I In this section you will find a series of exercises which will give you extra practice in certain grammatical and lexical areas which you will need to master to write well in an academic style. Some of the tasks will be done in class and others at home.

**Exercise 1** Exemplification allows the writer to illustrate clearly what he has in mind when he makes a point by giving one or more clear examples of what he means. This in turn helps the reader of the text to understand the writer’s intentions.

*Complete the sentences making use of each of the following words or expressions (use each only once).*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| illustration | for example | a case in point | an example | for instance | such as |

According to recent estimates there are about 6,000 languages spoken around the world today. About half of these are expected to disappear within the next hundred years. The sentences that follow revolve around the topic of the extinction of natural languages. **1**) Many languages are at risk because the governments of the countries where they are spoken discourage their citizens from speaking them. In the case of some languages, Kurdish, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , it may even be unlawful to speak the language. **2)** Some states make considerable efforts to support linguistic minorities, but such efforts are not a guarantee of the survival of minority languages. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_is Ireland, where Irish is taught in the schools, appears on all road signs, and is recognized as an official language. And yet the number of Irish speakers is steadily diminishing. **3)** Linguists and anthropologists are hurrying to record the last vestiges of dying languages. Some of these languages, Ubykh, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (a language once spoken in a remote district of Turkey), are now spoken by only a handful of village elders. **4)** Numerous prestigious American universities, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Stanford and the University of Chicago, have established entire departments devoted to the study of dying languages and the problem of their preservation. **5)** There are very few new languages that make their appearance on the scene: Esperanto is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. **6)** There are, of course, success stories, from the point of view of language preservation. A striking \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of a full-scale revival of a dying language is Hebrew, which since the foundation of Israel in 1948 has been salvaged from the annals of history.

**Exercise 2** *Complete the text below by inserting the verbs in brackets using the appropriate tense.*

The history of ice cream.................................(date) back to 1295 when Marco Polo............................(return) from China with descriptions of fruit ices. However, it ....... (be) not until the mid 16th century that Italian cooks.........................(develop) recipes and techniques for......................(make) water and milk ices. One famous example..................(be) Buontalenti who.......................(prepare) ice-creams for the French Court under Caterina dei Medici. The first cafè to sell ices.........................(open) in Paris in 1670 by Francisco Procopio who ........................ (come) from Sicily. Within six years there.................(be) as many as 250 ice makers in Paris. Despite Procopio’s talent, credit for developing cream ices.................. (give) to Tortoni, another Parisian cafè owner of Italian origin. From Europe ice-cream ..............................(spread) to America with the early colonists. It ....... (be) in 1846 that the first hand-cranked freezer ......................................(invent) and only five years later the first commercial ice-cream factory .............................. (establish) in Baltimore. From then onwards, the industry .........................(grow) and ............................. (develop) throughout the USA. By 1874, Philadelphia .......................... (consider) the hub of ice-cream manufacturing. The ice-cream cone ..................... (make) its debut at the World’s Fair in St. Louis in 1904 and its advent .......................... (increase) the popularity of ice-cream. By the late 1980s the USA ............................................ (establish) itself as the world leader in terms of production and pro-capita consumption. In fact, the latest statistics ................................. (demonstrate) that the average American ....................... (enjoy) more than 20 litres of ice-cream a year compared to a mere 3.5 litres ................. (eat) by his Italian counterpart.

**Exercise 3** *Complete the text below by inserting the verbs in brackets using the appropriate tense.*

As of 1793, when cotton plantations .................................. (introduce) in America, the number of African slaves ....................... (increase), and by 1861, when the Civil War ......................... (break out), the slave population .......................... (rise) to 4.5 million. Emancipation ……………. (come) effectively in 1865 with the victory of the Union over the Confederacy. Most black workers ..................................... (continue) to work on the cotton plantations even once they ............. (be) free, as they .......... ........... (go, never) to school and so ...................... (have, not) the skills or qualifications to ............ (do) anything different. In 1940, almost a century later, 95% of blacks ................................. (work, still) in manual occupations, mostly in agriculture, and although there ........................ (be) some improvements in their conditions since then, there .......... (be) no doubt that even today, nearly a century and a half after the abolition of slavery, the black population in the USA .................................... (achieve, not) anything resembling equality with whites.

**Exercise 4** *Complete the text below using the correct form of the verbs in the box. Not all verbs are needed and some may be used more than once.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| use | abbreviate | originate | pay | illustrate | spread |
| be | influence | emphasize | attend | launch | return |
| wane | become | incorporate | derive | characterize |  |

* + - 1. Art Deco

Held in Paris in 1925, the Exposition Internationale des Arts Décoratifs et Industriels Modernes (1) ............................... a decorative style that (2) ............................... quickly (3) ............................... throughout the world. The style (4) ............................... known as Art Deco, a term coined in the 1960s by (5) ............................... the name of the landmark exhibition. Based on geometric shapes and stylized natural forms, Art Deco (6) ............................... influenced by the art movements cubism, futurism, and functionalism. The style (7) .............................. not restricted to fine and decorative arts, however; it (8) ............................... product design, interior decoration, fashion, and architecture as well. As it (9) ............................... in France, Art Deco (10) ............................... characterized by superior craftsmanship; lavish decoration, in the form of chevrons, sprays of flowers, sunbursts, lightning bolts, arcs, young maidens, and does; and sumptuous materials, such as gilded bronze, sharkskin, ivory, crystal, rare types of stone, and exotic woods such as macassar ebony.

