

Second
Edition

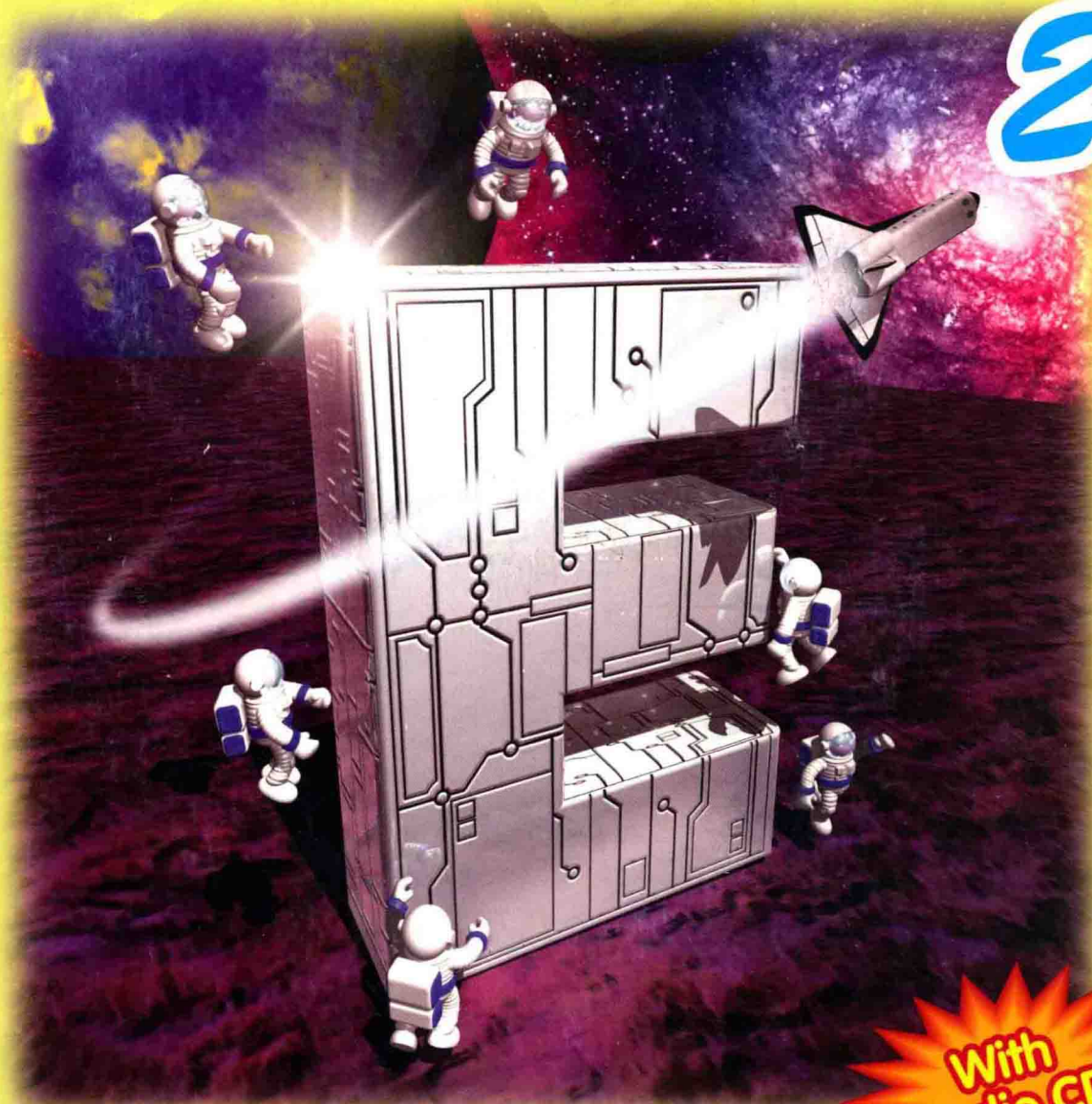
English Express

Bellson Ip Janeta Ip Alvina Ip

Summer Vacation Exercise for Secondary Schools

S2 to S3

2



With
Audio CD

Hong Kong Educational Publishing Co.

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Edition

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常州大学图书馆
藏书章

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by **Bellson Ip, Janeta Ip, Alvina Ip**

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Preface

The **Express Series** is a series of summer vacation exercises written for students from Primary 6 to Secondary 3. It consists of Chinese, English and Mathematics (with both Chinese and English versions for Mathematics). The series helps upgrade students' skills in these subjects and bridges the gap between two academic years.

