


# Indefinite Pronouns

- Compound words of **some**, **any**, **no** and **every** -

An **indefinite pronoun** is a pronoun that does not refer to a specific person, place, thing or idea.

Some indefinite pronouns are compound words of **some-**, **any-**, **no-** and **every-**.

Now pay attention to the following chart:



	People	Things	Places
some-	someone somebody	something	somewhere
any-	anyone anybody	anything	anywhere
no-	no one nobody	nothing	nowhere
every-	everyone everybody	everything	everywhere



## How do we use these indefinite pronouns?



### SOME-

- Affirmative sentences and questions when a **Yes** or **No** answer is expected:

e.g. **Someone** was sitting on the sofa.

- Can you do **something** to help?



### ANY-

- Negative sentences (used with not) and questions (used without not):

e.g. The police couldn't find her **anywhere**.

Is there **anything** to eat?

- Affirmative sentences with the meaning of **every-** when the intention is to give emphasis:

e.g. He was prepared to try **anything** to find his daughter.

He wants to help the police to find missing people **anywhere** in the world.



### NO-

- Affirmative sentences but with a negative meaning (used without not):

e.g. **Nobody** was at home when I called.

There was **nothing** we could do.



### EVERY-

- Affirmative sentences and questions:

e.g. The police looked for her **everywhere**.

Is **everything** all right?



## Ready for some practice?

A. Underline the correct option.

1. There is *someone* / *anyone* in my house.
2. There is *anything* / *nothing* in the fridge.
3. Can I tell you *something* / *nothing*?
4. He gave me *anything* / *everything* I asked for.
5. *No one* / *Anyone* came to visit her.
6. *Anybody* / *Somebody* called me yesterday.
7. Did you go *anywhere* / *nowhere* last weekend?
8. I have looked *somewhere* / *everywhere* for my pen.



B. Look at the picture and complete the sentences with the indefinite pronouns you have learnt about.



1. - Do you think there is \_\_\_\_\_ at home?  
 - No, the three houses are empty. There is \_\_\_\_\_ at home.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ is outside.
2. The house in the middle is all new. There are flowers and plants \_\_\_\_\_.
3. In the other two houses \_\_\_\_\_ is new. \_\_\_\_\_ seems to be broken. We can't see flowers \_\_\_\_\_.
4. - Do you think there are flowers \_\_\_\_\_ inside the house?  
 - No, I don't. I think they are \_\_\_\_\_.
5. - Is there \_\_\_\_\_ those two families can do so their houses look better?  
 - Of course there is and they really have to do \_\_\_\_\_.

C. Now complete the sentences using:

somebody  
something  
somewhere

anybody  
anything  
anywhere

nobody  
nothing  
nowhere

everybody  
everything  
everywhere



1. School finished at five so \_\_\_\_\_ was having classes. \_\_\_\_\_ was playing outside.

2. Yesterday we didn't have \_\_\_\_\_ for lunch because there wasn't \_\_\_\_\_ in the bar to serve us.



3. - Was there \_\_\_\_\_ with Helen at the café?  
- Yes, there was \_\_\_\_\_. I think it was Sue.

4. - Is there \_\_\_\_\_ to drink?  
- No, \_\_\_\_\_ at all.

5. \_\_\_\_\_ likes Helen because she is very kind. When \_\_\_\_\_ happens she is always ready to help.

6. Yesterday we went to Peter's party. We ate lots of cakes and had a lot of fun. \_\_\_\_\_ was happy and \_\_\_\_\_ was perfect.



7. There was litter \_\_\_\_\_ in the village. They had to take it \_\_\_\_\_ and there was \_\_\_\_\_ to put it.