UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE

LINGUA INGLESE
PARI A LIVELLO B2

Dipartimento di Ingegneria e Architettura

Prof. Lourdes Elizabeth Gonzalez-Valera, Ph.D.

Lesson 5

•Quick review
•Text definition
•Reading and writing
•Text connectors

November 11, 2020

Lourdes Gonzalez-Valera

LIST OF CONTRACTIONS IN ENGLISH

aren't – are not	isn't – is not	what'll – what will
can't – cannot	let's – let us	What'll – what shall
couldn't – could not	mightn't – might not	what're – what are
didn't – did not	mustn't – must not	what's – what is
doesn't – does not	shan't – shall not	what's – what has
don't – do not	she'd – she had	what've – what have
hadn't – had not	she'd – she would	where's – where is
hasn't – has not	she'll – she will	where's – where has
haven't – have not	she'll – she shall	who'd – who had
he'd – he had	she's – she is	who'd – who would
he'd – he would	she's – she has	who'll – who will
he'll – he will	shouldn't – should not	who'll – who shall
he'll – he shall	that's – that is	who're – who are
he's – he is	that's – that has	who's – who is
he's – he has	there's – there is	who's – who has
I'd – I had	there's – there has	who've – who have
I'd – I would	they'd – they had	won't – will not
I'll – I will	they'd – they would	wouldn't – would not
I'll – I shall	they'll – they will	you'd – you had
I'm – I am	they'll – they shall	you'd – you would
I've – I have	they're – they are	you'll – you will
	they've – they have	you'll – you shall
	we'd – we had	you're – you are
	we'd – we would	you've – you have
	we're – we are	
	we've – we have	
	weren't – were not	

7ESL.COM

Exercise!

1. She is from a small town in Jersey, isn't she?
2. They aren't on their way already, are they?
3. You don't like spicy food, do you?
4. David and Julie don't take Chinese classes, do they?
5. They need some new clothes, don't they
6. You aren't from Brazil, are you?
7. The weather is really bad today, isn't it?
8. I'm not the person with the tickets, am I?
9. I like chocolate very much, don't I?
10. I often come home late, don't I?
11. It was windy yesterday, wasn't it?
12. She'll come at six, won't she?
13. He should pay his bills on time, shouldn't he?
14. The baby ate all his vegetables, _____
15. You shouldn't buy more clothes, _____
16. Peter would go with me to the concert, _____

RULE

First sentence	Tag question
Affirmative	Negative
Negative	Affirmative
Be forms	Be form
Have forms	Have form
Auxiliary verbs	Auxiliary form
Modal verbs	Modal form
Other verbs	Do verb

A link to every possible QT:

https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/Appendix:English_tag_questions#

B2 Objectives

English 259MI Level B2
Based on The Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR)

B2 is one of the CEFR levels described by the Council of Europe.

The capacity to achieve most goals and express oneself on a range of topics.
Examples:
1. Can show visitors around and **give a detailed description of a place**.
2. Can **understand the main ideas of complex text** on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation.
3. Can **interact** with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible **without strain for either party.**
4. Can **produce clear, detailed text** on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.

TEXT Definition:

"[A term] used in linguistics to refer to any passage-spoken or written, of whatever length, that does form a unified whole [...] A text is a unit of language in use. It is not a grammatical unit, like a clause or a sentence; and it is not defined by its size [...] A text is best regarded as a SEMANTIC unit; a unit not of form but of meaning."

