

PRONUNCIATION

Contrastive stress

A Read the sentences aloud, paying attention to the contrastive stress on the underlined words.

- 1 Actually, I like a lot of modern art – it's abstract art I have difficulty with.
- 2 Why don't we go to the theatre for a change, since we always go to the cinema?
- 3 Although everyone says the new play is great, I found it quite tedious.
- 4 I don't like opera, but I'm quite keen on ballet.
- 5 While your eyes are drawn to the middle, what happens at the front is more exciting.
- 6 The film was more of a romance than a thriller.
- 7 I much prefer landscape paintings – I'm not a fan of portraits.
- 8 No, I prefer listening to recorded music, not live music.



B Listen to the sentences from Exercise A. Practise saying the sentences in the same way as the speakers do in the recording.

GRAMMAR

Narrative tenses

A Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- 1 The exhibition space *was being prepared* / *was preparing* for the big opening when we arrived.
- 2 I jumped up the moment they *were calling* / *called* my name.
- 3 Everyone *was waiting* / *had waited* in suspense for the result to be announced.
- 4 We didn't stay at our usual hotel because it *was being damaged* / *had been damaged* in a fire the week before.
- 5 I was tired when I got home because I *have had* / *had had* to stay very late at work.
- 6 We *were telling* / *were told* the results would come out the following week.
- 7 Why *wasn't I informed* / *didn't I inform* about the change of plan?
- 8 The road was dangerous because it *had been snowing* / *has been snowing* during the night.

B Find and correct eight mistakes in the text. Sometimes more than one correct answer is possible.

Thursday 23rd May, 2019

THE MEETING

So – big day today. Important meeting with some clients so I had to get to the office early. I got up at five, had a quick cup of coffee and had left the house at 5.20. I got half way to the office when I realised that I had been forgetting my phone. Can you believe it? I drove for at least half an hour already, so I really didn't feel like going back, but I was having no choice. So, that delayed me by about an hour.

And when I finally got to the office, I gave a message that my boss wanted to see me urgently. I ran to her office. I could see through the glass door she talked to my clients, who already arrived. Oh no!

Luckily, she wasn't annoyed and my clients were fine. The meeting went well, and by lunchtime, we have agreed on everything.

