

OXFORD

American English File

Third Edition

4

CLASSROOM PRESENTATION TOOL



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Course overview

American English File ^{Third Edition}

Welcome to **American English File Third Edition**. This is how to use the Student Book, Online Practice, and the Workbook in and out of class.



Student Book

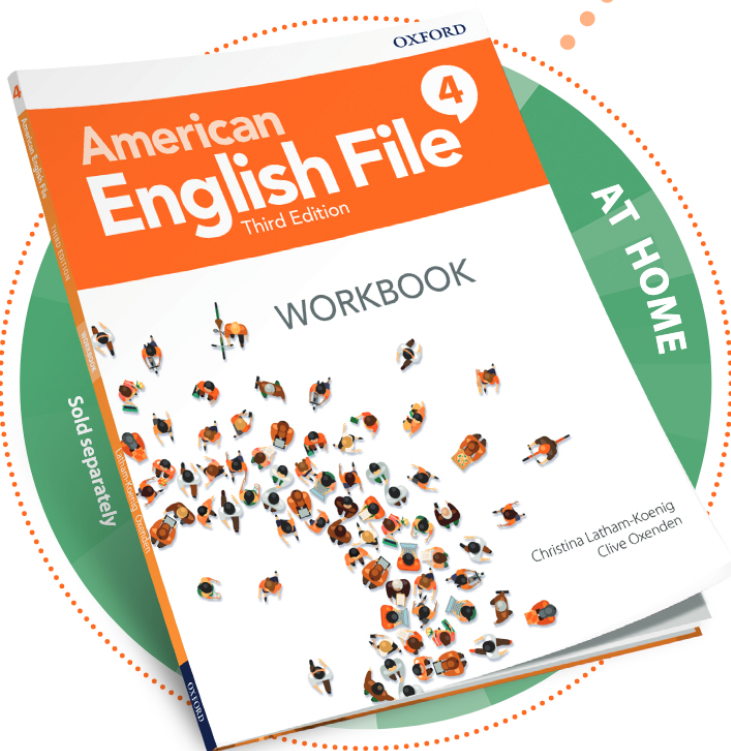
All the language and skills you need to improve your English, with Grammar, Vocabulary, Pronunciation, and skills work in every File.

Use your Student Book in class with your teacher.

Workbook

Grammar, Vocabulary, and Pronunciation practice for every lesson.

Use your Workbook for homework or for self-study to practice language and to check your progress.



G question formation V figuring out meaning from context P intonation: showing interest

1 READING & SPEAKING

a Look at the photos of Simone Biles and Dan Stevens and read their biographical info. Have you watched any of her competitions, or seen any of his TV shows or movies? What did you think of them?

b Now read the interviews and complete the questions.

c Read the interviews again and focus on their answers. Write **S** (Simone) or **D** (Dan). Which question(s) helped you answer **S** or **D**?

Who do you think...?

- 1 doesn't eat any animal products
- 2 doesn't have a partner right now
- 3 is currently living in California
- 4 doesn't like insects
- 5 is romantic
- 6 is very family-oriented
- 7 becomes emotional when they're tired
- 8 likes to make the last point in a discussion

d Which of the questions in the interviews do you think are...?

- the most interesting
- the least interesting
- too personal to ask a person if you don't know them well

e Choose six questions from Q&A to ask your partner.

 Politely refusing to answer a question

If you are asked a question you think is inappropriate, or simply don't want to answer, you can say, *I'd prefer not to answer that or I'd rather not answer that if you don't mind.*

Glossary

decorated (adj.) given a medal as a sign of respect

podium (noun) a small platform that a person stands on to give a speech or receive a medal



Every week the newspaper *The Guardian* chooses people who have been in the news recently, and publishes a short interview with them called **Q&A**.



S Simone Biles is a gymnast who was born in the state of Ohio in 1997.

Biles has competed at the World Championships since 2013, and is now the most decorated gymnast in World Championship history. She has also won gold in the Olympic Games, and written an autobiography called *Courage to Soar*.



- 1 _____'s your most treasured possession?
My Olympic medals.
- 2 What _____ you want to be when you were growing up?
A nurse.
- 3 What _____ you like about yourself?
I like to have the last word.
- 4 What _____ your most embarrassing moment?
I was on the podium at the 2014 World Championships in China when a bee appeared out of nowhere and took a liking to my flowers.
- 5 What or _____ is the greatest love of your life?
Food.
- 6 What _____ your superpower be?
To be a witch. A good witch, of course. It would be cool to control things with my mind and do spells.
- 7 _____ did you last cry, and why?
Just a few days ago. I was overtired.
- 8 _____ would you like to be remembered?
As a confident, inspirational, and very bubbly person.
- 9 _____ word or phrase do you most overuse?
"Oh my gosh."

