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## 1

## Tenses

Simple and continuous tenses; perfect tenses; present perfect continuous and past perfect continuous

## Context listening

**1.1** You are going to hear part of a radio phone-in programme. Before you listen, look at the photos. What do you think the topic of the phone-in is?



**1.2** ▶02 Listen and check whether you were right. As you listen, answer the questions.

Which of the callers, Karen, Liam, Sahar or Luka ...

- 1 ... lost something on the train one day? Sahar
- 2 ... travels to work by bus? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 ... works at home permanently? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 ... may buy a motorbike? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 ... has always liked travelling by train? \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 ... used to catch the train at a quarter past seven in the morning? \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 ... is working at home temporarily? \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 ... has never owned a car? \_\_\_\_\_

**1.3** ▶02 Listen again and fill in the gaps.

- 1 I commuted to London for over ten years.
- 2 I \_\_\_\_\_ over an hour when they announced that the train was cancelled.
- 3 I \_\_\_\_\_ of buying a motorbike.
- 4 I \_\_\_\_\_ at home while our office block is being renovated.
- 5 I \_\_\_\_\_ to her only a couple of times before then.
- 6 I \_\_\_\_\_ travelling by train ever since I was young.
- 7 I \_\_\_\_\_ to phone in to your programme for the last half hour.
- 8 Yesterday, I \_\_\_\_\_ all my work by 2.30 pm.

**1.4** Identify the tenses you used in 1.3.

- 1 - past simple



**Grammar****2.1 Simple and continuous tenses****START POINT**

Present continuous

*I'm working at home while our office block is being renovated.* (= temporary state)*I'm phoning from the train.* (= action in progress)

Present simple

*Public transport has a number of advantages over driving.* (= permanent state)*I catch the train at 7.05 at the station near my home every morning.* (= habit or regular event)

Past continuous

*I was travelling home when the train broke down.* (= action in progress at past point)

Past simple

*I sold my car last week.* (= completed past action)*I drove to work for a couple of years.* (= past situation that doesn't exist now)*I caught the train every morning at 7.15.* (= repeated past action)

We usually use simple tenses with verbs that describe an unchanging state rather than an action:

*I love trains.*

We can use continuous tenses with state verbs to suggest that a situation is temporary or untypical:

*I'm appreciating being able to get up later than usual.* (= suggests a temporary arrangement)

*Now that I work at home I appreciate being able to get up late.* (= suggests a more permanent arrangement)

With some verbs that describe mental states (e.g. *consider, understand*) and attitudes (e.g. *hope, regret*), continuous tenses suggest a process going on at the time of speaking, or emphasise that the process continues to develop:

*I'm regretting selling my car already.* (= suggests that I have started to regret it and that this regret may grow)

*I regret selling my car.* (= describes an attitude that is unlikely to change)

Some verbs have different meanings when talking about states and describing actions:

*I'm now thinking of buying a motorbike.* (*think of* (action) = consider)

*Do you think that's a good idea?* (*think* (state) = asking about an opinion)

We usually use the present simple with verbs that describe what we are doing as we speak:

*I admit that it can be frustrating at times.* (= I agree that it is true when I say 'I admit')

*I predict that increasing numbers of people will start working at home.*

We often use the past simple in a narrative (e.g. a report or a story) to talk about a single completed past action, and the past continuous to describe the situation that existed at the time:

*I dropped my purse while I was getting off the train.*

When we talk about two or more past completed actions that followed one another, we use the past simple for both:

*She woke me up and offered me a lift.*

When we talk about two actions that went on over the same period of past time, we can often use the past continuous or the past simple for both:

*I was listening to music while I was driving here.* or *I listened to music while I drove here.*

We can use continuous tenses with the adverbs *always, constantly, continually* and *forever* to emphasise that something is typical of a person, group or thing because they do it so often:

*I was forever arriving late for work.*

# 1 Tenses

We can use either the present continuous or present simple to describe something we regularly do at a certain time:

At 8 o'clock I'm usually **having** a leisurely breakfast. or At 8 o'clock I usually **have** ...

