



**EXPERIMENTAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MACEDONIA**

# **GRAMMAR REQUIREMENTS FOR LEVEL B2**

This publication has made use of the [English Grammar Profile](#). This resource is based on extensive research using the Cambridge Learner Corpus and is part of the English Profile programme, which aims to provide evidence about language use that helps to produce better language teaching materials.

See <http://www.englishprofile.org/> for more information.

# ADJECTIVES

## COMBINING

### FORM: COMPOUND ADJECTIVES

Can use an increasing range of compound adjectives ('up-to-date', 'state-of-the-art')

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*The selling point is that it contains the most up-to-date and state-of-the-art know-how, for instance a water-proof keyboard, information security system, etc. A survey of our customers last year indicated that over 70% of them are content with the user-friendly designs.*

*...getting to work (in big cities) by car is more healthy for drivers but has a long-term effect on the environment and on us, in the end, as well.*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*The selling point is that it contains the most up-to-date and state-of-the-art know-how, for instance water-proof keyboard, information security system etc. A survey among our customers were launched last year, and the result indicated that over 70% of them are content with the user-friendly designs.*

*In my opinion, from realistic point of view, getting to work (in big cities) by car is more healthy for drivers but has long-term effect on environment and on us, at the end, as well.*

### FORM: PHRASES MODIFYING NOUNS

Can use adjective phrases to modify nouns.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Besides, we could leave one day in the morning and travel by boat to a small and exotic island full of different and exotic species of birds that we could observe and photograph.*

*Emily Brontë succeeded in writing a romantic, psychological and tragic story, beautifully set in these mysterious moors.*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*Besides we could leave one day in the morning and reach by boat to a small and exotic island full of different and exotic species of birds that we could observe and photograph.*

*Emily Brönte succeeded in writing a romantic, psychological and tragical story, beautifully set in these mysterious moors.*

## COMPARATIVES

### FORM/USE: WITH 'A LOT'

Can use 'a lot' to modify and intensify comparative adjectives used predicatively after a verb, usually 'be'.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*In addition, remember that a bike, even a good one, is a lot cheaper than a car.*

*Don't you think it would be a lot easier for you to finish college first?*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*In addition, remember that a bike, even a good one, is a lot cheaper than a car.  
Don't you think it will be a lot easier for you to finish first collage, and it is not long left to your finall exams.*

### FORM/USE: WITH 'MUCH' + NOUN

Can use 'much' to modify and intensify comparative adjectives used attributively before countable and uncountable nouns.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Although it is a second-hand computer which one of my colleagues sold me, it is a much better investment than the bicycle, I think.  
I think the Majestic Hotel is too expensive, so what about a much cheaper hotel like the Plaza Hotel?  
On the other hand, our grandparents had much fresher vegetables and meat they could trust, without BSE...*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*Although it is a second-hand computer, which one of my colleagues sold me, it is a much better investment than the bicycle, I think.  
I think Majestic Hotel is too expensive so what about a much cheaper hotel like Plaza Hotel?  
On the other hand, our grandparents had much fresher vegetables and meat they could trust, without BSE...*

### FORM/USE: WITH 'SLIGHTLY'

Can use 'slightly' to modify comparative adjectives to a small degree.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I bought a new one, since the price of a second-hand one was slightly cheaper.  
They have their own characteristics, but the food of restaurant A is slightly better than that of B.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*I bought a new one since the price of a second-hand one was slightly cheaper than the price of a new one.  
They have their own charateristic in food but the food of A restaurant is slightly better than that of B*

## MODIFYING

### FORM: WITH 'ENOUGH' + 'TO'-INFINITIVE

Can use 'enough' after adjectives followed by 'to'-infinitive

### Corrected Learner Examples

*[talking about an arts festival] I was lucky enough to take part in it last November, and I enjoyed it immensely.  
In my opinion young people at that age are not mature enough to decide by themselves what they want for their future.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*I was lucky enough to take part in it last November, and I enjoyed it immensely.*

*In my opinion young people at that age are not mature enough to decide by themselves what they want for their future.*

### FORM: WITH 'RATHER A'

Can form adjective phrases with 'rather a' + adjective, often in formal contexts.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Films tend to be rather a simple art, while books are a thing to be enjoyed in a calmer way.*

*I must confess that I'm rather a poor player.*

*I live rather a long way from work, about 10 km.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*Films tend to be rather a simple art, while books are a thing to be enjoyed in a calmer way.*

*For the last ten years however, I had practically no opportunity or time to improve my ability and I must confess that I'm rather a poor player.*

*The best means of getting to work, is by car, for me anyway I live rather a long way from work, about 10 km.*

## POSITION

### FORM/USE: DEGREE ADJECTIVES BEFORE NOUNS

Can use a limited range of degree adjectives ('real', 'absolute', 'complete') before a noun to express intensity.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*When tourists arrive, there is no area to park. This is a real problem and our town is becoming very dangerous for children; every week there is an accident.*

*Making friends is easy but to get a real, true friend is hard.*

*Suddenly the lights went out and I found myself standing in complete darkness.*

*After the teacher had told us to start, there was absolute silence.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*First of all, during the Summer, when tourists arrive, there is no area to park; this is a real problem and our town is becoming very dangerous for the children; every week there is an accident.*

*Making friends is easy but to get a real, true friend, is hard.*

*Suddenly the lights went out and I found myself standing in complete darkness.*

*After the teacher had told us to start, there was absolute silence.*

### Comments

This form/use is restricted to the attributive, ie before nouns – not verbs

### FORM: ATTRIBUTIVE ONLY, TIME ADJECTIVES

Can use the adjectives 'present', 'future', 'former' before a noun.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I think we all are very concerned about the present situation.*

*We would like to hear you talk about your novels, your work in general and about your future plans.*

*In the big hall, in former times, lots of parties took place.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*I think we all are very concerned about the present situation.*

*Since we have the great honor to have you here today, we would like to hear you talking about your novels, your work in general and about your future plans.*

*In the big hall, in former times, lots of parties, which were very popular, took place.*

### Comments

This form is restricted to the attributive, ie before nouns – not verbs

## SUPERLATIVES

### FORM/USE: WITH 'BY FAR'

Can use the premodifer 'by far' to make a superlative adjective stronger.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*As you know, I've already visited almost fifty forests all over the world but I think this one is by far the most beautiful of all.*

*When I was a child, Christmas morning was by far the most exciting and happiest moment.*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*As you know I've already visited almost fifty forests all over the world but I think this one is by far the most beautiful of all.*

*When I was a child, Christmas morning was by far the most exciting and happiest moment.*

### FORM: ELLIPSIS, WITH 'THE'

Can use '(one of) the' with an increasing range of superlative adjectives without a following noun, when the noun is understood.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*There have been so many embarrassing moments in my life. It's very difficult to pick the most embarrassing.*

*I'm not quite sure if I agree that the car is the greatest danger to human life today, but it sure is one of the greatest.*

*That period of my life was one of the worst.*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*It's very difficult to pick the most embarrassing.*

*I'm not quite sure if I agree that the car is the GREATEST danger to human life today, but it sure is one of the greatest.*

*That period of my life was one of the worst.*

### FORM: WITH NOUN AND 'TO-' INFINITIVE

Can use superlative adjectives before a noun + 'to'-infinitive. ► clauses: comparative

### Corrected Learner Examples

*To be honest, I think that, to be in competition with other markets, we need to be updated and the easiest way to do it is to use computers.*

*For those people who don't work and can't afford a car, a bicycle is perhaps the cheapest way to travel in the city.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*To be honest, I think that to be in competition with other markets we need to be fast and up dated and the easiest way to do it is to use Computers.*

*For those people who don't work and they can't afford a car, a bicycle is cheaper and perhaps the cheapest way to travel for the city.*

## ADVERBS

### ADVERB PHRASES – FORM

#### FORM: COMPARATIVE

Can modify an adverb with a comparative structure.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Obviously, you can get to work by car quicker and more comfortably than by bicycle.*

*Furthermore, you have to repair your car much more often than your bicycle – so it's quite probable that you are going to spend plenty of time in the garage.*

*The computer system is such a quick system that we can search and analyse information much more quickly than before.*

*If we could get 2 million euros to invest in the new product "Stop 'n' run", profits will rise even more sharply than they did last year.*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*Obviously, you can get to work by car quicker and more comfortably than by bicycle.*

*Furthermore, you have to repair your car much more often than bicycle – so it's quite probable, that you are going to spend plenty of time in garage.*

*Computers' system is such a quick system that we can search and analysis information much more quickly than before.*

*If we could get 2 million euros to invest in the new product "Stop 'n' run", profits will rise even more sharply than they already did during the last year.*

### ADVERBS AND ADVERB PHRASES: TYPES AND MEANINGS

#### FORM: DEGREE, MODIFYING DETERMINERS

Can use degree adverbs ('almost', 'very') to modify determiners. ► determiners

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Today, thanks to the Internet, I can work at home almost all the time, which is far more relaxing and less boring.*

*There are probably very few of us who have never been to a zoo.*

### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*Today, thanks to the Internet I can work almost all the time at home, which is far more relaxing and less boring.*

*There are probably very few of us who have never been in a zoo.*

### **FORM: DEGREE, MODIFYING NOUN PHRASES**

Can use degree adverbs to modify noun phrases. ► noun phrases

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*It would be quite a formal meeting.*

*I live rather a long way from work, about 10 km.*

*[talking about a dog] After all, he is almost a human.*

### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*It would be quite a formal meeting.*

*I live rather a long way from work, about 10 km.*

*[talking about a dog] After all, he is almost a human.*

### **FORM: DEGREE, MODIFYING PRONOUNS**

Can use degree adverbs to modify pronouns. ► pronouns

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*You can eat very well and pay almost nothing.*

*This is the most crowded place in my town and you can buy absolutely anything you like.*

### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*You can eat very well and pay almost nothing.*

*This is the most crowded place in my town and you can buy absolutely anything you like.*

## **ADVERBS AS MODIFIERS**

### **USE: MANNER**

Can use a wide range of manner adverbs to modify how something happens.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*She realises that he is a very dangerous man and that she should take his warning seriously.*

*Today I read the notice "Volunteers needed urgently " and I would like to be one.*

*As our parking space has been used illegally by the public, we will change our parking system.*

### **USE: TIME**

Can use a wide range of adverbs and adverb phrases to refer to the timing of an event.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*I look forward hearing from you shortly and I thank you in advance.*

*It sounded like a muffled laugh, and she instantly recognised it as her mother's.*

*It isn't the job you will do permanently.*

*You know it's very difficult to decide what to buy if you need both things simultaneously.*

*The trend that has appeared rather recently and is very common among young people nowadays is named "casual chique".*



## POSITION

### FORM/USE: FRONT POSITION, INVERSION WITH 'NEVER'

Can use 'never' in front position followed by an inverted subject (most commonly 'I') + main verb verb, to give focus.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Never have I seen such a realistic and impressive film before.*

*Never had I thought that my parents would do this to me.*

## CLAUSES

## COMPARATIVES

### FORM/USE: SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVE (+ 'THAT')

Can use a superlative adjective (+ noun) (+ 'that') followed by a clause to talk about something unique.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*It was probably the best comedy that anyone could ever have made; however, to the ones who were in the cinema, it didn't seem like a comedy but a horror film.*

*In my opinion this is the worst thing that can ever happen.*

*That is the clearest thing I can remember.*

*We have developed a new micro processor which is the fastest and smallest that exists at the moment.*

### FORM: 'AS IF' OR 'AS THOUGH' + FINITE CLAUSE

Can use 'as if' or 'as though' + finite clause to introduce a second clause as a comparison.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Her heart beat extremely fast, as if it was going to burst out of her chest.*

*I saw my mate crawling on the floor as if he was looking for something.*

*Everything was so familiar, so close, as though he had never left the place.*

#### Comments

as if is much more frequent than as though

### FORM: 'RATHER THAN' + NON-FINITE CLAUSE

Can use 'rather than' + a non-finite clause to stress one element in a comparison.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*If you prefer watching TV rather than reading, you have to be critical: you mustn't in any way accept everything, every image that passes in front of your eyes.*

*I would say that we are keen on walking in the mountains rather than going on a shopping trip to Edinburgh.*

*So, at night they are mostly tired and it's much easier to sit down in front of the television set rather than take a book and read it.*

*I would prefer to sleep in tents rather than stay in rooms.*

**FORM: 'THE SAME' (+ NOUN) + 'AS' + CLAUSE**

Can use 'the same' (+ noun) + 'as' + clause.

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*Maybe I'll do the same thing as you did.*

*She was the same as I remembered her, long-haired and green-eyed.*

*Some people say that friendship today is not the same as it used to be.*

**Comments**

The clause following 'as' is often a short form.

**FORM: ADJECTIVE + 'ENOUGH' + 'TO'-INFINITIVE**

Can use 'enough' after adjectives followed by 'to'-infinitive.

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*In my opinion young people at that age are not mature enough to decide by themselves what they want for their future.*

*I think I am responsible enough to handle this job.*

**FORM: COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVE + 'THAN' + NON-FINITE CLAUSE**

.||Can use than + an increasing range of non-finite clauses (to-infinitive, reduced clause) forming the second part of a comparison after a comparative adjective||

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*It is much easier to be single than to have a partner.*

*Due to the provisions and considerations of the contract which was never revised, I think that arbitration is more appropriate than to file an action in court against the tenant.*

*It performs better than expected and attracts many new customers, especially during the week.*

**CONDITIONAL****FORM/USE: SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS, CONDITIONS**

Can use conditional subordinate clauses with a range of conjunctions ('as long as', 'provided') + present simple or present continuous, with future reference.

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*As long as it involves children I'd be delighted to work for you during the summer.*

*If you're really eager to learn age doesn't really matter as long as you're willing to learn.*

*My client will most certainly ask for compensation covering all losses incurred, unless you manage to find out where the goods are.*

*Finally, I am pleased to inform you that we would like to offer a 10% discount provided you reserve office space for eighteen months.*

*Providing we implement the suggested actions I believe we can increase sales within the next six months, overcoming the current situation caused by the international situation.*

*I would suggest that you might bring a city map in case you lose your way.*

### Comments

While unless is a B1 lexical item in the EVP and taught at B1, its conditional use is not established until B2. Note also that unless is very error prone at B1. |Note on punctuation: many grammar books stress that when the if clause precedes the main clause, it must use a comma. We cannot establish a consistent competency for this (and punctuation in general). It seems too idiosyncratic. L1 can be a skewing factor

## COORDINATED

### FORM/USE: 'NEITHER ... NOR', EMPHASIS

Can combine two main clauses of the same type using 'neither' in front or mid position, followed by 'nor' to introduce the second clause, for emphasis.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*We neither walk nor do exercises.*

*They neither got married nor had children.*

*We should neither eat too much, nor eat too.*

#### Comments

The writer chooses this structure so as to add emphasis. The less emphatic alternative to 'We neither walk nor do exercises' is 'We don't walk or do exercises'.

