First Impressions
Learning outcomes

By the end of this unit, I will be able to:

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Describe a person from a photo.
Understand and challenge stereotypes.
Scan an article to choose correct summary.
Discuss how to make a good first impression in social and work contexts.
Understand the meaning of 10 personality adjectives and match them with descriptions:
- cautious, eccentric, flexible, genuine, mean, moody, naive, sympathetic, trustworthy, witty

Choose the correct present simple or continuous form to describe:
1. Habits/routines.
2. A state.
3. Actions happening now.
4. Temporary situations.
5. Arrangements in the future.
6. Use will + infinitive for unplanned decisions, predictions.
7. Going to + infinitive for plans.
8. Use past simple and continuous forms correctly.

Spell correctly:
- abbreviate, acquaintance, accommodation, boast, colleague, responsible

Use 10 topic-linked phrasal verbs in context:
- takes after, looks up to, growing up, showing off, bringing us up, get on, going out with, split up, fallen out, make up.

Name ................................................................. Date .................................
Reading

i a Read the article quickly and tick the best summary (1–3).

1 It tells the story of Susan Boyle’s life and rise to stardom as a singer. □
2 It argues that we shouldn’t judge people until we get to know them. □
3 It uses the story of Susan Boyle to show that we often judge people by appearances. □

b Find the words and phrases from the box in the article and match them with the definitions (1–12).

solely instant tendency bemused self-deluded wannabe gasp homely soaring standing ovation dichotomy prodigious

1 difference between two things or ideas
2 somebody who would like to be a star
3 having a false impression of one’s own talent
4 a short sudden noise when you breathe in
5 rising, getting higher and higher
6 only, exclusively
7 ordinary-looking, not very attractive
8 showing approval of a performance by standing up and applauding
9 immediate
10 likelihood, something which often happens
11 rare, unusual, very talented
12 slightly confused, unable to understand

c Read the article again and answer the questions (1–8).
1 What is the ‘well-known saying’ referred to in the first paragraph?

2 Why do scientists think judging by appearances was necessary for early humans?

3 Where is Susan Boyle from?

4 What was watched 200 million times on YouTube?

5 How was Susan Boyle different from the usual contestants on Britain’s Got Talent?

6 What was the audience’s first impression of Susan Boyle?

7 What made the audience change its opinion of Susan?

8 According to the article, what does Susan Boyle’s story prove?
Grammar | overview (1): the present and future

2. Complete the sentences using appropriate forms of the words in brackets.

1. I'm not sure, but I think I ________ the salad. (try)
2. We're so excited about our holiday – we ________ the Taj Mahal! (see)
3. Some form of life ________ even in the deepest parts of the ocean. (exist)
4. I ________ my husband's car this week because mine is at the garage. (use)
5. Peter hates buses so he ________ by car. (probably / come)
6. The company ________ the factory for a month every August. (close)
7. Look at those dark clouds, I think there ________ a storm. (be)
8. We ________ our grandmother every Sunday. (visit)
9. Don't disturb me – I ________ the news. (watch)
10. Look in the bottom drawer; that's where we ________ our insurance documents. (keep)
11. I can't see you next Tuesday because I ________ a conference. (attend)
12. We haven't set an exact date, but the wedding ________ sometime in the spring. (probably / be)

Vocabulary | ways of speaking

3. Use the clues to complete the crossword.

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1. People ______ each other differently in different cultures.
2. You really shouldn't ______ about other people behind their back.
3. I can hardly hear you – could you ______ up?
4. When I'm nervous I often ______ over my words.
5. Everyone enjoys being given a ______.
6. Let's have a ______ about it tomorrow.
7. Parties can make you nervous if you're not good at ______ talk.
8. I can't stand people who ______ about how much money they've got.
9. Don't ______. I can't hear what you're saying.