We often use the present continuous or past continuous:

- to make an enquiry or a statement less certain because we don't know if we're right:  
I'm **hoping** we've got Dave Jones on the line. (= suggests that the speaker is not sure whether Dave Jones is there)
- to make a request or an offer more polite:  
Karen, **were** you **wanting** to say something?

## 2.2 Perfect tenses

### START POINT

Present perfect

I've **lived** in Spain, and the trains are so much more reliable there. (past situation relevant to the present)

I've just **sold** my car and so now I go to work by bus. (recent action with consequences for the present)

I've **enjoyed** travelling by train ever since I was young. (situation continuing until the present)

Past perfect

This morning I'd **read** a couple of reports before I got off the train. (past event before another past event)

We use the present perfect to talk about a situation that existed in the past and still exists now, and the past simple when the situation no longer exists:

I've **commuted** to London every weekday for over ten years, and I actually enjoy it.

I **commuted** to London every weekday for over ten years before I started working at home.

We use the present perfect to talk about a repeated action that might happen again:

I've **arrived** late for work twice this week so far.

and the past simple for a repeated action that won't happen again:

I **arrived** late for work twice this week. (= the working week is over; I won't arrive late again this week)

When we give news or information, we often introduce a topic with the present perfect and then give details with other past tenses:

The new high speed rail link between the north of England and the Channel Tunnel **has opened**.

It **took** 15 years to build and **cost** nearly ten billion pounds.

When we use a time expression (e.g. *after, as soon as, before, when*) to say that one event happened after another, we can use either the past simple or past perfect for the first event:

I'd **read** a couple of reports **before** I even got to work. or I **read** a couple of reports **before** I even got to work.

## 2.3 Present perfect continuous and past perfect continuous

We use the present perfect continuous (*have been + -ing*) to talk about an action in progress in the past for a period until now, and which is either still in progress or recently finished:

I've **been working** at home for the last five years. (= action still in progress)

Sorry I'm late. I've **been trying** to find a parking place. (= action recently finished)

We often prefer the present perfect continuous to say how long an action has been in progress:

I've **been trying** to phone in to your programme for the last half hour.

We use the present perfect to talk about a completed action or series of actions when we are interested in the result:

I've **called** the bus company a number of times to complain.

They've **bought** new trains and have really improved the service.



We use the past perfect continuous (*had been + -ing*) to talk about an action in progress over a period up to a particular past point in time:

*I'd been waiting over an hour when they announced that the train had been cancelled.*

If we are not interested in how long the action went on, we often use the past continuous rather than the past perfect continuous:

*I was waiting on the platform when they announced that the train had been cancelled.* rather than  
*I'd been waiting on the platform when ...* (= there is no mention of how long the person was waiting.)

We use the past perfect when we say how many times something happened in a period up to a particular past time:

*I'd spoken to her only a couple of times before then.*

We don't usually use the present perfect continuous or the past perfect continuous to describe states:

*I'd owned a car ever since I left college.* (not ~~*I'd been owning ...*~~)

## Grammar exercises

### 3.1 Choose the correct or more natural answer in this radio news report.

Emergency services were bombarded with phone calls from all over the north of the country last night by people who (1) *are reporting / reported* seeing blue objects shoot across the sky. Mrs Sophia Olsen (2) *drove / was driving* along the main road at the time.

'I (3) *'m usually coming / usually came* along that bit of road at about ten. As I (4) *was going / go* past the old barn, I (5) *was seeing / saw* a single bright blue light going across the road in front of my car. I (6) *stopped / stop* the car and (7) *was watching / am watching* it for about fifteen minutes. It (8) *was travelling / travels* quite slowly from east to west and then it (9) *'s suddenly disappearing / suddenly disappeared*. Until now I (10) *wasn't believing / didn't believe* in UFOs, although my son (11) *is forever trying / forever tries* to persuade me that they (12) *are existing / exist*. But now I (13) *thought / 'm thinking* that maybe he (14) *was being / was right*.'

Dr Maria Walker, a lecturer in astronomy at Trumpton University, (15) *offers / is offering* a simple explanation. 'The reports that (16) *were coming / come* in last night (17) *are suggesting / suggest* that it (18) *was / is* a meteor shower. This (19) *is / was* not unusual on a small scale, but last night's shower (20) *is seeming / seems* to have been very large. In fact, we (21) *were getting / are getting* an increasing number of meteor showers, and my department (22) *is currently researching / currently researches* possible reasons for this.'

