
ENGLISH NOTES

FROM A1 TO C2

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*My notes from
Langpill english grammar course from Udemy, and internet*

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1 Introduction

This document was written for me to understand the english grammar from a beginner to an advanced level. Because I find that I can understand better if I take notes for myself while I'm watching english lessons, and I decided to make my notes with L^AT_EX because it is a usefull and cool tool for writing awesome documents.

I know that I a need to improve my english writing and as I improve it I will update this document. I hope my note become useful to other people so this document is divided in the main topics of english grammar, so that you can go directly to the topic that you want to learn.

Remember that is important to practice on your own to master the English language, another advice for you is to speak with a friend of you who wants to learn English or already knows it, or even to your self, about any topic you like and if you are stuck to explain something then you can search on internet or ask to your friend to get feedback.

2 Nouns

A **noun** is a word that is used to name a person, animal, place, action or thing either generally (**common noun**) or specifically (**proper noun**).

Common noun Proper noun
*You can buy a **pencil** at **Office Depot**.*

2.1 Plural form

There are rules to form plural forms, but remember that some nouns are irregular so that you can't use those rules to form the plural form.

- Generally we can use \Rightarrow Noun + S, to get the plural form
 e.g. *cat-cats, dog-dogs, pencil-pencils*
- Singular noun ending in s, ss, sh, ch, x, z, o + es, \Rightarrow Plural form
 e.g. *tax-taxes, bus-buses, box-boxes*
- In some cases, singular nouns ending in s or z \Rightarrow Double s or z
 e.g. *fez-fezzes, gas-gasses*
- Noun ending in f, fe \Rightarrow Change f into ve + s
 e.g. *life-lives, wolf-wolves, wife-wives* (Exceptions: *roof-roofs, belief-beliefs, chef-chefs*)
- Noun ending in y and the letter before is a consonant \Rightarrow Change the ending to ies
 e.g. *city-cities, puppy-puppies*
- Noun ending in y and the letter before is a vowel \Rightarrow Add s
 e.g. *ray-rays, boy-boys*
- Noun ending in o \Rightarrow Add es
 e.g. *potato-potatoes, tomato-tomatoes* (Exceptions: *photo-photos, piano-pianos, halo-halos*)
- Noun ending in us \Rightarrow Frequently change us to i
 e.g. *cactus-cacti, focus-foci*
- Noun ending in is \Rightarrow Change is to es
 e.g. *analysis-analyses, ellipsis-ellipses*
- Noun ending in on \Rightarrow Change on to a
 e.g. *phenomenon-phenomena, criterion-criteria*
- Some nouns don't change
 e.g. *sheep-sheeps, series-series, species-species*

Here we have some **irregular nouns**, they don't follow specific rules

Singular	Plural
man	men
woman	women
person	people
child	children
tooth	teeth
foot	feet
mouse	mice

Table 1: Some irregular nouns

2.2 Common nouns

Common nouns refer to classes or categories of people, animals, places, things, or a concept, as opposed to a particular individual.

*I have a **computer**, a **keyboard**, a **mouse** and many **books**.*

Common nouns are **not capitalized** unless they begin a sentence or are part of a title.

***Apples** are delicious fruits
I don't like **apples***

2.3 Proper nouns

Proper nouns are used to name to specific items rather than refer to a category or a class, such as names, names of cities, countries, etc.

*I'm from **Mexico***

Note that proper nouns are unique names. **They are capitalized**

*My friend **George** is from **Brazil***

We should also capitalize:

- a) Festivals
e.g. ***Christmas** and **Thanksgiving** are my two favourite holidays!*
- b) People's titles
e.g. *Everything depends on **President** Trump and his decisions.*
- c) The names of books, films, plays, paintings. We use capital letters for the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in the title.
e.g. *I've just finished reading '**The Old Man and the Sea**'*

Sometimes we use a person's name to refer to something they have created.

*We were listening to **Mozart** the other day.
I'm reading **an Iris Murdoch** now.*

When you use a word about a family member (e.g. *mom, dad, uncle*), capitalize it only if the word is being used exactly as you would use a name, i.e. if you were addressing the person directly. If the word is not being used as a name, it is not capitalized.

*Please ask **Dad** if he can buy wine on his way home.
Is your **dad** coming over for dinner?*

Whenever you see a capitalized word, question whether or not it is a proper noun. Make sure that the capitalized word is in fact a noun as there are also proper adjectives.

