The Fluency Class A2

Your challenge

Tell stories. Solve strange problems. Invent new places. You can use real experiences or your imagination. There are no right or wrong ideas!

How to use these pages

Your teacher will help you choose activities and questions. You do not need to answer every question today.

★ is a good place to start. Read the example if you need help.

Think for a moment. Give an answer, a reason and one extra detail.

Ask your teacher questions too. Try to ask one extra question after each answer.

Some grammar is a challenge. Borrow the sentence starter and change the details.

Useful speaking phrases

Let me think… • I would choose… because… • For example…
Can you say that again? • What does ___ mean? • How do you say ___?
What about you? • Why did you choose that? • What happened next?

Choose a door

A: a café run by robots
B: a hotel under the sea
C: a shop that sells memories

Which door do you open? What do you expect inside? What question do you ask the first person you meet?

My first ideas

_____

_____

1 | The morning everything went wrong

Past simple • Finished events at a finished time

Your mission

Imagine a strange day with three objects: a wet shoe, a birthday cake and a train ticket. Decide who owns them. Tell your teacher what happened.

Try saying…

I opened the door and saw a cake. / I didn't recognise the name. / Where did you find it?

Finished past: I went / I saw / I found. Questions: Did you go? Negative: I didn't go.

Let's talk

01. ★ Yesterday, you found a birthday cake outside your door. What did you do first?

02. ★ A stranger called you by a different name. How did you reply?

03. You got on the wrong bus. Where did you go, and how did you get home?

04. A shop gave you a completely different order. What did you receive?

05. Your phone sent an embarrassing message by mistake. What did it say?

06. You had only €5 for a whole afternoon. How did you spend it?

07. You heard a strange noise in an empty room. What did you find?

08. You entered a competition without knowing the prize. What happened?

09. Tell me about a real or invented time you laughed at the wrong moment.

10. You met someone wearing exactly the same clothes as you. What did you say?

11. You organised a surprise, but the wrong person arrived. What happened next?

12. Give this strange day a happy ending. What happened in the final five minutes?

My keywords: _____

2 | The party with no guests

Past perfect • The earlier of two past events

Your mission

You arrive at a party at 9 p.m. The room is empty, the cake is gone and music is still playing. Imagine what happened before you arrived.

Try saying…

The guests had left before I arrived. / I was confused because I hadn't read the message.

Earlier: they had left. Later: I arrived. Put them together: They had left before I arrived.

Let's talk

01. ★ You arrived at the party, but everyone had left. Why had they left?

02. ★ There was no cake. What had happened to it before you arrived?

03. The birthday girl looked angry. What had someone done?

04. You checked your phone and understood the problem. What message had the host sent?

05. You reached the station too late. What had delayed you?

06. You opened your bag and found a toy dinosaur. Who had put it there?

07. Your friend knew the end of the film. Where had she seen it before?

08. You couldn't pay for dinner. What had you forgotten?

09. The kitchen smelled terrible when you got home. What had your robot cooked?

10. You won a strange competition. What had you done to prepare?

11. You found your missing keys in the fridge. How had they got there?

12. Invent a happy surprise waiting at home. What had someone prepared before you arrived?

My keywords: _____

3 | The experience auction

Present perfect • Life experience and results now

Your mission

You have 100 imaginary coins. You can buy three experiences: sleep in a castle, learn a secret recipe or appear in a film. How much will you offer for each? Explain your choices.

Try saying…

I've never slept in a castle. / I've already tried that. / I haven't done it yet. / Have you ever…?

Have/has + past participle: I've seen it. For a finished time: I saw it last year.

Let's talk

01. ★ Have you ever done something that frightened you at first? Tell me about it.

02. ★ Which of the three auction experiences have you never tried? Which interests you most?

03. Have you ever bought something very strange? What was it?

04. Have you ever helped an animal or a stranger? What happened?

05. Have you ever changed your opinion about a food? Explain.

06. Have you ever discovered a useful trick by accident? Show or describe it.

07. What is the funniest present you have ever received?

08. What new thing have you learned this month?

09. What have you already done today that you feel good about?

10. What haven't you done yet today that you still need to do?

11. Imagine you are a famous explorer. What three amazing places have you visited?

12. Ask me two "Have you ever…?" questions, then ask for details about one answer.

My keywords: _____

4 | The secret project detective

Present perfect continuous • Activity continuing or recently happening

Your mission

You are a detective. Listen to the clues and guess the secret activity. Then give your teacher a clue and ask them to guess.

Try saying…

I've been painting a robot. / She's been practising for two hours. / How long have you been working on it?

Have/has been + -ing: I've been painting. For two hours; since Monday.

Let's talk

01. ★ Your hands are blue. What have you been doing?

