Unit 24

♦ Making Small Talk
♦ Then
♦ Present Perfect Questions
♦ Present Perfect Continuous Questions
SMALL TALK — Part 1

Read the story and answer the questions with complete sentences.

Everyone was having fun at the dance. Teshome asked Christine to dance, but he called her Karen. Christine politely reminded him that her name was Christine. Teshome was embarrassed and he apologized. She told him to call her Chris, for short.

Christine changed the subject and talked about the hot weather. Teshome didn’t think it was hot at all. Where he came from, it was 100 degrees at 8:00 in the morning. They were talking about unimportant things. They were making small talk.

1. Did Teshome remember Christine’s name?

2. How did Teshome feel about his mistake?

3. Did Christine change the subject?

4. What did they talk about next?

5. Did they agree about it?
VOCABULARY

Study these definitions.

- compliment to say something good about someone
- discouraged feeling disappointed
- grateful very thankful
- hilarious very funny
- honor to recognize someone’s excellence
- reduce to make less
- scholarship a grant to cover tuition
- tuition the price of a class

Complete the sentences below with the new vocabulary.

1. The ________________________ at a university is more expensive than at a community college.
2. Henry did very well in school and received a _______________________ to the university. He won’t have to pay tuition.
3. Wilma didn’t do very well on her exams. She doesn’t know if she will get into college. She’s _________________________.
4. You have been so kind to help me. Thank you very much. I’m very _________________________.
5. Sometimes, when students do well, the school will ________________________ them with scholarships for their excellent achievements.
6. That was the funniest movie we’ve seen in a long time. It was absolutely _________________________.
7. A good way to start a conversation, or make small talk, is to _______________________ someone, say something nice about the other person.
8. I’ve decided to go on a diet to ________________________ my weight.
MAKING SMALL TALK
Talking about TV shows

Study the following conversations.

Teshome: Did you see the Barry Sandels show last night?
Christine: No, I didn’t. Was it good?
Teshome: Oh, yes. It was very funny.
Christine: What was it about?
Teshome: Barry sent a love letter to the wrong address.
Christine: That must have been hilarious. I’m sorry I missed it.

Harry: Did you see the basketball game last night?
Jessica: No, I didn’t. How was it?
Harry: Very exciting. It was a close game.
Jessica: Who won?
Harry: The Armadillos won by 2 points.
Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How</th>
<th>won</th>
<th>see</th>
<th>interesting</th>
<th>about</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Was</td>
<td>missed</td>
<td>football</td>
<td>have been</td>
<td>points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Anh: Did you ________________________ the Opal Winnipeg Show yesterday?

Mrs. Lopez: No, I didn’t. ________________________ it good?

Anh: Oh, yes. It was very ________________________.

Mrs. Lopez: What was it ________________________?

Anh: It was about homeless children in Los Angeles.

Mrs. Lopez: That must ________________________ very touching.

I’m sorry I ________________________ it.

Ara: Did you see the ________________________ game last night?

Mr. Ito: No, I didn’t. ________________________ was it?

Ara: It was great.

Mr. Ito: Who ________________________?

Ara: San Francisco won by 3 ________________________.
SMALL TALK — Part 2

Mr. Ito and Jessica just finished dancing. He told her to call him Harry. She told him she thought he was a wonderful dancer, and she asked him what brought him to the dance. He explained that Sonia, his employee, invited him to come and support the school.

Harry asked Jessica if she was a student. She laughed. She was before, but not anymore. Jessica went to adult school and to university extension. While they made small talk, they discovered that they both liked baseball very much. They had a lot in common.

1. Did Jessica compliment Harry Ito?

2. Who invited him to come to the dance?

3. Was Harry a good dancer?

4. Was Jessica still a student?

5. What did they have in common?
**THEN**

- We use *then* to order a sequence of events.

*Study the following examples.*

* First I went to the market.

* *Then* I went home and put away the groceries.

* *Then* I made dinner.
Order this sequence of events. Use then to show what action comes next.

1. First I got out of bed.
2. Then I took a shower.
3. Then
4. _____________________________
5. _____________________________
6. _____________________________
7. _____________________________
8. _____________________________
9. _____________________________
10. _____________________________

I put on my coat. I made my bed. I got out of bed.
I got in my car. I took a shower. I drove to work.
I left the house. I brushed my teeth. I got dressed.
I had breakfast.
HOW HAVE YOU BEEN LATELY?
AND
WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING?

We can use the present perfect and present perfect continuous tenses to ask people how they have been and what they have been doing lately.

Study the following examples.

A: How have you been lately?
B: I’ve been busy.
A: What have you been doing?
B: I’ve been working on my house.

C: How has your husband been?
D: He’s been tired.
C: What has he been doing?
D: He’s been working a lot of overtime.

Complete the conversation using the clues provided.

