

6.4 Speaking and writing

GOALS ■ Give and respond to news ■ Present perfect simple with *just, already* and *yet*

Writing & Grammar responding to news on social media

- Which sentence best describes how you use social media? Explain why you use/don't use social media.
 - I regularly post messages and photos on social media.
 - I often use social media, but only to look at other peoples' posts.
 - I never use social media. Life is too short.
- Complete the posts with the expressions in the box.

Best of luck Congratulations Bad luck You lucky thing
Love the pic

Alex Wang is at Wimbledon with 2 others.

7 Likes · 3 Comments

Amy Wang ¹ _____! I'm SO jealous! Have a fab time!

Rob da Souza Have you seen any good matches yet?

Alex Wang No, Rob, I've just got here.

Hanna Paul Interview this afternoon. Wish me luck!

2 Likes · 2 Comments

Joe Bates ² _____! Thinking of you ... (You'll be fine!)

Sophie Goode Fingers crossed, Hanna! xx

Timo Carter Broken my shoulder ☹.

2 Comments

Bill Farrar Ah ... ³ _____! Get better soon.

Sven Jensen Get well soon. Wishing you a speedy recovery.

Hanna Paul Got the job!

19 Likes · 2 Comments

Joe Bates Brilliant! Well done.

Carlo Duarte ⁴ _____! You're a star!

Mark Owen It's only October and winter has already arrived in Moscow!

6 Likes · 2 Comments

Keiko White I can't believe it! Winter already?! Great pic, though.

Helen Webb Yeah ... ⁵ _____!



- Read the posts again. Which expressions are similar to the following?
 - Good luck!
 - Congratulations!
 - I hope you feel better soon.
- The features below are typical of informal style. Underline examples of them in the posts.
 - exclamation marks
 - short forms of words (e.g. *ad* for advertisement)
 - comments in brackets
 - informal expressions
 - missing out words
- We often use the present perfect simple with *just, already* and *yet*. Choose the correct option to complete the rules in the Grammar focus box.

GRAMMAR FOCUS present perfect simple with *just, already* and *yet*

- We use *just* for something which happened very recently. We put it ¹ **before / after** the main verb.
I've just got here.
- We use *already* for something which happened before now or earlier than expected. We usually put it ² **before / after** the main verb.
Winter has already arrived in Moscow!
- We use *yet* in negative sentences and questions, for something we expected to happen before now, or that we plan to do but haven't up to now. We put it at the ³ **beginning / end** of the sentence.
Have you seen any good matches yet?

→ Grammar Reference page 145

- Make sentences from the prompts using the present perfect simple and *already, just* or *yet*.
 - they / not announce / the winner of the competition (yet)
 - the police / arrest / a man for the robbery (already)
 - my brother / get engaged (just)
 - you / start / your new job ? (yet)
 - she / buy / a motorbike (just)
- TASK** Now write three posts for a social media site.
 - something interesting you are doing now
 - something exciting you are going to do very soon
 - something you have just achieved/some good news
- Work in a group and swap your posts. Write responses to other people's posts.

Listening & Speaking giving and responding to news

8a Work with a partner and look at the photos. What has happened?



b 6.14 Listen and match conversations 1–5 to photos a–e.

9a 6.14 Listen again. Tick (✓) the expressions that you hear. Two expressions are not in the conversations.

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 I've got some good news. | 8 Oh no! |
| 2 Oh wow! | 9 What a shame! |
| 3 How wonderful! | 10 Guess what?! |
| 4 What a pity! | 11 That's fantastic! |
| 5 Never mind. | 12 I'm really happy for you. |
| 6 Oh dear. I'm sorry. | 13 That's great news! |
| 7 I've got bad news. | 14 Have you heard the news? |
| | 15 That's awful! |

b Work with a partner. Match the expressions in exercise 9a to these functions.

- a introducing news
- b responding to bad news
- c responding to good news

PRONUNCIATION Intonation in short expressions

Make your voice go higher and lower to sound as if you really mean what you're saying. If you use a flat intonation, it can sound as if you don't really care.

c 6.15 Listen and compare a and b.

a That's fantastic! b That's fantastic.

d 6.16 Listen and repeat the phrases in exercise 9a. Copy the intonation.

10a After we've responded to news, we usually ask a follow-up question, e.g. *How wonderful! What are their names?* or *That's terrible! Are you OK?* Write a response to each piece of news and a follow-up question.

- 1 I've just booked a safari holiday.
- 2 Someone's stolen my brand-new laptop.
- 3 We've decided to get married.
- 4 Another storm has hit the east coast of the USA.

b Work with a partner. Take turns to give the news and respond.

11a TASK Write down three pieces of news (real or invented).

Choose from the topics below.

- you/your family/friends
- your work/college
- national/international news

b Work in a group. Share your news, respond to news that you hear and repeat news you have heard from other classmates. Use the Language for speaking box to help you.

- A Guess what? I've signed up for the New York marathon.
- B Wow! When is it?
- A In November.
- B Have you heard the news? Sasha's going to run the New York marathon.
- C That's fantastic!

LANGUAGE FOR SPEAKING giving and responding to news

Introducing news

*Have you heard the news?
I've got some (good/bad/interesting, etc.) news ...
Guess what?!*

Responding to good news

*How/That's + adjective (e.g. amazing, wonderful)!
I'm really happy for you.
Oh wow!*

Responding to bad news

*Oh no!
How/That's + adjective (e.g. awful, terrible)!
Never mind.
Oh dear. I'm sorry.
What a + noun (e.g. shame, pity, nightmare)!*