American architects who (11) ............................... the 1925 exhibition (12) ............................... elements of the Art Deco style into their designs for New York skyscrapers. William van Alen's Chrysler Building (1928), with its remarkable finial that (13) ............................... homage to automobile design, (14) ............................... an icon of Art Deco architecture. Influenced by the growing impact of the machine, American Art Deco (15) ............................... industrial and (16) ............................... efficiency rather than luxury. Materials such as chrome, stainless steel, and plastics (17) ............................... extensively. Streamlined, teardrop shapes and sheer surfaces derived from the principles of aerodynamic design (18) ............................... Art Deco objects of the 1930s. The popularity of Art Deco (19) ...............................after World War II, but the style (20) ............................... to fashion in the mid-1960s.

**Exercise 5** *Fill in the gaps* *with* **a, an, the, some*,*** *or*  **Ø**

* + - 1. A Writer’s Life

As (1)……….writer, I seem to spend (2)……... most of (3)……………time working at (4)………… home in (5) ………..office, sitting in (6)………..front of (7)………..computer. In fact, (8)……….. only people I see regularly are (9)…….. members of my family and it is difficult to keep in (10)………touch with (11)…………… friends I made at (12)……………school. I’m always getting (13)………….. letters and (14)…………….phone calls from (15)………people at ……….. publisher’s, though, and I do try to go out of (16)……..house at least once (17) ……….. day. And from (18)…………..time to time I give lectures or take part in (19)………..courses at (20)………… conferences or at (21)……..schools in (22)……..UK or (23)………………abroad, and this helps to prevent me feeling too isolated. I also get (24) ……..reports back from (25)…….schools where (26)………material I’ve written is being tried out, and this kind of (27)…………feedback is very useful. It seems to me that as long as I continue to make (28)……..living, I should go on writing (29)……….books, but as soon as I start suffering from (30)……………loneliness, I’ll give up (31)………..writing and get back into (32) …………..classroom, where at least there’s (33)……………contact with (34)…………..students.

Exercise 6 *Insert the following words in their correct form into the text below.*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| increase | majority | total | however | significant |
| seem | massive | trend | make up | although |
| somewhat | slightly | show | near | tendency |

**Florentines Still Abandoning City Centre**

**In contrast, foreign immigrant residency requests are on the rise**

It (1) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that Florence’s city centre is still losing its native residents. There are two main reasons why: a consistent emigration to more suburban areas, and a high mortality rate among the large number of elderly residents.

For years, there has been a general (2) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for Florentines to migrate out of the city centre because of the difficulties of urban living and what many consider the degradation of daily life for residents in Florence.

Recent data does show, (3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , that this trend may be slowing (4) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . (5) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the total numbers are still falling (on March 31st of this year the city’s population was 367,747 while at the same time last year residents (6) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 370,146) the request for residency increased by 298 units since the beginning of this year. Although it may not seem like a very impressive

(7) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , it is (8) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ enough for city officials to believe that there may be the possibility of a turnaround in the (9)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ future.

The opposite (10) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has been recorded for foreign immigrant residency requests. There has been quite an increase in the number of resident immigrants living in the centre. Statistics (11) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that in March 2004 there were 29,478 foreign residents, while in March of this year the number had increased to 31,368. Although still growing in numbers, the (12) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ influx of past years has diminished (13)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and numbers may also be stabilising for this group. The (14)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of foreigners requesting residency in the centre are of Chinese (12.5%) and Albanian (11.4%) origins. The other groups that continue to grow are residents of European Union origin, who (15) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about 6.9% of the total foreign population, and residents from the United States at 2%.

**Exercise 7** *The following statements refer to the results of a survey conducted by the agency Demos-Eurisko and published in La Repubblica on March 14, 2004. Read the sentences carefully and decide which of the alternative expressions is correct.*

1. (Nearly half / less than half) of all respondents (is / are) satisfied with the quality of private elementary school.

2. Public elementary schools are considered to be satisfactory or very satisfactory by (less than three fourths / the vast majority) of Italians.

3. (The 56% / 56%) of respondents (considers / consider) private middle schools to be unsatisfactory or very unsatisfactory.

4. (Well over three quarters / Less than 80%) of young people are satisfied with the public high school.

5. (Well over 10% / Only a small minority) believe that classes should be formed on the basis of the intelligence of the pupils.

6. (As it can be seen from the chart / As can be seen from the chart), (only / as many as) 5.4% of respondents consider teachers’ salaries to be too high.

