

# English 6

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# 1 Language Structure Knowledge

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## 1.1 Names and Nouns

### 1.1.1 Capital Letter

**Important 1** (Capital Letter). *Names of people, places, organizations, etc. always begin with a capital letter. In English, capital letters are also used for days, months and festive holidays.*

Some examples:

- I will watch that movie on Tuesday.
- What will you do on Christmas?
- I will soon move to Sweden.
- I'm looking forward to traveling to Spain in December.

### 1.1.2 Titles

**Important 2** (Titles). *Personal titles begin with a capital letter.*

*Titles of articles, books, movies etc. use a capital letters for each word except for articles<sup>a</sup>, prepositions<sup>b</sup> and coordinating conjunctions<sup>c</sup>. These three exceptions still have a capital letter if they are the first or the last word in a title.*

<sup>a</sup>Articles are used in front of nouns to add meaning. They consist of the following words: *a, an, the*.

<sup>b</sup>Prepositions are words that show position or direction. Some examples are: *up, down, around, among, with*.

<sup>c</sup>see 1.11.2

Some examples of personal titles:

- Professor
- Doctor

- 
- Mr.
  - Mrs.
  - Ms.

Some examples of titles for articles, books, movies etc.

- The Dog that Lived
- He Sailed on a Boat
- We Never Saw Him Again
- It's for the People

### 1.1.3 Collective Nouns

**Definition 1** (Collective Nouns). *Collective nouns are nouns that describe a collection of things but are counted as a whole, like a team or a group. Such nouns can be used in the singular or in the plural, depending on whether the noun is seen as a whole or as a group of individual things (which is subjective).*

Some examples:

- The crowd *was* in a state of ecstasy. (*singular*)
- The crowd *were* throwing stones. (*plural*)
- Group A *is* a subset of group B. (*singular*)

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## 1.2 Abstract Nouns

**Definition 2** (Abstract Noun). *An abstract noun is a word that refers to something that does not exist physically.*

Abstract nouns can often be recognized by their suffix, which usually is:

- -tion: *description, satisfaction*
- -ism: *tourism, alcoholism*
- -ment: *enjoyment, astonishment*
- -ness: *happiness, rudeness*
- -ity: *quality, reality*

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## 1.3 The Passive Form (Not on the Test!)

**Definition 3** (Passive Form). *The passive form of a verb is created by using any form of be<sup>a</sup> with a verb in past participle<sup>b</sup>*

<sup>a</sup>this may be: *be, am, is, are, was, were, being, been*

<sup>b</sup>see 1.9

Passive form is often used when the object<sup>1</sup> is unknown, or that the focus is on the action rather than the object. Here are an examples of a sentence with its verb in active form and passive form:

1. Lucy *writes* a speech. (*active*)
2. A speech *is written* by Lucy. (*passive*)

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<sup>1</sup>see 1.11.3

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## 1.4 Inversion

**Definition 4** (Inversion). *Inversion is when the order of the subject and verb is switched. It is usually S-V but then it becomes V-S.*

In english, sentences are usually written with with the subject before the verb, like *She walked*. In some instances, this is reversed.

The most common scenarios where inversion is used is and an example with it is:

- In questions: *Did he really do that?*
- When a sentence starts with negative adverbs: *Never had I seen such terrible behavior.*
- In expressions beginning with 'not': *Not only does he drink but he also uses drugs.*



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## 1.5 Adjectives and Adverbs

**Definition 5** (Adjectives and Adverbs). *Adjectives describe and compare nouns and pronouns. Adverbs describe verbs.*

Some examples of adjectives are:

- The cat is *small*.
- The *yellow* color fits this room.

Some examples of adverbs are:

- He ran *fast*.
- She pays *well*.

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## 1.6 Relative Clauses

**Definition 6** (Clauses). *A clause is a group of words that contains a subject and a predicate<sup>a</sup>*

<sup>a</sup>a predicate says what the subject is or is doing.