But many witnesses to the events (23) *believe / are believing* that they (24) *are observing / were observing* more than a meteor shower, and that last night the Earth was actually visited by beings from outer space.

# 1 Tenses

**3.2** Complete the sentences using the verbs in the box. Use the same verb in each pair of sentences. Use the present simple, present continuous, past simple or past continuous.

attract expect imagine measure see think

- 1 a I 'm thinking about taking a gap year before I go to university and going travelling around South America.  
 b A: Why's Yusuf having a party?  
 B: I think it's his birthday.
- 2 a A: How did the cat get up into the tree?  
 B: I \_\_\_\_\_ he was chasing a bird.  
 b A: Let me know when the post arrives.  
 B: Why, \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ something important?
- 3 a A: What happened to your wrist?  
 B: I \_\_\_\_\_ the window for some new curtains and I fell off the ladder.  
 b I was given this pedometer for my birthday. You just hook it on your belt and it \_\_\_\_\_ how far you walk during the day.
- 4 a This month's special exhibition of South African art \_\_\_\_\_ over 5,000 visitors a day to the museum, whereas we normally only get about 2,000.  
 b As the home of William Shakespeare, Stratford \_\_\_\_\_ tourists from all over the world.
- 5 a \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ that big house over there? It's my uncle's.  
 b I split up with Alex when I found out that he \_\_\_\_\_ someone else.
- 6 a I \_\_\_\_\_ Giulia's under a lot of stress at the moment with moving house and starting a new job.  
 b The baby's smiling in her sleep. I wonder what things she \_\_\_\_\_ in her dreams.

**3.3** Complete the sentences with an appropriate form of the verb given. Use the past simple, present perfect, past perfect and past perfect continuous tenses. Use each tense only once in each group of four sentences.

## 1 play

- a We have played 35 matches so far this season, so we're all feeling pretty tired.  
 b After the match, she admitted that she \_\_\_\_\_ badly.  
 c \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ rugby or football at the school you went to?  
 d Ireland \_\_\_\_\_ really well all year, so it came as a big surprise when they were beaten by Wales last December.

## 2 make

- a We \_\_\_\_\_ the right decision in emigrating to Canada in the mid-1990s.  
 b Henson never thought about retirement. In fact, he \_\_\_\_\_ a documentary film about the indigenous people of Chile when he died.  
 c A: When did you realise that you \_\_\_\_\_ a mistake in joining the army?  
 B: When I was posted to a boiling hot jungle.



d Korean scientists believe that they \_\_\_\_\_ a breakthrough in the fight against cancer by developing a technique for containing the disease. They reported their findings at the AAL conference in New York this week.

3 run

- a Over the last year I \_\_\_\_\_ workshops on creative writing in twelve colleges and universities.  
 b She was breathing hard as if she \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 c She \_\_\_\_\_ only two marathons before breaking the world record in the Pan-African Games.  
 d I was late for work so I \_\_\_\_\_ most of the way.

**3.4** Complete the sentences using either the present perfect or present perfect continuous form of the verb given. Where both are possible, choose the more likely tense.

- 1 Alice has competed (*compete*) in the Athens Marathon twice before, but hopes to achieve her best time this year.  
 2 Income from manufacturing exports still provides the largest proportion of the country's export earnings, but the proportion \_\_\_\_\_ (*drop*) for many years.  
 3 The house \_\_\_\_\_ (*belong*) to the Beecham family for over 250 years, but the present owner, Donald Beecham, is selling it.  
 4 Melnik \_\_\_\_\_ (*serve*) a life sentence for murder since 1990, but his lawyers are arguing for an early release.  
 5 A: I'd like a career where I can travel and meet people.  
 B: \_\_\_\_\_ (*consider*) becoming a tour guide?  
 6 A: \_\_\_\_\_ (*swim*)? You look really exhausted.  
 B: I am. I did 50 lengths of the pool.  
 7 A: Did you manage to get in touch with Chloe?  
 B: No, I \_\_\_\_\_ (*try*) three times in the last hour, but she's always engaged.

