

English Basics: A Practical Guide



01

NOUNS

Nouns are the names we give to everything around us — people, places, and things. Let's discover the different types of nouns and how they function in English.

Nouns

- **Nouns are like labels.**

People: friend, teacher, doctor, Maria

Places: city, park, school, Brazil

Things: book, table, car, sunshine

Animals: dog, cat, bird, otter

Ideas: love, happiness, democracy, language

- **Types of Nouns**

There are different types of nouns, each with its own role:

Common Nouns: general names for things.

car, house, city, dog

Proper Nouns: specific names for people, places, days of the week or things. **We always capitalize proper nouns.**

John, São Paulo, Toyota, Monday

Countable Nouns: things we can count.

one apple, two books, three chairs

Uncountable Nouns: things we cannot count.

water, sugar, music, information

Nouns

- **Using Nouns in Sentences**

Nouns can do different jobs in a sentence:

Subject: The noun that does the action.

The dog barked.

Object: The noun that receives the action.

The girl petted the cat.

- **Tips for Using Nouns**

Articles: Use "a" or "an" before singular countable nouns.

Use "**the**" before specific nouns.

a book, an apple;

the car, the teacher

Plurals: We usually add **-s** to make a plural noun:

book	>	books
school	>	schools
friend	>	friends

However, some other plurals depend on the last letters of the word, and there are also irregular plurals.

Take a look at other plurals on the next page!

Countable Nouns

Plural Count Nouns

- We add **-es** to nouns ending in **-s, -ch, -sh, -ss, -x** and **-o**:

class	>	classes
watch	>	watches
gas	>	gases
wish	>	wishes
box	>	boxes
potato	>	potatoes

- Nouns **ending** in a **consonant** and **-y**, we make the plural with **-ies**:

lady	>	ladies
country	>	countries
party	>	parties

- If a noun **ends** in a **vowel** and **-y**, we simply **add -s**:

boy	>	boys
day	>	days
play	>	plays

- If a noun **ends** in **-f** or **-fe** we form their plural by changing the “**f**” or **-fe** to **-v** and **adding -es**.

scarf	>	scarves
knife	>	knives
wife	>	wives

Countable Nouns

Irregular Plurals

- Not all nouns conform to the standard pattern. There are no strict rules to guide our use of them.

Here's a few of some common irregular ones:

man	>	men
woman	>	women
child	>	children
mouse	>	mice
foot	>	feet
tooth	>	teeth
person	>	people
fish	>	fish or fishes
cactus	>	cacti, cactus or cactuses



Uncountable nouns

- They do not typically have plural forms.

Substances: water, air, sugar, rice

Abstract ideas: happiness, love, information, advice

Activities: homework, sleep, travel

Natural phenomena: rain, sunshine, weather

Articles: Uncountable nouns are often used **without articles** (a, an) or **with the article "some."**

I need information.

Would you like **some** coffee?

Quantifiers: To express amounts of uncountable nouns, we use words like "**some**," "**much**," "**a lot of**," "**a little**," or **specific measurements**.

I drank **a lot of** water.

She has **a little** sugar in her tea.

He bought **two liters of** milk.

There's not **much** pasta left for us to eat.

Remember -> “much” for noncount nouns and “many” for count nouns.

Exercises

Ex. 1: Categorize

Place the following nouns in the correct category:

apple, advice, music, chair, book, water, happiness, money, sand,
car

Count Nouns:

Uncount Nouns:

Ex. 2: Correct the Errors

Identify and correct any errors related to count/noncount nouns in these sentences:

She gave me a good advices.

I need some informations about the flight.

Can I have two waters, please?

He doesn't have many furnitures.

They bought a new dinner table with eight beautiful chair.

Exercises

Ex. 3: Fill in the Blanks

Complete the sentences with the appropriate article “a/an” or “some”:

I need _____ apple for my lunch.

Please give me _____ water.

He gave me _____ good advice.

Can I borrow _____ pen?

Would you like _____ milk in your coffee?

Ex. 4: Quantifiers

Choose the correct quantifier for each sentence:

We don't have _____ time left. (much/many)

There are _____ cars in the parking lot. (much/many)

She has _____ friends. (a lot of/a lot)

I need _____ help with my homework. (a little/a few)

Would you like _____ tea? (some/any)

02

PRONOUNS

Pronouns can be used to refer to people, animals or objects.

They help to avoid repetition and make sentences easier to understand.

