14 free C1 English grammar worksheets

Each worksheet has a rule box, typical mistakes, three exercises, a writing task, speaking questions and a full answer key. Free to print and share with your students.

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Inversion Worksheet: Never Have I, Not Only, Hardly

For English teachers and learners · englishcue.app

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Remember

Form	Example
Negative adverbial + auxiliary + subject + verb	Never have I felt so tired.
Use do / does / did when there is no auxiliary	Rarely does she complain.
Not only + inversion..., but (also)...	Not only did we lose, but we also played badly.
Hardly / Scarcely... when · No sooner... than · Only when / after / then	No sooner had I sat down than the phone rang.

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
Never I have seen such a beautiful view.	Never have I seen such a beautiful view.
Rarely she goes out.	Rarely does she go out.
No sooner had we arrived when it started raining.	No sooner had we arrived than it started raining. / Hardly had we arrived when it started raining.

1. Rewrite

Rewrite each sentence starting with the words given.

1. I have never heard such nonsense. → Never _____
2. She rarely loses her temper. → Rarely _____
3. He was rude and he was also late. → Not only _____
4. As soon as I got home, the power went off. → No sooner _____
5. I understood the problem only when I read the report. → Only when _____
6. You should not open this door under any circumstances. → Under no circumstances _____
7. We had just started eating when the guests arrived. → Hardly _____
8. I didn't realise how lucky I was until later. → Not until later _____

2. Choose

Circle the correct option.

1. Seldom (we see / do we see) such talent.
2. Not only (she sings / does she sing), she also writes her songs.
3. No sooner had he left (than / when) she called.
4. Only after the meeting (I realised / did I realise) my mistake.
5. Little (did they know / they knew) what was coming.
6. At no time (was the public / the public was) in danger.
7. Hardly had I closed my eyes (than / when) the alarm went off.
8. Never before (has the city / the city has) been so crowded.

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. Not only she is clever, but she is also kind.

2. Rarely I have eaten such good food.

3. Only then I understood.

4. No sooner I had paid than the price dropped.

5. Little he knew about the surprise.

6. Under no circumstances you should leave the room.

Writing

Write the opening of a dramatic speech or a short story (6 sentences). Use at least four different inversion structures.

Speaking

- Describe the best meal you have ever had, starting with ‘Never have I…’
- Talk about a time things went wrong: ‘No sooner had I… than…’
- Give three rules for a dangerous job, starting with ‘Under no circumstances…’
- What did you only understand when you got older? Start with ‘Only when…’

Answer key

1. Rewrite: 1 Never have I heard such nonsense. · 2 Rarely does she lose her temper. · 3 Not only was he rude, but he was also late. · 4 No sooner had I got home than the power went off. · 5 Only when I read the report did I understand the problem. · 6 Under no circumstances should you open this door. · 7 Hardly had we started eating when the guests arrived. · 8 Not until later did I realise how lucky I was.

2. Choose: 1 do we see · 2 does she sing · 3 than · 4 did I realise · 5 did they know · 6 was the public · 7 when · 8 has the city

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 Not only is she clever, but she is also kind. · 2 Rarely have I eaten such good food. · 3 Only then did I understand. · 4 No sooner had I paid than the price dropped. · 5 Little did he know about the surprise. · 6 Under no circumstances should you leave the room.

Writing, model answer: Never before had the village seen such a storm. Not only did the river burst its banks, but the bridge also collapsed. No sooner had the last family left their home than the water reached the roof. Only when the sun rose did we understand the scale of the damage. At no time, however, did anyone lose hope. Rarely have I been so proud of my neighbours.

Inverted Conditionals Worksheet: Had I Known, Should You

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Form	Example
Had + subject + participle (third conditional)	Had I known, I would have told you.
Should + subject + verb (first conditional, formal / unlikely)	Should you need help, call this number.
Were + subject + to + verb / Were + subject + adjective (second)	Were she to resign, who would replace her?
Were it not for / Had it not been for · But for + noun	Had it not been for the rain, we would have won.

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
If had I known, I would have come.	Had I known, I would have come.
Hadn't I missed the bus, I would have arrived on time.	Had I not missed the bus, I would have arrived on time.
Should you will need help, call me.	Should you need help, call me.

1. Rewrite

Rewrite each sentence as an inverted conditional, starting with the word given.

1. If I had known the truth, I would have acted differently. → Had _____

2. If you need any further information, please contact us. → Should _____

3. If it weren't for my sister, I'd be lost. → Were _____

4. If the government raised taxes, there would be protests. → Were _____

5. If we hadn't left early, we would have missed the flight. → Had _____

6. If it hadn't been for his advice, I would have failed. → But for _____

7. If the item arrives damaged, return it within 14 days. → Should _____

8. If I were in your position, I would apologise. → Were _____

2. Choose

Circle the correct option.

1. (Had / If had) she called, I would have answered.
2. Should you (decide / decided) to accept, let us know.
3. (Were / Was) I rich, I would travel the world.
4. Had it not (been / be) for the doctor, he would have died.
5. (Had I not / Hadn't I) seen it myself, I wouldn't have believed it.
6. Were they (to offer / offering) me the job, I'd take it.
7. (But for / Without for) your help, we couldn't have done it.
8. Leave now; (otherwise / unless) you'll miss the train.

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. Had I knew, I would have helped.
2. Should you needed anything, ask.
3. Were it not the traffic, we'd be there by now.
4. Hadn't he lied, we would trust him.
5. If were I you, I'd go.
6. But for she helped me, I'd have failed.

Writing

Write a formal email (6 sentences) to a hotel guest confirming a booking. Include at least three inverted conditionals.

