

'Straightforward Intermediate' Practice Online

This course accompanies 'Straightforward Intermediate'. There are twelve units in this course. Resources are grouped into five categories: Language Focus, Grammar, Vocabulary, Reading and Listening, and 'Pronunciation'.

UNIT 1

0

Lessons 1A-1C

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about people . It also provides practice of stative verbs, questions and present tenses.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Language Focus

Contrasting the present simple and present continuous. Practising the present simple and the present continuous. Practising question words.

Grammar

Checking your knowledge of stative verbs. Checking your knowledge of Wh- questions that ask about a subject. Checking your knowledge of Wh- questions that ask about an object. Checking your knowledge of present simple and continuous use.

Vocabulary

Practising phrasal verbs that describe what people are doing. Practising word formation. Practising phrasal verbs.

Reading and Listening

Listening to a journalist from a men's fashion magazine, CHAPS, stopping four men in the street and asking them about their self-image and rearranging words to make correct questions. Understanding global meaning by choosing the correct answer to five multiple-choice questions on a text about an unusual child.

UNIT 2

1

Lessons 2A-2C

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about travelling around the world. It also provides practice of the present perfect and the past simple.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Language Focus

Practising the present perfect and the past simple. Practising the past simple. Practising separable and non-separable phrasal verbs.

Grammar

Checking your knowledge of the difference between the use of the past simple and the present perfect. Checking your knowledge of the use of the prepositions of time, 'for' and 'since'. Checking your knowledge of the use of 'ever' and 'never'.

Vocabulary

Practising words for journeys. Practising collocations.

Reading and Listening

Listening to information about Framlingham Castle and choosing the correct answers. Deciding if statements about a text on a trip to Arundel Castle are true or false.

Pronunciation

Identifying the correct tense in sentences.

UNIT 3

2

Lessons 3A-3C

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about accommodation and homes. It also provides practice of modals of obligation, permission and prohibition and making requests.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Language Focus

Practising the modal verbs 'can't' and 'must'. Practising the modal verbs 'mustn't', 'don't have to', 'don't need to' and 'needn't'. Practising making offers and requests.

Grammar

Checking your knowledge of using can, may or be allowed to to ask for and give permission. Checking your knowledge of using forms of 'must', 'need' and 'have to' to talk about obligation and necessity.

Vocabulary

Practising vocabulary associated with things you might say or be told in a hotel. Reading three advertisements offering accommodation and matching vocabulary and abbreviations with their definitions. Practising ways of making requests.

Reading and Listening

Listening to a teenager describing his bedroom. Understanding people's opinions and feelings as well as specific information by listening to a couple talking about inviting an exchange student to stay with them and their daughter,

Pronunciation

Identifying polite or impolite intonation in requests.

UNIT 4

3

Lessons 4A-4C

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about being lucky and taking risks. It also provides practice of past tenses and linkers.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Language Focus

Contrasting the past simple and past continuous. Contrasting the past simple and past perfect. Practising 'so' and 'neither' and the auxiliary verbs that you use with them in short responses. Completing a text about British superstitions using the first conditional.

Grammar

Checking your knowledge of past simple and past continuous use. Checking your knowledge of the use of the past simple and the past perfect. Checking your knowledge of 'both ... and', 'either ... or', 'neither ... nor'. Checking your knowledge of the connectors of time.

Reading and Listening

Reading for specific information and deciding if statements about a text on the sport of BASE jumping are true or false. Listening to a conversation about lucky charms.

Pronunciation

Practising the weak and strong forms of 'was', 'were', 'can' and 'are'.

UNIT 5

4

Lessons 5A-5C

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about buying and selling. It also provides practice of comparatives and prefixes.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Language Focus

Practising comparatives using '-er ... than', 'more ... than' and 'less ... than'. Practising comparative and superlative adjectives and adverbs. Using prefixes to make negative adjectives.

Grammar

Checking your knowledge of irregular comparatives. Checking your knowledge of '(not) as ... as' and 'less ... than'. Checking your knowledge of the comparatives of adverbs.

Vocabulary

Practising negative adjective prefixes. Practising words associated with marketing.

Reading and Listening

Listening to a telephone sales person trying to sell an advertisement. Reading a text about IKEA and looking for specific information.

Pronunciation

Practising the consonants /s/, /z/ and /ʃ/.

UNIT 6

5

Lessons 6A-6C

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about holidays and plans for travelling. It also provides practice of future tenses and indirect questions.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Language Focus

Practising the present continuous. Practising 'will', 'going to' or the present continuous to complete short conversations. Practising the future with 'will' and 'won't'. Practising embedded questions.

Grammar

Checking your knowledge of when to use the future with 'will/won't'. Checking your knowledge of the different uses of the future with 'going to'. Checking your knowledge of the different tenses to talk about the future.

Vocabulary

Practising verbs with 'go' and 'get'. Practising words for journeys. Playing a game identifying words that collocate in sentences related to travelling in order to get through the haunted graveyard.

Reading and Listening

Listening to an aircraft announcement.

Pronunciation

Practising syllable stress.