Let's begin with some common types of pronouns.

Personal Pronouns

Subject pronouns

I / You / He / She / It / We /
You / They

- Used in the beginning of sentences
- Always before the verb!

I like your dress.

You are late for class.

He is my friend.

She is on holiday.

It is raining.

We live in England.

You are both on the same team.

They come from London.



Hello! I am Otto, the otter.

Who are you?

Personal Pronouns

Object pronouns

me / you / him / her / it / us
/ you / them

- Used in the end of sentences
- Always after the verb or a preposition!

Can you help me, please?

I can see you.

She doesn't like him.

I saw her in town today.

We saw them at the bar yesterday, but they
didn't see us.

- After prepositions:

She is waiting for me.

I'll get it for you.

Why are you looking at her?

Don't take it from us.

I'll speak to them.

Personal Pronouns

Possessive pronouns

mine / yours / his / hers /
ours / theirs

- Express ownership, possession
- Always after the verb!

Instead of saying:

Your cat is bigger than my cat.

Say:

Your cat is bigger than mine.

Replacing “my cat” with “mine” avoids repeating the word “cat.”

Other examples:

That is your house, and this one is ours.

My brother’s car is faster than mine.

This is not my jacket. It’s his.

I enjoyed my dessert, but Tina and Jay didn’t enjoy theirs.

Personal Pronouns

Subject, Objects and Possessive Pronouns table

	Subject	Object	Possessive
Singular	I	me	mine
	You	you	yours
	He	him	his
	She	her	hers
	It	it	its
Plural	We	us	ours
	You	you	yours
	They	them	theirs



Personal Pronouns

He/him, She/her & They/them

- **He/him** for a **man**
- **She/her** for a **woman**
- **They/them** for a group of **men or women**; **not sure**; **institutions and organizations**

This is **Jack**. **He's** my brother. I don't think you have met **him**.

This is **Angela**. **She's** my sister. Have you met **her** before?

These are **John and Ella**. **They're** my cousins. Have you met **them** before?

You could go to a **doctor**. **They** might help you.

Talk to a **friend**. Ask **them** to help you.

They serve good food here. (**they** = the restaurant)

Ask **them** for a better seat on the plane. (**them** = the airline)

- Especially talking about the **government** and **authorities**:

They don't let you smoke in here.

They are going to increase taxes.

They are building a new football stadium.

Personal Pronouns

You

- You for people in general

You can buy this book everywhere. = This book is on sale everywhere.

You can't park here. = Parking is not allowed here.

It

- It to talk about ourselves:

On the telephone: Hello. It's George.

When other people cannot see us:

Hey, it's me. It's Mary.
(Mary is knocking on the door.)

- It to talk about other people:

When we point people out for the first time:

Look. It's Paul McCartney.
Who's that? I think it's John's brother.

When we cannot see someone and we ask them for their name:

Hello. Who is it? (answering the phone)
Who is it? (before opening the door)

Exercises

Ex. 1: Choose the correct pronoun to complete each sentence.

- 1) My brother and _____ are going to the cinema tonight.
Would you like to join _____?
 - a) I, us
 - b) me, us
- 2) _____ am not sure if _____ will be able to finish the project on time.
 - a) I, I
 - b) Me, I
- 3) Sarah and _____ are planning a surprise party for Tom.
Please don't tell _____!
 - a) I, him
 - b) me, him
- 4) _____ asked my neighbor to feed the cat while _____ am away.
 - a) I, I
 - b) Me, me



Exercises

5) _____ found this wallet on the floor. Does it belong to _____?

- a) I, you
- b) Me, you

6) Our friends invited _____ to their wedding. _____ haven't decided if _____ will go yet.

- a) us, we, we
- b) we, us, we

7) The teacher asked _____ to complete the assignment by Friday.

- a) we
- b) us

8) _____ think _____ left my keys in the car. Could you help _____ look for them?

- a) I, I, me
- b) Me, I, me

Exercises

Ex. 2: Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

- 1) Is that _____ on the phone? I've been expecting your call.
 - a) you
 - b) it you
 - c) you is it
- 2) Hi there! _____, Jessica. Let me in!
 - a) Is it me
 - b) It's
 - c) It's me
- 3) Who's knocking at the door? _____ Sarah?
 - a) Is it
 - b) Is
 - c) It is
- 4) Can you guess who _____? I'll give you a hint: we went to school together.
 - a) is this
 - b) it is
 - c) this is

Personal Pronouns

Reflexive pronouns

myself / yourself / himself /
herself/ ourselves / yourselves
themselves

- Refer back to the subject of the sentence
- Always after the verb!
- Cannot be removed from the sentence!



