

Basic grammar rules for PTE Reading FIBS and reading and writing FIBS

Rule 1: Have/has/had + past participle tense (V3)

After have/has/had, choose the past participle of a verb with the form -ed or the third form.

Example:

You have been approved for admission.

He had repaired his old car.

I have baked some cookies.

Rule 2: Am/is/are/was/were + past participle tense (V3)

After am/is/are/was/were, choose the past participle of a verb with the form -ed or the third form.

Example:

She was chased by animals in the forest.

Your dog is obsessed with bigger dogs.

However, the verb is sometimes the first form after is/am/are/was/were.

Example:

Jack was cutting the grass when a snake appeared.

My parents are going to a lake nearby for fishing.

Rule 3: Be/being/been+ past participle tense (V3)

After be/been/being, choose the past participle of a verb with the form -ed or the third form.

Example:

This workshop has been held in the art gallery since last week.

Rule 4: Preposition 'to' + first form of the verb (V1)

After the preposition "to", choose a verb in the present or first form of the verb.

Example:

I decided to go to New York to visit my sister.

Rule 5: Preposition with, of, for, about + verb-ing

After the prepositions 'with', 'of', 'for', and 'about' (except for 'to'), use verbs ending in '-ing'.

Example:

Thanks for giving me a ride.

How about going to the zoo this weekend?

Rule 6: Articles a/an/the + noun

There are two types of articles:

- The definite article 'The'
- The indefinite article 'a', 'an'

'A' or 'an' usually comes before 'the' before the same noun in a paragraph.

Remember that nouns always come after articles. So, if the blank comes after a/an/the, you will quickly identify the noun from the filling options.

Here are the **3 Article Rules**:

1. "An" comes before words that begin with a vowel sound—five vowels" a, e, i, o, u.

Example: *an egg, an apricot, an elephant*

1. "A" comes before words that begin with consonants.

Example: *a student, a building, a tree*

1. 'The' comes before the noun forms of a word to indicate that the noun's identity is known to the reader.

Example: *"I will read the book"*. The speaker means a specific book.

Rule 7: Article a/an/the + adjective + noun

While rule 6 states that a/an/the goes with nouns, they may go with noun phrases (adjective + noun).

If there is a blank between an article and a noun, we will specify an adjective to fill in

Example: *a tall building, a unique outfit*

Rule 8: Modal verb + first form of the verb

can/ could/ shall/ should/ may/ might/ will/ would/ must/ have to + first verb form

A modal verb (or modal auxiliary verb) expresses the certainty and uncertainty of action.

Example:

You must leave the danger zone.

I can complete the report within three hours.

He should see a dentist before his teeth get worse.

Rule 9: Many + Plural nouns

After 'many', look for a plural noun to fill in the blank. The plural form of a noun will always have "s or es".

Example:

Many students are waiting for the school bell.

He can speak many languages

Rule 10: It/which/that + Plural form of the verb -s/-es

After it/ which/ that, you must fill in the blank with the plural form of the verb with -s or -es.

Example:

It takes a few months to finish the project.

He cooks a dish that has a distinctive French taste.

Rule 11: Conjunction rule

The verb form must be consistent before and after a conjunction

Example:

My family will go to Melbourne and settle there.