

Essential Grammar in Use

Grammar reference

RAYMOND MURPHY

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For further practice:

Essential Grammar in Use Supplementary Exercises

Helen Naylor with Raymond Murphy

Essential Grammar in Use Cassette Set

Example sentences from *Essential Grammar in Use*

Raymond Murphy

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Not for sale separately

I/me he/him they/them etc.

People



<i>subject</i>	I	we	you	he	she	they
<i>object</i>	me	us	you	him	her	them

<i>subject</i>	I	I know Ann.	Ann knows me .	<i>object</i>	me
	we	We know Ann.	Ann knows us .		us
	you	You know Ann.	Ann knows you .		you
	he	He knows Ann.	Ann knows him .		him
	she	She knows Ann.	Ann knows her .		her
	they	They know Ann.	Ann knows them .		them

Things



<i>subject</i>	it	they
<i>object</i>	it	them

Whose is this? It's mine/yours/hers etc.



I → my → mine	It's my money.	It's mine .
we → our → ours	It's our money.	It's ours .
you → your → yours	It's your money.	It's yours .
he → his → his	It's his money.	It's his .
she → her → hers	It's her money.	It's hers .
they → their → theirs	It's their money.	It's theirs .

am/is/are



positive

I	am	(I'm)
he	is	(he's)
she		(she's)
it		(it's)
we	are	(we're)
you		(you're)
they		(they're)

negative

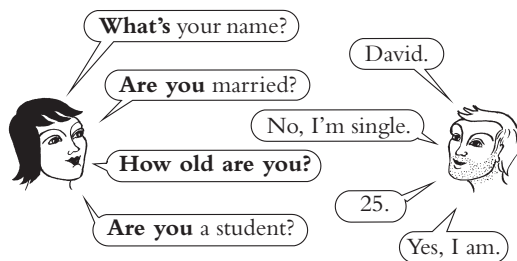
I	am not	(I'm not)
he	is not	(he's not or he isn't)
she		(she's not or she isn't)
it		(it's not or it isn't)
we	are not	(we're not or we aren't)
you		(you're not or you aren't)
they		(they're not or they aren't)

positive

I	am
he	is
she	
it	
we	are
you	
they	

question

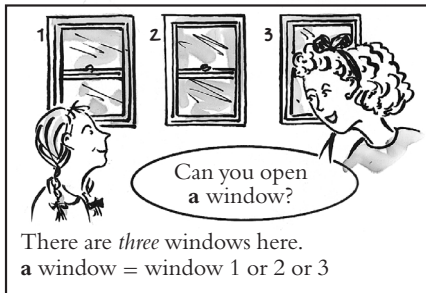
am	I?
is	he?
	she?
	it?
are	we?
	you?
	they



- 'Am I late?' 'No, you're on time.'
- 'Is your mother at home?' 'No, she's out.'
- 'Are your parents at home?' 'No, they're out.'
- 'Is it cold in your room?' 'Yes, a little.'
- 'Your shoes are nice. Are they new?'

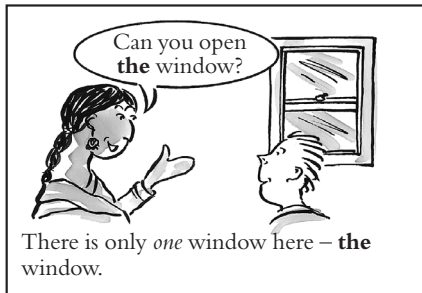
a/an and the

a/an



- I've got **a car**.
(there are many cars and I've got one)
- Can I ask **a question**?
(there are many questions – can I ask one?)
- Is there **a hotel** near here? (there are many hotels – is there one near here?)
- Paris is **an interesting city**. (there are many interesting cities and Paris is one)

the



- I'm going to clean **the car** tomorrow.
(= my car)
- Can you repeat **the question**, please?
(= the question that you asked)
- We enjoyed our holiday. **The hotel** was very nice. (= our hotel)
- Paris is **the capital of France**.
(there is only one capital of France)

flower(s) bus(es) (singular and plural)

The plural of a noun is usually -s:

singular (= one) → *plural* (= two or more)
a flower → **some flowers**
a week → **two weeks**
a nice place → **many nice places**
this shop → **these shops**



a flower



some flowers

Some plurals do *not* end in -s:

this **man** → these **men**
a **woman** → some **women**
a **child** → many **children**

one **foot** → two **feet**
a **tooth** → all my **teeth**
a **mouse** → some **mice**

that **sheep** → those **sheep**
a **fish** → a lot of **fish**

a car / some money (countable/uncountable)

A noun can be *countable* or *uncountable*.

Countable nouns

For example: (a) **car** (a) **man** (a) **key** (a) **house** (a) **flower** (an) **idea** (an) **accident**

You can use **one/two/three** (etc.) + *countable nouns* (you can *count* them):



one **car**



two **cars**



three **men**



four **houses**

Countable nouns can be *singular* (= one) or *plural* (= two or more):

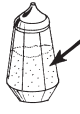
singular: **a car** **my car** **the car** etc.
plural: **cars** **two cars** **the cars** **some cars** **many cars** etc.

