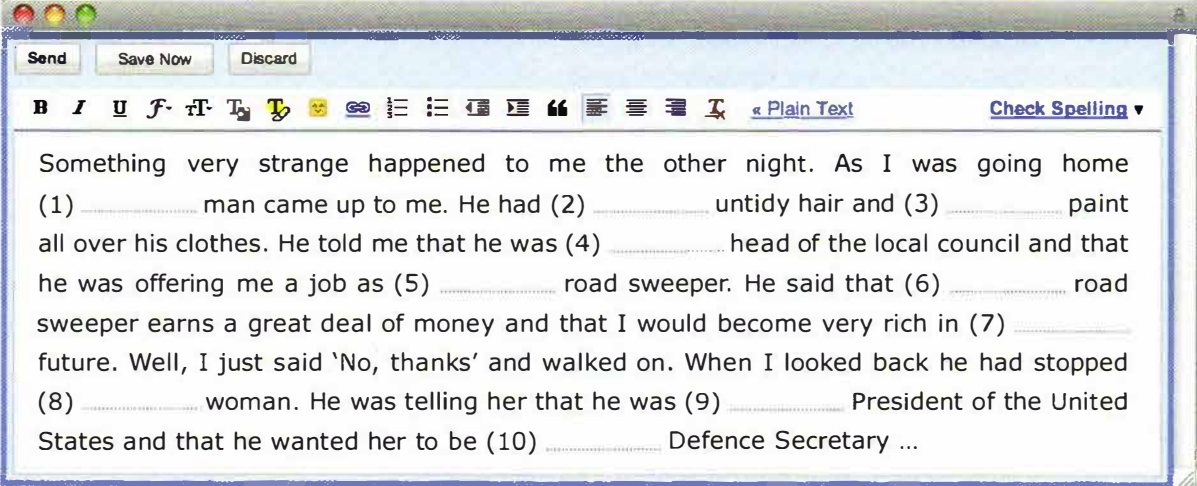
- 1 I'm ..... marketing adviser at Unifleet.
- 2 Leon's ..... manager of his local football team.
- 3 She has been appointed ..... Minister for Industry.
- 4 A special award was given to ..... novelist Ian McMurphy.
- 5 Let me introduce you to ..... Georgia Rossi.
- 6 We met our good friend ..... Eliza Borg when we were in ..... Malta.
- 7 When Lucia was young she knew ..... Picasso.
- 8 ..... Linda Green is outside. Do you want to see her?

**46.3** If the italicised **the** can be left out of these sentences, put brackets around it. **E**

- 1 It's *the* best ice-cream I've ever tasted.
- 2 Rodrigo's boat wasn't the most elegant in the harbour, but it was certainly *the* biggest.
- 3 I thought the second competitor was *the* best, even though he didn't win a prize.
- 4 This is by far *the* most valuable painting in the collection.
- 5 A: Why did you ask Martina to go first? B: Because she's *the* oldest.
- 6 Sapphires occur in a variety of colours, but blue ones are *the* most valuable.
- 7 The Pacific is *the* biggest ocean in the world.
- 8 It's supposed to be *the* oldest post office in the country.

**46.4** Complete the email with a / an, the, zero article or **this**. Give alternatives where possible.

**Units 45 & 46**



Something very strange happened to me the other night. As I was going home (1) ..... man came up to me. He had (2) ..... untidy hair and (3) ..... paint all over his clothes. He told me that he was (4) ..... head of the local council and that he was offering me a job as (5) ..... road sweeper. He said that (6) ..... road sweeper earns a great deal of money and that I would become very rich in (7) ..... future. Well, I just said 'No, thanks' and walked on. When I looked back he had stopped (8) ..... woman. He was telling her that he was (9) ..... President of the United States and that he wanted her to be (10) ..... Defence Secretary ...