

IN QUESTA UNIT IMPARERAI A

- TALK ABOUT TEMPORARY ACTIONS
- TALK ABOUT CLOTHES
- MAKE, ACCEPT AND REJECT SUGGESTIONS

Read the dialogue



Alison: Sheila, where are you?

Sheila: I'm at "Teen's".

Alison: What are you buying?

Sheila: I'm buying some new clothes for the party this evening at Pete's. What

about you?

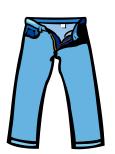
Alison: I'm at the Hard Rock Café Store. I'm looking for a T-shirt for Pete's birthday.

By the way, are you coming?

Sheila: Of course I am! Oh, remember: his favourite colours are blue and black. He hates bright colours like turquoise, red or yellow! He always wears jeans or black trousers and a dark shirt! He's "dark" and moody, you know!







WORK ON THE TEXT

Exercise 1

Sav	if the	following	sentences	are true	or false	AND	CORRECT	THE FALS	SE ONES
Ou,	, ,, ,,,,	IOHOWING	30111011003	are true	oi idisc				

Alison is at the	e Hard Rock Café	Store.			
She is buying	a T-shirt for Sheila	a.			
Pete likes brig	jht colours.				
Sheia and Alis	Sheia and Alison are at school				
There's a part	y at Sheila's				
Exercise 2					
Fill in the gaps					
- Sheila's		a party		<u> </u>	
- I'm looking	T-shirt		Pete's	·	
- His	_ colours	blue _		_ black.	
- He	_ like	red or _			
- He always	jeans or _		_ trousers	and a shirt!	

Exercise 3

Give the gerund form of the following verbs.

Do	Travel	
Play	Cook	
Read	Watch	
Cry	Live	
Sit	Write	
Swim	Get	
Have	Work	

Exercise 4

Insert the simple present of 'to be' in the sentences

- 1) My sons.....playing tennis.
- 2) Tom.....speaking English to that girl.
- 3) Our teachers..... spending their holidays in England this year.
- 4) Bod and his girlfriendtravelling by plane.
- 5) Whereyou going?
- 6) They.....writing their essay.
- 7) I.....studying French.
- 8) What they doing?

Exercise 5

Complete the sentences with the Present Continuous.

- 1) Youto the party.(go)
- 2) Mary and her dad......TV.(watch)
- 3)paulto rock music?(listen)
- 4) I.....at the moment.(not work)
- 5) James.....English, don't disturb him.(study)
- 6)tennis?(play)
- 7) My mumdinner this evening.(not cook)
- 8)our friends.....to his party?(come)
- 9) Where......(go)
- 10)they..... their books?(read)



CLOTHES

Anorak	nightdress/nightie	Suit
Belt	Pyjamas	Sweatshirt
Blouse	Pullover	Gloves
Cardigan	Raincoat	Hat
Coat	Scarf	Tracksuit
Jeans	Shorts	turtle-neck sweater
Dress	Shirt	trousers /pants
Hood	Skirt	T-shirt
Jacket	Socks	Slippers
Leggings	stockings/tights	Underwear

WORD FOCUS

STYLES

Baggy	Elegant	Smart	worn-out
Scruffy	old-fashioned	Cool	trendy

WORD FOCUS

SHOES

ballerinas/flats	High- heeled shoes	clogs
Flip-flops	moccasins	trainers

WORD FOCUS

PARTS OF THE BODY

Chest	Back	Waist	
011000	Daoit	vvalot	
Hand	Shoulder	Foot	
Tianu	Officulact	1 001	
Head	Arm	Ear	
Ticau	AIIII	Lai	
Log	Knoo	Anklo	
Lea	Knee	Ankle	

Exercise 1

Parts of the body - Match each word with the corresponding part in the girl's body

HEAD

FACE

LEG

FOOT

ARM

NECK

KNEE

HAND

HAIR



Exercise 2

Describe the following pictures by using the words given

dark, blue, brown, black, blonde, light, hair, eyes, curly, straight, short, medium size, long, wavy, round, face









Further online practice: http://www.talkeasy.co.uk/link/materials/esl11.html

Exercise 3

Write the names of the clothes under the pictures







.....





......





















.....

