

Unit 1

Unit 1

Focus on Literature

THE MURDERS IN THE RUE MORGUE

A crime has been committed in rue Morgue, Paris. The scene of the murder is a solitary house, a room locked from the inside where two *gendarmes* have found two corpses lying on the floor.

Monsieur C. Auguste Dupin has been investigating upon the horrible mystery...

He has asked some neighbours to collaborate by saying if they have seen or heard something suspicious.

Pauline Dubourg (laundress): I've known the two women for three years, since I've been washing for them. I've always seen the old lady and her daughter getting on well and I've never noticed any stranger in the house, not even servants.

Pierre Moreau (tobacconist): I've been selling tobacco and snuff to Madame l'Espanaye for four years. I know the two have lived in the same house for more than six years, leading a retired life, even though in luxury. I've heard that Madame l'Espanaye was a fortune-teller, but I've never believed it! The only people I've seen in the house were a physician and a porter.

William Bird (tailor): I'm an Englishman and I've lived in Paris for two years. I was one of the people who first entered the house of the two deceased.

I heard the gruff voice of a Frenchman. I can't actually remember what he said, but I heard distinctly "sacré" and "mon Dieu"...

(Adapted from E.A.Poe's *The Murders in the Rue Morgue*)

Vocabulary: Write down your own word-list





http://books.eserver.org/fiction/poe/murders_in_the_rue_morgue.html



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQQhYHGmu8k>



http://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/p/poe/edgar_allan/p74mu/

Comprehension activity

1. Answer the following questions

- Who were the two people murdered?
- How long has Pauline Dubourg known Madame l'Esplanaye?
- Has Pierre Moreau ever spoken with the two women?
- What has the laundress declared about the private life of the two deceased?
- Who did the French voice belong to?

2. Match sentences in column A with sentences in column B

A

I haven't spent all the money
He has never been so rude!
I haven't been to the market
It has been so windy today
My mum is a terrific cook
Denny has been shopping
They have been to Austria
I have seen an interesting exhibition
Have you ever won the lottery?
Has your sister passed her exam?

B

Yes, she's been brilliant!
because it's crowded today
she's been making delicious cookies
and now he's broke
No, because I'm not a lucky person
and I've seen amazing works of art
because I've had little pocket money
I can't put up with his manners
that some trees have fallen down
since Christmas

3. Say if the following statements are true or false

	T	F
1. All the witnesses have agreed that the two women led a poor life	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. One of the neighbours has heard that Madame l'Espanaye was fond of telling stories for children	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. None of the neighbours has ever spoken with them		
4. The people interrogated have said that the two women used to have guests in their house	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Someone has seen a Frenchman with a suspicious attitude	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Grammar Focus

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/grammar-reference/present-perfect-simple-and-present-perfect-continuous>

You use the **present perfect simple** to emphasise the result of the action:

You use the present perfect simple with **just, already, always, ever/never, yet, still..**

You use the **present perfect continuous** to emphasise the duration of the action: **For** and **since** introduce the time (e.g. FOR a long time; SINCE Christmas)

WATCH OUT!

We use the **present perfect simple AND NOT CONTINUOUS** with **for** and **since** with TO BE, TO HAVE(possess), STATE VERBS, VERBS of FEELINGS,EMOTIONS,PERCEPTION

1. Insert the right tense: present perfect simple or continuous

1. I _____(live) here since I was born, but now I feel like moving to Wales.
2. She _____(play) tennis for two hours and now she's exhausted.
3. Sarah and Jane _____(know) since they were in kindergarten.
4. He _____(study) all afternoon for his school project.
5. How long _____(wait) for the bus? I saw you half an hour ago and you are still here!
6. Where _____(you/be)? I haven't seen you for ages!
7. _____(you/hear) from John? I think he's gone to Ireland on holiday.
8. I _____(dance) all night at Susan's party.
9. She _____(work) all day and now she wants to go straight to bed.
10. _____(you/start) your English course? Not yet

2. Fill in the blanks with for or since

1. last Christmas
2. half an hour
3. I was a little boy
4. ages
5. about two hours
6. the beginning of the school year
7. two weeks
8. the First World War
9. I last saw my friend Jane
10. we started our Spanish course

3. Correct the mistakes

In each sentence there is one mistake with the present perfect or the present perfect continuous. Underline the mistakes and write the correct sentence.