The Second Edition provides students with **updated and authentic materials** which focus on current issues, such as Hong Kong Disneyland and Government House, enabling students to learn English in their daily life. The **addition of two listening exercises** provide students with more training on listening skills. Furthermore, **varied themes on communication skills** enhance students' competence to communicate in English.

Each book contains five main sections. **Upgrade Your Reading Skills** enhances students' ability to understand written materials of various genres; **Grammar and Usage** strengthens students' grammar competence; **Upgrade Your Communication Skills** improves students' communication and speaking skills in authentic situations; **Upgrade Your Writing Skills** develops students' ability in writing texts of different formats; **Fun with Words** introduces interesting and useful vocabulary to students. Apart from these sections, **Top Tip** appears here and there to highlight essential learning points.

It is hoped that, after finishing the exercises, students are able to achieve qualitative improvement and are better prepared for the next school year.

Bellson Ip, Janeta Ip, Alvina Ip

April 2006

About the Authors

Bellson, Janeta and Alvina are experienced English teachers. They have been very dedicated to writing books for both primary and secondary students. Their publications include the summer workbook series *Brush Up Your English* (First, Second and Third Editions), *English Express* (First Edition) and *TSA English Mock Exam Papers Series*.

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Unit 1

The Most Popular Tourist Spots by 2020



Upgrade Your Reading Skills

Read the following news article.

HONG KONG POST

- 1 Hong Kong will become the world's fifth most popular tourist destination by the year 2020, receiving nearly 60 million tourists a year, an international industry study has predicted.
- 5 Projections by the World Tourism Organization, an international grouping of global tourism associations, published this week suggest China would become the world's number one holiday spot.
- 10 The group forecast that 59.3 million tourists a year would visit Hong Kong in 2020 — more than five times the 1996 figure of 11.7 million.
- The study found that in 23 years' time China could be the world's most popular tourism destination 15 followed by the United States. France and Spain would be the next most popular followed by Hong Kong.
- The comprehensive study indicates that tourists in the 21st Century will travel much farther on their 20 holidays with the percentage of long-haul trips increasing from 18 per cent in 1995 to 24 per cent by the Year 2020.

Complete the table and answer the questions.

1. Five Most Popular Tourist Destinations by the Year 2020

Popularity	Country / Region
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

2. The _____ predicts that Hong Kong would be one of the five most popular tourist spots by the Year 2020.
3. In 1996, _____ million tourists came to Hong Kong.
4. The study says that in the 21st century more tourists would visit places (within / farther away from / closer to) their own countries.

Grammar and Usage

1. Present Continuous Tense

Top Tip

We use the present continuous tense to talk about:

- something that is going on now
- something which we have planned or arranged to do in the future

A. Talking about What is Happening Now

Put the verbs in the present continuous tense.

1.



Dad: What are they doing (do) here, dear?

Mom: The kids _____ (practise)
for the taekwondo contest next week.

2.



Eva: Why are you so busy?

Chris: Hush! I _____ (download)
the new episode of Harry Potter.

3.



Patrick: Look! My wife _____ (train)
the puppy to bring her slippers.

Bob: Cool!

4.



Sister: Would you turn down the volume of the TV?

Brother: Why?

Sister: We _____ (compose) a song.

B. Talking about What We Have Planned or Arranged to Do in the Future

Read Patrick's desk calendar.

August 10		Honey's Birthday — Important Day
Morning	10:00 a.m.	Buy food for dinner
		12:00 n.n. Lunch with wife
Afternoon	2:00 p.m.	Shop around for birthday gift
		5:00 p.m. Prepare dinner
		7:00 p.m. Dinner with wife

Read the messages for Patrick (7 August).

- Frank : Want to go to Macau on 10 August?
- Ah Wah : House-warming party from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on 10 August.
Please come with your wife.
- Kent : We are playing tennis from 12:00 n.n. to 1:00 p.m. on 10 August. Want to join us?
- Jack Wong : I have finished the financial plan for you. Will you come to the branch at 2:30 p.m. on 10 August?
- Jane : Laura has returned from Canada. We are getting together in late afternoon on 10 August.

After reading the messages, help Patrick reply them using the present continuous tense.