UNIT 7

6

Lessons 7A-7C

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about changes and dilemmas in life. It also provides practice of the present perfect continuous and giving advice.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Language Focus

Practising the present perfect continuous. Contrasting the present perfect simple and continuous. Practising the present perfect simple and continuous. Practising structures used for giving advice to someone who has not been working at a company for long.

Grammar

Checking your knowledge of when to use the present perfect continuous. Checking your knowledge of the use of the present perfect simple and continuous. Checking your knowledge of using 'should' and 'ought to' to give advice and opinions.

Vocabulary

Practising phrasal verbs used to talk about relationships.

Pronunciation

Identifying the speaker's feelings about accepting a job offer by listening to his intonation and clicking on sure or unsure. Identifying speakers' attitudes from their intonation by listening to people talking about their holidays and choosing the correct attitude for each speaker.

UNIT 8

7

Lessons 8A-8C

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about crime and the news. It also provides practice of the second and third conditionals and making offers.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Language Focus	Practising the second conditional. Practising zero, first, second and third conditional sentences. Completing sentences using the first, second and third conditional. Practising making offers and requests.
Grammar	Checking your knowledge of the uses of the second conditional. Checking your knowledge of the uses of the third conditional. Checking your knowledge of how to use 'would' with the second and third conditionals. Checking your knowledge of how to use 'would' to make offers.
Vocabulary	Practising different types of news categories. Playing a game recognizing and matching phrasal verbs with drawings.
Reading and Listening	Listening to a plan to kidnap a racehorse for money.
Pronunciation	Distinguishing the sounds /ʊ/ and /u:/ in single words.

UNIT 9

8

Lessons 9A-9C

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about shops and shopping. It also provides practice of articles, determiners and quantifiers.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Language Focus	Practising 'so' and 'enough', and 'so/too' followed by 'much/many', 'little' and 'few' and choosing the correct answer to complete sentences. Using determiners to complete a newspaper article about a survey asking people about social issues. Using articles to complete a text about marketing strategies.
Grammar	Checking your knowledge of '(not) enough' and 'too + adjective + infinitive' and putting the words in the correct order. Checking your knowledge of 'little/a little', 'few/a few' and choosing the right words to complete the sentences. Checking your knowledge of 'all', 'half', 'none', 'the whole', 'most' and selecting the correct words to complete the sentences.
Vocabulary	Practising phrases you might need while shopping. Using common compound nouns to complete a text about email. Practising phrasal verbs with 'take'. Practising the use of collocations relating to telephone language.
Reading and Listening	Listening to two people talking about a late delivery and noting the details which need to be included in an email to the customer. Listening to someone making a complaint.

UNIT 10

9

Lessons 10A-10C

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about mysteries and secrets. It also provides practice of modals of deduction, certainty and possibility and the use of the infinitive.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Language Focus	Practising the modal verbs 'can't' and 'must'. Practising modals of deduction, 'must' and 'can't', and of possibility, 'might' and 'could'. Practising the past simple and present perfect to complete a text about UFOs. Practising the structure of verbs followed by objects plus the infinitive.
Grammar	Checking your knowledge of using 'must' and 'can't' to talk about things you are certain of and to make deductions. Checking your knowledge of using 'can', 'could', 'may', and 'might' to talk about possibility. Checking your knowledge of the structure verb + object + infinitive. Checking your knowledge of the structure object + infinitive without 'to'.
Vocabulary	Grouping nouns with their related nouns and adjectives. Practising negative adjective prefixes.
Reading and Listening	Listening to the description of the Nazca Lines in Peru. Focusing on detailed comprehension of points made, opinions expressed and vocabulary used in a text about UFOs.
Pronunciation	Identifying the main stress in pairs of sentences with changing information.

UNIT 11

10

Lessons 11A-11C

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about sport. It also provides practice of the passive, 'have something done', 'make' and 'do', and question tags.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Language Focus	Practising all forms of the passive. Contrasting active and passive verbs. Practising question tags.
Grammar	Checking your knowledge of active and passive voice. Checking your knowledge of passive modals. Checking your knowledge of the way in which we use 'have something done'. Checking your knowledge of question and reply tags. Checking your knowledge of question tags. Checking your knowledge of nouns and noun phrases used with 'make' and 'do'.
Vocabulary	Practising phrasal verbs used to talk about sports and hobbies. Practising names of sports. Playing a game to identify words that collocate relating to sports.
Reading and Listening	Listening to a conversation about windsurfing.
Pronunciation	Practising the /ɪə/ and /eə/ vowel sounds.

UNIT 12

11

Lessons 12A-12C

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about money. It also provides practice of reported speech.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Language Focus	Practising reporting verbs. Practising reported statements. Practising reported questions. Practising direct and reported speech.
Grammar	Checking your knowledge of the tense changes used in reported speech. Checking your knowledge about reported speech. Checking your knowledge of reporting verbs. Checking your knowledge of 'Wh-' reported questions. Checking your knowledge of 'yes/no' reported questions.
Vocabulary	Practising words used to talk about money. Matching business and money words with the correct definition. Practising words that are often confused. Playing a problem-solving game by creating a successful business on a new planet.
Reading and Listening	Reading a text about the Wall Street Crash of 1929.
Pronunciation	Identifying polite or impolite intonation in questions. Identifying polite or impolite intonation in requests.