READ THE DIALOGUE

Shopping fo	· clothes	at a D	Department	Store
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Shop Assistant: Can I help you?

Sheila: Well, I'm going to a party this evening, I need a pair of leggings and a blouse.

Shop Assistant: What about this pair of leggings? They would look great on you!

Sheila: I don't like them very much. They're too dark! I love these white leggings. That pink blouse

over there matches them well! Can I try both of them on?

Shop Assistant: What size are you, S(mall) or M(edium)?

Sheila: S(mall).

Shop Assistant: I have a pink blouse in a medium, but we have run out of small white leggings.

Sheila: What a pity! I'll try the blouse on anyway. Where's the fitting room?

Shop Assistant: Over there, on the left.

After a while

Sheila: It doesn't fit me. It's too big. Can I try a small size, please?

1. Say if the following statements are true (T) or false(F)

Shop Assistant: Here you are. Please try it on. **Sheila**: Yes, this is the right size. I'll take it.

Further online conversations: http://www.eslfast.com/robot/topics/shop/1shop01.htm

CLASS ACTIVITY

Sheila is going to a party tomorrow.
She is buying a pair of leggings and a blouse.
She likes the pink blouse.

2. Speaking activity

You want to buy a new pair of jeans and a sweater. Act out a conversation in a shop with a classmate who plays the role of the shop-assistant. Look at the dialogue above and use some of the expressions below.

- · Can I help you?
- Here you are.
- What size are you?
- I'm looking for
- · What's your size?
- What colour would you like?
- What a pity!
- We have run out of.......
- Can I try it/them on?
- Where's the dressing room?
- It fits/they fit me It doesn't/they don't fit me

3. Complete the dialogue.

Rosaline and Jennifer are in Oxford Street, they are looking for new summer clothes.

Shopping in Oxford Street

R: Hey Jennifer,	at that sho	p
window	.youthos	36
jeans are terrific!?		
J : Wow, I	to buy them. Let's	S



They step in

Sho	pp-assistant: Good;lyou?
R:	Yes,we try on the jeans that are in the shop-window?
SA:	Of course. Whatare you?
J :	Ia medium
R:	a small
SA:	Here Please, try them on.

Some minutes later

Diana: Nothing. Why?

Julie : Well, Robert's having a party. Why don't we go?

Diana: I'd love to go....but where does he live?

Julie: He lives on the outskirts, on the road to Oxford.

Diana: Mmm....the problem is transport. Are there any buses at night?

Julie : I don't think so. Shall we take a taxi?

Diana: Oh no, it's too expensive!

Julie : Let's go on my scooter then.

Diana: Oh, it's too cold and wet! How about asking your parents to lend you their car?

Julie: Mm, that's a good idea. I'll try.

Diana : Good luck.

(Later, at home)

Julie : Oh Dad, are you using the car on Saturday night?

Father: I don't think so, dear. Why?

ounc	: Well, Robert's having a party and Diana and I would like to go, but we haven't got any
	transport.
Father	: Well, you can use the car
Julie	: Oh thank you Daddy. You're fantastic!!
Father	:but there's one condition.
Julie	: What?
Father	: Don't drink any alcohol at the partyand come home at a decent time!
Julie	: Don't worry Dad. And thanks!
1. Ans	wer the following questions:
1)	When is Robert having the party?
2)	Where is he having it?
3)	What is the girls' problem?
4)	What time of year is it? How do you know?
5)	Is Julie under 18 or over 18? How do you know?
6)	Are Julie's parents going out on Saturday night? How do you know?
i	the conversation between Diana and Julie, find 4 different suggestions.
	<u> </u>
	c)



RICORDA CHE

What about / How about vogliono essere sempre seguiti dalla forma in -ING.

