

# STARTER UNIT Grammar practice



## Present tense review

### 1 Choose the correct options.

Sorry, I can't talk because we **eat** / **'re eating** dinner at the moment.

- The students **take** / **are taking** the bus to school every day.
- We **celebrate** / **'re celebrating** our wedding anniversary today.
- I **don't want** / **'m not wanting** to go to the party.
- Yiannis **doesn't play** / **isn't playing** football at the moment.
- Do you go** / **Are you going** to concerts very often?
- Do you prefer** / **Are you preferring** Chinese or Indian food?

### 2 Complete the dialogue with the words in the box.

haven't travelled   ~~have you been~~  
have you been living   have you travelled  
've been living   've been working

- A: So, how long *have you been* a teacher?  
B: I (1) ..... as a teacher for six years.  
A: OK, and how long (2) ..... in Madrid?  
B: I (3) ..... here since 2012.  
A: Right, and (4) ..... abroad for work very often?  
B: No, I (5) ..... abroad for work before.

## Subject & object questions

### 3 Write subject or object questions. Use the verb tenses in brackets.

Where / you / go / now? (present continuous)  
*Where are you going now?*

- Who / help / me / today? (present continuous)  
.....
- Where / she / learn / French? (present simple)  
.....
- Who / visit / Paris? (present perfect simple)  
.....
- Who / you / see / yesterday? (past simple)  
.....
- Why / she / cry? (present perfect continuous)  
.....

*ever, never, for, since, still, yet, already, just*

### 4 Order the words to form sentences.

worked / shoe shop / I've / never / in / before. / a  
*I've never worked in a shoe shop before.*

- yet. / isn't / Lunch / ready  
.....
- since / this / been / He's / watching TV / morning.  
.....
- seen / We've / this / already / film.  
.....
- waiting / you / Are / doctor? / still / see / to / the  
.....
- 45 minutes. / been / We've / for / dancing  
.....
- been / Have / ice-skating? / ever / you  
.....
- started / just / exam. / The / have / students / their  
.....

## none, both, all, neither & indefinite pronouns

### 5 Choose A, B or C to complete the sentences.

- The students ... passed their exams.  
A neither      B all      C none
- We saw ... them at the party.  
A both      B both of      C neither
- ... us could believe the news.  
A Neither      B None      C None of
- I've lost my keys. I've searched ...  
A anywhere      B everywhere      C anyone
- I'm starving. Can you get me ... to eat, please?  
A something      B nothing      C anything
- The house is empty – there's ... here.  
A anybody      B everybody      C nobody

## Comparatives & superlatives, (not) as ... as, less & least

### 6 Choose the correct options.

People in Monaco have **higher than** / **the highest** life expectancy in the world at 89.63 years, and people in Chad have (1) **lower than** / **the lowest** life expectancy at just 49.07 years. Monaco is one of (2) **richer than** / **the richest** and (3) **more densely populated than** / **the most densely populated** countries in the world, while Chad is one of (4) **poorer than** / **the poorest** countries. People who live in developed countries usually live (5) **longer than** / **the longest** average. In Spain, the average life expectancy is 81.37, which is (6) **higher than** / **the highest** Portugal, but (7) **not as high as** / **least high as** France and Italy.

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## Present tense review

### 1 Complete the dialogue. Use the present simple or present continuous forms of the verbs in brackets.

- A: Hey, where *are you going* (go)?  
B: I (1) ..... (go) to the gym. I (2) ..... (do) yoga every Tuesday morning – I really (3) ..... (love) it!  
A: Me too! I (4) ..... (want) to come with you, but I (5) ..... (wait) for the postman now.  
B: What (6) ..... (wait) for?  
A: My exam results! The postman usually (7) ..... (arrive) by 9 a.m., but he's late today!

### 2 Write sentences. Use the present perfect simple or the present perfect continuous.

- we / work / Tenerife / for two months.  
*We've been working in Tenerife for two months.*  
1 she / learn / Mandarin / for three years.  
.....  
2 Jo and Sam / know each other / for 20 years.  
.....  
3 I / not play / tennis / since March.  
.....  
4 the students / complete / their application forms?  
.....  
5 you / wait / for a long time?  
.....

## Subject & object questions

### 3 Complete the questions for these answers.

- Pierre lives in Cuba.  
Where *does Pierre live*?  
1 Jenna sent me this present.  
Who ..... ?  
2 The boys have gone to the cinema.  
Where ..... ?  
3 Leonardo da Vinci painted *The Last Supper*.  
Who ..... ?  
4 Paul is waiting for the train.  
What ..... ?

*ever, never, for, since, still, yet, already, just*

### 4 Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

already ~~ever~~ for just never since still yet

Have you *ever* cried because of a piece of music?

- I've been living in Japan ..... 25 years but I've ..... been to Tokyo.
- My sister isn't ready ..... – she's ..... doing her hair.
- I've been learning to drive ..... March and I've ..... passed my test today!
- He's ..... applied for seventeen jobs.

## none, both, all, neither & indefinite pronouns

### 5 Complete the text with the words in the box.

all of anyone ~~everyone~~ none of some  
someone somewhere

#### Interview tips

*Everyone* gets nervous before an interview, but remember that you have just as good a chance as (1) ..... of getting the job. Here are (2) ..... tips to help you.

- Preparation: Ask (3) ..... to help you prepare for the interview by playing the role of the interviewer – you may not be able to predict (4) ..... the questions you will be asked, but the more practice you can do, the better.
- Presentation: Dress smartly and wear nice shoes – (5) ..... the interviewers we talked to said that they would hire someone who looked badly dressed.
- Punctuality: Allow plenty of time to get to the interview, especially if it's (6) ..... you haven't been before.

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## Comparatives & superlatives, (not) as ... as, less & least

6 Complete the sentences with two or three words each. Use the words in bold.

Spain is larger than Italy. Italy is *smaller than* Spain.

(small)

1 My French isn't as good as yours. Your French is

..... mine. (**good**)

2 Nobody is as good as Lionel Messi at football. He's

..... footballer in the world.

(**good**)

3 It's cheaper here than at La Perla. This restaurant isn't

..... La Perla. (**expensive**)

4 J.K. Rowling is a very successful author. She's one of

..... authors of all time.

(**successful**)

5 My shoes were very expensive. Yours were

..... mine. (**less**)

6 The first exam was very easy. It was the

..... of all the exams.

(**least**)