***Asia** is one of the continents of the world. (proper noun)
I don't like **Asian** food. (proper adjective).*

2.4 Material Nouns

Material nouns denote a material or substance from which things are made of.

*a **plastic** bottle, a **diamond** ring, etc.*

Material nouns are uncountable, thus they do not have a plural form. Generally, articles are not used with material nouns as they are uncountable.

*~~I really want to buy these cottons pants.~~
I really want to buy these **cotton** pants.*

Material nouns fall into several categories:

- a) Related to nature
e.g. air, salt, coal, silver, gold, etc.
- b) Related to animals
e.g. meat, milk, egg, wool, etc.
- c) Related to plants
e.g. cotton, coffee, tea, wood, etc.
- d) Artificial or man-made materials
e.g. alcohol, cheese, brick, steel, etc.

2.5 Compound nouns

A **compound noun** contains two or more words which are joined together and form a single noun. Compound nouns can be words written together, words that are hyphenated, or separate words. The first word usually describes or modifies the second word, denoting its type or purpose. Consequently, the second word identifies the item itself.

*I need to buy a new **toothbrush**.* (a brush used for cleaning one's teeth)

There is no exact rule as to when we should write compound nouns together, hyphenated, or as separate words. If you are not sure how to write a compound noun, **consult a dictionary**.

*Could you go with me to the **bus stop**?*

*My **in-laws** are incredible people.*

*I love your new **haircut**! You look fantastic!*

Note that the stress usually falls on the first syllable in compound nouns. As a result, the word stress helps to differentiate between a compound noun and an adjective + noun.

*A **greenhouse** is a glass building used for growing plants that need warmth, light, and protection.*
(compound noun)

*A **green house** is a building that someone lives in. This building is painted green.* (adjective + noun)

2.6 Countable vs Uncountable Nouns

Countable Nouns (e.g. apple, song, house, etc.)	Uncountable Nouns (e.g. tea, money, love, etc.)
Things that can be counted , even if the number might be extremely high (<i>e.g. all the people in the world</i>).	Things that we cannot count with numbers. They may be the names for abstract ideas or qualities or for physical objects that are too small to count or shapeless (<i>e.g. liquids, gases, etc.</i>).
Can be singular or plural. <i>I have an apple and you have three apples.</i>	No plural form. <i>We're going to have rice for lunch.</i>
You can use <i>a/an</i> with singular countable nouns. <i>There is a girl outside. She is wearing a beautiful dress.</i>	You can't use <i>a/an</i> with uncountable nouns. But you can often use the phrase <i>a (bag, cup, etc.) of</i> . <i>There is a bowl of rice and a bottle of juice on the table.</i>
If you want to ask about the quantity of a countable noun, you ask ' <i>How many?</i> ' combined with the plural countable noun. <i>How many dogs are there? - There are five dogs.</i>	If you want to ask about the quantity of an uncountable noun, you ask ' <i>How much?</i> ' combined with the uncountable noun. <i>How much coffee do we have left? - We don't have much coffee left.</i>
You can use <i>many, a few, few</i> with plural countable nouns. <i>Sorry, but I didn't take many pictures. I've got a few relatives leaving here.</i>	You can use <i>much, a little, little</i> with uncountable nouns. <i>We didn't do much shopping there. We have a little sugar left.</i>
You can use <i>some, any, a lot of, both</i> with plural countable nouns and uncountable nouns.	
<i>We like singing some crazy songs at karaoke.</i>	<i>We listened to some music there.</i>
<i>Did you buy any oranges?</i>	<i>I didn't buy any orange juice.</i>
<i>She showed a lot of signs of affection.</i>	<i>There is a lot of love in the air.</i>

Table 2: Countable vs Uncountable Nouns

2.7 Collective Nouns

A collective noun is used to refer to an entire group of people, animals, or things. Therefore it includes more than one member.

*My **family** is very big.*

Collective nouns can refer to:

- a) People
e.g. *family, class, committee, staff, etc.*
- b) Animals
e.g. *a pack of dogs, a swarm of flies, a herd of horses, a litter of puppies, etc.*
- c) Things
e.g. *pack, set, bunch, stack, etc.*

When the members within one group behave in the same manner, they are part of a collective noun, thus this noun becomes singular and requires a singular verb.

