



Beginner
English
A1.2

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Beginner English A1.2 Objectives

Question Structure

- ⇒ To learn which auxiliary verb (be or do) is required in present tense questions
- ⇒ To create questions correctly with the correct order

Advanced Cardinal Numbers

- ⇒ To be able to say any cardinal number in English
- ⇒ To use cardinal numbers in their nonspecific plural forms
- ⇒ To use the expression “in the” with cardinal numbers correctly
- ⇒ To create compound adjectives using cardinal numbers
- ⇒ To learn the most common alternative expressions for cardinal numbers
- ⇒ To understand that four-digit numbers can be said in three different ways and know all three of these methods
- ⇒ To avoid the most common mistakes that are made with cardinal numbers
- ⇒ To write numbers correctly in reports or articles according to the academic guidelines

Illnesses and Treatments

- ⇒ To ask somebody about their health using alternative questions to “how are you?”
- ⇒ To respond to the question “how are you?” with a variety of answers
- ⇒ To learn the main medical buildings in English
- ⇒ To know basic illnesses and treatments in English
- ⇒ To hold a basic conversation with a doctor or medical professional in English

Adverbs of Frequency

- ⇒ To learn the most common adverbs of frequency in English and understand their meanings
- ⇒ To pronounce the most common adverbs of frequency correctly
- ⇒ To place an adverb of frequency in the correct position in a sentence

Modal Verb Can

- ⇒ To learn what a modal verb is and how it’s different to a normal verb
- ⇒ To understand all four definitions of the modal verb “can”
- ⇒ To create the affirmative, negative, question and short response forms of this verb
- ⇒ To pronounce the verb correctly in all situations

Physical Descriptions

- ⇒ To learn vocabulary to describe somebody's age, height, weight, hair and facial features in English
- ⇒ To pronounce all these new words to describe physical appearances correctly
- ⇒ To use the correct verbs with physical descriptions
- ⇒ To describe yourself and understand physical descriptions of other people

Personality Adjectives

- ⇒ To learn some basic personality adjectives in English
- ⇒ To pronounce these personality adjectives correctly
- ⇒ To describe your own and others' personalities in English

Adjective Order

- ⇒ To know the ten different types of adjectives in English
- ⇒ To place adjectives in the correct position in a sentence
- ⇒ To place adjectives in the correct order according to the grammar rules

Negative Prefixes

- ⇒ To know what a negative prefix is and how it changes the meaning of an adjective
- ⇒ To know the five most common negative prefixes in English and the situations in which they can be used
- ⇒ To learn the negative prefixes for the most common adjectives in English

Intensifiers

- ⇒ To learn what an intensifier is
- ⇒ To place intensifiers in the correct position in a sentence
- ⇒ To know the most common intensifiers in English and pronounce them correctly

Accessories and Patterns

- ⇒ To learn vocabulary in English to talk about accessories and clothing
- ⇒ To learn vocabulary for patterns in English
- ⇒ To use knowledge of clothes, patterns and adjective order to talk about clothing and accessories in English

The Comparative Form

- ⇒ To learn what the comparative form is and why it is used in English
- ⇒ To learn how to create the comparative form for any adjective in English
- ⇒ To pronounce the comparative form correctly

The Superlative Form

- ☞ To see what the superlative form is and why it is used in English
- ☞ To learn how to convert any adjective in English into its superlative form
- ☞ To use the superlative form confidently in English conversation

Word Stress

- ☞ To define stress and implement the characteristics required for stress
- ☞ To know the rules and correctly stress two-syllable words
- ☞ To know the rules and correctly stress three-syllable words
- ☞ To know which suffixes require a certain word stress pattern and pronounce them correctly
- ☞ To know the rules and correctly stress compound words
- ☞ To correctly identify the word formation depending on the word stress, particularly with two-syllable verbs and nouns
- ☞ To understand how word stress works with prefixes
- ☞ To hear and understand the difference between American and British English variations with words of a French origin and with the ATE suffix
- ☞ To recognise when British and American English native speakers are using alternative word stress patterns

Possessive Pronouns

- ☞ To learn all seven possessive pronouns in English and understand the situations in which they are used
- ☞ To learn the correct pronunciation of all possessive pronouns in English
- ☞ To learn and avoid the most common mistakes made with possessive pronouns in English

