

ESL Vocabulary and Grammar Targets (Intermediate Levels)

1. Vocabulary Themes:

Politics Vocabulary:

1. **To vote:** To make a choice in an election or decision-making process, usually by casting a ballot or showing a preference.
2. **President:** The elected head of a republic, especially a country like the United States.
3. **Election:** A formal and organized process of electing or being elected, especially of officials in government.
4. **Speech:** A formal address or discourse delivered to an audience.
5. **Law:** A system of rules created and enforced through social or governmental institutions to regulate behavior.

Adjectives:

1. **Rich:** Having a lot of money, property, or valuable possessions.
2. **Famous:** Known about by many people; having fame.
3. **Important:** Of great significance or value; likely to have a profound effect on success, survival, or well-being.
4. **Strong:** Having the power to move heavy weights or perform other physically demanding tasks; also, possessing strength of character or conviction.
5. **Successful:** Accomplishing a desired aim or result.
6. **Controversial:** Giving rise or likely to give rise to public disagreement.

Time Phrases:

1. **In the past:** Referring to any time before the present moment.
2. **Later:** At a time in the future or after the time already mentioned.
3. **During:** Throughout the course or duration of (a period of time).
4. **In 1946 (or other dates):** Referring to a specific year when an event took place.

2. Grammar Worksheet: Past Continuous, Past Perfect Simple, and Comparatives

Part 1: Past Continuous

Explanation

- **Definition:** The past continuous tense is used to describe actions that were ongoing in the past.
- **Structure:** Subject + was/were + verb (-ing)
- **Example:** "While he was working, he learned about real estate."

Practice Activities

1. Complete the following sentences using the past continuous tense:
 - While she _____ (study), the phone _____ (ring).
 - They _____ (play) soccer when it _____ (start) to rain.
 - I _____ (read) a book while my friend _____ (cook) dinner.
2. Write a short paragraph about what you were doing yesterday at 5 PM, using at least three past continuous sentences.

Part 2: Past Perfect Simple

Explanation

- Definition: The past perfect simple tense is used to describe actions that were completed before another action in the past.
- Structure: Subject + had + past participle
- Example: "Before he became president, he had been a businessman."

Practice Activities

1. Complete the following sentences using the past perfect simple tense:
 - By the time he arrived, the movie _____ (start).
 - She _____ (already, finish) her homework before she went out to play.
 - They _____ (never, travel) abroad before their trip to Japan.
2. Write three sentences about your life using the past perfect simple tense.

Part 3: Comparatives

Explanation

- Definition: Comparatives are used to compare differences between two objects they modify (larger, smaller, faster, higher, etc.).
- Structure: Adjective + -er or more + adjective (for longer adjectives)
- Examples: "He is richer than most people." / "This election was harder than the last one."

Practice Activities

1. Rewrite the sentences using the correct comparative form of the adjectives in parentheses:
 - This movie is _____ (interesting) than the one we saw last week.
 - He is _____ (tall) than his brother.
 - The test today was _____ (difficult) than the test we had yesterday.
2. Write five comparative sentences about yourself, your friends, or your surroundings.

Answer Key

Part 1: Past Continuous

- While she was studying, the phone rang.
 - They were playing soccer when it started to rain.
 - I was reading a book while my friend was cooking dinner.
2. *Example Paragraph:* "Yesterday at 5 PM, I was watching TV while my brother was playing video games. My mom was cooking dinner in the kitchen, and our dog was sleeping on the couch."

Part 2: Past Perfect Simple

- By the time he arrived, the movie had started.
 - She had already finished her homework before she went out to play.
 - They had never traveled abroad before their trip to Japan.
2. *Example Sentences:*
- By the time I moved to the city, I had saved enough money for a new apartment.
 - They had never visited the museum before the school trip.
 - We had already eaten dinner before they invited us to the restaurant.

Part 3: Comparatives

- This movie is more interesting than the one we saw last week.
 - He is taller than his brother.
 - The test today was more difficult than the test we had yesterday.
2. *Example Sentences:*
- My new car is faster than my old one.
 - This book is more exciting than the last one I read.
 - She is happier now than she was last year.
 - Our house is larger than theirs.
 - Running in the park is healthier than staying indoors.