

LANGUAGE FOCUS – Unit 8: LIFE IN THE FUTURE

A. **PRONUNCIATION:** Read the following phrases. Pay attention to how the full and contracted forms of the auxiliaries are pronounced.

Full forms	Contracted forms	Full forms	Contracted forms
I have	I've	I have not	I haven't
you have	you've	you have not	you haven't
he has	he's	he has not	he hasn't
she has	she's	she has not	she hasn't
it has	it's	it has not	it hasn't

Practice:

I've got something for you.

You've got something for me?

We've failed and they've passed.

I haven't always lived in this cottage, you know.

Haven't you? You've not been here long, of course.

I haven't. But I've grown to love it already.

He's left, and she's gone to work, too.

Hasn't the doctor come yet?

No. The doctor hasn't been called.

B. GRAMMAR:

ARTICLES

I. The indefinite article A/An is used:

- Before a singular countable noun.
- With a noun, this includes names of professions.
- With certain expressions of quantity.
- In expressions of price, speed, ratio...

II. Uses of definite article THE

- 2.1 Before a definite noun.
- 2.2 When the object or group of objects is unique or considered to be unique.
- 2.3 The + singular noun can represent a class of animals or things.
- 2.4 The + adj to talk about groups of people. The poor, the unemployed, the homeless..
- 2.5 The is used before certain proper names of seas, rivers, canals, deserts, groups of islands, chains of mountains, names of countries in plural form.
- 2.6 The + plural surname can be used to mean “the ...family”.
- 2.7 The +nationality: the Spanish, the Dutch, the British...
- 2.8 Before superlatives and first, second and only.
- 2.9 The + musical instruments.
- 2.10 names of countries in plural form and country names with “republic” or “kingdom”.
The United States of American, the United Kingdom, The Dominican Republic

III. Omission of THE

- 3.1 Geographical names without article THE
 - a. **Continents:** Africa, Europe, Asia ...
 - b. **Countries or states:** France, Japan, Texas, Florida
 - c. **Cities / towns:** Cairo, New York, Houston
 - d. **Mount of mountain, an island, a lake:** mount Everest, Sicily island, lake Michigan
 - e. **Name of streets, parks, squares:** Ly Thuong Kiet street, Times square, Hyde park
 - f. **Stations, airports :** Victoria station, Kennedy airport
- 3.2 Nouns connected with materials, colours, languages.
- 3.3 Meals, beverages: breakfast, lunch, beer, coca-cola.
- 3.4 Name of games, academic subjects: football, basketball, biology, history.
- 3.5 Names of companies, airlines Trước các danh từ chỉ công ty, hãng hàng không: Sony, Kodak, British Airways.
- 3.6 Abstract nouns: freedom, peace, happiness.
- 3.7 Nouns modified by possessive case or possessive adjectives.
- 3.8 Before **school, university, church, prison, hospital.**
- 3.9 No article with **bed, work, home, town and sea.**

EXERCISE 1 : Complete the sentences with ‘at, in’ or ‘on’.

1. In England, there are usually a lot of parties _____ New Year’s Eve.
2. The price of electricity is going up _____ August.
3. I hope the weather will be nice _____ the weekend.
4. We had a party _____ the last day of the course.
5. I can work _____ the morning, but I don’t like working _____ night.
6. The course begins _____ May 5th and ends sometime _____ July.
7. Mr. Ba is 57. He’ll be retiring from his job _____ two years’ time.
8. Kate almost missed her flight yesterday. She got to the airport just _____ time to get on board.
9. The bus service isn’t very good. The buses are seldom _____ time.
10. Did you have a good time _____ Christmas?

