

GRAMMAR

# Reviewing questions and negatives

**LEVEL**

Elementary (A2)

**NUMBER**

EN\_A2\_1033G

**LANGUAGE**

English



## Learning outcomes

- I can tell the difference between subject and object wh-questions.
- I can form wh-questions with 'there is' and 'there are'.



# Warm-up

Test your knowledge! **Choose** *a* or *an* for each sentence.

**a**

**an**

1 There is \_\_\_\_\_ doctor in the hospital.

2 There is \_\_\_\_\_ artist in his studio.

3 There isn't \_\_\_\_\_ engineer in his office.

4 There is \_\_\_\_\_ receptionist at the desk.

5 There isn't \_\_\_\_\_ chemist at the pharmacy.

# A or an?

Read the table and **complete** the explanation in the blue box.

We use \_\_\_\_\_ before words that begin with **vowel sounds** and sometimes *h*.  
We use \_\_\_\_\_ before words that start with other letters.

**a, e, i, o, u**

**all other letters**

**an** apple

**a** baby

**an** egg

**a** dog

**an** insect

**a** woman

**an** umbrella

**a** man

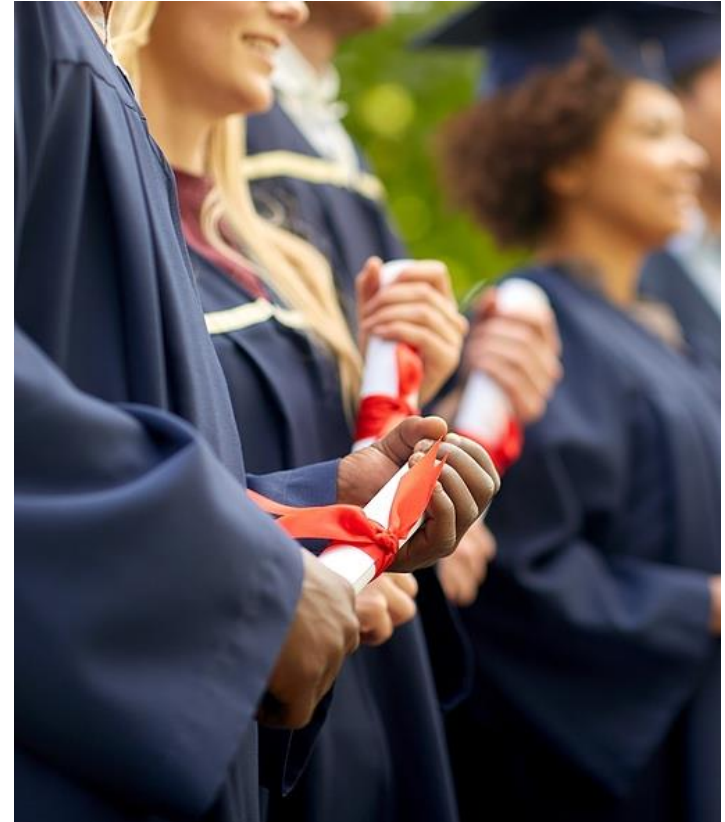


The rule for the letter **u** is a little different. Learn more on the next slide!

# A or *an* with words beginning with *u*

**Practise** pronouncing the different *u* sounds.

short /ʌ/ sound	long /ju:/ sound
<b>an</b> umbrella	<b>a</b> university
<b>an</b> underground train	<b>a</b> unicorn
<b>an</b> unemployed person	<b>a</b> uniform



short /ʌ/ sound → **an**

long /ju:/ sound → **a**



# Practise pronouncing the long /ju:/ sound

**Practise** making the sound in different parts of a word.



1

**u**sually

/ju:/

2

mu**u**sic

/ju:/

3

compu**u**ter

/ju:/



# There is or there are?

Read the table and **complete** the explanation in the blue box.

We use **there** \_\_\_\_\_ with singular or uncountable nouns.  
We use **there** \_\_\_\_\_ with plural nouns.

Negatives: **there isn't** and **there aren't**

**singular or uncountable**

**plural**

**There is** an apple in the bowl.

**There are** apples in the bowl.

**There is** a dog in the kennel.

**There are** dogs in the kennel.

**There's** sparkling water in the fridge.

**There are** glasses in the cupboard.

**There isn't** any meat in today's dinner.

**There aren't** any candles on the cake.



In the negative, add **any**  
with plural and  
uncountable nouns.