The otter can see **itself** on the water.



I told **myself** to calm down.

You cut **yourself** on this nail?

He hurt **himself** on the stairs.

She found **herself** in a dangerous part of town.

The cat threw **itself** under my car!

We blame **ourselves** for the fire.

The children are old enough to take care of **themselves**.

Personal Pronouns

Intensive pronouns

myself / yourself / himself /
herself/ ourselves / yourselves
themselves

- Only used to emphasize the subject
- Can be removed from the sentence
- Immediately after the subject, or at the end of the sentence

I made these cookies **myself**.

You **yourself** asked Jake to come.

The Pope **himself** pardoned Mr. Brown.

My teacher didn't know the answer **herself**.

The test **itself** wasn't scary, but my teacher certainly is.

We would like to finish the renovation before Christmas
ourselves.

They **themselves** told me the lost shoe wasn't a problem.

Indefinite Pronouns

Indefinite pronouns

- Don't refer to a specific person, place or thing

We form these pronouns using **4 prefixes** and **3 suffixes**.

Prefixes: every / some / any / no

Suffixes: body (for people) / where (for places) / thing (for things)

Some + body = Somebody

Somebody left their keys on the table.

Nobody wants to go to the party alone.

Is there **anything** else I can help you with?

Everyone deserves a second chance.

Something smells delicious in the kitchen.

Would you like **anything** to drink?

Indefinite Pronouns

Indefinite Pronouns Table

	People	Place	Thing
All	everyone/everybody	everywhere	everything
Part (Positive)	someone/somebody	somewhere	something
Part (Negative)	anyone/anybody	anywhere	anything
None	No one/nobody	nowhere	nothing

- We place these pronouns in the same location as a noun would go in the sentence:

Noun	Indefinite pronoun
I would like to go to Paris this summer.	I would like to go somewhere this summer.
Jim gave me this book.	Someone gave me this book.
I won't tell your secret to Sam .	I won't tell your secret to anyone .
I bought my school supplies at the mall.	I bought everything at the mall.

Everybody hates Chris.

*That's
impossible!
I'm super
likeable!*



Exercises

Ex.1 – Choose the correct word to complete each sentence.

**myself, yourself, himself, herself, itself,
ourselves, yourselves, themselves**

- 1) I like to challenge _____ with difficult puzzles.
- 2) The computer restarted _____ after the update.
- 3) You should be proud of _____ for your achievements.
- 4) They enjoyed _____ at the amusement park.
- 5) She taught _____ how to play the guitar.
- 6) We built this treehouse _____ last summer.
- 7) The cat groomed _____ in the sun.
- 8) Did you hurt _____ while playing sports?
- 9) He needs to believe in _____ more.
- 10) We can cook dinner _____ tonight.

Exercises

Ex.2 – Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

- 1) I looked _____ for my keys, but I couldn't find them.
 - a) somewhere
 - b) everywhere
- 2) _____ told me that the concert was canceled.
 - a) Somebody
 - b) Anybody
- 3) There's _____ quite like a warm cup of tea on a rainy day.
 - a) nothing
 - b) anything
- 4) I'm so hungry, I could eat _____!
 - a) anything
 - b) something
- 5) The party was a disaster. _____ had a good time.
 - a) Nobody
 - b) Anybody
- 6) I'm looking for _____ quiet to study. Can you recommend a place?
 - a) somewhere
 - b) anywhere

03

VERBS

Verbs are action words – they tell us what is happening, what someone is doing, or how things are changing.

Let's explore the different types of verbs and how they bring our sentences to life in English.

Verbs

The Action Words

Verbs are the words that tell us what someone or something is doing or being.

They're the heart of a sentence, giving it energy and meaning.

Types of Verbs

1. **Actions:** These verbs describe physical or mental activities. They show what someone or something is *doing*.

The dog **barked**.

She **wrote** a letter.

We **laughed** at the joke.

2. **States of Being/Linking Verbs:** These verbs connect the subject of a sentence to a word or phrase that describes or identifies it. They show what someone or something *is* or *is like*.

The cat **is** fluffy.

He **seems** happy.

They **were** tired after the race.