- c Read the article once and complete it with questions A–G. Would you now feel more confident about answering the questions?

 **Guessing the meaning of new words and phrases**

When you are reading, you will often find a word or phrase you don't know. If it isn't possible to check the meaning in a dictionary, think about:

- the context (i.e., the other words around it).
- what part of speech the individual words are (e.g., a verb, an adjective, etc.).
- whether it's similar to another English word you know.
- whether it's similar to a word in your language.

If you still can't figure out what the word or phrase means, ignore it and continue reading.

- d Read the article again. With a partner, try to figure out what the **highlighted** words and phrases mean, and how you think they are pronounced. What helped you to figure them out?

- e Now match the **highlighted** words and phrases to 1–8.


- _____ (noun) a reaction based on feelings and emotions rather than thought and reason
- _____ (adj.) designed so that it cannot fail
- _____ (phrase) an answer that is intended to be amusing rather than serious
- _____ (noun, informal) a person who is very interested in and who knows a lot about a particular subject
- _____ (phrase) the number of hours per week you spend working compared with the number of hours you spend with your family, relaxing, etc.
- _____ (phrase) the main reason for something
- _____ (phrase) friendly competition
- _____ (noun) people who are looking for a job

- f Look at some more genuine interview questions. What do you think they would tell you about the candidate? Why? Do you think these kinds of questions really help interviewers to choose the best person for the job?

- What would you do if you were the one survivor of a plane crash? (Airbnb)
- Who do you think would win in a fight between Spider-Man and Batman? (Stanford University)
- What did you have for breakfast? (Banana Republic)
- Describe the color yellow to somebody who's blind. (Spirit Airlines)
- How many people flew out of Chicago last year? (Redbox software)
- What am I thinking right now? (TES Global)
- Who is your hero, and why? (General Electrics)
- Tell me something about your childhood. (Next)

- g Choose two questions in f to ask a partner.


5 LISTENING

- a Have you ever had an interview for a job or acceptance into a school? What kinds of questions did they ask you? Did you get the job or the acceptance?
- b  1.9 Listen to four people talking about a strange question they were asked in an interview. Complete questions 1–4.

What strange question were they asked?	How did they answer?	What happened in the end?
1 If you could _____ with _____ from the past, who would you choose and why?		
2 Do you _____ a _____? Are you planning to _____?		
3 Do you still _____?		
4 _____ would you like to be reincarnated as?		

- c Listen again and make notes in the rest of the chart.
- d Which of the questions do you think were acceptable to ask at an interview?

6 SPEAKING

- a  **Communication Tough questions A p.106 B p.110** Ask your partner some difficult interview questions.
- b Invent a tough interview question of your own, which you think might tell you something interesting about another person.
- c Ask your question to as many other students as possible and answer theirs.
- d Which questions did you think were the most interesting? Why?

- e **1.12** Listen to the rest of the story. What was Muirhead's theory? What did people think of it at the time? What is the modern explanation?

Glossary

Queen Elizabeth II (known as the *QE2*) a famous transatlantic cruise ship
White Cliffs of Dover very tall cliffs on the English coastline across from France

- f Listen again. Why are the following mentioned?

- 1 a huge rock
- 2 *Queen Elizabeth II*
- 3 a paper in a scientific journal
- 4 1901
- 5 one man's rain jacket and the bodies of the men

2 GRAMMAR auxiliary verbs

- a Talk in small groups.

Have you (or has anybody you know)...?

- seen or heard something that can't be explained, e.g., a ghost or a UFO
- had a strange coincidence, e.g., meeting someone in an unexpected place
- visited a fortune-teller, psychic, or faith healer

🔍 Reacting to a story about something strange

When somebody talks about something strange or difficult to explain, we often react with these phrases.

How / That's | *strange / bizarre / odd / weird / spooky.*

What a / an | *weird story / amazing coincidence.*

- b Look at the conversations and try to fill in the blanks with an auxiliary verb (*do, did, is, was, etc.*).

- 1 A I heard a weird noise in the middle of the night.
B You ¹ _____? What kind of noise?
- 2 A You don't believe in ghosts, ² _____ you?
B No, I don't.
- 3 A I've never been to a fortune-teller.
B Neither ³ _____ I.
C I ⁴ _____. It was really interesting.
- 4 A I don't believe you really saw a UFO.
B I ⁵ _____ see one! It couldn't have been anything else.

