

Aim High

Student's Book

5

หนังสือเรียน รายวิชาพื้นฐานภาษาอังกฤษ

ชั้นมัธยมศึกษาปีที่ 5

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1 The great escape

Getting away

BEFORE READING

Discuss the questions.

- Describe the best or worst holiday you have ever had. Why do you feel this way about it?
- What is your idea of an ideal holiday?

Unusual holidays

Some people dream of their next holiday – a week at the beach or some relaxation in the mountains. However such ordinary holidays do not appeal to everybody. Some **crave** something unusual.

A Hitting the slopes... in Dubai

Dubai's summer temperatures routinely **surpass** 40°C and snow has never been recorded in the history of the city. Understandably, it is not the typical place for a skiing holiday, but in Dubai **meteorology** can be overcome. Since 2005, it has been possible to enjoy five ski runs, a snowboarding area, and an ice cave. This unexpected attraction, which is a **marvel** of modern engineering, is called Ski Dubai.

Ski Dubai is an indoor facility that is part of the Mall of the Emirates, the largest shopping centre outside the USA. With over 6,000 tonnes of snow scattered across a 22,500 square metre space, Ski Dubai is the world's third largest indoor skiing facility. **Holidaymakers** can purchase an all-inclusive snow pass which offers jackets, trousers, boots, and disposable socks, but due to health concerns, hats and gloves are not provided. Black, knee-length padded coats are available to guests who prefer to wear traditional clothing during their visit. However, skiing in traditional clothing is strictly banned for safety reasons. Those who just want to watch the activities can sit in a Swiss-style **chalet**, enjoying fondue, hot chocolate, and other tasty warm treats.



THIS UNIT INCLUDES

Vocabulary • holidays • onomatopoeia • idioms with on and off
Grammar • stative verbs • simple and continuous forms
Skills • describing holidays and places
Writing • a persuasive essay

READ

- Read the Reading tip. Look at the text. What might be a typical holiday at each destination?

Reading tip

An article separated into sections may have sub-headings. Read the first paragraph and the sub-heading of each section to understand what the main topic is, before reading in detail.



B Being funny on stage... in Spain

Imagine a stay in a remote stone farmhouse in the mountains of Catalonia, in north-eastern Spain. The summer temperature is comfortable, around 25°C, the sunlight **shimmers** on the rivers in the valley, and the air smells sweet and unpolluted. Tiny villages dot the landscape in the distance, and the only sound is the **rustling** of the leaves in the surrounding trees.

The Spanish countryside has beautiful scenery that thousands of tourists **flock** to for a relaxing and refreshing holiday. However, it may also be the perfect holiday destination for those who are interested in fulfilling their ambition of making people laugh. For seven days, small groups of holidaymakers come to this farmhouse to do something unusual – to learn the art of stand-up comedy. A professional **comedian** leads them in a series of workshops that cover the entire stand-up comedy process from writing to performing. The participants learn to write **gags** and humorous dialogue. They also develop their ability to speak in front of an audience by first practising in small groups and then performing for everybody. Those who are interested in acting are encouraged to create characters and portray them for the others.



- Read the text. Which holiday description (A–C) contains the following information? More than one answer may be possible.

- Weather, A, B, C
- Length of the holiday.
- Teaching or instruction.
- Something to do for those not interested in the unusual activity.
- Length of time the unusual holiday has been available to holidaymakers.



- 1.02 Read the text again. Choose the best answers.

- The attractions inside Ski Dubai do not include
 - an ice cave.
 - ski runs.
 - a snowboarding area.
 - a shopping centre.



C Painting the perfect picture... in Kenya

Kenya is a wildlife lover's paradise. There is a **multitude** of animals to observe in their natural habitat. The best time to view them is in the early morning or evening when the temperatures, about 25°C, are more **hospitable**. Gazelles, giraffes, and hippos gather at the watering holes to drink or bathe. They scatter only when a **predator**, such as a cheetah or a lion, approaches.

Most holidaymakers come to Kenya for a safari to photograph this amazing wildlife from the safety of a jeep. However, those who are intent on a more unusual experience can go on a ten-day art safari and paint the animals from some frighteningly close **vantage points**. The goal of this is to help artists improve their ability to depict moving animals.

In addition to the artistic opportunities, highly-trained guides accompany all participants and provide information on the wildlife, landscape and local customs. In this way, non-painting holidaymakers will never be bored or excluded from activities.