Speaking

- Had you known what you know now, what would you have studied?
- Were you to change one law in your country, which would it be?
- Who would you be today were it not for a particular person?
- Should you win a large amount of money, what is the first thing you would do?

Answer key

1. Rewrite: 1 Had I known the truth, I would have acted differently. · 2 Should you need any further information, please contact us. · 3 Were it not for my sister, I'd be lost. · 4 Were the government to raise taxes, there would be protests. · 5 Had we not left early, we would have missed the flight. · 6 But for his advice, I would have failed. · 7 Should the item arrive damaged, return it within 14 days. · 8 Were I in your position, I would apologise.

2. Choose: 1 Had · 2 decide · 3 Were · 4 been · 5 Had I not · 6 to offer · 7 But for · 8 otherwise

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 Had I known, I would have helped. · 2 Should you need anything, ask. · 3 Were it not for the traffic, we'd be there by now. · 4 Had he not lied, we would trust him. · 5 Were I you, I'd go. · 6 But for her help, I'd have failed.

Writing, model answer: Dear Ms Turner, thank you for booking a double room with us from 12 to 15 May. Should you wish to arrive before 2 p.m., please let us know in advance. Were you to require an airport transfer, we would be happy to arrange one. Should you need to cancel, please do so 48 hours before arrival. Had you booked directly through our website, breakfast would have been included, so we have added it free of charge. We look forward to welcoming you.

Unreal Past Worksheet: It's Time, As If, I'd Rather You

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Remember

Form	Example
It's (high / about) time + subject + past simple	It's time we left.
as if / as though + past simple / past perfect (unreal)	She looked as though she had seen a ghost.
would rather + subject + past simple / past perfect	I'd rather you hadn't told him.
Suppose / Supposing / What if + past (unreal) or past perfect	What if you lost your job?

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
It's time we go home.	It's time we went home.
I'd rather you don't smoke here.	I'd rather you didn't smoke here.
He behaves as if he is the owner. (he isn't)	He behaves as if he were / was the owner.

1. Complete

Complete with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. It's high time you _____ (start) taking this seriously.
2. He spends money as if he _____ (be) a millionaire.
3. I'd rather you _____ (not / mention) it to anyone.
4. Suppose you _____ (win) the lottery. What would you do?
5. She looked as though she _____ (not / sleep) for days.
6. It's about time the council _____ (fix) this road.
7. I'd rather you _____ (tell) me yesterday, not today.
8. What if someone _____ (find) out? It would be a disaster.

2. Choose

Circle the correct option.

1. It's time we (have / had) a serious talk.
2. He talks as if he (knows / knew) everything, but he doesn't.
3. I'd rather you (came / come) on Monday.
4. She acted as if nothing (happened / had happened).
5. What if we (missed / miss) the last train? We'd be stuck.
6. It's high time you (learned / learn) to cook.
7. I'd rather (you didn't / not you) call me so late.
8. It looks as if it (is going to / were going to) rain. (it probably will)

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. It's time you go to bed.

2. I'd rather you don't bring your dog.

3. She talks to me as if I am a child.

4. It's high time the government does something.

5. He looked as though he saw a ghost. (earlier)

6. Suppose you will lose your passport. What would you do?

Writing

Write a short complaint post for a neighbourhood forum (6 sentences). Use it's time, as if, I'd rather and what if.

Speaking

- What is it high time you did?
- Do you know anyone who acts as if they were famous or important?
- What would you rather people didn't do in public?
- What if the internet stopped working for a month?

Answer key

1. Complete: 1 started · 2 were / was · 3 didn't mention · 4 won · 5 hadn't slept · 6 fixed · 7 had told · 8 found

2. Choose: 1 had · 2 knew · 3 came · 4 had happened · 5 missed · 6 learned · 7 you didn't · 8 is going to

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 It's time you went to bed. · 2 I'd rather you didn't bring your dog. · 3 She talks to me as if I were / was a child. · 4 It's high time the government did something. · 5 He looked as though he had seen a ghost. · 6 Suppose you lost your passport. What would you do?

Writing, model answer: It's high time the council did something about the noise on our street. Some drivers race down the road as if it were a motorway. I'd rather my children didn't have to cross it twice a day. What if a child was hit by a car? It's about time we had speed bumps. I'd rather we acted now than waited for an accident.

Advanced Modal Verbs Worksheet: Bound To, May Well, Needn't Have

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Remember

Form	Example
be bound to / be sure to: almost certain	It's bound to rain at the weekend.
may / might / could well: quite probable	Prices may well rise again.
might as well: there's no better option	The bus has gone; we might as well walk.
will: assumption or typical behaviour	That'll be Tom at the door. He'll sit there for hours.

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
She is bound to coming.	She is bound to come.
You may well to be right.	You may well be right.
We might as well to stay.	We might as well stay.

1. Complete

Complete with bound to, may well, might as well or will ('ll).

1. There's nothing on TV. We _____ go to bed.
2. Take an umbrella; it's _____ rain this afternoon.
3. The doorbell! That _____ be the pizza.
4. He's the best candidate. He _____ get the job.
5. She's been studying all year, so she's _____ pass.
6. We've missed the start of the film, so we _____ not bother.
7. My grandfather _____ sit in the garden for hours, just watching the birds.
8. You _____ be right, but I'd like a second opinion.

2. Choose

Circle the best option.