1. Paul is a teacher. He has taught Spanish for ten years.
2. We has been playing the guitar all night.
3. My sister been visiting a lot of museums and now she wants to go back home.
4. My school friends have study hard to make an important school project.
5. I has been travelling a lot to know different cultures.
6. My grandparents has lived in the same house all their life.
7. How long has you been listening to music?
8. John is a musician. He has play with very popular bands recently.
9. I bought anything for my parents' anniversary yet.
10. I'm not hungry. I just had a slice of cake.

Focus on Vocabulary

PERSONALITY TRAITS, EMOTIONS AND FEELINGS



Answer this quiz and tell us more about your personality...

1. I am romantic not so much 1 2 3 4 5 6 very much
2. I am organized not so much 1 2 3 4 5 6 very much
3. I am playful not so much 1 2 3 4 5 6 very much
4. I am assertive /
I speak my mind not so much 1 2 3 4 5 6 very much
5. I am outgoing /
socially active not so much 1 2 3 4 5 6 very much
6. I am responsible not so much 1 2 3 4 5 6 very much

7. In my free time, I am generally:

<input type="checkbox"/> relaxed / not active	<input type="checkbox"/> more relaxed than active	<input type="checkbox"/> more active than relaxed	<input type="checkbox"/> very active / always on the go
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8. Regarding most topics, I consider myself:

<input type="checkbox"/> conservative	<input type="checkbox"/> moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> liberal
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9. I would rather be:

<input type="checkbox"/> a logical person who can reason clearly	<input type="checkbox"/> a compassionate person who is understanding / empathetic
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10. Within relationships, I tend to feel jealous:

<input type="checkbox"/> fairly often	<input type="checkbox"/> occasionally	<input type="checkbox"/> sometimes	<input type="checkbox"/> rarely
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11. I work best:

<input type="checkbox"/> in a group/team	<input type="checkbox"/> on my own
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12. If I were a garden, I would most resemble:

<input type="checkbox"/> a wildflower garden: carefree, easy-going, and enthusiastic	<input type="checkbox"/> an English garden: accurate, organized, and detail-oriented
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13. Everybody has one thing or another they would like to change about themselves. You would be happier / more productive if you could be less: (more than 1 option is acceptable)

<input type="checkbox"/> stubborn	<input type="checkbox"/> impulsive	<input type="checkbox"/> anxious	<input type="checkbox"/> indecisive
<input type="checkbox"/> disorganized	<input type="checkbox"/> overambitious	<input type="checkbox"/> impatient	<input type="checkbox"/> oversensitive

14. Favourite words: which describe you best? (In each case, choose between the 2 options given)

<input type="checkbox"/> like Hustle-bustle	<input type="checkbox"/> stability	<input type="checkbox"/> outspoken
<input type="checkbox"/> like calm and quiet	<input type="checkbox"/> flexibility	<input type="checkbox"/> reserved
<input type="checkbox"/> decisions using head	<input type="checkbox"/> rather win praise	<input type="checkbox"/> complexity/abstractness
<input type="checkbox"/> decision using heart	<input type="checkbox"/> rather win a prize	<input type="checkbox"/> simplicity/concreteness

1. Complete the following sentences choosing the right words.

1. My teacher is a very good person. He has been very impolite/kind /honest to me.
2. My brother Brian is very shy/easy-going/ extrovert. I'm the opposite as I'm outgoing.
3. Peter is so tidy/lazy/energetic. He never helps with the housework.
4. He is extremely proud/ambitious/outgoing. He wants to become Prime Minister one day.
5. He was so jealous/impolite/self-confident that he could not possibly lose.

6. My grandma always gives me expensive presents. She is so easy-going/understanding/generous.
7. He is very proud/ moody/ easy-going about his role in the success of the film.
8. It was very cheerful/dishonest/kind/ of you to offer to drive us to the station.
9. I'm sure you'll get an answer soon. Try to be patient/lazy/excited.
10. He is such a careless/careful/thoughtless driver that he has had two accidents this week.

2. Find the opposites.

selfish	shy	mean	hard-working	rude	silly	messy	brave
generous	easy-going	kind	serious	polite	proud	tidy	coward
friendly	outgoing	extrovert	lazy	moody	clever	untidy	courageous

3. After doing the quiz and the exercises, fill in the tables below with positive and negative adjectives related to personality

POSITIVE	NEGATIVE
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

4. Read the following description and find 10 **grammar and spelling** mistakes

My best friend

Brian is my neighbour. He is the same age than me and he is my best friend. We attend the same school and we go to school together.