- c **1.13** Listen and check. Then in pairs, decide which highlighted phrase (1–5) is used...

- A to add emphasis
- B to say that you are different
- C to check information
- D to show surprise
- E to say that you are the same

- d **G p.133 Grammar Bank 1B**

3 PRONUNCIATION & SPEAKING intonation and sentence rhythm

- a **1.15** Listen to the conversations. Underline the highlighted auxiliary verbs (*did, don't, do*) that are stressed.

- 1 A I dreamed that I saw a ghost last night.
B You did? So did I. How spooky!
- 2 A I don't believe in fortune-telling.
B You don't? I do.
- 3 A You don't like horror movies, do you?
B I do like them. It's just that sometimes they're too scary!

- b Practice the conversations with a partner. Copy the rhythm and intonation.

- c Complete sentences 1–8 so that they are true for you.

- 1 I'm not very good at _____. (activity)
- 2 I'm going to _____ tonight. (verb phrase)
- 3 I love _____. (a kind of music)
- 4 I don't like _____. (a kind of food)
- 5 I've never read _____. (a famous book)
- 6 I'd love to live in _____. (a town or country)
- 7 I was very _____ as a child. (adj. of personality)
- 8 I didn't _____ yesterday evening. (verb phrase)

- d Work in pairs, **A** and **B**. **A** read your sentences to **B**. **B** respond with a reply question and then say whether you are the same or different. Then switch roles.

I'm not very good at cooking.

(You aren't? Neither am I.)

I'm going to watch Netflix tonight.

(You are? I'm not. I'm going to study.)

- e **C Communication** You're psychic, aren't you? **A p.106 B p.111** Make guesses about your partner.

2 ▶ LOOKING AT LANGUAGE

🔍 Make or do?

Jeff uses several expressions with *make* and *do*. These verbs are very common in expressions related to work, and are sometimes confused by learners of English because they just have one verb in their first language.

a Complete the extracts from the interview with the right form of *make* or *do*. Watch and check.

- "...so some of the biggest mistakes that, that I've seen that people _____ on their résumé is they include everything."
- "...as an employer, I don't care what you _____ 20 years ago or 30 years ago."
- "You also want to _____ a Google search on your own name."
- "...and to take an eight and a half sheet of paper and _____ three columns..."
- "You want to _____ sure your cell phone is turned off."
- "They're _____ a lot of eye contact directly with me."

b Now complete some more sentences related to the world of work.

- They are going to _____ a decision about who gets the job by the end of the week.
- Can I _____ a suggestion about how to re-organize the HR department?
- We must _____ much more market research before we develop the new product.
- All the new employees are going to _____ a training course next month.
- Everyone in the company has _____ a big effort this year.
- George is _____ a great job and I think he deserves to earn a higher salary.
- I need to _____ a few phone calls before the meeting starts.

3 ▶ THE CONVERSATION



a Watch the conversation. How do they respond to the question? Write **D**, **S**, and **A** on the line in the appropriate place.

Yes, definitely It depends Absolutely not

b Watch it again. Match the sentence halves.

- Alice** Admitting you can't do something is OK if
- Alice** If you say you can speak French on your CV and you can't,
- Sarah** It's OK to exaggerate a bit about something if
- Sarah** If speaking a language was essential for a job,
- Debbie** If you lie and say you can do something,
- Debbie** If you don't have many hobbies,

- A it's not very important for the job.
 B you will have wasted the interviewer's time and given a bad impression of yourself.
 C it's a good idea to exaggerate a bit.
 D you say you are prepared to learn.
 E it might be expensive for the company when they discover the truth.
 F I wouldn't say I could do it.

c Do you think it's OK to slightly exaggerate on your résumé? Who do you agree with most, and why?

d Watch three extracts where the speakers are emphasizing something and complete the gaps.

- I think it's a _____ idea to even slightly exaggerate...
- ...you might find yourself in a situation where you've wasted their time and you've just made yourself look _____ silly.
- I've _____ exaggerated on a CV.

e Now watch two more extracts. What does the speaker do with the missing word to make it more emphatic?

- ...but I wouldn't do that if I knew the job was going to require me _____ that language...
- ...you shouldn't outright lie because you _____ get caught out and a lot of the times it could cost a company a lot of money...

f Now have a conversation in groups of three.

- Do you think that to get a job today, who you know is still more important than what you know?
- Do you think résumés and interviews are a reliable way of selecting people for a job?