7. From the figures (it is concluded / it can be concluded) that the majority of Italians feel no urgent need for a radical reform of the educational system.

8. (According to / Accordingly to) Table 1, the university system received (far higher / much better) approval rates than private high schools.

9. Table 3 (shows / suggests) that (nearly / less than) 70% of respondents oppose state support for families who send their children to private schools.

10. From the table it (results / emerges) that a clear majority of respondents have (a lot of / considerable) faith in the teaching staff of the public school system.

**Task 8** *Fill in the gaps in the text below with a suitable word from the box.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| fall | despite | revealed | just |
| vacancies | rose | rise | facing |
| figures | fewer | latest | increasingly |

1. Gender gap in teaching grows: only 24% of new recruits are men
2. Multimillion-pound campaign fails to end female domination of classroom

Sarah Cassidy, Education Correspondent, [www.independent.co.uk](http://www.independent.co.uk/) 26 September 2008

Teaching is becoming an (1) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ female-dominated profession with men making up (2) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than one in four new recruits, official figures (3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ yesterday. (4) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a multimillion-pound campaign to attract more men into teaching, the (5) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ statistics reveal a widening gap between the sexes among those gaining teaching qualifications from universities and teacher training colleges. In 2006-07, fewer than a quarter (23.8 per cent) of teaching qualifications were obtained by men, according to figures published by the Higher Education Statistics Agency – the lowest figure in five years. This was a (6) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of 1.5 per cent from the previous year. Meanwhile, between 2005-06 and 2006-07, the number of women qualifying as teachers from higher education (7) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_by 2 per cent, from 23,865 to 24,335, while the number of men fell 5.7 per cent, from 8,065 to 7,610. The (8) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will be a blow to the Government, which has repeatedly tried to persuade men to train as teachers. The former education secretary Alan Johnson announced a drive to get more men into the profession in March 2007 after concern that (9) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 16 per cent of teachers in primary schools, and 46 per cent in secondary schools, were male. [ … ] Schools are (10) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their worst staffing crisis in years, with a 23 per cent (11) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in unfilled teaching jobs, and 2,510 (12) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ across the country.

Exercise 9 *Complete the second of the following pairs of sentences so as to make it similar in meaning to the first. Use the word given in bold face type. You must use between two and five words, including the word given. The sentences have been adapted from a text entitled ‘Grains Gone Wild’ by Paul Krugman, published in The New York Times, April 7, 2008.*

1. These days you hear a lot about the world financial crisis. **deal**

These days a great ………………….about the world financial crisis.

2. But there’s another world crisis going on. **way**

But there’s another world crisis …………………………………………………..

3. And it’s hurting a lot more people. **affected**

And a lot more people ………………………………. ……………………………..

4. I’m talking about the food crisis. **question**

The crisis ……………………….. regards food.

5.Over the past few years the prices of wheat, corn, rice and other basic foodstuffs have doubled or tripled, with much of the increase taking place just in the last few months. **rise**

Over the past few years …………………….. the prices of wheat, corn, rice and other basic foodstuffs has been staggering, with much of the increase taking place just in the last few months.

6. High food prices dismay even relatively well-off Americans.  **dismayed** Even relatively well-off Americans …………………….. high food prices

7. …but they’re truly devastating in poor countries, where food often accounts for more than half a family’s spending.  **income**

but they’re truly devastating in poor countries, where a family often spends more than half ………………….. food.

8. There have already been food riots around the world. **place**

Food riots ……………………….. around the world.

9. Food-supplying countries, from Ukraine to Argentina, have been limiting exports in an attempt to protect domestic consumers, **such**

Food-supplying countries …………………….Argentina have been limiting exports in an attempt to protect domestic consumers,

10.. …leading to angry protests from farmers — and making things even worse in countries that

need to import food.

**situation**

… leading to angry protests from farmers — and ……………………… in countries that need to import food.

**Task 10** *Choose a verb from the box that reduces the informality of each sentence.*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| raise | eliminate | reduce | create | fluctuate |
| establish | assist | rise | determine | investigate |

1. Teachers can *help out* students with language difficulties.

.....................................................................................................................................

1. This course was *set up* to teach formal writing.

......................................................................................................................................

1. University fees have *gone up* to nearly €1500.

......................................................................................................................................

1. On-line enrolment for exams should *cut down* paperwork.

......................................................................................................................................

1. Researchers have *found out* that 3 out of 4 students work part-time.

......................................................................................................................................

1. The problem of schedule conflicts was *brought up* at the meeting.

......................................................................................................................................

1. A commission will be formed to *look into* the decrease in enrolments.

......................................................................................................................................

1. On-line archives of exam results will not *get rid of* the need for paper copies.

......................................................................................................................................

1. Teachers have to *come up with* new exams for every exam session.

......................................................................................................................................

1. The enrolment numbers have been going *up and down* over the last five years.

......................................................................................................................................