

B1 / INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH

BUILD YOUR FLUENCY

Reading • Grammar • Vocabulary • Writing

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01 LEARN

02 APPLY

03 REFLECT

REAL ENGLISH. REAL PROGRESS.

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START HERE

Welcome from Match

A practical B1 workbook to help you build confidence with real English.

Hi, I'm Match! I'm an English tutor from Canada with over eight years of tutoring experience. This workbook is a sample of how we can work on your English together.

At B1, the goal is not just to remember rules. It's to explain ideas, share experiences and communicate with more confidence.

What you will practise

- Choose between Past Simple and Present Perfect
- Use first and second conditionals accurately
- Express advice, obligation and possibility
- Understand a longer reading passage and justify answers
- Write a connected paragraph and reflect on your progress

How to use this workbook

Work through the activities in order. Write your answers on the lines provided. Check your work with the answer key at the end. Open-ended tasks have model guidance, not just one perfect answer.

SUGGESTED TIME

90–120 minutes, plus independent homework

This is a learning sample, not a formal CEFR assessment.

VOCABULARY

Vocabulary in context

Collocations and useful expressions

A collocation is a group of words that naturally go together. For example, we say make a decision, not do a decision.

Word bank

meet a deadline • make progress • take responsibility • keep in touch • gain experience • deal with a problem

A. Complete each sentence

1. I want to _____ by practising English every day.

2. We need to finish this report by Friday to _____.

3. After moving abroad, I tried to _____ with my friends.

4. Working part-time helped me _____ in customer service.

5. Good team members _____ for their mistakes.

6. It is easier to _____ when you stay calm.

B. Use the language

1. Choose TWO expressions above and write a realistic sentence about your life.

2. Which expression is most useful for your work or studies? Explain why.

GRAMMAR LESSON 1

Past Simple vs Present Perfect

Time matters: finished events and life experience

Past Simple: I visited Vancouver in 2022. (finished time)

Present Perfect: I have visited Vancouver twice. (experience; time not specified)

Past Simple = subject + past verb. Present Perfect = subject + have/has + past participle.

Clues: yesterday, last week, in 2020 → often Past Simple; ever, never, already, yet, since, for → often Present Perfect.

A. Choose the correct form

1. I (worked / have worked) at this company since March.

2. We (saw / have seen) that film last Saturday.

3. (Did you ever try / Have you ever tried) Korean food?

4. She (did not finish / has not finished) her assignment yet.

5. They (moved / have moved) to Ottawa three years ago.

B. Explain the meaning

1. Why is “I have met him yesterday” incorrect? Rewrite it.

2. Write one sentence about a finished event and one about a life experience.

GRAMMAR PRACTICE

Correct and transform

Think about the time expression before choosing a tense

A. Correct the mistakes

1. I have bought my laptop last month.

2. She lives here since 2021.

3. Did you ever travel alone?

4. We have not saw the new manager yet.

B. Rewrite without changing the meaning

1. I started learning English two years ago. (Use “for”)

2. This is my first visit to Toronto. (Use “never”)

3. He finished the project a moment ago. (Use “just”)

GRAMMAR PRACTICE

Mini-story challenge

Use both tenses in a short, connected piece of writing

Write a three-sentence mini-story using both Past Simple and Present Perfect. Include a specific past time and one experience without a specific time.

Sentence 1

Sentence 2

Sentence 3

Self-check

- Did you include a finished past event?
- Did you include a life experience?
- Are your time expressions correct?

READING

A new city, a new routine

Read for main ideas, details and implied meaning

Before you read: What can make moving to a new city difficult, even when someone has a good job?

Your ideas:

Read the article

When Daniel accepted a new job in another city, he expected the hardest part to be finding an apartment. Instead, he discovered that building a routine was more difficult than he had imagined.

During his first month, Daniel worked long hours and rarely spoke to anyone outside the office. He had already met several friendly colleagues, but he kept postponing invitations because he felt tired. By the end of the month, he realised he was becoming isolated.

He decided to make a small change. Every Wednesday, he joined a local photography group. At first, he felt uncomfortable starting conversations with strangers. However, the group gave him something specific to talk about, and he gradually became more confident.

Six months later, Daniel still misses his old friends, but he has developed a stronger sense of belonging. He says the move taught him an important lesson: a new place does not automatically become home; people have to create connections.

Vocabulary in the article

postponing = delaying until later • isolated = feeling separated from others

sense of belonging = feeling accepted as part of a group

READING COMPREHENSION

Understand and explain

Answer in complete sentences. Use evidence from the article.

1. What did Daniel originally expect to be the hardest part of moving?

2. What was his actual difficulty during the first month?

3. Why did he turn down invitations from colleagues?

4. What weekly activity helped him build connections?

READING COMPREHENSION

Explain your thinking

Continue using complete sentences and evidence from the article.

5. How did this activity make conversations easier?

6. What does Daniel mean when he says people have to “create connections”?

Inference challenge: Do you think Daniel would recommend joining a group to someone who is shy? Explain your answer using the text.

GRAMMAR LESSON 2

First and second conditionals

Real possibilities versus imagined situations

First conditional: If I finish early, I will call you. (real future possibility)

Second conditional: If I had more time, I would join a club. (imagined or unlikely situation)

Structure: If + Present Simple, will + base verb. / If + Past Simple, would + base verb.

