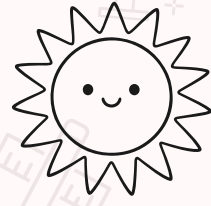




# B2/First Self-Study Pack

Cambridge MB



## Before you start: set your summer goal

Self-study works best when you know what you're aiming for. Complete these:

- This summer I most want to improve my \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. writing, vocabulary, listening).
- I will study English for \_\_\_\_\_ minutes, \_\_\_\_\_ days a week.
- By September, I would like to be able to \_\_\_\_\_.

Come back and tick each goal when you reach it. ✓

### Use of English: Word Formation

Use the word in capitals to form a word that fits in each gap

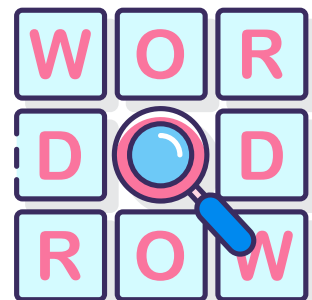
For many people, summer is the most (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (ENJOY) season of the year. The long days offer the perfect (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (OPPORTUNE) to travel, relax and try something new. (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (SURPRISE), one of the best ways to spend the holidays is simply to slow down. Spending time outdoors has a positive effect on our (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (HEALTHY) and can reduce stress (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (SIGNIFICANT). Of course, careful (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (PREPARE) makes any trip run more smoothly, so it is worth being (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (ORGANISE). Above all, summer reminds us of the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (IMPORTANT) of taking a proper break.



**Reflect:** Which two words were new or tricky for you? For each, write the whole word family — noun / verb / adjective / adverb. (e.g. *prepare* → *preparation* → *prepared* → *preparedly*)

WORD 1: \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_

WORD 2: \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_



## Use of English: Key Word Transformations

### Grammar Brainstorm

These transformations test structures you already know, so write some example sentences for each type of structure. Make them as advanced as possible.

1. **Passive**

2. **Reporting verbs.**

3. **Speculating about the past.**

4. **Comparing.**

5. **Time words.**

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### Key Word Transformation.

Complete the second sentence so it means the same as the first, using the word given. Use two to five words, including the word given



1. I haven't been to the beach for three years. **SINCE**  
It has been three years \_\_\_\_\_ to the beach.
2. They cancelled the trip because of the storm. **CALLED**  
The trip \_\_\_\_\_ because of the storm.
3. It's possible that she is already on her holiday. **LEFT**  
She \_\_\_\_\_ for her holiday already.
4. I would prefer you not to book the flight today. **RATHER**  
I \_\_\_\_\_ the flight today.
5. "Remember to put on sun cream," Mum said to me. **ME**  
Mum \_\_\_\_\_ on sun cream.
6. The hotel was much more expensive than we expected. **NEARLY**  
The hotel \_\_\_\_\_ as cheap as we expected.

## Writing: Part I (An Essay)

Your English class has been discussing holidays. Now your teacher has asked you to write an **essay** answering this question:

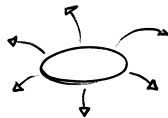
*"The best way to spend a summer holiday is to travel to another country." Do you agree?*

Write **140–190 words**. Use these notes: (1) cost (2) learning & experience (3) ... your own idea.

**Before you write: brainstorm (5 minutes)**

A little planning makes writing much easier.

- **Ideas both ways:** Quickly jot down reasons travelling abroad *is* great — and reasons it *isn't*. (Think about cost and what you learn.)
- **Your opinion:** Do you agree? Write it in one sentence. \_\_\_\_\_
- **Your plan:** Pick your two best points and number them ① and ② — those are your two middle paragraphs.



Travelling abroad: **positive** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Travelling abroad: **negative** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Your opinion: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Now write your essay (140–190 words).

**Now write your essay (140–190 words).**

**Assess your own writing:** Rate yourself **1–5**: Content \_\_\_\_ · Communicative achievement \_\_\_\_ · Organisation \_\_\_\_ · Language \_\_\_\_ . Then pick **one** thing to improve next time: \_\_\_\_\_

# Smart self-study: 10 tips that work

## Set up

1. **Set a clear goal with a deadline.** "Reach a confident B2 in writing by September" beats "get better at English." Break it into small weekly steps.
2. **Book fixed study slots.** Short, regular sessions in your calendar beat occasional long ones — treat them like appointments

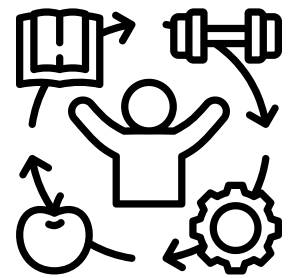


## Practise well

3. **Stay active, not passive.** For every hour of reading or listening, spend an hour producing — writing, speaking, doing exercises.
4. **Test yourself often.** Trying to recall something (even before you feel ready) builds memory far better than re-reading it.
5. **Space out your reviews.** Revisit new language after a day, a few days, a week, then a month, so it really sticks.
6. **Mix it up.** Switch between skills or topics within a session instead of drilling one thing for hours.