- The snow pass offers
 - traditional clothing.
 - knee-length padded coats.
 - ski wear and boots.
 - hot chocolate and warm treats.
- The location of the stand-up comedy holiday is in
 - a popular Spanish tourist destination.
 - the Spanish mountains.
 - a Spanish city.
 - a quiet seaside town.
- The comedy workshops
 - are taught by a group of actors.
 - teach participants how to write and tell jokes.
 - help participants stand up in front of others.
 - encourage participants to explore their acting ability.
- The best time to see animals in their natural habitat is when
 - a lion or cheetah is near.
 - the temperature is at its highest.
 - they cool down near water.
 - they are being hunted.
- One of the goals of the art safari is to teach artists
 - about the local customs of the Kenyan people.
 - how to paint animals that are moving rapidly.
 - how to get close to wild animals.
 - how to photograph wildlife and landscapes.

UNDERSTANDING IDEAS

Answer the questions. Look at the text, and use your own words and ideas.

- Would you like to go on any of these holidays? Why or why not?
- Which holiday idea is the most unusual in your opinion? Why?
- Which, if any, of these unusual holidays will still be popular in twenty years? Why?

VOCABULARY

Unusual holidays

Match the highlighted words in the text with these definitions.

- Positions from which you can watch something.
- People who are visiting a place.
- To have a strong desire for something.
- The sound of light, dry things moving together.
- A wonderful or surprising thing.
- A house traditionally made of wood, built in the mountains.
- An animal that hunts and kills other animals.
- Shines with a soft light that seems to be moving.
- An entertainer who makes people laugh.
- Exceed, be greater than.
- A very large number of people or things.
- To gather somewhere in large numbers.
- Jokes or funny stories.
- Having a pleasant environment.
- The science of the Earth's atmosphere, used in forecasting the weather.

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VOCABULARY

Unusual holidays

ACTIVATE

Complete these sentences with the correct form of the words from the box.

chalet comedian crave flock gag holidaymaker
hospitable marvel meteorology multitude predator
rustling shimmer surpass vantage point

- It was a cool evening on the banks of the river Nile. The light of the moon was _____ on the water and, with the _____ of the palm trees in the breeze, it was perfect.
- From our _____ at the top of the tower, we could see the entire valley.
- Some children _____ attention so much that they cry until their mothers come to them.
- We stayed at a _____ in the Swiss mountains for our holiday last year.
- London is the perfect place for an art holiday – there is a _____ of museums and art galleries. The collection at the National Gallery _____ any other in the world!
- The advantage of staying in a small village or town is that the people tend to be more _____ than they are in cities, where most people are too busy to welcome tourists.
- Many tourists on safari in Africa are disappointed if they don't see a large _____, like a lion, catching its prey.
- Scientists in the field of _____ are researching the interaction between weather and ocean levels.
- Spain is a popular holiday destination for British _____. Many families _____ to Spanish beaches and cities every summer.
- It was his first show as a stand-up _____. Unfortunately, the audience didn't find his _____ very funny, so he wasn't invited to perform again.
- The Burj Khalifa is a _____ of architecture, construction and design.

EXTEND

Onomatopoeia

Onomatopoeia refers to words imitating the noise they describe. They can make a description more interesting or lively.

1. **1.03** Read the Look out! box. Match the words with their descriptions. Say the words out loud. Then listen and check.

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 1 rustling | a a sound like a long 's' |
| 2 clatter | b a sound of hard objects knocking together |
| 3 creak | c a squeaky noise, like the sound of a rusty hinge |
| 4 screech | d the sound of light, dry things moving together, like paper |
| 5 gurgle | e a shrill piercing noise or cry |
| 6 hiss | f the sound of bubbling liquid |

- 2 Look at the pictures. Choose the onomatopoeic word that best describes the picture.



- | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 a clatter
b hiss
c screech | 2 a gurgle
b hiss
c ping | 3 a creak
b rustle
c ping |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|



- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 4 a clatter
b gurgle
c whoosh | 5 a creak
b hiss
c rustle | 6 a clatter
b creak
c gurgle |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|

- 3 Write a sentence for each picture. Some of the words can be used as a noun or a verb.

The screech of the tyres frightened us. The car screeched to a halt.

Idioms with off and on

- 4 Look at the idioms in bold in the sentences (1–8) and match them with their definitions (a–h).

