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## Introduction

### General

This book of exercises was written to accompany Michael Swan's *Basic English Usage*, but it can also be used on its own. It provides practice and revision material on over 200 important points of usage, grammar and lexis. It is intended for students of English from lower intermediate level upwards and is suitable both for use in class and for self study.

### Exercises

The 230 exercises are varied in approach to suit the topic and the needs of the user. With few exceptions, the exercises are contextualized. Many exercises make use of picture cues. Several exercises are controlled, i.e. they have a limited number of possible answers. Others are open-ended, i.e. they offer freer communicative practice. Here the student is guided towards expressing wishes, preferences, opinions, etc within the framework of a specific language item. The student relates to and draws on his personal situation, own background and experience.

### Organization

The language points treated are dealt with alphabetically, as in *Basic English Usage*. In the vast majority of cases, each exercise deals with one *BEU* point only. This makes the exercise book very easy to use together with *Basic English Usage*. All exercises are cross-referenced to the corresponding sections of *Basic English Usage* and most have at least one example.

### Key

There is a full Key for students working on their own. Where the exercise is open-ended, suggestions are made or examples of possible answers are given.



# List of Exercises

- 1 **about to** (BEU 2)
- 2 **above** and **over** (3)
- 3 **across, over, through** (4, 5)
- 4 adverbs: position (14)
- 5 adverbs: indefinite frequency (14.2)
- 6 adverbs: indefinite frequency (14.2)
- 7 adverbs of manner (14.6)
- 8 adverbs: position (place, time) (14.9)
- 9 **after** (preposition); **afterwards** (adverb) (16)
- 10 **ago** (20)
- 11 **all** (21–24)
- 12 **although** (29)
- 13 **another** (33)
- 14 articles: **the, a/an** (40,41)
- 15 articles: special rules and exceptions (45)
- 16 articles: special rules and exceptions (45)
- 17 articles: **a/an** (45.6)
- 18 **as ... as** (46)
- 19 **as** and **like** (48)
- 20 **as, when** and **while** (52.1)
- 21 **ask** (53)
- 22 **at, in** and **on** (place) (54)
- 23 **at, in** and **on** (place) (54)
- 24 **at, in** and **on** (time) (55)
- 25 **be** + infinitive (58)
- 26 **because** and **because of** (60)
- 27 **before** (conjunction) (62)
- 28 **before** (preposition) and **in front of** (63)
- 29 **big, large, great** and **tall** (65)
- 30 **borrow** and **lend** (67)
- 31 **both** with verbs (69)
- 32 **bring** and **take** (71)
- 33 **can** and **could**: ability (78.1)
- 34 **can**: ability (78.2)
- 35 **could**: ability (78.3)
- 36 **can**: possibility (79)
- 37 **can**: possibility (79.1)
- 38 **could have**: probability (79.3)
- 39 **can**: permission, offers (80.1,3)
- 40 **could/couldn't**: past permission (80.2)
- 41 **come** and **go** (83)
- 42 comparison: comparative adjectives (84)
- 43 comparison: superlative adjectives (84)
- 44 comparison: superlative adjectives (85.5)
- 45 comparison: **much, far** etc with comparatives (86)
- 46 conditional: progressive conditional (88.1)
- 47 conditional: use (88.2a)
- 48 conjunctions (89.3)
- 49 'copula' verbs (91)
- 50 countable and uncountable nouns (92)
- 51 dates (95)
- 52 dates (95.2)
- 53 **do**: auxiliary verb (98.1,2)
- 54 **do** + **-ing** (99)
- 55 **do** and **make** (100)
- 56 **during** and **for** (101)
- 57 **during** and **in** (102)
- 58 **each other** and **one another** (105)
- 59 **else** (109)
- 60 emphatic structures with **it** (111)
- 61 **enjoy** (112)
- 62 **enough** (113.1)
- 63 **enough** (113.2)
- 64 **enough** (113.3)
- 65 **even though** (114.4)
- 66 **ever** (116)
- 67 **except** and **except for** (119)
- 68 exclamations (120.1,2)
- 69 **explain** (123)
- 70 **fairly, quite, rather** and **pretty** (124)
- 71 **far** and **a long way** (125)
- 72 **farther** and **further** (126)
- 73 **(a) few** and **(a) little** (129)
- 74 **(a) few** and **(a) little** (129)
- 75 **fewer** and **less** (130)
- 76 **fewer** and **less** (130)
- 77 **for**: purpose (131.1)
- 78 **for**: purpose (131.2)
- 79 **for** + object + infinitive (132.1)
- 80 **for** + object + infinitive (132.1)
- 81 **for** and **since** (133.1–3)
- 82 **for** and **since** (133.4)
- 83 future: present progressive (135.1)
- 84 future: **going to** (135.2)
- 85 future: **going to** (135.2)
- 86 future: **shall/will** (predictions) (136)
- 87 future: **shall/will** (predictions) (136)
- 88 future: simple present (138.1)
- 89 future perfect (139)
- 90 future perfect (139)
- 91 future progressive (140)
- 92 **get** + noun/pronoun/adjective (142.1,2)
- 93 **go: been** and **gone** (145.1)
- 94 **go** meaning 'become' (146.2)
- 95 **go ... -ing** (147)
- 96 **had better** (148)
- 97 **hard** and **hardly** (150)
- 98 **have**: possession etc (153.1)
- 99 **have (got)**: possession etc (153.2)
- 100 **have**: actions (154)
- 101 **have** + object + past participle (155.2)
- 102 **have** + object + past participle (155.2)
- 103 **have (got) to** (156)
- 104 **have (got) to** (156)
- 105 **hear** and **listen (to)** (157)
- 106 **home** (161)
- 107 **if**: ordinary tenses (164.1)
- 108 **if**: special tenses (165.1)
- 109 **if**: special tenses, present and future situations (165.1)
- 110 **if**: special tenses, past situations (165.3)
- 111 **if**: special tenses, past situations (165.3)
- 112 **if**-sentences with **could** (166)
- 113 **if only** (167)
- 114 imperative (170)
- 115 imperative (170.1)
- 116 imperative: with **do** (170.1)
- 117 **in case** (172.1,2)
- 118 **in spite of** (173)
- 119 infinitive: verb + object + infinitive (176.3)
- 120 infinitive: verb + object + infinitive (176.3)
- 121 infinitive after **who, what, how** etc (177.1)
- 122 infinitive of purpose (178)
- 123 infinitive of purpose (178)
- 124 infinitive of purpose (178)
- 125 **-ing** form ('gerund') (180.2)
- 126 **-ing** form ('gerund') after verb (180.3)
- 127 **-ing** form ('gerund') after **need** and **want** (180.4)
- 128 **-ing** form ('gerund') after preposition (180.5)
- 129 **-ing** form or infinitive? (182.1)
- 130 irregular verbs (186)
- 131 **it's time** (189.2)
- 132 **let's** (191)
- 133 **look (at), watch** and **see** (196)
- 134 **may** and **might**: probability (199)
- 135 **may** and **might**: possibility (199)
- 136 **may**: permission (200.1)
- 137 **much, many, a lot** etc (205.1)
- 138 **must**: obligation (208)
- 139 **must**: obligation (208)
- 140 **must**: deduction (210.1,2)



