


100 OF THE MOST USED WORDS IN ENGLISH

VOCABULARY LESSON

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There are over 170,000 unique words in the English language. The average adult native English speaker knows between 15 and 20,000 different word families. However, native speakers get by only using a fraction of these words in daily speaking and writing. Some words are used much more than others. This lesson will teach 100 of the most commonly spoken and written words in the English language. Understanding these words and knowing how to use them will get you on your way to mastering English.

NOUNS

A noun is a word that refers to a place, a person, a thing, a quality or an activity. You can't have a sentence without the use of some sort of noun.

No.	Word	Pronunciation	Example
1	man	/mæn/	The <u>man</u> sat quietly on the chair.
2	day	/deɪ/	It was the last <u>day</u> of summer.
3	people	/pi:pl/	Many <u>people</u> travel abroad for their holiday.
4	time	/taɪm/	What <u>time</u> will they come to the house today?
5	woman	/wʊmən/	He saw the <u>woman</u> from across the room.
6	life	/laɪf/	Jack spent his whole <u>life</u> writing his novel.
7	world	/wɜ:ld/	The <u>world</u> is a big place; go out and see it!
8	thing	/θɪŋ/	We have both brought the same thing.



9	year	/jɪə(r)/ /jɜ:(r)/	This <u>year</u> has been one of the craziest yet!
10	child	/tʃaɪld/	She was only a <u>child</u> , but she could play the piano better than anyone.

PRONOUNS

A pronoun is used to substitute a noun or a noun phrase in a sentence. We can only use a pronoun if the noun or noun phrase has been referred to previously.

No.	Word	Pronunciation	Example
1	he	weak - /hi/ strong - /hi:/	<u>He</u> likes to go out ice skating.
2	her	weak - /hə(r)/ strong - /hɜ:(r)/	<u>Her</u> shoes were left out in the rain all night.
3	him	/hɪm/ /ɪm/	Can you take <u>him</u> to the station, please?
4	I	/aɪ/	<u>I</u> am from England.
5	it	/ɪt/	<u>It</u> looks as if she's been crying.
6	me	weak - /mi/ strong - /mi:/	Don't give <u>me</u> that look!
7	my	/maɪ/	<u>My</u> new phone should arrive today.
8	our	/ɑ:(r)/ /aʊə(r)/	<u>Our</u> new home is in the village not far from here.
9	she	weak - /ʃi/ strong - /ʃi:/	<u>She</u> is from a posh family; what do you expect?
10	them	weak - /ðəm/ strong - /ðem/	I went with <u>them</u> to see the play.
11	that	weak - /ðæt/ strong - /ðət/	<u>That</u> picture frame is crooked.
12	their	/ðeə(r)/	<u>Their</u> payments are overdue.
13	these	/ði:z/	<u>These</u> flowers are beautiful.



14	they	/ðeɪ/	<u>They</u> missed the train, so they walked home instead.
15	this	/ðɪs/	<u>This</u> is the road I used to take to school as a child.
16	us	weak: /əs/ strong: /ʌs/	We always bring a few snacks with <u>us</u> .
17	we	weak: /wi/ strong: /wi:/	<u>We</u> had just started hiking when Jerry hurt his knee.
18	who	/hu:/	<u>Who</u> was that in your office?
19	you	weak - /jə/ strong - /ju:/	<u>You</u> shouldn't do that!
20	your	weak - /jə(r)/ strong - /jɔ:(r)/	<u>Your</u> sister came over yesterday looking for you.

VERBS

Every sentence requires the use of a verb. We use verbs to represent actions, feelings and states of being. When learning English, it is easy to use the same verbs repeatedly. So, in addition to teaching you some of the most commonly used verbs, you will also be given **synonyms** (words that have the same meaning) to help add some variety to your conversations and writing.