3. Before you start the next exercise, read the previous conversation aloud with 2 friends several times.

Without looking at the original conversation, fill in the spaces. Julie : Hey Diana, what on Saturday night? Diana: Nothing. Why? Julie: Well, Robert______ a party. ______go? Diana: I'd love to go.....but where _____ live? Julie: He on the outskirts, on the road to Oxford. Diana: Mmm....the problem is transport. ______ any buses at night? Julie : I don't think so. _____ take a taxi? Diana : Oh no, it's too _____ ! Julie : _____ on my scooter then. Diana : Oh, it's too _____! How _____ your parents to lend you their car? Julie: Mmm...OK, I'll try. (Later, at home) Julie : Oh Dad, _____ the car on Saturday night? Father: I ______ so, dear. Why? Julie : _____ go, but we haven't got any transport. Father: Well, you can use the car Julie: Oh thank you Daddy. You're fantastic!! Father: ...but there's _____. Julie: What? Father: _____ any alcohol at the party....and _____ at a decent time! Julie : Don't _____ Dad. And thanks! 4. Speaking Exercise Decidere che cosa fare/ fare delle proposte / Making suggestions (Why don't we...?/Shall we...?/Let's...../ What about....ing?)

Lavorate in gruppi di 4. Decidete che cosa fare con gli amici questo sabato pomeriggio e di sera. Dovete decidere con precisione cosa fare, a che ora incontrarvi, e dove.

Quando avrete finito, preparatevi a ripetere la conversazione davanti alla classe.

Here are some ideas:

go shopping / go to the cinema / cook pasta, invite friends / watch a horror DVD / go for a walk in the centre of town / visit a sick friend in hospital / go to the gym / go running in the country /....

Further online conversations: http://www.eslfast.com/robot/topics/social/social03.htm



Watching a movie.

Teacher: In the afternoon we are going to watch a film. There are a lot of them at school. Which film genre do you like? Raise your hand and I'll let you speak.

Pupil A:I like Adventure films.

Pupil B:I like Cartoons.

Pupil C:I like Action films

Pupil D:I like Science Fiction.

Pupil E:What about Musicals?

Pupil F:A Thriller will be O K!

Pupil G:Why don't we watch a Romantic Comedy

like Notting Hill?

Teacher: Since you can't agree on a film genre,

I'll choose! So we'll watch Gandhi biographical

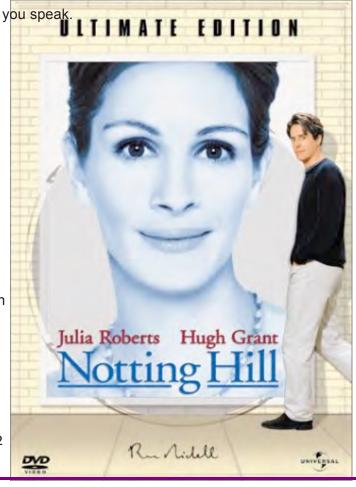
Film. I'm going to give you some hints about British

Imperialism.

After the film you will fill in a film evaluation card.

Watch the film carefully because tomorrow we are

having a review on it.



English Book in	Progress 02	Beginners
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4. Camanahanaian ahaali		
1. Comprehension check	4. (5)	
Say if the following statements are true(T)or Fa	Ise(F)	
		T F
The teacher proposes to listen to some music		
The pupils don't like films		
The pupils will raise their hands to say which film	n genre they prefer	
They'll watch an Adventure film		
They are having a film review in the afternoon		
2. Fill in the gaps.		
In the afternoon we film.		
l'll you speak. The pupilswatch a film.		
The teacher is give some	about Imper	ialism.
The pupilsfill in a evaluation _	on it.	
3. Pair work		
Match the film titles in column B with its appropr	iate Genre in column A	
Column A	Column B	
1 Disaster	a Elisabeth the Golden	Age
2 Horror	b 2001 Space Odyssey	
3 Comedy	c Gandhi	
4 Musical	d Halloween	
5 Animated Cartoons	e The Jungle Book	
6 Historical	f Apocalypse Now	
7 Science Fiction	g High School Musical	
8 Biographical	h The Naked Gun	

 $\textbf{Further online conversation:} \ \underline{\text{http://www.eslfast.com/easydialogs/ec/entertainment01.htm}}$

FILM GENRES



FILM EVALUATION CARD

TYPE OF FILM/MOVIE TITLE
DIRECTOR STARRING
GUEST STAR(S)
SETTING
TIME
MAIN CHARACTER(S)
PLOT
ENDING

4. Now take your turn:

Watch a film on TV and later, fill in the film evalute to the vocabulary of the word focus section).	, ,	,

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At the cinema

Brad and Nick meet after school

B: Hi Nick, how are you?

N: I'm fine, thanks.