# Choose the correct option

1 There \_\_\_\_\_ many journalists working for the newspaper.

a. is

b. are

2 There \_\_\_\_\_ an opera singer living in my apartment building.

a. is

b. are

3 There \_\_\_\_\_ a famous chef in the kitchen preparing our food.

a. is

b. are

4 There \_\_\_\_\_ always two pilots flying an aeroplane.

a. is

b. are





# Choose the correct option

1 I can't post the letter. There \_\_\_\_\_ any stamps.

a. aren't

b. isn't

2 There \_\_\_\_\_ any milk. Can you go to the supermarket?

a. is

b. isn't

3 There \_\_\_\_\_ any information about the event online.

a. aren't

b. isn't

# What can you see in the picture?

Use **there is** or **there are** + a/an/no article to complete the descriptions below.



1

... two men  
wearing hats.

2

... woman  
wearing a red  
dress.

3

... two men  
wearing suits.

4

... doctor  
standing behind  
the women.

# Yes/no questions review: to be and modal verbs

Yes/no questions with **to be** and **modal verbs** are formed by inverting the subject and verb.

Positive statement → **subject** + **verb** .

Yes/no question → **verb** + **subject**

## Positive statement

## Question

**They are** American.

**Are they** American?

**She is** happy.

**Is she** happy?

**I can** take a message.

**Can I** take a message?

**I will** help you.

**Will you** help us?

# Yes/no questions review: short answers

## yes/no question

## short answer

Are they American?

Yes, they are.

Is she happy?

No, she isn't.

Can I take a message?

Yes, you can.

Will you help us?

No, I won't.





# Yes/no questions review: auxiliary verb *do*

We use **do** when forming questions with most verbs.

**do** → **I, you, we** and **they**

**does** → **he, she** and **it**

## positive statement

## question with do/does

I like apples.

**Do you like** apples?

We go to school.

**Do you go** to school?

They eat bread.

**Do they eat** bread?

He speaks English.

**Does he speak** English?

# Yes/no questions review: short answers with *do*

**yes/no question**

**short answer**

Do you like apples?

Yes, I do.

Do you all go to school?

No, we don't.

Do they eat bread?

Yes, they do.

Does he speak English?

Yes, he does.





# Make questions from these statements.

**Note:** you might have to change the pronoun.

1 He is a teacher.



Is he a teacher?

2 I can unlock the office door.



3 She's from Iceland.



4 I like how bright it is.



5 They drink lemonade.





# Fill in the gaps

**Fill in the blanks** with the missing words. **Ask and answer** the questions with a classmate. You can do this activity **in breakout rooms** or as a class.

1 \_\_\_\_\_ you like dogs?

2 \_\_\_\_\_ you interested in sport?

3 \_\_\_\_\_ your mum have a job?

4 \_\_\_\_\_ your family big?

5 \_\_\_\_\_ you speak any other languages?





# Wh- question review

Read the examples and **complete** the blue box.

**When** are you leaving?



(I'm leaving) at 7pm.

**Where** are you right now?



(I'm) at the shopping centre.

- Which **question words** are used in the questions above?
- Can you answer these questions with *yes* or *no*?

- We answer *wh*-questions with **specific information**.
- For the verb *to be*, add the question word at the start and invert the subject and verb:

**Wh-word + verb + subject**



*Wh*-questions are also sometimes called **information questions**.



## Wh-words

Who

When

What

Where

Why

Which

Whose

How

How many?



**How** and **How many** are important question words that don't begin with *Wh-*!



# Wh- questions review: subject questions

**Read** the examples and the explanation in the blue box.

Who **fell** over?



James **fell** over.

Whose job **is** easier?



Alex's job **is** easier.

Who **is** from Melbourne?



Taylor **is** from Melbourne.

- If the question refers to the **subject** of the sentence, we don't need to change the word order.

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# Wh- questions review: object questions

**Read** the example sentences and the explanation in the blue box.

**Who do you live with?**



**I live with Martha.**

**Which dress do you like best?**



**I like the red one best.**

**How many people did you invite?**



**I invited 12 people.**

- If the question refers to the **object** of the sentence, we need to add the auxiliary verb **do**.





# Fill in the blanks

Then, **practise** the dialogue with a partner.

Who / What

a / an

do / does

aren't / isn't



Hi, I'm Helen.

\_\_\_\_\_ 's your name?

I'm from Vancouver. I'm \_\_\_\_\_  
journalist. What \_\_\_\_\_ you do?

I work for a local newspaper. There  
\_\_\_\_\_ many journalists  
because its a small paper.



What / Where

a / an

How many /  
Which

are / is

Nice to meet you!  
I'm Stephanie. \_\_\_\_\_ are you  
from?

I'm a lecturer at \_\_\_\_\_  
university. \_\_\_\_\_ newspaper  
do you work for?