- This may sound like an off the wall idea, but if you try it, you'll see that it works.
- This is completely off the record: I think the new student representative is not doing the job very well, but he's a friend of mine so I don't want to complain.
- Maggie is always on the go. She's got three jobs!
- The film was full of action and suspense, and we were on tenterhooks until the end.
- The press is keeping the scandal on the boil. There are several articles about it in the papers.
- I could tell you what I think off the cuff, but I'd prefer to research it some more and give you a more definite answer.
- On the off chance that you're free tonight, I was thinking you might like to go to the pizza place.
- I read the report on the hoof, so I couldn't remember much.
- Speaking without thought or preparation.
- In a state of nervousness or worry.
- Unusual and slightly crazy.
- Not official, not to be made public.
- Being kept very active or intense.
- Possible but unlikely.
- Quickly and without your full attention.
- Being very busy all the time.

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GRAMMAR

Stative verbs

EXPLORE

1. **1.04** Read and listen to the dialogue. What do the verbs in blue have in common?



- Andy: What's your ideal holiday Mark? Look at this website – it has some great photos.
- Mark: This beach looks very relaxing and quiet, but personally I prefer somewhere more exciting.
- Andy: I agree that it doesn't seem very exciting, but I love empty beaches, and the ocean breeze always feels great.
- Mark: True, and a deserted beach certainly smells better!
- Andy: What do you think about this beach, then? It's a larger resort, but it's private, so I imagine that it's fairly quiet.
- Mark: Yes, you're probably right. But it looks expensive. I'm sure it wouldn't be within my budget.
- Andy: Let's look at the prices. Hmm... it depends on whether you book a sea view or a land view.
- Mark: I would definitely want a sea view.
- Andy: OK. A sea view room costs £200 per person per night...
- Mark: OK. Well in that case, maybe the deserted beach does appear to be more attractive after all.

- 2 Read the Learn this! box. Put the stative verbs into the table.

agree believe belong contain feel forget hate
hear imagine like look love possess prefer
seem smell taste think understand want

LEARN THIS!

Some verbs are almost never used in the continuous form. These verbs describe states, e.g. *have, own, prefer, agree, feel*. They are called stative verbs. They can be classified into four categories.

A verbs of thinking and perception	1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____
B verbs of emotions and feelings	4 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____
C verbs of having and being	7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____
D verbs of senses and appearance	10 _____ 11 _____ 12 _____

Grammar Reference: page 94

EXPLOIT

LOOK OUT!

Some stative verbs can be used in the continuous form, but with a different meaning.
I think you're right. (belief)
I'm thinking of going to the cinema. (a plan under consideration)
She has a new car. (ownership)
She's having a wonderful holiday in Turkey. (current state or behaviour that is changeable)

- 1 Read the Look out! box. Complete the sentences using the simple or the continuous form of the verbs in the box.

see smell taste think weigh

- This cheese smells terrible – but it tastes delicious! Can I have some more?
- James _____ the soup now just to check if it needs more salt.
- I can't talk to you right now. I _____ the doctor. I'm in the consultation room.
- It's just my opinion, but I _____ this holiday package is too expensive.
- If you look very closely, you can just _____ the tower in the distance.
- The grocer _____ my vegetables now and then I'll be ready to pay and leave.
- They _____ of going on a cruise, but they haven't made a decision about it yet.
- My suitcase _____ over 20 kilos. I might have to pay an excess luggage charge.

- 2 Correct the errors, if necessary.

- Samantha isn't at home right now. She sees the doctor. *Samantha isn't at home right now. She is seeing the doctor.*
- Brian is having a lot of free time these days, so he is studying French.
- The jeweller is weighing the bracelet now and then he can give you a price.
- I am preferring holidays at the beach, but I'm having great fun in the city this time.
- Hurry up! I see the train on the platform! The engines are starting.
- As my mother ages, she is forgetting more and more.

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SKILLS

Feeling at home

VOCABULARY

- 1 Look at the hotels in photos (A–C). Use three adjectives in the box to describe each one.

atrocious charming cosy dreadful enchanting
extravagant five-star frosty homely lavish
luxurious opulent sparse stark unassuming
uninviting

A Ice hotel	B Seven-star hotel	C No-star hotel



- 2 Look at the photos of different types of travellers (1–4). Decide which hotel they might choose to stay in. Make alternative suggestions if necessary. Explain why.



student on a gap year



travel journalist



retired couple



businessman

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LISTEN

- 1 Listen to the dialogue. Which hotel do you think Jamie would prefer to stay in?
- 2 Listen again and complete the table.

	Ice hotel	Seven-star hotel	No-star hotel
Location			
Attractions			
Cost			

SPEAK

Which hotel would you like to stay in? Think of reasons why, and discuss with a partner. Use the vocabulary from Vocabulary exercise 1 to help you.

I'd like to stay in the ice hotel. It looks quite cosy.

I don't think so. It seems a bit uninviting. I'd prefer...