1. I cannot go to Macau with you on 10 August, Frank. I am celebrating my wife's birthday.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Extended Task

Now, you know how to use the present continuous tense to talk about two different situations. Complete the dialogues with the correct form of the given verbs.

1. James: Let's have a barbecue this Sunday afternoon.

Jerry: I don't think I can join you. I _____ (visit) my grandma this Sunday.



2. Manager: Here is last month's sales report, Jenny. Please tell the General Manager I _____ (work) on this month's, and will give it to him once it is ready.

Secretary: Yes, sir.



3. Daughter: Mom, I _____ (starve). What can I eat now?

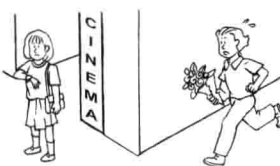
Mom: It'll be ready in ten minutes, dear. We _____ (have) cream of mushroom soup and lobster angel hair this evening.

Daughter: Yummy! I don't need any snacks then. I will wait for the delicious supper.



4. Boyfriend: Sorry, honey! I don't want to be late but a client _____ (visit) our department tomorrow morning. I need to make sure that everything is alright before I go. I _____ (arrive) in a minute.

Girlfriend: No hurry! Watch the traffic lights. I _____ (wait) at the entrance of the cinema.



5. Ben: Shall we play basketball this evening?

Jack: Sorry, I can't join you. I _____ (see) my uncle off at the airport this evening.



II Cloze Passage

Circle the best answer.

Super Department Store

Mega Sale up to 80% (1) _____

(2) _____ : Hong Kong City Bazaar, 3/F, International Trade House,
11 Hong Kong City Road, Central.

Date & Time : 12 February 11:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

- Priority (3) _____ Day
- Free valentine candle (worth HK\$129) for any (4) _____
over \$1,000

(5) _____ offers to members of Super Department Store

Terms & Conditions:

1. All merchandise sold is non-refundable (6) _____ non-returnable.
2. To (7) _____ the offers, customers must settle payment with their Super
Department Store (8) _____ Card.

- | | | | |
|------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. A. on | 3. A. Shop | 5. A. Exclusive | 7. A. enjoy |
| B. of | B. Shopping | B. Exclude | B. buy |
| C. off | C. Buy | C. Inclusive | C. sell |
| D. in | D. Buying | D. Include | D. know |
| 2. A. Room | 4. A. shop | 6. A. either | 8. A. Members |
| B. Floor | B. buy | B. neither | B. Customers |
| C. Flat | C. purchase | C. and | C. Membership |
| D. Venue | D. worth | D. but | D. Staff |



Upgrade Your Communication Skills

Do you know how to express what you like?

Circle the best answer.

1. Principal: The Education Manpower Bureau has promised to allocate more funds to education to reduce our workload.

Teachers: _____ !

A. Please B. Thank you C. Marvellous D. Happy

2. Mom: Shall we take the children to Hong Kong Heritage Museum this Wednesday?

Dad: _____? The exhibits are worth seeing.

A. Why B. Why not C. What D. When

3. Sally: Would you like to join us for the ski trip this Christmas?

Sam: Yes, _____ .

A. I'd love to B. I may love it C. I want to see it D. I wait for a while

Top Tip

1. I'd love to – 'I'd' = I would
2. Other-useful expressions: Brilliant, Great, Isn't it wonderful



Upgrade Your Writing Skills

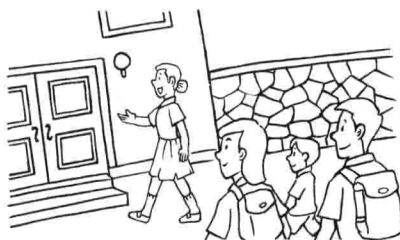
A Hot Christmas

Write a diary about how you spent your Christmas. The pictures and the guiding questions may be useful to you.

a



b





Guiding Questions

1. Where did you spend your Christmas?
2. Who went with you?
3. How long did you stay there?
4. Do you have friends or relatives there?
5. Did you stay in a hotel or in your friend's home?
6. What time of the year was it?
7. What was the weather like?
8. Where did you go?
9. What did you do?
10. What interesting things did you see?