(Halliday and Hasan, 1976: 1-2)

Text

- Spoken or written
- Long or short
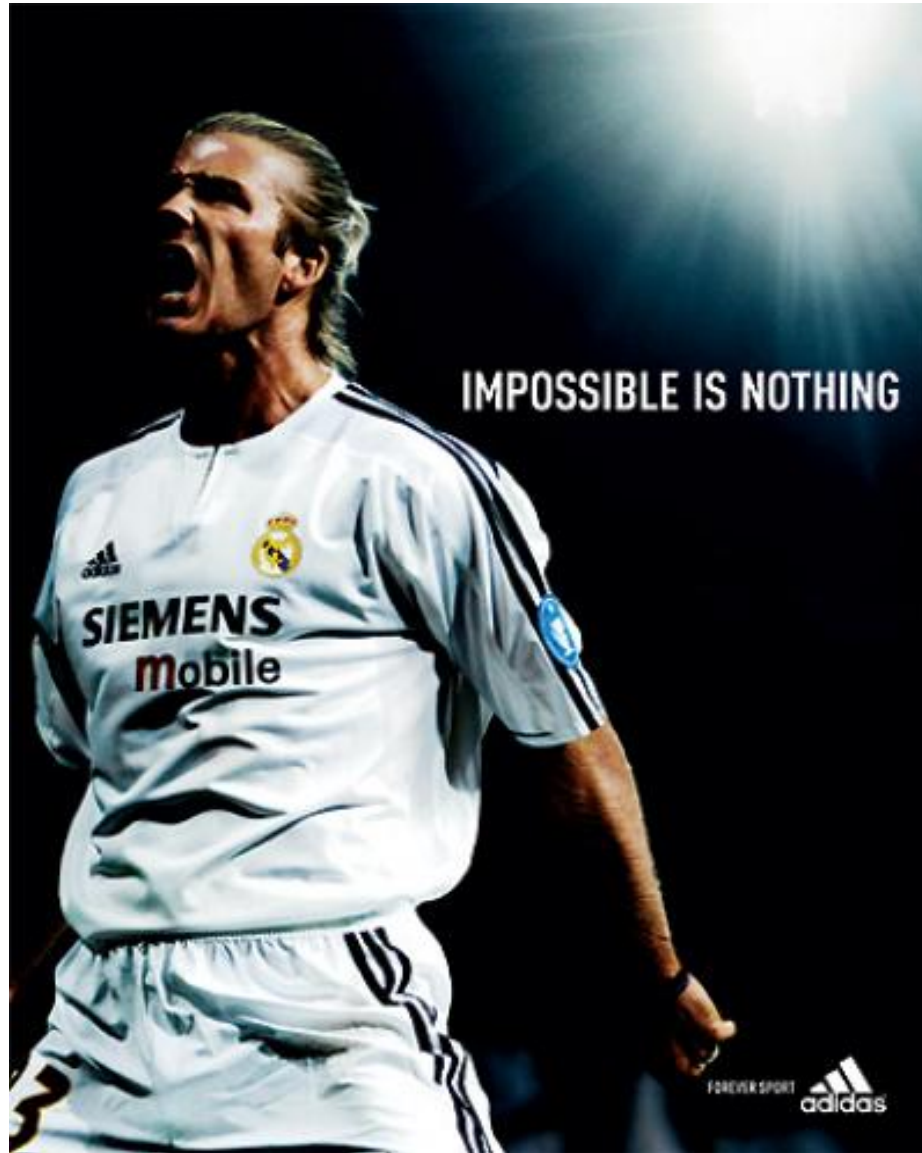- Forms a unified whole

Our daily texts

<u>news</u> in newspapers, <u>emails</u> (formal or informal), sms, whatsapp or telegram messages, <u>posters</u>, articles in magazines (sports, social, scientific, etc.); <u>graffiti</u>; fortune cookies; post cards; recipes, <u>commercials</u> and so on …

I ham in love with you!

Reading and writing complex texts

Writing exercise

1. Write down today's date

2. Write 3 paragraphs about your day

Writing down a date.
American and European styles

Writing the date in **British English**

We write the date in English in different ways. The most common way in British English is to write the day of the month first, then the month (starting with a capital letter) and then the year:

19 January 2020

We can also write the date in numbers only:

19 January 2020 = 19/1/2020   or 19-01-2020 or 19.01.2020

Sometimes the last two letters of the number as spoken can be used (th, rd, st, nd):

Today is the 7th September The opening is on 1st June or June 1st.

