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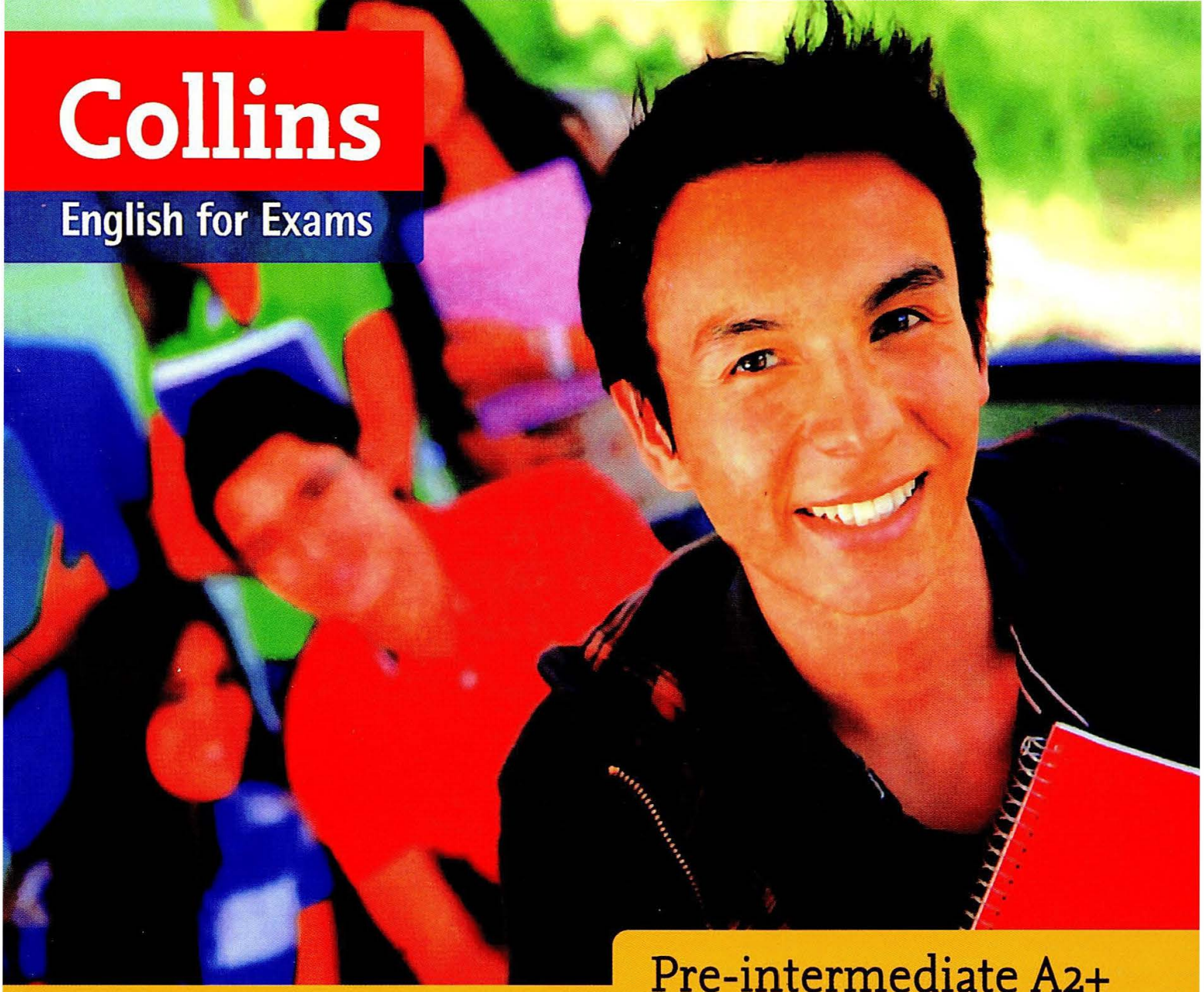