GRAMMAR

Expressing trends with simple and continuous forms

EXPLORE

- 1 Read the interview. Who does the travel industry cater for today: the backpacker set or the upmarket traveller?



What trends are we seeing in the travel industry these days? It's very interesting. We're actually seeing two very different trends. On the one hand, customers are becoming more interested in finding bargains. They are trying to make their travel budgets go further. On the other hand, luxury hotels are also growing in popularity.

Aren't those two trends incompatible?

Not really. The travel industry is huge, and these trends are affecting different market segments. For example, in the 1990s Prague was becoming the fashionable destination for the backpacker set, and the upmarket traveller was almost ignored. But some travel companies realized there was more to Prague than budget travel. Now luxury travellers can stay in five-star hotels and dine at extravagant restaurants. Prague has turned into a destination with something for everyone.

Can you give examples of the trend in bargain hunting? Absolutely. Air travel is a good example. It has been changing dramatically. In the mid-1990s, the demand for business class travel was increasing. Several business-only airlines began flying between London and New York. However, by the end of the decade, almost all of these companies had stopped their services. Low-cost airlines are dominating the market now, and they are even appealing to business travellers.

- 2 Read the interview again and find examples of the present continuous, the past continuous, and the present perfect continuous. Then complete the *Learn this!* box with the names of the tenses.

LEARN THIS!

The ¹ _____ is used to describe current trends. These trends can change.
The ² _____ is used to describe trends that have been halted or reversed. They are no longer happening.
The ³ _____ is used to describe a trend that began in the past but is still happening, or the results of which are relevant at the time of speaking.

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EXPLOIT

LOOK OUT!

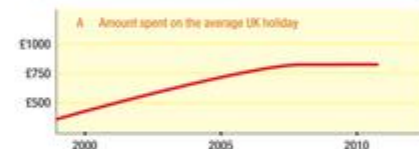
When describing trends, the present perfect simple and continuous can often be used interchangeably. We may choose the continuous form to emphasize a change that is progressive, rather than completed.

- 1 Read the *Look out!* box. Complete the sentences with the present continuous, past continuous, or present perfect continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

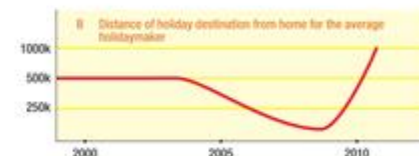
- The number of people using travel agencies _____ (get) smaller over the past ten years, as more people have booked holidays online.
- Currently, the number of budget travellers headed for Europe _____ (not increase), but as more airlines expand their routes, this may change.
- Space travel _____ (turn into) an interesting prospect for billionaires before the cutback on space missions.
- Many of our country's hotels _____ (not respond) quickly enough to the needs of more sophisticated guests. This is starting to change now, however.

- 2 Look at the diagrams. Complete the sentences with the present continuous, past continuous, or present perfect simple or continuous form of one of the verbs below.

decline decrease increase stabilize stop



In the early 2000s, the amount spent on the average holiday ¹ _____. However, this trend ² _____, and the amount spent on the average holiday ³ _____ at this time.



In the early 2000s, the average distance the typical holidaymaker travelled from home ⁴ _____, but it ⁵ _____ either. Around 2004, the distance ⁶ _____, but this trend ⁷ _____ now, although we are not sure it will continue to do so.

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WRITING

A persuasive essay

READ

Read the essay and complete the sentences with information from the text.

- In paragraph A, the writer introduces the opinion that Paris is _____.
- In paragraph B, the writer's first reason for having this opinion is _____.
- In paragraph C, the writer's second reason for having this opinion is _____.
- In paragraph D, the writer _____ the opinion about Paris.

August: the best time to visit Paris



A Paris is a fabulous city. Whether your interests lie in art and architecture or fine cuisine and fashion, there is something for everyone. Most people visit Paris in the spring. While this is a beautiful time in the city, the best time to get the full effect of the city is in August, at the height of a steamy summer. Paris in August offers a wide variety of memorable experiences for the adventurous tourist.

B Firstly, the atmosphere and pace of Paris are extremely relaxed in August. Most Parisians have left the city for the beaches or mountains. As a result, there is significantly less traffic on the roads, which makes cycling, rollerblading, and walking all pleasant activities. Although the metro may be extremely hot, the people crowded onto it are typically not rushing to get anywhere.

C In addition to the relaxed pace, August is the ideal time to experience the River Seine and its offerings. Explore the river or the canals on a cruise. Having a relaxing meal gliding along the Seine is a memory of a lifetime. You can also enjoy the beach in August. Each summer, three spots along the Seine are turned into beaches, each sporting a different theme. The beaches have something for everyone, including swimming pools suspended over the Seine, boardwalks to stroll along, or concerts on a summer's evening.