### FORM/USE: 'NOT ONLY ... BUT (ALSO)', FOCUS

Can combine clauses using 'not only' in mid position of the first clause followed by ... 'but (also)' to introduce the second clause, to give focus.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*The atmosphere was friendly, not only because it wasn't too crowded, but also because the waiters always help you.*

*I really like it; not only because it is nice and colourful but because I spent most of my childhood summers there.*

## IMPERATIVES

### FORM/USE: 'DO NOT', EMPHASIS

Can use 'do not' for emphasis or in formal contexts.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Do not forget to have a break at lunchtime and try to eat your meal whenever possible in a silent room.*

*Do not hesitate to contact me should you need further information.*

### FORM/USE: 'LET'S NOT', SUGGESTION

Can use 'let's not' + base form of a main verb to make a suggestion.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Let's not lose track of each other again!*

*Let's not forget that zoos actually help us keep dying species alive ....*

*Let's not make the situation more complicated with companies and things like that.*

## INTERROGATIVES

### FORM: NEGATIVE INTERROGATIVE + ADVERB

Can form negative interrogative clauses with an adverb in mid position, between the subject and the main verb.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Money – hasn't it always been one of the most important problems for students?*

*Why don't you ever listen to me?*

*Haven't you ever heard about the photographer Donatela and the painter Christian?*

## PHRASES/EXCLAMATIONS

### FORM/USE: NEGATIVE INTERROGATIVE

Can use the negative interrogative form of an auxiliary verb to express surprise or enthusiasm.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Wouldn't it be wonderful!*

*Doesn't that sound excellent to you?!*

#### Comments

No evidence of other auxiliary verbs in this structure. Very low frequency because of lack of spoken data.

## RELATIVE

### FORM/USE: DEFINING, WITH 'WHOSE'

Can use defining relative clauses with 'whose', to give more information about relationship.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*I visited several primary schools in Canberra and had opportunities to teach not only Australian children but also Vietnamese children whose parents immigrated to Australia.*

*Mary is a young lady whose parents had died and she had nobody else but an aunt to live with.*

### FORM/USE: SENTENCE, EVALUATIVE

Can use a relative clause to refer to a whole clause or sentence, often to express an opinion or evaluation or give a reason.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*It is now possible to send a letter and receive an answer within ten minutes, which is a good thing if you want to buy a house, a car etc.*

*In addition, zoological gardens allow us to get to know the lifestyles of some animals better, which is very important from the point of view of their protection.*

*I have also visited the dance shows and the art exhibitions, as well as the talks by writers, which were all really brilliant.*

#### Comments

This is much more frequent in informal spoken language.

### FORM: NON-DEFINING, WITH 'WHOSE'

Can use non-defining relative clauses with 'whose', to give additional information.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*And I was initially employed to be an entrance assistant, whose job was to keep the queue under control as well as keeping the area clean.*

*I was at the concert when I met a friend of mine whose job is to organise shows like that.*

### FORM: PRONOUN + PREPOSITION

Can use defining relative clauses and non-defining relative clauses ending in a preposition, with 'who/which/that' as the complement of the preposition.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Thank you very much for having provided us with valuable information about your finance services, which we are greatly interested in.*

*I would like to do some painting, which I am quite good at.*

*They have three wonderful children who I love to play with.*

*He was involved in a case that he had nothing to do with!*

## SUBORDINATED

### FORM/USE: '-ING' CLAUSE

Can use a non-finite clause, introduced by '-ing' before a main clause, to give more information.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Having no choice, I sat down on a bench which was in the middle of the road to wait for the rain to stop.*

*Using his best smile, Paul asked her if he could sit beside her.*

*Having analysed the data I have concluded that CTP Translations would suit our company best.*

### Comments

Note negative pattern develops at C1: 'Not knowing the North of London very well it took me quite a long time to get there.' Note also the examples of the perfect form as well, here and below.

### FORM/USE: CONDITIONS

Can use a finite subordinate clause, before or after a main clause, with conjunctions to introduce conditions. ► clauses: conditionals

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Unless something is done many people will die.*

*Getting to work by car is comfortable and faster unless you are caught in a traffic jam.*

*Provided the weather is fine, you could also go swimming or take a tour through our beautiful town.*

*I agree with you that your house will certainly be too small and I like your suggestion to book the Majestic Hotel, provided it will not be too expensive.*

### Comments

While 'unless' is a B1 lexical item in the EVP and taught at B1, its conditional use is not established until B2. || Also note that 'unless' is very error prone at B1.

**FORM/USE: NON-FINITE WITH '-ING'**

Can use a non-finite subordinate clause with 'after' + 'having/being' + '-ed' form, before a main clause, to refer to past time.

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*After having worked for many hours, you'll probably be tired.*

*After having left you, we reached Dublin and we stayed there for four days and then we made a tour of Ireland.*

*After being given the pass you'll be able to take as many pictures you like.*

## CONJUNCTIONS

### COORDINATING

**FORM/USE: 'BOTH ... AND' WITH PHRASES AND CLAUSES**

Can use 'both ... and' to combine phrases and clauses, often for emphasis.

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*And we have won a high reputation both at home and abroad.*

*A lot of people think that television can both entertain and educate.*

*Why not buying some extra beer and sell them on the beach? So, I could both get some enjoyment and make some money. So that was I did.*

**Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*And we have won high reputation both at home and abroad.*

*A lot of people think that television can both entertain and educate.*

*So, I could both get some enjoyment and make some money.*

**FORM/USE: 'NEITHER ... NOR'**

Can use 'neither ... nor' to connect two words, phrases or clauses, often to give emphasis or focus.

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*Neither you nor I would like that.*

*We can neither eat nor drink during the lessons.*

*I have neither climbed nor surfed before, so that would be very exciting for me.*

**Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*Neither you nor I would like that.*

*We can neither eat nor drink during the lessons.*

*I have neither climbed nor surfed before, so that would be very exciting for me.*

### SUBORDINATING

**FORM: COMPLEX**

Can use more complex subordinating conjunctions ('as long as, as soon as, in order that, despite the fact that, due to the fact that, as if, as though') to introduce a subordinate clause.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*As far as I am concerned, keeping animals in zoos is not cruel as long as the zoos keep to certain rules concerning the conditions the animals have to be kept in.*

*I decided to go to Paris as soon as I finished university.*

*The jazz, rock and classical concerts were really entertaining except that there were some concert halls which were too small for the audience.*

*So take a rest in your hotel, in order that you can be prepared for your packed schedule.*

*To sum up, the festival was successful, so I hope most people enjoyed the festival despite the fact that there were some problems with the poor sound system, and so on.*

*Due to the fact that the mass of cars pollute the cities and the environment, we are forced to give up our city habits and learn to be more sensible by using public transportation.*

*From the window of my room I could see her every night, as if she was the great mother of the sky.*

*Everything was so familiar, so close, as though he had never left the place.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*As far as I am concerned keeping animals in zoos is not cruel as long as the zoos keep to certain rules concerning the conditions the animals have to keep up with.*

*Thank you for your time, and We're looking forward to hearing from your opion. faithfully yours </original\_answer> <original\_answer> IT WAS DANGEROUS, BUT I KNEW I HAD TO DO IT ...BECAUSE Since always I'd gotten the idea of travel abroad and experiece others people's life and cultures, so I decided to go to Paris as soon as I finished university.*

*The jazz, rock and classical concerts were really entertaining except that there were some concert halls to small for the audience: I'm sure that you can find bigger halls for next year.*

*So take a rest in your hotel, in order that you can be prepared for your full scheduled days.*

*To sum up, the festival was successful, so I hope most people enjoyed the festival despite the fact that there were some problems with the poor sound system, and so on.*

*Due to the fact that the mass of cars pollute the cities and the environment, we are forced to give up our city habits and learn to be more reasonable by using public transportation.*

*From the window of my room I could see her every night, as if she was the great mother of the sky. (588860\_1; FCE; Portugal; B2 VANTAGE; 1993; Portuguese; Pass)*

*Everything was so familiar, so close, as though he never left the place.*

### FORM: SIMPLE

Can use a wide range of simple subordinating conjunctions ('once, whereas, unless, except (that) provided (that)'), to introduce a subordinate clause.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Believe me, once you have tried it, you'll never give it up.  
Once you become an employee, you'll get discounts on books and CDs.  
Some of us find it very useful whereas others still have difficulty in accepting technology as a valuable thing for everyone.  
Getting to work by car is comfortable, and faster unless you are caught in a traffic jam.  
Unless the situation improves, we will be forced to try a new supplier.  
Whenever I walk down the street, I always want to go into every shop.  
I can't say that I've changed much, except that now I'm blond!  
It offers special services for students provided you show your student card.  
Also, provided that some customers are always in the shops, the electricity is not really "wasted".*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*Believe me, once you have tried it, you'll never leave it.  
Once you become an employee you'll get discounts on books and Cds.  
Some of us find it very useful, whereas others still have difficulty in accepting technology as a valuable thing for everyone.  
Getting to work by bicycle is good solution but only in case of good weather and getting to work by car is comfortable and faster unless you are caught in a traffic jam.  
Unless the situation improves we will be forced to try a new supplier.  
I can't say that I changed much, except that now I'm blond!  
It offers special services for student, such as a welcome drink and a cheap price for the room provided you show your student card.  
Also, provided that some customers are always in the shops, the electricity is not so much "wasted".*

## DETERMINERS

### ARTICLES

#### FORM/USE: 'THE MORE ... THE MORE ...'

Can use the in comparative phrases 'more', 'less', 'worse', 'better ... the more', 'less', 'worse ...' to talk about one thing that is affected by another. ► comparative clauses

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*[talking about how watching TV is bad for you] I mean that you can watch one or two hours a day but the more you watch, the worse you become.  
The better education you have, the better opportunities you can get.*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*I mean that you can see one or two hours a day but the more you see the worse you become.  
The better education you have the better oportunity you can get.*



## POSSESSIVES

### FORM: 'ITS'

Can use possessive determiner 'its' before nouns to refer to a singular inanimate subject or object.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*It was the biggest TV in the bazaar with its huge, black screen.*

*The journey was quite long but Verona is a great city, with its buildings and churches.*

*They've chosen my school because of its size.*

#### Comments

Lots of error using 'his' instead of 'its' up until B2.

### FORM: OF + NOUN PHRASE 'S'

Can use 's' after a noun phrase with of to indicate possession.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Actually, I know a great one and they can make a little discount for us because the owner is a friend of my father's.*

#### Comments

This feature is very low frequency in the CLC.

### FORM: PLURAL NOUN + 'S'

Can use 's' after plural nouns to indicate possession.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*I decided to spend the rest of my holiday in my parents' house, near the sea.*

*So, if you want to study animals' behaviour, try to do it without changing the real circumstances in which they act!*

### USE: GENERIC 'THEIR'

Can use 'their' before nouns to refer to a generic body or group of people expressed as a singular subject. ► generic pronouns

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*... yet everyone has their preference for one or another.*

*Everyone has their own opinion.*

*IBM is a very important customer for us and they ordered 10,000 colour copies which show their new product.*

## QUANTITY

### FORM: 'LITTLE/FEW'

Can use modifier + 'little' + uncountable nouns and modifier + 'few' + countable nouns, to indicate a lack of something or not as much as expected of something. ► adverbs

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I spend very little time outside, and I know I do not have enough stamina and strength.*

*We are sick of working hard for so little money.*

*There are so few animals living on the earth today and the pandas have so few places left to live and to eat, so we must try helping these animals.*

## DISCOURSE MARKERS

### DISCOURSE MARKERS IN WRITING

#### FORM/USE: COMPARING

Can use a range of phrases as discourse markers to introduce a comparison.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*[talking about celebrating New Year] But some countries celebrate on other dates too, like they have Chinese New Year according to their calendar. Likewise, in Nepal New Year is celebrated on 1st of Baishak, which is the start of a new year according to the Nepalese calendar.*

*This group is expected to decrease considerably in the next fifty years. Similarly, the population of children are likely to drop to 11.5% in 2050.*

*When you read a letter from someone, you can imagine and almost feel the emotions of that someone. In the same way, when you read a book, you can feel the author's sensations, travel to distant places or participate in adventures only possible in your imagination.*

#### FORM/USE: ORGANISING, OPENINGS AND CLOSINGS, FORMAL

Can use a range of phrases as discourse markers to open and close texts and point to conclusions, often in formal contexts.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*To begin with, I want to ensure that you are going to have a great time with us.*

*For a start, we have lived with books for thousands of years while television is only half a century old.*

*In conclusion, if people in zoos look after the animals, it isn't cruel to keep an animal in zoo.*

*To sum up, I think that whether you use a car or a bicycle depends on several aspects: where you live, when you work, the weather, and also the kind of job you do.*

*In summary I would like to say that the majority of students is willing to help with cleaning, collecting the rubbish or even giving up their cars.*

#### FORM/USE: SUMMARISING, FORMAL

Can use a range of phrases as discourse markers to summarise.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Thus, I would be very grateful if you would send me clear explanations of the following points: firstly, I would like you to specify what the normal price is, and therefore what would be the cost of two nights.*

*Consequently, visiting zoos can help people learn about nature.*

*Hence, there is a great need to improve the situation of those animals so that their life would not become life imprisonment.*

*Therefore, we are likely to enter the market as a pioneer, which will have a lot of benefits.*

### Comments

Even though 'in sum' and 'To sum up' have a summarising function they are very much markers of closings. 'Thus', 'Hence', etc. have more of a clausal summarising function.

## FOCUS

### FOCUS

#### FORM/USE: 'THE REASON (THAT)', 'THE PLACE (WHICH)' + CLAUSE, SUBJECT

Can use 'The reason (that)', 'The place (which)' + clause as subject + 'be' for focus. ► Relative clauses

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*The reason I am writing is to suggest a few things about our holidays.*

*The reason that I never continued taking lessons is that my school-work became too heavy and the costs of lessons were too expensive for me as a student.*

*The place you need is called "Academiuta".*

*The place we appreciated the most was the Cap Frehel, where nature is still wild and the birds feel at home.*

*The place which has impressed me most of all in my life is Abastumani. (Georgia (Republic of); B2 VANTAGE; 1997; Russian; Pass).*

#### Comments

The thing/person is structure is covered in the relative clauses profile at B1 level, (e.g. The person who sat next to me was her). By B2, a wider range of forms are used as subject.