An example of a clause is:

- The cat is sleeping in the sun.

Clauses can be put together with the use of conjunctions (see 1.11.2). An example of two main clauses being put together in a compound sentence is:

- **She bought a new computer *and* she purchased a used printer.**

**Definition 7** (Relative Clauses). *A relative clause is a subordinate clause<sup>a</sup> that gives additional information about the contents of the main clause.*

<sup>a</sup>a dependent clause that only has meaning in the context of a main clause to which it is connected.

Relative clauses are often introduced with a relative pronoun, which mainly are:

- *Who*
- *Whom*
- *Whose*
- *Which*
- *That*

When defined this way, they are called a *defining relative clause*. Some examples are:

- The car *which I drive* is very old.

- 
- Some children *that were missing* have been found.
  - My cousin *who just called* had some really good news.

A relative clause can also be a *non-defining relative clause*, which means that we already know who or what we are talking about when a relative pronoun is used to begin the relative clause. The non-defining relative clause is placed between commas. Some examples are:

- The guy, *who lives downstairs*, has got a kick-ass computer.
- That man, *whose sister is quite fine*, is annoying.

The focus is therefore not on the non-defining relative clause, it is not necessary, but it gives additional information.

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## 1.7 Verb tenses

### 1.7.1 The Present

The present tenses are used on verbs that describe things going on right now, or are true now or always. They are also used for things that will happen in the future. These are the four present tenses in english:

1. **Present simple** is the base form of the verb. It is used to express something that is true now or always.
2. **Present continuous** is made up of *any form of be*<sup>2</sup> + *ing-form* of the verb. It is used to express something that is happening right now or for a limited period of time.
3. **Present perfect** is made up of *have* + *past participle*<sup>3</sup> of the verb. It is used for things that started in the past, but are still going on now. It is also used for things that happened in the past but are still true now.
4. **Present perfect continuous** is used in the same way as present perfect, but when we want to put more emphasis on the fact that something is still going on.

Here's an example of four sentences, one for each present tense:

| Present simple | Present continuous   | Present perfect       | Present perfect continuous  |
|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| I play hockey. | I am playing hockey. | I have played hockey. | I have been playing hockey. |

### 1.7.2 The Past

The past tenses are used on verbs that describe things that have already happened, or to talk about things that could *possibly* happen in the present or future. These are the four past tenses in english:

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<sup>2</sup>be, am, is, are, was, were, being, been

<sup>3</sup>see 1.9

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1. **Past simple** is usually created by adding *-ed* to the verb, but there are also many verbs with irregular forms. It is mainly used to express things that both started and ended in the past:
  2. **Past continuous** is made up of *past tense of be*<sup>4</sup> + *ing-form*. It is mainly used to describe what was going on when something else happened or around a certain time, for things that continued for some time.
  3. **Past perfect** is made up of *had* + *past participle*<sup>5</sup> of the verb. It is mainly used to describe things that started in the past and continued up to a certain point in the past. It is also used to show cause and effect.
  4. **Present perfect continuous** is made up of *past perfect of any form of be* + *-ing form of the verb*. It is used in the same way as past perfect, but when we want to put more emphasis on the process.

| Past simple      | Past continuous       | Past perfect         | Past perfect continuous    |
|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| I played hockey. | I was playing hockey. | I had played hockey. | I had been playing hockey. |

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<sup>4</sup>be, am, is, are, was, were, being, been

<sup>5</sup>see 1.9

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## 1.8 Subject Verb Agreement

Subjects and verbs must agree in singular/plural in a sentence. Plural subjects must be connected with a plural verbs. If there are two or more singular subjects connected with *and*, then they are treated as plural and will need a plural verb. If two or more singular objects are connected with *or* then they are treated as singular and will need a singular verb. If singular and plural subjects are connected with *or* then the subject closest to the verb dictate whether the verb is plural or singular. Collective nouns<sup>6</sup> can be treated as singular or plural, depending on what's the focus.