How many journalists \_\_\_\_\_  
there at your paper?



# Make *wh*- questions from the statements

1 Steve loves dogs.



Who loves dogs?

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2 A chair fell over.



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3 Alex is coming early.



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4 It's Sarah's jacket.



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5 There are 10 people in my team.



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6 I live near the river.



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# Put the questions into the correct category

1. Does Steve live in Vancouver?

2. Who lives in China?

3. Is there a vegan option on the menu?

4. Which receptionist is working today?

5. Do you drive a bus?

6. When do you have lunch?

7. How many engineers are there in your company?

8. Why do you like your job?

9. Are there any doctors in the clinic on Sundays?

10. Which nurse works with you?

11. How many pilots fly an aeroplane?

12. Where do you work?

**yes/no questions**

***wh*- questions  
(subject questions)**

***Wh*-questions  
(object questions)**

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# Fill in the gaps

Then, **ask and answer** the questions with your classmates.

1 \_\_\_\_\_ is the most important person in your life?

2 \_\_\_\_\_ far do you live from where you work?

3 \_\_\_\_\_ is your favourite meal?

4 \_\_\_\_\_ do you usually go to bed?

5 \_\_\_\_\_ were you born?

6 \_\_\_\_\_ are you learning English?

What  
Where  
When  
Who  
Why  
How





# End of the lesson

Idiom

***Out of the question***

**Meaning:** impossible

**Example:** Sorry, that's out of the question. You can't sit in first class unless you have a first-class ticket.



# Additional practice



# Ask and answer the questions



**When do you usually have lunch?**



**How many people are there in your company?**

**Do you drive to work?**

# Ask and answer questions with *there is/are*

Use the prompts below to help you.



1 How many \_\_\_\_\_ are there?

2 Is there...?



# Play the question game: guess where I am!



**Choose a place** (a work place or a room in your house, for example).

Your classmates will ask you **what you can see**.

After you answer the questions, your classmates will **guess where you are**.

Take turns using lots of different places!

*Are there any trees?  
No, there are no trees.*

*Are there any tables?  
Yes, there are twenty tables.*

*Are you in a restaurant?  
Yes, I am!*



# Answer key

**P. 3:** 1. a 2. an 3. an 4. a 5. a

**P. 4:** an (before vowels and sometimes h); a (before consonants)

**P. 7:** there is; there are

**P. 8:** 1. b 2. a 3. a 4. b

**P.9:** 1. a 2. b 3. b

**P.10:** 1. There are 2. There is 3. There are 4. There is

**P.15:** Possible answers: 2. Can you/someone unlock the office door? 3. Where is she from? 4. What do you like about your new apartment? 5. What do they usually drink?

**P. 16:** 1. Do 2. Are 3. Does 4. Is 5. Do

**P.17:** Question words: when, where You can't answer these with yes/no

**P. 21: Person 1:** What's 2. a 3. do 4. aren't **Person 2:** 1. Where 2. a 3. Which 4. are

**P. 22:** Possible answers: 2. What fell over? 3. Who is coming early? 4. Whose jacket is it? 5. How many people are there in your team? 6. Where do you live?

**P.23:** YES/NO 1, 3, 5, 9 Wh-subject 2, 4, 10 Wh-object 6, 7, 8, 11, 12

**P.24:** 1. Who 2. How 3. What 4. When 5. Where 6. Why



# Summary

## A or an?

- Use **an** before words that begin with **a, e, i, o, u**, and sometimes **h** → *an apple*
- Use **a** before words that start with other letters → *a dog*
- With words beginning with a **short /ʌ/** sound, use *an* → *an umbrella*.
- With words beginning with a **long /u:/** sound, use *a* → *a unicorn*

## Yes/no questions with *to be* and *modal verbs*

- **Invert** the subject and verb.
- Positive statement: **subject + verb** → *They are American; I can help*
- Yes/no question: **verb + subject** → *Are they American?; Can I help?*

## Yes/no questions:

- Use **do** when forming questions with most verbs: **do** → *I, you, we, they*; **does** → *he, she, it*
- **Do you** live here? → *Yes, I do / No, I don't*
- **Does she** like cats? → *Yes, she does / No, she doesn't*

## Wh- questions:

- Ask for **specific information**.
- For the verb **to be**: **Wh-word + verb + subject** → *Where are you?*
- With **subject questions**, don't change the word order → *Who fell over? – James fell over.*
- With **object questions**, add the verb **do** → *Where do you live? – I live in Melbourne.*





# Vocabulary

insect

umbrella

unicorn

There is ...

There are ...