*Every day **the football team** follows its coach out to the field for practice.*

When the members are acting as individuals, the collective noun is plural and requires a plural verb. In many cases, it may sound more natural to make the subject plural in form by adding words like *members, mates, etc.*

*After the practice **the team(mates)** shower, change into their casual clothes, and head to their homes.*

2.8 Concrete and Abstract Nouns

Nouns can be concrete or abstract.

Concrete nouns are tangible and you can experience them with your five senses.

Abstract nouns refer to intangible things, like *actions, feelings, ideals, concepts, and qualities*.

***Food** is great. But **love** is even greater.*

2.8.1 Concrete nouns

A **concrete noun** is a noun that can be identified through one of the five senses: *touch, sight, hearing, smell, or taste*.

*Who turned off the **TV**?* (The noun *TV* is a concrete noun)

*What is that **noise**?* (Even though *nose* can't be touched, you can hear it, so it's a concrete noun)

Concrete nouns fall into several categories:

- a) People
e.g. *mother, friend, teacher, stranger, etc.*
- b) Places
e.g. *school, McDonald's, Las Vegas, India, etc.*
- c) Things you can touch and see
e.g. *plane, cup, lamp, book, etc.*
- d) Things you can hear
e.g. *music, noise, someone's voice, song, etc.*
- e) Things you can smell and taste
e.g. *herbs, cookies, bread, wine, etc.*

2.8.2 Abstract Nouns

Remember that **abstract nouns** refer to a intangible things, like *actions, feelings, ideals, concepts, and qualities*.

Abstract nouns fall into several categories:

- a) Emotions and feelings
e.g. *anger, sadness, love, grief, etc.*
- b) Human qualities and characteristics
e.g. *beauty, maturity, humour, patience, etc.*

c) Ideas and concepts
e.g. *knowledge, freedom, luxury, comfort, etc.*

d) Events
e.g. *marriage, birthday, career, adventure, etc.*

Many abstract nouns are formed from adjectives, verbs, or nouns. Sometimes you can add a suffix to the concrete noun or alter the word root to form abstract nouns.

(Concrete noun)	(abstract noun)
<i>child</i>	<i>childhood</i>

Nouns with the following suffixes are often abstract:

-tion e.g. <i>devotion</i>	-ism e.g. <i>pessimism</i>	-ity e.g. <i>hospitality</i>
-ment e.g. <i>movement</i>	-ness e.g. <i>restlessness</i>	-age e.g. <i>marriage</i>
-ance e.g. <i>brilliance</i>	-ence e.g. <i>indifference</i>	-ship e.g. <i>relationship</i>
-ability e.g. <i>availability</i>	-acy e.g. <i>bureaucracy</i>	

Table 3: Common suffixes for abstract nouns

2.9 Possessive Nouns

The **Possessive** form is used with **nouns** referring to people, groups of people, countries, and animals. It shows a relationship of belonging between one thing and another.

Lelie's aunt is a doctor.

To form the possessive, add an **apostrophe** + **-s** to the noun.

My brother's computer was stolen a week ago.
Children's toys were on the ground.

If the noun already **ends in -s**, just add an **apostrophe**.

Student's homework will be assessed later.

For names **ending in -s**, you can either add an **apostrophe** + **-s**, or just an **apostrophe**. The first option is more common.

*They want to sell **Jame's** car.*

Study some of the fixed expressions where the possessive form is used.

a day's work, a month's pay, in a year's time, for God's sake

Note that the possessive is also used to refer to *shops, restaurants, churches, universities, etc.*, using the name or job title of the owner.

*I want to go to **Luigi's** for dinner.*
*Peter has an appointment **at the dentist's** at 10 a.m.*

3 Pronouns

A **pronoun** is a word that replaces a noun in a sentence, making the subject a person or a thing

3.1 Subject Pronouns

A **subject** is the person or thing that performs the action in the clause or sentence.

A **subject pronoun** is a pronoun that takes the place of a noun as the subject of a sentence

***She** told me about her worries.*

Subject pronouns replace nouns that are the subject of their clause.

	Singular	Plural
1 st person	I	we
2 nd person	you	you
3 rd person	he/she/it	they

Table 4: Singular and plural forms for subject pronouns

We should replace the subject with a subject pronoun to avoid repetition.

~~Mary is a student and Mary is very hard working.~~
Mary is a student and **she** is very hard working.

We use the subject pronoun *it* when we refer to objects, things, animals, or ideas.

*Love is eternal. **It** will last forever.*

Sometimes when we don't know the sex of a baby, we can use *it*'.

