

2 B

G present perfect continuous
V strong adjectives: *exhausted, amazed*, etc.
P sentence stress, strong adjectives

Changing your life

1 LISTENING

- a Answer the questions in pairs.
- If you could spend a year working or studying in another country, which country would you choose? Why?
 - What would you like to do there?
 - What problems do you think you might have?
- b Read about Karen and describe what you can see in the photos.
- c **2.6** Listen to Karen and answer the questions.
- Why did she choose Beirut?
 - Why did she want to take a year off?
 - Who is Omayma?
 - Why does Karen say Arabic is a difficult language?
 - How long has Karen been teaching belly dancing?
 - How do her students feel about an English woman teaching them belly dancing?
 - What does she like most about living in Lebanon?
- d Compare your answers with a partner. Then listen again to check.

'My name's Karen and I'm a primary school teacher. A few months ago, I decided to change my life. I took a year off and went to live in Beirut with my husband, Mike, who's an English teacher.'



2 GRAMMAR present perfect continuous with *for / since*

- a **2.7** Listen and complete these questions and answers from the interview with Karen.
- How long have you been _____ here?
 - I've been _____ and _____ since I was little.
 - What have you been _____ here since you arrived?
 - I've been _____ classes with her since October.
 - I've been _____ belly dancing for about six years.
- b Look at sentences 1–5 and answer the questions.
- Are the verbs action or non-action verbs?
 - Do they refer to single actions or continuous / repeated actions?
 - Do they refer to a completed action or one which is still happening?
- c **p.132 Grammar Bank 2B.** Read the rules for present perfect continuous for unfinished actions. Do exercise a only.

3 PRONUNCIATION sentence stress

▲ An important part of clear communication in English is stressing the words in a sentence which carry the information, and not stressing the other ones.

- a 28 Dictation. Listen to five sentences. Try to write down the stressed words. Look at the words and try to remember the whole sentence. Then listen again and write the complete sentences.
- b 29 Listen and copy the rhythm.
- 1 I've been living here for two years.
 - 2 How long have you been learning English?
 - 3 She's been working in Italy since October.
 - 4 How long have you been waiting?
 - 5 It's been raining all night.
 - 6 We've been looking for a flat for ages.

4 SPEAKING

a Look at the circles, and write something in as many as you can.



A sport you play regularly (or a kind of exercise you do regularly)



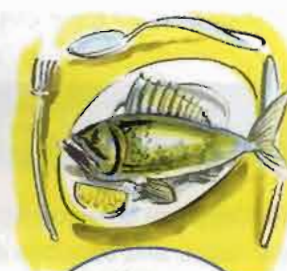
Something you are learning (to do)



A friend you know very well



A magazine / newspaper you read regularly



A bar or restaurant you often go to



A thing you have which is very important for you



A club, organization, gym, etc. you are a member of



The make of car you drive



The place where you live

b Compare circles with a partner. Ask your partner at least three questions about the things they've written. One question must be *How long have you...?*

▲ Remember after *How long...?* with action verbs, e.g. *play*, use present perfect continuous, with non-action verbs, e.g. *know*, use present perfect simple.

How long have you been playing volleyball? — Since I was about 15.

How often do you play?

5 READING

- a Can you think of one way that a holiday could change your life for the better?
- b You're going to read an article about two people whose lives were changed by a holiday. Work in pairs. A read about Victoria, B about Sally.
- c In pairs, take turns to tell each other about the two women. Answer these questions.
 What is she doing now?
 What was she doing before?
 What made her change her life?
 How does she feel now?
- d Read the text that you didn't read before. Did your partner leave out any important information?

- e In pairs, try to guess the meaning of the highlighted words. Then match them with their definitions below.

First text

- 1 of little importance _____
- 2 crazy _____
- 3 a person who looks after animals (e.g. in a zoo) _____
- 4 animals like large monkeys _____
- 5 not looked after well _____

Second text

- 6 the London underground _____
- 7 very tasty _____
- 8 asked for (in writing) _____
- 9 burning brightly _____
- 10 very small _____

- f Whose life do you think has changed the most? Which of the two holidays would you choose?