**3.5** Choose the correct tense.

- A: Good morning, Mr Nilsson. What can I do for you?  
 B: Well, doctor, (1) I've been getting / *I've got* some really bad headaches.  
 A: Okay. Can you tell me exactly when these headaches (2) *were starting* / *started*?  
 B: Oh, yes, I (3) *have remembered* / *remember* it vividly – it was on a Friday three weeks ago. I (4) *had been working* / *worked* in front of my computer all week because I (5) *did* / *was doing* a job for an important client – (6) *I was working* / *I've been working* as a website designer for the last few years, you see. I (7) *had just finished* / *had just been finishing* when the pain started, and by the end of that day I (8) *was feeling* / *have felt* really bad.  
 A: Okay. And how (9) *have you slept* / *have you been sleeping*?  
 B: Not very well, actually. Usually I'm asleep as soon as my head (10) *hits* / *is hitting* the pillow, but recently (11) *I've been having* / *I'm having* difficulty getting to sleep.  
 A: I see. Now, (12) *I'm noticing* / *I notice* that you wear glasses. (13) *Have you had* / *Were you having* your eyes tested recently?  
 B: No, I (14) *haven't had* / *didn't have* them tested for a couple of years, I suppose.  
 A: Okay, what (15) *I suggest* / *I'm suggesting* is that first you get your eyes tested. Then when you (16) *are working* / *have worked* at your computer, take frequent breaks to rest your eyes. If that (17) *hasn't solved* / *doesn't solve* the problem, come back and see me again.

# Exam practice

## Reading and Use of English Part 2

For questions 1 – 8, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only **one** word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

### Planets beyond our solar system

Throughout history we have wondered about the possibility (0) of life beyond the Earth. It is only in recent years, however, that advances in technology (1) \_\_\_\_\_ revealed the existence of extrasolar planets (or 'exoplanets'); (2) \_\_\_\_\_ is to say, planets which orbit not our own Sun, but other stars in the universe. So (3) \_\_\_\_\_, astronomers have identified a few thousand exoplanets, but believe that billions more exist.

Although many astronomers believe that a large number of planets in the universe are capable of supporting (4) \_\_\_\_\_ kind of living organism, whether or not life has developed on any of them (5) \_\_\_\_\_ not yet known. An essential requirement for life is liquid water. (6) \_\_\_\_\_ a planet is to have liquid water on its surface, its temperature must be (7) \_\_\_\_\_ too hot nor too cold. However, (8) \_\_\_\_\_ a planet, other than the Earth, has yet to be discovered.



# Answer key

## 1 Tenses

- 1.2 2 Liam 3 Karen 4 Liam 5 Luka 6 Karen 7 Sahar 8 Luka
- 1.3 2 'd (had) been waiting 3 'm (am) now thinking 4 'm (am) working 5 'd (had) spoken 6 've (have) enjoyed 7 've (have) been trying 8 'd (had) finished
- 1.4 2 past perfect continuous 3 & 4 present continuous 5 & 8 past perfect 6 present perfect 7 present perfect continuous
- 3.1 2 was driving 3 'm usually coming 4 was going 5 saw 6 stopped 7 was watching 8 was travelling 9 suddenly disappeared 10 didn't believe 11 is forever trying 12 exist 13 'm thinking 14 was 15 offers 16 were coming 17 suggest 18 was 19 is 20 seems 21 are getting 22 is currently researching 23 believe 24 were observing
- 3.2 2a expect b are ... expecting 3a was measuring b measures 4a is attracting b attracts 5a Do ... see b was seeing 6a imagine b is imagining
- 3.3 1b had played (*played* also possible) c Did ... play d had been playing (*had played* also possible) 2a made b had been making c had made (*made* also possible) d have made 3a have run b had been running c had run (*ran* also possible) d ran
- 3.4 2 has been dropping (this is more likely as a situation is being talked about which has changed over a period of time up to now and may well continue to change.) 3 has belonged 4 has been serving (this is more likely because we are told how long it has continued.) 5 Have you considered 6 Have you been swimming 7 've (have) tried
- 3.5 2 started 3 remember 4 had been working 5 was doing 6 I've been working 7 had just finished 8 was feeling 9 have you been sleeping 10 hits 11 I've been having 12 I notice 13 Have you had 14 haven't had 15 I suggest 16 are working 17 doesn't solve

