

# Unit 1

## Unit 1 Focus on Literature

### *The Happy Prince*

In an old, beautiful English town, in the middle of the

main square, there is a very high column with the statue of the Happy Prince on the top of it. Everybody admires the statue because it is covered with gold and decorated with diamonds. The eyes are two sapphires and there is a large red ruby in the sword. The Prince seems to be happy but he cries every night when nobody sees him.

One autumn night a little swallow flies over the town. His friends go to Egypt to spend the winter there, but he is late. When he sees the statue, he stops to sleep between the feet of the statue.

The sky is clear, the night is bright, but there is a drop falling on the swallow's head. It looks like rain, but it is a tear! It is the Happy Prince who is crying. He is sad about the misery of some people in his town.

Now only the swallow knows his secret and decides to be the Prince's friend and messenger. There are some families to help in the town.

The little bird flies over the roofs, he passes over the river and arrives at a poor, sick boy's bedroom where he leaves the big red ruby from the Prince's sword.

It is getting colder and colder. The swallow is very tired. He dreams about his friends in Egypt where the sun is warm, palm trees are green and full of brightly coloured butterflies. He, all the same, remains with the Prince.

It is winter now. The snow falls and there is ice in the streets and on the statue. The swallow is frozen, without a shelter and without food...



(Adapted from Oscar Wilde's *The Happy Prince*)

**Vocabulary exercise: Write down your own word-list**

**Comprehension check**

**1. Match the words 1-10 with the appropriate meaning:**

- |             |   |                                       |
|-------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Tear     | A | weapon with sharp blade               |
| 2. Sad      | B | extremely cold                        |
| 3. Square   | C | clear blue stone                      |
| 4. Brightly | D | a place where people are protected    |
| 5. Sword    | E | Poverty                               |
| 6. Spend    | F | Brilliantly                           |
| 7. Sapphire | G | Drop of liquid coming out of your eye |
| 8. Misery   | H | the open area of a town               |
| 9. Frozen   | I | to stay somewhere                     |
| 10. Shelter | L | miserable and frustrated              |



**2. Choose the right answer a, b or c**

- 1) The Prince cries because  
a) he feels miserable b) he is alone c) nobody cares about him
- 2) The swallow flies over the town because  
a) he wants to help poor people b) he wants to enjoy the landscape c) he enjoys flying all over
- 3) The Prince gives his ruby away because  
a) he doesn't like it b) he wants to give a present to the swallow c) there is a boy who needs it
- 4) The swallow's friends are  
a) in a cold place b) in a busy place c) in a hot place
- 5) The swallow gives the boy  
a) copper and silver b) silver and gold c) a large ruby

**3. Say if the following statements about the extract are true or false**

	<b>T</b>	<b>F</b>
1. The swallow helps only the Prince's friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The young student dreams about going back home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. The swallow is generous and sensitive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The drop falling on the swallow's head is rain	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. The Prince wants to help only his friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**4. Replace the words in italics with the appropriate personal pronouns:**

- 3) *The mayor of the town* sees the horrible statue
- 4) *The Happy Prince* is grey and ugly
- 5) *Palm trees* are green
- 6) *The little bird* flies over the roofs
- 7) *His friends* go to Egypt

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hqYIQ\\_41RT0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hqYIQ_41RT0)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDtGSCTA4G4&feature=relmfu>

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ot-Yv\\_NtKck&feature=relmfu](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ot-Yv_NtKck&feature=relmfu)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QlwupcYwimY&feature=related>

# Grammar Focus

Verb BE	Affirmative	Interrogative	Negative
<b>Personal pronouns</b>	<b>I</b> am (I'm)	Am <b>I</b> ....?	<b>I</b> am not ( 'm not)
	<b>You</b> are (you're)	Are <b>you</b> ....?	<b>You</b> are not (aren't)
	<b>He</b> is (he's)	Is <b>he</b> ....?	<b>He</b> is not (isn't)
	<b>She</b> is (she's)	Is <b>she</b> ....?	<b>She</b> is not (isn't)
	<b>It</b> is (it's)	Is <b>it</b> ....?	<b>It</b> is not (isn't)
	<b>We</b> are (we're)	Are <b>we</b> ....?	<b>We</b> are not (aren't)
	<b>You</b> are (you're)	Are <b>you</b> ....?	<b>You</b> are not (aren't)
	<b>They</b> are (they're)	Are <b>they</b> ....?	<b>They</b> are not (aren't)