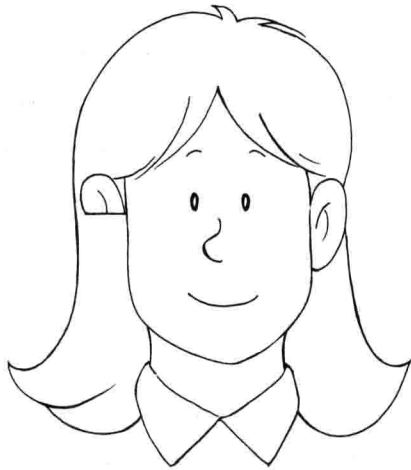
A Hot Christmas

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper appears to be a standard notebook page or a sheet of stationery designed for writing. The edges of the paper are slightly irregular, suggesting it might be a scan of a physical document. There is no handwriting or other markings on the page.



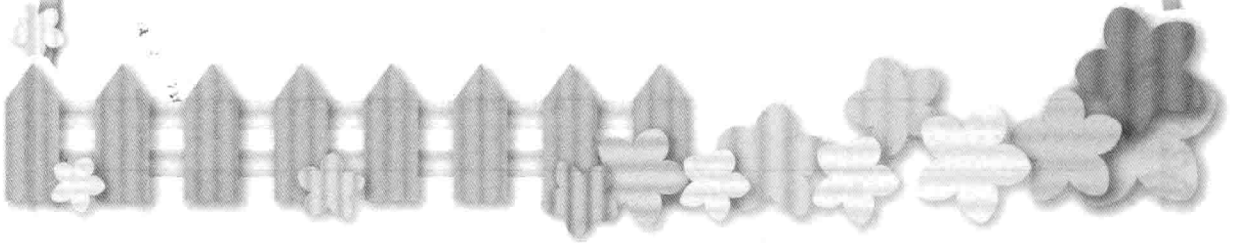
Fun with Words

Look at the picture and fill in the blank.



Cherry always listens to mom with only _____.

She therefore cannot do what mom tells her since she does not pay attention to what mom says.



Unit 2

School Regulations



Upgrade Your Reading Skills

Read the following school regulations.

1

Patrick Bells Girls' School

School Regulations



Sick Leave

The parent of the student must inform the office of the student's absence 5 due to sickness from 7:45 to 8:00 a.m. on any school day. A letter written by the parent and a medical certificate should be submitted to the form teacher on the next school day.

If a student is absent from school due to sickness in the examination period, she must follow the proper procedures for applying for sick leave.

10 Otherwise, the supplementary examination will not be arranged.

Please note the following:

- A medical certificate refers to the certificate issued by a qualified Western doctor.
- Chinese herbal prescriptions and letters by Chinese bone-setters 15 are not accepted.
- Absence will be considered as truancy and a minor demerit will be given if any student fails to comply with the regulations above.

Misbehaviour:

1. 1 written warning will be given to students whose names have been taken down three times due to misbehaviour.
- 20 2. 3 written warnings will be converted to 1 minor demerit.
3. 3 minor demerits will be converted to 1 major demerit.

Answer the following questions.

1. _____ should call the office if his son or daughter is sick and cannot go to school.

2. Ashley drank orange juice in the classroom today. A prefect recorded her name. However, her name has been recorded twice. What demerit will she get?

She will get a _____.

3. Amelia could not take the Maths examination because she was sick. Today when she returned to school, she gave her form teacher a parent's letter and a letter written by a doctor of a Chinese herbal medicine store. What will the principal do?

(i) The principal will _____ the letters.

(ii) The principal will consider Amelia's absence a _____.

(iii) The principal will give Amelia a _____.

(iv) Amelia will not be allowed to take the _____
for Maths.

Grammar and Usage

1. Present Perfect and Simple Past Tense

Top Tip

1. We use the simple past tense to talk about actions in the past. We may use an adverb or adverbial phrase indicating a finished time such as **yesterday, last month, in 1964**, etc. to tell people when we did the action.
e.g. I wrote her a letter **last night**.
She left Hong Kong for Japan two months ago.
2. We use the present perfect tense to talk about the present result of a past action.
e.g. Tim has broken his leg. (past action) He cannot run now. (present result)
In this sentence, the speaker wants to tell you that Tim broke his leg some time ago and that he cannot run now.
3. The present perfect is formed by have / has + the past participle of the verb.

A. Yesterday was Mr. Lee's birthday. Mrs. Lee told her children to prepare things for their father's birthday party. Can you tell what each of them did yesterday afternoon? Complete the sentences with the past form of the verbs in brackets.