Pre-intermediate A2+

Get Ready for IELTS SPEAKING

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Rhona Snelling

with CD

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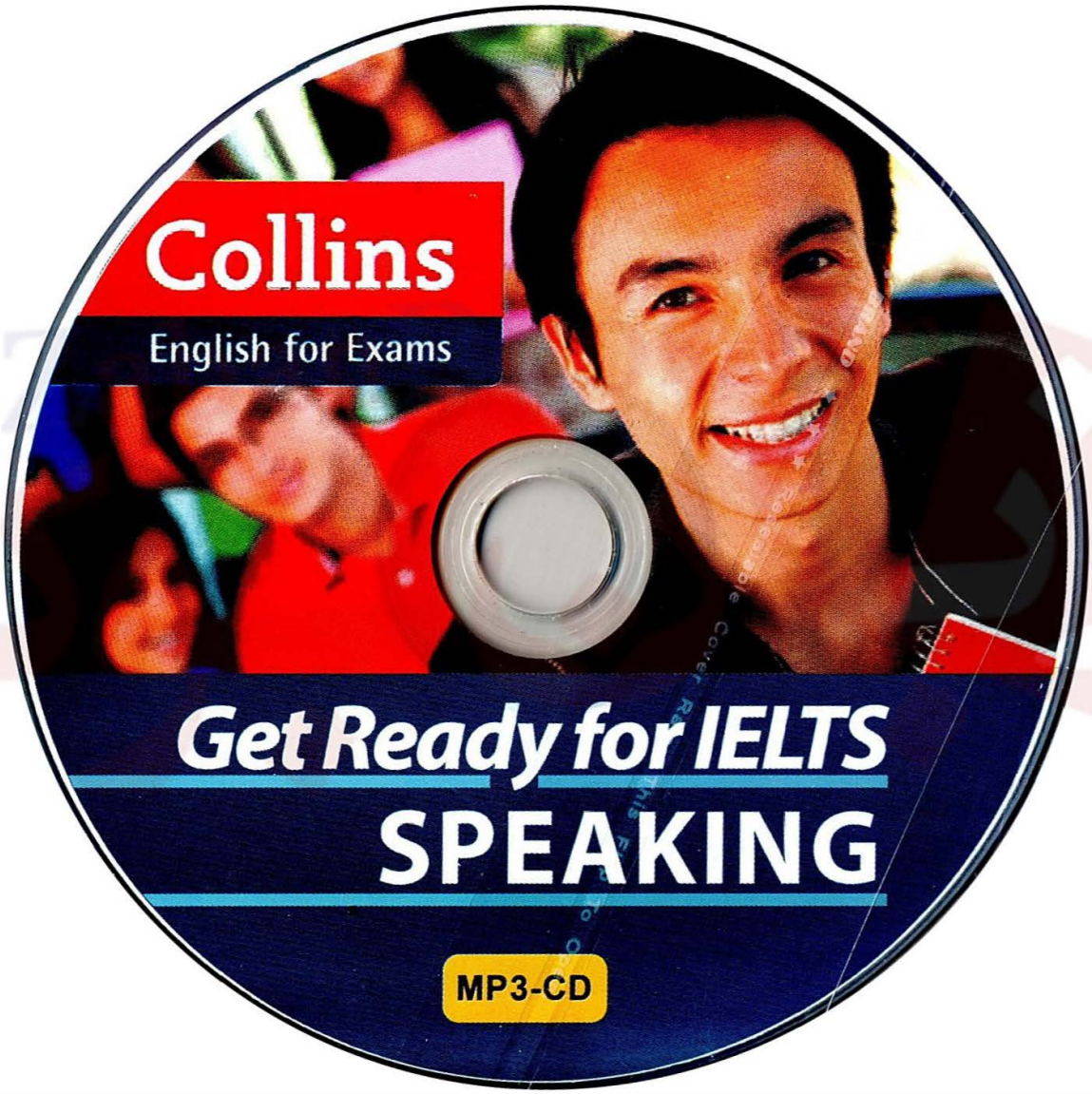

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Get Ready for IELTS

SPEAKING

Rhona Snelling

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Part 2: Skills development

Exam information

The complete Speaking test takes 11–14 minutes. The examiner asks questions and you give answers. The answers are recorded.

Part 1: Introduction and interview

- Part 1 takes 4–5 minutes.
- In the introduction, the examiner introduces himself/herself to you. The examiner asks you to confirm your identity.
- Then the interview starts. The examiner asks you questions on general topics, e.g. family, hobbies, studying.
- Part 1 tests your ability to give full answers and to give extra information on general topics with descriptions or explanations.