No.	Word	Pronunciation	Example	Synonyms
1	come	/kʌm/	<u>Come</u> to my house tonight - we're making pizza!	appear, arrive, occur
2	find	/faɪnd/	I can't <u>find</u> the remote control!	discover, identify, locate
3	give	/gɪv/	Can you <u>give</u> me a minute?	allow, award, grant
4	get	/get/	I hope I <u>get</u> a raise this month.	gain, obtain, earn
5	go	/gəʊ/	Sheila, <u>go</u> and speak with your father!	flee, depart, progress



6	have	weak - /həv/ strong - /hæv/	I <u>have</u> the forms in my bag.	acquire, accept, possess
7	know	/nəʊ/	I <u>know</u> this can't be easy to hear.	perceive, realize, notice
8	listen	/lɪsn/	<u>Listen</u> to his new song - it's great!	accept, take notice, observe
9	look	/lʊk/	They will <u>look</u> at the sculpture for hours.	glance, peer, stare
10	make	/meɪk/	What are you going to <u>make</u> for the school picnic?	compose, generate, produce
11	say	/seɪ/	Don't <u>say</u> things you don't mean.	announce, convey, express
12	see	/si:/	I could <u>see</u> she was angry from her facial expression.	detect, notice, view
13	take	/teɪk/	Manny <u>took</u> the bad news in stride.	accept, capture, seize
14	tell	/tel/	<u>Tell</u> him about it after his birthday.	advise, disclose, inform
15	think	/θɪŋk/	I always <u>think</u> about leaving my job.	consider, determine, understand
16	use	/ju:z/	Can I <u>use</u> baking powder instead of baking soda?	adopt, employ, manipulate
17	want	/wɒnt/	They <u>want</u> to take a cruise this year.	choose, crave, wish

AUXILIARY VERBS

Auxiliary verbs are extremely useful in English. They are also referred to as "helping or modal verbs." Auxiliary verbs help to form certain verb tenses, voices and moods. Needless to say, we use them quite often.



No.	Word	Pronunciation	Example
1	be	weak - /bi/ strong - /bi:/	I'll <u>be</u> swimming tomorrow morning.
2	can	weak - /kən/ strong - /kæn/	<u>Can</u> you lift the chair so I can sweep under it?
3	could	weak - kəd/ strong - /kʊd/	I <u>could</u> leave work early to pick up the wine.
4	do	weak - /də/ strong - /du:/	<u>Do</u> they always come this late?
5	shall	weak - /həv/ strong - /hæv/	I <u>shall</u> ask him tomorrow.
6	might	/maɪt/	They <u>might</u> stay a little longer.
7	must	weak - /məst/ strong - /mʌst/	You <u>must</u> allow me to take you for dinner!
8	should	weak - /ʃəd/ strong - /ʃʊd/	I <u>should</u> really be going now.
9	would	weak - /wəd/ strong - /wʊd/	I <u>would</u> like a skateboard for Christmas.
10	will	/wɪl/	We <u>will</u> write to you as soon as we arrive.

ADJECTIVES

Adjectives add detail to your speaking and writing. They are used to describe nouns, and they provide the reader or listener with additional information. If you want to liven up your conversations, adjectives are the way to go!

No.	Word	Pronunciation	Example
1	all	/ɔ:l/	Did you put <u>all</u> of the food away?
2	any	/eni/	I don't have <u>any</u> patience for you right now!
3	different	/dɪfrənt/	Can you get me a different mug?



4	even	/i:vn/	He really wants the painting to be <u>even</u> on the wall.
5	first	/fɜ:st/	Ben was the <u>first</u> person to call me after my break-up.
6	just	/dʒʌst/	It wasn't <u>just</u> of him to treat you that way.
7	last	/lɑ:st/	This is my <u>last</u> phone call.
8	white	/waɪt/	When I opened my eyes, I saw <u>white</u> walls.
9	many	/meni/	We have too <u>many</u> boxes to move.
10	more	/mɔ:(r)/	Please, could I have <u>more</u> potatoes?
11	new	/nju: /	Her <u>new</u> shoes are black.
12	one	/wʌn/	My dog has <u>one</u> blue eye, and the other is brown.
13	some	weak - /səm/ strong - /sʌm/	Can I borrow <u>some</u> money for a coffee?
14	two	/tu: /	The <u>two</u> trees in the garden need to be chopped down.

ADVERBS

Adverbs are brilliant words that help you describe a verb, an adjective, another adverb or entire sentences. You may have learned that most adverbs end in -ly, this may be true, but the most common adverbs might surprise you.

No.	Word	Pronunciation	Example
1	also	/ɔ:lsəʊ/	We <u>also</u> live up the hill!
2	here	/hɪə(r)/	I live here too!
3	how	/haʊ/	He didn't know <u>how</u> to speak Italian.
4	no	/nəʊ/	Call <u>no</u> later than 7:00 PM.
5	not	/nɒt/	It is <u>not</u> snowing today.
6	now	/naʊ/	Are you ready to go <u>now</u> ?