#### FORM/USE: 'THE THING/ FACT/ POINT/ PROBLEM IS (THAT)'

Can use 'The thing, fact, point, problem, or reason + is (that)' for focus.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*The reason is I like children, I have experience of looking after disabled people and I like to do things like volunteering.*

*The problem is I know myself, I am always late when I have to leave my house so I need a car to go faster.*

*The fact is that not all animals are able to deal with this.*

*The fact is science needs computers to increase knowledge and businesses need them like the air we breathe.*

*It is true that a lot of accidents are caused by cars. The point is that the car itself does not cause the accident.*

*The thing is, Alison is an eleven-year-old girl who has been, together with her father, left behind by her mother when she was just three.*

# FUTURE

## FUTURE CONTINUOUS

### FORM: QUESTIONS

Can use 'yes/no' and 'wh-' question forms with 'will'.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Will they be holding any activities at night?*

*Will I be needing any money?*

*What will you be doing in a few years if now you don't even try to do anything?*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*Will they be holding any activities at night?*

*Will I be needing any money.*

*What will you be doing in few years if now you don't even try to do anything.*

#### Comments

There is no evidence at any level to show use as politeness strategy due to the lack of spoken data.

### USE: POLITENESS

Can use the future continuous with 'will' as a polite question form, in place of the present simple or future simple.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Will I be needing any money?*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*Will I be needing any money.*

#### Comments

Use of this structure as a politeness strategy is very low frequency in CLC. It shows use of the structure as a pragmatic device. Examples in the CIC include 'How long will you be staying?' 'Will you be needing anything else?'

## FUTURE EXPRESSIONS WITH BE

### FORM: 'BE ABOUT TO'

Can use the present forms of 'be' + 'about to'.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*You are not going to believe what I am about to tell you!*

*I'm in a hurry, my class is about to begin.*

*They are to offer the spectators a view of the variety and the beauty of the world we are surrounded by and which we are about to destroy.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*You are not going to believe what I am about to tell you!*

*I'm in a hurry, my class is about to begin.*

*They are to offer the spectators a view of the variety and the beauty of the world we are surrounded by and which we are about to destroy.*

### Comments

No results for negative form.

### FORM: 'BE DUE TO'

Can use the present form of 'be' + 'due to'.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I am afraid that July is the only appropriate month, because I am due to start work in August.*

*As some of the members of our team are due to be present at a sales promotion programme next Friday, the marketing meeting once scheduled for next Friday is postponed to next Saturday.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*I am afraid that July is the only appropriate month, because I am due to start work in August.*

*As some of the members of our team are due to be present at a sales promotion programme next Friday, the marketing meeting once scheduled for next Friday is postponed to next Saturday.*

### Comments

No results for negative form. Although B2 seems like a very high level for this feature, there is not enough evidence in the corpus to put it any lower.

### FORM: 'BE TO'

Can use the present form of 'be' + 'to'.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Dear Erica, I am sorry that I cannot attend the meeting at head office as expected, as I am to go on a business trip to New York then.*

*He is to come to Athens next Friday.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*Dear Erica, I am sorry that I can not attend the meeting at head office as expected, as I am to go on a business trip to New York then.*

*He is to come to Athens next Friday.*

### USE: IMMEDIATE FUTURE WITH 'BE ABOUT TO'

Can use 'be about to' to talk about the immediate future, often with 'just'.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I know what you 're about to answer, and moreover you might be right;*

*We're about to introduce a new identity card system in our company.*

*My company has a high reputation for manufacturing healthy foods and we are just about to launch a newly-developed healthy snack for children which requires financial backing urgently.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*I know what you're about to answer, and moreover you might be right; but I'm sure that you don't choose the right option when you work fourteen hours a day.*

*We're about to introduce a new identity card system in our company.*

*My company has a high reputation for manufacturing healthy foods and we are just about to launch a newly-developed healthy snack for children which requires financial backing urgently.*

### Comments

Although there is evidence of this feature at B1, most of those are Business English or occur only in data from Spanish learners.

### USE: OBLIGATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS WITH 'BE TO'

Can use 'be to' talk about future obligations and to give instructions.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*[talking about gorillas] We have no right to do so, because they are to be respected as much as any other living form on this planet!*

*They are to have their passports with them.*

*You're to sit in front of the TV and just watch the film.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*We have no right of doing so, because they are to be respected as much as any other living form on this planet!*

*They are to have their passports with them.*

### Comments

No examples with 'be to' for formal events and occasions, e.g. 'The President is to open the new library.'

### USE: SCHEDULES

Can use 'be due to' and, more formally, 'be to' talk about things that are scheduled or expected.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Our annual conference for HR managers is due to take place on 10 December 2010.*

*However, the demand for products is still estimated as 'normal' and is due to increase within the next 6 months.*

*I am sorry but we are to leave a bit earlier – at about 16.00.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*Our annual conference for HR managers is due to take place at 10 December 2010.*

*However, the demand for products is still estimated as „normal“ and is due to increase within the next 6 months.*

*I am sorry but we are to leave a bit earlier – at about 16:00.*

## FUTURE IN THE PAST

### USE: 'BE ABOUT TO'

Can use the simple past form of 'be' + 'about to' (often with 'just') to talk about the immediate future from a point in the past.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Two days before, I told him that our father was about to buy a brand new car.*

*When I was about to answer the question, I realised that it was not as easy as I had thought.*

*Dear Helen, Believe it or not, I was just about to write you a letter when I received yours.*

*Just as we were about to climb through the broken window, a policeman arrived on the scene.*

### USE: 'BE ON THE POINT OF'

Can use the simple past form of 'be' + 'on the point of' + '-ing' to talk about things that were expected to happen soon after a point in the past.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*In addition, when I was on the point of leaving the office, another phone rang.*

*In fact he simulated his death to escape from the police, who were on the point of catching him for a penicillin racket.*

### Comments

This structure is very low frequency in both CLC and CEC

## FUTURE PERFECT CONTINUOUS

### FORM: AFFIRMATIVE

Can use the affirmative form with 'will'.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*This summer I will have been working for three years for my company ...*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*This summer I will have been working for three years for my company and last month I was promoted to the Environment Department where I was allowed to use the "Save the Planet" project to take part into the competition.*

### Comments

Very low frequency item. No results for contracted forms

### FORM: NEGATIVE

### Comments

No results for negative form or question form, probably due to lack of data

### USE: LOOKING BACK FROM A POINT IN THE FUTURE

Can use the future perfect continuous to look back to the past from a point in the future and to emphasise the duration of an activity or event.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Now I am staying in Hastings in England and this month, I will have been studying English for seven months.*

*I think I could have a holiday just in July because I will have been working for my company for one year by the end of the June.*

### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*Now I stay in Hastings in England and by this month, I will have been studying English for seven months.*

*I think, I could have an holiday just in July because I will have been working in my previous company for one year by the end of the June and I will have a one month holiday period from my company.*

## **FUTURE PERFECT SIMPLE**

### **FORM: AFFIRMATIVE**

Can use the affirmative form with 'will'.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*I'm sure I will have learned today's lesson by the next lesson.*

*It seems that the decorative role of clothes will have disappeared by the year 2050.*

### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*I'm sure I will have learned today's lesson by the next lesson.*

*It seems that the decorative role of clothes will have disappeared by the year of 2050.*

### **Comments**

There is no evidence in the CLC of the future perfect simple with 'shall' rather than 'will'.

### **FORM: NEGATIVE**

Can use the negative form with 'will'.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*I think that the best time for me to visit Scotland would be in July, because I will not have finished my university exams by June.*

*[talking about a cycling trip] Once we have finished, it we won't have done more than 40 km, and there are just another 10 to get to the Lakeside Inn.*

### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*I think that the best time for me to visit Scotland would be in July, because I will not have finished my university exams by June.*

*Once we have finished it we won't have done more than 40 km and there are just another 10 to get to the Lakeside Inn.*

### **USE: EVENTS COMPLETED IN THE FUTURE**

Can use the future perfect simple with 'will' to talk about something which is expected to be completed (or not completed) by a certain point in the future.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*There is no problem if you want to leave at 4.30 pm as the match will have finished by that time.*

*First of all, if you go to work by bicycle every day, at the end of the month you will have saved more money because you won't have spent it buying petrol.*



### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*There is no problem if you want to leave at 4.30p.m. as the match will have finished by this time.*

*First of all, if you goes to work by bicycle every day, at the end of the month you will have saved more money because you won't have spent it buying petrol.*

## PRESENT CONTINUOUS FOR FUTURE USE

### USE: FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS

Can use the present continuous with a wide range of verbs to talk about future arrangements.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*We're throwing a party for fun on 5th January.*

*She is joining the course on Friday.*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*We are throwing a Party for fun on the fith of January 2004.*

*She is joining the course on Friday and likes it very much.*

### USE: QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FUTURE

Can use the present continuous with a wide range of common verbs to ask about future plans.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*So are you planning to visit Japan then?*

*When is the festival starting and when is it finishing?*

*What kind of seminar materials are you providing?*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*So are you planning to visit Japan then!?*

*Can you write me when is the festival starting and when is it finishing?*

*What kind of seminar materials are you providing?*

#### Comments

Note that the range of verbs increases, but only across common verbs that are associated with lower levels. There is very little lexical development going on, which could be related to task effect.

## MODALITY

### ADJECTIVES

#### FORM/USE: 'IT' + LINKING VERB + ADJECTIVES + ('THAT') CLAUSE, FOCUS

Can use 'it' + linking verb + adjective + ('that') clause as a focusing device.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*It is clear that we can't live without computers today.*

*It seems obvious that this oil comes from the gas station.*

*Computers became part of the human life style because they help us to make our lives easier, but it is clear that we should never depend on machines to handle our lives.*

*Due to the introduction of a new staff appraisal form, it is crucial that you take part.*

*It's obvious you can't ride forty kilometres twice a day, unless you're very sporty.*

*It is essential that you know the advantages of our new product in order to sell this bag efficiently.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*You are bound to leave for home with plenty of good memories.*

*They are unlikely to arrive on Friday.*

*We are sure to increase our turnover and at least our profit.*

*Whenever money is involved, some problems are likely to happen.*

*She was sure to have heard a shot.*

*[Talking about animals in zoos] They're obliged to live in small and uncomfortable cages.*

### FORM/USE: 'IT' + LINKING VERB + ADJECTIVES + CLAUSE, HEDGING

Can use 'it' + linking verb + adjective + ('that') clause to make an assertion less direct.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*It does not seem possible that we can live without any private life.*

*It is likely that by reading books we will learn some new words and phrases so that we will be able to write better.*

*It is possible that only one computer will do this.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*It does not seem possible that we can live without any private life.*

*It is likely that by reading books we will learn some new words and phrases so that we will be able to write better.*

*It is possible that only one computer will do this.*

### FORM: 'IT' + LINKING VERB + ADJECTIVES + CLAUSE

Can use 'it' + linking verb + adjective + ('that') clause.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*It seems clear to me that swimming is good for the whole body.*

*It is obvious that some people prefer reading books.*

*It is possible that we can be educated by TV.*

*It seems obvious that it is not necessary.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*If you have to choose between two schools I think it's important for you to know how they are.*

*It's impossible for me to meet with you at six o'clock.*

*It is important for everyone to attend this meeting.*

*[Talking about not missing class] It's essential for me to go because I think I can't study physics by myself.*

**FORM: SUBJECT + 'BE' + ADJECTIVE + 'TO' + INFINITIVE**

Can use pronoun or noun + 'be' + adjective + 'to' + (past) infinitive.

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*They are unlikely to arrive on Friday.*

*We are sure to increase our turnover and at least our profit.*

*Whenever money is involved, some problems are likely to happen.*

*If you see a movie, it is likely to have been made with computers.*

**Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*It is clear that we can't live without computers today.*

*It seems obvious that this oil comes from the gas station.*

*Computers became part of the human life style because they help us to make our lives easier, but it is clear that we should never depend on machines to handle our lives.*

*Due to the introduction of a new staff appraisal form it is crucial that you take part.*

*It's obvious you can't ride twice a day forty kilometers, unless you're a great sportive.*

*It is essential that you know the advantages of our new product in order to sell this bag efficiently.*

**CAN****FORM: WITH ADVERBS**

Can use 'can' with an increasing range of adverbs (including 'easily', 'hardly', 'now', 'probably', 'sometimes', 'still') in the normal mid position after the modal verb or after the subject in questions. ► adverbs

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*In case you need them , I can easily provide references.*

*On the other hand you can hardly imagine an evening when you are sitting in your armchair, the tea is on the table and you are reading your favourite novel on a computer screen.*

*As you read her book, you can probably imagine what kind of personality she has got, and after finishing it, you will be more cheerful than before.*

**USE: GENERAL TRUTHS AND TENDENCIES**

Can use 'can' to talk about general truths and tendencies.

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*...some young people can feel bored when they have to walk a lot and look at [...] very old things.*

*Too much work can cause "stress" and heart problems.*

**USE: GUESSES AND PREDICTIONS**

Can use the negative forms of 'can't' and 'cannot' to guess, predict and deduce.

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*You look very pale and you can't be feeling well.*

*I think that it can't be true.*

*[talking about someone suspected of being a criminal] He can't be; he is too young.*

*It cannot be any good for these animals to be taken away from their natural surroundings.*

### **USE: REPROACHES AND APPEALS**

Can use negative forms of 'can' to make reproaches or appeals.

#### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*You can't forget your friends.*

*...he can't go on behaving like this.*

*Please, listen, you can't go on studying so hard.*

*You have to realise that you cannot work all the time: your body needs some rest.*

*Can't you see how exhausted you are?*

## **COULD**

### **FORM: PAST**

Can used 'could' have + '-ed'.

#### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*In fact it could have been dangerous but it became funny and also an embarrassing moment in my life!*

*What could have happened?*

*I must confess that our teacher couldn't have picked anyone better to do it.*

### **USE: PAST POSSIBILITY**

Can used affirmative 'could' have + '-ed' to talk about past possibility.

#### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*Alice was disappointed that her mother could have phoned her but she did not.*

*I think that all these problems could have been avoided and that asking my money back is the best way of forgetting that evening.*

*I was grateful to them because the ticket was so expensive that I couldn't have bought it.*

### **USE: PAST SPECULATION**

Can use 'could have' + '-ed' to speculate about the past.

#### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*I thought perhaps a thief could have entered my house.*

*? she could have ruined everything I had been preparing for almost four weeks.*

*If he had mugged her, who could have saved her?*

### **USE: REGRET**

Can use 'could have' + '-ed' to talk about regrets.

#### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*I wish I could have stayed, especially to help the children.*

*[someone reflecting on their performance as part of a team at work] I could have listened more to my team members and learned from the experienced ones.*

### **USE: REPORTED SPEECH**

Can use 'could' as the past form of 'can' in reported speech.

#### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*I told them I couldn't go because I didn't have money, I wasn't honest!*

*The woman said she could put me up if I wanted, and led me to a house nearby.*

## DARE

### FORM: AFFIRMATIVE

Can use affirmative form dare + infinitive without to.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*I can cook if you dare eat it!*

#### Comments

LOW FREQUENCY ITEM. There is very little use of 'dare' as a semi-modal in CLC even at C2 level. Most examples are dare as main verb not functioning as a modal verb. |At C level there is lots of evidence of 'dare' + 'to' inf and lots of errors with 'dare' + '-ing'

### FORM: NEGATIVE

Can use negative form dare not and daren't + infinitive without to.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*[talking about a restaurant] But many local people dare not go to Lily, because it is too expensive.*

#### Comments

LOW FREQUENCY ITEM: There are very few examples of 'dare not' and 'daren't' in the CLC. See also comment at B2 'affirmative'.

### USE: BRAVADO

Can use semi-modal 'dare' to talk about being brave enough to do something.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Some people object that I have to put up with the rain and other inconveniences, but I think that they are rather jealous because they daren't give up their car.*

#### Comments

LOW FREQUENCY ITEM: There are very few examples of 'dare not' and 'daren't' in the CLC. See also comment at B2 'affirmative'

## EXPRESSIONS WITH BE

### FORM/USE: 'BE MORE/LESS LIKELY', COMPARISON

Can use '(much) more/less' to modify 'likely' in a comparison.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*In case of an accident, one is more likely to be badly injured when riding a bicycle.  
Since they are more and better educated when they leave school at 18 years old, their minds are more mature and they are more sensible. They are more likely to have better jobs and a better life, and much less likely to cause problems to other people.*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*In case of an accident one is more likely to be badly injured when riding a bicycle.  
Since they are more and better educated when they leave school at 18 yrs old, their minds are more mature, they are more likely having better jobs and better life and much less likely to cause crimes and proplems to other people.*

### FORM/USE: IMPERATIVE

Can use the imperative form 'be sure to', to express obligation.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*If you cannot attend, be sure to inform me in advance.*

*Be sure to contact me for any further information.*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*If you cannot attend, be sure to inform me in advance.*

*Be sure to contact me for any further information.*

#### Comments

There are no instances of the imperative with 'certain' in the CLC. This tallies with the NS data where there is only one instance of Be certain to in the BNC written.

### FORM: 'BE' + ADJECTIVE + 'THAT'

Can use 'be' + 'obvious/sure/likely/certain' followed by a 'that'-clause.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*It is about 1000 years old, so I am sure that you will find it fascinating to see it.*

*It was obvious that I would be late to work.*

*It is likely that by reading books we will learn some new words and phrases so that we will be able to write better.*

*It is certain that our state-of-the-art LCD will be well received and make great profits.*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*It is about 1000 years old, so I am sure that you will find it fascinating to see it.*

*It was obvious that I would be late at my work.*

*It is likely that by reading books we will learn some new words and phrases so that we will be able to write better.*

*It is certain that our state-of-the-art LCD will be well received and make great profits.*

#### Comments

Examples here are with both a human subject 'I am sure that' and 'it' + adjective, for example 'It's obvious that', since the grammatical pattern is the same.

### FORM: 'BE' EXPRESSIONS + INFINITIVE

Can use the full range of expressions with 'be' + infinitive ('be likely to', 'be due to', 'be meant to', 'be bound to', 'be sure to', 'be certain to', 'be obliged to') with present and past forms of 'be' and with modal 'will' .

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*People who read books are likely to be more knowledgeable.*

*I'm bound to feel nervous.*

*According to our new marketing strategy, we are sure to increase our turnover and our profit.*

*[talking about a new job] I am due to start on Monday 4 June.*

*I would like to inform you that as of 1st of June all operational staff will be obliged to use identity cards.*

*Sleepy and unwilling to take part of the conference, I was obliged to spend the evening listening to the soft voice of a man who was famous for his boring performances.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*People who read books are likely to be more knowledgeable since they get informed.*

*I'm bound to feel nervous.*

*According to our new marketing strategy we are sure to increase our turnover and at least our profit.*

*[talking about a new job] I am due to start on Monday 4 June.*

### USE: 'BE BOUND TO', CERTAINTY

Can use 'be' (+ modifier) 'bound to' to talk about something certain or inevitable.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I assure you that it is bound to be popular with different clients, especially young people and white-collar workers.*

*It is hardly possible to catch a cold when travelling by car in rain which is almost bound to happen while riding a bicycle.*

*To sum up, where many people get together, problems are bound to arise.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*I assure you that it is bound to be popular with different clients, especially those young people and the white-collar.*

*It is hardly possible to catch a cold when travelling by car in rain which is almost bound to happen while riding a bicycle.*

*To sum up, where many people get together, problems are bound to arise.*

### Comments

Note that at B2 learners can modify these adjectives, for example, 'almost bound', 'quite certain'...

### USE: 'BE DUE TO', 'BE TO', SCHEDULES

Can use 'be due to' and, more formally, 'be to' to talk about things that are scheduled or expected.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I have attached the ... company law directive enacted 2 years ago and which is due to be implemented by 2008.*

*The programme was due to start at midday.*

*I am sorry that I cannot attend the meeting at head office as expected, as I am to go on a business trip to New York then.*

*I was to take exams in two weeks and had to study hard.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*I have attached the ... company law directive enacted 2 years ago and which is due to be implemented by 2008.*

*The programme was due to start at midday*

*I am sorry that I can not attend the meeting at head office as expected, as I am to go on a business trip to New York then.*

*I was to take exams in two week and had to study hard ...*

### Comments

The 'be to' form is very low frequency in the CLC and the NS corpus.

**USE: 'BE FORCED TO', OBLIGATION**

Can use 'be forced to' to talk about an unnamed obligation, where the circumstances are beyond the control of the speaker/writer.

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*I don't like to be forced to do something that I don't want to do.*

*Due to decreasing sales over the last months, we are forced to cut the budget.*

**Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*I don't like to be forced to do something what I don't want to do.*

*Due to decreasing sales over the last months we are forced to cut the budget*

**USE: 'BE LIKELY TO', PROBABILITY**

Can use 'be' (+modifier) 'likely to' to talk about probability.

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*And whenever money is involved, some problems are likely to happen.*

*I am very likely to make mistakes which I would like to avoid.*

**Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*And whenever money is involved, some problems are likely to happen.*

*I am very likely to make mistakes which I would like to avoid.*

**USE: 'BE MEANT TO', IDEAL STATES**

Can use 'be meant to' to talk about ideal states.

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*Animals are meant to be free, and man should be very careful about interfering with nature.*

*Primary school is meant to be there so that you build all the basics of your education.*

**Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*Animals are meant to be free, and man should be very careful to interfere with nature.*

*Primary school is meant to be there so that you built all the basics of your eduction.*

**Comments**

There are 2.6 per million occurrences of 'be meant to' in CLC but in BNC there are only 0.2 per million occurrences.

**USE: 'BE OBLIGED TO', OBLIGATION**

Can use 'be obliged to' to talk about an external obligation, especially in institutional contexts.

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*The Sales Representatives are obliged to participate.*

*By January 2 everybody is obliged to have a parking permit when using the company car park.*

*They were obliged to give up their house.*

**Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*The Sales Representatives are obliged to participate.*

*By January 2 everybody is obliged to have a parking permit when using the company car park.*

*They were obliged to give up their house.*



### **Comments**

There are a lot of instances of be obliged to where the grammatical structure is correct but is being used incorrectly to talk about a self-imposed obligation, e.g. I am obliged to admit having already caught a cold. Not obliged to doesn't appear until C1, probably due to lack of opportunity of use. We are not obliged to stay in the office waiting for calls. (SfLL2; C1; Arabic)

### **USE: 'BE SUPPOSED TO', HEARSAY**

Can use 'be supposed to' to talk about hearsay or supposition.

#### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*That woman is supposed to have killed her husbands (at least two), because she wanted their money.*

*The lake is supposed to be very beautiful.*

#### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*That woman is supposed to have killed her husbands (at least two), because she wanted their money.*

*The lake is supposed to be very beautiful.*

### **USE: 'BE SUPPOSED TO', OBLIGATION, EXPECTATION**

Can use 'be supposed to' to talk about expectation or obligation.

#### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*However, the show is only on the 14th of March, the same day we are supposed to go to a Science Museum.*

*Our travels are supposed to provide us with pleasure, knowledge and new experiences.*

*I have bought some disks but I don't know what I am supposed to do with them.*

*I was supposed to explain to them what they had to do.*

#### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*However, the show is only on the 14th of March the same day we are supposed to go to a Science Museum.*

*Travels are supposed to provide us with pleasure, knowledge and new experiences.*

*I have bought some disks but I don't know what I am supposed to do with them.*

*I was supposed to explain to them what they had to do.*

### **USE: 'BE SURE/CERTAIN TO'**

Can use 'be sure to', 'be certain to' to talk about certainty.

#### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*A person that will act in that way is sure to be successful.*

*Furthermore, by bicycle, you don't spend your time in traffic-jams and you are sure to arrive at work on time.*

*The market for this product is not yet fully developed, but we are certain to attract more and more people, especially students.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*A person that will act in that way is sure to be successful.*

*Furthermore, by bicycle, you don't spend your time into traffic-jams and you are sure to arrive at work in time.*

*The market of this product is not yet fully developed, but we are certain to attract more and more people, especially students.*

## HAVE (GOT) TO

### USE: SUGGESTION

Can use 'you (have) got to' to make a strong suggestion.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*If you think you have seen almost everything in this world, you've got to see this museum.*

*[talking about a famous actor] You have to see at least one of her films ... I think if you haven't seen her films, you haven't lived at all!*

*You have to relax. You should try to live. You don't know what's going on around you.*

*The main thing to remember is that there many possibilities but you have to try to find them and not just say: "I want to work and earn money".*

## MAY

### FORM/USE: PAST AFFIRMATIVE

Can use 'may have' + '-ed' to talk about possibility in the past.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I think that he may have forgiven me for that accident ... !*

*As you may have noticed, there has been a delay setting up the new computer system.*

*[talking about buying something online] Another disadvantage is that you may have received the wrong size or colour.*

*Now, you may have seen your beautiful blue vase is not in your room any more; I broke it ...!*

### FORM: WITH ADVERBS

Can use 'may' with an increasing range of adverbs (most commonly 'even', 'only', 'already', 'never', 'just', 'sometimes') in the normal mid-position after the modal verb. ► adverbs

### Corrected Learner Examples

*When you're reading books, you may even find words you don't know and if you're an interested person, you will try to find out what it means, thus improving your vocabulary.*

*Think of all the children living in cities, they may never get the chance to come near any animals at all.*

### USE: COMMAND

Can use 'may I' to make a polite request, command or suggestion in formal contexts.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*May I have your attention please?*

*May I ask you to use e-mail or postal services whenever possible?*

*In terms of how we are going to travel around while we are there, may I suggest that we use the two bicycles that are at the house?*

## USE: FOCUSING

Can use 'may' in phrases such as 'you may know', or 'as you may have' + '-ed' to focus the reader on shared knowledge.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I usually take more than one book because, as you may know, it takes many hours to get there.*

*As you may have heard, I am going to change to the engineering department.*

*As you may have understood, the best opportunity to take photos will be during the performance, but you might also find backstage photos interesting.*

## USE: OPINION

Can use 'may ... but' to express an unexpected point of view.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*This may surprise you but I've managed to lose some weight, which I'm proud of.*

*[talking about cleaning musical instruments] You may think that it is quite boring but it is not.*

## USE: POLITE REQUEST

Can use 'may I' to make a polite request for permission.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Sir, may I come in?*

*May I ask you if your special offer will be still available in September?*

*May I speak to Miss Wright, please?*

## MUST

### FORM: PAST AFFIRMATIVE

Can use 'must have' + '-ed'.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*When I realized that he must have forgotten, I called him up.*

*We had lots of fun learning how to ski. It was pretty hard at the beginning. I must have fallen about fifty times.*

### FORM: QUESTIONS

Can use the question form.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Is it possible to use the prize next year or must I cancel my trip to India?*

*Finally, how much money must I bring with me?*

### Comments

Example no.2: note that NS would more commonly use should in this context

### FORM: WITH ADVERBS

Can use 'must' with an increasing range of adverbs (including 'all', 'never', 'strongly', 'first') in the normal mid position after the modal verb. ► adverbs

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*To sum up, we must all act immediately because the existence of humanity may be in danger. But there is one, just one thing we must never forget: we have to be authentic. [talking about a guide book] In addition I must strongly recommend you add something about nightlife.*

### **USE: CONCESSIONS**

Can use the fixed expression 'I must admit' or 'you must admit' to express concession.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*On the other hand you must admit that not all ready-made meals taste really good and often they are not as healthy as fresh ones. However, I must admit that I completely agree with Chris and consider the mountain road too daring to try.*

### **USE: DEDUCTIONS AND CONCLUSIONS**

Can use the perfect form of 'must' to make deductions about the past.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*Of course, India must have changed a lot since Jules Verne wrote his book, but I think that its charm remains. I must have looked awful because she asked me whether I was all right.*

### **USE: EMPHASIS**

Can use the fixed expression 'I must say' to give emphasis, usually about something positive.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*I must say that I'm most delighted to have you here with us, Mr. Saramago, and it's with enormous pleasure that my students will hear your words. As I like music a lot I went to as many concerts as possible, and I must say that they were superb.*

### **USE: OBLIGATION AND NECESSITY**

Can use 'must' to ask about obligation and necessity.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*Is it possible to use the prize next year or must I cancel my trip to India? Finally, how much money must I bring with me?*

### **USE: RULES**

Can use the negative forms of 'must' to talk about what is not permitted.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*You must not hit them or punish them without good reason if you do not want them to become your worst enemy. They must not write on the walls. In school for example, you mustn't talk during lessons, and you have to be on time.*

## **NEED**

### **FORM: NEGATIVE**

Can use the negative form.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*You needn't worry about where we can stay.*

*... when I send an e-mail, I need not worry about the time.*

*You needn't go out jogging in the evening because you have already had your exercise.*

### Comments

Use of 'need' as a lexical verbs appears at lower levels (see EVP), but this profile looks only at 'need' as a semi-modal. 'Needn't' and the question form are both very low frequency. There are no examples with affirmative 'need'.

### USE: OBLIGATION AND NECESSITY

Can use 'needn't to' talk about a lack of obligation.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I like summer so much because the weather is hot and we needn't wear a jacket.*

*[talking about preparing for a party] As for the music, you needn't worry about it.*

## OUGHT

### FORM: ELLIPSIS

Can use 'ought to' without a following verb where the previous main verb is understood. ► ellipsis

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Otherwise some students would not get as much specialised help as they ought to.*

### Comments

This is a very low frequency form in both the learner and native speaker data.