1. Don't worry, they're (bound to / may as well) find it.
2. It's late. We (might as well / are bound to) stay the night.
3. That (will / must to) be your sister on the phone.
4. I (could hardly / couldn't hardly) believe my eyes.
5. You (needn't have / mustn't have) brought anything, but thank you.
6. The new law (may well / might as well) cause problems.
7. He (will / would) insist on paying, every single time. It's typical.
8. The company (is sure to / is surely to) announce job cuts.

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. The train is bound to being late.

2. We may as well to go home.

3. That will to be the postman.

4. You needn't have bring wine.

5. She may well is the best player.

6. I couldn't hardly hear him.

Writing

Write predictions about the next 20 years for your city or your profession (6–7 sentences). Use bound to, may well, could well, is unlikely to and might as well.

Speaking

- What is bound to happen in your country this year?
- Who may well be the next big name in your field?
- When did you last think 'We might as well...'?
- Describe a habit of someone you know with will: 'My dad will always...'

Answer key

1. Complete: 1 might as well · 2 bound to · 3 'll · 4 may well / is bound to · 5 bound to · 6 might as well · 7 will · 8 may well

2. Choose: 1 bound to · 2 might as well · 3 will · 4 could hardly · 5 needn't have · 6 may well · 7 will · 8 is sure to

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 The train is bound to be late. · 2 We may as well go home. · 3 That will be the postman. · 4 You needn't have brought wine. · 5 She may well be the best player. · 6 I could hardly hear him.

Writing, model answer: In the next twenty years my city is bound to grow, because people keep moving here for work. Housing may well become even more expensive. Self-driving buses could well replace many drivers. The old port is unlikely to survive in its current form. Many offices will be empty, so the city might as well turn them into flats. One thing is certain: people will still complain about the weather.

Advanced Passive Worksheet: Being Done, To Have Been Done

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Remember

Form	Example
being + participle (after verbs and prepositions)	I don't like being told what to do.
to be + participle (after want, expect, hope)	Everyone wants to be listened to.
to have been + participle (earlier action)	The painting is thought to have been stolen in 1990.
get + participle (informal, often unexpected) · need + -ing	He got fired. The windows need cleaning.

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
I hate to be interrupting.	I hate being interrupted.
She expects promoting soon.	She expects to be promoted soon.
The walls need to paint.	The walls need painting. / The walls need to be painted.

1. Complete

Complete with being, to be or to have been + the past participle of the verb in brackets.

1. Nobody likes _____ (lie) to.
2. The work is expected _____ (finish) by June.
3. He denies _____ (pay) for the information.
4. The letter appears _____ (open) before it arrived.
5. I can't stand _____ (keep) waiting.
6. She hopes _____ (choose) for the team.
7. After _____ (arrest), he was taken to the police station.
8. The castle is believed _____ (build) in the 12th century.

2. Choose

Circle the correct option.

1. I remember (being taken / taking) to the zoo as a child.
2. The house needs (painting / to paint).
3. He (got / was got) promoted last month.
4. She was the first woman (to be elected / to elect) mayor.
5. They seem (to have been / to be) married for ages.
6. I object to (being treated / be treated) like a child.
7. Our flight was cancelled without (being told / telling).
8. The documents are said (to be / to have been) destroyed years ago.

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. I hate being interrupt.
2. She wants to be listen to.
3. The car needs to wash.
4. He is said to have be very rich.
5. They got arrest at the border.
6. I don't remember being tell about this.

Writing

Write 6–7 sentences about your experiences at work or school: what you like being asked to do, what you hate being told, and what you expect to be given in the future.

Speaking

- What do you love being given as a present?
- What do you hate being asked at family gatherings?
- How would you like to be remembered?
- What in your home needs fixing or cleaning right now?

Answer key

1. Complete: 1 being lied · 2 to be finished · 3 being paid / having been paid · 4 to have been opened · 5 being kept · 6 to be chosen · 7 being arrested · 8 to have been built

2. Choose: 1 being taken · 2 painting · 3 got · 4 to be elected · 5 to have been · 6 being treated · 7 being told · 8 to have been

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 I hate being interrupted. · 2 She wants to be listened to. · 3 The car needs washing. / The car needs to be washed. · 4 He is said to have been very rich. · 5 They got arrested at the border. · 6 I don't remember being told about this.

Writing, model answer: In my job I really enjoy being given new challenges. I love being asked for my opinion in meetings. However, I can't stand being kept waiting by clients who are always late. I hate being told how to do things I've done for years. Next year I hope to be promoted to team leader. I also expect to be sent on a training course. I'd like to be remembered as someone who helped others.

Fronting and Emphasis Worksheet: Do, Such, So, What

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Remember

Form	Example
Emphatic do / does / did + base verb	I did lock the door, I promise.
Fronting: object, complement or adjective + as	That film I will never forget. Strange as it seems, I agree.
So + adjective + was... that · Such + be + noun + that	So loud was the music that... Such was the demand that...
the very · whatever · at all · ever	That's the very thing I needed. Why ever did you do that?

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
I did locked the door.	I did lock the door.
Such was loud the music that we left.	So loud was the music that we left. / Such was the noise that we left.
Strange as it seem, I like it.	Strange as it seems / may seem, I like it.

1. Rewrite

Rewrite each sentence to add emphasis, starting with the words given.

1. I really like your dress. (emphatic do) → I _____
2. The demand was so high that tickets sold out in minutes. → Such _____
3. I was so tired that I fell asleep at dinner. → So _____
4. Although it seems strange, I miss my old job. → Strange _____
5. I will never forget that day. (front the object) → That day _____
6. This is exactly the book I was looking for. → This is the very _____
7. She called, as she had promised. (emphatic do) → She _____
8. Although he tried hard, he couldn't open the door. → Try _____

2. Choose

Circle the correct option.

