

1 DESCRIBING YOURSELF

- a Read Charlie’s profile and answer the questions.
- 1 What’s Charlie’s real name?
 - 2 Where’s he from?
 - 3 What does he do?
 - 4 Who does he live with?
 - 5 What does he look like?
 - 6 What’s he like?
 - 7 What does he do in his free time?
- b Read the profile again. The computer has found ten mistakes. They are grammar, punctuation, or spelling mistakes. Can you correct them?
- c Write the topic of the paragraphs in the correct column in the chart. Then add the **highlighted** phrases from the profile for each paragraph.

hobbies and interests name, age, nationality personality
physical appearance work / study, family

	Content	Phrases	My information
Paragraph 1	Name, age, nationality	My name’s... Everyone calls me...	
Paragraph 2			
Paragraph 3			
Paragraph 4			
Paragraph 5			

- d Plan your profile. Add notes to **My information**.
- e Write your profile. Use your notes and the phrases to help you.
- f Check your profile for mistakes (grammar, punctuation, and spelling).



- 1 Hi. **My name’s** Charlie. Well, it’s really Carlos, but **everyone calls me** Charlie. 1I have 21 years old. I’m Mexican, and I live in Guadalajara.
- 2 **I’m going to tell you about** myself. I’m in college. I’m 2studing physics. I’m in my last year, and I really like it. **I live with** my parents in an apartment in the center of the city. I have a dog, a schnauzer – his name is Towser.
- 3 **As you can see from the** 3foto, I have black hair and 4browns eyes. **My father always says** I have a big nose, but I don’t think so. I think it’s a nice nose!
- 4 **I think I’m a positive person.** **My** 5freinds **say** I’m funny and it’s true. I like making people laugh. But I 6can to be serious too when I need to be!
- 5 I 7dont have 8many free time 9becuase **when I’m not in class** I have to do projects or write reports. But **when I can,** **I like** watching TV series, especially science fiction series and comedies. I watch them in 10english with subtitles. I also like playing computer games like *World of Warcraft* and *Starcraft*.

MY FAVORITE PHOTO **BLOG**

Post your favorite photo on the website, together with a short description of why the photo is important to you.



This week's winner is Marc, a teacher from Swansea.

- 1 This is one of my favorite photos. It's ¹ _____ two storks. I took the photo ² _____ the spring of 2018 when I was on vacation ³ _____ some friends ⁴ _____ Andalucia, in the south of Spain, at a place called Doñana National Park.
- 2 Doñana is a nature reserve that is famous because there are lots of wonderful birds there, ⁵ _____ storks and flamingos. Storks are my favorite birds in the world because they're big birds, but they're very elegant. I love taking photos ⁶ _____ animals and birds, but I'm not very good ⁷ _____ it! Here I was learning how to use the zoom on my new camera because the storks were far ⁸ _____ from us on the top of a tree. I needed to keep very still because I didn't want to frighten them, but for the first time I got a really good close-up shot.
- 3 I love this photo because it was my first successful wildlife photo, and the blue sky reminds me of the wonderful weather in Andalucia. I have it ⁹ _____ my phone and as the background on my laptop.

- a Read the description and complete it with a word from the list.

at away in (x2) like of (x2) on with

- b Match the questions to paragraphs 1–3.

- ☐ What was happening when you took the photo?
- ☐ Where do you keep it?
- ☐ Why do you like it?
- ☐ Where were you when you took the photo, and who with?
- ☐ What's your favorite photo?
- ☐ Who took the photo? When?

- c Plan your description. Think about your answers to the questions in b.

- d Write about your favorite photo. Answer the questions in b. Use the highlighted phrases if you can.

- e Check your description for mistakes (grammar, punctuation, and spelling). Attach a copy of the photo.

← p.17

3 AN INFORMAL EMAIL

- a Omar is a student from Peru who’s going to study English in the US. He’s going to stay with Emily and her family, who he stayed with last year. Read Emily’s email and answer the questions.
- 1 When did he stay with Emily’s family before?
 - 2 How is Omar traveling?
 - 3 Who’s going to meet him at the airport?
 - 4 Why does Emily ask him for his phone number?
 - 5 What two things does Omar need to decide before he answers?



From: Emily Barnes [barnes@hotmail.com]
To: Omar [omarespinosa@yahoo.com]
Subject: Your trip

1 _____ Omar,
2 _____. We're very happy
that you're coming to stay with us again. We really enjoyed having you with us last August –
it's going to be great to see you!

What time are you arriving at Newark airport? If you send us your flight number and arrival
time, we can all meet you in the arrivals area. Can you send us your cell number, too? For
some reason, it isn't in my phone.