02. ★ Your kitchen is full of flour. What have you been making?

03. You look tired but happy. What have you been doing all morning?

04. Your neighbour keeps hearing music. What have you been practising?

05. There are boxes all over your room. What have you been organising?

06. You are wearing muddy shoes. Where have you been walking?

07. Your phone battery is almost empty. What have you been doing on it?

08. What have you been watching or listening to recently? Why?

09. What have you been trying to improve lately? How long have you been working on it?

10. Imagine you are preparing a secret show. What have you been practising since Monday?

11. You have been waiting for a delivery for three hours. What is inside, and how do you feel?

12. Choose a project: a cake, a painting or a small garden. What have you finished, and what have you been working on?

My keywords: _____

5 | The mystery suitcase

Relative clauses • Who, which, that, whose, where, when and why

Your mission

Describe a person, a place or an object without saying its name. Can your teacher guess it? Then listen and guess your teacher's secret word.

Try saying…

It's a person who fixes teeth. / It's something that keeps you dry. / It's a place where you borrow books.

People: who. Things: which/that. Possession: whose. Places: where. Times: when. Reasons: why.

Let's talk

01. ★ Describe an object that you would take to a secret island. Don't name it.

02. ★ Describe a person who could help you survive there. Why that person?

03. Describe a place where you could hide a tiny treasure.

04. Invent a machine which makes one boring job easier. What does it do?

05. Invent a neighbour whose pet causes funny problems. Describe them.

06. Describe a day when everyone in your town celebrates something unusual.

07. Give me a reason why someone might keep a rubber duck in their bag.

08. What is something that looks useless but is actually helpful?

09. Who is a person who makes difficult things easy to understand?

10. Describe a shop where everything costs one euro. What would you buy?

11. Invent a friend whose job doesn't exist yet. What does the friend do?

12. Choose three things for the suitcase. Describe each with a relative clause, then let me guess.

My keywords: _____

6 | The strange people of Moon Street

Relative clauses • Non-defining clauses and optional advanced patterns

Your mission

Invent a street with unusual neighbours. For example: “Luna, who lives at number 4, keeps a penguin.” Add people, places and extra details. Try the harder questions with your teacher’s help.

Try saying…

Max, whose bike is pink, is a detective. / This is the gift (that) I bought. / The person whom I invited is here.

Extra information: Luna, who lives here, has a penguin. Use who/which, not that, for this pattern.

Let’s talk

01. ★ Introduce Luna. Add extra information about her pet using “Luna, who…”.

02. ★ Describe Moon Street Library. Add extra information using “which”.

03. Introduce a neighbour using “whose” to tell me about their unusual car.

04. Describe your invented town using a non-defining clause with “where”.

05. Describe next Saturday, when Moon Street has a festival. Add an extra detail.

06. Describe a present you received, leaving out the optional object pronoun: “The present I received…”.

07. Introduce someone you invited to dinner using formal “whom”. Then say it in a more conversational way.

08. Invent someone you can share a secret with. Start “A person who I can trust…”.

09. Give a formal introduction beginning “The person to whom I gave the key…”. Who is it?

10. The whole street turned purple overnight. React with “…, which surprised me because…”.

11. Compare “The neighbours who have dogs get up early” and “My neighbours, who have dogs, get up early”. Who has dogs in each version?

12. Describe “the woman carrying a ladder” and “the box left outside her door”. Expand each into a full relative clause.

My keywords: _____

7 | Open the world’s strangest café

Future forms • Will, going to, present continuous and present simple

Your mission

Open a strange café: customers wear costumes, robots cook, or everything is round. Choose your idea. Plan the opening day and solve problems as they happen.

Try saying…

We’re going to open a robot café. / I’m meeting the chef tomorrow. / It opens at nine. / I’ll help you.

Plan: going to. Arrangement: present continuous. Timetable: present simple. Offer or decision now: will.

Let’s talk

01. ★ You have decided to open a café. What are you going to call it, and what are you going to sell?

02. ★ You have arranged a meeting with a chef tomorrow. What time are you meeting, and where?

03. ★ Your opening-day timetable is fixed. What time does the café open, and when does the music start?

04. ★ The waiter drops a tray. What will you do? Make an offer beginning “I’ll…”.

05. Look! The cake is sliding off the table. What is going to happen?

06. You have decided how to decorate. What colours are you going to use?

07. A customer looks unhappy. What will you say or do right now?

08. You have booked a singer for Friday. Who is performing, and at what time?

09. What time does the last bus leave from outside your café? Create a timetable.

10. Will your café become famous? Why do you think so?

11. Promise a nervous customer three things using “We’ll…” or “We won’t…”.

12. A reviewer is arriving in ten minutes. What are you going to prepare, and what will you do first?

My keywords: _____

8 | A postcard from the future

Future extension • Predictions, plans and optional advanced tenses

Your mission

Imagine next Friday, one year from now or 2050. Send a short voice message from the future. Questions 5–12 are extra challenges: use the examples to help you.