How to... | make a good first impression

4. Complete the dialogue with words and phrases from the box.

A: Hi. I'm Karl, your new neighbour.
B: (1) ________ to meet you. My name's Sophie.
A: It's (2) ________ to meet you too. It's so important to know your neighbours, don't you think?
B: Absolutely. (3) ________?
A: Just a few days ago.
B: Well, it's a lovely area.
A: I know. (4) ________?
B: Oh, yes. Ten years.
A: (5) ________?
B: Yes. I moved here when I got a job at the university.
A: That (6) ________.
B: Yes, I really enjoy working there. What (7) ________?
A: I'm a social worker.
B: (8) ________? That must be a fascinating job!
A: Sometimes, but I have to deal with people with serious problems so it can also be quite stressful.
B: (9) ________. But I suppose it's nice to know you are helping people.
A: Yes, it's satisfying.
B: Well, it's been (10) ________ to you. You should come over for coffee at the weekend and I can tell you all about our other neighbours.
A: That would be great...
Find the mistakes in the underlined verb tenses and correct them.
1. I enjoyed my first class and I'm sure I make some new friends.
2. He'll meet some new classmates after school in a café at 5:30.
3. She is always arriving early on the first day of a new course.
4. I've decided that I study harder this term than before.
5. My cousin lives with us at the moment – just for three years while he's at university.
6. I think I'm having a lot of homework to do this year.
7. We've got a really good teacher this term. I'm really liking her.
8. He'll listen to some music at the same time as studying right now.

Vocabulary | ways of speaking

Work in pairs. Find the verb phrases in the box in the website on page 8. Try to explain the meaning of each by looking at the sentences around the verb phrases.

- chat
- gossip
- make small talk
- greet someone
- give someone a compliment
- boast
- mumble
- speak up
- talk down to someone
- stumble over your words

a. Choose the correct words in italics.
1. I spend at least an hour every day chatting/making small talk to friends on the phone.
2. People always respond positively when you talk down to them/give them a compliment.
3. 'Hobbies' and 'the weather' are the best two topics when you have to make small talk/boost.
4. When I was a teenager, I talked down/mumbled a lot and people couldn't understand what I was saying.
5. I think it's particularly upsetting to hear people mumbling/talking down to elderly people.
6. I get nervous when I speak in public and I stumble over my words/speak up.
7. I make a point of always mumbling to/greeting my neighbours in the street.
8. Boasting/Mumbling about your possessions is worse than about your achievements.
9. I often can't hear people on my mobile and I ask them to speak up/talk down.
10. Greeting/Gossiping and talking about people behind their backs can be very hurtful.

b. How true are the statements for you? Discuss with other students. Give reasons for your opinions.

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**Grammar | overview (i): the present and future**

Look at the underlined verbs in the sentences from the website. Match them with the uses (a–j) in the Active grammar box.

1. I'm reading a book at the moment.
2. Our minds unconsciously say, 'I really like you' or 'I'll avoid you'.
3. That's what I'm going to do next time I meet someone new.
4. I always wear clothes that make me feel good.
5. I work in a big company.
6. As I'm writing this, I'm nervous.
7. I'm going to meet lots of new classmates.
8. I'm meeting her before the class.
9. I think it'll be fine though.
10. Most people are nervous in new situations.

**Active grammar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use Present Simple for:</th>
<th>a) habits/routines</th>
<th>b) describing a state</th>
<th>c) things that are permanent/always true</th>
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<td>Use Present Continuous for:</td>
<td>d) things that are happening now, at this precise moment</td>
<td>e) temporary situations that are happening around now</td>
<td>f) arrangements in the future</td>
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<td>Use will + infinitive for:</td>
<td>g) unplanned decisions (made while speaking)</td>
<td>h) predictions based on what you think or believe</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Use going to + infinitive for:</td>
<td>i) plans and intentions</td>
<td>j) predictions based on what you know or can see/hear now</td>
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We do not usually use state verbs in the continuous form (e.g. like, think, want, need).
1 1.8 Read and listen to Tim's girlfriend (Mandy) and his sister (Gill). Answer the questions.
1 Who is Gill's boyfriend?
2 Who has made Gill upset?
M: So, do you think Tim takes after his dad?
G: Well, I suppose so, in some ways.
M: How?
G: Well, I mean, they're both very stubborn.
M: That's for sure. It runs in the family.
G: But you know Tim really looks up to him. He always has, right from when we were kids and while we were growing up. I remember he used to always be showing off to him, trying to get his attention, one way or another.
M: And how about you?
G: Oh, I suppose I was always closer to my mum. She didn't have an easy time, bringing us up. Dad wasn't around much.
M: And how did you and Tim get on?
G: Oh really well... except when he'd put spiders in my bed!
M: And how's life with you now?
G: Not bad. You know I'm going out with Kevin?
M: Oh yes? But, it's not so long since you split up with Max, is it?
G: Hey... it's nearly six months, and anyway, I've known Kevin for ages, it's just that it's never seemed to be the right time before.
M: And, how's Sally?
G: Oh... Sally. Well, we've kind of fallen out.
M: Really? Why? What happened?
G: Well, it's a long story but, in a nutshell, I told her something pretty sensitive about me and things going on at work.
M: Yes?...
G: And then I found out she'd talked about it to some other friends.
M: Oh no!
G: Yeah, I was really upset about it.
M: Do you think you'll be able to make up?
G: I'm really not sure...

