

'Straightforward Pre-intermediate' Practice Online

This course accompanies 'Straightforward Pre-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-1D

Syllabus components

Language Focus

Grammar

Vocabulary

Reading and Listening

Pronunciation

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about people and family relationships. It also provides practice of Wh- and Yes / No questions.

Syllabus component description

Practising wh- questions. Practising question words. Practising short answers to questions. Practising wh- question formation.

Checking your knowledge of auxiliary 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 asking questions beginning with 'how'.

Practising phrasal verbs. Practising phrasal verbs that describe what people are doing. Practising common English collocations.

Listening to a woman talking about her family. Listening to an interview about life in the 1920s.

Identifying a speaker's attitude from the intonation of questions.

UNIT 2

1

Lessons 2A-2D

Syllabus components

Language Focus

Grammar

Vocabulary

Reading and Listening

Pronunciation

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about schools and education. It also provides practice of the past simple and the past continuous and 'used to'.

Syllabus component description

Practising irregular past simple and past participle forms. Practising 'used to' for past habits and states. Listening to people talking about life now and in the past. Contrasting the past simple with the past continuous.

Checking your knowledge of use of the past simple irregular. Checking your knowledge of the use of used to as a verb and as an adjective.

Checking your knowledge of use of the past continuous. Checking your knowledge of past simple and past continuous use.

Practising collocations. Practising combinations of verbs or nouns with prepositions. Practising words and phrases you need to talk about education.

Reading Part 4: understanding global meaning. Choosing the correct answer to five multiple-choice questions on a text about an unusual child. Listening to two English teachers talking about learning English in the future.

Contrasting the different endings for regular verbs in the past simple.

UNIT 3

2

Lessons 3A-3D

Syllabus components

Language Focus

Grammar

Vocabulary

Reading and Listening

Pronunciation

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about homes and hometowns. It also provides practice of countable and uncountable nouns, indefinite pronouns and quantifiers.

Syllabus component description

Practising countable and uncountable nouns. Practising the use of 'a', 'some' and 'any'. Practising words indicating quantity: 'much', 'many', 'a lot of', 'a little', 'a few', 'enough'.

Checking your knowledge of the uses of indefinite pronouns. Checking your knowledge of the use of 'some', 'any', 'no' and 'a/an'. Checking your knowledge of 'much' v. 'many'. Checking your knowledge of 'little/a little', 'few/a few'.

Practising giving directions in a town. Practising words related to houses. Practising words related to places.

Listening to six people talking about different aspects of their town.

Practising recognizing words with and without an initial 'h'.

UNIT 4

3

Lessons 4A-4D

Syllabus components

Language Focus

Grammar

Vocabulary

Reading and Listening

Pronunciation

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about personal relationships. It also provides practice of the present simple and the present continuous and prepositions of time.
Syllabus component description

Practising the present simple. Contrasting the present simple and present continuous. Practising recognition of the verbs that are not normally used in the continuous forms. Practising the prepositions of time 'in', 'on' and 'at'. Practising mixed prepositions.

Checking your knowledge of stative verbs. Checking your knowledge of adverbs of frequency. Checking your knowledge of adverbial expressions of frequency. Checking your knowledge of the use of the prepositions of time 'at', 'on', 'in', 'by' and cases when no preposition is used.

Practising phrasal verbs used to talk about relationships. Practising phrasal verbs with 'get'.

Listening to a radio interview with a film star.

Practising long and short vowels. Practising contrasting the different sounds for words spelt with 's'.

UNIT 5

4

Lessons 5A-5D

Syllabus components

Language Focus

Grammar

Vocabulary

Reading and Listening

Pronunciation

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about holidays and travelling. It also provides practice of future forms: 'will' and 'going to' and the language of requests and permission.
Syllabus component description

Syllabus component description

Practising the future with 'will' and 'won't'. Contrasting the use of 'will' and 'going to'. Practising 'will' and 'going to'. Contrasting 'will', 'won't' and 'going to'. Practising making offers and requests. Practising the modal verbs 'can', 'could' and 'may'.

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 how to use 'can' and 'may'.

Practising to a conversation about pony-trekking. Practising verbs and nouns for holiday activities. Practising words related to travel. Practising words used to talk about airports.

Listening to someone talking about his trip to South America.

Identifying polite or impolite intonation in requests.

UNIT 6

5

Lessons 6A-6D

Syllabus components

Language Focus

Grammar

Vocabulary

Reading and Listening

Pronunciation

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about food. It also provides practice of comparatives and superlatives and modifiers.
Syllabus component description

Syllabus component description

Practising comparative and superlative adjectives. Practising superlatives. Practising comparatives and superlatives. Contrasting the use of 'too' and 'enough'.

Checking your knowledge of irregular comparatives. Checking your knowledge of the uses of emphasize. Checking your knowledge of the uses of downtoners. Checking your knowledge of the uses of intensifiers.

Practising the language used in restaurants when eating out with clients or contacts. Practising words and phrases used in cooking. Practising words related to eating and drinking.

Listening activity you listen to three sets of information about food and complete a text. Reading Part 4: understanding details, attitudes and opinions and the purpose of a text by choosing the correct answer to questions about an article on 'greasy spoons' (cheap English cafés).