A. Complete with the correct form

1. If it _____ (rain) tomorrow, we _____ (stay) inside.

2. If I _____ (speak) three languages, I _____ (apply) for that job.

3. She _____ (feel) better if she _____ (take) a break. [imagined]

4. If they _____ (leave) now, they _____ (arrive) on time.

B. First or second conditional?

1. You might miss your train tomorrow. Write a warning with “if”.

2. Imagine you could live anywhere. Write a sentence with “if”.

3. Explain why “If I will see her, I will tell her” is usually incorrect.

GRAMMAR LESSON 3

Advice, obligation and possibility

Choose the modal that matches your meaning

should = advice • must / have to = obligation • must not = prohibition

do not have to = no obligation • might = possibility

A. Choose the best answer

1. You _____ wear a seat belt in a car. (must / might)
2. You _____ bring food; lunch is provided. (must not / do not have to)
3. She _____ be late because the bus is delayed. (might / must not)
4. You _____ ask for feedback if you want to improve. (should / must not)
5. Visitors _____ enter this area. It is restricted. (must not / do not have to)

B. Rewrite with the correct meaning

1. It is not necessary to print the form. (Use “have to”)

2. I advise you to practise speaking aloud. (Use “should”)

3. Perhaps the meeting will end early. (Use “might”)

VOCABULARY DETECTIVE

Solve the clues

Find each word in the puzzle on the next page.

1. A fixed date by which work must be finished: _____
2. Improvement over time: _____
3. Feeling separated from other people: _____
4. A regular way of doing things: _____
5. Feeling accepted in a group: _____
6. Knowledge or skill gained by doing something: _____
7. Sure of your own ability: _____
8. Willing to accept duties and consequences: _____

Bonus: use your vocabulary

Use any TWO of the answers in a short paragraph about your life.

VOCABULARY DETECTIVE

Word-search puzzle

Find the eight answers from the previous page. Words may appear in different directions.

F G A H F P D E A D L I N E V
H E X P E R I E N C E C H R S
T E P K D H M V X D O T X W G
R Y P I S O L A T E D M L I L
B A F S W E U E Q Q U F N X Z
E C B Q V T W L G V M J J E I
L M T H C O N F I D E N T P D
O W I T S N J M Z P W H R D Q
N P T R O U T I N E O O H P F
G P J C H P P S M B G T W W R
I A Y Y U G N Z P R K L S F N
N A H F T Q M E E A U S Q M A
G R E S P O N S I B L E H I T
A R Y Q X H S M X F B Q K S Q
W F P C S R X B G L F I P C Y

WRITING

Write a connected paragraph

Target: 130–160 words

Topic: Describe a change you have made in your life (or a change you would like to make). Explain why it mattered, what was difficult and what you learned.

Plan before you write

1. What changed (or what would you change)?

2. Why was this change important?

3. What happened as a result, or what might happen?

Writing instructions

Use at least TWO linking expressions (however, although, because, as a result, for example) and ONE conditional sentence. Write your paragraph on the next page.

WRITING

Your paragraph

Write 130–160 words. Use the plan from the previous page.

INDEPENDENT HOMEWORK

Speak, write and reflect

Complete these activities after the main workbook.

Assignment 1 / Speaking (5–7 minutes)

Record yourself answering: “What has changed in your daily routine over the past year?” Include two examples, one difficulty and one thing you have learned.

Assignment 2 / Grammar in real life

1. Write TWO first conditional sentences about plans for next week.

2. Write TWO second conditional sentences about imagined opportunities.

3. Write one piece of advice using should and one possibility using might.

INDEPENDENT HOMEWORK

Vocabulary and reflection

Apply what you learned and decide what to practise next.

Assignment 3 / Vocabulary review

Choose FOUR expressions from the vocabulary activities. Write a connected paragraph using all four.

Reflection

What was the most difficult part of this workbook, and what will you practise next?

ANSWER KEY / PART 1

Check your answers

Open-ended responses may differ from the examples.

Vocabulary

A: 1 make progress; 2 meet a deadline; 3 keep in touch; 4 gain experience; 5 take responsibility; 6 deal with a problem. B: Answers vary.

Past Simple / Present Perfect

A: 1 have worked; 2 saw; 3 Have you ever tried; 4 has not finished; 5 moved. B1: “Yesterday” refers to finished time: I met him yesterday. B2: I started my job in 2023. / I have travelled abroad several times.

Corrections and transformations

A1: I bought my laptop last month. A2: She has lived here since 2021. A3: Have you ever travelled alone? A4: We have not seen the new manager yet.

Transformations (continued)

B1: I have been learning English for two years. B2: I have never visited Toronto before. B3: He has just finished the project. Mini-story: answers vary.

Reading comprehension

1. He expected finding an apartment to be hardest. 2. He struggled to build a routine and felt isolated. 3. He was tired after working long hours. 4. He joined a photography group every Wednesday. 5. Photography gave him a shared topic to discuss. 6. Belonging develops through effort and relationships. Inference: Yes; the group gave him a topic to discuss.

ANSWER KEY / PART 2

Review and next steps

Use these answers to learn from mistakes, not just count them.

Conditionals

A: 1 rains / will stay; 2 spoke / would apply; 3 would feel / took; 4 leave / will arrive. B1: If you leave late, you might miss your train. B2: If I could live anywhere, I would live near the ocean. B3: In a standard first conditional, use present tense after if: If I see her, I will tell her.

Modals

A: 1 must; 2 do not have to; 3 might; 4 should; 5 must not. B: 1 You do not have to print the form. 2 You should practise speaking aloud. 3 The meeting might end early.

Vocabulary Detective

1 DEADLINE 2 PROGRESS 3 ISOLATED 4 ROUTINE 5 BELONGING 6 EXPERIENCE 7 CONFIDENT 8 RESPONSIBLE

Writing and homework

Answers vary. Check for a clear main idea, connected sentences, appropriate grammar and vocabulary, and whether the instructions were followed.

READY TO KEEP LEARNING?

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