Verbs

- 2. **Occurrences:** These verbs describe events or changes that happen. They show what *happens* or how something *becomes*.

The accident **happened** quickly.

The caterpillar **became** a butterfly.

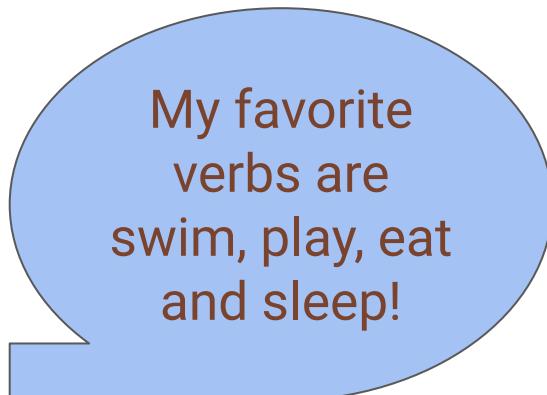
The project **developed** slowly.

- 3. **Modals:** These verbs don't describe actions themselves. Instead, they change the meaning of other verbs, expressing possibility, ability, necessity, or permission. They show what someone or something *can*, *may*, *must*, *shall*, or *will* do.

She **can** sing beautifully.

We **must** finish the work on time.

You **may** leave early if you want.



Verbs

Infinitive

- The base form of a verb is called the infinitive. It is formed adding "to" to the verb.

to be, to eat, to drink, to dream, to walk,
to drive, to jump, to buy, to sell, to see

- This form doesn't indicate any specific tense (past, present or future).
- How to use infinitive verbs:

As the subject of a sentence: "To swim is my favorite activity."

As the complement of a sentence: "Her goal is to win the championship."

Here, "to win" is functioning as the complement of the subject "Her goal."

As the object of a verb: "I want to go."

In this sentence, "to go" is functioning as the object of the main verb "want."

After certain adjectives: "She is desperate to learn."

"To learn" follows the adjective "desperate" to complete the idea.

Verbs

Using Verbs in Different Tenses

To demonstrate when an action takes place, verbs are conjugated into different tenses.

The three primary tenses are **past**, **present**, and **future**.

Present Tense: describes actions happening now or regularly.

Simple Present: used for habitual actions or general truths.

"She **walks** to school every day."

Present Continuous: used for actions happening right now.

"She **is walking** to school."

Past Tense: describes actions that have already happened.

Simple Past: used for actions completed in the past.

"She **walked** to school yesterday."

Past Continuous: used for actions that were happening at a specific time in the past.

"She **was walking** to school when it started to rain."

Future Tense: describes actions that will happen.

Simple Future: Used for actions that will occur.

"He **will walk** to school tomorrow."

Future Continuous: used for actions that will be happening at a specific time in the future.

"He **will be walking** to school at 8 AM."

Verbs

Let's imagine this is the time now:



At 10:00 the otters were grooming themselves.

Otters groom their fur to help them stay warm.



At 14:00 the Otter is swimming. River otters are incredible swimmers.

They can dive up to 60 feet and stay underwater for as long as four minutes.



Otters spend eight hours a day feeding.

They eat 1/4 of their weight every day
So at about 17:00 the otter will be eating something.



Giant otters are strictly diurnal, so at around 20:00 the otter will be sleeping, getting ready for the next day.



Verbs

Conjugation

Conjugation is the process of changing the form of a verb to reflect tense, mood, number, and person.

In English, this often involves adding endings or auxiliary verbs ("is," "was," "will").

Examples:

Present: "I walk," "She walks", "He is walking"

Past: "I walked," "They walked", "She was walking"

Future: "I will walk," "He will walk"

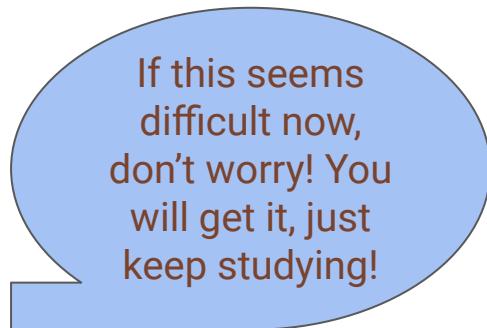
Regular vs. Irregular Verbs

Regular Verbs: Follow a consistent pattern when conjugated.

"talk" becomes "talked" in the past tense.

Irregular Verbs: Do not follow a consistent pattern and must be memorized.

"go" becomes "went" in the past tense.