B: What are you doing this evening?

N: I'd like to go to the cinema with Tom: why don't you come with us?

B: Good idea, but I'll ask Jenny if she wants to come too.

N: Good, see you later, then. Bye.

B: So long.

It's eight o'clock p.m. and the four friends meet in front of the cinema.

T: **Hey**, **guys**. What kind of film are we going to see?



N: I like horror films: what about going to see *Don't Open that Door* 2?

B: What??!!! I don't like horror films! They scare me!!! Do you agree with me, Jenny?

J: Yes, you're right. I don't like scary films. Why don't we go to see a love story?

T: Look at this: *I'll Love You for Ever.* It's perfect!

N: Noooo! Not for me, thanks!

J: Come on Nick! Let's get inside.

N: No, please. Help me!!

At the counter

T: Four tickets, please. **Is there a reduction for students**?

C: Yes, you can get a 20% reduction if you have a student's card.

The four friends: Here are our cards.

C: Very good. Which film are you going to see?



- J: I'll Love You for Ever.
- C: Do you prefer an aisle seat or a middle row seat?



- J: Middle row seats, please.
- T: What time does the film start?
- C: It starts in about ten minutes.
- B: Good; so we have some time to buy a Coke and some crisps.
- C: You can't take any drink inside, sorry.
- J: Oh no, that's a pity.
- B: **Never mind**, we can go to drink something later, when the film finishes.
- J: Yes, you're right. Come on now, the film is going to start.
- T: Good, let's go inside.

Further online conversations about movies:

http://www.eslfast.com/robot/topics/smalltalk/smalltalk14.htm

http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/flatmates/episode10/



Grammar Reference

http://www.nspeak.com/newbasic/grammatica/nuova_pa10.htm

PRESENT CONTINUOUS

- Si usa per descrivere qualcosa che è in corso di svolgimento in questo preciso momento o comunque nel momento in cui si sta parlando.
- Forma: Soggetto + Simple Present be + forma ING del verbo (gerundio)

Es. I am eating.

You are reading
She is dreaming

 Il present continuous è spesso accompagnato da avverbi di tempo quali NOW, AT THE MOMENT, IN THIS MOMENT, AT PRESENT etc., ma

anche TODAY, THIS WEEK, THIS YEAR etc

Es. We are watching T.V. at the moment.

They are playing football now.

She is going to work by car today.

I'm studying the history of England this year at school.

VARIAZIONI ORTOGRAFICHE NELLA FORMAZIONE DEL GERUNDIO (-ING)

- Se il verbo finisce in Y si aggiunge ING
- Es. They are **playing** football now.

I'm **studying** the history of England.

- Se il verbo finisce per **E muta**, la E cade e si aggiunge ING
- Es. Mum is making (make \rightarrow mak(\mathbf{e})ing) a cake.

We are phoning (phone \rightarrow phon(**e**)ing) our friends now.

 Se il verbo è un monosillabico che termina per consonante preceduta da vocale,la consonante raddoppia. Es. The car is stopping (stop + p + ing) in this moment. The cat is running (run +n+ing).

N.B. Il verbo **travel**, sebbene non sia monosillabico, raddoppia anch'esso la consonante finale → **travelling.**

- ATTENZIONE, perché non tutti i verbi possono essere usati al presente progressivo: i verbi
 che esprimono sentimenti (feel, like, love, hate, prefer, wish, etc) non prendono MAI la
 forma ING;
- I verbi che indicano attività della mente (hope, believe, understand, realise, want etc.) non prendono MAI la forma ING;
- I verbi di percezione quali **hear** e **see** nel loro significato primario di sentire e vedere non prendono **MAI** la forma **ING**:
- Il verbo **think** ha un doppio comportamento:
 - 1. quando significa ritenere, avere un'opinione, non prende MAI la forma ING;
 - quando significa pensare a qualcuno o a qualcosa, allora può essere coniugato al gerundio:
- Es. 1. What do you think about this book? I think it's very interesting.
 - 2. What are you thinking about? I'm thinking about my last holidays.
 - Il verbo have got quando significa possedere;
 - Il verbo be.