## Present Simple of ordinary verbs

I, you, we, they → read, like, drink, sleep etc

He, she, it → read**s**, like**s**, drink**s**, sleep**s** etc

**N.B.** go, watch, wash, → go**es**, watch**es**, wash**es**  
study, carry → stud**ies**, carr**ies**

**BUT** Play → play**s**

(For grammar practice see the HOMEWORK section)

WH- words

- **WHAT:** Che cosa, quale..?
- **WHICH:** Quale..?
- **WHERE:** Dove..?
- **WHEN:** Quando..?
- **WHY:** Perché..?
- **WHOSE:** Di chi..?
- **WHO:** Chi...?
- **HOW:** Come...?

(For grammar practice see the HOMEWORK section)

## Did you know?

Six or even seven ravens are kept in the Tower of London, at all times, in accordance with the legend that 'if the ravens fly away, the Tower and maybe London as well, will fall down'. The birds are actually housed at the Tower of London at the expense of the British government and a Beefeater takes care of their feeding and well being. To prevent the birds from flying away one of their wings is clipped by the Ravenmaster, but this doesn't harm them, it only unbalances their flight ensuring that they don't stray too far from the Tower.



# Focus on Conversation

## Introducing people

### Conversation A (*Informal register*)

*At the International Music School.*

Hello! I'm Dan Taylor. I'm 14. I'm from Liverpool. What's your name?

Hi! My name's John Mc Dermott. I'm from Edinburgh.

Hello! I'm Paolo Esposito. I'm from Naples. I'm here for a guitar course. █



### Useful expressions.

What's your name?

What's your surname?

Where are you from?

How old are you?

What nationality are you?

This is my friend Martin.

Nice to meet you!



### Conversation B (*Formal register*) -At a Department Store in London.

**Sally:** Good morning Mr. Sullivan.

**Mr. Sullivan:** Good morning.

**Sally:** How do you do? I'm Sally Mackenzie. I'm the new sales manager. I'm from San Francisco.

**Mr. Sullivan:** So you're American, aren't you? Pleased to meet you! Please, sit down.

**Sally:** Thank you Mr. Sullivan.

**1. Say if the following statements are true (T) or false (F)**

- Dan Taylor is 14.
- John Mc Dermott is from Liverpool.
- Paolo Esposito is at the Music School for a piano course
- Sally Mackenzie is from San Francisco.
- She is the new General Manager.

**2. Make conversations with the following information:**

Bob Gavin/16/Swansea.

Jack Hunt/14/Cardiff.

Lucia Talese/15/Rome.

Central Bank/Kate Bell/Accountant.

Jan Geldoff/Bradley School/teacher.

**3. Class Activity - Now take your turn and introduce yourself.**



**WORD FOCUS** JOBS



architect



optician



vet



doctor



accountant



manager



lawyer



nurse



mechanic



engineer



policeman



factory worker

Add 6 jobs.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Talking about one's family**

**Conversation**

**Paolo is in London to learn English**

**Dan:** Why are you sad Paolo?

**Paolo:** I'm homesick.

**Dan:** Are you?

**Paolo:** Yes, I miss my parents but above all my twin brothers.

**Dan:** What do they do?

**Paolo:** Well, my father is an architect and my mother works as a fashion designer in an important clothing industry in Milan. She comes home only for the weekends. My grandma lives in Naples and looks after my brothers and me. They're only 6 but they are a real nuisance! They're too high-spirited and always make a lot of noise!



**CLASS ACTIVITY**

**1. Say if the following statements are true (T) or false (F)**

- Paolo's father is an architect
- Paolo's mother works in the fashion industry
- Paolo's twin brothers are 5
- Paolo's grandma lives in Milan

**2. Answer the following questions**

1. What does Paolo's father do?
2. What does Paolo's mother do?
3. Does she work in Naples?
4. Does Paolo's grandma live in Milan?
5. Are Paolo's twin brothers 6?