### USE: DESIRED STATES

Can use 'ought to' to talk about desired states of affairs.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Furthermore, we ought to take care of our health by going on trips to not unpolluted places as often as possible.*

*Of course not all zoos are as good as they ought to be, but today we know so much about the different animals that they don't have to get bored in the zoo and we're able to provide them with the environment they prefer.*

*There shouldn't be any rubbish dumps, all the rubbish ought to be recycled.*

## SHOULD

### FORM: 'SHOULD BE' + '-ING'

Can use 'should be' + '-ing'.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Well, you should be bouncing up and down with joy (just kidding)!*

*These are the reasons that I believe we should be reading books instead of watching television in our free time and I believe many people believe the same thinks as I do.*

## FORM: ELLIPSIS

Can use 'should' and 'shouldn't' without a following verb where the previous main verb is understood.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Well, have you ever checked your blood pressure? I think you should.*

*John spent the rest of the day thinking about what he should do. In fact, he wanted to answer and meet her again, but he knew that he shouldn't.*

## USE: EXPECTATIONS

Can use 'should be' + '-ing' to talk about expectations.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*The computer systems should be working again once you restart them.*

*However, I think that the situation should be improving in the next 6 months, especially during the third quarter of the year.*

*[talking about wedding protocol] The groom should be waiting at the entrance for the bride.*

## USE: OBLIGATION

Can use 'should be' + '-ing' to talk about present general obligation.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Wild animals should be running free but I think that zoos today have an important role in keeping them alive.*

*Moreover if a car driver has drunk too many alcoholic drinks or is tired he shouldn't be driving.*

## USED TO

### FORM: ELLIPSIS

Can use 'used to' without a following verb where the previous main verb is understood. ► ellipsis

### Corrected Learner Examples

*She doesn't travel as much as she used to.*

*I must admit that they did sound quite a lot better than they used to.*

## WILL

### USE: REQUESTS

Can use 'will' (particularly 'Will you please') to make requests and commands in a wide range of contexts.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Will you please send me his name, address and telephone number.*

*Will you please inform me about the exact payment.*

*Will you pay attention!*

### Comments

Note that for Business English candidates this use first appears at B1.

## WOULD

### USE: HABITUAL PAST

Can use 'would' to talk about habitual actions and events in the past.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*[talking about a job that the speaker did last year] In my opinion I worked very hard. I would spend a lot of hours at work.*

*[from a story about pirates] At night they would go to the rocky seaside and light a fire in order to deceive the boats and let them crash on the rocks.*

## NEGATION

### NEGATION

#### FORM/USE: 'NEITHER ? NOR'

Can use 'neither ? nor' to connect two words, phrases or clauses, often to give emphasis or focus.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Neither you nor I would like that.*

*We can neither eat nor drink during the lessons.*

*I have neither climbed nor surfed before, so that would be very exciting for me.*

#### FORM/USE: 'NEVER', INVERTED FRONT POSITION, FOCUS

Can use 'never' in front position followed by an inverted subject (most commonly 'I') + main verb, to give focus.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Never have I seen such a realistic and impressive film before.*

*Never had I thought that my parents would do this to me.*

#### FORM/USE: 'NOT', EMPHASIS

Can use uncontracted 'not' for emphasis or in formal contexts.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Do not take on too many assignments at a time.*

*I cannot agree with you Mr Brown.*

*Keeping them in zoos will not help them.*

#### FORM: 'NEITHER OF', 'NONE OF' + PRONOUN

Can use negative forms 'neither of' and 'none of' + pronoun or noun phrase with the affirmative form of the verb.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Neither of us is liable in this case.*

*Moreover, none of my friends are interested therefore there is no one I can talk to.*

*We even met a French group and as none of them spoke English, we stayed with them to translate what they were asked.*

# NOUNS

## NOUN PHRASES

### FORM: COMPLEX NOUN PHRASES WITH ADJECTIVES COMBINED WITH 'BUT'

Can form an increasing range of complex noun phrases with more than one adjective combined with 'but'.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*I am very lucky, because I was born in a small but beautiful city called Neuva Helvecia.*

*As a result, in order to find out which is the most important, you need to ask yourself a simple but tricky question that no man would like to be asked.*

*The smoke in the air had a strong but good smell.*

*I will be on business in London to sign a contract with a new but significant customer at that time.*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*I am very luckily, because I was born in a small , but beautiful city called Neuva Helvecia.*

*As a result, inorder to find out which is the most important you need to ask yourself a simple but tricky question that no man would like to be asked.*

*The smoke in the air had a strong but good smell.*

*Dear Erica I am sorry that I can not attend the meeting at the head office since I will be on business in London to sign a contract with a new but significant customer at that time.*

### FORM: NOUN + 'OF' + POSSESSIVE DETERMINER + NOUN

Can form noun phrases with noun + 'of' + possessive determiner + noun + 's', particularly with 'friend' or 'friends'.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Actually, I know a great one and they can make a little discount for us because the owner is a friend of my father's.*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*Actually, I know a great one and they can make a little discount for us because the owner is a friend of my father's.*

#### Comments

This is more typical in spoken language. There is only one example in the CLC of this at B2 level and one at C2 level.

### FORM: POSSESSION WITH PLURAL NOUNS + '

Can form noun phrases with plural nouns + ' + noun.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*He had promised that he would go to his grandparents' house this afternoon.*

*Our company is a digital company with 15 years' experience.*

*It is essential to introduce special offers to get customers' attention.*



### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*He had promised that he would go to his grandparents' house this afternoon.*

*Our company is a digital company with 15 years' experience.*

*It is essential to introduce special offers to get customers' attention.*

### FORM: POSTMODIFYING WITH ADJECTIVE PHRASE

Can form complex noun phrases by using adjective phrases as postmodifiers to give more information about the noun.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Besides, we could leave one day in the morning and go by boat to a small and exotic island full of different and exotic species of birds that we could observe and photograph.*

*Emily Brönte succeeded in writing a romantic, psychological and tragic story, beautifully set in these mysterious moors.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*Besides we could leave one day in the morning and reach by boat to a small and exotic island full of different and exotic species of birds that we could observe and photograph.*

*Emily Brönte succeeded in writing a romantic, psychological and tragic[al] story, beautifully set in these mysterious moors .*

## TYPES

### FORM'-ING' FORMS, SUBJECT

Can use the '-ing' form of verbs as nouns in subject position.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Working until midnight every evening is not reasonable. Working late is not the solution and it is even dangerous.*

*Also, think about stress. Driving in a city is stressful.*

*First of all, Wicklow Mountains Centre is the perfect place for climbing. Climbing is our favourite hobby and, I think, we will have a good time.*

*Many people say that they just don't have time for thinking about their health. Living in today's world demands spending a lot of time working.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*Working until midnight every evening is not reasonable . Working late is not the solution and it is even dangerous.*

*Also, think about stress . Driving in a city is stressful.*

*First of all, Wicklow Mountains Centre is the perfect place for climbing . Climbing is our favourite hobby and, I think, we will have a good time.*

*Many people say that they just don' have time for thinking about their health. Living in today's world demands spending a lot of time on working.*

## UNCOUNTABLE

### FORM: NO ARTICLE

Can use uncountable nouns without a definite article to refer to an abstract thing in general.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Television is more attractive because it has moving images.*

*Music was her life, not only a hobby.*

*Look at it this way, the more you work in school, the more you will achieve in your job.*

*Education is important to prevent you from being a dog on a leash!*

*Language can be learned slowly and reflects the culture and tradition of the country. Language even plays an important role in the tourist industry.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*Television is more attractive because it has moving images.*

*Music was her life, not only a hobby.*

*Look at it this way, the more you work in school the more you will acheive in your job.*

*Education is important to prevent you from being a dog on a leash!*

*Language can be learned slowly and reflects the culture and tradition of the country .*

*Language even plays an important role in tourist industry.*

### Comments

Note the abstract use here compared to the type of examples you find at A2, e.g. 'The music is going to be loud' – which refers to a specific concrete instance. Common errors with uncountables persist at B2 and increase with lexical growth, e.g. 'informations', 'advices', 'equipments', 'transports', 'knowledges', 'works', 'spendings', 'trainings', 'homeworks', 'researches', 'furnitures', 'behaviours', 'damages'. Learner example: 'Please send me all the informations and the application.'

## PASSIVES

### GET AND HAVE

#### FORM/USE: 'GET' + OBJECT + 'TO'-INFINITIVE

Can use 'get' + object + 'to'-infinitive to talk about causing someone to do something.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*I would like to point at a few things about our small town, which I, as a citizen, have to explain to our friends, in order to get them to visit us more frequently.*

*It is a good way to get them to shop at this particular store.*

*I do understand that it must be difficult to get these people to go to the festival.*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*I would like to point at a few things about our small town, which I, as a citizen, have to explain to our friends, in order to get them to visit us more frequently.*

*Nowadays there are far more means of communication which can get you to work faster and safer than earlier.*

*It is a good way to get them to shop at this particular store.*

*I do understand that it must be difficult to get these people to go to the festival.*

#### FORM/USE: 'HAVE' + OBJ + '-ED', PROACTIVE PASSIVE

Can use have + object + -ed to talk about something where the speaker is in a pro-active or a passive role.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*After I left you on Monday, I had my car serviced and visited Washington with its wonderful memorials.*

*It's such a shame that I'm having my room redecorated but, in my view, the garden will be perfect.*

*My plans fell through because I had my purse stolen and I had no money to continue my journey.*

*The other reason against going to work by bike in a big city is that the risk of having your bike stolen is bigger.*

*I had just played in the best team of Sao Paulo but I had to stop because I had my leg broken in a car crash.*

### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*After I left you on monday I had my car serviced and visited Washington with its' wonderful memorials.*

*It's such a shame that I'm having my room redecorated but, In my view the garden will be perfect.*

### **Comments**

This form is used for situations that can have either a positive or negative outcome, depending on the context and the choice of verb.

### **FORM: 'GET' + REFLEXIVE PRONOUN + '-ED'**

Can use a reflexive pronoun with the 'get'-passive.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*Although to drive a car you must be very careful because you could get yourself killed if you don't drive carefully enough.*

*Although he has a charming personality he uses it to get himself involved in illegal activities.*

### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*Although to drive a car you me very careful because you could get yourself killed if you don't drive carefully enough.*

*Although he has a charming personality he uses it to get himself involved in illegal activities.*

### **Comments**

This form is often used to suggest that the subject shares some of the responsibility of and is more frequent in spoken use than written. |

## **PASSIVES: FORM**

### **FORM: INFINITIVE**

Can use the passive infinitive affirmative and negative forms after an increasing range of main verbs, modal verbs, adjectives and nouns, in impersonal constructions.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*According to your advertisement, some training is supposed to be given.*

*My composition was ready to be printed and I was searching for a piece of paper?*

*I would prefer to sleep in a tent because I have never done it and I think it is an experience not to be missed, a very original adventure!*

*The reason that I took part in your research was to help youngsters not to be addicted to computer games ?*

*For one, the future homes might not be built out of bricks at all!*

### FORM: MODAL PERFECT

Can use the present perfect simple affirmative and negative forms with modal verbs to refer to the past.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I think that all these problems could have been avoided and that asking for my money back is the best way of forgetting that evening.*

*I don't remember how I lost it, it might have been stolen.*

*Of course, some groups were better than others but I think they all played well and have talent: they should have been given a chance!*

*It should not have been used in this kind of article.*

### FORM: PAST CONTINUOUS AFFIRMATIVE.

Can use the past continuous passive affirmative.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*However, to my disappointment, the restaurant was closed because it was being redecorated.*

*After they explained everything to him, he then knew he was being tricked by them and that this was supposed to be a special experience for him.*

*We thought that as you lived there, we could go to your house and stay there while the car was being repaired.*

### Comments

Negative forms are very low frequency.

### FORM: PAST PERFECT SIMPLE, AFFIRMATIVE

Can use the past perfect passive affirmative form.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*The car had been serviced and everything seemed to be all right.*

*At this moment, Lime walked in and realised he had been set up.*

### FORM: PAST PERFECT SIMPLE, NEGATIVE

Can use the past perfect passive negative form.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*[talking about a car] In fact, it hadn't been stolen, it had been taken by a man and his wife, because their car broke down and because she was about to have her baby ?*

*We waited for ages because we had not been informed.*

### FORM: PAST SIMPLE NEGATIVE

Can use past simple passive negative.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*What is worse, the ticket price was not reduced despite the fact that I showed my student ID. I had to go to the hospital because my back hurt so badly, and I wasn't allowed to work for two weeks.*

*I was really disappointed because a lot of things were not done.*

*Some say that studying animals would be impossible, if they weren't kept in zoos ?*

### FORM: PRESENT CONTINUOUS, AFFIRMATIVE

Can use the present continuous passive affirmative with an increasing range of verbs.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*This year's topic is the online training for employees, which is being relaunched.*

*The global temperature is rising, the ice is melting, the sea level increases and miles and miles of coast are being submerged.*

*The first thing to be linked through computers was academic knowledge, then came commercial businesses, naturally, and now, people are being linked through billions of personal computers.*

### FORM: PRESENT CONTINUOUS, NEGATIVE

Can use the present continuous passive negative.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*? students are not being educated equally.*

*To conclude, in my opinion, it is important to keep as many languages as possible alive, so we can make sure that part of the human history is not being lost.*

*Firstly, the fact of different kinds of animals are in a zoo, doesn't means that they aren't being treated right.*

### FORM: PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE, AFFIRMATIVE

Can use the present perfect passive affirmative form (often in the context of reporting). ► reported speech

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I have been asked to write a report about an accident which happened to me last Saturday.*

*I am writing to you to give you further information about the conference organization and about the arrangements which have been made for your group of students.*

### FORM: PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE, NEGATIVE

Can use the present perfect passive negative form (often in the context of reporting). ► reported speech

### Corrected Learner Examples

*?the old-fashioned house which has not been used for twenty years is not a very attractive sight from our town either.*

*This happened two years ago, and the necklace hasn't been found yet ?*

### FORM: WITH MODAL VERBS

Can use the passive with modal verbs in a range of contexts, with a variety of subjects.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*Architects should be hired to design parks, where people could go for a walk or have a picnic. Although I had a marvellous time, I believe there are a few things that could be improved for next year's festival.*

*As a result, today, it could be said that nearly everyone is living in a digital world which means computers are necessary and very important.*

### **FORM: WITH VERBS TAKING TWO OBJECTS, , WITH PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE**

Can use the passive with a range of tenses and verbs needing two objects (e.g. give, offer, sell) with the direct object in subject position and the indirect object in a prepositional phrase.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*Your name was given to me by a member of yours, Allan Westwood, whom I met last week.*