Exercises

Ex. 1: Identify the tense in each sentence.

The tenses you should identify are: Simple Present, Present Continuous, Simple Past, Past Continuous, Simple Future, and Future Continuous.

She walks to school every day. _____

They are eating dinner right now. _____

He watched a movie last night. _____

We were studying when the power went out. _____

I will visit my grandparents next week. _____

She will be driving to work at 8 AM tomorrow. _____

The dog barks loudly every morning. _____

I am reading a fascinating book. _____

They played soccer in the park yesterday. _____

He was sleeping when the alarm went off. _____

Exercises

Ex .2 : Conjugate the given verbs in the specified tense.

(to eat) Simple Present: She _____ breakfast every morning.

(to run) Present Continuous: They _____ in the park right now.

(to read) Simple Past: He _____ the book last night.

(to watch) Past Continuous: We _____ TV when you called.

(to travel) Simple Future: She _____ to Japan next month.

(to work) Future Continuous: I _____ on the project at this time tomorrow.

(to study) Simple Present: He _____ for his exams every evening.

(to play) Present Continuous: The children _____ in the garden.

(to write) Simple Past: She _____ a letter to her friend.

(to sleep) Past Continuous: They _____ when the storm started.

04

SENTENCES

The building blocks of communication. Sentences help us express ideas, ask questions, and tell stories.

Let's explore the essential parts of a sentence and how to put them together to create clear and meaningful messages.

Sentences

- We combine a subject with a verb to form a sentence.
- Most verbs need a complement for the verb and sentence to have a complete meaning.

Take a look:

I like chocolate cake.

I (subject) + like (verb) + chocolate cake (complement)

Examples:

★ These are all affirmative sentences.

I swim three times a week.

He plays basketball in the NBA.

She goes to the park every Monday.

The dog loves to run in the grass.

They enjoy listening to loud music.



Negative Sentences

- **To negate a sentence:**

- If it has an **auxiliary verb**, add 'not' after it
- If it **only has a main verb**, add 'do', 'does', or 'did' before the main verb, then add 'not'

With an auxiliary verb:

She **can** swim. => She **cannot** swim.

With a main verb:

I **eat** apples. => I **do not eat** apples.

Examples:

I **don't feel** very good.

You **don't seem** tired, let's go for a run.

He **doesn't know** how to drive.

She **doesn't enjoy** reading fiction.

It **doesn't rain** much in summer.

We **don't play** soccer on Sundays.

You **don't need** to bring anything.

They **don't live** far from the beach.

Negative Sentences

- Remember Indefinite Pronouns?

Negative sentences can be formed using the indefinite pronouns with “**any**”.

I don't have **anything** to eat.

She didn't go **anywhere** last week.

I can't find **anyone** to come with me.

Is there **anybody** out there? - Pink Floyd, The Wall

Watch out!

Many negative sentences with the indefinite pronoun **any** can be turned into affirmative sentences with a negative meaning by using an indefinite pronoun with **no**.

However, there is a change in meaning with this transformation:

Using the indefinite pronoun with no is stronger, and can imply emotional content such as defensiveness, hopelessness, anger, etc.

I don't know **anything** about it. = **neutral**

I know **nothing** about it. = **defensive**

I don't have **anybody** to talk to. = **neutral**

I have **nobody** to talk to. = **hopeless**

There wasn't **anything** we could do. = **neutral**

There was **nothing** we could do. = **defensive/angry**

Negative sentence with any => Affirmative sentence with no

Questions

- **To form questions in English:**

With an auxiliary verb:

Move the auxiliary verb to the beginning of the sentence.

Affirmative: She can swim.

Question: Can she swim?

With a main verb:

Insert 'do', 'does', or 'did' at the beginning of the sentence, followed by the subject, and then the base form of the main verb.

Affirmative: You like apples.

Question: Do you like apples?

Questions

The five interrogative pronouns are

What - Which - Who - Whose - Whom

What: used to ask questions about **things**:

What is that? Is it a dog or a fox?

What do you want, tea or coffee?

Who: used to ask questions about **people**:

Who is that? Is that George?

Who lives here?

Who did you see?

Whose: used to ask about **possession**:

Whose coat is this?

or

Whose is this coat?

Whose book is that?

or

Whose is that book?

Whose bags are those?

or

Whose are those bags?

Which: used to ask someone to **choose something**:

Which came first, the chicken or the egg?