FORMA INTERROGATIVA

Essendo un tempo verbale formato con il verbo essere (to BE), per ottenere la forma interrogativa con relativa risposta breve, basta *invertire l'ordine soggetto-verbo ausiliare*:

Es. Are you watching T.V.? Yes, I am / No I am not Is she going to school by car? Yes, she is/No, she isn't Am I reading your newspaper? Yes, you are/No, you aren't.

FORMA NEGATIVA

Come per la forma interrogativa anche per la negativa si segue la stessa regola del Simple Present di to be e quindi avremo: Soggetto+ verbo + not:

Es You aren't watching tv

She isn't going to school by car.

SIMPLE PRESENT vs PRESENT CONTINUOUS

In italiano sia che si parli di azioni abituali che di azioni che si stanno svolgendo nel momento in cui si parla usiamo il presente, invece in inglese si distinguono i due tempi.

Se l'azione è abituale cioè si compie con regolarità si usa il Present Simple.

Se l'azione è momentanea cioè accade in questo momento si usa il Present Continuous.

Di solito troviamo i due tempi verbali accompagnati dalle sottoelencate espressioni di tempo.

SIMPLE PRESENT	PRESENT CONTINUOS
ALWAYS	TODAY
EVERY DAY/WEEK/MONTH/YEAR	THIS MORNING/WEEK/MONTH/YEAR
USUALLY	AT THE MOMENT
SOMETIMES	RIGHT NOW
NORMALLY	NOW
ALL THE TIME	AT PRESENT
OFTEN	THESE DAYS
EVER/NEVER	

REMEDIAL EXERCISES UNIT 1

Exercise 1

Insert the present continuous tense in the following sentences

a)	Look! My parentsto yours. (talk)
b)	Jennifer is in her room, shean interesting book. (read)
c)	Bob and his brother are in the garden. Bobflowers, while his brother
	the plants. (plant) (water)
d)	My daddinner. (watch) (make
e)	Whyyouwine? It's bad for young people! (drink)
f)	IGerman because I want to go to work in Germany. (study)
g)	Whatyour sisterShea cake. (do) (make)
h)	Youthe truth, you are a liar. (not tell)
i)	The weather : now it is nice, in a minute it (change) (rain)
i)	Ia beer, it's a tea, (not drink)

Exercise 2

Correct the following sentences

- 1) The cat are sleeping under the sofa.
- 2) Our dog is runing around the park
- 3) Paul and his friends are drink coke.
- 4) My boss is leaveing for London.
- 5) I's writing an e-mail to my friend.

Exercise 3

Translate into English

- 1) Dove stai and and o?
- 2) I nostri bambini stanno giocando in giardino.
- 3) Che cosa sta facendo Pietro?
- 4) Non stanno lavorando con noi in questi giorni.
- 5) Luca sta cenando.

English	Book in	Progress	02 -	Beginners -
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Read - Write - Speak

Exercise 4

Multi-tasking

Read Louise's description of the typical scene in her house at 9pm on a Wednesday evening.

- a) Put the present participles in the right places.
- b) How old is Louise in your opinion? Why?
- c) Which members of the family are multi-tasking?
- d) What is multi-tasking exactly?
- e) Is the scene in your house on a Wednesday evening the same or different? Explain.

Present participles:

sitting	washing	studying	dancing	surfing	chatting	watching(2)	painting	playing	baking
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It's 9 o'clock on a typical Wednesday evening. My brother is computer games in his
room, my younger sister is in front of the mirror in her room, my father is
on the sofa the big Wednesday night soccer match, and my mother is
in the kitchen. She's multi-tasking: she's the dishes from dinner, she's
a cake for tomorrow and she's a romantic film on TV. And what
am I doing? I'm of course! (But while I'm sitting at my desk with my book open, I'm
also on the phone to my best friend, my toe-nails, and
the net).

Imagine the scene in your house at the following times and say what each member of the family is doing:

- 8 am on Monday morning - 2.30pm on Sunday - 11.30pm on Saturday night

Exercise 5

What's the right way to complete the sentence?

1) I'm studying History now/ yesterday

2) Bob buys his clothes in Rome at the moment/usually

3) Our sisters are listening to music now/ often

4) Mum 's cooking lunch at the moment/every day

5) We have chocolate ice-cream always/ these days

6) My brothers are watching tv at 9 o'clock/now

7) Mary works in a bank usually/at present

8) Our school is in the centre of the town. always/this week

9) Joan is playing golf at the moment/ never

10) We are driving home now/ always

Exercise 6

Present simple or present continuous?