*Their baby is so small. **It** only weights 2 kilos.*

We use *it* when we talk about *time, weather, or temperature*.

*What time is **it**? - **It**'s 7 o'clock.*
***It**'s quite cold today.*

3.2 Object Pronouns

An **object** is the person or thing that receives the action in the clause or sentence.

An **object pronoun** is a pronoun that takes the place of a noun as the object of a sentence.

*She told **me** about her worries.*

Object pronouns are used to replace nouns that are the direct or indirect object of a clause.

Subject	Object
I	me
you	you
he	him
she	her
it	it
we	us
they	them

Table 5: Subject and Object Pronouns

Object pronouns come either after a verb or a preposition.

*Ethan asked **me** to talk to **them**.*

Note that the subject pronoun *it* and the object pronoun *it* look the same.

Do you know the movie 'Pertty Lady'? it is my favourite! (subject pronoun)
I've seen it many times. (object pronoun)

Remember that object nouns are always the recipients of the action in sentence.

~~*He and me went to the movies.*~~ ***He and I*** went to the movies.
~~*Mrs. Keith called her and I.*~~ Mrs. Keith called ***her and me***.

We should replace the object with an object pronoun to avoid repetition.

I can't stop thinking about Amy. ~~*I can't stop imagining my future with Amy.*~~ *I can't stop imagining my future with **her**.*

3.3 Possessive Pronouns

Possessive pronouns are pronouns that demonstrate ownership.

*This car is **mine**.*

Possessive pronouns are used instead of a possessive adjective and noun. Study the following table:

Subject	Object	Possessive Adjective	Possessive Pronoun
I	me	my	mine
you	you	your	yours
he	him	his	his
she	her	her	hers
it	it	its	its
they	them	their	theirs

Table 6: Possessive Adjectives & Possessive Pronouns

4 Articles

Articles are words that define a noun as specific or unspecific.
English has two types of articles:

- Indefinite: *a/an*
- Definite: *the*

*I'm **a** nurse. **The** hospital I'm working in is huge.*

4.1 Indefinite Article

The **indefinite article** takes two forms: **a/an**. Use the indefinite article **a** when it precedes a word that **begin** with a **consonant**. Use the indefinite article **an** when it precedes a word that **begins** with a **vowel**.

***a** table, **an** umbrella, **a** university, **an** honest person.*

The indefinite article **a/an** indicates that a noun refers to a general idea rather than a particular thing.

*What does **a** fox say?*

We use **a/an** when the listener does not know which person or thing we are talking about.

*Helen's brother works in **a** factory. I don't know which factory exactly.*

If we refer to something for the first time, it will be new information for the listener so we use **a/an**. When referencing to the same thing again use **the** because now the listener knows what we are talking about.

*I bought **a** new computer. It's really great! **The** computer is much better than my previous one.*

4.2 Definite Article

The **definite article** is the word **the**. It limits the meaning of a noun to one particular thing. We use **the** when it is clear which thing or person we are talking about.

***The** cake is in the fridge. I know that Kate made it.*

We use the definite article **the** with:

- a) Nationalities and other groups
e.g. **the** French, **the** Italians, **the** old, **the** poor.
- b) Time
e.g. in **the** past, in **the** future (but: **at** present.)
- c) Superlatives
e.g. You are **the** first one!
- d) Musical instruments
e.g. I played **the** piano as a kid.
- e) Countries which are a group or plural
e.g. **the** U.S., **the** U.K., **the** United Arab Emirates, **the** Netherlands
- f) Names of ship.
e.g. We sailed on **the** Claudia
- g) Oceans
e.g. **the** Pacific, **the** Atlantic
- h) Rivers
e.g. **the** Amazon, **the** Nile

Note that we use **zero article** with **plurals** and **uncountable nouns** when we are generally talking about something.

***Dogs** are not allowed in that shop.* (We are talking about dogs in general.)

***The dogs** next door were barking at night.* (We are talking about the particular dogs.)

5 Demonstratives

Demonstratives are words that show which person or thing is being referred to. Demonstratives show where an object, event, or person is in relation to the speaker. They can refer to a physical or a psychological closeness or distance.

***This** is Hugh, and **that** is Kevin.*

	Near the speaker	Far from the speaker
Adverbs	here	there
Demonstratives with singular and uncountable nouns	this	that
Demonstratives with plural countable nouns	these	those

Table 7: Demonstratives

Demonstratives can be placed before the noun or the adjective that modifies the noun.