1 **Read the Part 1 questions 1–5 below. Match each question with the correct topic a–e.**

1	Are you a student?	**a**	Your country
2	Describe your family.	**b**	Your family
3	Which country are you from?	**c**	Your hobbies
4	What do you do?	**d**	Your studies
5	Do you do any sports?	**e**	Your work

Watch Out!

What **do** you do? = What is your **job**?

2 05 **Read and listen to the examiner's instructions in Part 1. Complete the gaps.**

Hello. My (1) ..... is Steve Smith. Could you tell me your (2) ...., please?
Thank you. Can you show me your (3) ....., please?
I'd now like to ask you some questions about yourself.
Tell me about your (4) ..... .
What does your father (5) ..... ?
(6) ..... much time do you spend with your family?
Are people in your (7) ..... close to their family?
Do you prefer to go out with your family or your (8) ..... ?
Where do you (9) ..... at the moment?

3 06 **Listen to a candidate answering a question from Exercise 2. Which question is it?**

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Part 3: Exam Practice

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1 **Read the Part 1 questions. Record your answers to the questions.**

1 Which country are you from?
2 Do you have a large family?
3 What does your mother do?
4 Do you live with your family?

2 **Listen to three more Part 1 questions. Write the questions. Then record your answers.**

07

1 .....
2 .....
3 .....

Progress check

3 **Listen to your answers to Exercises 1 and 2. Tick the boxes below to assess your answers.**

Do you ...
give a long answer?
speak at a normal speed?
use vocabulary for describing people?
use correct pronunciation?
use possessive adjectives correctly?

4 **Write sentences for each activity. Use *I like ... / I don't like ...* and an adjective from Exercise 3.**

Example: *I don't like playing computer games. I think it's very boring.*

Vocabulary: Expressing preferences

08 **5** **Listen to three people answering the question 'What do you like doing in your free time?' What does each speaker enjoy doing? Write the activities from the box.**

doing nothing | going for walks | going shopping | playing computer games | reading magazines | ~~using the Internet~~

Speaker 1	Speaker 2	Speaker 3
using the Internet		

09 **6** **Listen to extracts from the answers in Exercise 6. Complete the gaps with the phrases below.**

I don't like | I love | I prefer | I really like | It depends | My favourite thing

1 ..... using the Internet.
2 ..... chatting online with him.
3 ..... doing nothing to doing exercise.
4 ..... going to the gym.
5 ..... Sometimes I like going for walks.
6 ..... is going shopping.

Watch Out!

We can use *really* + verb to give emphasis.
I really like going to the cinema.

We cannot use *very* + verb.
~~I very like going to the cinema~~.

7 **Write a short answer to the question 'What do you like doing?' Use the phrases from Exercise 6 and the audio script on page 89 to help you.**

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Part 2: Skills development

Exam information

The complete Speaking test (Parts 1, 2 and 3) takes 11–14 minutes. The examiner asks questions and the candidate gives answers. The answers are recorded.

Part 2: Individual long turn

- Part 2 takes 3–4 minutes.
- The examiner gives you a 'task card' with written prompts. The examiner asks you to talk about the topic and include the points on the card. The topic is about a personal experience.
- You have one minute to prepare your talk, and the examiner gives you a pencil and paper to make notes.
- You talk for one to two minutes about the topic. You can use your notes to help you.
- Then the examiner asks you one or two more questions on the same topic.
- Part 2 tests your ability to talk about a topic, develop your ideas about a topic, and relevant vocabulary and grammar.

1 10 **Listen to the examiner's instructions for the task card below. What newspaper or magazine do you enjoy reading? What is the title?**

Describe a newspaper or magazine you enjoy reading.

You should say:

what kind of newspaper or magazine it is
which parts of it you read
when and where you read it

and explain why you enjoy reading it.

2 11 **Notice the underlined key words on the task card. Read the notes on each key word below. Listen to a model answer. Circle the notes that the speaker talks about.**

1	newspaper or magazine:	(magazine) | newspaper
2	what kind:	fashion | sport | travel
3	which parts:	adverts | interviews | letters | news
4	when:	every day | the weekend | sometimes
5	where:	home | school
6	explain why:	It's very interesting. | It's relaxing.