With the exceptions of May and June, months can be shortened as follows:
Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, Jul, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec.

Writing the date in **American English:**

In written American English, the month of the date comes before the day and year. For example, Independence Day in the USA is on July 4th each year. In the year 2020 the date was 4/7/2020 (in British English).

In American English is written 7/4/2020. Or **July 4, 2020**

In Italian (source: Treccani):
4 luglio 2020
4 luglio '20
4-7-2020
4.7.2020
4/7/2020

Advice: Use the style that matches the recipient's: Is your recipient British or American?

Note: Australia and New Zealand use British style as well as British ex colonies.

What about time?

12-hour am-pm clock

and

24-hour military time

12-hour am-pm clock	24-hour military time
12:00 midnight	00:00
1:00 am	01:00
2:00 am	02:00
3:00 am	03:00
4:00 am	04:00
5:00 am	05:00
6:00 am	06:00
7:00 am	07:00
8:00 am	08:00
9:00 am	09:00
10:00 am	10:00
11:00 am	11:00
12:00 pm	12:00
1:00 pm	13:00
2:00 pm	14:00
3:00 pm	15:00
4:00 pm	16:00
5:00 pm	17:00
6:00 pm	18:00
7:00 pm	19:00
8:00 pm	20:00
9:00 pm	21:00
10:00 pm	22:00
11:00 pm	23:00
12:00 midnight	24:00

My day
(anonymous text)

Exercise: Try to find the mistakes and correct them

I woke up at 7:30 a.m. today. After ten minutes, I had breakfast and I drank a coffee with milk. Before going to university I washed my self and I dressed.
At 8:20 a.m. I took the car and I went to university.

My lessons started at 9:00 a.m. The first lesson was mathematical analysis. This lesson was long two hours.

After I followed the Geometry course. Geometry lasted two hours too. This course was very boring today, also because Im very tired. In fact I slept little this night. I went to canteen at 13.00 p.m. and I ate pizza. Today I had only one hour of lunch break but sometimes I have two hours. At 14.00 p.m. it started the English lesson.

At 1600 p.m. I will finish the courses of English and at 18.00 p.m. I will play football with my team.
I'm going to go in restaurant this evening but I'm not sure about this yet. I hope I'll go out to dinner tonight.

My day
(anonymous text)

Note the red highlighting

I woke up at **7:30 a.m.** today. After ten minutes, I had breakfast and I drank a coffee with milk. Before going to university I washed my self and I dressed.
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I'm going to go in restaurant this evening but I'm not sure about this yet. **I hope I'l**l go out to dinner tonight.