A few more questions! Another student is going to be with us when you're here. You can
both share a big bedroom, or you can have a small one just for you. Which do you prefer?
What day are you going back to Peru? And is there anything you'd like to do in the US this
time?

3 _____
4 _____

Emily

5 _____ I'm attaching a photo of the family – Luke's much taller than last
year!

- b Read the email again and complete it with the informal phrases from the list. Then answer the questions.

Best wishes PS Hi
Looking forward to hearing from you
Thanks for your email

- 1 Does *Looking forward to hearing from you* mean...?
 - a I hope you write again soon.
 - b I'm going to write to you again soon.
 - 2 Does *PS* mean...?
 - a This isn't very important information.
 - b I forgot to say this before.
 - 3 Do we use contractions in an informal email?
- c Imagine you're going to study English in the US, and are going to stay with Emily. She writes a similar email to you. Plan your reply to her email. What details do you need to give Emily? What do you need to decide?

- d Write your email in three paragraphs. Use contractions and the words and phrases in **b**.

Paragraph 1	Thank her for her email.
Paragraph 2	Say when you are arriving, etc. (Flight details arr: UA1005 at 7:55 a.m. dep: August 28, UA2037 at 6:00 a.m.)
Paragraph 3	Answer her other questions.

- e Check your email for mistakes (grammar, punctuation, and spelling).

← p.25

4 DESCRIBING WHERE YOU LIVE

- a Read the description and complete it with the words from the list.

area city food historic modern nature
population rivers weather

- b Match the questions to paragraphs 1–5.

- What's it famous for?
- What's the weather like?
- What's the best thing about it? Do you like living there?
- What's your town like? What is there to see there?
- Where do you live? Where is it? How big is it?

- c Plan a description of the place where you live. Think about your town or city, and make notes to answer the questions in b.

- d Write your description in five paragraphs. Answer the questions in b in the correct order.

- e Check your description for mistakes (grammar, punctuation, and spelling).

← p.41

The place where I live

- 1 I live in Kayseri, which is an important ¹city in Central Anatolia in Turkey. It has a ² of over 1,000,000 people. It's near the famous Cappadocia ³, so there are a lot of tourists in the summer.
- 2 Kayseri is one of the richest cities in Turkey because it has a lot of industry. It is a university town with four universities. The oldest is Erciyes University. There are also many ⁴ buildings, for example Kayseri Castle, Hunat Hatun Mosque, and the Grand Bazaar around Cumhuriyet Square, with its famous statue of Atatürk. But Kayseri also has ⁵ residential areas full of luxury apartment buildings, shopping malls, and stylish restaurants.
- 3 The ⁶ in Kayseri is typical of the Middle Anatolia Region. Winters are cold and snowy – great for skiing – and summers are hot and dry. It sometimes rains in the spring and fall.
- 4 Kayseri is famous for its mountains. Mount Erciyes is the symbol of the city and it has a well-known ski resort, and on Mount Ali there are national and international paragliding championships. It's also famous for its ⁷ and has many local specialities like *pastırma*, which is dried beef with spices, and *manti*, which is a kind of Turkish ravioli. They're delicious!
- 5 What I like best about Kayseri is that we are so close to ⁸. When I'm tired of city life, I can easily get out and enjoy the mountains, ⁹, waterfalls, and thermal spas, which are only a short distance away.



5 A FORMAL EMAIL

- a Read the email to a language school. Check (✓) the questions that Ryo wants the school to answer.
- How much do the courses cost?
 - When do the courses start and end?
 - How many students are there in a class?
 - Can I combine two kinds of classes?
 - Can my wife stay with me?
 - Where are the teachers from?

From: Ryo Yamada [yamadar998@yahoo.co.jp]
To: Beacon Intensive Language School [info@BILS.edu]
Subject: Information about courses

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to ask for information about your language courses. I am especially interested in an intensive course of two or three weeks. I am 31 years old, and I work in the library at the University of Tokyo. I can read English well, but I need to improve my listening and speaking. The book I am currently studying is “pre-intermediate.”

I would like to do an intensive course for three weeks next summer. Is it possible to do three hours of general English and two hours of business English every day? Could you please send me some information about dates and prices? I would also like some more information about accommodations. If possible, I would like to stay with a family, however my wife would like to visit me for a week when I am at the school. Could she stay with me in the same family?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Ryo Yamada

- b Look at the highlighted phrases. How would they be different in an informal email?

Formal	Informal
Dear Sir / Madam,	
I am writing	
I would like	
however	
I look forward to hearing from you.	
Sincerely,	

- c Read the advertisement and then plan an email to the school. Decide how long you want to study for, what kind of course, and where you want to stay. Think of two or three questions you would like to ask.