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Part 3: Exam Practice

12 **1** **Read the task card below and listen to the examiner's instructions. Underline the key words.**

> **Describe an activity you like doing.**
>
> You should say:
>
> **what activity is it**
> **where and when you do you do it**
> **who you like doing it with**
>
> And explain why you enjoy doing it.

2 **Plan your answer. Write notes for each of the key words. You have one minute for this in the exam.**

3 **Record your answer. You have one to two minutes for this in the exam.**

Progress check

4 **Listen to your answer. Tick the boxes below to assess your answers.**

Do you ...
talk about all the key words on the task card?
use vocabulary for expressing preferences?
use vocabulary for free time activities?
use the present simple?

11 Important events

AIMS: Talking about important events • Describing feelings • Pronunciation: Giving emphasis • Comparing • Skills development: Using a range of grammar • Exam practice: Part 1, Part 2, and Part 3

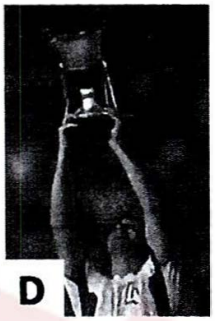
Part 1: Language development

Vocabulary: important events

A

B

C


D

1 **Match the photos to the events below. There are two extra events.**

coming of age getting married getting your first job graduating from university
travelling on your own for the first time winning a sports competition

63 **2** **Listen to John talking about one of the events in Exercise 1. Answer the questions below.**

1 What was the event?
2 Who was there?
3 How did he feel?

3 **Have you experienced one of the events in Exercise 1 or a similar event? How did you feel? Make notes. Then write a short description and record your description.**

- What was the event?
- Who was there?
- How did you feel?

Watch Out!

Learn the endings of irregular verbs: *feel – felt*

How did he feel?

I felt very excited.

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Grammar: Comparing

66 **9** **Listen to Peter comparing different events a student experiences. Match the sentence halves below. Then listen again and check.**

1	I think the most important event	**a**	undergraduates.
2	It is more important than	**b**	taking exams.
3	Graduates are happier than	**c**	for a student is graduation day.
4	Finding a job is more worrying than	**d**	end-of-year exams.

10 **Choose the correct word in each sentence.**

1. It was the *more / most* exciting day of my life.
2. I think graduation day is a *more / most* important day than your first day at school.
3. In my opinion, studying in your hometown is *better than / best* studying in another town.
4. I really like travelling with friends. It's *more / most* interesting than travelling alone.
5. My *more / most* important event at university was passing my end-of-year exams.
6. I was *happier / happiest* when I passed my driving test than when I passed my exams.
7. The first day in my job was *more / most* worrying than my first day college.

Watch Out!

Learn the different forms of adjectives:

good ➔ *better* (comparative form) ➔ *best* (superlative form)

11 **Read the statements below. Do you agree? Change the statements to make them true for you.**

1. Studying in your hometown is better than studying in another town or country.
2. People who are getting married are happier than people who are coming of age.
3. Travelling on your own is more boring than travelling with others.
4. Passing a driving test is more exciting than passing exams at school.
5. The most important event for a student is end-of-year exams.

12 **Complete the paragraph with the words below. There is one extra word.**

boring felt happier most nervous than the wasn't younger

For me, I think (1) ..... most important event in my life was passing my driving test. I am (2) ..... than all my friends and they all passed their test before me. I remember I was really (3) ..... before each of my driving lessons. I (4) ..... very good at the theory because I found it (5) ..... . I was (6) ..... driving a car (7) ..... reading about the rules. But when the day of the test came, I (8) ..... confident.

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Part 2

5 **Read the Part 2 task card below. Which grammatical phrases and tenses below would be relevant in your answer?**

present simple past simple *there is/are* *there was/were* *can/can't*
present continuous *have to* *be going to* should present perfect

Describe an enjoyable event you experienced when you were at school.

You should say:

when it happened
what was good about it
who was there

And what made it enjoyable.

68 **6** **Listen to a model answer and read the audio script on page 97. How many grammatical phrases and tenses are in the answer?**

7 **Plan your answer in one minute. Then record your answer. Try to talk for one to two minutes.**

Part 3

8 **Read the Part 3 question and answer below. Match the underlined phrases with the grammatical tenses and phrases below.**

1 obligation
2 present simple
3 comparing
4 present continuous
5 future

In your opinion, what are the most important events at school?