Identifying the stress pattern in two- and three-syllable words.

UNIT 7

6

Lessons 7A-7D

Syllabus components

Language Focus

Grammar

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about work, job applications and interviews. It also provides practice of the present perfect simple.
Syllabus component description

Syllabus component description

Practising the present perfect. Practising present perfect questions. Practising word order with adverbs of time. Practising the past simple and the present perfect.

Checking your knowledge of the present perfect affirmative. Checking your knowledge of the present perfect negative. Checking your knowledge of the use of the present perfect.

Vocabulary	Practising words and phrases used to talk about work. Practising words and phrases used to talk about skills and qualifications. Practising words and phrases commonly used in letters of application. Practising phrases often used in job interviews.
Reading and Listening	Listening to a conversation about how people are selected for job interviews.
Pronunciation	Contrasting the vowel sounds /æ/ and /ʌ/ in sentences.

UNIT 8

7

Lessons 8A-8D

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about the future. It also provides practice of the language used for making predictions.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Language Focus

Practising the use of future forms: 'will' and the present continuous. Practising the use of the present continuous. Practising the use of future forms. Practising the present continuous. Practising a variety of future tenses for predictions and assumptions.

Grammar

Checking your knowledge of using the present simple to talk about fixed future events. Checking your knowledge of the use of the present simple to talk about the future in subordinate clauses. Checking your knowledge of using 'can', 'could', 'may' and 'might' to talk about possibility. Checking your knowledge of adjectives + the infinitive.

Vocabulary

Practising words made up of two nouns. Practising everyday language.

Reading and Listening

Listening to two English teachers talking about learning English in the future.

Pronunciation

Practising word stress.

UNIT 9

8

Lessons 9A-9D

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about films and television. It also provides practice of the passive and adjectives ending in '-ed' and '-ing'.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Language Focus

Practising the present passive. Practising the past passive. Practising the use of active and passive voice. Practising '-ed' and '-ing' adjective endings.

Grammar

Checking your knowledge of the present simple passive form. Checking your knowledge of the past simple passive form. Checking the use of 'by' + agent in passive sentences. Checking your knowledge of the use of the agent in passive sentences. Checking your knowledge of adjectives ending in -ed and -ing and adjectives ending in '-ed' followed by a preposition.

Vocabulary

Placing adjectives in the correct order and help the cinema manager advertise his films. Practising names of types of TV programmes.

Reading and Listening

Listening to a radio competition about film trivia. Reading a text about famous pets.

Pronunciation

Distinguishing between words which contain diphthongs and words which don't.

UNIT 10

9

Lessons 10A-10D

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about health and fitness. It also provides practice of the present perfect with adverbs of time.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Language Focus

Practising the prepositions of time 'for' and 'since' and the adverb of time 'ago'. Practising the present perfect with 'for' or 'since'. Practising 'for' and 'since' with the present perfect. Practising word order with adverbs of time. Checking your knowledge of the use of the prepositions of time 'for' and 'since'. Checking your knowledge of the difference between the use of the past simple and the present perfect.

Vocabulary

Practising collocations. Practising words for different types of health problems. Practising the correct use of words and the understanding of a text about health and safety in the workplace.

Reading and Listening

Listening to two teenagers talking about a healthier lifestyle.

Pronunciation

Contrasting the vowel sounds /ɔ:/ and /ɜ:/ in single words.

UNIT 11

10

Lessons 11A-11D

Syllabus components

Language Focus

Grammar

Vocabulary

Reading and Listening

Pronunciation

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about fashion. It also provides practice of modals of obligation and the infinitive to express purpose.

Syllabus component description

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

Checking your knowledge of the use of 'have to' to talk about obligation. Checking your knowledge of 'must' and 'have to'. Checking knowledge of using 'mustn't' and 'don't have to' to talk about obligation and necessity. Checking your knowledge of the form and uses of the infinitive. Practising words related to technology and clothes. Practising expressions that are useful when shopping. Practising finding the meaning of definitions.

Reading to extract the main points made in a text about shoppers and retail companies. Listening to an interview about fashions in the 60s and 70s.

Practising the sounds /θ/ and /ð/.

UNIT 12

11

Lessons 12A-12D

Syllabus components

Language Focus

Grammar

Vocabulary

Reading and Listening

Pronunciation

Description

This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about the world and global issues. It also provides practice of relative clauses and prepositions of movement.

Syllabus component description

Practising prepositions of movement and verbs used for describing movement. Practising relative pronouns.

Checking your knowledge of the prepositions of place 'into/out of', 'onto/off', 'over/under', 'to/from' and 'up/down'. Checking your knowledge of the prepositions of movement 'across', 'along', '(a)round', 'past' and 'through'. Checking your knowledge of relative pronouns. Checking your knowledge of the omission of object pronouns in relative clauses.

Checking your knowledge of the differences between British and American English vocabulary. Checking your knowledge of preposition use in British and American English.

Practising the use of nationality nouns and adjectives.

Listening to somebody talk about changed arrangements.

Identifying the main syllable stress in countries and nationalities.