I've got two books. Which do you want?

We can also use **what** and **which** with **nouns**:

What subjects did you study at school?

Which newspaper do you read – The Times or The Guardian?

Which book do you want?

Which one is yours?

05

READING

It's a skill that empowers you to learn, connect with others, and expand your horizons. Let's discover tips, techniques, and strategies to enhance your comprehension and enjoyment.

Comprehension

Read the text.

The Sibling Effect

1 We don't always get on well with our brothers and sisters – but we get a lot of benefits from them. Research shows that siblings have a big effect on our personalities – and in general, it's a good effect.

2 When you're young, you argue with your brothers and sisters. It's part of life. (1)..... Why? Because you learn important skills from these arguments. And according to research, you don't get these skills from friends, only from siblings.

3 A big brother or sister is also an advantage at school. According to research, when your big brother or sister does well at school, you do well too. (2)..... They can also give you important information about your school and your teachers. The research shows that a big brother or sister can bring you an extra 4% in your exams! (And for children from poor families, it's 11%)

4 Some benefits are only true when your sibling is a girl. For example, according to research at the University of Ulster, in Northern Ireland, boys with sisters are usually good at talking about emotions. This helps them to be happy, because when they feel worried about something, they can share their feelings. (3).....

5 But what about stepbrothers and stepsisters? (4)..... The answer is: yes, they do – but only when they are part of the family for six years or more.

Comprehension

Read the text. Match paragraphs 1 - 5 with the headings below (a - e).

- (a) Educational advantages
- (b) Step-siblings
- (c) Introduction
- (d) Girl power
- (e) Learning important skills

Now try to match gaps (1 - 4) in the text with sentences (A - E). Watch out! There is one extra sentence.

- (A) This is because they help you with homework.
- (B) Boys with sisters are also good at talking to girls.
- (C) Do they offer the same advantages?
- (D) Nobody is very keen on arguments, but in fact, they can be a good thing.
- (E) Do you get on well with your brother or sister?

Comprehension

Read the text and choose true (T) or false (F) for statements 1 - 8.

Famous friends

Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson are two very famous detectives. They appear in the books by the writer Arthur Conan Doyle. Watson first meets Holmes when Holmes is looking for a person to share his flat at 221B Baker Street. The two men like each other, so they decide to live together.

Holmes and Watson are about the same age, but they look quite different. Holmes is tall and thin with dark hair. Watson is neither tall nor thin and he has fair hair. He also has a moustache. The two men are also quite different in character. Holmes is a very private person, and he has a lot of secrets. Watson is the opposite. He's friendly, open and honest.

The two men soon become good friends. At first, Watson doesn't know that Holmes is a detective. When a lot of strange people start to visit the flat, Watson asks Holmes about them. Holmes tells him about his work.

The two men have a housekeeper called Mrs Hudson, who does the housework. Holmes spends most of his time doing detective work. Watson works as a doctor, but he helps Holmes in his free time. He isn't as intelligent as Holmes, but he knows a lot about medicine, and Holmes doesn't. Holmes and Watson are single when they first meet. Later, Watson gets married, and he goes to live with his wife. But he still sees Holmes and they continue working together. Watson goes back to live with Holmes when his wife dies. In Conan Doyle's stories, the two friends solve more than 60 crimes together.

Exercises

Choose true (T) or false (F) for statements 1 - 8.

- 1 The two men don't look very different.
- 2 Holmes doesn't like talking about himself.
- 3 Watson knows that Holmes is a detective before he goes to live with him.
- 4 Mrs Hudson does most of the cooking and cleaning for Holmes and Watson.
- 5 Watson helps Holmes with his detective work, but he also has another job.
- 6 Watson is useful to Holmes because he is a doctor.
- 7 Holmes is married, but he doesn't live with his wife.
- 8 Watson lives in the Baker Street flat in all of the Sherlock Holmes stories.

Comprehension

Read the text and answer the questions about it.

TV DINNERS

Lee Chang-hyun lives in Seoul, the capital of South Korea, and he has a very unusual job. He starts work at midnight. He sits in front of his computer, connects to the internet, and starts to eat. He doesn't eat quietly – he makes lots of noise! While he eats, people can watch a live video of his meal online. And every day, about 10,000 people watch him. These viewers send messages to him. The messages appear on his computer and he answers them while he's eating. And all the time, he is earning money.