Present Simple v Present Continuous

- ☞ To review the forms, structure and uses of the present simple and present continuous tenses
- ☞ To understand the similarities and differences in use of the present simple and present continuous tenses
- ☞ To correctly use both the present simple and present continuous tenses in conversation

Prepositions of Time

- ☞ To learn what a preposition of time is
- ☞ To learn the three prepositions of time in English and the situations in which they can be used
- ☞ To learn key time expressions that are used with the prepositions of time

Daily Routine

- To use 29 new words related to daily routine correctly and to pronounce them correctly
- To talk about my own daily routine
- To understand other people talking about their daily routine
- To know the typical daily routine of the British culture

The Schwa Sound

- To learn what the schwa is
- To pronounce the schwa correctly
- To use the schwa in English words and phrases

The Home

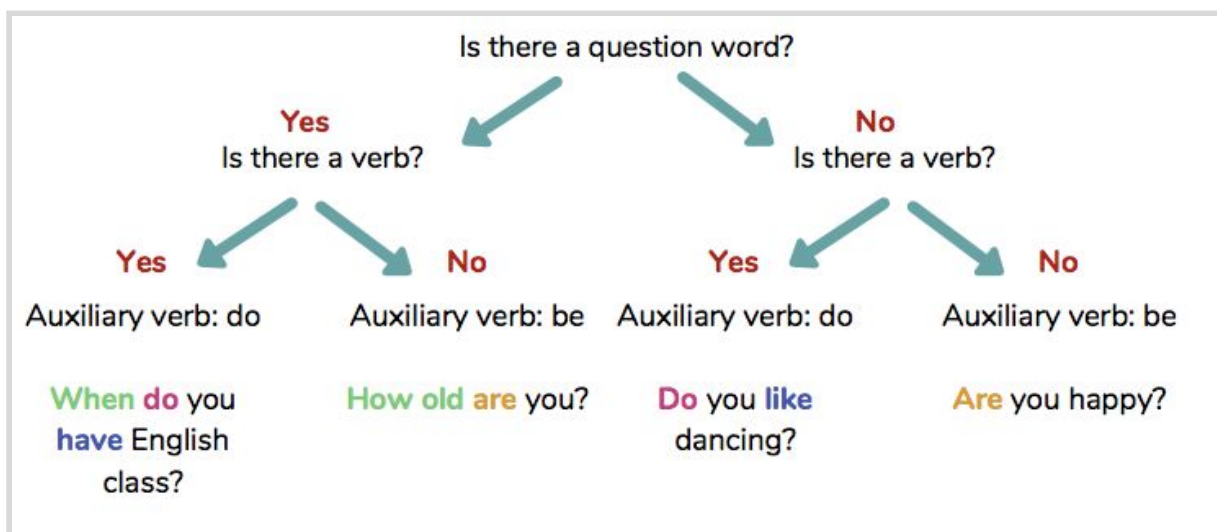
- To learn some basic places around the house in English
- To learn some vocabulary to describe typical things in the house in English and pronounce these words correctly
- To talk about my house in depth in English using relevant vocabulary

Prepositions of Place

- To learn the prepositions of place in English
- To pronounce the prepositions of place correctly in English
- To use prepositions of place correctly in conversation and writing in English

Question Structure

There are many different question words in English and they are all used to ask about specific information. There are two possible auxiliary verbs in the present simple tense (be and do - see tree diagram below). The present continuous tense always uses the auxiliary verb to be.



The typical structure of a question in English is question word + auxiliary verb + subject + main verb. Sometimes we don't have a question word or another verb. To add more information to our question, we can insert a noun (or an adjective for the question word "how") in between the question word and the auxiliary verb for the question words *what*, *which*, *how much* and *how many*. For example, *What activity are you doing? Which car is your favourite? How many people are there?*



Advanced Cardinal Numbers

Plural Numbers

Specific numbers are not plural in English. 6,000 is *six thousand*, not *six thousands*. However, when we use a non-specific number, then we must use the plural form → *hundreds, thousands, millions*.

Using “In The”

This expression is used to say that you don't know a specific number, but you know it lies within a certain range.