That's an interesting question. I think there are lots of important events. For example, the first day is an important event because you meet new friends and your teacher. You have to remember lots of names and new things. Tests are important too. Tests are usually more difficult at a new school. Finally, your last day at school is important. Thankfully, there are no more tests and you're going to start a new job or go to university. In my opinion, you're starting a new life. It's an important day to celebrate.

9 **Read the Part 3 question in Exercise 8 again and record your answer. Which grammatical tenses and phrases did you use?**

Exam tip

Listen to the grammatical tense in the Part 3 question and use this tense in the first part of your answer. Then use a range of grammatical phrases and tenses.

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Vocabulary: Describing feelings

4 **Put the pairs of adjectives below into the correct group.**

bored/boring delighted excited/exciting relaxed/relaxing satisfied/satisfying surprised/surprising terrified/terrifying tired/tiring

negative feelings	positive feelings

64 **5** **Listen to Paul talking about an important event. Circle the adjectives from Exercise 4 that you hear.**

6 **Complete the gaps with your answers from Exercise 5. Then listen again and check.**

I was very nervous before the national championships. I felt (1)..... ! We travelled to the city the night before and it was a long and (2)..... journey on the bus. We were all really (3)..... when we woke up the next day. Finally, our match started. I was (4)..... because some of the players on my team were very (5)..... . The opposition were an excellent team and the match was (6)..... , but thankfully we won! We were all (7)..... and I think our manager was (8)..... with the result. It was a really (9)..... event for me.

Watch Out!

Use adjectives ending with ***-ed*** to describe your feelings. We were all tired.

Use adjectives ending with ***-ing*** to describe a thing or an event. The match was tiring.

Pronunciation: Giving emphasis

65 **7** **Listen to the sentences. Which word has the most stress in each sentence?**

1 I was very bored at my brother's graduation.
2 I feel really tired at the end of the week.
3 I was very surprised when I passed all my exams.
4 I felt really excited when I travelled on my own.

65 **8** **Listen again and repeat. Remember to stress *really* and *very* to give emphasis.**

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12 Possessions

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AIMS: Describing objects • Pronunciation: linking words • Present perfect with *for* and *since* • Skills development: Using a range of grammar • Exam practice: Part 1, Part 2, and Part 3

Part 1: Language development

Vocabulary: objects

A

B

C

D

1 **Look at the photos above. Which of the objects do you own? Which would you like to own? Why?**

2 **Match some of the words below to the objects in the photos.**

black	glass	green	large	leather	metal	modern
new	old-fashioned	plastic	red	silver	small	wood

3 **Add the words from Exercise 2 to the table below.**

size	age	colour	material

72 **4** **Listen to two people talking about their favourite possessions. What is the object? Which words do they use to describe the objects?**

Watch Out!

Put adjectives in the correct order:

(1) size, (2) age, (3) colour, (4) material: a small, brown, leather bag.

Part 2: Skills development

Exam information

The Speaking test assesses your ability to use a range of relevant grammar to talk about the different IELTS topics.

Part 1

Exam tip

Listen carefully to the examiner's question in Part 1. What is the grammatical tense? Answer with the best tense: past, present or future.

1 **Read the Part 1 questions and choose the correct answer (a or b). What is the mistake in the other answer?**

1 Did you play any sports when you were a child?
   - **a** Yes, I play lots of sports.
   - **b** Yes, I played lots of sports.

2 What do you usually do on the internet?
   - **a** I use the internet for chatting online and buying things.
   - **b** I'm using the internet for chatting online and buying things.

3 Do you like travelling?
   - **a** Yes, I love travelling. I'm going to go on a round-the-world trip next year and I'm really excited.
   - **b** Yes, I love travelling. I'm going go on a round-the-world trip next year and I'm really excited.

4 Are you a student or do you have a job?
   - **a** I'm a student. I've been a student at university since two years.
   - **b** I'm a student. I've been a student at university for two years.