***That old man** stole my purse!*
***These oranges** are delicious!*

Demonstratives can also appear before a number by itself when the noun is understood from the context.

*I'll take **this one**, please. = I'll take this watermelon, please.*

Demonstratives can be used by themselves when the noun they modify is understood from the context.

***Those** aren't yours. Put them back. = **Those shoes** aren't yours. Put them back.*

When talking about events, the **near demonstratives** are often used to refer to the **present** while the **far demonstratives** often refer to the **past**.

***This situation** is quite unstable.*
***That event** made me realise how important my family is to me.*

6 Distributives

Distributives determiners or simply **distributives** refer to a group of people or things, and to individual members of the group.

They show different ways of looking at the individuals within a group, and they express how something is distributed, shared, or divided.

***All people** want to love and to be loved.*
***Each person** is unique. **Every person** is unique.*
***Both of us** like Mexican food.*

6.1 All

The distributive determiner **all** is used to talk about a whole group, with a special emphasis on the fact that nothing has been left out.

All can be used with uncountable nouns and plural countable nouns by itself. In this usage, it refers to the group as a concept rather than as individuals.

***All parents** want the best for their children.*

All can be used with uncountable nouns and plural countable nouns preceded by **the** or a **possessive adjective**. In these uses, the word **of** can be added just after **all** with no change in meaning.

*Have you eaten **all the cookies** in the jar? = Have you eaten **all of the cookies** in the jar?.*

All can be used with **plural pronouns** preceded by **of**.

***All of us** are going to be there tonight.*

All can be used in questions and exclamations with **uncountable nouns** preceded by **this/that** or with **countable nouns** preceded by **these/those**. In these uses, the word **of** can be added just after **all** with no change in meaning.

*Look at **al this snow** out there!*
*What are **all these people** doing in our house?*

6.2 Half

The distributive determiner **half** is used to talk about a whole group divided in **two**. **Half** can be used as a distributive in several different patterns.

Half can refer to measurements if it is followed by an indefinite article **a/an** and a noun.

*I'll be back in **half an hour**.*

Half can be used with plural pronouns preceded by **of**.

Only half of us are going to be there tonight.

Half can be used with nouns preceded by **the**, **a/b**, **a demonstrative**, or **a possessive adjective**. In this case, the meaning refers to a concrete, physical division. The word **of** can be added just after **half** with no change in meaning.

*Half the people have already left the party.
Putting half a kilo of sugar into the topping will ruin the cake.
I want half of that cake!
Sorry, but I used half of your eggs making breakfast today.*

6.3 Each and Every

The distributives **each** and **every** are both related to describing the members of a group. These distributives can only be used with **countable nouns** by being placed before the nouns.

In many cases, they are interchangeable but there is a **subtle difference** between them.

6.3.1 Each

Each is used to describe and highlight an individual member of a group, or multiple individuals. By using **each** you recognise the item is a part of a group, but that it also needs to be pointed out as a singular item too.

Each book on the shelf had a unique cover.

Each can be used with plural nouns and pronouns but **must** be followed by **of**.

Each of the pupils received a Christmas card.

Each can be used after the subject or at the end of a sentence.

*My siblings each have their own room.
My mother gave my sister and I \$20 each. = (gave \$20 to each of us.)*

6.3.2 Every

Every by contrast is a way of referring to the group as a collection of individual members. **Every** cannot be used with plural nouns.

~~*Every boys in my class wanted that computer game.*~~ *Every boy in my class wanted that computer game.*

Every can express different points in a series, especially with time expressions.

*Every morning Phillip goes for a run.
And every time Ann would forgive him.*

6.4 Both

Both refers to the whole pair and is equivalent to 'one and the other'. **Both** can be used with plural nouns on its own, or it can be followed by **of**, with **of** without an article. When followed by a plural pronoun, **both** must be separated from the pronoun by **of**.

*Both (of) my parents approve of me going to college.
I told both of them to give me a call.*

Both cannot be used with singular nouns, because it refers to two things.

~~*Both my sister likes travelling.*~~ *Both my sisters like travelling.*

6.5 Either

Either is positive and when used alone refers to one of the two members of the pair. It is equivalent to 'one or the other'. Because it refers to just one member of a pair, **either** must be used before a singular noun. It can also be used with a plural noun or pronoun if followed by **of**.