Expression	Range	Example
In the teens	Between 13 and 19	<i>I'm not sure how old my niece is, but I know she's in the teens.</i>
In the hundreds	Between 100 and 999	<i>He couldn't remember how much the electricity bill was, but it was definitely in the hundreds.</i>
In the thousands	Between 1,000 and 9,999	<i>I don't know how many people responded to the survey, but I know it was in the thousands.</i>
In the tens of thousands	Between 10,000 and 99,999	<i>The number of cars swept away in the flood was in the tens of thousands.</i>
In the hundreds of thousands	Between 100,000 and 999,999	<i>The death toll was in the hundreds of thousands following the natural disaster.</i>
In the millions	Between 1,000,000 and 9,999,999	<i>The number of people affected by the virus is in the millions.</i>

Adjectives and Numbers

We can convert numbers to an adjective form to describe a specific noun. When we do this, we must insert a hyphen and convert the measurement to the singular form.

The race is twenty-five metres → The twenty-five-metre race.

Alternative Numbers

Digit	Word	Example
2	A couple	<i>I think there are a couple of books on my desk.</i>
	A duo	<i>We sing together as a duo.</i>
	A pair (2 identical things)	<i>I have a pair of aces so I have won the card game!</i>
3	A trio	<i>We are a trio of siblings who run a furniture company.</i>
4	A quartet	<i>There is a quartet of musicians playing in the garden</i>
6	Half a dozen	<i>We need half a dozen eggs to make these pancakes.</i>
10	A decade	<i>We have been together for a decade now.</i>
12	A dozen	<i>There are a dozen eggs in the fridge.</i>
13	A baker's dozen	<i>We cooked a baker's dozen just to be sure we would have enough for our guests.</i>
20	A score	<i>We have a score of patients waiting outside.</i>
100	A century	<i>I can't believe it has been a century since the world war.</i>
1,000	A grand	<i>He earns a grand a month.</i>

Top Tips

- ⇒ To say a number such as “1300”, we can say *one thousand, three hundred* or *thirteen hundred*
- ⇒ For numbers starting with 1, we can say “a” or “an” instead of one. For example *1345 → a thousand, three hundred and forty-five*

Common Mistakes

- ⇒ Don't forget the “and” in numbers
- ⇒ Remember to use commas and points correctly in English
- ⇒ Don't mix up “million” and “billion”
- ⇒ Numbers from 0-9 should be written as full words and numbers higher than this should be written as digits.

Illnesses and Treatments

Questions and Answers

How are you doing?

What's up?

Are you OK?

What's wrong?

What's the matter?