It was just a holiday, but it changed my life

Holidays can be good for your health. You lie on a beach and relax, and tensions disappear. But sometimes a holiday can change your life completely, which is what happened two years ago to Victoria Smith and Sally Gook.

Victoria Smith, six years ago, was working as a manager at Next, a British chain store. Then she went on holiday to Borneo...

'It was a working holiday,' said Victoria, 'where you could study orang-utans in the wild – I have always been interested in apes, so I thought it would be fun.' The holiday was wonderful, and when Victoria came home she found it very difficult to return to her old life. 'Suddenly the problems in the store just seemed so trivial.' Although everybody told her she was mad, she decided to go back to university and study biology. Four years later she became a chimpanzee keeper.

For the last two years Victoria has been working at Monkey World, a centre in south-west England which looks after apes which have been ill-treated. Many have been rescued from laboratories and circuses all over the world. She works long hours, and the pay isn't very good, but she loves it. 'Apes are like a big family, each with their own personality.'



'I'm really happy now. Since I started working here I feel that I've been doing something important, not just wasting my life.'

'I feel I've been doing something important.'



'Suddenly I knew there was a different life waiting for me.'

Sally Gook wakes up every morning to a deep blue sky and blazing sun. For the last two years she has been living on the tiny Greek island of Lipsi, which is only 16 square kilometres in size and has a population of just 650.

But until a few years ago she lived in London. 'I was working for American Express and I had a good social life and earned a lot of money. But I had to get up very early every morning, often in horrible weather, and get a train and the tube to work.'

Then one day she and a friend decided they needed a relaxing holiday, and they came to Lipsi. 'I loved it – the people, the mountains, the sun, and the delicious food. Suddenly I knew there was a different life waiting for me here.' A few months later she applied for a job at the travel company which had organized her holiday.

Since then she has been living on Lipsi and working as a tourist guide. Her boyfriend, who is Greek, is a farmer. Sally said, 'I've only been back to London once, and I can't imagine ever living there again.'

Adapted from the British press

6 VOCABULARY & PRONUNCIATION strong adjectives

a Write synonyms for the strong adjectives.

Strong adjectives

- 1 The island's **tiny** – only 16 square kilometres.
- 2 The food in Lipsi was **delicious**.
- 3 Her father's **furious**. She crashed his car.
- 4 I'm **terrified** of flying. I never travel by plane.
- 5 I've been working all day. I'm **exhausted**.
- 6 It's going to be **boiling** tomorrow – about 40°!
- 7 Can I have a sandwich? I'm **starving**.
- 8 The flat's **enormous**. It's got five bedrooms.
- 9 I'm not going to swim. The water's **freezing**.
- 10 Your car's **filthy**. Why don't you wash it?
- 11 That's a **great** idea! Let's do it.
- 12 This book's **awful**. I can't finish it.

Normal adjectives

- = very *small* _____
- = very *tasty* _____
- = very _____
- = very _____
- = very _____
- = very _____
- = very _____
- = very _____
- = very _____
- = very _____
- = very _____
- = very _____

b Cover a. Complete the responses with a strong adjective.

- 1 Are you hungry? Yes, I'm *starving* _____.
- 2 Was your mother angry? Yes, she was _____.
- 3 Is her flat small? Yes, it's _____.
- 4 Are you tired? Yes, I'm _____.
- 5 Is the floor dirty? Yes, it's _____.
- 6 Are you afraid of spiders? Yes, I'm _____ of them.

c **2.10** Listen and check. Are the strong adjectives stressed? Listen again and repeat.

d **Communication** Are you hungry? Yes, I'm starving! A p.116 B p.119.

7 GRAMMAR present perfect continuous (for recent continuous actions)

a Look at the pictures. How do the people look? What do you think has been happening?



b **2.11** Listen and check. What have they been doing? Complete the sentences.