2 a. Work in pairs. From the context, think about the meaning of each underlined phrasal verb and write a short definition. 
- take after - to look or behave like someone in your family
b. Check your ideas in a dictionary.

3 Find the mistake in each sentence and correct it.
1 How long have you and your girlfriend been going out with?
2 You don't get on your boss very well, do you?
3 We made it up after we both agreed how silly we had been.
4 I think our parents did a great job of bringing us up with very little money.
5 David really looks up to. He thinks you're amazing.
6 Who do you take them after in your family, your mum or your dad?
7 I wish you would grow out and start behaving like an adult!
8 John's fallen out his brother again. I think his brother owes him some money.
9 Why did he tell us how much money he earns? I hate it when people show on like that.
10 Why did you and Lorraine split it up? I thought you were quite happy together.

4 a. Read the statements (1–5). Which are true for you? Change the others to make them true for you.
1 Of all the people in my family, I probably get on best with my dad because we're so similar.
2 I take after my grandmother in lots of ways. We both love travel and discovering new places.
3 In my opinion, couples should go out for at least two years before they get married.
4 If I have children in the future, I'll probably bring them up in much the same way that my parents brought me up.
5 I really look up to my grandfather. He's incredibly kind and always ready to listen to you if you have a problem.

b Work in pairs. Compare your answers and give details and examples.
1A Match the adjectives in the box with descriptions 1–10.

- cautious eccentric flexible genuine mean moody
- naive sympathetic trustworthy witty

1. My friend always has time for me when I've got a problem. She seems to understand and wants to help.
2. Cheung always takes a long time to make up his mind and he's careful to avoid problems or danger.
3. Joe thought his first job would be easy and people would be nice. He soon learnt differently!
4. I really like your fiancé – he seems honest and sincere.
5. Lucia makes me laugh a lot. She's very quick-thinking and clever with words.
6. My last teacher wasn't very kind. She often laughed at students when they made mistakes.
7. Noriko is a great addition to the team. She adapts quickly to new situations and doesn't mind change.
8. Karl acts a bit strange sometimes and wears the oddest clothes, but he's a good guy.
9. You can tell Marta a secret and you know she'll never tell anyone else.
10. Sam's a typical teenager. He always seems to be unhappy or else he suddenly gets angry for no reason.

B What type of personality do you think the people in photos A–C have?

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**How to... make a good first impression**

**Greet someone**
- It's great to meet you.
- Hello, how are you?
- Nice to meet you, too.
- Fine thanks – and you?

**Try to find out what you have in common**
- Have you done any Spanish classes before?
- Do you live near here?
- How did you get here today?

**Sound interested in the other person**
- I know what you mean.
- Oh, really?
- Are you?

**Finish the conversation politely**
- I'm sorry, I really must go. But it was great to meet you.
- Good to meet you. See you again soon.
The present and future

1. Complete the dialogue with forms of words from the box.

   ask  be  get  live  meet  repair  she  stay  take  
you  catch  you  leave

Ana: (1) ________, so soon? You’ve only just arrived!
Luis: I know, but I (2) ________ Helena at one o’clock.
Ana: Oh. How (3) ________ she?
Luis: Not too bad. She (4) ________ better but her leg is still in a plaster cast!
Ana: How long (5) ________ in plaster?
Luis: I’m not sure, but I think they (6) ________ it off in the next week or two.
Ana: That’s not too bad, I suppose. Is there anything I can do for her?
Luis: Like what?
Ana: I know she (7) ________ a long way from the shops – I could help her with the shopping.
Luis: That’s a nice idea. I (8) ________ her when I see her later.
Ana: Well, it was lovely to see you again.
Luis: (9) ________ the bus back to town?
Ana: No, I’ve got my motorbike.
Ana: Right. Well make sure you take the by-pass on your way back. They (10) ________ the bridge so the main road is closed at the moment.