**3. Fill in the gaps**

- 1- Paolo's ..... is an architect.
- 2- Paolo's mother .....a.....
- 3- His twin brothers.....6.
- 4- .....are a nuisance!
- 5- His.....looks after his .....and him.

Useful expressions

What do you do?

What do your mother /father do?

There are .....of us in my family

My father is a/an.....

My mother is a/an .....

My brother/sister is a/an .....

(For extra practice see the HOMEWORK section)



# Focus on Geography

## LONDON

London is the capital of the United Kingdom. It is a multicultural city with communities from more than 90 countries who speak over 300 languages. London is great because you can find every kind of attractions and entertainments there. There are famous museums such as The National Gallery, The Tate Britain and The British Museum where it is possible to see a lot of ancient things.

Every year, the city has festivals which celebrate different cultures. In August there is The Caribbean Carnival at Notting Hill and in February the Chinese New Year celebration.

If you like eating out, you can choose among an enormous variety of restaurants: Indian, Thai, Italian, Moroccan, Vietnamese and lots of others.

If you are interested in walking, don't miss Hyde Park and St. James's Park: they are really gorgeous and full of flowers in Spring.



### **1.Comprehension check**

- a) Why can we say that London is a multicultural city?
- b) Why is London so famous?
- c) Which are the most famous museums?
- d) When do Chinese celebrate their New Year?
- e) What happens at Notting Hill in August?
- f) How many restaurants can you find in London?

**2. True or false?**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| a) You can walk for hours in Hyde park.        | T | F |
| b) The British Museum shows modern objects.    | T | F |
| c) There aren't Italian restaurants in London. | T | F |
| d) Carnival at Notting Hill is in February.    | T | F |
| e) Ninety communities live in London.          | T | F |
| f) London is a cosmopolitan city.              | T | F |



# The Speaking Corner

AT HEATHROW AIRPORT

*In the departure lounge*

**Mark** - Are you Italian?

**Luca** - Yes, I am, and where are you from?

**Mark** - I'm from Cardiff. And what about you?

**Luca** - I'm from Campi Bisenzio.

**Mark** - Campi Bisenzio... where is it?

**Luca** - It's in Tuscany, not far from Florence.



**Mark-** Ah, Florence! Wonderful city! I go to Paris every week with Ryan air. The Fares are low, and I always book the tickets through the Net.

**Luca** - It's true. Ryan air and Easy Jet offer cheap tickets but I prefer scheduled airlines: Passengers get free snacks, drinks or meals.

**Mark** - Oh, sorry! It's late and there is a long queue at the check-in desk.

**Luca** -Don't worry! The flight to Paris is delayed. You have time to get on the plane!

***After five minutes at the check-in desk***

**Check-in Assistant** – Can I see your passport, please?

**Mark** - I only have my ID.

**Check-in Assistant** - It's OK.

**Mark** - Here it is!

**Check-in Assistant** - Put your cases there!

**Mark** - I have only got a hand bag.

**Check-in Assistant** - Here is your boarding card: seat D10.

**Mark** - Is it a window seat?

**Check-in Assistant** - No, I'm sorry. It's an aisle seat. I wish you a pleasant journey!

**Luca** - Oh Mark, I also have an aisle seat: J10. See you on the plane...maybe! And have A nice flight!



**Listening activity:** **Click** to open the video and do the listening comprehension exercise.

([http://www.eslvideo.com/esl\\_video\\_quiz\\_beginning.php?id=14381](http://www.eslvideo.com/esl_video_quiz_beginning.php?id=14381))

### Useful Expressions

The fares are low

I always book the tickets through the Net

Scheduled airlines

The flight is delayed/on time

Can I see your passport

I only have my ID

Put your cases there

Here is your boarding card

Window/aisle seat

### Unit 1 SUGGESTION BOX

For the complete version of *The Happy Prince* you can refer to

<http://www2.lib.virginia.edu/etext/index.html>

For further grammar practice and exercises you can refer to

<http://www.fonetiks.org/spokenenglish/> or <http://www.nspeak.com/corsobase/index.htm>

For further information about the climate you can refer to

<http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/CUSTOMS/questions/climate.html>

