

Intermediate groups lesson 1 2026

Materials (not all of them for lesson 1):

Oxford Discover 3 – Unit 2 **vocabulary:** towns and villages, synonyms

Video: How do places get their names? SB 15, vocabulary SB 114, WB 16

Time-capsule towns: Places where people no longer live SB 16-17

Discover Vocabulary – SB 114, WB 16

Grammar: Past tenses vs. Present perfect tenses

Discover grammar - talking about past events – SB 18, SB 115, WB 17

Discover grammar – talking about past actions connected to the present – SB 19, SB 115, WB 17

glossary:

Synonyms:

Belongings, possessions	Osobní majetek
Bustling /'bʌslɪŋ/, lively	Rušný, živý
Contemporary, modern	Současný, moderní
Defend, protect	Bránit, chránit
Deserted, abandoned	Opuštěný
Huge, massive	Velký, obrovský
Move away, relocate	Odstěhovat (se), přemístit (se)
Sadly, unfortunately	Naneštěstí, bohužel

Settlements

Typy sídel

Commuter town	Příměstské sídliště, odkud se dojíždí za prací do velkého města, „noclehárna“
Fortress	Pevnost
Hamlet	Osada, vesnička
Industrial city	Průmyslové město
Market town	Městečko či vesnice, kde se konaly/konají trhy
Neighborhood	Čtvrť
Port	Přístav
Seaside resort	Přímořské letovisko
Suburb	Předměstí

We are going to watch a video about how places got their names.

We are going to read an article about Pompeii in Italy, Shi Cheng in China, Bodie in U.S., and Pripyat in Ukraine.

We are going to practice talking about past events (using past tenses – Simple, Continuous, and Perfect) – and past actions connected to the present (Present Perfect)

Homework: sections of Oxford Discover 3 Workbook connected to the work we do in class.

If you like the topic, we can also talk about maps.

Grammar: Talking about past events.

We use Past Simple to describe a sequence of events.

We **got off** the bus and **walked** around the market.

Complete each sentence with the **past simple** form of the two verbs in brackets. Pay attention to the **order of events** and the meaning of the sentence.

1. We in the old town and around the empty streets. (**arrive, look**)
2. She the entrance and the door carefully. (**find, open**)
3. They through the village and several abandoned buildings. (**walk, see**)
4. We the hill and photos of the town below. (**climb, take**)
5. He an empty shop and some old newspapers inside. (**enter, find**)
6. We the old bridge and the abandoned part of the town. (**cross, reach**)
7. They the train and the quiet streets. (**get off, explore**)
8. I a strange noise and near an old building. (**hear, stop**)
9. She the old railway station and about it in her notebook. (**visit, write**)
10. We the main road and a narrow path into the abandoned village. (**leave, follow**)

We use Past Continuous to give a background description. You can combine more actions with *and*.

It **was raining** and a lot of people **were buying** umbrellas.

Complete each sentence with the **past continuous** form of the two verbs in brackets. The sentences describe what was happening in a town or city at a particular moment. Pay attention to **was/were**.

1. It heavily, and people in the entrances of underground stations or in bus shelters. **(rain, hide)**
2. A group of tourists the old town while a guide them about its history. **(explore, tell)**
3. Several workers an abandoned building while a photographer pictures nearby. **(inspect, take)**
4. No pedestrians along the pavements, and only a few cars through the town. **(walk, pass)**
5. She at an old railway station while her friends the surrounding area. **(wait, explore)**
6. The sun behind the hills, and the last visitors the abandoned village. **(disappear, leave)**
7. We through the narrow streets while people outside the cafés. **(walk, sit)**
8. An old man past the empty houses while two children a ruined wall. **(walk, examine)**
9. The town slowly darker, and the streetlights to come on. **(get, start)**
10. They a map of the city while their guide the best route to the old castle. **(study, explain)**

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Key to the Past Simple exercise:

1. arrived, looked 2. found, opened 3. walked, saw 4. climbed, took 5. entered, found
6. crossed, reached 7. got off, explored 8. heard, stopped 9. visited, wrote
10. left, followed

Key to the Past Continuous exercise:

1. was raining, were hiding 2. were exploring, was telling 3. were inspecting, was taking
4. were walking, were passing 5. was waiting, were exploring 6. was disappearing, were leaving
7. were walking, were sitting 8. was walking, were examining
9. was getting, were coming 10. were studying, was explaining

We also use the **past continuous** to talk about a longer action interrupted by a shorter action:

I **dropped** my bag when I **was running** for the bus.

(shorter action) (longer action)

Complete each sentence with the **past simple** or **past continuous** form of the verbs in brackets. Use the **past simple** for the shorter action that interrupted the longer action.

1. We around the old fishing village when we an abandoned boat.
(**walk, see**)
2. She through the quiet suburb when it to rain. (**cycle, start**)
3. They the old factory when a window suddenly. (**explore, break**)
4. I along the beach in the seaside resort when I an old photograph.
(**walk, find**)
5. We through the industrial city when we a huge old building.
(**drive, notice**)
6. He the narrow streets of the old neighbourhood when he his phone. (**explore, drop**)
7. While we around the abandoned town, we a strange noise. (**look, hear**)
8. She past some empty houses when a door in the wind. (**walk, slam**)
9. They through the suburb when they a small park with a broken fountain. (**walk, discover**)
10. I the old railway station when someone my name. (**photograph, call**)

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Key to the Past Simple vs Past Continuous exercise:

1. walked, saw 2. was cycling, started 3. were exploring, broke 4. was walking, found 5. were driving, noticed 6. was exploring, dropped 7. were looking, heard 8. was walking, slammed 9. were walking, discovered 10. was photographing, called