***Either day** is fine.
We could stay at **either of the hotels**.*

Either can also be used with **or** in a construction that talks about each member of the pair in turn. The meaning remains the same, but in this case **either** is not functioning as a distributive. It is functioning as a **conjunction**.

*You can have **either** ice cream **or** cake.*

6.6 Neither

Neither is negative and when used alone refers to the whole pair. It is equivalent to 'not one or the other'. Because it refers to just one member of a pair, **neither** must be used before a singular noun. It can also be used with a plural noun or pronoun if followed by **of**.

***Neither date** is convenient for me.
Neither of these dresses suits her.*

Neither can also be used with **nor** in a construction that talks about each member of the pair in turn. The meaning remains the same, but in this case **neither** is not functioning as a distributive. It is functioning as a **conjunction**.

*It is **neither** snowing **nor** raining.*

7 Quantifiers

We use **quantifiers** when we want to give someone information about the number of something, they are adjectives and adjectival phrases that give approximate or specific answers to the questions 'How much?' and 'How many?'

***Most** children start school at the age of five.
I ate some **rice**.
There are **a lot of** dogs.*

We can use **quantifiers** with both **count** and **uncountable** nouns:

*How **much** coffee do we have left.
How many **cookies** do you have?*

How much is used to ask about uncountable nouns and when we want to know the price of something.

*How **much** this computer cost?*

7.1 A few, a little

A (very) few, (very) little are generally used in affirmative statements, not negatives or questions.

With countable nouns	With uncountable nouns
(very) few = hardly any or not enough	(very) little = hardly any or not enough
<i>I have (very) few toys.</i>	<i>We have (very) little coffee left.</i>
a few = some or enough	a little = some or enough
<i>I have a few examples to show</i>	<i>I have a little coffee left but I can make me a cup of coffee</i>

Table 8: A few vs A little

7.2 Much and Many

Normally, we use **much** and **many** only in questions and negative clauses. But can be used in affirmative sentences in combination with *too* and *so*. In this case, they denote the excessive amount of something.

*How **much** money do you have left?*
*There are **too many** people.*
*You put a **lot of sugar** on my coffee!*

We use **much** to talk about the quantity of uncountable nouns or the price of something, while we use **many** when we talk about the quantity of countable nouns.

*I have **many** friends.*
*She has **too much** money*

7.3 A lot, most

Note that in spoken English and informal writing when we want to indicate a large quantity of something we tend to use **a lot, a lot of, lots of**.

A lot means very often or very much. It is used as an adverb. It often comes at the end of a sentence and **never** before a noun.

*My brother plays videogames **a lot**.*
*She's **a lot** happier after quitting her job.*

We use the quantifier **most** to talk about quantities, amounts and degree. We can use it with a noun (as a determiner) or without a noun (as a pronoun).

We use **most** with nouns in the meaning **the majority of**. If there is no article, demonstrative or possessive pronoun, we use **most** right before the noun.

***Most tap water** is drinkable.*

When we are talking about the majority of a specific set of something, we use **most of the + noun**.

***Most cakes** are sweet.* (cakes in general)
*The party was amazing. Kate made **most of the cakes** herself.* (a specific set of cakes at the party)

We can leave out the noun with **most** when the noun is obvious from the context.

*Students can eat in the cafeteria but **most** bring food from home.* (=most students)

7.4 Some, Any and Enough

We use **some, any** when we are talking about limited but rather indefinite number of quantities.

In general, we use **some** for affirmative sentences, and **any** for negatives and questions. Both can be used with countable and uncountable nouns.

*Jane bought **some** flowers.*
*Did Jane buy **any** flowers? - No, she didn't buy **any**.*

Some can be used for questions, typically offers and requests, if we think the answer will be positive.

*Would you like **some** tea.*

Any can be used in the meaning 'it doesn't matter which'.

*You can't take **any** bus. They all go to the centre.* (=it doesn't matter which bus you take=)

We use **enough** to indicate sufficiency, while in negative sentences it means less than sufficient or less than necessary.

*I'll take your t-shirt. It's **big enough** to fit me.*
*Sorry, but I can't go with you. I don't have **enough money** for that.*

8 The Gerund

The **gerund** looks exactly the same as a **present participle**, but it is useful to understand the difference between the two. The **gerund** always has the same **function as a noun** (although it looks like a verb).