1. I (do / am) understand your point, but I disagree.
2. (Such / So) was his talent that he won every prize.
3. (So / Such) beautiful was the view that we stayed for hours.
4. Much (as I like / as I liked) him, I can't trust him.
5. Why (ever / even) did you say that?
6. That's the (very / exact) moment I fell in love with the city.
7. He (did try / tried did) to warn us.
8. Tired (as / so) she was, she finished the report.

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. She does knows the answer.
2. Such was strong the wind that trees fell.
3. Hard as she tried, but she failed.
4. I did enjoyed the concert.
5. So was the noise loud that we left.
6. Much as I like him, but I won't lend him money.

Writing

Write a passionate review (6–7 sentences) of a book, film, concert or restaurant. Use at least four emphatic structures from this sheet.

Speaking

- Tell me about something you do enjoy, even though people don't expect it.
- Describe a moment when you were so happy, tired or scared that you couldn't think.
- Much as you love your city, what would you change?
- What is the very first thing you do every morning?

Answer key

1. Rewrite: 1 I do like your dress. · 2 Such was the demand that tickets sold out in minutes. · 3 So tired was I that I fell asleep at dinner. · 4 Strange as it may seem, I miss my old job. · 5 That day I will never forget. · 6 This is the very book I was looking for. · 7 She did call, as she had promised. · 8 Try as he might, he couldn't open the door.

2. Choose: 1 do · 2 Such · 3 So · 4 as I like · 5 ever · 6 very · 7 did try · 8 as

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 She does know the answer. · 2 So strong was the wind that trees fell. / Such was the wind that trees fell. · 3 Hard as she tried, she failed. · 4 I did enjoy the concert. · 5 So loud was the noise that we left. · 6 Much as I like him, I won't lend him money.

Writing, model answer: I did not expect much from this small restaurant, but I was wrong. Such was the quality of the food that we booked again for the next night. So good was the lamb that my brother, who never eats meat, finished his plate. Simple as the menu is, every dish is perfect. The owner does care about every detail. That chocolate tart I will never forget. It was the very best meal of our trip.

Nominalisation Worksheet: Academic and Formal Writing

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Remember

Form	Example
Verb → noun: decide → decision, fail → failure, grow → growth	The decision to close the factory...
Adjective → noun: important → importance, able → ability	The importance of sleep is clear.
Noun + preposition: a rise in, a reduction of, an increase in, the cause of	a sharp increase in demand
Verb → noun + linking verb (lead to, result in, cause)	Poor planning resulted in delays.

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
The increase of prices was huge.	The increase in prices was huge.
There was a big decide to close it.	There was a big decision to close it. / It was decided to close it.
The government's fail to act caused anger.	The government's failure to act caused anger.

1. Complete

Complete with the noun form of the word in brackets.

1. The _____ (discover) of penicillin changed medicine.
2. There has been a sharp _____ (grow) in online sales.
3. Her _____ (refuse) to cooperate surprised everyone.
4. The _____ (important) of exercise cannot be overstated.
5. We are worried about the _____ (lose) of jobs in the area.
6. The _____ (arrive) of the new manager caused changes.
7. The _____ (able) to work in a team is essential.
8. The _____ (fail) of the project was predictable.

2. Rewrite

Rewrite each sentence in a more formal style using the noun in brackets.

1. Prices went up a lot, so people bought less. (rise, fall)

2. The company decided to close two shops. (decision)

3. Because the trains were late, many people missed work. (delays)

4. If we don't act now, it will be expensive later. (failure)

5. People are more and more interested in electric cars. (interest)

6. The minister resigned, which surprised everyone. (resignation)

7. They planned badly, so the project took longer. (planning)

8. Tourists can't easily get to the island. (access)

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. There was a decrease of unemployment.

2. The develop of new technology is fast.

3. His explain of the problem was clear.

4. The reduce in costs helped the company.

5. The cause for the accident is unknown.

6. Their arrive was delayed.

Writing

Rewrite this informal paragraph in a formal style (5–6 sentences): ‘Lots of young people are moving to big cities because they want jobs. So villages are getting empty, and the schools are closing. If the government doesn’t do something, these places will disappear.’

Speaking

- Describe a recent change in your city using a noun phrase: ‘There has been an increase in…’
- What was the cause of a big problem in your workplace or school?
- Explain the importance of a skill in your job.
- Summarise a news story in one formal sentence.

Answer key

1. Complete: 1 discovery · 2 growth · 3 refusal · 4 importance · 5 loss · 6 arrival · 7 ability · 8 failure

2. Rewrite: 1 The sharp rise in prices led to a fall in consumption. · 2 The company’s decision to close two shops… · 3 Train delays caused many people to miss work. · 4 Failure to act now will be costly later. · 5 There is growing interest in electric cars. · 6 The minister’s resignation surprised everyone. · 7 Poor planning resulted in delays to the project. · 8 Access to the island is difficult for tourists.

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 There was a decrease in unemployment. · 2 The development of new technology is fast. · 3 His explanation of the problem was clear. · 4 The reduction in costs helped the company. · 5 The cause of the accident is unknown. · 6 Their arrival was delayed.

Writing, model answer: The migration of young people to large cities in search of employment is a growing trend. This movement has resulted in the depopulation of rural areas. A further consequence is the closure of village schools. The decline of these communities is therefore accelerating. Without intervention by the government, their disappearance seems inevitable.