Try saying…

I'll be living near the sea. / By Friday, I'll have finished the design. / By June, I'll have been learning Italian for a year.

At 8: I'll be cooking. By 8: I'll have finished. By June: I'll have been learning for a year.

Let's talk

01. ★ Where are you going to spend a completely free day next month?

02. ★ What do you think homes will look like in 2050?

03. You have arranged a future meeting with your favourite fictional character. Where are you meeting?

04. Your future train ticket says 10:30. What time does the train leave?

05. Future continuous: tomorrow at 8 p.m., what will you be doing on your perfect evening?

06. Future continuous: at this time next year, where will you be living in your imagined life?

07. Future continuous: your robot calls at midnight. What will it be doing?

08. Future perfect: you must prepare a party by Friday. What will you have finished by then?

09. Future perfect: by the end of your dream trip, what three things will you have done?

10. Future perfect continuous: you start learning Italian in January. By next January, how long will you have been learning it?

11. Future perfect continuous: your café opens in May. By the following May, how long will you have been running it?

12. Choose a future date. Say one plan, one prediction and one thing you will have completed by then.

My keywords: _____

9 | The robot instruction manual

Zero and first conditional • General patterns and real future possibilities

Your mission

Your robot café needs instructions. RULE questions describe what normally happens. TOMORROW questions describe possible problems on opening day.

Try saying…

If a customer presses this button, the robot sings. / If the robot breaks tomorrow, we'll serve the food ourselves.

Rule: If + present, present. Future possibility: If + present, will + verb.

Let's talk

01. ★ RULE: What happens if someone presses the red button on your robot?

02. RULE: What does the robot do if a customer says "thank you"?

03. RULE: What happens if a customer orders a birthday cake?

04. RULE: What do you usually do if you forget someone's name?

05. RULE: How do you feel if you spend too much time on your phone?

06. RULE: Create one funny café rule beginning "If someone…".

07. ★ TOMORROW: If the robot stops working, what will you do?

08. TOMORROW: If 100 customers arrive at once, how will you manage?

09. TOMORROW: If a famous actor visits, what will you ask them?

10. TOMORROW: If nobody likes the menu, what will you change?

11. TOMORROW: If it rains during the outdoor show, where will you move it?

12. TOMORROW: If the café makes €1,000 on its first day, how will you celebrate?

My keywords: _____

10 | You are the mayor… almost

Second conditional • Imaginary or unlikely situations

Your mission

You are the mayor of a town for one day. You can change one rule, create one public space and give everyone one gift. Explain your choices to your teacher.

Try saying…

If I were the mayor, I would build a night garden. / If the buses could fly, people would arrive faster.

Imagine: If I had…, I would… / If I were…, I would…

Let's talk

01. ★ If you were the mayor for one day, what would you change first?

02. ★ If you could give everyone in town one useful thing, what would you choose?

03. If cars disappeared for a week, how would people travel?

04. If the town had a beach on a roof, what rules would it need?

05. If animals could use public transport, which animal would cause the most problems?

06. If every building had to have a funny name, what would you call the library?

07. If you could make one boring activity enjoyable, what would you change?

08. If your town had a secret room for every resident, what would yours contain?

09. If you could speak every language for one day, who would you talk to?

10. If you had a machine that paused time for ten minutes, when would you use it?

11. If you could make one thing free, what would you choose and why?

12. Compare: if you have free time this weekend, what will you do? If you had a whole year free, what would you do?

My keywords: _____

11 | The museum of your past

Used to • Past habits and states that have changed

Your mission

Build a tiny museum about your past. Choose an old object, an old habit and an old belief. Explain each one to your teacher. You can invent your memories.

Try saying…

I used to collect stickers. / I didn't use to like olives. / Did you use to believe in monsters?

I used to play. I didn't use to play. Did you use to play? Talk about habits or situations that changed.

Let's talk

01. ★ What object did you use to take everywhere? Tell me its story.

02. ★ What did you use to believe that seems funny now?

03. What food didn't you use to like but enjoy now?

04. What game did you use to invent when you were bored?

05. Did you use to have a strange nickname? Invent one if you prefer.

06. What did you use to spend small amounts of money on?

07. What did your bedroom use to look like?

08. What sounds or smells used to remind you of a particular place?

09. What did you use to do before you had a smartphone?

10. What small thing used to make you very excited?

11. Imagine you are a retired superhero. What did you use to do every morning?

12. Choose a museum object. Explain what you used to do with it and describe one specific day when you used it.

My keywords: _____

12 | The island that needs your help

Final mission • Mix the grammar with a purpose

Your mission

You arrive on an island with a broken robot, a locked café and a suitcase full of strange objects. Organise a welcome party before tomorrow evening. Choose 4–6 questions and connect your answers into one story.