Trieste, 23 October 2019.
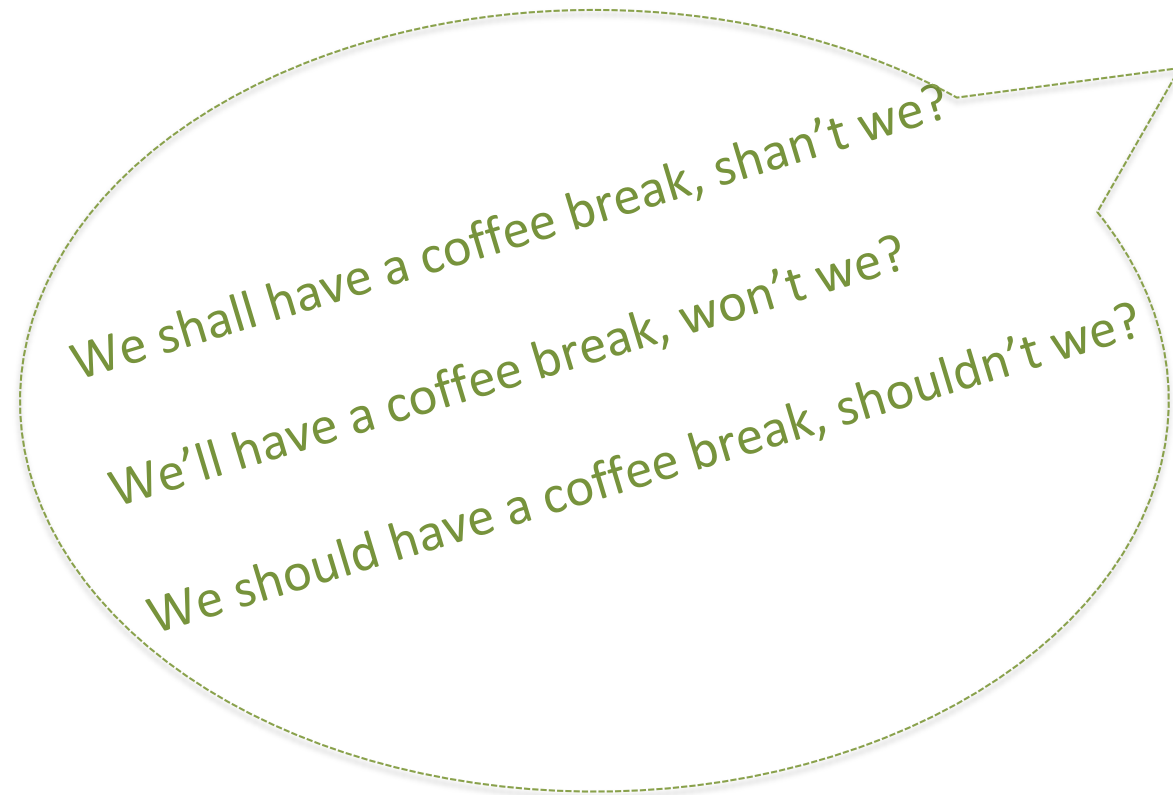
<div align="center">

My day
(a better version)

</div>

I woke up at 7:30 today. After ten minutes, I had breakfast and a coffee with milk.
Before going to the university I washed and got dressed.
At 8:20 a.m. I took the car and I went to the university.

My lessons started at 9:00. The first lesson was Mathematical Analysis. This lesson was two-hour long. After that, I followed the Geometry course. Geometry lasted two hours too. This course was very boring today, maybe <u>because</u> I was very tired. In fact, I slept very little last night.

I went to the canteen at 13.00 and had pizza. Today I had only one-hour lunch break, but sometimes I have two hours. At 14.00 the English lesson started.

At 16:00 I will finish the English course, and at 18.00 I will play football with my team. I'm going <u>to go</u> to a restaurant this evening, but I'm not sure about this yet. I hope I'll go out to dinner tonight.

We shall have a coffee break, shan't we?

We'll have a coffee break, won't we?

We should have a coffee break, shouldn't we?

I shall not = I shan't
I will not = I won't
I should not = I shouldn't
I would not = I wouldn't
You are not = you aren't
I shall, you will = I'll, you'll

Complex texts:

a) Formal / informal emails

   b) Scientific papers

Formal or work email general features

• Email tends to be **brief**

• Email is <u>generally</u> **less formal** than communication on paper

• Email does not communicate emotions as successfully as face-to-face or even telephone conversations. The reader of your email may not be able to tell from your words if you are serious or joking, angry or just surprised.

• Emails, especially very short emails, can sound angry, unfriendly or rude **when this is not intended by the writer**.

HarperCollins. Writing (Collins Webster's Easy Learning) . HarperCollins Publishers. Kindle Edition.

Key point to remember

Emails that are written very quickly and carelessly <u>can sound unfriendly and rude.</u>

HarperCollins. Writing (Collins Webster's Easy Learning) . HarperCollins Publishers. Kindle Edition.

1. Salutation:

It is generally a good idea to start an email with a greeting <u>rather than beginning the message immediately.</u> Just like a face-to-face exchange of greetings, email greetings:

- show that you are friendly and pleasant
- show <u>respect</u> for the reader.

HarperCollins. Writing (Collins Webster's Easy Learning) . HarperCollins Publishers. Kindle Edition.