### Exam practice: Reading and Use of English Part 2

1 have 2 that 3 far 4 some 5 is 6 If 7 neither 8 such

## 2 The future

- 1.2 The following activities are mentioned: 1 visiting the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco 2 camping on a beach 3 sightseeing in New York 6 visiting the Grand Canyon.
- 1.3 2 arrive 3 'll (will) be looking 4 's (is) going to take 5 'm (am) going to fly 6 Will 7 'll (will) have been living 8 'll (will) be staying
- 1.4 There are 6 different ways of referring to the future: present continuous (1), present simple (2), future continuous (3 & 8), *be going to* + infinitive (4 & 5), *will* (6), future perfect continuous (7)
- 3.1 2 'm (am) having 3 is going to melt 4 will persuade 5 will rise 6 see 7 miss 8 will be enjoying

- 3.2 2 'm going to do 3 's going to cause 4 'll take 5 are you doing; 'll Skype 6 will commence 7 is doing; Shall 8 is; will be
- 3.3 2a 'm (am) going to buy b 's (is) going to have c 're (are) going to need 3a will have been working b will have been watching c will have been negotiating 4a won't be coming b will you be supporting c will be doing 5a is to create b are to be left c is / are to launch 6a will have moved b will have had c will have been analysed 7a 's (is) making b 'm (am) not going c 're (are) having

### Exam practice: Reading and Use of English Part 8

1 D 2 B 3 A 4 C 5 B 6 E 7 C 8 D 9 E 10 A

## 3 Modals (1)

- 1.3 2 must accept 3 had to be 4 were able to bring 5 will be 6 ought to be 7 should give 8 will be
- 1.4 2 necessity: 2 & 3 3 obligation: 6 & 7 4 possibility: 1 5 prediction: 5 & 8
- 3.1 2 'll be able to 3 wasn't able to 4 Could 5 could 6 might 7 could 8 mightn't
- 3.2 2 must 3 can't 4 mightn't 5 did you have to 6 had to 7 have to 8 shouldn't 9 have to
- 3.3 2 b 3 a & b 4 b 5 b 6 a 7 a & b 8 b
- 3.4 2 g 3 e 4 a 5 i 6 h 7 b

### Exam practice: Listening Part 1

1 B 2 C 3 B 4 C 5 A 6 B

## 4 Modals (2)

- 1.1 The police officers discuss pictures a, b, d, & f
- 1.2 2 f 3 a 4 e 5 h 6 b 7 g 8 d
- 1.3 1 2 f (might have been lowered) 2 3 a (must have opened); 8 d (should have finished) 3 4 e (might have been expecting); 7 g (must have been waiting) 4 5 h (might be lying); 6 b (could be hiding)
- 3.1 1 (must); might 2 didn't dare to admit; would have been 3 might be raining; we'd better 4 is supposed to start; couldn't 5 must have known; should have warned 6 were supposed to; might
- 3.2 2 have been caused 3 have changed 4 have been working 5 have found 6 be waiting 7 have been tempted 8 have been talking
- 3.3 2 we've (have) managed 3 there is a possibility of seeing 4 I recommend you (to) / I recommend that you (should) 5 succeeded in taking 6 are to be taken 7 you are allowed to / we will allow you to 8 it is compulsory for everyone to
- 3.4 2 might have been working 3 must be getting easier 4 could be facing 5 ought to have given 6 would not have been able to grow

# Recording scripts

## Grammar and Vocabulary for Advanced

### Unit 1

#### Recording 02

**Presenter:** And our next caller is Karen. Karen, what's your experience of public transport?

**Karen:** Yes, hello, Gary. Well, I commuted to London for over ten years. I caught the train every morning at 7.15 to get to work for nine o'clock, and I wouldn't get home until about seven o'clock in the evening. And frankly it was a terrible period of my life, really stressful, mainly because of the unreliability of the train service. I was forever arriving late for work. One day I was travelling home when the train broke down and I eventually got back at midnight. Of course, I had to go to work the next day, so off I went for my 7.15 train. I'd been waiting over an hour when they announced that the train was cancelled. That really was the end for me. I arranged with my employer to work at home and I've been working at home happily for the last five years. Of course it meant a big salary cut, but I haven't regretted it for a moment.