Some examples:

- **She** *walks* to school. (*singular subject and verb*)
- **They** *walk* to school. (*plural subject and verb*)
- **Strength** and **fitness** *are* important qualities in this competition. (*two singular subjects connected with 'and' ⇒ plural verb*)
- **The cat** *or* **the dog** *has* taken the fish. (*two singular objects connected with 'or' ⇒ singular verb*)
- **The cat** *or* **the dogs** *have* taken the fish. (*subject closest to verb is plural and the subjects are connected with 'or' ⇒ plural verb*)

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<sup>6</sup>see 1.1.3

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## 1.9 Regular and Irregular Verbs

### 1.9.1 Regular Verbs

Regular verbs are conjugated to *past simple* and *past participle* by adding *-ed* at the end of the word. Here are some examples:

| Infinitive | Past Simple | Past Participle |
|------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Pick       | Picked      | Picked          |
| Return     | Returned    | Returned        |
| Punch      | Punched     | Punched         |
| Question   | Questioned  | Questioned      |

### 1.9.2 Irregular Verbs

Irregular verbs are verbs whose conjugation **do not** follow the typical pattern. There is no general rule for how to conjugate the irregular verbs unfortunately, but here are some examples of conjugated irregular verbs:

| Infinitive | Past Simple | Past Participle |
|------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Feel       | Felt        | Felt            |
| Fly        | Flew        | Flown           |
| Fit        | Fit         | Fit             |
| Have       | Had         | Had             |

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## 1.10 Apostrophe Rules

We use apostrophes for contracting words and for possessive form.

Here are some examples for using it for contracting words:

- It's quite easy. (*It is*)
- I must've forgotten it. (*must have*)
- We've been shopping all day. (*We have*)

Here are some examples for using it for possessive form:

- The school's principal decided to close the school.
- The dog's bone is really large.
- Children's books.
- We need to retrieve the computers' internals.

Some other rules with apostrophes are that they are **not** used for decades or years:

- The 1960s (*Not 1960's*)
- The 20s (*Not 20's*)

and they are also not used for acronyms:

- UFOs (*not UFO's*)



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## 1.11 Short Explanations of Prerequisites

### 1.11.1 Prepositions

Prepositions are words that show position or direction. Some examples are: *up, down, around, among, with*.

### 1.11.2 Conjunctions

Conjunctions is a word that joins parts of a sentences, like clauses. Some examples are: *for, since, yet, whom, so*.

**Coordinating Conjunctions** Coordinating conjunctions are conjunctions that join parts of equal importance, like: *for, and, nor, but, or, so*. Some examples that do not join parts of equal importance are *since, although after, because before, when while*.

### 1.11.3 Subjects and Objects

A basic rule is that the subject is the person or thing doing something. The object is having something done to it. Both the subject and object can consist of multiple words. An object can be 'The man whose house my brother built' and a subject can be 'The cats'.

A **subject** is a noun, and there are three criteria for identifying subjects:

1. Subject verb agreement: (*see 1.8*)
2. Position occupied: *The subject typically immediately precedes the verb.*
3. Semantic Role: *It performs the action expressed by the verb.*

Here are some examples of sentences where the subject is identified by being in bold and the connected verb is identified by being in italics.

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- I *love* chocolate.
  - **They** *went* to the cinema.
  - **The cats** *like* her.

An **object** is a noun that comes after and is governed by a verb or a preposition. Some examples of objects in sentences are these:

- I *know* **him**.
- *Give* **her** the prize.
- Sit *with* **them**.

where the italic words are the verbs or prepositions, and the bold words are the objects.

Here are some examples of sentences with both a subject and an object, where the subject is in bold and the object is in italics:

- **He** paints *a painting*.

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## 2 Literary History

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## 3 Novel Analysis

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## 4 Open Application