Reading

Reading is a complex cognitive process of decoding symbols to derive meaning. It is a form of language processing.

Success in this process is measured as *reading comprehension*.

Reading is a means for language acquisition, communication, and sharing information and ideas.

Exercise:

Analysis of the text Brain Scan Satoshi Nakamoto.

A photocopy of this text was handed out in class.

BRAIN SCAN Satoshi Nakamoto

Bitcoin's enigmatic creator may never be identified.

ON PAPER—or at least on the blockchain—Satoshi Nakamoto is one of the richest people on the planet. Bitcoin is a semi-anonymous currency and Mr Nakamoto is a pseudonymous person, so it is hard to be sure; but he is generally reckoned to own around 1.1m bitcoin, or around 5% of the total number that will ever exist. When bitcoin hit its peak of over $19,000, that made him worth around $20bn.

But Mr Nakamoto, though actively involved with his brainchild in its early history, has been silent since 2011. An army of amateur detectives has been trying to work out who he really is, but there is frustratingly little to go on. While developing bitcoin he claimed to be male, in his late 30s and living in Japan, but even that information is suspect. There are indications that he may have lived in an American time zone, but his English occasionally contains British idioms. Some of his goldbug-like comments about central banks that "debase the currency" and the evils of fractional-reserve banking led early cyber-libertarian bitcoin enthusiasts to claim him as one of their own. One thing is certain: he values his privacy. To register Bitcoin.org he used Tor, an online track-covering tool used by black-marketeers, journalists and political dissidents.

Connectors

or

Discourse markers

ADDING	SEQUENCING	ILLUSTRATING	CAUSE and EFFECT
and	first, second, third…	for example	because
also	finally	such as	so
as well as	next	for instance	therefore
moreover	meanwhile	in the case of	thus
too	after	as revealed by…	consequently
furthermore	then	illustrated by	hence
additionally	subsequently		

COMPARING	QUALIFYING	CONTRASTING	EMPHASISING
similarly	but	whereas	above all
likewise	however	instead of	in particular
as with	although	alternatively	especially
like	unless	otherwise	significantly
equally	except	unlike	indeed
in the same way..	apart from	on the other hand..	notably
	as long as	conversely	
	if		

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Still, the legions of sleuths have turned up various candidates, ranging from Japanese mathematicians to Irish graduate students. In 2014 Newsweek, a business magazine, fingered Dorian Prentice Satoshi Nakamoto, an American engineer. He emphatically denied the story, and the next day a forum account previously used by Mr. Nakamoto, posted, for the first time in five years, to say, "I am not Dorian Nakamoto" –though there are doubts about that account too.

Attention also focused on Hal Finney, an expert in cryptography, an experienced programmer and a dedicated cypherpunk. He was the recipient in the first-ever transaction conducted in bitcoin, with Mr Nakamoto as the sender. He died in 2014. Andy Greenberg, a journalist, who studied private emails between Mr Finney and Mr Nakamoto, concluded that he was probably not bitcoin's creator. And Mr Finney himself always denied that he was Mr Nakamoto.

Conversely, in 2016, Craig Wright, an Australian computer scientist, explicitly claimed that he was the man everyone was looking for. He invited several news organisations, including The Economist, to witness him prove his claim by using cryptographic keys that supposedly belonged to Mr Nakamoto. He did not convince his audience, so he said he would settle the matter by moving a bitcoin from Mr Nakamoto stash. He later decided against it when an online story suggested he could face arrest if he confirmed he was bitcoin's creator, on the ground of "enabling terrorism". But the story turned out to be a fake.

According to another theory, Mr Nakamoto is actually a group of people. But for now his, or their identity, remains a mystery. Some think his withdrawal was a matter of principle, to underline the point of a decentralised currency. Perhaps he simply wants a quiet life.

Colour legend of analysed text:

Yellow: New vocabulary

Green: the discourse markers that "glue together" the elements in a text.

Blue: Multiple adjectives + nouns phrases.