67 **2** **Listen to five Part 1 questions and choose the best beginning (a or b) for each answer.**

1	**a** It was in ...	**b** It is in ...
2	**a** I was ...	**b** I am ...
3	**a** I watched ...	**b** I watch ...
4	**a** I studied ...	**b** I'm studying ...
5	**a** I chose ...	**b** I choose ...

3 **Now listen again and answer the questions.**

4 **Listen to your answers. Did you use the best tense? Use your answers in Exercise 2 to help you.**

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Grammar: Present perfect with *for* and *since*

11 **Listen and complete the sentences with the correct past participles and *for* or *since*.**

74

1 I've ..... my mobile ..... about three months.
2 I've ..... this guitar ..... 2002.
3 I've ..... this laptop ..... a year.
4 I've ..... this photo in my bag ..... my graduation.
5 I've ..... this watch ..... years.
6 I've ..... a new car ..... I passed my driving test.

12 **Answer the questions below. Use the present perfect with *for* or *since* in your answers.**

What important object have you ...
... owned since you were a child?
... used for years?
... had for a few months?
... wanted since you were a teenager?

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Watch Out!

Use the past simple for a finished event in the past.

I bought it last year.

13 **Complete the text with the words below. There are two extra words.**

bought	carry	favourite	had	important	it
green	modern	possessions	reminds	wear	

I've got lots of really great (1) ..... . But I think my (2) ..... possession is my coat. I got (3) .....for my graduation and celebrate getting my degree. I've (4) ..... it for two years. My parents (5) ..... it for me and I was really surprised. It's beautiful. It's a (6) ....., black, leather coat. It's (7) ..... to me because I know my parents were very proud. It (8) ..... me of studying for my degree and my time at university. I only (9) ..... it for special occasions because it's really expensive.

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Part 3: Exam Practice

Part 1

69 **1** **Listen to five Part 1 questions. Record your answer to each question.**

1. Do you come from a large family?
2. Did you have a favourite teacher at school?
3. Do you have any hobbies?
4. Describe your hometown.
5. What's your experience of travelling to other countries?

Part 2

70 **2** **Listen to and read the Part 2 task card below. Plan your answer. You have one minute for this in the exam. Then record your answer. You have one to two minutes for this in the exam.**

Describe an important event in your life.

You should say:

what the event was
where and when it took place
who was there

And explain what made it important to you.

3 **Answer the questions below to complete Part 2. Record your answer.**

1. Do you think it's important to remember these types of event?
2. Do you think planned events are more enjoyable than events that aren't planned?

Part 3

71 **4** **Listen to four Part 3 questions. Answer the questions and record your answers.**

Progress check

5 **Listen to your answers. Tick the boxes below to assess your answers.**

Do you ...

use a range of grammatical phrases and tenses in your answers? ☐
use vocabulary for talking about important events? ☐
use the correct endings of irregular verbs? ☐
use vocabulary for describing feelings? ☐
use intonation for giving emphasis? ☐
use comparing language? ☐

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5 **Complete the tips below about how to demonstrate your range of vocabulary.**

adverbs	describing	repeat	similar	topic

1 Revise ..... vocabulary from earlier units.
2 Do not ..... words when you are ..... something.
3 Try to use words with ..... meanings, e.g. adjectives or ..... .

6 **Read the Part 2 task card below and plan your answer for one minute. Use the tips from Exercise 5 to help you. Then record your answer.**

Talk about a photograph you took.

You should say:

when you took it
who was there
what it shows

And why you like this particular photograph.

7 **Complete the tips below about how to demonstrate good pronunciation.**

clearly	model	pronunciation	repeat	stress	suitable

1 Listen to the ..... answers in the book and ..... the answers. Try to sound like the speakers.
2 Learn the correct ..... and word ..... of all new words.
3 Practise using ..... intonation in your answers.
4 Remember to speak ..... and at a natural pace.

8 **Read the Part 1 and part 3 questions below and think about your answers. Use the tips from Exercise 10 to help you. Then record your answers.**

1 Can you describe your family?
2 What do you like doing in your free time?
3 Have you planned any holidays?
4 Do you think your country is good for tourists?
5 Many people think that young people today are not healthy. Do you agree?

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Review 4

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1 **Unscramble the words to make healthy activities.**

1 do strops .....
2 do *oyag* .....
3 eat *lewl* .....
4 have a *aheltyh* diet .....
5 play a *sculiam* instrument .....
6 play board *sagem* .....
7 play *nirba* training games .....
8 sleep for eight *ushor* every night .....