- 141 must:** deduction (210.3)  
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**143 nationality words** (212)  
**144 nationality words** (212)  
**145 nationality words** (212)  
**146 nationality words** (212)  
**147 need** (213)  
**148 neither** (217.1)  
**149 neither ... nor ...** (218)  
**150 next and nearest** (219)  
**151 no and none** (221)  
**152 no and not** (222)  
**153 numbers** (227.1)  
**154 numbers** (227.4)  
**155 numbers** (227.5)  
**156 numbers** (227.6)  
**157 numbers** (227.7)  
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**160 numbers** (227.10)  
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**169 passive verb forms: simple present** (238)  
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**179 past time: present perfect simple** (243.4,5)  
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**184 possessive 's** (250.4)  
**185 possessives with determiners (a friend of mine etc)** (252)  
**186 possessives: mine etc** (253.2)
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**189 present tenses: present progressive** (262.2)  
**190 present tenses: present progressive** (262.2)  
**191 progressive tenses with always** (263)  
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**193 question tags** (273)  
**194 reflexive pronouns** (276.2)  
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**196 relative pronouns: that** (277.2)  
**197 relatives: whose** (279)  
**198 relatives: identifying clauses** (280)  
**199 reported speech: tenses** (283.3)  
**200 reported speech: tenses** (283.3)  
**201 reported speech: questions** (284)  
**202 reported speech: questions** (284)  
**203 reported speech: orders, requests, advice etc** (285)  
**204 the same** (288)  
**205 shall** (292.2)  
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**208 should** (294)  
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**210 since** (conjunction of time): tenses (300)  
**211 spelling of plural nouns** (301)  
**212 so and not with hope, believe etc** (311)  
**213 so am I, so do I etc** (312)  
**214 some and any** (314)  
**215 somebody and anybody, something and anything etc** (317)  
**216 still, yet and already** (330)  
**217 subject and object forms** (331.1)  
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**219 take** (time) (338)  
**220 telling the time** (342.1,2)  
**221 there is** (345.1)  
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**223 used to + infinitive** (353)  
**224 (be) used to + ...-ing** (354)  
**225 verbs with two objects** (356.1)  
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**227 whoever, whatever, whichever, however, whenever and wherever** (365)  
**228 wish** (367.2)  
**229 worth ...-ing** (368)  
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