Concession Worksheet: Much As, However Hard, Albeit

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Remember

Form	Example
Much as / While + clause	Much as I like him, I don't trust him.
However / No matter how + adjective / adverb + clause	However hard I try, I can't sleep.
Adjective + as / though + subject + verb	Expensive as it was, it was worth it.
albeit + adjective / adverb · even so · admittedly · that said	a small, albeit important, change

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
However I try hard, I can't do it.	However hard I try, I can't do it.
Much as I like him, but I won't go.	Much as I like him, I won't go.
No matter what hard it is, keep going.	No matter how hard it is, keep going.

1. Rewrite

Rewrite each sentence starting with the words given.

1. Although I love my job, I need a break. → Much as _____

2. It doesn't matter how fast you drive, you won't get there on time. → However _____

3. Although it was cold, we swam. → Cold _____

4. It doesn't matter what you say, I won't change my mind. → Whatever _____

5. The project succeeded, but slowly. → The project succeeded, albeit _____

6. Although he is talented, he is lazy. → Talented _____

7. It doesn't matter how much it costs, I'll buy it. → No matter _____

8. The hotel was expensive. But the service was perfect. → Admittedly, _____

2. Choose

Circle the correct option.

1. (However / Whatever) tired she is, she always helps.
2. (Much as / Even as) I'd love to come, I can't.
3. It was a good, (albeit / although) short, holiday.
4. (No matter how / No matter what) happens, call me.
5. Strange (as / so) it sounds, I enjoy ironing.
6. The plan is risky. (Even so / Even though), I think we should try.
7. (Whoever / However) you ask, you'll get a different answer.
8. (While / Despite) I agree with you in part, I have doubts.

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. However I am tired, I'll finish it.

2. Much as I respect him, but I disagree.

3. Hard as he worked, but he failed.

4. No matter how you do, it's wrong.

5. It was a success, albeit it was small.

6. Whatever hard you try, you can't please everyone.

Writing

Write a balanced paragraph (6–7 sentences) on ‘Should homework be banned in primary schools?’ Concede at least three points using different structures.

Speaking

- Much as you love your city, what are its problems?
- However hard you try, what can you never do well?
- Talk about a decision that was right, albeit difficult.
- What will you do this year, no matter what happens?

Answer key

1. Rewrite: 1 Much as I love my job, I need a break. · 2 However fast you drive, you won’t get there on time. · 3 Cold as / though it was, we swam. · 4 Whatever you say, I won’t change my mind. · 5 The project succeeded, albeit slowly. · 6 Talented as / though he is, he is lazy. · 7 No matter how much it costs, I’ll buy it. · 8 Admittedly, the hotel was expensive, but the service was perfect.

2. Choose: 1 However · 2 Much as · 3 albeit · 4 No matter what · 5 as · 6 Even so · 7 Whoever · 8 While

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 However tired I am, I’ll finish it. · 2 Much as I respect him, I disagree. · 3 Hard as he worked, he failed. · 4 No matter what you do, it’s wrong. · 5 It was a success, albeit a small one. · 6 However hard you try, you can’t please everyone.

Writing, model answer: Much as I understand parents who complain about homework, I do not think it should be banned. Admittedly, young children need time to play and rest. However useful extra practice may be, two hours a night is clearly too much. That said, ten or fifteen minutes of reading can make a real difference. Simple as it sounds, a short daily routine teaches responsibility. The benefits are modest, albeit real. Whatever we decide, the amount should be limited.

Ellipsis and Substitution Worksheet: So, Not, One, Do So

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Remember

Form	Example
think / hope / suppose / be afraid + so / not	Is it serious? I hope not. Will she come? I think so.
one / ones for countable nouns	I don't like this shirt. I prefer the blue one.
Auxiliary or to alone (ellipsis)	She can swim, but I can't. I'd like to, but I can't.
do so / do that (formal / neutral substitution)	He promised to call, but he didn't do so.

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
'Is it true?' 'I think yes.'	'Is it true?' 'I think so.'
'Will he come?' 'I don't hope.'	'Will he come?' 'I hope not.'
I wanted to go, but I didn't want.	I wanted to go, but I didn't want to.

1. Complete

Complete with so, not, one, ones, do so, or an auxiliary / to.

1. 'Is the shop still open?' 'I think _____.'
2. 'Will it be expensive?' 'I hope _____.'
3. These glasses are dirty. Can I have clean _____?
4. I've never been to Japan, but my sister _____.
5. You can come with us if you want _____.
6. Which jacket is yours, the black _____ or the grey _____?
7. Visitors may take photos, but those who _____ must not use flash.
8. 'Did you lose the match?' 'I'm afraid _____.'

2. Choose

Circle the correct option.

1. 'Are you coming?' 'I (suppose so / suppose it).'
2. 'Is he angry?' 'I (don't think so / think not so).'
3. I like the old flat more than the new (one / it).
4. She said she would help, and she (did / did so it).
5. I didn't want to go, but I (had to / had).
6. 'Has anyone called?' 'I'm afraid (not / no).'
7. He can't cook, but his brother (can / can cook it).
8. Those shoes are nice. Are the (ones / one) in the window cheaper?

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. ‘Will she pass?’ ‘I hope yes.’
2. ‘Is it far?’ ‘I don’t think it.’
3. I’d love to come, but I can’t come it.
4. These are my keys and those are your.
5. She asked me to help, but I didn’t want.
6. ‘Did they win?’ ‘I’m afraid no.’

Writing

Write a short dialogue (8 lines) between two friends planning a trip. Use at least six examples of ellipsis or substitution.

Speaking

- Answer your partner’s yes / no questions only with ‘I think so’, ‘I hope not’, ‘I’m afraid so’ and similar.
- What would you like to do this year but probably won’t be able to?
- Which do you prefer, old films or new ones? Why?
- Is there something you can do that your parents can’t?