*If more training is given to staff, they will be interested in their work and staff turnover will be reduced.*

*Unfortunately an interview for a job in the New Palace Hotel has been offered to me at the same time as your class.*

### **FORM: WITH VERBS TAKING TWO OBJECTS.**

Can use the passive with a wide range of verbs needing two objects, putting the indirect object in subject position.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*I was very happy to hear that you have been offered two jobs, one in a restaurant and one in a museum.*

*[talking about a music contract] She was offered a contract to record a single.*

*First of all, I felt happy and pleased that your firm has been given some extra money to spend on improvements to the cinema next year.*

### **USE: SUMMARIES AND EVALUATIONS**

Can use the passive with modal verbs to evaluate or summarise.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*In conclusion, it can be seen that the bicycle is more suitable for those who are living in a little town or in the country.*

*Next, I find that our streets are not very clean, another major problem, and I think something must be done about it.*

### **USE: WITH 'WILL', FUTURE REFERENCE**

Can use the passive with 'will' to talk about the future.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*Just to let you know you will be booked into the Palace Hotel ?*

*Dear Mr Bixon, First of all, I am very grateful to hear that the cinema will be renovated next year.*

# PAST

## PAST CONTINUOUS

### FORM: WITH ADVERBS

Can use the past continuous with a wide range of adverbs in the normal mid position.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*My younger brother was constantly bothering me.*

*One day, as she was wistfully walking in the dusk of that day, she told herself she could either go on living her lonely life or make a huge effort to fit in.*

### USE: POLITENESS

Can use the past continuous to make a request or suggestions more polite or less direct.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*I was wondering if I could impose on you again for my next visit.*

*I was thinking that you could wear your Marilyn Monroe dress as your fancy-dress costume.*

*I was thinking that you could come to my house and see the movie.*

## PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

### FORM/USE: BACKGROUND INFORMATION WITH RELATIVE CLAUSE

Can use the past perfect continuous in a relative clause to give background information. ► relative clauses

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*And there were two men who had been chasing the murderer to find out who the man is and rescue the girl...*

*The guide also tells some funny stories about an old lord, who had been living there in the 18th century.*

*After a few minutes the door was opened and the man who had been following me came in.*

#### Comments

There is a big increase in this use at C2.

### FORM/USE: BACKGROUND INFORMATION WITH TIME CONJUNCTION

Can use the past perfect continuous after a time conjunction to give background information.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*After we had been sunbathing at the beach all day long, we went every evening to a cosy restaurant called "The Barking Cat", where we had a good meal and some wine.*

*After I had been waiting for an hour, I decided to go through the gate and go in on foot.*

#### Comments

This is very low frequency in the CLC, and fairly low frequency in the CEC ? especially with the formula After + past perfect cont + past simple

### FORM: NEGATIVE

Can use the negative form.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*Laura realised that she had not been studying very hard lately.*

*I couldn't tell her about Mark because she hadn't been doing anything else but talking about him for the last three weeks.*

*Last week, two of your employers came to solve the problems of my central heating system as it had not been working for two days.*

### **FORM: WITH ADVERBS**

Can use the past perfect continuous with adverbs in the normal mid position.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*I had been working hard at my job and I had really been looking forward to this holiday.*

*When he died, he was a rich man, he had only been living ten months in the house he had built for fourteen years ?*

### **USE: RESULTS**

Can use the past perfect continuous to talk about events which started before a time in the past and which finished, but where the effects or results were still important at a point in the past.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*Unfortunately it had been snowing for a long time and so I was unable to go out for a walk.*

*We had been working very hard all the morning so by that time, I was very tired.*

## **PAST PERFECT SIMPLE**

### **FORM/USE: AFTER 'BECAUSE', EXPLANATIONS**

Can use the past perfect simple after 'because' to give explanatory information.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*He was sleeping but I realised that this was because he had lost a lot of blood.*

*I was driving on to my parents' house because I had arranged to have dinner with them.*

### **FORM/USE: AFTER 'IF ONLY' AND 'WISH', IMAGINED PAST**

Can use the affirmative form after 'if only', and the affirmative and negative forms after 'wish' to talk about regret.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*If only I had listened to my father!*

*If only I had met her before.*

*I am sure, because at the end of the concert, I said to my friend "I wish they had played a bit more".*

*I wish I hadn't told Pat about my plans.*

*I wish I hadn't done that but now I can't do anything.*

### **FORM/USE: INVERSION WITH 'NEVER (BEFORE)'**

Can invert the subject and auxiliary verb after 'never (before)' to talk about a unique event, often in formal contexts.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*Never had I been in such a ridiculous situation!*

*Never before had we seen such marvellous species of fish.*



**FORM/USE: INVERSION WITH 'NO SOONER ? THAN'**

Can invert the subject and auxiliary verb with 'no sooner ? than' to talk about something that happened immediately before something else, often in formal contexts.

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*? but no sooner had I gone to bed than someone broke the door down.*

*But, no sooner had I got there than my classmates informed me that I had done well in my physics exam.*

**FORM: ELLIPSIS**

Can leave out the subject before the past perfect simple where it is understood from the previous clause.

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*But now she felt stronger and had lost her fear.*

*Simon was a very famous writer and had written ten best-sellers.*

*All her friends from Chicago had come to visit her and had brought a huge chocolate cake with them.*

*They were cold and had gone numb.*

**FORM: QUESTIONS**

Can use question forms.

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*Had I made the same mistake twice?*

*? the question was: Why had he done that?*

**FORM: WITH ADVERBS**

Can use the past perfect simple with a wide range of adverbs (including 'finally', 'recently', 'simply') in the normal mid-position. ► adverbs

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*He had finally achieved his goal!*

*She had suddenly woken up at that noise, but now was trying to persuade herself it was just a dream.*

*And had all the furniture and David's personal things been stolen by thieves or had they just simply disappeared?*

**USE: BACKGROUND INFORMATION, RELATIVE CLAUSE**

Can use the past perfect simple in relative clauses to give background information. ► relative clauses

**Corrected Learner Examples**

*After a while Mr and Mrs Landsbury, the couple who had organised the party, got everybody's attention and [?] asked everybody to stay calm.*

*He went to the hotel because he wanted to find out who the person was that had sent him a mysterious letter?*

*[?] it was Annika who had arranged a huge party for her, and all her friends and family, at the airport.*

### USE: CHANGE OF SITUATION

Can use the past perfect simple to talk about situations which changed.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*After the show we had planned to go to the theatre restaurant. But it was closed.*

*We had planned to go to Switzerland, but unfortunately our car broke down.*

*At first she had wanted to make the first move but she wasn't quite convinced.*

### USE: REPORTS OF QUESTIONS

Can use the past perfect simple to report questions, where the main verb in the reporting clause is in the past simple. ► reported speech

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*I asked him who had given him my phone number and he said it had been me.*

*He didn't find her, in spite of looking for her in every room of her house, so he decided to come to my house to ask me if I had seen her somewhere.*

*I asked her what had happened and she told me that my grandmother was very ill.*

### USE: REPORTS OF STATEMENTS

Can use the past perfect simple to report statements, where the main verb in the reporting clause is in the past simple. ► reported speech

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*[?] one morning she was listening to the radio, when suddenly the announcer said that the police had arrested a man who had stolen five expensive and unique paintings.*

*She tried to explain what had happened, but she couldn't.*

*I looked at the address and I knew what had happened to my sister's postcard.*

## PAST SIMPLE

### FORM: NEGATIVE

Can use the negative form with a wide range of regular and irregular verbs.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*I didn't hesitate and went there straight away.*

*I'm sure it wasn't my fault as I didn't switch anything on or off at that moment.*

*? we really enjoyed our holiday even though things did not turn out they way we planned.*

### FORM: QUESTIONS

Can use 'yes/no', 'wh-', tag and negative question forms with an increasing range of verbs.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Are you still looking for a job or did you succeed in finding one?*

*When did you last see your wife and your children?*

*It was great to have met you, and we certainly had a terrific time together, didn't we?*

*Didn't you tell me that you had to go to Orleans today?*

*Why didn't you say something about it?*

### FORM: WITH SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

Can use the past simple with a range of subordinating conjunctions, including 'as soon as', 'before', 'if', 'once', 'since', 'so', 'until', 'when', 'while'.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*? as soon as we went down to around 15 metres in depth, we saw a lot of coloured fish.  
I told you about that terrible hotel I had stayed in before I came to visit you.  
Once he got inside, he started searching for some clues to that horrible crime.*

### **FORM: WITH TIME ADJUNCTS**

Can use a range of time adjuncts with the past simple.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*I also worked as a helper on a summer camp for primary schoolchildren in Canada last summer.  
I can remember one which happened to me last year, during the Christmas holiday.  
He worked hard for quite a long time to earn the money he needed.*

### **USE: POLITENESS AFTER 'IF'**

Can use the past simple after 'if' as a politeness structure, especially in letters and emails.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*I think it would be very helpful if I told you my own case.  
It would be great if you sent me a free copy of the next edition of The Student Tourist Guidebook.  
I would be grateful if you gave me this job.*

### **USE: POLITENESS: 'I WONDERED' AND 'I WANTED'**

Can use the past simple with 'I wondered' and 'I wanted' as politeness structures, when making polite requests and thanking.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*So, I wondered if you could introduce me to somebody who knows how to use a camera, so that I will be able to record my trip for you.  
I wanted to know if the rooms are single or double, if they have showers and if there is room service. ? Secondly, I also wanted to know if there is a gym in the hotel ?  
First of all, I wanted to thank you for giving me the first prize in your competition.*

## **PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS**

### **FORM: NEGATIVE**

Can use the negative form.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*I hope that I have not been wasting your time and giving you too much trouble.  
Hope you haven't been working too hard!  
The heating system has not been working properly since your staff completed the work in my house.*

### **FORM: WITH ADVERBS**

Can use the present perfect continuous with adverbs in the normal mid position.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I have just been reading an article in your newspaper this morning, about The Westfield Music Festival.*

*I've also been singing in a choir for five years, so I'm very familiar with it.*

*You have already been complaining about headaches and insomnia.*

### USE: RECENT PAST

Can use the present perfect continuous to focus on a finished activity in the recent past but where the effects or results are still important or relevant.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*They might be slippery when it has been snowing.*

### Comments

This is largely a spoken language structure when the speaker observes something and comments, based on present evidence. "Look it's been snowing. It might be slippery." This may need to go in at a lower level when spoken data is available.

## PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE

### FORM/USE: WITH 'STILL'

Can use the negative form of the present perfect simple with 'still' to emphasise that something that was expected to happen continues not to happen. ► adverbs

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I still haven't read the role but when I read it, I was very excited and I accepted Mr Brown's offer.*

*You asked me whether I bought a computer or a bicycle and I have to tell you that I still haven't decided.*

### FORM: QUESTIONS

Can use the question form with an increasing range of verbs.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*How has your family been?*

*But what have these animals done?*

*In 1970 people in the UK married in their early 20s, but nowadays they marry at the end of their 20s. But why has this changed?*

## PREPOSITIONS

### PREPOSITIONS

#### FORM/USE: FORMAL

Can use less frequent simple prepositions, often in a more formal, literary or business context.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Suddenly the lights went out and a kind of silent screaming was heard throughout the whole dark room.*

*So why don't you act upon my advice?*

*I took bus number 19 from Angel tube station toward Battersea Park.*

*In Tottenham, transport is easy, buses are frequent, unlike other areas.*

*A survey was carried out amongst the students and teachers.*

### FORM/USE: PREPOSITION + 'WH'-WORD

Can use preposition + relative pronoun as complement, to avoid preposition stranding, often in formal contexts. ► Clauses: relative

### Corrected Learner Examples

*According to your advertisement in a language magazine, you have a vacancy in which I am very interested.*

*I hope that you can help me by answering some questions about the club of which you are the secretary.*

*In my opinion children need someone to whom they can talk.*

### FORM: COMPLEX

Can use a wide range of complex prepositions.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*She did not say very much except for "oh" and "yes, yes" every once in a while.*

*[talking about animals in zoos] And it gives them the possibility of gradually gaining knowledge about other living creatures apart from humans.*

*[giving suggestions on how to make the reception area of a school more attractive] It is based on my personal opinions in addition to a sample of 500 people who are students and staff at the school, and also visitors.*

*Now, as for the camping, I admit that I'm not a great fan of it.*

*I hope that, in spite of some small problems, people liked the festival and we will be able to attend it next year.*

### Comments

Also: 'but for', 'in favour of'

## PRESENT

### PRESENT CONTINUOUS

#### FORM/USE: WITH ADVERBS OF INDEFINITE FREQUENCY

Can use the present continuous with an increasing range of adverbs of indefinite frequency, often to talk about surprising or undesirable situations or events.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*? scientists don't really get together with top models ? they are constantly studying and reading books, whereas the job of a top model is actually based on physical appearance.*

*? you're continuously dealing with toxic substances and flammable liquids?*

## Comments

There is very poor increment in adverbs in general in the data. This is one of the main areas where candidates at B1 and B2 could improve their marks.

## PRESENT SIMPLE

### FORM: INVERSION WITH 'NOT ONLY ? BUT ALSO'

Can use the inverted form of the past simple with auxiliary 'do', in the phrase 'not only ? but also'.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Not only do they save you filing time, but also they save office space.*

*Not only does it look nice but it's also full of places that we should visit, such as the enormous old castle or the extremely fascinating butterfly farm!!*

### USE: SPEECH ACT VERBS

Can use the present simple with a wide range of speech act verbs, including '(dis)agree', 'accept', 'advise'.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*We disagree with the new numbering system as it is too complicated.*

*I'd love to go to the concert with you so I accept your invitation.*

*I advise you to take a coat because it's winter, you know, it's a bit cold.*

### USE: STORIES AND COMMENTARIES

Can use the present simple to summarise events or plot in a story or piece of history, often to give immediate dramatic interest.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*The plot of the book takes place in Vienna after the Second World War.*

*The scene takes place on a train. ? On this train, a man is sleeping. He dreams. He dreams of one of his work colleagues who lost his job last year.*

## PRONOUNS

### DEMONSTRATIVES

#### FORM/USE: 'THESE ONES', 'THOSE ONES' SUBSTITUTION

Can use 'these ones', 'those ones' as a substitute for plural countable nouns that have previously been mentioned.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*This is only the beginning; there are a lot of things that should be done, but let's just start with these ones.*

*I have got several of those ones.*

### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*This is only the beginning; there are a lot of things that should be done, but let's just start with these ones.*

*Beside those ones, there's also an equal number of individuals who get crippled for life.*

### **Comments**

There are very few examples of this feature in the CLC. This normally a function of spoken language and context where a speaker points to a physically present object. It may be a can-do at a lower level in spoken data.