7	so	/səʊ/	She was <u>so</u> early for the party.
8	then	/ðen/	We can't go back to how it was <u>then</u> .
9	very	/veri/	Dave was <u>very</u> angry after the meeting.
10	when	/wen/	<u>When</u> will you be leaving?

CONJUNCTIONS

Conjunctions are a crucial part of speaking English fluently. Conjunctions allow us to link short, simplistic sentences into long, beautifully complex ideas. Conjunctions join together other words, clauses or phrases. Without conjunctions, reading would be painfully boring.

No.	Word	Pronunciation	Example
1	and	weak - /ənd/ strong - /ænd/	Clean your room <u>and</u> the bathroom!
2	because	/bɪ'kæz/ /bɪ'kɒz/	I can't come tonight <u>because</u> I have work in the morning.
3	but	weak - /bət/ strong - /bʌt/	They don't have a size 3, <u>but</u> they do have a size 4.
4	if	/ɪf/	She will cover for me <u>if</u> I stay late tomorrow.
5	or	/ɔ:(r)/	We can go to get Chinese <u>or</u> Indian - it's up to you.
6	than	weak - /ðən/ strong - /ðæn/	I would rather stay at home <u>than</u> go to the nightclub.

PREPOSITIONS

Prepositions show how one noun in a sentence is related to another. Prepositions help to explain direction, time, location, and space. Without prepositions, we wouldn't know where anything is!

No.	Word	Pronunciation	Example
1	about	/ə'baʊt/	I'll be there in <u>about</u> 5 minutes.
2	at	weak - /ət/ strong - /æt/	Turn right <u>at</u> the end of the street.



3	by	/baɪ/	My purse is <u>by</u> the dining room chair.
4	for	weak - /fə(r)/ strong - /fɔː(r)/	Is all of that <u>for</u> you?
5	from	weak - /frəm/ strong - /frɒm/	The present is <u>from</u> all of us.
6	in	/ɪn/	Just put it <u>in</u> the box.
7	into	weak - /ɪntə/ strong - /ɪntuː/	Put it <u>into</u> the fridge, not the oven.
8	on	/ɒn/	The book is <u>on</u> the shelf.
9	to	weak - /tə/ strong - /tuː/	We're going <u>to</u> the fair today.
10	with	/wɪð/	Don't leave me <u>with</u> him.

ARTICLES

Prepositions show how one noun in a sentence is related to another. Prepositions help to explain direction, time, location, and space. Without prepositions, we wouldn't know where anything is!

No.	Word	Pronunciation	Example
1	a	weak - /ə/ strong - /eɪ/	<u>A</u> man came to see you today.
2	an	weak - /ən/ strong - /æn/	Is that <u>an</u> orange on the sofa?
3	the	weak - /ðə/ strong - /ðiː/	<u>The</u> new table looks wonderful!

**DID
YOU
KNOW?**

ACCORDING TO SOME SOURCES, THE KOREAN LANGUAGE HAS THE MOST WORDS LISTED IN A STANDARD DICTIONARY WITH OVER 1,000,000 ENTRIES.



Activity

Choose the part of speech that best represents the underlined word in each sentence.

1) She knew that there were going to be a lot of people there - but 500? That's insanity!

- a. noun
- b. adjective
- c. verb

2) What time are we meeting tomorrow?

- a. noun
- b. article
- c. verb

3) I want all of you to write a letter to the prime minister requesting more funding.

- a. preposition
- b. adjective
- c. adverb

4) Should you be doing that right now? It doesn't look safe.

- a. auxiliary verb
- b. adverb
- c. verb

5) Leave your things by the door - you can get them later.

- a. noun
- b. preposition
- c. article

6) She will drive because you've had too much to drink!

- a. adverb
- b. preposition
- c. conjunction

Choose the correct word to complete each sentence.

7) You _____ pick up the cake at noon on Monday.

- a. couldn't
- b. are
- c. can

8) Your husband cooks _____ cleans up afterwards? It sounds like you are living a dream!

- a. but
- b. and
- c. or

1) c 2) a 3) b 4) a 5) b 6) c 7) c 8) b

The End