Uncountable nouns

For example: **water** **air** **rice** **salt** **plastic** **money** **music** **tennis**



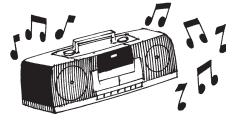
water



salt



money



music

You *cannot* say **one/two/three** (etc.) + these things: ~~one water~~ ~~two musics~~

Uncountable nouns have only *one* form:

money the **money** my **money** some **money** much **money** etc.

I have ... / I've got ...

You can say **I have** or **I've got**, **he has** or **he's got**:

I	have	OR	I	have got	(I've got)
we			you		(we've got)
you			they		(you've got)
they			they		(they've got)
he	has	OR	he	has got	(he's got)
she			she		(she's got)
it			it		(it's got)



I am doing (present continuous)

am/is/are + -ing = something is happening *now*:

I'm working
 she's **wearing** a hat
 they're **playing** football
 I'm **not watching** television

past ————— **NOW** ————— *future*

- Please be quiet. **I'm working.** (= I'm working now)
- Look at Sue! She's **wearing** her new hat. (= she is wearing it now)
- The weather is nice at the moment. **It's not raining.**
- 'Where are the children?' 'They're **playing** in the park.'
- (*on the phone*) We're **having** dinner now. Can you phone again later?
- You can turn off the television. **I'm not watching** it.

I'm going to ...

I'm going to (do something)



She **is going to watch** TV this evening.

We use **am/is/are going to...** for the *future*:

I	am	(not) going to	do ...
he/she/it	is		drink ...
we/you/they	are		watch ...

am	I	going to	buy ... ?
is	he/she/it		eat ... ?
are	we/you/they		wear ... ?

I do/work/like etc. (present simple)

positive

I we you they	work like do have
he she it	works likes does has

negative

I we you they	do not (don't)	work like do have
he she it	does not (doesn't)	

We use the present simple for things that are true in general, or for things that happen sometimes or all the time:

- I **like** big cities.
- The shops **open** at 9 o'clock and **close** at 5.30.
- Tim **works** very hard. He **starts** at 7.30 and **finishes** at 8 o'clock in the evening.
- The Earth **goes** round the Sun.
- I **drink** coffee but I **don't drink** tea.
- Sue **drinks** tea but she **doesn't drink** coffee.
- You **don't work** very hard.
- We **don't watch** television very often.
- The weather is usually nice. It **doesn't rain** very often.
- Gerry and Linda **don't know** many people.

do/does + *subject* + *infinitive*

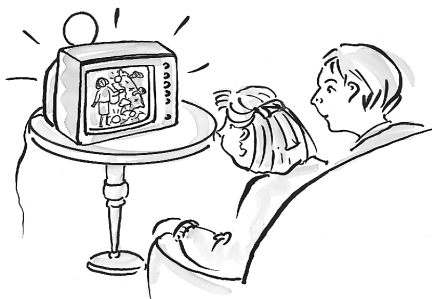
Where	Do	you	work	in the evening?
How often	Do	your friends	live	near here?
What	Does	Chris	play	tennis?
How much	do	your parents	live?	
	do	you	wash	your hair?
	does	this word	mean?	
	does	it	cost	to fly to Rome?



worked/got/went etc. (past simple)

They **watch** television every evening.
(present simple)

They **watched** television yesterday evening.
(past simple)



watched is the *past simple*:

I/we/you/they he/she/it	watched
----------------------------	----------------

We use **did** in past simple negatives and questions:

<i>infinitive</i>	<i>positive</i>	<i>negative</i>	<i>question</i>
play start watch have see do go	I we you they he she it played started watched had saw did went	I we you they he she it did not (didn't)	play? start? watch? have? see? do? go? did I we you they he she it

- I **played** tennis yesterday but I **didn't win**.
- '**Did you do** the shopping?' 'No, I **didn't have** time.'
- We **went** to the cinema but we **didn't enjoy** the film.

Questions

did + *subject* + *infinitive*

What How Where	Did did did	your sister you the accident your parents	phone do happen? go	you? yesterday evening? for their holiday?
----------------------	--	--	--	--

short answers

Yes,	I/we/you/they he/she/it	did.	No,	I/we/you/they he/she/it	didn't.
------	----------------------------	-------------	-----	----------------------------	----------------

- '**Did you** see Joe yesterday?' 'No, I **didn't**.'
- '**Did it** rain on Sunday?' 'Yes, **it did**.'
- '**Did Helen** come to the party?' 'No, **she didn't**.'
- '**Did your parents** have a good holiday?' 'Yes, **they did**.'

old/nice/beautiful etc. (adjectives)

adjective + noun (nice day / blue eyes etc.)

adjective + noun
It's a **nice** day today.
Laura has got **brown** eyes.
There's a very **old** bridge in this village.
Do you like **Italian** food?

be (am/is/was etc.) + adjective

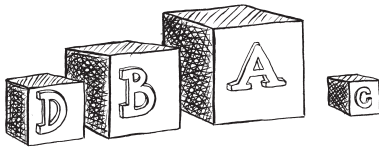
- The weather **is nice** today.
- These flowers **are** very **beautiful**.
- **Are** you **cold**? Shall I close the window?



look/feel/smell/taste/sound + adjective



the oldest the most expensive



Box A is **bigger than** Box B.

