

Langues vivantes

Petites histoires pour apprendre

l'Anglais

A2★B1



Exercices corrigés



Des histoires ludiques pour découvrir :

- Du vocabulaire thématique
- Des expressions du quotidien
- Des notions de grammaire
- Des points culturels

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ellipses

LEÇON 1

HOW TO USE THE PRESENT SIMPLE AND CONTINUOUS

 Mary goes shopping

Mary is a young woman who is 18-year-old. She **has** a 22-year-old brother named Ben. They **get along** really well. She **lives** in Oxford, 90 kms away from the capital, London. She enjoys her life in Oxford very much!

Oxford is a very beautiful English city. In fact, it is the **county town** and only city of Oxfordshire! Of course, it is particularly **well-known** for its **prestigious college**.

Mary is a **senior student** at Oxford **high school** and has a lot of friends there. Her teachers are quite interesting and she is **deeply fond of** her English and History classes. She doesn't know what she wants to do later, but she wants to **study further!**

She loves reading and listening to music. She also likes going to the cinema with her friends **downtown**. During the weekend, she often **spends time** with her friends. **Usually**, they go to the cinema together **followed by a sleepover** at one of her friends'.

Today, Mary **has to** go shopping. She needs a new dress, because tonight **she's going out** with her good friend Betty, who **is coming back** from her long semester **abroad**. Mary is very excited to hear about her friend's experience, because she is very **eager to** travel to other countries too!

She goes to a nice shop not very far from her home and starts looking for a new dress. She doesn't want to **spend too much money** on it but she **still wishes** to find something pretty and original. She is hesitating between two colors: dark-green or light-blue. She asks a **saleswoman** named Sarah for help because she's absolutely not sure about her **choice**. The saleswoman is really funny and **helpful!** She shows Mary **quite a few** dresses she **might** like and starts discussing with her because they are **almost** the same age –Sarah is **indeed** 19 and works for this shop during the weekends.

- I really need something new and **possibly unusual** because I just hate what I have in my wardrobe!
- **I know how you feel... Let me** show you **two brand new** dresses I like that will **fit** you really **nicely!**, says Sarah.
- Thank you, **I don't know what I would do without you.** When I go shopping, I like my mum to come with me because I always hesitate...!
- **I get that,** I'm just like you! But don't worry, I love my job because I enjoy making customers happy, so **trust** me!

After **disappearing shortly,** Sarah comes back with a **bunch** of dresses, some long, some shorter, some blue, some green. She also brings a short yellow dress which she finds **gorgeous.**

- There you go, Mary! You can **try** them **on** if you like them.
- Thank you, Sarah, you're quite **efficient!** Are you sure about that yellow **fabric?** I never **wear** yellow...
- Well, of course **it's up to you,** but I believe it's **the most beautiful** dress we've got in the store.
- All right then! Says Mary laughing. **Let's see how it fits!**
- Great! **Let me** come back to you, I have **a few** new customers to **attend to.**
- **No worries!**

Very excited about all **these** new dresses, Mary **picks up those** she prefers.

After hesitating for a long time between four dresses she likes, she decides to try them all on. She starts with two light-blue dresses, one short, one **quite** longer. After a few minutes looking at herself in the mirror and looking for Sarah for **approval,** she is very surprised to **ignore** them both.

— "Definitely not blue!", she thinks **out loud.**

Then, she picks a dark-green short dress with a black **pattern** she finds very **uncommon.** Looking at herself again, she finds it **surprisingly** too dark for her **complexion.**

Sarah **comes over** quickly and asks her if she is doing ok or if she needs **anything.**

- Well, says Mary, I find it really hard to choose **on my own** but I know **which** dresses I **dislike.** **Shall** I give them back to you?
- Yes, you can do that! Would you like me to stay with you to see the next dress you are trying on?
- That would be great, but I know you're busy...
- I'm fine, actually, I have time now if you want!
- Well, thank you, **you are a doll.**
- Sure!