The past

2. Complete the sentences using suitable forms of the words in brackets.

1. I ________ (meet) my girlfriend while I ________ (work) as a waiter in Prague in 2009.
2. After the show last night we ________ (drive) to a nice restaurant and ________ (have) a delicious supper.
3. I wanted to go to the art exhibition because I ________ (not see) any of Picasso’s paintings before.
4. We ________ (miss) the train because when we ________ (get) to the station it ________ (already leave).
5. When we ________ (arrive) at the beach it was really hot and the sun ________ (shinie) – so we ________ (take off) our clothes and ________ (run) into the sea.
6. I ________ (make) a terrible mistake yesterday – when I ________ (get) to the airport I realised I ________ (leave) my passport at home!
7. Most of the inhabitants ________ (sleep) when the first earthquake ________ (strike) the town.
8. I showed the children a DVD of The Lion King, but they ________ (see) the film so often that they ________ (know) all the songs by heart and they ________ (find) it a bit boring.

Obligation and ability

3. Read all the sentence endings and choose possible (✓) or not possible (✗) for each. Think about meaning and grammar.

   a. It’s a very formal restaurant so ...
      1. you have to wear a tie. [✓]
      2. you should wear a tie. [✓]
      3. you don’t have to wear informal clothes. [✗]

   b. My computer broke down but luckily ...
      1. Carla had been able to fix it. [✓]
      2. I can repair it yesterday. [✗]
      3. he was able to repair it for me. [✓]

   c. The train was completely full and all the seats were taken so ...
      1. we didn’t have to stand up. [✗]
      2. we had to stand up for the whole journey. [✓]
      3. we should have stood up for most of the journey. [✓]

   d. My uncle offered us a lift so ...
      1. we didn’t have to get a taxi. [✓]
      2. we should have caught the bus. [✗]
      3. we had to go by taxi. [✗]

   e. This is a food preparation area so ...
      1. you mustn’t smoke in here. [✓]
      2. you don’t have to smoke here. [✓]
      3. you shouldn’t smoke here. [✓]

How to...

4. Match the expressions (1-6) with the descriptions (a-f).

   1. Really? And then what happened?
   2. I really must go. But it was great to meet you.
   3. Nice to meet you too.
   4. So, you must know this area well?
   5. How long have you been a student here?
   6. That’s quite right.

   a. Ask a direct question
   b. Reformulate someone’s answer into another question
   c. Finish a conversation politely
   d. Agree with someone’s point
   e. Sound interested in the other person
   f. Respond to a greeting
Family/relationships

5 Use the clues to complete the crossword.

1 John's ___ divorced him after they'd been married for ten years.
2 She isn't married but she's got a ___.
3 I don't know him well. He's only an ___.
4 He's an old friend—we are very ___.
5 Clare's a ___ of mine—we both work in the travel agency.
6 She's perfect for you. I'm sure you'll ___ with her.
7 I've got two ___ sisters from my mother's previous marriage.
8 He made a good ___ on his new boss.
9 I prefer to discuss problems face to ___.
10 We're inseparable—I feel he's my real ___.
11 I don't see eye to ___ with my sister.
12 He's the son of my mother's new husband. He's my ___ brother.

Adjectives/nouns

7 Complete the blog using adjectives or nouns from the box. Four of the words are not needed.

artistic  important  intellectual  jealous  loneliness  loneliness  responsibility  responsible  skill  success  successful

I come from quite a large family. The great thing about a large family is that you never feel (1) ___ because there's always someone to talk to.

My elder brother, James, is a university professor. He's very (2) ___—his hobby is reading Greek philosophy! I'm the (3) ___ one in the family. I'm a graphic designer. My twin brother, Martin, is the practical one. He's a carpenter and he can do amazing things with wood. It's a (4) ___ I really admire. But my younger sister, Kate, is the most (5) ___ of us all—she's the managing director of a huge company. She has the ultimate (6) ___ for more than 250 workers. Of course, she earns an enormous salary which we are all a little (7) ___ of! But in the end money doesn't matter. The (8) ___ thing is that we all support each other.

Phrasal verbs (relationships)

6 Complete the second sentence so that it has the same meaning as the first, using the correct forms of phrasal verbs from the box.

bring up  fall out  get on  go out with  look up to  show off  split up  take after

1 Brenda and Lucy have a good relationship.
Brenda ___ ___ ___ with Lucy.
2 I've always admired my grandmother.
I've always ___ ___ my grandmother.
3 It can't be easy raising three children on your own.
___ ___ ___ children on your own can't be easy.
4 Michael and Jane have ended their relationship.
Michael and Jane ___ ___ .
5 Why does your brother try to impress us all the time?
Why does your brother ___ ___ all the time?
6 Surinda looks just like her mother.
Surinda ___ ___ ___ her mother.