Try saying…

I found… / Someone had… / I've already… / I've been… / It's a thing that… / I'm going to… / If…, I'll…

Use the starters below. Add because, but and then to connect your ideas.

Let's talk

01. ★ Past simple: what did you see when you arrived on the island?

02. Past perfect: why was the café locked? What had happened before you arrived?

03. Present perfect: what have you already discovered about the island?

04. Present perfect continuous: what have the islanders been preparing all morning?

05. ★ Relative clauses: which person and which object can help? Describe both.

06. Going to: what are you going to do first to prepare the party?

07. Present continuous + present simple: who are you meeting tomorrow, and what time does the island ferry leave?

08. Will: someone drops all the invitations. What will you do to help?

09. Zero conditional: what normally happens if someone rings the island's big bell?

10. First conditional: if it rains tomorrow, where will you hold the party?

11. Second conditional: if you could give the island one magical machine, what would it do?

12. Used to: how did people use to celebrate on the island, and what is different now?

My keywords: _____

Grammar help desk | Time and possibilities

Use a model, then make it your own

Structure	When to use it	Example
Past simple	A finished past event	I found a key yesterday.
Past perfect	Earlier than another past event	Someone had locked the café before I arrived.
Present perfect	Experience or a result now	I've found the key. / I've never seen this island.
Present perfect continuous	Activity continuing or recently happening	I've been looking for the key for an hour.
Going to	A plan; a prediction from evidence	I'm going to open a café. / Look! It's going to fall.
Will	Prediction, decision now, offer or promise	I think it will be popular. / I'll help you.
Present continuous for future	An arrangement	I'm meeting the chef tomorrow.
Present simple for future	A timetable	The ferry leaves at nine.
Future continuous • challenge	In progress at a future time	At nine, I'll be cooking.
Future perfect • challenge	Finished before a future time	By nine, I'll have made the cake.
Future perfect continuous • challenge	How long up to a future time	By May, I'll have been working here for a year.
Zero conditional	A rule or general pattern	If you press this button, the robot sings.
First conditional	A real future possibility	If it rains, we'll eat inside.
Second conditional	An imagined situation	If I were mayor, I would build a garden.
Used to	A past habit or state that changed	I used to collect stickers.

Useful past participles: be → been; go → gone; see → seen; do → done; make → made; take → taken; write → written; find → found; leave → left; buy → bought.

Grammar help desk | Describe and add detail

Relative clauses • Try the easy patterns first

Pattern	Model
Who / that	A person who fixes bikes.
Which / that	A machine that makes ice cream.
Whose	A woman whose dog can sing.
Where	A café where you can paint.
When	The day when we met.
Why	The reason why I chose it.
Defining: tells us which one	The neighbours who have dogs get up early.
Non-defining: adds extra information	Luna, who lives here, has a penguin.
Leave out an object pronoun	The cake (that) I made is blue.
Keep a subject pronoun	The robot that cooks is broken.

Use that in defining clauses. For extra information between commas, use who or which instead. Keep whose, where or when where appropriate. Use a small pause when you add the extra information.

Extra challenges: explore these with your teacher

Pattern	Model
Whom: a formal object	The person whom we invited is a chef.
A preposition at the end	The person I spoke to was kind.
A preposition at the front: formal	The person to whom I spoke was kind.
Which comments on a whole idea	The robot danced, which made us laugh.
Some/all of whom/which	We met three chefs, two of whom were Italian.
Shortened active description	The woman carrying a ladder is Luna.
Shortened passive description	The box left outside contains a cake.
First / last / only + to	She was the first person to arrive.
What / whoever / whatever	Take what you need. Invite whoever you like.

What here means “the thing(s) that”: “Take what you need.” Say “the thing that I need”, not “the thing what I need”.

My speaking notes

A little planning • A second try • My next adventure

Before I speak

Activity: _____ Questions I chose: _____

My idea: _____

_____

My reason: _____

_____

One extra detail: _____

_____

Useful words I learned

Word or phrase: _____ My example: _____

_____

Word or phrase: _____ My example: _____

_____

Word or phrase: _____ My example: _____

_____

Two sentences to improve

My first try: _____

My improved sentence: _____

My first try: _____

My improved sentence: _____

Ask one more question

A question for my teacher: _____

_____

My next adventure

My favourite activity today was: _____

Next time, I want to talk more about: _____