G present perfect simple and continuous V illnesses and injuries P /s/, /dʒ/, /tʃ/, and /k/

1 VOCABULARY illnesses and injuries

- a Take the first-aid quiz with a partner. As you read the options, try to figure out the meaning of the **highlighted** words and phrases.
- b **C Communication** Medical myths or first-aid facts? **A p.106**
B p.111 Check your answers to the quiz and explain the reasons to your partner.

c V p.152 Vocabulary Bank Illnesses and injuries

- d What illnesses or injuries might you get if you are...?

eating out hiking in the mountains
playing sports visiting a tropical country

MEDICAL MYTHS OR FIRST-AID FACTS?

First aid can help treat a minor injury, or even save a life in a medical emergency. However, it's important to know what **NOT** to do. Sometimes, incorrect first aid can actually be more harmful than helpful. So how useful is the advice you've heard? Take our quiz to find out.

For each question, decide which answers are myths (M) and which are facts (F).



- 1 What's the first thing you should put on a burn?
- a butter
b cool **running water**
c an ice pack



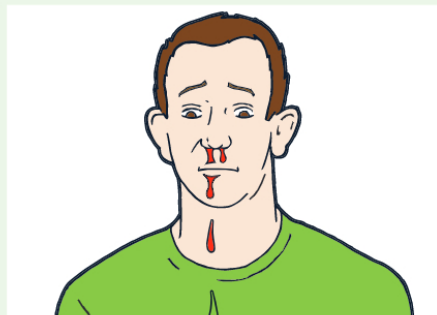
- 2 How should you treat a sprained ankle?
- a put a hot, **damp cloth** on the ankle
b put an ice pack on the ankle
c put the leg up, e.g., on a chair



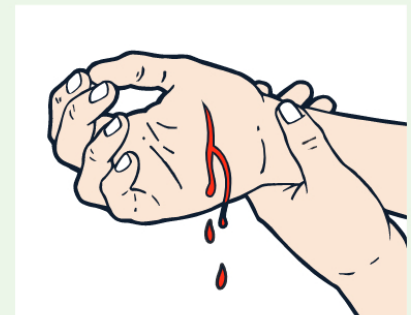
- 3 What's the best thing to do for someone with hypothermia?
- a **rub** their arms and legs to warm them up
b give them hot coffee
c cover them in something warm, e.g., a coat or a blanket



- 4 What's the first thing to do if someone is choking?
- a stand behind them and **press** their stomach inwards
b make them continue to cough hard
c hit them hard on the back



- 5 What's the best way to stop a nosebleed?
- a **tip** your head forwards
b **pinch** the soft part of your nose
c tip your head backwards



- 6 After you have cleaned a bad cut, what should you do...?
- a put on a **bandage**
b put on antibiotic ointment
c leave it open to the air

4 GRAMMAR present perfect simple and continuous



a **2.9** Listen to a conversation between a doctor and a patient and answer the questions.

- 1 What symptoms does the patient have?
- 2 What does he think might be wrong with him?
- 3 What does he think he needs?
- 4 What does the doctor suggest?

b **2.10** Listen to what the doctor and receptionist say after Mr. Payne has left. What do they think of him? Do you know the name for someone like this?

c **2.11** Now listen to some extracts from the conversation in a and **circle** the correct form, present perfect simple or continuous. Are there any where you think both options would also be possible?

- 1 *I haven't been feeling / I haven't felt* well for a few days.
- 2 *I've been coughing / I've coughed* a lot and I keep getting headaches.
- 3 What *have you been taking / have you taken* for the headaches?
- 4 How many tablets *have you been taking / have you taken* today?
- 5 And *have you taken / have you been taking* your temperature this morning?
- 6 Yes. *I've been taking it / I've taken it* five or six times already.
- 7 I think I need a blood test. *I haven't had / haven't been having* one for two months.

d **p.134 Grammar Bank 2A**

e In pairs, use the prompts to ask and answer the questions. The first question should be simple present and the second should be present perfect simple or continuous.

- 1 / often get colds? How many colds / have in the last three months?
- 2 / take any vitamins or supplements? How long / take them?
- 3 / drink much water? How many glasses / drink today?
- 4 / exercise? What? How long / do it?
- 5 / eat a lot of fruit and vegetables? How many servings / have today?
- 6 / walk to school (or work or college)? How far / walk today?
- 7 How many hours / sleep a night? / sleep well recently?
- 8 / be allergic to anything? / ever have a serious allergic reaction?

5 READING & SPEAKING

- a Look at the title of the article on p.19 and read the first paragraph. With a partner, try to complete the definition of a *cyberchondriac*. Do you think the tone of the article is humorous or serious?

cyberchondriac /saɪbər'kʌndrɪæk/ (noun) a person who compulsively searches the internet for information about

- b Now read the whole article. Complete the summary of each paragraph with phrases a–e.

