

subjunctive

The subjunctive has the same form as the infinitive: *do, be, eat, play* etc. You can use the subjunctive after *insist, recommend, suggest* etc. You can also use *should*:

I insisted that he apologise.

I insisted that he should apologise.

See Unit 34.

superlative see comparative

syllable

A syllable is a part of a word. For example, the word *remember* has three syllables: re-mem-ber.

tense

A tense is a verb form that shows time. English verbs have two main tenses, present and past.

Present and past tenses can be simple or continuous. For example:

present

I walk (present simple)

I am walking (present continuous)

past

I walked (past simple)

I was walking (past continuous)

All of these can also be perfect (with *have*):

I have walked (present perfect simple)

I have been walking (present perfect continuous)

I had walked (past perfect simple)

I had been walking (past perfect continuous)

See Units 1–18 and Appendix 2.

uncountable see noun

verb

A verb is a word for an action (*go, eat, work*), a happening (*rain, find, die*) or a state (*be, know, want*).

In the sentence

Tom is hungry and wants something to eat.

is, wants and *eat* are all verbs.

Verbs have four or five different forms. For example:

infinitive (or base form)	+ s	+ ing (present participle)	past simple	past participle
<i>work</i>	<i>works</i>	<i>working</i>	<i>worked</i>	<i>worked</i>
<i>buy</i>	<i>buys</i>	<i>buying</i>	<i>bought</i>	<i>bought</i>
<i>eat</i>	<i>eats</i>	<i>eating</i>	<i>ate</i>	<i>eaten</i>

word order

Word order is the way words go together in a sentence. For example, we say:

a modern building (not *a building modern*)

I don't know where she is. (not *I don't know where is she*)

She always walks to work. (not *She walks always*)

See Units 49–50, 99, 109–110 and 137.