I'm good

I'm well

I'm ill

I'm sick

I'm under the weather

I'm hot

I'm cold

I'm tired

Illnesses

To have a cough

To have a cold

To have stomach ache

To have toothache

To have earache

To have a headache

To have a fever/temperature

To hurt one's leg/arm

To cut one's finger

To fall over

To have a sore throat

To have a sprained ankle

It is sore

It is broken

Medical Buildings

Doctor's

Dentist's

Hospital

Chemist's

Pharmacy

Treatments

To sleep in bed

To drink lots of water

To breathe

Hot water with some honey
and lemon

Strepsils

To take some painkillers

To get some rest

To eat healthily

To brush your teeth

To cool yourself down

To use an ice-pack

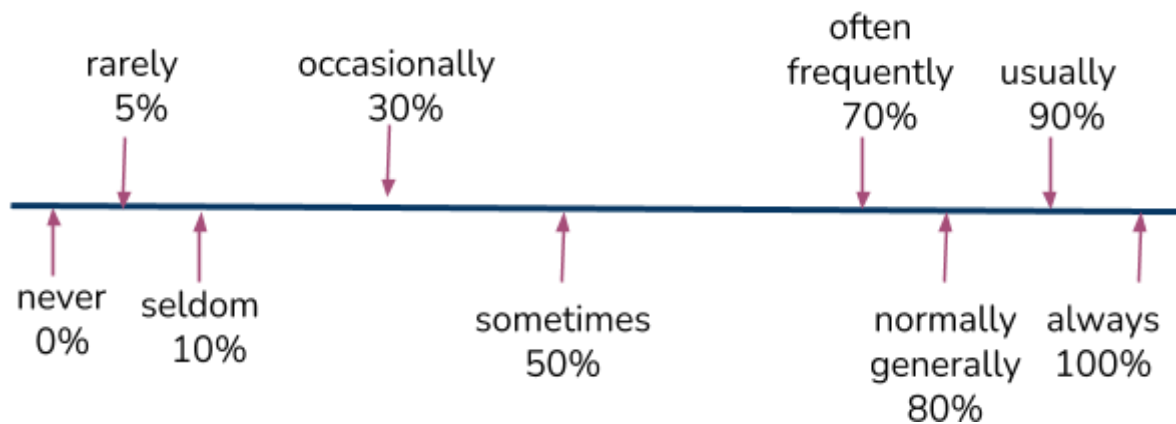
Plaster

Bandage

X-ray

Adverbs of Frequency

Adverbs of frequency tell us the number of times you complete something.



Adverbs of frequency are placed in very specific positions in a sentence.

Rule	Structure	Example
Affirmative	subject + FA + verb	<i>I always dance</i>
Affirmative (long adverb)	FA + subject + verb subject + verb + FA	<i>Three times a week, I dance</i> <i>I dance three times a week</i>
Affirmative (to be)	subject + be + FA + extra	<i>I am always dancing</i>
Negative	subject + neg + FA + extra	<i>He doesn't always work</i> <i>He isn't always working</i> <i>I am not usually happy</i>
Question	verb + subject + FA + extra	<i>Do you always smoke?</i> <i>Are you always smoking?</i>

Modal Verb Can

The modal verb can has four definitions: to have an ability to do something, to ask for/give permission, to talk about the possibility of something, to offer/ask for help.

The form is...

Affirmative	Negative	Question	Short Responses
I can work	I can't work	Can I work?	Yes, I can / No, I can't
You can work	You can't work	Can you work?	Yes, you can / No, you can't
He/she/it can work	He/she/it can't work	Can he/she/it work?	Yes, he can / No, he can't
We can work	We can't work	Can we work?	Yes, we can / No, we can't
They can work	They can't work	Can they work?	Yes, they can / No, they can't

- △ This verb is pronounced **kæn** when it is the only verb in the sentence or you want to emphasise the verb.
- △ This verb is pronounced **kən** in the affirmative and questions.
- △ This verb is pronounced **kɑːnt** in the negative.

Physical Descriptions

Face

To have a round face
To have a square face
To have a long face
To have an oval face

Hair

To have long hair
To have short hair
To have straight hair
To have curly hair
To have wavy hair
To have spiky hair
To be bald
To have red hair
To have blonde hair
To have black hair
To have brown hair
To have grey hair

Adjectives

To be ugly
To be beautiful
To be cute
To be pretty
To be handsome
To be good-looking

Age

To be young
To be middle-aged
To be old

Facial Features

To have a beard
To have a moustache
To wear glasses
To have freckles

Height

To be tall
To be short
To be medium-height

Weight

To be fat
To be thin
To be well-built

Personality Adjectives

Amazing
Angry
Boring
Bossy
Brave
Calm
Charming
Clever
Confident
Cool
Crazy
Famous
Fit
Friendly
Funny
Generous
Happy
Healthy
Intelligent
Jealous
Kind
Lazy
Lovely
Nervous
Nice
Patient
Reliable
Rude
Sad
Serious
Smart
Strange
Strong
Stupid
Sweet

Adjective Order

Adjectives are describing words that can go before a noun or after a linking verb.
Adjectives must go in a very specific order.

- 1) Quantity
- 2) Opinion
- 3) Size
- 4) Physical Quality
- 5) Age
- 6) Shape
- 7) Colour
- 8) Origin
- 9) Material
- 10) Purpose

For example, **this is a beautiful round British wooden table, this is an amazing new cleaning tool, there are three big juicy red apples.**

Negative Prefixes

Negative prefixes are letters that are added to the front of an adjective to change the meaning to the exact opposite. The prefix is part of the word with no space between the prefix and the adjective.

There are five main negative prefixes: un, im, in, il, ir.

