

ENGLISH 3AC · SEMESTER 2

A weekend visit: English 3AC reading and listening

Practise English 3AC past-simple listening with an original weekend story, audio, transcript, travel illustrations and comprehension questions with answers.

Key points

- The visit starts on Saturday and ends on Sunday.
- Strong wind is the reason the visitors do not swim.
- The little brother receives a book; the sister accompanies the narrator.

Learning goals

- Follow a short past story in time order.
- Identify travel, place and activity details.
- Separate what people wanted to do from what they did.

How do I follow this past-weekend story?

Listen first for where the narrator goes and why. The story describes a family visit to Essaouira. On the second listening, note the transport, arrival time and main activities. Put Saturday and Sunday on separate lines so the arrival and return do not become confused.

For reading practice, read the transcript after answering from the audio. Highlight past-simple verbs such as visited, travelled, arrived, walked, took and bought. Some verbs are regular and some are irregular, but all help tell the finished events.



The harbour and wind help set the scene. Describe only the actions and reasons stated in the story.

Which people and actions should I keep separate?

The narrator travels with a sister and visits an aunt. A little brother receives a book bought during the visit; the text does not say that the little brother travels. A correct answer keeps each person with the right role.

The visitors want to swim, but the strong wind changes their plan. They stay on the beach. Do not turn wanted to swim into swam. An intention is different from a completed action. Because gives the reason when you explain why they do not swim.

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FOLLOW THE WEEKEND

Place each event on the correct day.

1 Saturday morning
Arrive at eleven by bus

↓

2 After lunch
Walk near the harbour; no swimming

↓

3 Sunday
Visit a bookshop; return in the afternoon

Read the examples. Explain the pattern. Make your own sentence.

Place each event on the correct day.

How can I justify an answer?

A short answer is enough if it includes the necessary detail. By bus answers the transport question. At eleven on Saturday morning answers the arrival question. Tired but happy includes both feelings at the end, not just one.

After correction, retell the story in five sentences without adding new events. Then change the town and two activities to create your own short account. The audio is an original text read by a synthetic English voice, suitable for reading and listening practice.

A worked example

An intention is not a completed action

Question: Why did the visitors not swim? Answer: Because the wind was strong. The story says they wanted to swim, but stayed on the beach. It does not say that rain stopped them.

- Find the actual reason in the text.
- Do not replace a stated reason with a possible one.
- Keep wanted to do and did separate.

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WHO DID WHAT?

Keep people, intentions and actions distinct.

- 1 Companion
The sister travels with the narrator.
- 2 Gift recipient
The little brother receives a storybook.
- 3 Changed plan
They want to swim, but stay on the beach.

Read the examples. Explain the pattern. Make your own sentence.

Keep people, intentions and actions distinct.

How should I use this English 3AC lesson?

- Try the exercises before reading the answers.
- Explain a correction in your own words.
- Return to the examples when two structures look similar.

Listening transcript

Last Saturday, I visited my aunt in Essaouira with my sister. We travelled by bus and arrived at eleven in the morning. My aunt met us at the bus station. After lunch, we walked near the harbour and took some photographs. We wanted to swim, but the wind was strong, so we stayed on the beach. In the evening, we helped my aunt prepare dinner. On Sunday, we visited a small bookshop. I bought a story for my little brother. We returned home in the afternoon. I was tired, but I was happy to see my family.

[Listen to the synthetic-voice English recording on the lesson page.](#)

Exercises: try before reading the answers**1. A travelling companion**

Who travels with the narrator?

2. Transport

How do they travel?

3. Arrival

When do they arrive?

4. A changed plan

Why do they not swim?

5. A gift

Who is the storybook for?

6. Feelings

How does the narrator feel at the end?

Answers and explanations

1. A travelling companion

The narrator's sister. The little brother receives a book but is not described as a traveller.

2. Transport

By bus. No train or car journey is stated.

3. Arrival

At eleven on Saturday morning. The return is on Sunday afternoon.

4. A changed plan

Because the wind was strong. The text does not mention rain as the reason.

5. A gift

The narrator's little brother. It is bought in a small bookshop.

6. Feelings

Tired but happy. Both adjectives belong in the answer.

Frequently asked questions

How do I improve past-simple listening in English 3AC?

Follow the time order, note the main people and actions, and check each answer against the exact words of the story.

Can I infer extra events from a travel story?

Do not present guesses as facts. Wanted to swim does not mean swam, and a person receiving a gift is not necessarily a traveller.

How can I use this text for writing practice?

Retell the story in five past-simple sentences, then write a different visit using your own suitable details.

Revision resource: follow the units, instructions and pace set by your teacher.

[Read the full lesson and practise on MATHFJIB.](#)