

English for University Studies Summer School 2019 **Grammar Specialities of Academic English 1**

Discussion Questions

Does it often happen to you that you realize having made a mistake? What mistake did you make recently? Which grammar area do you find especially difficult? What grammar structures does your language lack compared to English? What is grammar good for?

Listening: Check the facts.

https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/podcasts/educationpodcast001.htm

1.	King of France and England is an eight month old baby. T/F
2.	The English were in really serious trouble. T/ F
3.	Things did not stay as they were for quite a long time. T/F
4.	Duke John of Brittany anounces his allegiance to the Dauphin. T/F
5.	He crosses to the English side even if they're close to overrunning him. T/ F
6.	The English hold at Orleans. T/ F
7.	Christine was living in a closed abbey when Charles fled from Paris. T/ F
8.	Christine is talking about Joan of Arc. T/ F
9.	Dauphin got himself crowned. T/F
10.	Even if Joan is captured an executed swiftly, England is losing. T/ F
11.	It is sure that England will now lose all its French lands. T/F
12.	Henry VI is the only English ruler ever to be crowned King of France. T/ F
13.	The English must not get to Rheims. T/ F
14.	Jo thinks that the French would never have accepted an English ruler. T/ F
15.	If Henry had lived another 20 years, then things would never have worked. T/ F

Exercise: Identify what grammar structures are involved in the statements above:

Modal verbs Past perl	Time clause ect Past o	Passive v continuous Fu		ng Conditional g words
1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15

GRAMMAR – Focus on Past Tenses

<u>Background</u>: Anna Comena is considered the world's first female historian and a major source of information about the rule of her father, Alexius I. Her works are full of details about daily life at court, the activities of her family, and the exchanges between the Byzantines and western Crusaders during the first crusades.

Exercise: Put the verbs in the brackets into the correct past form.

excellent education. Anna 3 (can) take his place as (destroy) all her ho	eror's child. She 2 (hope) that at her father's head of an empire. The birth of opes. Anna 6 (marry)	death she 4. her brother 5. a historian in
1097. Her mother 7.	(encourage) her to try and seiz	e the imperial
throne for him.	_, _, ,	·
<u>Discussion</u> : How are the facts abothose links?	out Anna's life linked together? How	can you express
•	er a) she had received an exce b) her brother had been born.	llent education.
Her mother supported Anna, while	e a) she was trying to seize the b) she had married a historian.	e imperial throne.

Exercise: Choose the appropriate past form.

- 1. Since Anna's attempt to seize the throne <u>had failed / was failing</u>, she was forced to retire from court.
- 2. After her husband had died, she was entering / entered a monastery.
- 3. She <u>had lived / was living</u> in the monastery, when 55-year-old Anna began serious work on *Alexiad*, a 15 volume history of her family, the Comneni.
- 4. In her work, Anna described / had described the Crusaders from the West.
- 5. Her father asked Pope Urban I for help after the Turkish attacks <u>were leaving / had left</u> the southern and eastern borders of the Byzantine Empire defenceless.
- 6. Urban II's response was positive and the First Crusaders <u>had arrived / arrived</u> in Constantinople.
- 7. To Anna, they had appeared / appeared as uneducated barbarians.

<u>Discussion:</u> Can all the events described in Alexiad be taken for granted as historical facts? How can you express the possibility / probability of the facts?

Anna was an Emperor's child. It is sure, that she received an excellent education.

- a) She could have received an excellent education.
- b) She must have received an excellent education.

Exercise: Fill in the gaps below with the modal verb in the past (could have, may have, must have, might have + past participle) so that the sentences have the same meaning as the bold ones.

1. She	Perha	ps, she expected that at her father's death she would take his place. that at her father's death she would take his place.
2.	Possi	bly, her mother encouraged her to try and seize the imperial throne for
him.	1 0001	ory, nor mother encouraged nor to try and coize the imperial throne for
	other	her to try and seize the imperial throne for him.
		e sure it was where 55-year-old Anna began serious work on <i>Alexiad.</i>
It	in	the monastery, where 55-year-old Anna began serious work on Alexia.
4.	It is ol	ovious that her father wanted to stop the Turkish attacks.
Her fa	ther	to stop the Turkish attacks.
5.	It is p	robable that to Anna they appeared as uneducated barbarians.
To An	na, the	y as uneducated barbarians.
		hoose interesting facts about your life and describe them using at least 3
differe	ent tens	es.

Reading: Insert punctuation marks:

Normally when reading a text people use a strategy that I call reading for content The goal of this strategy is to get the main idea of the text as quickly as possible and with as little effort as possible To accomplish this goal your brain will try to read as few words as possible and spend only a fraction of a second on each word

For example when reading the following passage you don't really see it like this

Once when I was six years old I saw a magnificent picture in a book called True Stories from Nature about the primeval forest. It was a picture of a boa constrictor in the act of swallowing an animal Here is a copy of the drawin. In the book it said Boa constrictors swallow their prey whole without chewing it After that they are not able to move and they sleep through the six months that they need for digestion

I pondered deeply then over the adventures of the jungle And after some work with a colored pencil I succeeded in making my first drawing

http://www.antimoon.com/how/readhow.htm

Writing: Write a short email to your teacher (<u>martina.sindelarova@mail.muni.cz</u>) and ask about the course / some grammar issue / your problem.

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