**Presenter:** Thanks for that, Karen. Can you just stay on the line? I'm hoping we've got Liam on the line. Liam, are you there?

**Liam:** Yes, I'm here, Gary.

**Presenter:** Great. And what point do you want to make?

**Liam:** Well, I just wanted to say that my experience is similar to your last caller, although I'm a newcomer to commuting by public transport. I've just sold my car and now I go to work by bus. I'd owned a car ever since I left college, but I wanted to do my bit to cut down on pollution. But I have to confess that I'm regretting it already. I've arrived late for work twice this week because the bus hasn't turned up on time. It's got so bad that I'm now thinking of buying a motorbike. It'll cause less pollution than a car, and be more reliable than public transport.

**Presenter:** Well, it sounds like you're another dissatisfied customer, Liam. But we've also got Sahar on the line, and I think she's more positive. Sahar, are you there?

**Sahar:** I am, Gary, good afternoon.

**Presenter:** Hello, Sahar, what do you want to tell us?

**Sahar:** Well, I'd like to put in a good word for train travel. I'm working at home while our office block is being renovated, and while I'm appreciating being able to get up later than usual, I really miss my daily commute. You get to know the people you travel with every day. I remember one day I dropped my purse while I was getting off the train. Another passenger picked it up, found my address in it, and brought it round to my house later that evening. Another time, I'd been working really hard and went

to sleep and missed my station. One of the other passengers was getting off at the next station and she had her car parked there. She woke me up and offered me a lift back to my home. I'd spoken to her only a couple of times before then, but now she's a really good friend. You meet a lot of nice people, and become a part of the travelling community.

**Presenter:** Thanks, Sahar. That's a side of commuting we don't often hear about. Now, somebody else who sees the good side of train journeys – Luka. Are you there, Luka?

**Luka:** Yes, indeed. Actually, I'm phoning from the train on my way home from work.

**Presenter:** And are you having a good journey?

**Luka:** Yes, it's been fine. But then I love trains. I've enjoyed travelling by train ever since I was young. I admit that it can be frustrating at times. There are delays and cancellations, and there are minor irritations like poor mobile phone reception – I've been trying to phone in to your programme for the last half hour, in fact – but I catch the 7.05 at the station near my home every morning, and still find there's something quite magical about stepping on to the train. And there are clear advantages over driving, apart from the lack of stress. I reckon that over the years I've saved a huge amount of money by using public transport. I've never really considered buying a car. You can also get a lot of work done. On the train yesterday morning, for example, I'd read a couple of reports and prepared for an important meeting before I even got to work. Admittedly, I'm quite lucky. The train company I travel with have invested a lot of money recently. They've bought new trains and have really improved the service.

**Karen:** Gary ...

**Presenter:** Karen, were you wanting to say something?

**Karen:** Yes, I just wanted to pick up Luka's point that travelling by train is less stressful than driving. Public transport can be stressful, too, when trains don't turn up or are delayed. What's less stressful is working at home. At eight o'clock I'm usually having a leisurely breakfast when most people are in their cars or on the train. Yesterday, I'd finished all my work by 2.30, so I drove to the local pool for a swim and today I've been working hard all day, so now I've got time to relax by listening to the radio for a while. Much better than the stress of commuting.