D To conclude, a visit to Paris is always a treat, but visitors to Paris should plan their trips for August, taking advantage of the relaxed atmosphere and special activities offered in this hot summer month.

PREPARE

Writing tip: using a mind map

A mind map is a useful way to prepare an essay. By making an outline of the content of your essay, you can organize your ideas into paragraphs. This helps to make your arguments clearer and makes the writing process smoother.

- Read the Writing tip. Read the essay again and complete the mind map below with the writer's arguments.



- Read the following examples. In which paragraph would each example best fit: paragraph A, B, C or D?

- Kayaking on the Seine is also possible in August.
- Parisians are friendlier because many of them are not going to work in August.
- Cruises on the Seine are a good way to see the city and avoid the summer heat.
- Fewer people and cars on the road make the city less stressful.

WRITE

- When is the best time to visit your country? Why? Organize your arguments, using a mind map.

- Write a persuasive essay on the best time of year to visit your country. Write 200 words and use the paragraph plan to help you.

Introduction Opinion
Paragraph 2 Main argument
Paragraph 3 Supporting argument
Conclusion Repeat opinion

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REVIEW

The great escape

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- Complete the dialogue with the words from the box. Then listen and check your answers.

clatter hear imagine luxurious means off the wall recommend rustling sounds sparse

Maria How was your holiday?

Sally It was ... interesting. We went camping in the mountains. The mountain scenery was enchanting, but unfortunately the campsite facilities were quite ¹ _____ and the cooking areas were very basic. It was my brother's idea to go camping. His ideas are a bit ² _____ and he always wants to do something different. Personally, I prefer beach holidays. Staying in a ³ _____ hotel and relaxing to the sound of ⁴ _____ palm trees is my idea of an ideal holiday.

Maria Well, staying in the mountains ⁵ _____ very relaxing too.

Sally Yes, but not this place. The campsite was next to a small factory and we could ⁶ _____ the ⁷ _____ of machinery all night long. I didn't sleep a wink!

Maria Oh, poor you. I ⁸ _____ you won't go there again.

Sally No, definitely not. But there is one advantage of camping. It doesn't cost a fortune, so it ⁹ _____ we can afford a city break later in the year, too.

Maria Well, for a city break, I really ¹⁰ _____ Vienna. It's wonderful in winter.

- Answer the questions.

- Why did Sally go on a camping holiday?
- What was wrong with the campsite?
- What kind of holiday does Sally prefer?
- What was good about Sally's holiday?
- Which holiday destination does Maria recommend?

- Choose the correct answer.

- That TV screen _____ about 10 kilos. It's huge!
a weighs b is weighing c both are possible
- You've definitely burnt the steak. It _____ awful.
a smells b is smelling c both are possible
- I _____ English much better than before.
a understand b am understanding c both are possible
- Where are you going on holiday this year? We _____ of taking a cruise up the Nile.
a think b are thinking c both are possible
- The dentist _____ a patient now. You can't go in.
a sees b is seeing c both are possible
- We _____ a wonderful time on holiday! Wish you were here.
a have b are having c both are possible

DICTIONARY CORNER

American English vs. British English

- Use your dictionary and look at the entries for *holiday*, *sea* and *underground*. Answer the questions.

- What is the American English word for holidaymaker?
vacationer
- What is the American English word for holiday? When is this word used in British English?
- What does *holiday* mean in American English? What is this called in British English?
- What is the typical American English word for sea?
- What do speakers of American English say for a holiday by the sea?
- What is the *underground* called in American English?
- What other names are used for the underground systems in Washington D.C. and London?

- Look up the words in bold and find their equivalents in American English.

- This restaurant has definitely gone **downmarket** – it used to be much better.
- We can get to the top floor using the **lift**.
- We lost our **luggage** at the airport.
- The **taxi rank** is just outside the airport.
- This is certainly a hotel that will be popular with **upmarket** travellers.

I CAN ...

Read the statements. Think about your progress and tick (✓) one of the boxes.

★ I need more practice. ★★ I sometimes find this difficult. ★★★ No problem!

	★	★★	★★★
I can understand a magazine article about holiday destinations.			
I can use stative verbs in the present simple or present continuous tense correctly.			
I can understand and discuss information about hotels.			
I can use the present continuous to describe trends.			
I can use a mind map to prepare ideas for a persuasive essay.			

Workbook: Self check pages 10–11