1. How have you been lately?
   (sleepy) ___________________________________________

2. What have you been doing?
   (staying up late) _____________________________________
3. How have you been lately?
   (very well) _______________________________________________

4. What have you been doing?
   (swimming every day) ________________________________________

5. How have your children been?
   (fine) _____________________________________________________

6. What have they been doing?
   (going to nursery school) _____________________________________

7. How have Bill and Hillary Jones been?
   (very busy) __________________________________________________

8. What have they been doing?
   (traveling) __________________________________________________

9. How have you and your wife been?
   (great) _____________________________________________________

10. What have you been doing?
    (exercising at the gym) _______________________________________
THINK ABOUT IT

Choose one question. Think about it and then write your ideas.

1. Ara doesn’t like making small talk. How about you? Do you like it? Why or why not?
2. Have you ever called someone by the wrong name, or has someone called you by the wrong name? What happened?
3. Have you ever won a prize or some money? What did you do? How did you feel?
Watch the video section called “Focused Listening.”
Then circle the correct answer in each group.

Question 1:  Maria and Mrs. Lopez
1. Because they baked the most cakes.
2. Because they did especially well in their classes.
3. Because they sold the most tickets to the dance.

Question 2:  Teshome
1. For outstanding achievement in Social Studies.
2. For outstanding achievement in E.S.L.
3. Because he has money problems.

Question 3:  Sonia
1. For excellence in television reporting.
2. For continued E.S.L. studies.
3. Because she’s working on reducing her accent.

Question 4:  Mrs. Lopez
1. For outstanding student performance.
2. For outstanding nursing.
3. For continued E.S.L. studies.

Question 5:  Anh
1. Because she’s an excellent mother.
2. Because she knows the flower business inside and out.
3. Because she’s going to take more business classes.
UNIT 24 TEST

Circle the correct answers.

1. When people talk to get to know each other, they are making _________________.
   a. business
   b. small talk
   c. party

2. Did you __________________ the baseball game last night?
   a. see
   b. take
   c. go

3. I didn’t watch the Tommy Jake show yesterday. What was it ________________?
   a. do
   b. good
   c. about

4. ________________, I opened the door. Then the dog ran out.
   a. First
   b. The
   c. Then

5. First, we had dinner. ________________ we went dancing. It was very romantic.
   a. First
   b. Then
   c. The

6. How have you ________________ lately?
   a. are
   b. do
   c. been

7. I ________________ busy lately.
   a. have been
   b. am
   c. was

8. What have you been ________________?
   a. do
   b. did
   c. doing
UNIT 24 TEST

9. I’ve been ____________ a lot of overtime.
   a. work
   b. worked
   c. working

10. How ____________ Joseph been lately?
    a. have
    b. has
    c. is

11. He ____________ extremely busy lately.
    a. has been
    b. is
    c. has

12. What ____________ he been doing?
    a. have
    b. has
    c. is

13. He’s been ____________ on very long business trips.
    a. travel
    b. traveling
    c. traveled

14. Patsy ____________ long hours at the office.
    a. been working
    b. have been working
    c. has been working

15. I ____________ very sad since my girlfriend broke up with me.
    a. have been
    b. has been
    c. been

16. Terrence and Ursula ____________ very happy since they got married.
    a. are
    b. has been
    c. have been
UNIT 24 TEST

17. Arnold ______________________ very excited since he got accepted to college.
   a. is
   b. has been
   c. have been

18. I know it’s difficult. But don’t be _________________. You must try until you succeed.
   a. discouraged
   b. grateful
   c. hilarious

19. The school is proud to _____________________ its best students with college scholarships.
   a. reduce
   b. honor
   c. compliment

20. This scholarship will reduce the cost of the college _____________________.
   a. honor
   b. compliment
   c. tuition
## VOCABULARY
*(page 71)*

1. tuition
2. scholarship
3. discouraged
4. grateful
5. honor
6. hilarious
7. compliment
8. reduce

## HOW HAVE YOU BEEN LATELY?
WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING?
*(pages 77 & 78)*

1. I’ve been sleepy.
2. I’ve been staying up late.
3. I’ve been very well.
4. I’ve been swimming every day.
5. They’ve been fine.
6. They’ve been going to nursery school.
7. They’ve been very busy.
8. They’ve been traveling.
9. We’ve been great.
10. We’ve been exercising at the gym.

## MAKING SMALL TALK
*(page 73)*

1. see
2. Was
3. interesting
4. about
5. have been
6. missed
7. football
8. How
9. won
10. points

## THEN
*(page 76)*

3. Then I got dressed.
4. Then I made my bed.
5. Then I had breakfast.
6. Then I brushed my teeth.
7. Then I put on my coat.
8. Then I left the house.
9. Then I got in my car.
10. Then I drove to work.

## FOCUSED LISTENING
*(page 80)*

Maria and Mrs. Lopez: 3
Teshome: 2
Sonia: 2
Mrs. Lopez: 1
Anh: 3