**Presenter:** You're very lucky, Karen. We've got another caller on the line ...



## Unit 2

### Recording 03

- Kelly:** You must be really looking forward to going to America. When are you actually leaving?
- Jessica:** I'm flying on the 15th July. I'm spending a few days sightseeing in New York, and then I arrive in Los Angeles on the 20th. Lectures start on the 27th July.
- Kelly:** Sounds great. And what about accommodation?
- Jessica:** Well, first I'm going to stay with Daniel and Susanna, some friends of my parents.
- Kelly:** You're not staying with them the whole time you're there, are you?
- Jessica:** No, I'll be looking for my own place. But I'm really pleased they'll be around. It'll be good to know I can contact them in case I have any problems. They're meeting me at the airport, too. Mind you, I haven't seen them for years. They'll have forgotten what I look like.
- Kelly:** And what about the course?
- Jessica:** It looks really interesting. They sent me a reading list, but of course I haven't got round to opening any of the books yet. So it's going to take a long time to catch up. I'll be studying really hard during the semesters so that I don't have to do much work in the vacations.
- Kelly:** And when does the first semester end?
- Jessica:** The 7th December. Then I'm going to San Francisco for a week. I've always wanted to see the Golden Gate Bridge. I'm going to fly up there if it's not too expensive.
- Kelly:** Do you know when you'll be back in Los Angeles?
- Jessica:** Probably mid-December. So you can come any time after that.
- Kelly:** I'm so looking forward to it. I've always wanted to go to the States. I was going to see my aunt in Seattle a couple of years ago, but I cancelled the trip because she got ill.
- Jessica:** Will you stop over anywhere on the way out? Maybe New York or Chicago?
- Kelly:** I haven't really thought about it. But I've only got three weeks, so I think I'll fly directly to Los Angeles.
- Jessica:** Fine. And I'll meet you at the airport, of course. By the time you come I'm sure I'll have got to know LA really well, so I'll be able to show you all the sights.
- Kelly:** Yes, I suppose you will. When I come to see you, you'll have been living in California for nearly six months.
- Jessica:** Hard to imagine, isn't it? After Los Angeles, I thought we could go down to a place called Huntington Beach. If you bring your tent, we'll camp there for a few days. The weather will still be quite warm, even in the winter.
- Kelly:** Isn't it your birthday around then?
- Jessica:** That's right. I'll be 21 on the 2nd January.
- Kelly:** Well, that'll be a really good way to celebrate.

- Jessica:** The best! I'll need to get back to Los Angeles for when the second semester starts. But you'll be staying longer, won't you?
- Kelly:** That's right. I don't have to be back in England until later.
- Jessica:** Well, why don't you go to the Grand Canyon? It's supposed to be spectacular.
- Kelly:** Yeah, I might think about that. Anyway, as soon as I book my tickets, I'll let you know.
- Jessica:** OK. We can sort out the details closer to the time.
- Kelly:** Fine. Look, it's nearly two o'clock. If I don't go now, I'm going to be late for my next lecture. I'll text you.
- Jessica:** Yeah, see you.

## Unit 3

### Recording 04

- Presenter:** And now on Radio Nation, it's 8.30 and here's a summary of the latest news. Air passengers could be hit badly today as cabin crews stay at home in the latest in a series of one-day strikes. The major airlines are warning that up to 100,000 people may experience delays. The managing director of Travel Air, David Wade, had this warning to the unions.
- David:** I'm sure I don't need to spell out the chaos being caused in the airline industry as a result of these strikes, and I would like to apologise to all our customers. However, the cabin staff must accept the new working conditions if the airline is to compete, and the management has no choice but to stand firm on this issue.
- Presenter:** But he didn't have to wait long for a response. A union spokesperson said: 'I can't believe Mr Wade is being so confrontational. We will not be bullied by management. Eventually, the airlines will have to return to the negotiating table.' Up to 200 teachers and pupils had to be evacuated from Northfield Primary School in South Wales today after a fire broke out in an adjacent building. Although firefighters were able to bring the fire under control fairly quickly, they couldn't prevent the fire damaging the school's sports centre. The headteacher said it might be a number of months before the sports centre is back in operation, although the school itself should be able to reopen early next week. The new Borland Bridge, connecting the island to the mainland, was officially opened today by the Transport Minister. However, it's been in operation for a few weeks already and has received a mixed reception from islanders. From Borland, here's our reporter, Anna Curtis.
- Anna:** Yes, the new bridge has stirred up a lot of strong emotion on Borland, and I'm here to gather the views of some of the island's residents. Excuse me, what do you think of the new bridge?