Mary looks at this yellow dress with a smile. It is **actually** a very cute short yellow dress with blue butterflies on it. The fabric is extremely **soft** and the butterflies are really delicate. She decides to trust her new friend Sarah—who is waiting to see her in it in front of the **fitting room**—and **tries it on**. She looks at herself and finds the result **pretty** satisfactory. The dress fits her really **nicely** and the color is **shiny** and **brightening**.

She goes out of the room to see Sarah waiting **patiently** to see the result.

— You look **amazing**!

— Well, thank you, I have to **admit** I like it very much!

— I'm not surprised, it's a great dress and the color looks so good on you! It fits you perfectly!

— Thanks for the advice, I believe **this is the one!!**

— Great! **Let me** take you to the **register**. **Plus**, you're lucky... we have a 20% **discount** today on dresses.

— **Wonderful! Even better. Anyway**, thank you so much! I'd love to have your number to **hang out** with you **sometime**.

— Of course! I'd love to hang out too. Let me put it in your phone for you.

— Thanks!

As promised, Sarah takes Mary to the register to pay for the dress. After the discount, it only costs \$15, which is quite **affordable** and makes Mary **even happier**.

After paying for the dress, she goes back home. **She can't wait** to show her new **outfit** to her mother and father, who are **both** still at work for about an hour.

She finds it really funny to **end up with** a yellow dress **instead of** a blue or green one and she's **delighted** to have a new friend.

What luck!

■ Summing-up of the story

Mary, who is an 18-year-old high school student, decides to go shopping to find herself a new dress for a nice evening with her friends. Therefore, she goes downtown and tries a few dresses in a shop, with the help of a friendly saleswoman. After some time hesitating, she buys herself a yellow dress and goes back home, impatient to show it to her parents.

■ *Résumé de l'histoire*

Marie, qui est une lycéenne de 18 ans, décide d'aller faire du shopping pour se trouver une nouvelle robe en vue d'une sympathique soirée avec ses amis. De fait, elle se rend dans le centre-ville et essaye quelques robes dans un magasin avec l'aide d'une gentille vendeuse. Après avoir passé quelque temps à hésiter, elle s'achète une robe jaune et retourne chez elle, impatiente de la montrer à ses parents.

📖 Vocabulary

- get along : *s'entendre*
- county town : *chef-lieu*
- well-known : *connu*
- prestigious : *prestigieux*
- college : *université*
- senior student : *lycéen de terminale*
- high school : *collège et lycée*
- deeply : *profondément*
- be fond of : *aimer, adorer*
- study further : *continuer ses études*
- downtown : *centre-ville*
- spend time : *passer du temps*
- usually : *habituellement*
- followed by : *suivi de*
- sleepover : *soirée pyjama*
- abroad : *à l'étranger*
- eager to : *désireux de, impatient de*
- spend money : *dépenser de l'argent*
- still : *encore*
- wish : *espérer*
- saleswoman : *vendeuse*

- choice : *choix*
- helpful : *serviable*
- quite a few : *un assez grand nombre de*
- almost : *presque*
- indeed : *en effet*
- possibly : *si possible*
- unusual : *inhabituel*
- wardrobe : *garde-robe*
- I know how you feel : *Je comprends comment tu te sens*
- brand new : *tout neuf*
- fit : *aller à quelqu'un (pour un vêtement)*
- nicely : *joliment*
- I don't know what I would do without you : *Je ne sais pas ce que je ferais sans toi*
- I get that : *Je comprends cela*
- trust : *confiance, faire confiance*
- disappear : *disparaître*
- shortly : *pendant un instant*
- bunch of : *beaucoup de*
- gorgeous : *superbe*
- try on : *essayer (un vêtement)*
- efficient : *efficace*
- fabric : *matière*
- wear : *porter (un vêtement)*
- It's up to you : *C'est comme tu veux*
- Let's see how it fits : *Voyons si cela te va bien*
- a few : *quelques*
- attend to : *s'occuper de (ici)*
- no worries : *ne t'inquiète pas*
- these : *ces, ceux-ci, celles-ci*
- pick up : *ramasser, sélectionner*
- those : *ces, ceux-là, celles-là*
- quite : *tout à fait*
- approval : *approbation*
- ignore : *laisser tomber (sens figuré)*
- out loud : *à voix haute*
- pattern : *motif*
- uncommon : *inhabituel*
- surprisingly : *étonnamment*
- complexion : *teint*
- come over : *venir vers quelqu'un*

