Grammar in Context: Mastering Intermediate English Grammar with Practical Examples

Introduction

Welcome to "Grammar in Context: Mastering Intermediate English Grammar with Practical Examples." This e-book is designed to help learners at the intermediate level understand and apply more complex grammar rules in English. By exploring topics such as conditional sentences, passive voice, and phrasal verbs, you'll enhance your ability to communicate effectively in various situations.

Chapter 1: Conditional Sentences

1.1 Zero Conditional

Explanation: The zero conditional is used for statements that are always true, such as scientific facts or general truths. The structure is: If/When + present simple, present simple.

Examples:

"If you heat water to 100°C, it boils."

"When it rains, the grass gets wet."

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Complete the sentences using the zero conditional:

"If you mix red and blue, it _____ (make) purple."

"When you _____ (freeze) water, it turns into ice."

Exercise 2: Write two sentences using the zero conditional about things that are always true.

1.2 First Conditional

Explanation: The first conditional is used for real or possible situations in the future. The structure is: If + present simple, will + base verb.

Examples:

"If it rains tomorrow, we'll cancel the picnic."

"If you study hard, you will pass the exam."

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Match the beginnings of sentences with their correct endings:

"If you don't hurry," - a. "you'll miss the bus."

"If she calls me," - b. "I'll let you know."

Exercise 2: Write three sentences using the first conditional about possible future events.

1.3 Second Conditional

Explanation: The second conditional is used for unreal or unlikely situations in the present or future. The structure is: If + past simple, would + base verb.

Examples:

"If I were rich, I would travel the world."

"If she studied more, she would get better grades."

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Complete the sentences using the second conditional:

"If I _____ (be) the president, I would lower taxes."

"If they knew the answer, they _____ (tell) us."

Exercise 2: Write two sentences using the second conditional about things you would do if you could.

1.4 Third Conditional

Explanation: The third conditional is used for situations that didn't happen in the past. The structure is: If + past perfect, would have + past participle.

Examples:

"If I had known about the party, I would have gone."

"If she had left earlier, she would have caught the train."

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Match the sentence halves:

"If he had studied harder," - a. "he would have passed the exam."

"If they had arrived on time," - b. "they wouldn't have missed the show."

Exercise 2: Write three sentences using the third conditional about past situations that could have been different.

Chapter 2: Passive Voice

2.1 Forming the Passive Voice

Explanation: The passive voice is used when the focus is on the action rather than

the subject. It is formed by using the verb "to be" + past participle of the main verb.

Examples:

"The letter was written by John."

"The cake is being baked."

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Rewrite the following sentences in the passive voice:

"The teacher explains the lesson." \rightarrow "The lesson _____ by the teacher."

"They are building a new school." \rightarrow "A new school _____ being built."

Exercise 2: Convert three active sentences to passive voice.

2.2 Passive Voice in Different Tenses

Explanation: The passive voice can be used in different tenses, such as present, past, future, and perfect tenses.

Examples:

Present simple: "The house is cleaned every day."

Past simple: "The letter was sent yesterday."

Future simple: "The project will be completed by next week."

Present perfect: "The report has been finished."

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Change the sentences from active to passive in the correct tense:

"They will deliver the package tomorrow." \rightarrow "The package _____ delivered tomorrow."

"She has written the book." \rightarrow "The book _____ written."

Exercise 2: Write four sentences using the passive voice in different tenses.

2.3 When to Use the Passive Voice

Explanation: Use the passive voice when the doer of the action is unknown, unimportant, or obvious from the context.

Examples:

"The car was stolen." (The doer is unknown)

"The cake was eaten." (The doer is unimportant)

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Identify whether the sentence should be in active or passive voice:

"The thief stole the money." (active/passive)

"The homework was completed by the student." (active/passive)

Exercise 2: Write three sentences that appropriately use the passive voice.

Chapter 3: Phrasal Verbs

3.1 Introduction to Phrasal Verbs

Explanation: A phrasal verb is a verb combined with one or two particles (prepositions or adverbs) that creates a meaning different from the original verb.

Examples:

"Give up" (stop doing something) - "He gave up smoking."

"Take off" (remove clothing or start flying) - "She took off her coat."

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Match the phrasal verbs with their meanings:

"Run out of" - a. To exhaust the supply

"Look after" - b. To take care of

Exercise 2: Write sentences using the phrasal verbs: "give up," "take off," and "run out of."

3.2 Phrasal Verbs in Context

Explanation: Understanding phrasal verbs in context helps you grasp their meanings and uses more effectively.

Examples:

"She ran out of milk, so she went to the store."

"I'll look after your dog while you're on vacation."

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Complete the sentences with the correct phrasal verbs:

"Can you _____ (look after) my cat while I'm away?"

"They _____ (ran out of) time before they finished the test."

Exercise 2: Write a short paragraph using at least three different phrasal verbs.