Box A is **bigger than** all the other boxes.

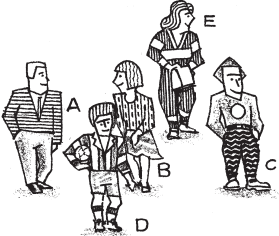
Box A is **the biggest** box.

Bigger / older / more expensive etc.
are *comparative* forms

Biggest / oldest / most expensive etc.
are *superlative* forms.

under behind between etc. (prepositions)

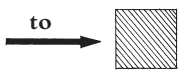

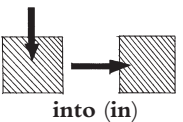
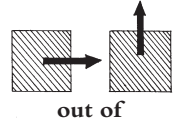
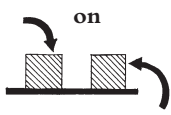
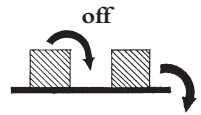

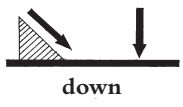
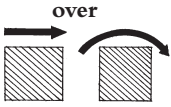
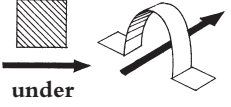
next to (or beside) / between / in front of / behind



A is **next to** B. *or* A is **beside** B.
 B is **between** A and C.
 D is **in front of** B.
 E is **behind** B.

also
 A is **on the left**.
 C is **on the right**.
 B is **in the middle** (of the group).

up over under etc. (prepositions)

 <p>to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jane is going to France next week. We walked from the hotel to the station. 	 <p>from</p>
 <p>into (in)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A man came out of the house and got into a car. 	 <p>out of</p>
 <p>on</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't put your feet on the table. Please take your feet off the table. We got on the bus in Princes Street. 	 <p>off</p>
 <p>up</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We walked up the hill to the house. Be careful! Don't fall down the stairs. 	 <p>down</p>
 <p>over</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The plane flew over the mountains. I jumped over the wall into the garden. 	 <p>under</p>

can



He **can play** the piano.

can + infinitive (**can do** / **can play** / **can come** etc.):

I/we/you/they he/she/it } }	can cannot (can't)	do play see come etc.
-----------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--

can	I/we/you/they he/she/it	do? play? see? come? etc.
------------	----------------------------	--

I can do something = I *know how* to do it or *it is possible* for me to do it:

- I **can play** the piano. My brother **can play** the piano too.
- Sarah **can speak** Italian but she **can't speak** Spanish.
- 'Can you **swim**?' 'Yes, but I'm not a very good swimmer.'
- 'Can you **change** twenty pounds?' 'I'm sorry, I **can't**.'
- I'm having a party next week but Paul and Jenny **can't come**.

List of irregular verbs

<i>infinitive</i>	<i>past simple</i>	<i>past participle</i>
be	was/were	been
become	became	become
begin	began	begun
bite	bit	bitten
blow	blew	blown
break	broke	broken
bring	brought	brought
build	built	built
buy	bought	bought
catch	caught	caught
choose	chose	chosen
come	came	come
cost	cost	cost
cut	cut	cut
do	did	done
draw	drew	drawn
drink	drank	drunk
drive	drove	driven
eat	ate	eaten
fall	fell	fallen
feel	felt	felt
fight	fought	fought
find	found	found
fly	flew	flown
forget	forgot	forgotten
get	got	got
give	gave	given
go	went	gone
grow	grew	grown
hang	hung	hung
have	had	had
hear	heard	heard
hit	hit	hit
hold	held	held
hurt	hurt	hurt
keep	kept	kept
know	knew	known
leave	left	left
lend	lent	lent

<i>infinitive</i>	<i>past simple</i>	<i>past participle</i>
let	let	let
lie	lay	lain
lose	lost	lost
make	made	made
mean	meant	meant
meet	met	met
pay	paid	paid
put	put	put
read /ri:d/*	read /red/*	read /red/*
ride	rode	ridden
ring	rang	rung
rise	rose	risen
run	ran	run
say	said	said
see	saw	seen
sell	sold	sold
send	sent	sent
shine	shone	shone
shoot	shot	shot
show	showed	shown
shut	shut	shut
sing	sang	sung
sit	sat	sat
sleep	slept	slept
speak	spoke	spoken
spend	spent	spent
stand	stood	stood
steal	stole	stolen
swim	swam	swum
take	took	taken
teach	taught	taught
tell	told	told
think	thought	thought
throw	threw	thrown
understand	understood	understood
wake	woke	woken
wear	wore	worn
win	won	won
write	wrote	written