

Cuprins

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ENGLISH FOR TEENS



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Exercise 3



What language do they speak? In most cases the name of the official language is the same with the name of the nationality or of the citizen.

Ex.: The Russians speak Russian.

The English speak English.

The Chinese speak Chinese.

The Poles speak	The Jews speak
The Danes speak	The Egyptians speak
The Finns speak	The Indians speak
The Swedes speak	The Argentineans speak
The Turks speak	The Brasilians speak

In which of these thirty countries is English an official language?

b.

Exercise 1



Five parts of the text below have been removed. Fill in the gaps with the right one. There is an extra part that does not belong here.

Music is a set of sounds arranged in a way that is pleasant to hear. It has rhythm (the beat), harmony (the total sound when several notes are played together) and usually melody (the tune). Music is made of notes that may be long or short, loud or soft, high or low. (1) Two or three tunes were played together; this rich sound was called counterpoint crowned by Bach and Händel.

People who make up music and write it down are called composers. Much great music has been written for orchestras by composers such as Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven and Brahms. They wrote symphonies (long pieces of music for orchestras) and chamber music (for smaller groups of instruments). (2) Some composers have written operas – musical plays in which all the words are sung (the greatest still being Verdi) or created special ballet music – who hasn't heard (or seen) Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*?

People often call this kind of music "classical music." There are many other kinds of music, including folk songs, jazz and pop music. (3) It has difficult rhythms and sounds, and sometimes requires electronic instruments as well as wind, string and percussion instruments.

Wind instruments are played by blowing down a hollow wooden or metal (brass) tube with holes cut in it. (4) Wind instruments include flutes, clarinets, trumpets and horns, trombones, saxophones and oboes.

The stringed instruments have strings stretched across a hollow box. The strings are bowed, as in a violin, or plucked, as in a guitar, to make different notes. (5) Stringed instruments also include cellos, violas, double basses, banjos and lutes.

Instruments such as drums, cymbals and bells, xylophones, which are hit with hammers or sticks, are called percussion instruments.

- A. By covering some holes with the fingers, different notes are produced.
- B. At first music had a simple melody or rhythm, but it gradually grew more complicated.
- C. There are various types: large symphony orchestras of about a hundred musicians, small chamber orchestras, orchestras with stringed instruments only, and theatre orchestras for musicals, ballets and opera.
- D. Modern music is very different from the music of 1800s.
- E. Short strings make high notes and long strings make low notes.
- F. They also wrote music for choirs.

Exercise 2



Answer the questions.

1. What is a conductor?
2. What instruments can make up:
 - a rock band?
 - a jazz band?
 - a traditional folk band?
3. What types of music do the youth enjoy listening to today?
4. Who is/are your favourite singer(s)/band(s)?
5. What is the difference between attending a live concert and watching it on TV?
6. How important are the lyrics for a song to become a *hit*?

L



Exercise 1

Introduce the groups of words below the text in the numbered gaps. There are two which you do not need to use.

There have always been children who have spread their arms wide, and run over the windy green hills of the world, hoping and hoping that their running might suddenly become flying. There have always been men who have gazed up at the birds skimming through the air, and have wished and wished that they might fly, too. But for thousands and thousands of years, all the hoping and the wishing remained just hoping and wishing, (1)

Thrilled by the same story, two American brothers whose name was Wright and (2), took up gliding. They studied wind and weather and machines. They built a glider with one wing above the other as the pilot had to lie forward on the lower wing. They also began to dream of a glider which would fly under its own power. They worked hard for years and years, (3), and at last they built a large machine, fitted with a petrol engine.

Then on a cold December day in the year 1903, they tried it. One of the brothers lay on the lower wing to pilot the machine, while the other stood on the ground, (4) There were only five people to watch their triumph, for a triumph it was. The machine flew. It was the first flying machine to be driven and controlled by man – the first real aeroplane.

From that time the building of aeroplanes improved so quickly (5) that it is impossible to mention all the types of machines that were made, and all the stories of bravery and endurance in flight. There were the first Channel crossing, the first flight across the Atlantic, the first flight round the world.

Journeys that take weeks by land or sea can be completed in a few days by air. Journeys which used to take days can now be done in hours. There are speed records undreamed of in earlier days. There are jet-propelled planes that fly faster than sound. Today there is always the hum of an engine or the flash of wings somewhere in the sky – (6) man has learned the secret of flight. But the birds still skim and glide and turn above the trees, with the perfect balance they have always had – for they have known the secret since the world began.