- 1 When the writer found out that she had a fast heart rate, she
- 2 At the hospital, she discovered that she
- 3 Since she returned from the hospital, she
- 4 It's difficult to know from online information whether a condition
- 5 A lot of online medical information
 - a has been obsessively checking her symptoms online.
 - b googled the possible causes.
 - c isn't very reliable or up to date.
 - d was suffering from a chest infection and cyberchondria.
 - e is rare or very common.

- c The **highlighted** phrases in the article are related to medicine. Match them to definitions 1–7.

- 1 _____ the medical treatment of a heart problem that involves an operation
- 2 _____ successful treatments for an illness that was thought to be impossible to cure
- 3 _____ **IDM** not feeling very well
- 4 _____ exaggerated reports in the news that make people worry
- 5 _____ the most terrible situations that could happen
- 6 _____ the speed at which your heart beats
- 7 _____ an illness that could kill you

Confessions of a cyberchondriac

I'm sure that's what I've got...

- 1** A few weeks ago, I was feeling **under the weather**. After days of intensive internet diagnosis, I finally went to see my doctor. After examining me, she told me that my **heart rate** was a little fast and sent me off to the hospital for some tests. Did I go straight there? Of course not. First I took out my phone, logged on to Google, and found out that the technical term for a fast heart rate is *supraventricular tachycardia*. Then I typed these two words into Google. Sadly, the problem with Dr. Google is that he isn't exactly a comfort in times of crisis. One website immediately scared me with a list of 407 possible causes.
- 2** I raced to the hospital, convinced that I probably needed **open-heart surgery**. Four hours later, I got a diagnosis. I had a chest infection...and a bad case of *cyberchondria*. The only consolation for the latter condition is that I'm in good company. A Microsoft survey of one million internet users last year found that 2% of all searches – a not-insignificant number – were health-related.
- 3** Unfortunately, once you have it, cyberchondria can be hard to cure. Since my trip to the hospital, I have been obsessively checking my pulse, swapping symptoms in chat rooms, and reading all about **worst-case scenarios**. What if the doctors got it wrong? What if the EKG machine was faulty? It's exhausting trying to convince yourself that you might have a **life-threatening illness**.
- 4** The Microsoft study also revealed another serious problem – that online information often doesn't discriminate between common and very rare conditions. One in four of all articles thrown up by an internet search for *headache* suggested a brain tumor as a possible cause. Although it is true that this **may** be the cause, in fact, brain tumors develop in fewer than one in 50,000 people. People also assume that the first answers that come up in searches refer to the most common causes, so if you type in *mouth ulcer* and see that *mouth cancer* has several mentions near the top, you think that it must be very common. However, this is not the case at all.
- 5** Another problem for cyberchondriacs is that online medical information may be from an unreliable source, or out of date. A recent American study showed that 75% of the people who use the internet to look up information about their health do not check where that information came from, or the date it was created. "Once something has been put up on the internet, even if it's wrong, it's difficult to remove," says Sarah Jarvis, a doctor. "This is a problem, especially with **scare stories**, and also with some alternative remedies that claim to be **miracle cures**, but which may actually do you harm." Check the information? Sorry, I don't have time – I'm off to buy a heart-rate monitor!



- d** Now read each paragraph again carefully and choose a, b, or c.
 - The problem with Dr. Google is that the information is ____.
a insufficient b worrying c false
 - Microsoft's survey discovered that ____ searches are about health.
a very few
b a lot of
c the majority of
 - The information the writer has found since coming back from the hospital has ____.
a made her cyberchondria worse
b made no difference to her cyberchondria
c cured her cyberchondria
 - One of the problems with internet searches is that they ____.
a don't rank answers in order of probability
b only focus on common illnesses
c don't always give an answer
 - Most people are unlikely to check ____ health information was posted.
a why and by who
b how and when
c when and by who

- e** In small groups, answer the questions. Ask for and give as much information as possible.

- 1 Do you know anyone who you think is a hypochondriac or a cyberchondriac? What kinds of things do they do?
- 2 Do you think people in your country worry a lot about their...?

blood pressure cholesterol level
digestive system liver

Give examples if you can. Are there other things related to health that they worry about?

6 WRITING

W p.115 **Writing** An informal email
Write an email to a friend explaining that you haven't been well, and saying what you've been doing recently.

Glossary

EKG machine electrocardiogram machine, used to test people's heart rate