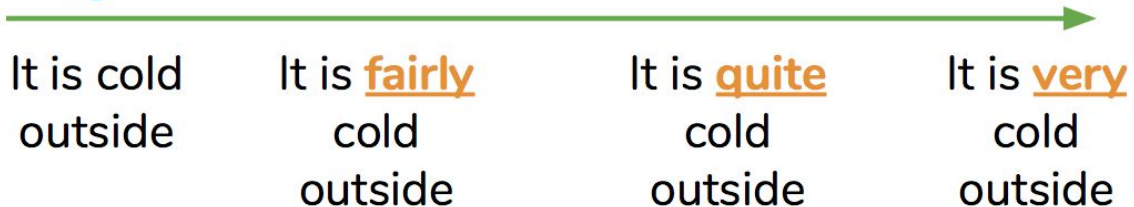
Negative Prefix	UN	IN	IM	IL	IR
Rule	---	Not with IN, I or U	Followed by M or P	Followed by L	Followed by R
Example	unhappy	inaccurate	polite	logical	responsible

Intensifiers

Intensifiers are words that increase the level of an adjective in a sentence. They are usually positioned directly before the adjective. Intensifiers are more informal. For example, *she is very happy, we are extremely excited, they are incredibly sad.*

Strong Intensifiers	Medium Intensifiers	Weak Intensifiers
amazingly exceptionally extremely incredibly particularly really remarkably so very	quite rather unusually	fairly pretty

You can change the intensity of the adjective by using different intensifiers.



Accessories and Patterns

Accessories

belt
bracelet
chain
crown
earring
glove
jewellery
necklace
pocket
purse
ring
swimming costume/ swimsuit
tie
tights
trainers
wallet

Patterns

striped / stripy
spotted / spotty
checked
floral / flowery
tartan
plain

When we describe clothing using more than one adjective, we must use a specific adjective order.

Opinion

Colour

Pattern

Material

For example: *I have some nice black and white stripy socks, I have some comfortable red and white spotty shoes.*

The Comparative Form

The comparative form is a grammatical structure that applies to adjectives. It is used to compare two nouns using one adjective.

The structure is ...



Rule		Example
1-syllable *Ends in E *Ends in CVC	+ ER + R + Double C + ER	old → older large → larger big → bigger
3-syllables	more + adjective	comfortable → more comfortable
2-syllables *Ends in Y *Ends in ED/FUL/ING/LESS/AL/IVE/OUS	either + ER or more + adj eliminate Y + IER more + adj	clever → cleverer/more clever happy → happier tired → more tired
Irregular adjectives	good → better bad → worse far → further/farther many → more little → less	

To say two nouns are equal, we use the structure AS + BASIC ADJECTIVE + AS.

The Superlative Form

The superlative form is a grammatical structure that applies to adjectives. It is used to compare three or more nouns using one adjective. It suggests that one noun has the highest scale of the adjective..

Rule		Example
1-syllable *Ends in E *Ends in CVC	+ EST + ST + Double C + EST	old → oldest large → largest big → biggest
3-syllables	most + adjective	comfortable → most comfortable
2-syllables *Ends in Y *Ends in ED/FUL/LESS/ING/IVE/OUS	either + EST or most + adj eliminate Y + IEST most + adj	clever → cleverest/most clever happy → happiest tired → most tired
Irregular adjectives	good → best bad → worst far → furthest/farthest many → most little → least	

Word Stress

Word stress is when we make a louder and longer sound, have a higher pitch, make a clearer and more enunciated sound and use more facial movement on one syllable within an entire word. This will always be on a vowel.

Rule	Example
2-syllable nouns and adjectives stress the first syllable	<u>b</u> ottle
2-syllable verbs and prepositions stress the second syllable	be <u>g</u> in
2-syllable words ending in ER or EN stress the first syllable	<u>l</u> isten
3-syllable words ending in ER or LY stress the first syllable	<u>ma</u> nager
Words ending in ABLE, CIAN, ERY, IAL, IAN, IBLE, IC, ICS, IENT, ION, IOUS, ISH, OSIS, SION or TION stress the penultimate syllable	dra <u>ma</u> tic
Words ending in ADE, EE, EER, ESE, ETTE, QUE or OON stress the suffix	le <u>mo</u> nade
Words ending in AL, CY, GYP, PHY or TY stress the third-from-end syllable	dem <u>o</u> cracy
Compound nouns stress the first syllable	<u>h</u> airbrush
Compound adjectives stress the second syllable	old- <u>f</u> ashioned
Compound verbs stress the last syllable	under <u>st</u> and

- There are also some differences in word stress between the British and American variations.
- When words originate from the French language, British speakers tend to stress the first syllable whilst American speakers tend to stress the last syllable.
- When words end in ATE, British speakers tend to stress this suffix whilst American speakers tend to stress the first syllable instead.
- There are also other words where British and American variations have different word stress.

