

Reading Comprehension and Grammar Focus

Objective:

- Improve students' reading comprehension with tourism-related texts.
- Teach and practice Past Continuous and Future Perfect Continuous grammar structures.

1. Introduction (5 minutes)

- Briefly introduce the class topics: healthy eating benefits vs. fast food, and transportation/travel planning in eastern Ecuador.
- State that the class will also focus on practicing Past Continuous and Future Perfect Continuous.

1st Reading Comprehension Activity (15 minutes)

Topic: *The Benefits of Eating Healthy vs. Typical Fast Food Dishes in the USA*

Reading Passage (excerpt, simplified):

Eating healthy provides a variety of benefits, including better energy levels and a reduced risk of diseases. Many people choose balanced diets that include fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins. On the other hand, typical fast food dishes in the USA, such as hamburgers, hot dogs, and fried chicken, are high in calories and low in nutrients. Last year, many families were visiting fast food chains during busy days when they did not have time to cook meals at home. By next year, researchers will have been studying the long-term effects of fast food on health for decades.

Comprehension Questions:

1. What are two benefits of eating healthy mentioned in the passage?
2. Name three typical fast food dishes in the USA.
3. Why did families visit fast food chains last year?
4. What will researchers have been doing by next year?

Grammar Teaching Section (10 minutes)

Focus:

1. Past Continuous

- *Structure:* Subject + was/were + verb-ing
- *Examples:* “Many families were visiting fast food chains.”
- *Usage:* Describes actions that were ongoing in the past.

2. Future Perfect Continuous

- *Structure:* Subject + will have been + verb-ing
- *Examples:* “By next year, researchers will have been studying.”
- *Usage:* Describes actions that will continue up to a point in the future.

2nd Reading Comprehension Activity (15 minutes)

Topic: *Transportation Used to Travel in Ecuador & Planning a Trip to Eastern Ecuador*

Reading Passage (excerpt, simplified):

Ecuador offers diverse transportation options for travelers. People often use buses, private shuttles, or domestic flights to explore the country. While tourists were traveling in eastern Ecuador last year, they often saw breathtaking views of the Amazon rainforest. For trip planning, tourists should consider transportation services, like guided tours or boat rides, to reach remote areas. By the end of the month, many tourism companies will have been offering new transportation services for a year to improve travel experiences.

Comprehension Questions:

1. What transportation options are commonly used to travel in Ecuador?
2. What did tourists see while they were traveling in eastern Ecuador last year?
3. What transportation services should tourists consider for remote areas?
4. By the end of the month, what will tourism companies have been doing for a year?

Follow-Up Exercise (5 minutes)

Grammar Practice: Fill in the blanks using the correct Past Continuous or Future Perfect Continuous form.

1. While they _____ (explore) eastern Ecuador last summer, they saw unique wildlife.
2. By next year, the eco-lodge _____ (operate) for five years in the Amazon region.
3. The tourists _____ (wait) for the bus when it started raining.
4. By the end of the tour, the guide _____ (talk) for over two hours.

Conclusion

- Recap the key grammar structures.
- Do students have any questions about the reading passages or grammar.

Assignment: Reading Comprehension & Grammar Practice

1. Reading Comprehension Practice

Read the following short passages and answer the questions:

Passage 1: *Healthy snacks, like nuts and fruits, are becoming more popular. Last weekend, children were eating these snacks while playing in the park. By next month, nutritionists will have been recommending healthy eating habits for several years to improve public health.*

- a. What kinds of snacks are becoming more popular?
- b. What were children doing last weekend while eating snacks?
- c. By next month, what will nutritionists have been doing for several years?

Passage 2: *In Ecuador, river transportation is vital for exploring the Amazon region. Last year, many visitors were using canoes to travel between towns. By next summer, boat tour companies will have been expanding their routes to include more remote destinations.*

- a. Why is river transportation important in the Amazon region?
- b. What were visitors using last year to travel between towns?
- c. By next summer, what will boat tour companies have been doing?

2. Grammar Practice: Past Continuous & Future Perfect Continuous

Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb in parentheses.

1. The travelers _____ (wait) for their flight when they heard an announcement about a delay.
2. By next week, the event organizer _____ (plan) the tourism festival for three months.
3. While the chef _____ (prepare) traditional Ecuadorian dishes, the guests admired his skills.
4. By the end of this year, the hotel _____ (offer) special discounts to tourists for six months.

3. Writing Exercise

Write a short paragraph (4-5 sentences) describing a trip you took or would like to take in the future. Use both Past Continuous and Future Perfect Continuous. Example: "Last summer, I was exploring the mountains when I discovered a hidden waterfall. By next year, I will have been planning another hiking adventure to find even more beautiful sights."