He comes from an educated family. Her father is a school headmaster. His mother is a teacher. He is punctual, well-educated, and has good manners. He is hardworking. He makes his homework and does well in his studies. He is well-dressed and well-behaved. All the teacher have a high opinion of him.

He gets up early every morning and in the weekend we go jogging together. He is kind but fearless. He likes taking part to sports. He is a scout, as well. He has a good heart and he's very helpful as he always help his friends if they need. He has been trained by his parents to be always tidy. He has a room to himself. All his books are well arranged in the bookcase. His bed is always neat and tidy.

Even if he is fond of dogs, he can't have one because he lives in a flat. He has a fish tank containing gold fishes and he patiently feeds them and looks after them with care.

Brian is a good son to his parents. I'm happy to have such a friend.

Teen Friendship

I thought that my mobile was my best friend, but then one day I met Pam. We met in 2006 and we have been best friends ever since. Pam and I met on the first day of middle school when I first entered our new classroom. I looked for a familiar face but I didn't see anybody that I recognised. I sat next to Pam because she seemed friendly. We quickly discovered that we had many things in common and soon we began spending time together after school. In fact, she has been coming to my house almost everyday since last November.



Since Pam comes to my house so often, my mother has begun to consider Pam as her own daughter and she always makes sure that we do our homework before we relax. Since Pam is very good at maths, she has been helping me with my homework because I am not as good as she is. To repay her I have been helping her with her Spanish homework because I speak Spanish quite well, I have been studying it since I was five. But we don't only help each other in our studies; ever since we first met we've always tried to support each other in all aspects of our lives. For example, recently I have been sad since breaking up with my boyfriend but Pam has been spending even more time with me to make sure I don't get lonely.

Since entering high school, Pam and I have made many new friends but the connection between us two remains the most important, we're like sisters! They say it is hard to find a good friend so I feel lucky to have found Pam and to have shared all the fantastic experiences that we've had.

WRITING

How would you describe your personality and why? Consider the example given above and write a short paragraph (between 80 and 100 words).

The Speaking Corner

Friends for life



Anna and Kate have very different personalities but both of them have made some great friends over the Net. Let's interview them and see what they have to say.

YOU: Kate, how long have you been chatting on line?

KATE: I started with Messenger when I was 12 years old but my parents allowed me to chat just with my schoolmates and friends I knew. Things changed when I went on Facebook.

ANNA: I'm more reserved than Kate so I started after her, when I was 13. But then I found it terrific: it was so easy to meet and **make friends** with teenagers sharing my own interests, my ideas...lots of things, you know.

YOU: What about now? Do you still use the social networks to talk to friends?

ANNA: Actually, now I don't just **chat for fun**, but I also **go on Facebook** to check my homework with my mates...

YOU: **Have you ever made any great friends over the net?**

KATE: Sure, there's Casey, for example. She's from Paris. I've never met her, but I love chatting with her and **we've grown close** enough that I sometimes **talk over problems** with her that I have difficulty bringing up with some of my friends that I know in real life.

YOU: Thank you girls. I've appreciated the precious time you've spent with me.

1. Now consider the questions Kate and Anna answered, and give your own answers

1. Have you ever chatted on line? If so, how long have you been doing it?
2. Do you use the social networks to talk to friends?
3. Have you ever made any great friends over the net?
4. And what about everyday life? How have you met your (best) friends?

2. Look at the expressions in bold, give the Italian equivalent, then use them to make new sentences

To make friends

To chat for fun.....

To go on Facebook.....

To make great friends over the Net.....

To grow close.....

To talk over problems.....

Now it's your turn:

1.
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2.
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3.
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4.
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5.
.....
6.
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3. Look at the picture. Discuss the following points with your partner and be ready to talk to your teacher and the rest of the class.

- Who are these girls?
- How old are they?
- What do they look like?/ What about personality?
- What are they doing?
- Do they look excited? Can you guess why?



Further online practice: <http://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/grammar/prepersim-preperpro>

Time for a Song



You've got a friend James Taylor

Listen to the chorus part of the song and circle the verbs you hear

be feel have got take make know show
come love see go do call ring phone



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4c9SJxBxJkQ>