***Hunting** tigers is dangerous.*

Some rule to form the gerund

- -e + ing
e.g. *make-making, write-writing*
- vowel + cons \Rightarrow double cons + -ing
e.g. *knit-knitting, swim-swimming*
- -ie \Rightarrow -y + -ing
e.g. *lie-lying, die-dying*

The **gerund** can be made negativa by adding not.

*The best thing for your health is **not smoking**.*

The **gerund** can function as:

- (a) The subject of the sentence.
e.g. ***Smoking** causes lung cancer.*
- (b) The complement of the verb to be.
e.g. *The hardest thing about learning Russian is **memorizing** the verbs of movement.*

The **gerund** can be used:

- (a) After prepositions or as part of certain expressions. (there's no point in, in spite of, etc.)
e.g. *Can your brother count to ten **without looking** at his fingers?*
***There's no point in going** back to his place now.*
- (b) After phrasal verbs. They are composed of a verb + preposition/adverb.
e.g. *I **ended up buying** a new computer. Rachel **gave up drinking** sugar drinks.*

9 Verb Conjugation

Verb conjugation refer to how a verb changes to indicate a different person, number, tense, or mood. In other words, **conjugation** is the changing of a verb's form to express a different person, number, tense, aspect, or gender. In order to communicate in more than one tone, verbs must be conjugated. To conjugate something is to change a verb's form to express a different meaning.

I'm a student. (1st person, singular, present simple, indicative mood)

9.1 First, Second and Third Person

Verbs should be conjugated with regard to person. Depending on the subject, a verb can stand in the first, second, or third person.

	Singular	Plural
1 st person	I	we
2 nd person	you	you
3 rd person	he, she, it	they

Table 9: First, Second and Third Person (Singular and Plural).

As you can see, the pronouns **I, were** refer to the first person; **you**, to the second person; **he, she, it, they**, to the third person.

We work on Saturdays. (first person)
You need to take a break. (second person)
It is snowing outside. (third person)

Usually we assume the person of the verb in the sentence automatically as we almost always state a subject explicitly.

Sarah has signed up for a yoga class. (**Sarah** can be substituted with the pronoun **she**; the verb is in the third person)

Note that the verb **to be** is irregular and has three forms in present tenses and two forms in past tenses. These forms depend on the person expressed by the subject.

	Present		Past	
1 st person	I am	we are	I was	we were
2 nd person	you are	you are	you were	you were
3 rd person	he/she/it is	they are	he/she/it was	they were

Table 10: Verb To Be forms.

10 Verb tenses

10.1 Simple tense

10.1.1 Past simple

The **past simple** is used to write and talk about completed actions that happened in a time before the present. It is the basic form of the past tense in English. We use the **past simple** when we talk about an action which happened at a definite time in the past.

This tense emphasizes that the action is finished.

We can also use this tense to talk about how someone felt about something.

*I **solved** the puzzle.*
*I **was** happy for your succes.*

How to form the **past simple**

- infinitive + (e)d
e.g. *He **worked** part-time as a waiter.*
*We **liked** our stay at the hotel.*
Note that all persons have the same form.
- cons + -y \Rightarrow cons + -ied
e.g. *cry-**cried**, try-**tried***
- vowel + const \Rightarrow vowel + double const + ed
e.g. *stop-**stopped**, regret-**regretted***

Remember that irregular verbs don't follow the rules above, use the past tense form of the irregular verbs to make sentences in the past simple.

*be-**was/were**, eat-**ate**, drink-**drank***

The **past tense** of the verb **to be** depends on the person of the subject. (Table - 10)

I was	We were
You were	You were
he/she/it was	They were

Table 11: Past forms of verb To Be

Positive and negative forms, and questions

Positive Negative
did / **did not** + Verb

- (+) *His sister **lived** in Sutton, London.*
- (-) *His sister **did not live** in Sutton. She **lived** in Harrow.*
- (?) ***Did** his sister **live** in Sutton?*
- (?) *Where **did** his sister **live** in London?*

Using time markers

Yesterday, last night, (not) a long time ago, two years ago, etc.

*Shakespeare died **in 1616**.*
*Ryan did not go to work **yesterday**. He got sick.*
***When** did you move to Spain? - I moved ther **not a long time ago**.*

Note that we use **did/did not** with the verb **to have**.

*I **didn't** have enough money to buy a new computer.*

But we do **not use did** with the verb **to be (was/were)**.

- *Why **were you** so angry?*
- ***I wasn't** angry. **This was** my usual self.*

10.1.2 Present simple