- A. in so many small but necessary details
- B. holding a watch to time the flight
- C. often gliding a hundred yards or more
- D. for after centuries of dreaming

- E. who had made tiny, flying models of paper and bamboo
- E. but without wind to drive them it was useless
- G. and men flew only in their dreams and their daydreams
- H. with many trials and failures



Exercise 2

Find synonyms of the following words in the text.

courage, look, small, excited, fiasco, equipped, travel, tenacity, glide, probation



Exercise 3

What would the world be like without flying machines?



Exercise 1

Fill in the gaps with the excerpts that have been removed; there are two too many.

The astronauts are prepared by training in a giant machine called a centrifuge, which whirls them around in a cabin at the end of a long arm. There they experience forces as high as 16G, more than they should ever encounter in space. Another machine is designed to spin the astronauts in all directions to get them used to the tumbling they may experience in a spacecraft. (1) One condition which is very difficult to simulate on earth, though, is weightlessness. The only way of simulating it is to fly a plane at high speed up and over in a steep arc. For a short time people inside the plane are in an apparently weightless condition. (2) But the effect is more or less similar to weightlessness. In space there is no atmosphere to provide air for the astronauts to breathe, to insulate them from the extreme heat or cold, and to protect them from harmful radiation. To survive in space, they must therefore take their "atmosphere" with them. (3) The air is changed constantly, filtered and treated to remove odours. The temperature and humidity are carefully controlled to make the astronauts as comfortable as possible.

Much of a space flight is carried out in this "shirt-sleeve" environment. But when the astronauts leave their craft to "walk" in space, or explore the Moon, or if the pressure system fails, they must wear carefully designed spacesuits to give them the protection they require. (4) But for Moon exploration the astronauts must carry a portable life-support pack on their back so that they can be mobile.

The spacesuit is made up of a number of separate layers. (5) Another layer is airtight and supplied with air. Above this is a pressure "skin" which keeps the air at more or less the same pressure as that on Earth. Thick padding and a tough outer garment is coated with a shiny material such as gold to help reflect the strong heat and radiation coming from the Sun. (6) The visor has a fine gold coating, too. Inside the helmet are the earphones and the microphone by which he can keep in contact with his fellow astronauts and base.

- A. When they are inside their space capsule, they are supplied with air under pressure from the so-called life-support system.
- B. On his head the astronaut wears a helmet with a transparent visor in front.
- C. The training takes them as far as possible through all the conditions and problems they might encounter in a space flight by means of a flight simulator.
- D. In or near the spacecraft the suits may be connected to the spacecraft's life-support system.
- E. When the pilot moves the controls, the simulator makes the capsule respond in exactly the same way as a real craft would.
- F. Cooling water circulates through the thin undergarment next to the astronaut's skin to keep the body temperature steady.
- G. This means that there is no effective gravity acting on the craft or anything inside it.
- H. What is actually happening, however, is that they are falling at the same time as the plane is.

Exercise 2



Which of the following words can be used with the given ones?

airtight, coating, encounter, layer, padding, remove, spinning, steady, steep, whirl

1. ozone
2. pace
3. pool
4. human-alien
5. earth
6. slope

7. make-up
8. container
9. cotton wool
10. chocolate

Exercise 3



Write down definitions of your own for the following.

rocket, orbit, satellite, probe, launching pad, lunar module, touchdown, space station, capsule, re-entry

Check then if you were close to the dictionary definitions.

2.

a.

Exercise 1



All the predicates of the text below have been removed, except the verb *to be* which may be either a verbal predicate or part of a nominal predicate. Find the right gap for each verb and use it in the correct tense; mind the spelling as well. Some verbs are to be used more than once.

build, burst, can, collapse, come, cut, dig, feed, feel, get, go, have (2), jump, lie, lift, mumble, see (2), seem, send, start, stumble, take, wrap

It was winter in Norway. Hanna (1) dinner with her two sons when the door (2) open. A man (3) into the room from the blizzard outside. They (4) up in horror at what they (5) The poor wretch (6) something and (7), apparently lifeless, on the floor.

Hanna (8) one of her sons next door for her brother and (9) to look at the figure which (10) like a corpse that (11) out of the snow. He was caked with ice and frozen dirt. His hair was frozen solid and his hands were swollen and discoloured. His eyes were shut tight, screwed-up with the pain of snowblindness.

When her brother, Magnus, (12) in, he (13) at once that they (14) to act quickly to save the stranger's life. They