- 1 Sharon and Kenny _____.
- 2 The man _____.
- 3 The man and woman _____ and _____.

c **p.132 Grammar Bank 2B.** Read the rules for present perfect continuous for recent continuous actions. Do exercise b.

d Look at the adjectives and imagine that you are *exhausted*, *filthy*, etc. Think of an explanation for each one. Then in pairs, invent a short dialogue using each adjective.

exhausted filthy furious
very stressed very red

Hi. You look exhausted.
What have you been doing?

I've been working in the garden.

2A present perfect and past simple

present perfect simple: *have / has + past participle (worked, seen, etc.)*

past experiences	recent past actions	with <i>yet</i> and <i>already</i> (for emphasis)
I've been to London, but I haven't been to Oxford. She's never met his ex-wife. Have you ever lost your credit card?	I've cut my finger! He's just arrived at the airport.	I've already done my homework. Can I watch TV? Have you finished yet ? My brother hasn't found a new job yet .

- We often use *ever* and *never* when we ask or talk about past experiences. They go before the main verb.
- *just* and *already* go before the main verb in (+) sentences, *yet* goes at the end of the phrase in (-) sentences and (?).
- For irregular past participles see Irregular verbs p.156.

unfinished states (non-action verbs) which start in the past and are still true now

- A They've **known** each other **for** 10 years.
B How long **have** they **been** married?
A **Since** 2004.

- Use *How long...?* + present perfect to ask about an unfinished period of time (from the past until now).
- Use *for* + a period of time, e.g. *for two weeks*, or *since* with a point of time, e.g. *since 1990*.

present perfect or past simple?

I've been to Madrid twice. (= in my life up to now) How long have you been married to Alan? (= you are married to Alan now)	I went there in 1998 and 2002. (= on two specific occasions) How long were you married to Jake? (= you are not married to Jake now)
I've (just) bought a new computer. (= I don't say exactly when)	I bought it on Saturday. (= I say when)

- Use the present perfect when there is a connection between the past and the present.
- Use the past simple to ask or talk about **finished** actions in the past, when the time is mentioned or understood. We often use a past time expression, e.g. *January, last week, etc.*

2B present perfect continuous

present perfect continuous for unfinished actions

How long **have** you **been learning** English?
He's **been working** here since April.
They've **been going out** together for three years.

- *have / has been + verb + -ing*
- Use the present perfect continuous with *for* and *since* with **action verbs** (e.g. *learn, go, etc.*).

⚠ With **non-action verbs** (e.g. *know, be, etc.*) use the present perfect simple NOT the present perfect continuous with *for* and *since*.

I've known her for ages. NOT I've been knowing her for ages.

With *live* and *work* you can use the present perfect simple or continuous with *for* and *since*.

I've been living here for six months.
I've lived here for six months.

present perfect continuous for recent continuous actions

- A Your eyes are red. **Have you been crying**?
B No, I've **been cutting** onions.

- Use the present perfect continuous for actions which have been going on very recently. They have usually just stopped.

2C comparatives and superlatives

comparing two things (or actions)

My sister is a bit **taller than** me.
London is **more expensive than** Edinburgh.
This test is **less difficult than** the last one.

Olive oil is **better for you than** butter.
You drive **more slowly than** me.
Liverpool played **worse today than** last week.

Flying isn't as **comfortable as** going by train.
He doesn't smoke as **much as** she does.
Her new car looks **the same as** the old one.

- Regular comparative adjectives / adverbs:
hard > harder, big > bigger, easy > easier, modern > more modern, difficult > more difficult, carefully > more carefully
- Irregular comparative adjectives / adverbs: *good / well > better, bad / badly > worse, far > further*
- After *than* or *as* we can use an object pronoun *me, him, her, etc.* or a subject pronoun (*I, he, she*) + auxiliary verb, e.g. *She's taller than me* OR *She's taller than I am* but NOT *She's taller than I*.

superlatives

He's **the tallest** player in the team.
Oslo is **the most expensive** capital city in Europe.
This book is **the least difficult** to understand.
She's **the best** student in the class.