- anything : *quoi que ce soit*
- on my own : *seul*
- which : *quel*
- dislike : *ne pas aimer*
- You are a doll : *Tu es adorable*
- actually : *en fait*
- soft : *doux*
- fitting room : *le salon d'essayage*
- pretty (*adverbe*) : *assez*
- shiny : *brillant*
- brightening : *clair*
- patiently : *patiemment*
- amazing : *incroyable*
- I have to admit : *Je dois dire*
- This is the one : *C'est celui-ci/celle-là (qu'il me faut)*
- register : *caisse*
- plus : *de plus*
- discount : *remise*
- wonderful : *merveilleux*
- even better : *encore mieux*
- anyway : *de toute façon*
- hang out with : *passer du temps avec*
- sometime : *un de ces jours*
- as promised : *comme promis*
- affordable : *abordable*
- even happier : *encore plus heureux*
- She can't wait to : *Elle a hâte de*
- outfit : *tendue*
- both : *tous les deux, à la fois*
- end up with : *finir avec*
- instead of : *au lieu de*
- delighted : *ravi*
- what luck : *quelle chance*

Grammar | Grammaire

How to use the present simple | *Les utilisations du présent simple*

- les habitudes (souvent dans des phrases avec des adverbes de fréquence) : *les activités, les amis, les études*
- les descriptions : *l'endroit où l'on vit, l'âge*
- les goûts : *aimer, détester*
- les vérités générales : *les villes, les endroits réputés (l'université d'Oxford)*

How to use the present continuous BE + ING | *Les utilisations du présent continu BE + ING*

- Toutes les actions en train de se dérouler au moment où l'on parle.
- Le futur très proche à l'oral pour éviter une structure grammaticale plus complexe.

Modal verbs | *Les modaux*

- have to : « doit » *pour le devoir, l'obligation*
- might : « pourrait » *pour le doute*
- shall : « et si » *pour la suggestion*

Imperative form with « let me »/« let us » | *L'impératif avec « let me »/« let us »*

Forme très courante aux 1^{res} personnes du singulier ou du pluriel, il permet de formuler la suggestion.

- Let me take you to the register *Allons à la caisse/laissez-moi vous conduire à la caisse*
- Let us have dinner *Allons dîner*

Comparative of superiority | *Le comparatif de supériorité*

On trouve dans cette histoire 1 quelques comparatifs :

- better *mieux*
- happier *plus heureux*

Pour les adjectifs réguliers courts d'une ou deux syllabes, il suffit d'ajouter un « er » ou « r » si, comme dans ces exemples, l'adjectif se termine en « e ».

► Superlative | *Le superlatif*

On rencontre ici le superlatif de l'adjectif long « beautiful » : the most beautiful dress.

Ainsi, pour les adjectifs de plus de trois syllabes, on doit ajouter « the most » avant l'adjectif, qui signifie « *le plus, la plus* ».

► Reflexive pronoun | *Le pronom réfléchi*

Il est utilisé avec de nombreux verbes pronominaux. Dans le texte, vous trouverez ainsi le verbe « *se regarder dans la glace* », qui est ici conjugué à toutes les personnes :

- | | |
|--|--|
| • I look at myself in the mirror | <i>Je me regarde dans le miroir</i> |
| • You look at yourself in the mirror | <i>Tu te regardes dans le miroir</i> |
| • He looks at himself in the mirror | <i>Il se regarde dans le miroir</i> |
| • She looks at herself in the mirror | <i>Elle se regarde dans le miroir</i> |
| • We look at ourselves in the mirror | <i>Nous nous regardons dans le miroir</i> |
| • You look at yourselves in the mirror | <i>Vous vous regardez dans le miroir</i> |
| • They look at themselves in the mirror | <i>Ils/Elles se regardent dans le miroir</i> |