### **FORM/USE: 'THOSE', SUBSTITUTION**

Can use 'those' as a substitute, followed by a relative clause or '-ed' or '-ing'.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*Moreover, for those who are not interested in sports and who prefer shopping, it would be a good idea to prevent cars and especially lorries from running in the center of the town.*

*In my opinion students should be forced to study all of the subjects, not only those which are enjoyable.*

*[talking about buildings] Those that can be rebuilt wouldn't be demolished.*

*The opening hours of the store came in for a lot of praise, with 87% of those surveyed ranking it as good.*

*All those attending are requested to be on time.*

### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*Moreover, for those who are not interested in sports and who prefer shopping, it should be a good idea to prevent cars and especially lorries from running in the center of the town.*

*The opening hours of the store came in for a lot of praise with 87% of those surveyed ranking it as good.*

*In my opinion students should be forced to study all of the subjects, not only those which are enjoyable*

*[talking about buildings] Those that can be rebuilt wouldn't be demolished.*

*All those attending are requested to be on time.*

## **GENERIC USE**

### **FORM/USE: GENDER NEUTRAL**

Can use 'they/them' to refer back to indefinite pronouns when we do not know the number or gender.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*If someone is watching a film that they don't like they can always choose another channel to watch to.*

*If anyone wishes to make any presentation they can contact Mr. Hari, Events Department.*

*If a student wants to make music there is no point teaching them science, but to be a good musician I think general knowledge is important as well.*

Can use 'he/she', 'he' or 'she' or 'they' to refer back to gender neutral singular nouns or indefinite pronouns when we are not sure of the gender.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*If a child had free time, he/she would play on his/her own and not with other children. Furthermore, if somebody wants to be a journalist, he or she has to have an enormous knowledge of the world and people, because sometimes they must act like psychologists in order to obtain pieces of information.*

### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*If a child had free time he/she would play on his/her own and not with other children. Furthermore if somebody wants to be a journalist he or she has to have an enormous knowledge about the world, people, because sometimes they must act like psychologists in order to obtain a pieces of information.*

### **USE: 'WE', 'US', GENERAL**

Can use 'we' and 'us' to refer to people in general.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*These days the car is everywhere, we can see cars all over the world.  
In this film we can see the life of a female teenager ? in South-Africa.  
We all know that being a writer is difficult; either we know how to write or we don't.  
Some of us find it very useful, whereas others still have difficulty in accepting technology as a valuable thing for everyone.  
[talking about zoos giving us a chance to see many exotic animals] Zoos give us different opportunities to do that and so to understand nature.*

### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*In our days the car is everywhere, we can see cars all over the world.  
In this film we can see the life of a female teenager ? in South-Africa.  
We all know that being a writer is difficult; or we know how to write or we don't.  
Some of us find it very useful, whereas others still have difficulty in accepting technology as a valuable thing for everyone.  
[Talking about zoos giving us a chance to see many exotic animals] Zoos give us different opportunities to do that and so to understand the nature.*

### **Comments**

This is a level above EVP findings but we're not finding general consensus of this use until B2

## **INDEFINITE – THING, –ONE, –BODY ETC**

### **FORM/USE: WITH RELATIVE CLAUSES, FOCUS**

Can use indefinite pronouns with a relative clause to form complex noun phrases, to give focus.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*Something that I like very much is the idea of the classes.  
Something extra, which is not really pleasant, is their behavior.  
Something really good about it is that it'd give us some work experience, which we don't have right now.  
Everything that I believed changed and without any help I managed to write perfectly, according to my teacher.  
Everyone who can use a computer can use the new products.*



### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*Something that I like very much is the idea of the classes.*

*Something extra which is not really pleasant is their behavior.*

*Something really good about it is that it'd give us some work experience, which we don't have right now.*

*Everything that I believed changed and without any help I managed to write perfectly, according to my teacher.*

*Everyone who can use the computer can use the new products.*

### **FORM: SUBJECT**

Can use the full range of indefinite pronouns as subjects, with a singular verb.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*But, nowadays nothing is free, so you have to pay for everything.*

*Her parents had told her everything weeks ago; she had cried and argued, but nothing could change her parents' opinion.*

*Yes it was Christmas, that's why everybody tried to smile.*

*Everywhere is green and clean.*

*When we came back home, everywhere was very untidy.*

*I searched my car to see if anything was missing.*

### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*But, nowadays nothing is free, so you have to pay for everything.*

*Yes it was Christmas, that's why everybody tried to smile and behave as if nothing went wrong.*

*Her parents had told her everything weeks ago, she had cried and discussed, but nothing could change her parents' opinion.*

*Everywhere is green and clean.*

*When we came back at home, everywhere was very untidy, on the floor laid some different things and toys.*

*I searched my car to see if anything was missing.*

### **USE: VAGUE EXPRESSIONS**

Can use indefinite pronouns in vague expressions to refer to things in a non-specific way.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*Is it worth having a nervous breakdown or anything like that?*

*My personal idea to help the environment is to try to plant more trees around the college, for example, in the zone behind the college or somewhere else.*

### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*Is it worth having a nervous breakdown or anything like that?*

*My personal idea to help the environment is try to plant more trees on the college, for example, on the zone behind the college or somewhere else.*

### **Comments**

This is a predominantly spoken feature.

## POSSESSIVE

### FORM: 'HERS' AS OBJECT

Can use the possessive pronoun 'hers', with singular reference, in object positions, and complement positions after 'be' and after prepositions.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*At the entrance, the security guard asked for my identity card. Pat gave hers.*

*She didn't remember leaving it there, it wasn't even hers, which is what frightened her the most.*

*But when she gave this suitcase a good look, she realised that it wasn't hers.*

*She saw him on a train running parallel to hers.*

### FORM: 'OURS' AS OBJECT

Can use the possessive pronoun 'ours' with singular and plural reference, in object positions, and complement positions after 'be' and after prepositions.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Can we rent windsurf boards or should we bring ours with us?*

*[talking about characters in a book] ? when we read about them we think that we are the characters and we live their stories as if they were ours.*

*Aldous Huxley was able to create a new world which is not so different from ours.*

*This road shouldn't be allowed in the middle of a small town like ours.*

### FORM: 'OURS' AS SUBJECT

Can use the possessive pronoun 'ours', with singular and plural reference, in subject position.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Ours is the only store in this locality which opens at 7.00 am.*

*Ours is a retail company with 5 outlets, dealing in furnishings.*

*In order to persuade them, we would like to show comparisons between our products and the ones from other companies to demonstrate that ours are more effective and efficient.*

### FORM: 'THEIRS' AS OBJECT

Can use the possessive pronoun 'theirs', with singular and plural reference, in object positions, and complement positions after 'be' and after prepositions.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*I could show them the traditional things of our country and learn theirs.*

*She told him that this baby was theirs.*

*Red Stone are a very big group, you know that I'm a great fan of theirs.*

*I realise that it can be a very interesting experience and I can also improve my foreign language as well as theirs.*

### FORM: + 'OF OURS'

Can use the possessive pronoun 'ours' after noun + 'of'.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Finally we went to Venice where we met some friends of ours and spent with them the rest of the holiday.*

*The credit crunch is heavily affecting this region, therefore all retail sales have fallen and many competitors of ours are decreasing their sales too.*

*Paul, a classmate of ours, will be the D.J. and we are thinking of listening to rock music, since Mr. Brown likes it.*

### FORM: COMPARATIVE CLAUSES WITH 'OURS', 'HERS'

Can use the possessive pronouns 'hers' and 'ours' in comparative clauses.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I told my mother that your Spanish omelette is better than hers.*

*Lots of changes which may occur during the next fifty years can make us fear that our sons' and grandsons' lives will not be as happy as ours.*

## QUANTITY

### FORM: SUBJECT AND OBJECT PRONOUNS, 'EACH', 'SEVERAL', 'NEITHER', 'ENOUGH'

Can use pronouns 'each', 'either', 'enough', 'neither', 'several' as subject and object pronouns.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*As you could guess, each has a very unique style.*

*I would like to enquire if there will be one group or several depending on level of students?*

*Considering my abilities, there are several that I think you should consider.*

*Comparing the two firms, both of them go some way towards fulfilling our needs, but neither covers all.*

*[talking about toilets] They are very clean and there are enough so you don't have to wait.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*As you could guess, each has a very unique style.*

*I would like to enquire if there will be one group or several depending on level of students?*

*Considering my abilities, there are several that I think you should consider.*

*Comparing the two firms, both of them go some way fulfilling our needs, but neither covers all.*

*[talking about toilets] They are very clean and there are enough so you don't have to wait.*

### Comments

The standalone subject and object forms of these pronouns are very low frequency both in the learner and native speaker corpora. There are only three examples of neither as a pronoun at this level, and all are business English examples. This may be a data issue.

### FORM: WITH 'OF' + OBJECT PRONOUN

Can use a wide range of pronouns ('neither', 'either', 'none') with 'of' followed by an object pronoun.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*Stella and her boyfriend, ... lived with Chuck at the same house, but neither of them knew that Chuck had passed a very complicated exam to be a spy for the United States.*

*Neither of us could foresee any possible rise or fall in the price of wheat.*

*How about spending the last couple of days doing some activities like skiing, horse riding and rafting. If you are interested in either of them, have a go.*

*We didn't know what they wanted. and none of us spoke any Italian.*

### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*How about spending the last couple of days doing some activities like skiing, horse riding and rafting. They are great fun, especially rafting is BRILLIANT! If you are interested in either of them, have a go.*

## **RECIPROCAL**

### **FORM/USE: 'ONE ANOTHER', FORMAL**

Can use 'one another' as the object of a verb or complement of a preposition to talk about the mutual behaviour of two or more people, often in formal contexts.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*I also thought to create a studying space where students, staff and visitors can meet one another.*

*Since we last saw one another many things have happened, but I must admit I have never enjoyed myself again the way I did when I was with you.*

*Perhaps it will help me understand what my two dogs say to one another.*

### **Uncorrected Learner Examples**

*I also thought to create a studying space where students, staff and visitors can meet one another.*

*Since we last saw one another many things have happened, but I must admit I have never enjoyed myself again, the way I did when I was with you.*

*Perhaps it will help me understand what my two dogs say to one another.*

## **REFLEXIVE**

### **FORM/USE: 'BY' + PLURAL**

Can use plural reflexive pronouns with 'by' to mean alone, without any help.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*A friend of mine and I are planning to spend a short holiday by ourselves.*

*There are many things to say, but I think that you will find these by yourselves.*

*Then suddenly, the lights started clicking on and off, the windows opened by themselves.*

### **Comments**

NB it is likely that the fact that there is little evidence of plural reflexive pronouns at B1 may be a result of task effect or lack of opportunity of use.

### **FORM: 'BY ITSELF'**

Can use the reflexive pronoun 'itself' with 'by' to mean alone or without any help.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*If an animal is kept by itself, with no one to keep it company, it will get lonely and very sad.  
Suddenly, the window opened by itself and the room filled with cold air.*

### **FORM: PLURAL, AFTER PREPOSITIONS**

Can use plural reflexive pronouns after prepositions where the object of the preposition is the same as the subject of the verb.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*Doing sports is an excellent way to relax and it can help us to feel good about ourselves.  
The staff didn't have enough time for themselves.*

### **FORM: SAME SUBJECT AND OBJECT, PLURAL**

Can use plural reflexive pronouns to refer to actions where the subject and object of the verb are the same.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*In this way we will be able to enjoy ourselves even if this is not well-paid work.  
In the afternoons, you'll be able to visit the archaeological sites and in the evening you can entertain yourselves by dancing or listening to music in our city clubs.  
But adults often ask themselves the question – isn't it cruel to keep animals in zoos?*

### **USE: 'IN ITSELF', INTENSIFYING**

Can use the fixed expression 'in itself' as an intensifier .

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*I would also spend much more quality time with my family as a whole, which is quite important in itself.  
The architecture in itself is beautiful, but the garden is very wonderful, too.  
To begin with, a car, in my opinion, can't be harmful in itself. The trouble is that, nowadays, very fast cars are put on the market and we never know if they are going to be driven by wise people or, instead, by crazy or dreadful drivers.*

### **USE: 'ITSELF', FOR EMPHASIS**

Can use the singular pronoun 'itself' for emphasis.

### **Corrected Learner Examples**

*In my opinion, the main characters do not have to be liked by readers but the story itself must be good and interesting to be successful.  
The building itself looks splendid and beautiful.*

### **USE: 'YOURSELVES', FOR POLITENESS**

Can use the plural reflexive pronoun 'yourselves' for politeness.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Dear Sir/Madam, I am writing to you in response to the advertisement published by yourselves in "the Traveller" regarding The Trip of a Lifetime.*

*The question you asked drives me back to my early life. My childhood. Like yourselves I am also living in a busy town, in a busy street. But when I was a little kid I was with my grand parents in Kandy.*

*Also, it is a great opportunity to improve my sailing skills as training will be provided by yourselves.*

### USE: PLURAL, FOR EMPHASIS

Can use plural reflexive pronouns for emphasis.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*The food is not very good, but sometimes we can prepare something to eat ourselves.*

*They patiently explained to me my job even though they were fairly busy themselves.*

*Cars themselves are never dangerous. It depends on us, actually.*

## SUBJECT/ OBJECT

### FORM: (OBJECT) USING 'IT' TO INTRODUCE

Can use 'it' as an object with 'make' to introduce something the speaker or writer is going to refer to.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*This shyness makes it hard for me to speak in public, or even to go out with my friends as often as I should.*

*Other retail companies with cheaper prices and lots of discounts make it impossible for us to do business.*

### FORM: (SUBJECT) 'ONE'

Can use 'one' as a generic personal pronoun in the subject position to mean people in general.

► generic pronouns

### Corrected Learner Examples

*If one doesn't live close enough to walk to work, one can choose to get there by bicycle or by car.*

### FORM: (SUBJECT) ELLIPSIS

Can leave out the subject pronoun with a limited range of verbs, in informal contexts. ► ellipsis

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Must rush now because I have to go out with Paul.*

*Sounds great.*

*Got to go now.*

*Can't wait to hear about your exam.*

### FORM: (SUBJECT) EMPTY 'IT'

Can use dummy 'it' with 'appears', 'feels', 'looks' and 'seems'.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*When you watch a film, it seems to be that you are inside it, and you are a character in it. ? your company has carried out a full investigation on the matter and it appears that the disappearance was not the result of criminal activity. (Portugal; B2 VANTAGE; 2008); It appears that there was an error with the older computer system.*

## SUBSTITUTION, ONE, ONES, NONE

### FORM: 'THESE ONES', 'THOSE ONES'

Can use 'these ones', 'those ones' as a substitute for plural countable nouns which have already been mentioned or are obvious from the context.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*This is only the beginning; there are a lot of things that should be done, but let's just start with these ones.*

*Beside those ones, there's also an equal number of individuals who get crippled for life.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*This is only the beginning; there are a lot of things that should be done, but let's just start with these ones.*

*Beside those ones, there's also an equal number of individuals who get crippled for life.*

### Comments

NB predominantly a spoken structure

## QUESTIONS

### TAGS

#### FORM/USE: TAGS WITH IMPERATIVES AS SOFTENERS

Can use an affirmative or negative tag after an imperative clause to soften the imperative.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Think about it, will you?*

*Go to the Lake Frene route, will you?*

*Let's check together, shall we?*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*Think about it, will you?*

*Go to the Lake Frene route, will you?*

*Let's check together, shall we?*

### Comments

The tag verb is most commonly 'will' but we can also use 'would', 'could', 'can' and 'won?t'.