Watching people eat is a popular online activity in South Korea. You can also watch on a special TV channel. The name of the hobby in Korean is mukbang. About 3,500 South Koreans take part in it and a small number of them are famous. For example, Park Seo-yeon is well known online as TheDiva. She earns \$9,000 a month from her viewers and it is now her full-time job.

But why do the viewers pay? Park Seo-yeon believes that health is the main reason. People love dishes with lots of fat and sugar, but they don't want to eat them, so they ask her to eat them – and they watch! But can you really enjoy watching a meal but not eating it? Or is there another reason for the popularity of mukbang?

Perhaps there are social reasons for its popularity. These days, a lot of South Koreans live alone. When you eat dinner alone every evening, it's easy to feel sad. But with mukbang, you can eat with others. It is a kind of online dinner party. And when you visit the website often, it is almost like visiting friends.

At the moment mukbang is only popular in South Korea, not in other countries. But perhaps it just needs some time.

Exercises

Ex.1: Tick the best definition of mukbang.

- (a) Buying meals online and eating them alone.
- (b) Finding friends online and going out for meals together.
- (c) Paying to watch somebody online eat a meal.

Ex.2: Which of the following statements about mukbang is TRUE?

- (a) It is a popular activity in many countries around the world.
- (b) It is a way for people to enjoy unhealthy foods without eating them.
- (c) Only a few people in South Korea take part in it.

Ex.3: What is one possible social reason for the popularity of mukbang?

- (a) It provides a way for people to share their cooking skills.
- (b) It allows people who live alone to feel less isolated during meals.
- (c) It encourages people to eat healthier foods.

06

Use of English

English is full of colorful expressions. It's important to go beyond the basics and explore how words are used in everyday conversation.

Let's discover common idioms, practical expressions and the nuances of the language.

Idioms

- Expressions that cannot be understood literally.
- English idioms, proverbs, and expressions are an important part of the everyday language use.
- They come up all the time in both written and spoken form.

Take a look at this examples:

“Under the weather”

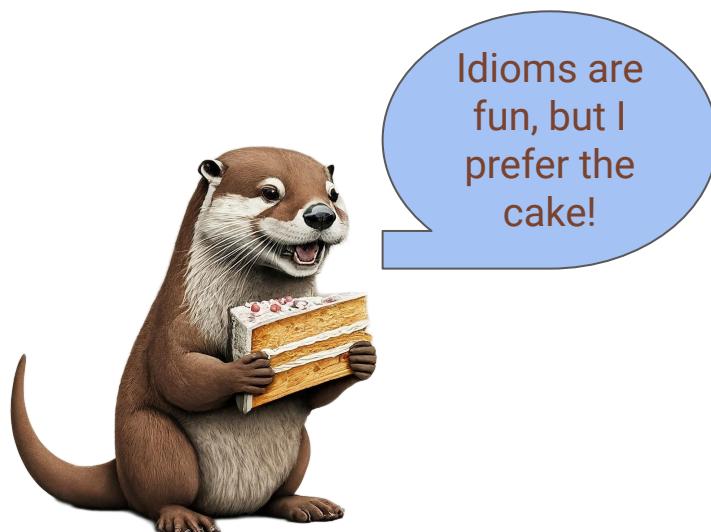
In a sentence: Mary was feeling under the weather, so she left work early.

Meaning: Not well, slightly sick or ill.

“A piece of cake”

In a sentence: The math test was a piece of cake for Carlos. He's such a nerd!

Meaning: Extremely easy and straightforward.



Idioms

“Once in a blue moon”

In a sentence: I only called my parents once in a blue moon when I was living in Spain.

Meaning: Very rarely.

“Cut corners”

In a sentence: If we want to create a great product, then we cannot cut corners.

Meaning: Doing something poorly in order to save time or money.

“Easy does it”

In a sentence: You don't want to break the delicate equipment, so easy does it.

Meaning: Slow down.

“Call it a day”

In a sentence: We have worked on this project for over 12 hours, I'm very tired, let's call it a day.

Meaning: Stop working on something.

“Hang in there”

In a sentence: It might hurt now, but hang in there. It will get better soon.

Meaning: Stay strong in a difficult situation.

Suggestions

● Making suggestions

There are a number of expressions which we can use:

How about/what about + (verb)-ing?

How about starting a book club?

What about opening your present now?

How about + (verb) present simple?

A: How about I pick you up at eight o'clock on my way to the airport?

B: Great. I'll see you then.