Answer key

1. Complete: 1 so · 2 not · 3 ones · 4 has · 5 to · 6 one … one · 7 do so · 8 so

2. Choose: 1 suppose so · 2 don’t think so · 3 one · 4 did · 5 had to · 6 not · 7 can · 8 ones

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 ‘Will she pass?’ ‘I hope so.’ · 2 ‘Is it far?’ ‘I don’t think so.’ · 3 I’d love to come, but I can’t. · 4 These are my keys and those are yours / your ones. · 5 She asked me to help, but I didn’t want to. · 6 ‘Did they win?’ ‘I’m afraid not.’

Writing, model answer: A: Do you think we’ll find a cheap flight? B: I hope so. I’ve seen some cheap ones in May. A: May? Can you get time off then? B: I think so, but my boss might say no. I hope not! A: I’d like to go to Portugal. B: So would I. Have you been? A: No, but my brother has. He loved it.

Preparatory It Worksheet: It's No Use, It Strikes Me That

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Remember

Form	Example
It + be + adjective + to / that-clause	It's essential to book in advance.
It's no use / no good / worth + -ing · There's no point (in) + -ing	It's no use crying. It's worth trying.
It + verb + me + that: strikes, occurs to, seems	It occurred to me that I had forgotten.
Subject + find / consider / think + it + adjective + to / that	I find it hard to concentrate.

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
I find difficult to concentrate.	I find it difficult to concentrate.
It's no use to complain.	It's no use complaining.
Is important to arrive early.	It's important to arrive early.

1. Complete

Complete with it, there, or the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. It's no use _____ (argue) with him.
2. I find _____ hard to wake up in winter.
3. _____ 's no point in waiting any longer.
4. It's worth _____ (visit) the old town.
5. _____ occurred to me that I hadn't locked the car.
6. She considers _____ rude to arrive late.
7. It's essential _____ (book) a table in advance.
8. _____ strikes me that we need a new plan.

2. Choose

Circle the correct option.

1. I find (it / Ø) impossible to say no.
2. It's no good (to ask / asking) him for money.
3. (It / There) is no point in shouting.
4. Is (it worth / worth it) going to the museum?
5. I'd appreciate (it / Ø) if you called me back.
6. It (seems / is seeming) to me that you're right.
7. (It / That) is a pity that you can't come.
8. I take (it / Ø) that you've heard the news.

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. I find strange that nobody called.
2. It's no point in trying.
3. It's worth to see that film.
4. Is clear that we need help.
5. It's no use to worry about it.
6. I would appreciate if you could reply soon.

Writing

Write a short paragraph of advice for someone starting a new job (6–7 sentences). Use at least five expressions with preparatory it or there.

Speaking

- What is something you find it hard to do in English?
- Is there anything that's not worth worrying about? Why?
- Tell me about a moment when it suddenly occurred to you that you had made a mistake.
- What do you consider it rude to do in your culture?

Answer key

1. Complete: 1 arguing · 2 it · 3 There · 4 visiting · 5 It · 6 it · 7 to book · 8 It

2. Choose: 1 it · 2 asking · 3 There · 4 it worth · 5 it · 6 seems · 7 It · 8 it

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 I find it strange that nobody called. · 2 There's no point in trying. · 3 It's worth seeing that film. · 4 It's clear that we need help. · 5 It's no use worrying about it. · 6 I would appreciate it if you could reply soon.

Writing, model answer: Starting a new job can be stressful, but it's worth remembering that everyone was new once. It's essential to ask questions in the first weeks. There's no point in pretending you know everything. I always found it useful to write down people's names. It's no use comparing yourself with colleagues who have been there for years. It strikes me that the best new employees are the ones who listen first.

Hedging Worksheet: Tend To, Appear To, It Could Be Argued

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Remember

Form	Example
Verbs: tend to, appear to, seem to, suggest, indicate	Older users tend to prefer email.
Modals and adverbs: may, could, possibly, arguably, apparently	This may explain the results.
Adjectives and nouns: likely, possible, a tendency, a possibility	It is likely that prices will rise.
Impersonal phrases: it could be argued that, there is evidence that	It could be argued that the policy failed.

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
The results prove that the drug works. (only one study)	The results suggest that the drug may work.
Young people tend use their phones more.	Young people tend to use their phones more.
It can be argue that it failed.	It could be argued that it failed.

1. Rewrite

Rewrite each claim in a more cautious, academic style.

1. Coffee causes heart problems.

2. Students who work part-time get lower marks.

3. This policy failed completely.

4. Prices will rise next year.

5. Remote workers are more productive.

6. The data shows that the treatment works.

7. Everybody prefers online shopping now.

8. The decline was caused by the new tax.

2. Choose

Circle the more appropriate option for an academic essay.

1. The findings (prove / suggest) a link between sleep and memory.
2. Older drivers (tend to / always) drive more slowly.
3. It (is likely / is certain) that the trend will continue.
4. This (appears to be / is definitely) the main cause.
5. (Arguably / Obviously), this was the most important reform.
6. The results (may / will) not apply to other countries.
7. There is (a tendency / a fact) for companies to cut training first.
8. (It could be argued / Everyone knows) that the law is unfair.

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. Women tend live longer than men.
2. This seems be the best solution.
3. It could argued that the plan is too expensive.
4. The new rule is likely reduce accidents.
5. The study appears showing a clear pattern.
6. There is evidences that the method works.

Writing

Write a short academic paragraph (6 sentences) on the effects of working from home. Hedge every claim appropriately.

