

Pronouncing numbers

The information and exercises (on page 134) in this section will help you to pronounce different types of numbers.

D39 100 1,000 1,000,000

We add a /ə/ before *hundred*, *thousand* and *million*. Listen and repeat.

100	a hundred
1,000	a thousand
1,000,000	a million

Numbers over 100

D40 When we say numbers over 100, we add the weak form of *and* /ən/ before the last two figures (but not always in American English). Listen and repeat.

101	101 [^] and	a hundred and one
350	350 [^] and	three hundred and fifty
529	529 [^] and	five hundred and twenty-nine
2,491	2,491 [^] and	two thousand, four hundred and ninety-one
7,512	7,512 [^] and	seven thousand, five hundred and twelve
27,403	27,403 [^] and	twenty-seven thousand, four hundred and three

Years

D41 We say years differently from numbers.

The number 1764 is *one thousand seven hundred and sixty-four* but the year 1764 is *seventeen sixty-four*. Listen and repeat.

1764	17/64	seventeen sixty-four
1890	18/90	eighteen ninety
1900	1900	nineteen hundred
1907	19/07	nineteen oh seven

But starting from 2000, we say years the same as numbers.

2000	2000	two thousand
2007	2007 [^] and	two thousand and seven

Telephone numbers

D42a We say each number separately and pause between groups of numbers. For 0 we say *oh*. Listen and repeat.

01425 365 7098 oh one four two five, three six five, seven oh nine eight

D42b For 33 or 77, for example, we say *double three* or *double seven*, etc. Listen and repeat.

0609 655 400 oh six oh nine, six double five, four double oh

Temperatures

D43 For 0 we say *zero*. Listen and repeat.

14°	fourteen degrees
0°	zero
-12°	minus twelve (degrees) / twelve (degrees) below zero

Ordinal numbers

D44

Listen and repeat.

1st	first	20th	twentieth
2nd	second	21st	twenty-first
3rd	third	22nd	twenty-second
4th	fourth	23rd	twenty-third
5th	fifth	24th	twenty-fourth
13th	thirteenth	31st	thirty-first
15th	fifteenth	52nd	fifty-second

Dates

D45

We can say dates in different ways. Listen and repeat.

22 May	May the twenty-second the twenty-second of May May twenty-second (American English)
13 January	January the thirteenth the thirteenth of January January thirteenth (American English)
30 January	January the thirtieth the thirtieth of January January thirtieth (American English)

Fractions

D46

Listen and repeat.

$\frac{1}{2}$	a half
$\frac{1}{4}$	a quarter a fourth (American English)
$\frac{3}{4}$	three quarters three fourths (American English)

For other fractions, we use the same forms as ordinal numbers.

$\frac{1}{3}$	a third
$\frac{2}{3}$	two thirds
$\frac{1}{8}$	an eighth
$\frac{5}{8}$	five eighths

Decimals

D47

In decimal numbers, we use the symbol '.', and we pronounce it *point*. Listen and repeat.

1.6	one point six
23.95	twenty-three point nine five
0.762	nought point seven six two zero point seven six two (American English)

Percentages

D48

Listen and repeat.

1%	one per cent
50%	fifty per cent
67.3%	sixty-seven point three per cent

Exercises

E6.1 Listen and write the numbers you hear.

D49

1

2

3

4

5

E6.2 Listen and write the numbers of the years.

D50

1

2

3

4

5

E6.3 Listen and write the telephone numbers.

D51

1

2

3

4

5

E6.4 Listen and write the numbers.

D52

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8