3.3 Common Phrasal Verbs

Explanation: Some phrasal verbs are commonly used in everyday English and are essential for intermediate learners.

Examples:

"Turn on" (start a machine) - "Can you turn on the lights?"

"Pick up" (lift something or someone) - "I'll pick you up at 7 PM."

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Match the phrasal verbs with their correct sentences:

"Turn on" - a. "He turned on the TV."

"Pick up" - b. "She picked up the phone."

Exercise 2: Write sentences using the phrasal verbs: "turn on," "pick up," and "give away."

Conclusion

Congratulations on completing "Grammar in Context: Mastering Intermediate English Grammar with Practical Examples." By mastering these grammar topics, you've strengthened your understanding of English and are better equipped to use it in real-life situations. Keep practicing, and continue building your language skills!

Chapter 1: Conditional Sentences - Complex Exercises

1.1 Mixed Conditionals

Explanation: Mixed conditionals combine elements of different conditional structures to express past actions with present consequences or hypothetical present situations with potential past outcomes.

Examples:

"If I had studied harder, I would have a better job now." (Third conditional + Second conditional)

"If she were more organized, she would have finished the project on time." (Second conditional + Third conditional)

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Complete the sentences using mixed conditionals:

"If he _____ (not miss) the bus, he would be here by now."

"If I _____ (win) the lottery, I would be living in a mansion."

Exercise 2: Write three mixed conditional sentences about situations in your life where past actions affect the present or hypothetical situations could have changed the past.

1.2 Conditional Sentences in Context

Explanation: Applying conditional sentences in real-life contexts helps reinforce their usage and meaning.

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Read the scenario and complete the conditional sentences:

Scenario: Sarah missed her flight because she overslept. Now she has to book a new ticket and wait for the next available flight.

"If Sarah _____ (set) an alarm, she _____ (catch) her flight."

"If she _____ (be) more careful with her time, she _____ (not have) to wait for the next flight."

Exercise 2: Write a short paragraph describing a situation where different conditional sentences could apply (e.g., planning an event, making decisions). Use at least three different types of conditionals.

Chapter 2: Passive Voice - Complex Exercises

2.1 Transforming Active to Passive in Different Tenses

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Rewrite the following sentences in the passive voice. Ensure you maintain the correct tense:

"The company will launch a new product next month."

"They had completed the project before the deadline."

"Scientists are conducting research on climate change."

Exercise 2: Convert these passive sentences back to active voice:

"The new policy was implemented by the government last year."

"The report will be reviewed by the committee tomorrow."

"The painting has been restored by the conservators."

2.2 Passive Voice in Different Contexts

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Choose the appropriate tense and form of the passive voice to complete

the sentences:

"By the time we arrived, the cake _____ (already/eat) by the guests."

"The new library _____ (build) by the end of next year."

"The homework _____ (not/complete) until the last minute."

Exercise 2: Write a news report or a historical account using the passive voice. Focus on an event where the emphasis is on the actions rather than who performed them.

Chapter 3: Phrasal Verbs - Complex Exercises

3.1 Phrasal Verbs with Multiple Meanings

Explanation: Some phrasal verbs have more than one meaning depending on the context.

Examples:

"Turn up" can mean to increase the volume ("Can you turn up the music?") or to arrive unexpectedly ("She turned up at the party late.")

"Take off" can mean to remove something ("Take off your shoes.") or to leave the ground (as in an airplane) ("The plane took off at 6 PM.")

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Use the phrasal verbs below in sentences with different meanings:

"Break down"

"Set up"

"Put off"

Exercise 2: Write a paragraph using one of the phrasal verbs in different contexts. Show how the meaning changes depending on the situation.

3.2 Creating Sentences with Phrasal Verbs

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Use the following phrasal verbs in sentences that illustrate their meanings clearly:

"Run into" (to meet someone unexpectedly)

"Look forward to" (to be excited about something in the future)

"Give up" (to stop trying)

Exercise 2: Choose three phrasal verbs you have learned and write a short story or dialogue that uses them naturally. Make sure the context makes the meaning of each phrasal verb clear.

3.3 Phrasal Verbs with Separable and Inseparable Forms

Explanation: Some phrasal verbs can be separated by their object (separable), while others cannot (inseparable).

Examples:

Separable: "Turn off the lights." / "Turn the lights off."

Inseparable: "Look after the kids." (You cannot say "Look the kids after.")

Practice Exercise:

Exercise 1: Identify whether the following phrasal verbs are separable or inseparable. Then, write two sentences for each:

"Call off" (cancel)

"Get along with" (have a good relationship with)

"Pick out" (choose)

Exercise 2: Write a dialogue between two characters using at least five phrasal verbs. Indicate which ones are separable and which ones are inseparable.

Conclusion

These complex exercises provide a deeper exploration of intermediate English grammar, helping you solidify your understanding and apply it in more nuanced ways. Continue practicing these exercises to master conditional sentences, passive voice, and phrasal verbs, and watch your English proficiency grow!