Speaking

- Make a cautious claim about how people in your country spend their free time.
- What do young people in your city tend to do at the weekend?
- Discuss a news story using ‘It appears that…’ and ‘It could be argued that…’
- What is likely to change in your profession in the next five years?

Answer key

1. Rewrite: 1 Excessive coffee consumption may be linked to heart problems. · 2 Students who work part-time tend to get lower marks. · 3 It could be argued that this policy was largely unsuccessful. · 4 Prices are likely to rise next year. · 5 There is some evidence that remote workers may be more productive. · 6 The data suggests that the treatment appears to be effective. · 7 Many consumers seem to prefer online shopping now. · 8 The decline was possibly / partly caused by the new tax.

2. Choose: 1 suggest · 2 tend to · 3 is likely · 4 appears to be · 5 Arguably · 6 may · 7 a tendency · 8 It could be argued

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 Women tend to live longer than men. · 2 This seems to be the best solution. · 3 It could be argued that the plan is too expensive. · 4 The new rule is likely to reduce accidents. · 5 The study appears to show a clear pattern. · 6 There is evidence that the method works.

Writing, model answer: The shift to remote work appears to have had mixed effects on employees. There is some evidence that many workers feel more productive at home. However, younger employees tend to report higher levels of isolation. It could be argued that this is partly due to fewer opportunities for informal learning. Companies are likely to adopt hybrid models in the long term. Further research may be needed to measure the effects on career progression.

Stance Adverbs Worksheet: Admittedly, Arguably, Frankly

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Remember

Form	Example
Admitting: admittedly, granted, of course	Admittedly, I should have checked.
Opinion and honesty: arguably, frankly, personally, honestly	Frankly, it was a waste of money.
Reaction: surprisingly, fortunately, worryingly, predictably	Worryingly, the numbers are rising.
Certainty and expectation: presumably, inevitably, ideally, apparently	Presumably, he forgot.

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
Admittely, the plan has problems.	Admittedly, the plan has problems.
Actually, I live in Rome. (meaning: at the moment)	Currently / At the moment, I live in Rome.
Eventually we will win. (meaning: maybe)	Possibly / Perhaps we will win. (Eventually = in the end)

1. Complete

Complete with the adverbs in the box: admittedly · arguably · frankly · surprisingly · presumably · inevitably · ideally · apparently.

1. _____, the cheapest hotel was also the best.
2. She hasn't replied. _____ she's still on holiday.
3. _____, I'm tired of this discussion.
4. _____, you should sleep eight hours a night.
5. He is _____ the greatest footballer of all time.
6. _____, the plan is risky, but it's our only option.
7. As the city grew, traffic _____ got worse.
8. _____, the restaurant is closing. I read it online.

2. Choose

Circle the best option.

1. (Hopefully / Hopeful), the train will be on time.
2. (Actually / Currently), I work in a bank. (= at the moment)
3. (Eventually / Possibly), after three hours, the bus arrived.
4. (Predictably / Personally), the politician avoided the question.
5. (Worryingly / Fortunately), nobody was hurt.
6. (Apparently / Obviously), he's moving to Canada. That's what I heard.
7. (Admittedly / Surely), I wasn't very polite.

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. Actually I am studying medicine, since last year. (= at the moment)

2. Surprising, she won the election.

3. Eventually it will rain tomorrow. (= maybe)

4. Frank, I don't like it.

5. Presumable, they forgot.

6. Hopefuly, we'll finish soon.

Writing

Write a short opinion column (6–7 sentences) about a change in your city or workplace. Start at least five sentences with a stance adverb.

Speaking

- Tell me about a recent news story, starting with 'Surprisingly…' or 'Worryingly…'
- Frankly, what do you think of social media?
- Ideally, where would you live and work?
- Who is arguably the most important person in your country's history?

Answer key

1. Complete: 1 Surprisingly · 2 Presumably · 3 Frankly · 4 Ideally · 5 arguably · 6 Admittedly · 7 inevitably · 8 Apparently

2. Choose: 1 Hopefully · 2 Currently · 3 Eventually · 4 Predictably · 5 Fortunately · 6 Apparently · 7 Admittedly

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 Currently I am studying medicine. · 2 Surprisingly, she won the election. · 3 Possibly / Perhaps it will rain tomorrow. · 4 Frankly, I don't like it. · 5 Presumably, they forgot. · 6 Hopefully, we'll finish soon.

Writing, model answer: Our city has finally opened its new metro line. Admittedly, it is three years late and well over budget. Surprisingly, the first week went smoothly. Frankly, I expected chaos. Inevitably, some people still complain about the price of tickets. Ideally, the line would also reach the airport. Hopefully, that will be the next project.

Intensifiers Worksheet: Utterly, Highly, Deeply, Bitterly

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Remember

Form	Example
very / extremely / incredibly + gradable adjectives	extremely tired · incredibly difficult
absolutely / completely / utterly + extreme adjectives	absolutely exhausted · utterly ridiculous
Fixed collocations: highly, deeply, bitterly, painfully, fully	highly unlikely · deeply moved · bitterly disappointed
really and so work with both kinds	really cold · really freezing

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
The film was very fantastic.	The film was absolutely fantastic.
I'm absolutely tired.	I'm extremely tired. / I'm absolutely exhausted.
It's highly expensive.	It's extremely / incredibly expensive.

1. Complete

Complete with the intensifiers in the box: highly · deeply · bitterly · utterly · fully · painfully · absolutely · extremely.