Who drives **the most carefully** in your family?
That's **the worst** they've ever played.

- Form superlatives like comparatives but use *-est* instead or *-er* and *most / least* instead of *more / less*.
- You normally use *the* before superlatives, but you can also use possessive adjectives, e.g. *my best friend, their most famous song*.

2A

a Correct the mistakes in the highlighted phrases.

I've never saw *Star Wars*. I've never seen

- 1 He left quite early but he yet hasn't arrived.
- 2 We don't see each other since we left school.
- 3 Have you ever wrote a poem?
- 4 She have never been to Istanbul.
- 5 I've lent him €50 last week, but he hasn't paid me back yet.
- 6 I don't see them often but I've known them since ten years.
- 7 What year have you left school?
- 8 We're lost. We already have been down this road twice.
- 9 I sent her an email last week, but she doesn't reply yet.
- 10 They live in that house since 1980.

b Complete the dialogues with the past simple or present perfect. *I've already seen* that film twice. (already / see)

- 1 A How long _____ at university? (you / be)
B I _____ two years ago. I'm in my third year now. (start)
- A Do you live with your parents?
B I _____ with them for the first two years but then I _____ into a student hostel last September and I _____ there since then. (live, move, live)
- 2 A _____ a job yet? (your brother / find)
B Yes, he _____ work in a hotel. (just / start)
- 3 A _____ to Nobu – that new Japanese restaurant? (you / ever / be)
B Yes, we _____ there for my birthday. (go)
A What was it like?
B The food _____ fantastic but it _____ a fortune! (be, cost)

2B

a Make sentences with the present perfect continuous (and *for / since* if necessary).

she / work there / 2003 ⊕

She's been working there since 2003.

- 1 how long / they / go out together ?
- 2 I / study English / two years ⊕
- 3 he / feel very well recently ⊖
- 4 you / read that book / months! ⊕
- 5 you / wait / a long time ?
- 6 we / spend much time together ⊖
- 7 how long / she / live there ?
- 8 I / rent this flat / three years. ⊕
- 9 the lift / work / 10 o'clock ⊖
- 10 she / work here / a long time ?

b Complete with a verb from the list in the present perfect continuous.

bark cry do eat play shop not sleep watch

A Your sister's lost a lot of weight!

B Yes. She *'s been eating* a lot less recently.

1 A Your eyes are red. _____ you _____?

B Yes. I _____ a sad film.

2 A It's very late. Why aren't you in bed?

B I can't sleep. That dog _____ for the last two hours.

3 A You look tired.

B I know. I _____ well recently.

4 A Wow! You've bought a lot of things!

B Yes, we _____ all day.

5 A You look hot! What _____ you _____?

B I _____ in the garden with the children.

2C

a Complete with one word.

She's much more intelligent than her brother.

- 1 He's not as clever _____ he thinks he is.
- 2 It's _____ best book I've read for a long time.
- 3 The journey took longer _____ we expected.
- 4 I think it was the saddest film I've _____ seen.
- 5 Is Texas the biggest state _____ the USA?
- 6 He's the _____ selfish person I've ever met.
- 7 Your watch is the same _____ mine.
- 8 My father speaks _____ quickly than I do.
- 9 We don't go swimming _____ often as we did before.
- 10 Her brother's about 10 and she's a year younger than _____.

b Complete with the comparative or superlative of the bold word.

Mexican food is much spicier than American food. **spicy**

1 It's _____ than it was this time last year. **hot**

2 Jan's _____ of all my sisters. **competitive**

3 He's _____ person in the office. **lazy**

4 He looks much _____ with shorter hair. **good**

5 I sat next to _____ person at the party! **boring**

6 Could we meet a bit _____ tomorrow? **early**

7 It was _____ film I've seen this year. **bad**

8 Sue is _____ member of my family. **ambitious**

9 The _____ way to travel is by train. **safe**

10 The beach was _____ from the hotel than we expected. **far**