- a) I always.....to the radio in the morning. (listen)
- b) SheTV. Don't disturb her! (watch)
- c) Peter usuallyfootball with his friends on Saturday afternoon. (play)
- d) Where...... you.....? I.....to school. (go x 2)
- e)Georgehis computer at the moment? (use)
- f) I never.....the dishes, I've got a dish-washer. (wash)
- g) My fatherdinner in the garden at week-ends. (cook)
- h) Theybecause they are late. (run)
- i) Listen! Kate is upstairs and.....the piano. (play)
- j) Our catin his basket. (sleep).

Exercise 7

Choose the right tense

- a) I do/am doing my homework every day.
- b) Jane listens/is listening to music at the moment.
- c) Victoria speaks/is speaking three languages.
- d) Alex plays/is playing tennis on Monday.
- e) It rains/is raining: don't forget your umbrella.
- f) It rains/is raining a lot in winter.
- g) I go/am going to bed now.
- h) She isn't playing/doesn't play in a team.
- i) Mary and Steve clean/are cleaning their house every Saturday.
- j) Dad washes/is washing his car now.

Exercise 8

Present simple or present continuous?

- a) My mum (work) in a supermarket, but this week she (stay) at home because she isn't well.
- b) Mum usually (go) to work by car, but this morning the sun (shine), so she (cycle).
- c) We never (watch) T.V. after dinner, but today we (watch) the news because it is interesting.
- d) Sarah (not come) to my birthday party next week: she (work) abroad at the moment.
- e) What (the children /do) right now? They (play) video games.
- f) My husband never (help) me with the housework, but he usually (grow) vegetables in the garden.
- g) She usually (have) a shower in the morning when she (get) up.
- h) Today I'm in a hurry: I (not have) breakfast.
- i) (You/ usually catch) a bus to go to school?
- j) I sometimes (take) the bus to go to work, but this morning there is a strike and I (drive).

Exercise 9

Write a dialogue between you and a shop-assistant.

Exercise 10

E-mail writing



You are on a study holiday in London. Write an e-mail to your family telling them what you are doing in these days. Use the *present continuous*.

Exercise 11

Read the letter and write P if the sentence refers to the present and F if it refers to the future.

Dea	ar	NΛ	ш	m	
DEc	11	IVI	u		

We're having a great time here in New York(.....),we're staying with a very nice family!!!!The landlady is friendly and kind and we're doing lots of things together(.....).

This afternoon we're going horse riding(......) in the park near our house, tomorrow we're visiting the Rockfeller centre all day(.....) and we're meeting some friends in front of the Metropolitan in the evening. (.....).

At the moment Lucy is writing some postcards(.....) and Tom is phoning his girlfriend(.....).

This evening we're going to the Hard Rock cafe (...)

See you soon

Mary

Exercise 12 : Reading/Speaking puzzle

Read the information and ask the teacher questions, to discover what the four teenagers are wearing. The teacher can only say "YES" or "NO".

	Sandra	Douglas	Kate	Eric
Description				
clothes				
shoes				

Two people are tall with long blond hair. Two are short and dark. Two people have blue eyes. One person has glasses.

Two people are wearing jeans. Two people are wearing something baggy. One short dark person is wearing a costume and sarong.

Their shoes are trainers, flip-flops and stiletto heels.

Two people are wearing sunglasses.

There are two t-shirts: one black, one white.

Two people are going to the beach.

Exercise 13: Reading /Speaking puzzle II

Read the information below, then ask the teacher questions to discover all the information about the four people. The teacher can only say "YES" or "NO"

	David		
	David		
age:	35		
Job			
works in a			
usually /	looks after patients		
at work			
free time			
at the moment			
next Saturday			
afternoon			

English Book in Progress 02 - Beginners -

Their names are David, Trevor, Jane and Mary.

Their hobbies are swimming, yoga, beach fishing, cross-country running.

One person is double the age of the fitness instructor

Two people are the same age.

The doctor is 13 years older than the nurse.

Only one person is free at the moment, the others are at work.