EXERCISE 2 : Complete the sentences using one of the following words. Use each word only once.

until	after	during	between	from
through	on	in	at	before

1. We have been invited to a wedding _____ September 14th.
2. John missed a lot of lessons. He was ill _____ January to March.
3. Helen had said goodbye to everybody in the class _____ she left for her hometown.
4. The burglary happened sometime _____ the night.
5. I usually get paid _____ the end of the month.
6. I waited _____ 10 o’clock and then went home.
7. I can’t remember exactly when the accident happened. I think it was _____ nine and half past nine.
8. They had to work all _____ the holidays to meet the deadline.
9. _____ the children left, the house was very quiet.
10. He always gets up _____ time to have breakfast at home before going to work.

EXERCISE 3 : Fill in each blank with the correct preposition.

1. Mark felt disappointed because he wasn’t successful _____ the interview.
2. Anna is capable _____ dealing with the customers’ complaints.
3. Fred is never serious _____ his work at school.
4. The gases from this factory are extremely harmful _____ the environment.
5. I think they are confused _____ the numbers in their report.
6. This organization is very quick _____ helping people who are in great need.
7. Contrary _____ our expectation, the weather was awful during the holiday.
8. Your new hat is similar _____ the one I lost last week.
9. This library is open _____ all the children in the neighbourhood.
10. It is very generous _____ him to sponsor our scholarship programme.

EXERCISE 4 : Match the two halves of the sentences correctly.

1. She apologized to me	a/ about the mess they’d made.
2. Have you ever thought	b/ at caring for sick animals.
3. Thank you for looking	c/ at the birds! It’s mean.
4. He complained to the children	d/ for work this morning.

5. I was dreaming	e/ to you what I saw.
6. Carol is very good	f/ in life after death?
7. Do you believe	g/ after my Dad while he was ill.
8. Don't throw stones	h/ of moving to another country?
9. Let me describe	i/ for losing her temper.
10. I haven't seen Tom since he left	j/ about you when I suddenly woke up.

EXERCISE 5 : Put "a" or "an" in each blank where necessary.

1. Would you like _____ glass of water, Ann?
2. Morris is _____ computer programmer. He works in _____ office.
3. Max and Angela are _____ designers. They're _____ nice couple.
4. Is there _____ post office near here?
5. They have _____ refrigerator, but they don't have _____ air-conditioner.

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EXERCISE 6 : Put in "a", "an" or "the" in each blank

1. How far is it from here to _____ airport?
2. 'What's _____ capital of Spain?' 'It's Madrid.'
3. My father works in _____ office in _____ city center.
4. _____ earth is _____ planet of _____ solar system.
5. She was born in _____ village in _____ north of England.
6. _____ village where she was born has _____ beautiful river.
7. Who is _____ best singer in _____ United Kingdom?
8. Can you switch off _____ television? Nobody's watching it.
9. He felt bored with _____ woman who sat beside him at the party.
10. The ship was crossing _____ Atlantic Ocean when it hit _____ huge iceberg.
11. Mount Everest is _____ highest mountain in _____ world.
12. _____ Mississippi River flows through several states of _____ United States.
13. My grandparents live in _____ old house in _____ south of Dong Nai Province. There is _____ large garden behind _____ house. They grow some fruit trees and vegetables in _____ garden.
14. There was _____ accident near my house this morning. _____ taxi crashed into _____ lamp post. _____ taxi was damaged, but _____ driver of _____ taxi was not hurt.
15. This morning I had _____ sandwich and _____ cup of coffee for breakfast. _____ sandwich was OK, but _____ coffee was terrible.

EXERCISE 7 : Choose the word or phrase that best completes each sentence.

1. It was a short book and easy to read. I read it _____ a day.
A. on B. by C. at D. in
2. The English _____ said to be rather reserved.
A. are B. is C. was D. may
3. _____ my opinion, this problem is worthy of attention.
A. On B. In C. With D. By
4. It was careless _____ you to leave the door unlocked when you went out.
A. of B. for C. about D. with
5. What did you have for _____ breakfast this morning?
A. a B. an C. the D. -
6. Kate plays _____ violin in an orchestra.