(bake) a cake

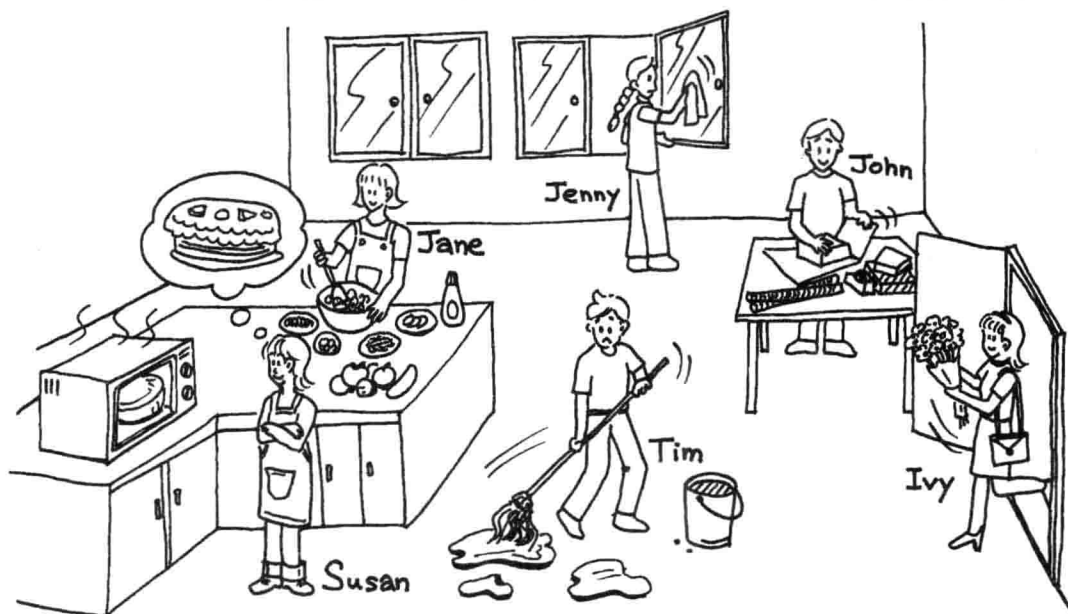
(clean) the windows

(wrap) the gift

(buy) some flowers

(mop) the floor

(make) some salad



Yesterday afternoon . . .

1. Jenny cleaned the windows.

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

B. Mr. and Mrs. Wong have just returned home from Canada. Their children have done all the housework to give them a surprise. Can you tell what each of them has done? Complete the sentences with the present perfect tense of the verbs in brackets.

(cook) the dinner

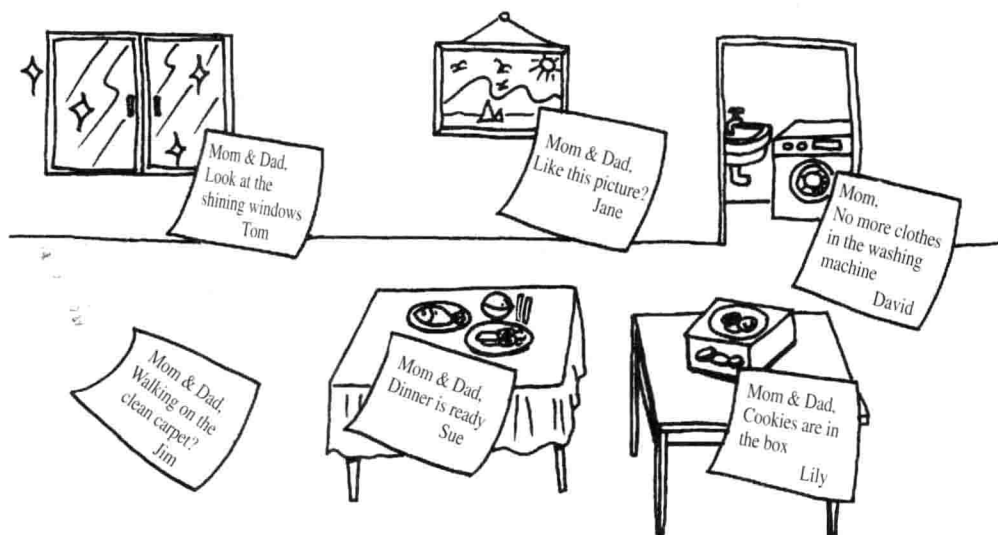
(buy) a picture

(clean) the windows

(vacuum) the floor

(do) the laundry

(prepare) some cookies



1. Tom has cleaned the windows.

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____