

# Grammar for the Real World

Jon Hird, Italy April 2018

## Real contexts

Without context, meaning can never be complete. Noel Goodey

3 Che cosa ti aspetti che succeda in ciascuna situazione? Usa *should* e i verbi nel riquadro.

arrive arrive be win

▶ It *should be hot tomorrow*.

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

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

3 The book \_\_\_\_\_.



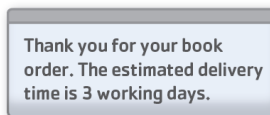
2



1

|       |                                     |
|-------|-------------------------------------|
| 19.00 | News                                |
| 19.30 | The Big Match:<br>Juventus v Chievo |
| 21.00 | Football highlights                 |

3



1 Completa le frasi in modo che siano vere. Usa la forma affermativa e quella negativa di *be*.

▶ Milan *isn't* \_\_\_\_\_ the capital city of Italy. Rome *is* \_\_\_\_\_ the capital.

1 Monaco \_\_\_\_\_ in Italy. It \_\_\_\_\_ in France.

2 Milan and Genoa \_\_\_\_\_ in the south of Italy. They \_\_\_\_\_ in the north.

3 The Apennines \_\_\_\_\_ lakes. They \_\_\_\_\_ mountains.

4 The Italian flag \_\_\_\_\_ red, white and blue. It \_\_\_\_\_ red, white and green.

## Real language

Authentic language shows how language operates in the 'real world' rather than in the mind of the writer ... A diet of artificial text can make language learning more difficult for learners. David Nunan

~~We didn't succeed in starting the car.~~  
The car won't start.

~~Are you tall?~~  
Are you ready?

~~Are these people having a holiday in Italy?~~  
Are they here on holiday?

## Real use

**Any** in frasi affermative significa *qualsiasi, qualunque*, che è il suo significato più comune. You can catch **any** of these buses. *Puoi prendere uno qualunque di questi autobus.* I love **any** film with Johnny Depp in it. *Qualsiasi film con Johnny Depp mi piace moltissimo.*

A Is snowboarding difficult?

B No, \_\_\_\_\_ can do it if they try.

A Do you prefer a window or an aisle seat?

B I don't mind. I'm happy to sit \_\_\_\_\_

I hope this finds you well. I'm actually just enquiring on behalf of a teacher friend and colleague of mine. She's Russian and is wanting to get some teaching work in the UK.

*It is not verbs which are stative or dynamic, but situations.*

Jack Richards

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## Real usefulness

**TIP** Di solito in cartelli e avvisi si usa **must** (e non **have to**) anche se in questi casi si tratta di normative o leggi. Visitors **must** report to reception. *Si pregano i visitatori di presentarsi alla ricezione.*

**TIP** **When did you last ... ?** (Quando è stata l'ultima volta che ... ?) è un'espressione utile. **When did you last see James?** *Quando è stata l'ultima volta che hai visto James?*

**TIP** **How did ... go?** è una domanda frequente. **How did your exam go?** ~ **It went OK**, I think. *Com'è andato l'esame? ~ È andato bene, credo.*

► Your friend had an eye test. It was OK.

A How did your eye test go?

B It went OK.

1 Your friend had an exam. It was fine.

A \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_

2 Your friend had a job interview. It was really bad.

A \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_

3 Your friend had a date. It was really good.

A \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_

## Real context, language, use, usefulness, engagement

3 Completa le domande con *what, who, which countries* e i verbi nel riquadro.

be become discover invent live share star start be



How much do you know about the USA and American culture? Do this quiz to find out.

► Who discovered America in 1492?

1 \_\_\_\_\_ in the White House?

2 \_\_\_\_\_ jeans in 1850?

3 \_\_\_\_\_ in the *Pirates of the Caribbean* films?

4 \_\_\_\_\_ a border with the USA?

5 \_\_\_\_\_ a well-known symbol of the USA?

6 \_\_\_\_\_ the USA's first black president in 2009?

7 \_\_\_\_\_ Google in 1998?

8 \_\_\_\_\_ the first man on the moon?

*Language learning is most effective when students engage in meaningful activities rather than just 'going through the motions'.*

Kay & Jones

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