Possessive Pronouns

Possessive pronouns are small words that indicate somebody has possession of an object. This object must have been mentioned previously in the sentence.

Possessive Pronouns
mine
yours
his
hers
its
ours
theirs



LOOK OUT

- ⚠ Don't use "the" before possessive pronouns
- ⚠ Don't mix up possessive pronouns and possessive adjectives. Possessive pronouns are used to replace a previously mentioned noun. Possessive adjectives are immediately before a noun and introduce this noun for the first time.
- ⚠ Don't make possessive pronouns plural with plural nouns
- ⚠ Don't use apostrophes with possessive pronouns
- ⚠ Don't mix up the gender of possessive pronouns

Present Simple v Present Continuous

Present simple and present continuous tenses are used to express something in the present time.

Present Simple	Present Continuous
Personal Information <i>My name is Hannah</i>	Right now <i>I am teaching you</i>
Facts and Truths <i>The world is round</i>	Processes <i>I'm studying to become a teacher</i>
Habits <i>I play tennis every Saturday</i> <i>*This event never changes</i>	Before and After <i>At 7am, I'm normally having a shower</i> <i>*Flexibility in the time of the event</i> <i>*Flexibility in the routine</i> <i>*Often used with adverbs of frequency</i>
Future Events <i>She has English class tomorrow</i> <i>*Scheduled and timetabled event</i> <i>*Pre-planned and organised</i>	Future Events <i>My mum is visiting me on Saturday</i> <i>*Not scheduled event</i> <i>*Involve other people</i>
Stative Verbs <i>She wants chocolate</i>	Chocolate in State <i>The children are growing up so quickly</i>

Prepositions of Time

Prepositions of time help us express a specific time expression. There are three prepositions of time: IN, ON and AT. They are used in very specific situations.

IN	ON	AT
Years Months Decades Centuries Eras Periods of Time Seasons Time of the Day	Days Dates 1 day Specific Events	Time Specific Time of Day Mealtimes Holiday Period



LOOK OUT

Not every expression of time requires a preposition of time. For **example**, **tomorrow**, **yesterday**, **today**, **next**, **last**, **this** and **every** do not require a preposition of time.

Daily Routine

To brush somebody's hair
To brush somebody's teeth
To commute
To cook
To do exercise
To do somebody's homework
To drive
To feed somebody's pet
To get dressed
To get up
To go to bed
To go to school
To go to sleep
To go to work
To go to the gym
To have a bath
To have a shower
To have breakfast
To have dinner
To have lunch
To leave work
To meet somebody's friends
To put somebody's makeup on
To read the newspaper
To travel to work
To wake up
To walk somebody's dog
To watch TV
To work

The Schwa Sound

The schwa is a common phonetic sound in English written like this: /ə/. It is a weak form, so it replaces vowels when we want to speak quickly and more fluently.

To create the schwa sound, the jaw is dropped, the tongue is at the bottom of the mouth and the lips are relaxed. Any English vowel can be replaced by a schwa, but it will only ever appear in a non-stress syllable.

Typical endings that are normally replaced with the schwa sound are:

- AR (sugar)
- ER (brother)
- OR (actor)
- OUR (colour)
- OUS (nervous)
- URE (picture)

The Home

The Home

entrance
lift /elevator
basement
conservatory
guest-house
utility room
gas
electricity
Internet / wifi
lights
ceiling
heating

Typical Objects

box
card
cupboard
diary
envelope
letter
magazine
newspaper
painting
postbox
poster
radiator
shelf
stamp
step

Useful Phrases

I live in an apartment
I live in a flat
I live in a semi-detached house
I live in a terrace house
There are ... rooms in my house
My favourite room is ...
My house is tidy
My house is messy
I get on well with my neighbours
I don't get on well with my neighbours
I have never met my neighbours
My dream house is ...

Prepositions of Place

Prepositions of place are small words that help us explain the location of an object.
Prepositions of place go directly before the object you are describing.

behind
in front of



on top of
under



next to



in between
in the middle of



above
below



in
inside



opposite



here



there