Two people work in the hospital but their jobs are different. The other two work in a garage and in a gym.

Two people always spend their free time in the open air.

One person repairs cars in his job. The others work with people.

One person is doing an operation at work at the moment.

Next Saturday afternoon two people are going to the beach because they are free, another person is working and the person that teaches aerobics is going to Rome.



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xXOPAPxZEpk

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

- 1. Make a list of all the types of films you know.
- 2. Can you name a title for each type?
- 3. Which do you like most?
- 4. Do you watch films at home or at the cinema? How often do you see a film?

THE PLOT

"Gladiator" is the title of a Hollywood blockbuster, shot in 2000. The film director is Ridley Scott and famous American stars such as Russell Crowe and Joaquin Phoenix act in it. The movie is a real success and wins 5 Oscars.

The film starts with Marcus Aurelius as Emperor of the Roman Empire. Before his sudden death, caused by power-hungry son Commodus, he names his loyal and brave general Maximus Decimus Meridas as his heir. The jealous Commodus discovers the plan and decides to kill his father and execute Maximus and his family. Only the general escapes the execution but becomes a slave and is trained as a gladiator. His only hope is to revenge his emperor, his wife and his son one day. After some time Maximus goes back to Rome with a group of gladiators to fight in the Colisseum where he reveals his true identity and eventually dies taking his revenge on Commodus.



DIDYOUKNOWTHAT ?

the word gladiator comes from the Latin word *gladius*, which means sword. So gladiator means swordsman. Gladiators were armed combatants who fought against other gladiators, wild animals and criminals.

DID VOU KNOW THAT ?

for the shooting of Maximus fighting against another gladiator, 5 tigers were in the arena. For Russell Crowe's sake a vet was present with sleeping darts and the actor never went very close to the animals.

HISTORICAL MISTAKES

- when the Emperor Marcus Aurelius is in his tent with Maximus at the beginning of the film, behind them there are some books. This is impossible because books did not exist;
- the Roman soldiers and the gladiators use shining and bright swords. This is impossible because at that time swords, and arms in general, were dark because steel was not commonly used;
- in the arena gladiators fought against lions. And not tigers!
- when Maximus goes back home, there are signs in the fields left by ... tractors!

FILM EVALUATION CARD

TYPE OF FILM/MOVIE TITLE
DIRECTOR STARRING
GUEST STAR(S)
SETTING
TIME
MAIN CHARACTER(S)
PLOT
ENDING

Exercise n1.

Read the text and say if the following sentences are true (T) or false (F). If false, correct them.

- 1. The main actor is Ridley Scott
- 2. "Gladiator" wins no Oscars.
- 3. Commodus kills his father, Marcus Aurelius.
- 4. Commodus does not like the power.
- 5. Maximus becomes the new Roman Emperor.
- 6. Maximus has no family.
- 7. Maximus is a soldier and then becomes a gladiator.
- 8. After Marcus Aurelius's death, Maximus never goes back to Rome.
- 9. Maximus fights against lions in the Coliseum
- 10. Eventually Maximus takes his revenge on Commodus.

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	

Exercise n.2.

Read the text again and answer the following questions.

- 1. When and where is *Gladiator* shot?
- 2. Why is the film a success?
- 3. Who becomes heir after the Emperor's death?
- 4. Why does Commodus kill his father?
- 5. Does the movie have a happy ending?
- 6. What does gladiator mean? What origin does it have?
- 7. Why was the shooting in the Coliseum dangerous?
- 8. Make 2 examples of historical mistakes.
- 9. Who did gladiators fight against?
- 10. How would you define Maximus's personality? And Commodus's one?

WRITING

Write a short paragraph (about 100 words) about a film you really like. Follow the items to help you:

- a. title of the movie
- b. director
- c. protagonists
- d. plot
- e. give reasons for your choice

Did you know?

The name *Piccadilly Circus*, one of the most famous squares in the world, has a very curious origin: it first appeared in 1626 as *Pickadilly Hall*, as in the southern corner of the square there was a house belonging to a Robert Baker, a tailor famous for selling piccadills, or piccadillies, a term used for various kinds of collars. People used to refer to the place with the name of this garment, so the place was known as *piccadills*.

Circus is the Latin word meaning "circle", and it refers to a round open space at a street junction.