Learn English in Boston

Come and improve your English this summer!

We run courses from two to four weeks. You can have classes from three to six hours a day or you can combine studying with cultural activities like theater trips or museum visits.

There are general English courses from beginner to advanced, as well as business English and exam preparation classes.

You can stay with a local family, or in student accommodations.

Write to us for more information. Tell us about yourself and what you are looking for, and we will suggest the perfect course for you.

Email us at info@bostonenglishfirst.net



- d Write a formal email asking for information. Write two paragraphs.

Paragraph 1	Explain why you are writing. Give some personal information (your age and occupation, and your level of English).
Paragraph 2	Explain what you would like to do. Ask your questions, and ask them to send you the information.

- e Check your email for mistakes (grammar, punctuation, and spelling).

6 A BIOGRAPHY

- a Read the biography of Matt Damon. Then cover the text and try to remember three things about him.
- b Put the verbs in parentheses in the simple past or present perfect.

Writing a biography – use of tenses

If you write a biography of a person who is dead, the verbs will all be in the **simple past**.

If the person is alive, all finished actions will be in the **simple past** (such as the person’s early life, e.g., *He was born, He went to college, etc.*, or specific actions in their life, e.g., *He got married, He moved to another country, etc.*).

However, you must use the **present perfect** for unfinished actions that started in the past and are still true now (and which might change), e.g., *He has lived in Los Angeles since his wedding.* (= he lives there now)
He has appeared in a lot of movies. (= he might appear in more in the future)

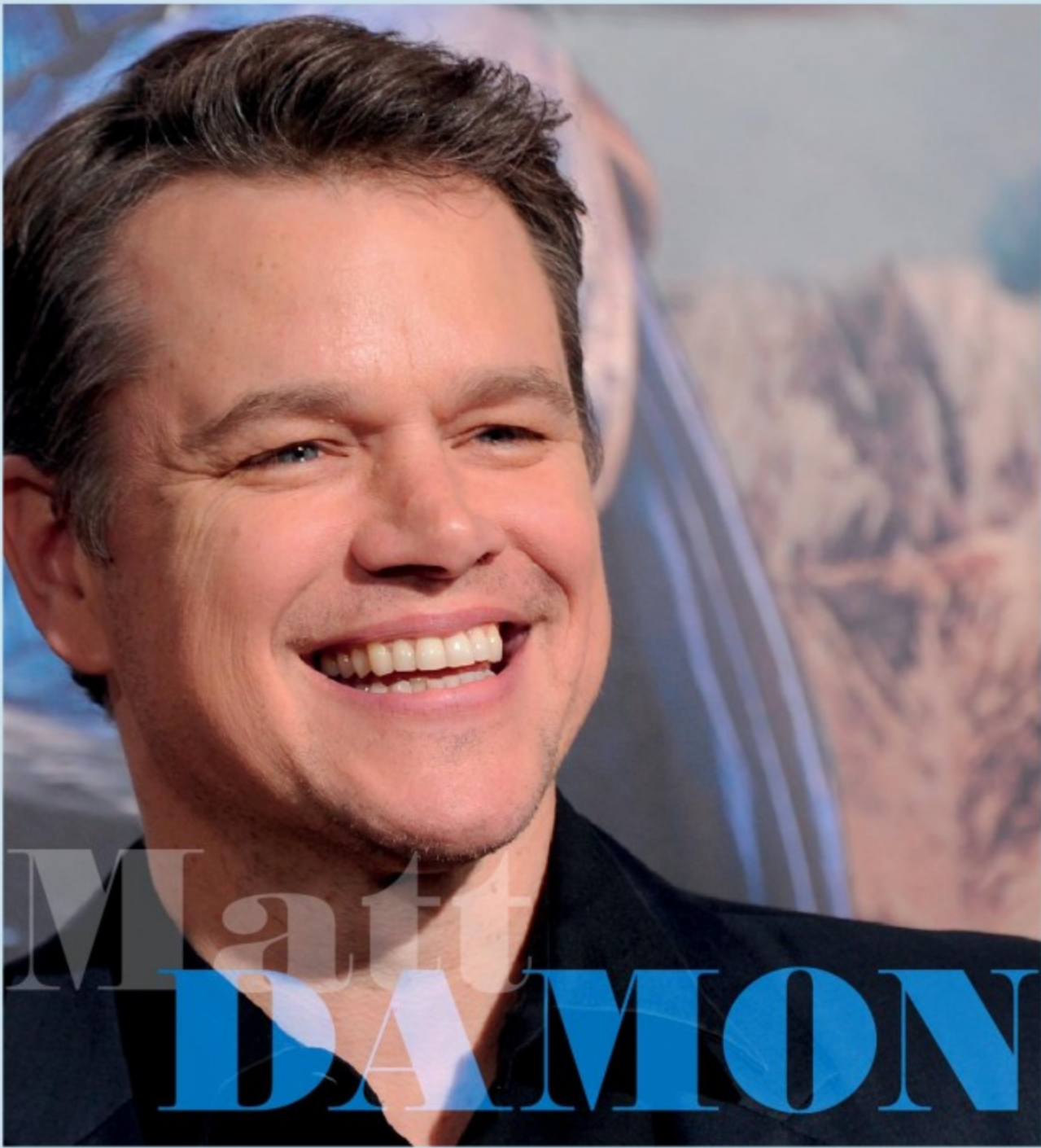
Use the **simple present** (or **present continuous**) to talk about the present day, e.g., *He lives in Los Angeles. He’s working on a new movie.*