## Keep going

7. **Make it a daily habit.** 20–30 minutes attached to something you already do; if you miss a day, never miss two in a row.
8. **Reflect, teach, and ask.** Each week note what worked and what's next; explain something to a friend (if you can teach it, you know it); and get feedback on your writing and speaking — that's a strength, not a weakness



## My Summer Study Plan

- 📍 **Where** I study best: \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. my room, the library, the kitchen table)
- ⌚ **When** I'll study: \_\_\_\_\_ days a week, usually \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. after breakfast, before dinner)
- ⚙️ **How** I'll study: in \_\_\_\_\_-minute sessions (try 25 min + a short break), mixing different skills

## My useful-language box

Whenever you read (like this text!), hunt for **expressions and collocations** you'd like to use yourself, and note them here with your own example.

<b>Expression / collocation</b>	<b>My own example sentence</b>
set a clear goal	I've set a clear goal for this summer.

# B2 SELF-STUDY PACK — ANSWER SHEET & SELF-STUDY TIPS

## Use of English: Word Formation

1. enjoyable · 2. opportunity · 3. Surprisingly · 4. health · 5. significantly · 6. preparation · 7. organised · 8. importance

*Tip: the gap's job tells you the form. A noun often ends -tion / -ity / -ness / -ance (preparation, importance); an adverb usually ends -ly (significantly); an adjective often ends -able / -ful / -ed (enjoyable, organised). Always read the whole sentence — is a positive or negative form needed?*

## Use of English: Grammar Brainstorm (example sentences)

Yours will differ — these just show the kind of "advanced" you're aiming for:

1. **Passive:** *The hotel is believed to have been fully booked weeks in advance.*
2. **Reporting verbs:** *The instructor warned us not to leave the path after dark.*
3. **Speculating about the past:** *They must have got lost on the way — they're never usually this late.*
4. **Comparing:** *The longer we waited, the more anxious we became. / It was by far the best holiday we'd ever had.*
5. **Time words:** *By the time we reached the campsite, it had already got dark.*

## Use of English: Key Word Transformations

1. **since I last went** — *It is/has been + time + since + past simple.*
2. **was called off** — *passive + the phrasal verb call off.*
3. **may have left** (also *might / could have left*) — *past possibility: may/might/could + have + past participle.*
4. **would rather you didn't book** — *would rather + someone + past tense (preference about another person).*
5. **reminded me to put** (also *told me to put*) — *reporting an instruction: reminded/told + object + to-infinitive.*
6. **was not nearly** (or *wasn't nearly*) — *comparison: not nearly as + adjective + as.*

*Tip: when one of these trips you up, name the grammar point (passive? modal perfect? reporting verb?) and write two more sentences of your own using the same structure. That's what makes it stick.*

## Writing: An Essay — how to check your own work

A strong B2 essay usually:

- answers the exact question and develops **two clear points** with reasons/examples;
- keeps a **neutral, slightly formal** register (no slang, no contractions in the main argument);
- has a clear **intro → point → point → conclusion** shape, joined with linkers (*However, Furthermore, To sum up*);
- shows a **range** of grammar and vocabulary, and stays within **140–190 words**.

## Assess your own writing:

*What each score is judging:*

- **Content** — Did you answer the question *and* develop your points?
- **Communicative achievement** — Is the style right (neutral/formal essay), and does it hold the reader?
- **Organisation** — Clear paragraphs and linking words?
- **Language** — Range *and* accuracy of grammar and vocabulary?

*Self-check:* after rating yourself 1–5, rewrite just **one** paragraph applying your "one thing to improve." Writing is the hardest skill to judge alone, so if you can, swap essays with a study partner or ask a teacher to mark one.

## My useful-language box:

*Possible language to spot in the tips:* break it into steps · test yourself · make it stick · mix it up · welcome the struggle · ask for help · get feedback.

Which one will you actually use this week? \_\_\_\_\_