

## Language focus SB p10

### Tense review and informal language

#### TEST YOUR GRAMMAR

##### 1

##### Answers

- 1 My parents met in Paris in the 1990s/years ago/during a snowstorm.
- 2 They frequently/sometimes travel abroad.
- 3 They were working in Canada when I was born/for ages/in the 1990s/recently/for a year. (If students query the tense use in *They were working in Canada for ages/for a year*, explain that we use the Past Continuous rather than the Past Simple here because we are emphasizing that the activity was temporary.)
- 4 I was born in Montreal in the 1990s/years ago/during a snowstorm.
- 5 My grandfather has been retired for ages/for a year/since 2015.
- 6 I frequently/recently/later/sometimes wrote to my grandmother./I wrote to my grandmother frequently/the other day/recently/during a snowstorm.
- 7 My sister's going to work in Peru next month/for a year.
- 8 She's recently been learning Spanish./She's been learning Spanish for ages/recently/for a year/since 2015.
- 9 I'll see you tonight/next month/later.

- 2 Focus on the example and then give a few facts about yourself and your family using the time expressions.

It's a good idea to give students some thinking time – just three or four minutes to prepare their own examples (but not write them down).

Put students in pairs (or groups of three) to exchange their information. Monitor and note down any common errors made in the form and use of the main tenses. Add to these during the lesson and feed back on them after the *Far from home* section. Write them up anonymously on the board for class correction.

Students summarize what their partners told them in a brief feedback stage. Make sure you encourage them to self-correct any mistakes with pronouns, which occasionally occur even at upper intermediate level!

## Far from home

### 1 1.1

#### Answers

The email is informal.  
She's on the Galapagos Islands with her friend, Kiri. At the moment they're on holiday, but from tomorrow they will be working. They've seen Machu Picchu, they've camped in the mountains of Torres del Paine. They've snorkelled with sea turtles. They've seen sea lions with their pups and they've seen baby sharks.

### 2 1.2

#### Answers and audioscript

##### 1.2 Nancy and Kiri's amazing trip

- 1 Q How long have they been travelling round South America?  
A For two months.
- 2 Q Which countries have they visited so far?  
A They've already been to Chile, Argentina, Bolivia and Peru.
- 3 Q When did they arrive in Santa Cruz?  
A Last Friday.
- 4 Q What did they do that morning?  
A They snorkelled with sea turtles and swam alongside them.
- 5 Q What were the sea lions doing?  
A They were relaxing on the rocks.
- 6 Q Why are they going to San Cristóbal tomorrow?  
A Because they're going to work there at a volunteer centre.
- 7 Q Why is Kiri *not* looking forward to the journey?  
A Because they're going by ferry and she gets seasick.
- 8 Q What do they particularly want to see on Isabela Island?  
A The giant tortoises.

### 3

#### Answers

Tyler is from New York City (NYC). Dave is his British 'buddy'. The Wilsons are his host family.  
Things Tyler finds strange: the Chalk Farm area doesn't have any farms; Dave's family call their home a flat; they didn't understand when Tyler asked for the bathroom instead of the toilet; being on a bus with two levels; driving on the opposite side of the road; how people use the word *cheers*; they call the subway (*underground* in British English) The Tube.

### 4

#### Answers and audioscript

##### 1.3 Tyler in London

- 1 A Where **is** Tyler **spending** the year?  
B In London.
- 2 A Is this his first trip abroad?  
B No, it **isn't**. He's **been** abroad once before. Last year he **went** to Mexico.
- 3 A Where **does** Dave **live**?  
B In north London.
- 4 A How long **is** Tyler **going** to stay with Dave?  
B A few days.
- 5 A Why **did** the guy **say** 'cheers' to Tyler?  
B Because he **had let** him pass.
- 6 A What **does** he **think** of his host family?  
B He **thinks** they're very nice.
- 7 A What **are** they **going to do** on Sunday?  
B They're **going to** Stratford-[up]on-Avon, Shakespeare's birthplace.