- c You’re going to write a biography of someone you know, or a famous person, who is still alive. Plan and make notes for each paragraph before you begin.

Paragraph 1	where and when they were born, their early life (simple past)
Paragraph 2	their life as a young adult (simple past)
Paragraph 3	their later life and their life now (simple past, present perfect, simple present / present continuous)

- d Write the biography. Write three paragraphs using your notes.
- e Check your biography for mistakes (grammar, punctuation, and spelling). Show your biography to other students in the class. Which of your classmates’ biographies is the most interesting?

← p.75



Matt Damon is an American actor and movie producer. He ¹ was born (be born) in 1970 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. His father Kent worked in finance, and his mother Nancy was a college professor. His parents ² _____ (divorce) when he was two years old, and he ³ _____ (live) with his mother and brother in a large house with five other families.

Matt Damon ⁴ _____ (become) interested in acting when he was in high school, and he ⁵ _____ (appear) in several school theater productions. When he was 18, he ⁶ _____ (go) to Harvard University to study English. He ⁷ _____ (write) a movie script as part of his course - the script was for the movie *Good Will Hunting*. Matt and his friend Ben Affleck ⁸ _____ (star) in the movie and it made them famous. They both ⁹ _____ (win) an Oscar for Best Original Screenplay for their work on the script. Matt decided to become an actor and he ¹⁰ _____ (not finish) college.

Since then, Matt Damon ¹¹ _____ (become) one of the most successful actors in Hollywood. He ¹² _____ (appear) in over 70 movies, but he is most famous for playing Jason Bourne, a CIA assassin, in the Bourne movies. He ¹³ _____ (receive) many awards, and in 2015 he ¹⁴ _____ (win) a Golden Globe for Best Actor for his performance in *The Martian*. He ¹⁵ _____ (be) married to Luciana Barroso since 2005. They live in Los Angeles with their four daughters.

7 AN ARTICLE

a Read the article once. Why does the writer enjoy parkrun?

- 1 Because it helps her to lose weight.
- 2 Because she likes exercising with other people.
- 3 Because she likes getting up early.

b Read the article again and fill in the blanks with an adjective from the list.

faster friendly healthy local overweight young

c What is each paragraph about? Match paragraphs 1–4 to the correct summary.

- ☐ She recommends the activity and explains why.
- ☐ She says when and why she started doing it. She gives more details about when and where she does it now.
- ☐ She gives basic information about the activity.
- ☐ She explains why she enjoys it.

- d You are going to write an article with four paragraphs about an activity that you enjoy in your free time. Plan what you're going to write in each paragraph. Look at the **highlighted** phrases, and make a list of useful phrases connected with your activity.
- e Write an article with the title "Why I love _____." Write four paragraphs.
- f Check your article for mistakes (grammar, punctuation, and spelling). Show it to other students in the class. How many of them do the same activity? How many of them would like to try it?

← p.79



Why I love parkrun

Rachel Farrah

- 1 Parkrun organizes free **five kilometer runs** all over the world. Every Saturday morning, in countries around the world, **people meet at a park and go for a run** together. After the run, you get a text message that tells you your time, so you can see that you're **getting** ¹_____ and in better shape.
- 2 I started doing parkrun three years ago. I was ²_____ and stressed, and a friend invited me to go to the ³_____ run with him. I really didn't want to go at first, but **after a few weeks I felt much better**. Now, I try to do it every Saturday, and **I've done more than 100 runs** since I started.
- 3 I love parkrun because of the people who do it – the atmosphere is really ⁴_____, and it's much **more fun and motivating to run with other people**. I know that **my running friends** will be in the park at the same time every weekend, and that makes me get up and get out of the house.
- 4 It doesn't matter if you're old or ⁵_____, male or female, fast or slow – if you want a ⁶_____ start to the weekend, you should try it! And if there isn't a parkrun in your town or city, maybe you should start one!