2 **Cross out the incorrect word in each sentence.**

1 I like doing yoga. It's *hard / healthy / keep your mind active.*
2 It's important to *challenging / relax after college / work in a team.*
3 It makes me feel *great / happy / keep fit.*

3 **Match topics (a–c) with two pieces of advice: one with *should* and one with *shouldn't*.**

a getting fit
b healthy diet
c feeling stressed

1 Doing yoga makes me feel relaxed. You should try it.
2 You should always eat well.
3 You shouldn't drive everywhere. You can walk or cycle.
4 You shouldn't study late at night. It's bad for you.
5 You shouldn't eat junk food. It's bad for you.
6 You should try to do more exercise.

4 **Complete the important events with the missing word.**

1 c ..... of age
2 g ..... married
3 g ..... your first job
4 g ..... from university
5 t ..... on your own for the first time
6 w ..... a sports competition

5 **Add the words to the table.**

bored delighted excited happy nervous relaxed satisfied terrified tired

positive feelings	
negative feelings	

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Unit 6

autumn **n.** – the season between summer and winter

cold **adj.** – having a low temperature

dry season **n.** – the time of year in some parts of the world when there is very little rain

hot **adj.** – having a high temperature

last **v.** – If something lasts, it continues to exist or happen.

monsoon season **n.** – the time of year in some parts of the world when there is very heavy rain

rain **n.** – water falling from the clouds in small drops

rainy **adj.** – When it is rainy, there is a lot of rain.

snowy **adj.** – When it is snowy, there is snow.

spring **n.** – Spring is the season between winter and summer.

stormy **adj.** – When it is stormy, there is heavy rain and strong winds.

summer **n.** – Summer is the season between spring and autumn.

sunny **adj.** – When it is sunny, the sun is shining.

thunderstorm **n.** – a storm in which there is thunder and lightning

wet **adj.** – If something is wet, it is covered in water or another liquid.

windy **adj.** – If it is windy, there is a lot of wind.

winter **n.** – Winter is the season between autumn and spring.

Unit 7

art **n.** – Art is the creation of objects such as paintings and sculptures, which are thought to be beautiful or which express a particular idea; also used to refer to the objects themselves

business studies **n.** – the study of how to set up and manage businesses

computer science **n.** – the study of computers and computer programming

engineering **n.** – Engineering is the profession of designing and constructing machinery and electrical devices, or roads and bridges.

history **n.** – History is the study of the past. A history is a record of the past.

law **n.** – The law is the system of rules developed by the government of a country, which regulate what people may and may not do and deals with people who break these rules.

linguistics **n.** – Linguistics is the study of language and of how it works.

literature **n.** – Literature consists of novels, plays, and poetry.

mathematics **n.** – Mathematics is the study of numbers, quantities, and shapes.

medicine **n.** – Medicine is the treatment of illness and injuries by doctors and nurses.

Unit 8

businessman **n.** – a man who works in business

chef **n.** – a head cook in a restaurant or hotel

lawyer **n.** – a person who is qualified in law, and whose job is to advise people about the law and represent them in court

nurse **n.** – a person whose job is to look after people who are ill

police officer **n.** – a member of the police

personal assistant **n.** – someone who works for a senior person in an organization, and helps them do their job

teacher **n.** – a person who teaches other people, especially children

volunteer **n.** – someone who does work for which they are not paid

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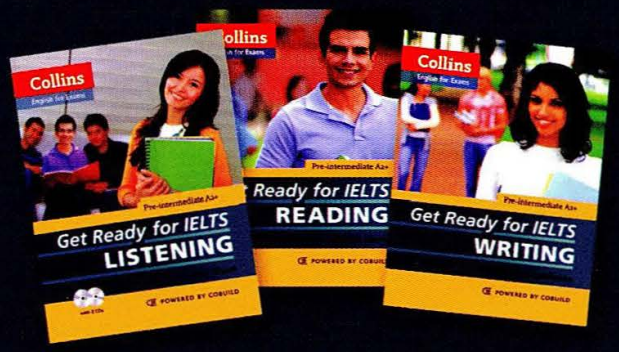

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