We often use this structure to make **suggestions about food or drink**. These **suggestions** are **invitations**.

A: Are you hungry?

B: Yeah, how about some lunch? What about a coffee?

Suggestions

● Invitations

We are asking if the person would like to go somewhere or do something or have something.

We can use the formal phrase **would you like (to)** and the more informal phrase **do you want (to)**:

Would you like to come to dinner on Friday night?

Karen, would you like some cake?

Do you want to go for a coffee?

We can accept or reject an invitation.

Remember: Thanks on its own means 'yes':

Accepting

A: Frank, would you like some chocolate?

B: Yes, please.

A: Would you like to come to the cinema with us tonight?

B: Thanks. That would be great.

Rejecting

A: Do you want some more coffee?

B: No thanks. I'm fine.

Exercises

Ex.1 - Match the idioms with the sentences below.

a blessing in disguise / a drop in the ocean
a piece of cake / actions speak louder than words
an arm and a leg
chip on his shoulder / it's a small world / jumping the gun
once in a blue moon / over the moon

1. Getting my car fixed is going to cost me _____ as the engine has completely blown, but I have no choice. I need it for work.
2. The flu I had a few weeks ago which prevented me from going on holiday with my friends was _____. They had a terrible time. Everything went wrong and it cost them a lot of money.
3. I was in a café in Italy and amazingly I saw Paul from down the road in there. _____
4. Jan is finally getting a chance to go on her trip of a lifetime, a holiday to Australia! She was _____ when I spoke to her.
5. Three dollars may seem like _____ but if everyone contributed that much we'd have thousands.
6. The government keeps talking about reducing poverty but what do they ever do about it? Nothing!

Exercises

7. I've got a promotion at work, but all John did was make a joke about it. He has a real _____. I think he is just jealous.

8. The interview for that new job was _____. They asked me really easy questions.

9. The new Martin Scorsese film is out at the cinema. A film that comes out that I really enjoy and want to see happens _____, so I'll definitely go and see it.

10. Calm down! There's no point in _____. Let's wait for the official announcement before we celebrate.

Ex.2 - Match (1-7) with (a-g) to make key phrases for invitations.

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 I'm having a party | a in your diary! |
| 2 I'm | b you can come. Let me know! |
| 3 Would you like | c planning a party. |
| 4 Can you please | d can make it. |
| 5 Put it | e to celebrate my birthday. |
| 6 I hope | f to join us? |
| 7 Hope you | g bring some CDs? |

Exercises

Ex.3 - Complete the invitations with phrases from exercise 1.

Hi Lisa,

(1) It's on Saturday 11 April from 7 o'clock. I'm inviting lots of friends and my cousins from London too.

(2)? It should be fun.

I don't have much good music so (3).....? Or can you bring your MP3 player? I've got some speakers.

Don't forget the date: 11 April – (4).....!

Love, George

Hi Marcus,

(5) to celebrate the end of the school year. I'm inviting lots of people from our year at school. We're going to the lake and we're having a BBQ. Please bring some food – maybe some burgers and sausages for the BBQ – and some lemonade or cola.

(6)..... – you've got my mobile number.

Love, Alice

Exercises

Ex. 4 - Match (1-6) with (a-f) to make key phrases for suggestions.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 Why don't we | a give it a try? |
| 2 How about | b sounds good to me. |
| 3 I'm not sure about that | c go for a hike this weekend? |
| 4 That | d having pizza for dinner? |
| 5 What do you think about | e but I'm open to suggestions. |
| 6 Let's | f going to the cinema? |

Ex. 5 - Complete the suggestions using phrases from Ex. 4.

Hey Mark,

I'm really bored. (1) _____ We could watch a movie or play some video games. If you're not into that, (2) _____ We haven't been outdoors in a while.

(3) _____ going to the new cafe downtown? I've heard they have great coffee. Let me know what you think!

Talk to you soon,
Sarah

Exercises

Hi Emily,

(4) _____ ordering Chinese food for dinner tonight? I'm craving some noodles. Or, if you prefer, (5) _____ We could try that new Italian place everyone's been talking about.

(6) _____ I just want to relax and have some good food. Let me know what you decide.

Cheers,
David

**Esse Ebook foi criado por IA e
revisado por um humano.**

**Todas as respostas podem ser
encontradas na plataforma do
Gemini, ou em qualquer outra
plataforma de IA, copiando e
colando as questões lá.**

Boa sorte na sua jornada!