Learner data is limited to 'will' and 'shall' in this context but again, this is written data so this is not surprising.

## WH-

### FORM: NEGATIVE QUESTIONS WITH MAIN VERBS

Can use 'wh-'words + the negative form of auxiliary 'do' + subject + main verb to form 'wh-'questions.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*You still have this agonising headache. Why don't you go to your doctor?  
Why didn't you check with the ticket office first before you wrote your article?  
Why didn't you say something about it?  
Why haven't you told me before?*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*You still have this agonising headache. Why don't you go to your doctor?  
Why didn't you check with the ticket office first before you wrote your article?  
Why didn't you say something about it?  
Why haven't you told me before?*

#### Comments

Examples are restricted to 'wh'- questions with 'why'. Spoken data needed.

## REPORTED SPEECH

### REPORTED SPEECH

#### FORM/USE: CITATION, PRESENT SIMPLE

Can use the present simple form of the reporting verb to report information from a written source and a present tense verb in the reported clause.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*First of all, your advertisement says that you have got two great nights in a hotel for us.  
It says you are asking for people to help in a summer camp for foreign school children.  
Firstly, your advertisement tells us that hotel has two great nights in a wonderful 3-star hotel  
The guidebook says that we can get there by train from London.*

#### FORM/USE: REPORTING VERBS, PAST CONTINUOUS

Can use the past continuous of the reporting verb to report mental processes, with a finite or non-finite 'wh-'clause in the reported clause.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*I was wondering why I failed.  
So, he was wondering why we didn't have our letters.  
I was thinking which of the two would be more interesting, and I prefer to go to "Can Animals Speak", since I love them and I have two. So, I want to know how to communicate with them.  
We were wondering what had happened for a few minutes but then we realised that there had been a power cut.  
While he was thinking how to reply, Jenny took his hand and led him to the school.*



### Comments

The development at C levels is to do with lexical growth rather than grammatical complexity. 'Say' and 'tell' dominate reported speech use in CLC at all levels. Complementation patterns after reporting verbs are covered in Verbs

### FORM/USE: TEMPORAL SHIFTS, PAST

Can report speech about events in the past with backshifts for tenses and words relating to time.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*She had told me the previous day that she had something important to tell me.*

*We met Daisy at school on the following day and we told her that the previous day we had been at her house; her grandfather had told us that unluckily she wasn't at home.*

*My boss had told me the previous day that an important customer was going to visit the company in the morning.*

*I had told my friends the day before that I expected to get an A!*

### FORM: DIRECT SPEECH, REPORTING CLAUSE, INVERTED SUBJECT

Can report speech directly inverting the subject and verb in the reporting clause where the subject is a proper noun or noun phrase.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*"I was astonished when I saw them standing there", said John.*

*"Who are you?" asked Peter.*

*"Would you mind lending me a part of your newspaper?" said a whispering voice.*

*What do you think about this? said the Inspector to the policeman.*

### Comments

This is a low frequency form in the CLC. There are examples of verb + subject ('said Maria', 'said Lisa') at B1 too but they are very task skewed.

### FORM: DIRECT SPEECH, REPORTING CLAUSE, MID POSITION

Can report speech and thought directly using the reporting verb in the mid position of the reported clause.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*"No problem", I thought, "there is only one person".*

*"We have come together", this man said, "to celebrate our annual meeting and to call our master's ghost tonight!?"*

*"No problem", I thought, "there is only one person".*

*"Forgive me, sweetheart", he said, "I will never leave you alone again.?"*

### Comments

There is increased accuracy of punctuation use at B2. Note that punctuation conventions vary in British English and American English.

### FORM: MODIFICATION, REPORTING VERB + ADVERB

Can modify the reporting verb with an adverb.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*"So this is a real cow, mom?" she asked doubtfully.*

*"A hundred dollars for one day. Is that a deal?" her husband said forcefully.*

*"Come on, what's wrong?" Bella asked curiously.*

*"Put that light out!" I shouted calmly.*

### Comments

Note that when the reporting verb is modified by an adverb, it typically comes after the direct speech. This is also the case in expert speaker data in the CEC, where the reporting verb + adverb most commonly occurs in the middle or after the reported clause. It is far less common before the clause.

### FORM: REPORTED REQUESTS AND COMMANDS, NEGATIVE

Can report requests and commands with 'ask' or 'tell' + direct object + 'not' + 'to-'infinitive.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Meanwhile, she told me not to be scared but the place was very... old.*

*I told him not to climb the wall but he was so interested in doing movements that he did not listen to me.*

*Arriving there, my father told me not to go far and to stay near him.*

*I asked Pat not to tell anyone, and she promised me she wouldn't.*

## VERBS

### LINKING

#### FORM: LINKING + COMPLEMENT

Can use a wide range of linking verbs with complements.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*There are indeed many ways of doing this and it all seems very confusing.*

*The food is a little bit strange but tastes good.*

*Now the whole house appeared very unfamiliar to me.*

*Alice was so unhappy that she remained silent for a long time.*

*I am writing to inform you that there is some incorrect information which appears in The Student Tourist Guidebook you published last year.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*There are indeed many ways of doing this and it all seems very confusing.*

*The food is a little bit strange but tastes good.*

*Now the whole house appeared very unfamiliar to me.*

*Alice was so unhappy that she remained silent for a long time.*

*I am writing to inform you that there are some incorrect information which appears in The Student Tourist Guidebook you published last year.*

## PATTERNS\_WITH TO AND -ING

### FORM/USE: VERBS OF SENSES + OBJECT + '-ING'

Can use some verbs connected with the senses + direct object + an '-ing' form, to give emphasis to an ongoing activity.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*Then I heard someone screaming, I was afraid and I said to the others: "Let's go out, something is happening".*

*I think we can learn nothing by seeing animals out of their habitat: we cannot see them running or eating or hunting.*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*Then I heard someone screaming , I was afraid and I said to the others: "Let's go out, something is happening".*

*I think we can learn nothing by seeing animals out of their habitat: we cannot see them running or eating or hunting:*

#### Comments

While the corresponding infinitive form is used by some at B2, its widespread use does not appear until C1 (e.g. 'I heard someone scream.').

### FORM: 'TO'-INFINITIVE OR '-ING' FORM, MEANING

Can follow some verbs with a 'to'-infinitive or an '-ing' form, with a change in meaning.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*He said if you need to change the time, remember to contact him to make a new appointment.*

*I know it is difficult to get by with such a low salary but I am sure you have not stopped to think twice about your life.*

*I remember feeling very unhappy and confused all day long.*

*After I had a baby, I needed to stop working.*

#### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*He said if you need to change the time, remember to contact him to make a new appointment.*

*I remember feeling very unhappy, confused during all day.*

*I know it is difficult to get by with such a low salary but I am sure you have not stopped to think twice about the sense of your life.*

*After I had a baby, I needed to stop working.*

### FORM: VERB + '-ING' FORM

Can use an increasing range of verbs followed by an '-ing' form.

#### Corrected Learner Examples

*[talking about cars] ... we can't avoid using them because we are used to them.*

*I couldn't stand being there.*

*Moreover we may consider offering bonus schemes, to increase the staff's loyalty to our company.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*[talking about cars] ... we can't avoid using them because we are used to them.*

*I couldn't stand being there.*

*Moreover we may consider offering bonus schemes, to increase staff's loyalty to our company.*

### Comments

These are the verbs which are most frequently used at B2 with this pattern in the CLC. Though there are very few examples of 'admit', 'deny' and 'risk' at B2, they can clearly do the pattern at this level.

### FORM: VERB + NEW SUBJECT + '-ING' FORM

Can introduce a new subject before the '-ing' form (using noun or object pronoun).

### Corrected Learner Examples

*If your boss doesn't mind you delaying, it could be a possible solution.*

*I could not stand people shouting at me, or taking pictures of me all day. It would be horrible.*

*Oh just one more thing: would you mind me staying in your flat again?*

*We imagine it being a frozen land, where the people are 'frozen' too – both 'inside' and 'outside'.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*We imagine it being a frozen land, where the people are "frozen" too –both 'inside' and 'outside'.*

*If your boss doesn't mind you delaying every morning it could be a possible solution.*

*I could not stand people shouting at me, or taking pictures of me during all the day. it would be horrible.*

*Oh just one more thing: would you mind me staying in your flat again?*

## PHRASAL

### FORM: NO OBJECT

Can use a wide range of phrasal verbs without an object.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*Some species are dying out, and keeping such animals in zoos where they can give life to new generations is the only way to prevent them from becoming completely extinct.*

*The following day my grandpa didn't show up.*

*If you are not good enough at reading, you'll end up wasting your time.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*Some species are dying out, and keeping such animals in zoos where they can give life to new generations is the only way to prevent them from becoming completely extinct.*

*The following day my grandpa didn't show up.*

*If you are not good enough at reading, you'll end up wasting your time.*

### FORM: VERB + NOUN + PARTICLE

Can use phrasal verbs + nouns as object + particle.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I am glad that you have decided to take some time off and more glad because you are going to the U.S.*

*Another way is also to turn the computers off in the evenings.*

*It was necessary to call the electrician up.*

*If we can make these improvements, we might be able to work this problem out.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*I am glad that you have decide to take some time off and more glad because you are going to U.S.*

*Another way is also to turn the computers off in the evenings.*

*It was necessary to call the electrician up.*

*If we can make these improvment, we might be able to work this problem out.*

### Comments

By B2, there are a lot of examples of this pattern. By C2, there are many more and varied examples e.g. 'But if you feel you cannot live with having kicked your relatives out.' ?

### FORM: VERB + PARTICLE + OBJECT

Can use a wide range of phrasal verbs + particle + object.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I don't need to use my imagination while I'm surfing the internet, but if I'm reading a book I can build up the whole surroundings and the characters in my own head.*

*I had already booked my seat on the ferry-boat to Athens and I couldn't put off my crossing.*

*I can surf the internet and look up some useful information.*

*The concert finished very late and after the concert I had to clean up the hall.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*I don't need to use my imagination while I'm surfing the Internet, but if I'm reading a book I can build up the whole surroundings and the characters in my own head.*

*I had already booked my seat on the ferry-boat to Athens and I couldn't put off my crossing.*

*I can surf the internet and look up some useful information.*

*?the concert finished very late and after the concert I had to clean up the hall?*

## PHRASAL-PREPOSITIONAL

### FORM: VERB + PARTICLE + PREPOSITION + OBJECT

Can use an increasing range of verb + particle + preposition + noun or pronoun.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I can look up to someone in admiration if he (or she) is dedicating his (or her) life to helping other people.*

*Other people will see you as a knowledgeable person and they will look up to you.*

*You should face up to the problem and tell everybody the truth, that you are working too hard.*

*We couldn't just swim and eat ice-cream every day of our summer vacation, so we sat down and came up with the craziest idea ever.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*The reason that I can look up to someone in admiration is if he (or she) is dedicating his (or her) life to help other people*

*Other people will see you as a knowledgeable person and they will look up to you.*

*You should face up to the problem and tell everybody the truth that you are working too hard.*

*We couldn't just swim and eat ice-creams every day of our summer vacation, so we sat down and came up with the craziest idea ever.*

## PREPOSITIONAL

### FORM: PREPOSITIONAL VERB, STRANDED PREPOSITION

Can use verb + preposition, where the preposition is separated from its complement.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*In Poland rules that refer to how to dress at school aren't very strict; we don't wear any uniforms, but our clothes have to be clean and nice to look at.*

*But there is one difficulty which we should deal with.*

*I would like to give you some ideas of what people in my community want to listen to.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*In Poland rules that refer to the ways of being dressed at school aren't very strict; we don't wear any uniforms, but our clothes have to be clean and nice to look at.*

*But there is one difficulty which we should deal with.*

*I would like to give some ideas of what people in my community want to listen to.*

### Comments

Not much evidence of this where Romance language is L1.

### FORM: VERB + ADVERB + PREPOSITION

Can use an adverb between the verb and the preposition.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I am really willing to know more about horses and to learn how to deal properly with them.*

*I hope you will look carefully at the enclosed papers and I'm looking forward to hearing from you soon.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*I am really willing to know more about horses and to learn how to deal properly with them, how to feed them and if there is any chance I would like to ride them as well.*

*I hope you will look carefully at the enclosed papers and I'm looking forward to hearing from you soon.*

## THERE IS/ARE

### FORM: 'THERE' + VERBS WITH MODAL MEANING

Can use 'there' with other verbs with modal meaning + 'be' + complement.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*I figured out that there had to be matches somewhere; Bob, who owned the cabin, had told me that it was well equipped.*

*In the library there needs to be school books and also other books and magazines.*

*There is going to be a theatre performance, a chess championship and last but not least, swimming races where the participants will win medals and a lot of prizes.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*I figured out that there had to be matches somewhere, Bob who owned the cabine had told me that it was well equipped.*

*In the labery there needs to be school books and also other books and magazines.*

*There is going to be a theater performance, a chess championship and the last but not least, swimming races where the participants will win medals and a lot of prices.*

### Comments

Note the singular use of 'needs' with plural complement, generally more frequent in spoken informal contexts than written.

## TYPES

### FORM: SEMI-MODAL AUXILIARY VERBS, 'DARE', 'NEED'

Can use semi-modal auxiliary verbs, 'dare' and 'need'.

### Corrected Learner Examples

*You needn't worry about where we can stay.*

*I think that they are rather jealous because they daren't give up their car.*

### Uncorrected Learner Examples

*You needn't worry about where we can stay.*

*I think that they are rather jalous because they daren't give up their car.*

### Comments

LOW FREQUENCY ITEM. There is very little use of dare as a semi-modal in CLC even at C2 level. Most examples are dare as main verb. At C level there is lots of evidence of dare + to inf and lots of errors with dare + -ing; Similarly need is most frequently used as a lexical verb need to.