1. It's _____ unlikely that he will apologise.
2. I was _____ moved by her speech.
3. The fans were _____ disappointed with the result.
4. After the marathon, I was _____ exhausted.
5. We are _____ aware of the problem.
6. The silence was _____ obvious after his joke.
7. The view from the top is _____ stunning.
8. The exam was _____ difficult.

2. Choose

Circle the correct option.

1. The hotel was (very / absolutely) enormous.
2. I'm (highly / deeply) sorry for your loss.
3. It's (completely / very) impossible to finish today.
4. She's (highly / bitterly) qualified for the job.
5. The water was (absolutely / very) freezing.
6. He was (utterly / highly) convinced he was right.
7. It was a (bitterly / deeply) cold morning.
8. The instructions were (perfectly / highly) clear.

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. The food was very delicious.
2. It's absolutely cold outside.
3. I'm highly disappointed.
4. She was absolutely surprised.
5. The task is utterly easy.
6. It's deeply likely to rain.

Writing

Write a review of an unforgettable trip or event (6–7 sentences) without using very. Use at least six intensifier collocations.

Speaking

- Describe a time you were bitterly disappointed.
- What is something that is highly unlikely to happen this year?
- Describe a place that is absolutely stunning.
- Tell me about a moment you were deeply moved by something.

Answer key

1. Complete: 1 highly · 2 deeply · 3 bitterly · 4 utterly / absolutely · 5 fully · 6 painfully · 7 absolutely · 8 extremely

2. Choose: 1 absolutely · 2 deeply · 3 completely · 4 highly · 5 absolutely · 6 utterly · 7 bitterly · 8 perfectly

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 The food was absolutely delicious. · 2 It's very / extremely cold outside. / It's absolutely freezing. · 3 I'm bitterly / deeply disappointed. · 4 She was very surprised. / She was absolutely amazed. · 5 The task is very / extremely easy. · 6 It's highly likely to rain.

Writing, model answer: Our trip to Iceland was absolutely unforgettable. The landscapes were utterly breathtaking, and on some mornings it was bitterly cold. I was deeply moved by the silence of the glaciers. Our guide was highly experienced and extremely patient with us. We were bitterly disappointed when the clouds hid the northern lights. But on the last night the sky was perfectly clear, and it was absolutely magical.

Relative Clauses with Quantifiers Worksheet: Most of Which

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DATE

Remember

Form	Example
quantifier + of + whom (people)	He has four children, two of whom are doctors.
quantifier + of + which (things)	We saw ten flats, none of which were suitable.
noun + of + which / whose	a city, the centre of which is car-free
which for a whole idea · by which time · in which case	It might rain, in which case we'll stay in.

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
I have two sisters, both of them are teachers.	I have two sisters, both of whom are teachers.
We visited three museums, most of who were free.	We visited three museums, most of which were free.
She has many friends, some of which live in Spain.	She has many friends, some of whom live in Spain.

1. Rewrite

Join the sentences using a quantifier + of + whom / which.

1. I have three cousins. All of them are musicians.

2. We tried five restaurants. None of them was good.

3. The company has 200 employees. Most of them work from home.

4. She wrote two books. Both of them became films.

5. I sent ten applications. I got replies to only two of them.

6. The team has twelve players. Several of them are injured.

7. We looked at two flats. Neither of them had a balcony.

8. He has many ideas. Some of them are brilliant.

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2. Choose

Circle the correct option.

1. She has two sons, both of (whom / who) live in Paris.
2. I read four reports, none of (which / them) mentioned the problem.
3. The bus may be late, in (which / that) case we'll take a taxi.
4. We got there at ten, by (which / that) time the show had started.
5. He owns a house, the garden of (which / whose) is enormous.
6. The students, most of (whom / which) were tired, left early.
7. She failed the test, (which / what) surprised everyone.
8. I have many friends, few of (whom / them) I see regularly.

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. He has three daughters, all of them are lawyers.

2. We saw many films, most of whom were boring.

3. She has two cars neither of which works. (punctuation)

4. I met many people, some of who were famous.

5. It might snow, in that case we'll stay home.

6. We arrived at midnight, by that time everyone was asleep.

Writing

Write a paragraph (6 sentences) about your family, team or class. Use at least four relative clauses with quantifiers or sentence relatives.

Speaking

- Talk about your friends, using ‘some of whom…’ or ‘most of whom…’
- Describe the books or films you saw last year, using ‘none of which’ or ‘both of which’.
- What will you do if your plans change? Use ‘in which case’.
- Describe a place, using ‘the … of which’.

Answer key

1. Rewrite: 1 I have three cousins, all of whom are musicians. · 2 We tried five restaurants, none of which was / were good. · 3 The company has 200 employees, most of whom work from home. · 4 She wrote two books, both of which became films. · 5 I sent ten applications, only two of which got replies. · 6 The team has twelve players, several of whom are injured. · 7 We looked at two flats, neither of which had a balcony. · 8 He has many ideas, some of which are brilliant.

2. Choose: 1 whom · 2 which · 3 which · 4 which · 5 which · 6 whom · 7 which · 8 whom

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 He has three daughters, all of whom are lawyers. · 2 We saw many films, most of which were boring. · 3 She has two cars, neither of which works. · 4 I met many people, some of whom were famous. · 5 It might snow, in which case we’ll stay home. · 6 We arrived at midnight, by which time everyone was asleep.

Writing, model answer: I come from a big family. I have five cousins, three of whom live in Italy. My grandparents had seven children, most of whom still live in our home town. Every summer we meet at my grandmother’s house, the garden of which is full of lemon trees. Last year we were 32 people, none of whom wanted to wash the dishes. It always ends late, by which time the children are asleep on the sofa.

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