

Preparation Activities – GESE Grade 5

Here are some activities to help you to practise the language functions and types of grammar you need to use in the exam.

Language requirements

Language functions

- ▶ Talking about the future – informing and predicting
- ▶ Expressing preferences
- ▶ Talking about events in the indefinite and recent past
- ▶ Giving reasons
- ▶ Stating the duration of events
- ▶ Quantifying

Grammar

- ▶ Present perfect tense including use with *for, since, ever, never, just*
- ▶ Connecting clauses using *because*
- ▶ *Will* referring to the future for informing and predicting
- ▶ Adjectives and adverbials of quantity, for example: *a lot (of), not very much, many*
- ▶ Expressions of preference, for example: *I prefer, I'd rather*

You can also find this information on page 27 of the Exam Information booklet at www.trinitycollege.com/GESEexaminformation

Practise

- present perfect (for example: *has/have been, has/have taken*)
- past simple (for example: *went, took*)
- future using *will*

Your diary

Day one

At the end of the day:

- ▶ write five things you've done (present perfect).

For example:

- ▶ I've washed the dishes.
- ▶ I've watched the news on TV.
- ▶ I've made 10 phone calls.

Day two

As above:

- ▶ write five things you've done today.

Now:

- ▶ write five things you did yesterday – on day one (past simple).

For example: **Yesterday I washed the dishes. I watched the news on TV. I made 10 phone calls.**

Day three

As above:

- ▶ write five things you've done today (present perfect)
- ▶ write five things you did yesterday (past simple).

Now:

- ▶ write five things you think you'll do tomorrow (future using *will*).

For example: **Tomorrow I'll pay my electricity bill. I'll go shopping at the supermarket.**

Day four

- ▶ Write five things you've done or haven't done today (present perfect).
- ▶ Write five things you did yesterday (past simple).
- ▶ Write five things you'll do tomorrow (future with *will*).

For example: **Today I haven't paid my electricity bill. I've been to the supermarket.**

Day five/six/seven

Try to do this exercise for a week.

Practise

- present perfect (for example: *has/have moved, has/have changed*)
 - past simple (for example: *was/were, put*)
 - *a lot (of), not very much/many*
-

Spot the difference

You can do this in any room.

- ▶ Ask someone (a friend, a family member) to move or change 10 objects in the room while you wait outside.
- ▶ When you come back in, try to find the differences.

For example:

- ▶ **'You've moved the armchair.'** (present perfect) **'It was next to the window.'** (past simple)
- ▶ **'You've switched on the lamp.'**

Were there a lot of changes? How many?

Practise

- preferences (for example: *I prefer, I'd rather*)

- ▶ Write down pairs of words. For example: jogging/swimming, potatoes/rice, films/documentaries, TV/cinema, classical music/pop music.
- ▶ Decide which one you prefer: For example: I prefer jogging to swimming.
- ▶ Ask a friend: '*Which do you prefer?*'
- ▶ During the day think about things you see and hear – compare them. For example: I prefer blue to green. I prefer mornings to evenings. I prefer having a shower to having a bath. I'd rather go to the park than go shopping.

Practise

- the duration of events (for example: *for, since*)
- giving reasons (*because*)

How long?

Complete the table below.

For example:

- ▶ I can hold my breath for one minute.
- ▶ I usually boil eggs for five minutes.
- ▶ I went to Scotland for a week.
- ▶ I'd love to go on holiday for a month.

	for one minute
	for five minutes
	for 10 minutes
	for an hour
	for a week
	for a month
	for a year
	for 10 years
	for ever!

Show a friend what you've written. Ask him or her to comment on it. For example:

- ▶ I don't like eggs very much. I'd put 'do the washing up' because that takes me about five minutes every morning.
- ▶ I've never been to Scotland but I'd like to go there.
- ▶ I'd like to go to the seaside for a week. I've wanted to do that since I was a child.

Practise

The subject areas for the Conversation Phase of GESE Grade 5 are:

- Festivals
 - Means of transport
 - Special occasions, for example: birthday celebrations
 - Entertainment, for example: cinema, television
 - Music
 - Recent personal experiences
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Interview a friend

Choose one of the subjects and think of five questions to ask someone about it. Try to make your questions using these language items:

Question one (present perfect): **Have you** _____ ?

Question two: **Why** _____ ?

Question three: **Will** _____ ?

Question four: **How much/many/often** _____ ?

Question five: _____ **prefer** _____ ?

Now practise interviewing a friend or someone in your family. Think about all the subject areas and what you could say for each one.

Remember!

- ▶ The examiner will choose just two of the subject areas to talk to you about.
- ▶ The examiner isn't testing your knowledge of the subjects, just your language.