

# A/AN & PLURALS IN ENGLISH

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## REGULAR PLURAL

### SINGULAR

a student  
an apple

a bus  
a box

a baby  
a country

a day  
a toy

a shelf  
a wife

### PLURAL

students  
apples

buses  
boxes

babies  
countries

days  
toys

shelves  
wives

### SPELLING

➔ general rule  
add **-s**

➔ after **-s, -ch, -sh, -x**  
add **-es**

➔ after consonant + **-y**  
delete **-y** and add **-ies**

➔ after **-ay, -ey, -oy**  
add **-s**

➔ after **-f** or **-fe**  
delete **-f** or **-fe** and add **-ves**

A + CONSONANT: a table, a box

AN + VOWEL: an orange, an egg

## IRREGULAR PLURAL

### SINGULAR

a man  
a woman  
a child  
a foot  
a tooth  
a fish  
a mouse  
a sheep

### PLURAL

men  
women  
children  
feet  
teeth  
fish  
mice  
sheep

### USE AN + SILENT H-

an hour (silent h-)

a hat (not silent h-)

### USE A + U- (PRONOUNCED [ju:])

an umbrella (pronounced [ʌ] NOT [ju:])

a university (pronounced [ju:])

### ⚠ DO NOT USE A/AN WITH PLURALS

❌ These are a tables.

✅ These are tables.

# ADJECTIVES + PREPOSITION

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## to

**addicted** to someone or something  
**close** to someone  
**different** to/from someone/something  
**kind** to someone  
**married** to someone  
**rude** to someone  
**similar** to something or someone

## for

**bad** for something or someone  
**famous** for something  
**good** for something or someone  
**sorry** for someone/something or for doing something

## at

**good** (and synonyms) at something or doing something  
**bad** (and synonyms) at something or doing something  
**angry** at someone

## in

**interested** in someone, in something or in doing something

## on

**keen** on something or doing something  
**hooked** on something

## of

**afraid** (and synonyms) of something or someone  
**capable** of something  
**fond** of something or someone  
**proud** of someone or something  
**tired** of someone or something

## with

**angry** with someone  
**bored** with something  
**tired up** with something or someone  
**obsessed** with someone/something  
**pleased** with something/someone

## about

**angry** about something  
**excited** about something  
**sorry** about something  
**worried** about something or someone

# ADJECTIVES IN ENGLISH

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## ADJECTIVE + NOUN

It's an **interesting** **book**.  
She's an **amazing** **teacher**.  
She has **dark** **eyes**.  
I have **old** **videos**.  
Do you like **Chinese** **food**?

## AM/IS/ARE + ADJECTIVE

This book **is** **interesting**.  
This teacher **is** **amazing**.  
Her eyes **are** **dark**.  
These videos **are** **old**.  
**Is** this food **Chinese**?

They are **interesting** **books**.



These books **are** **interesting**.

## FEEL/LOOK/SMELL/SOUND/TASTE + ADJECTIVE

Your idea **sounds** **interesting**.  
This soup **tastes** **horrible**.  
You **look** **tired**.  
These cookies **smell** **delicious**.  
I **feel** **bad**.

## ADJECTIVES DO NOT HAVE A PLURAL FORM

- These are my **favourite**s shoes.
- These are my favourite shoes.
- She has **blue**s eyes.
- She has blue eyes.

# ADVERBS OF FREQUENCY

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## WORD ORDER

POSITIVE	SUBJECT	FREQUENCY ADVERB	VERB	He <b>often</b> <b>cooks</b> pasta.
	SUBJECT	BE	FREQUENCY ADVERB	You <b>are</b> <b>always</b> late.
QUESTION	AUXILIARY	SUBJECT	FREQUENCY ADVERB	<b>Are</b> you <b>always</b> late? <b>Does</b> he <b>often</b> cook?



Use NEVER and HARDLY EVER with positive verbs



He isn't never late.



They don't hardly ever go to the library.



He is never late.



They hardly ever go to the library.

## adverbs of manner

### adjective

careful  
quick  
slow  
bad

happy  
easy  
noisy

reasonable  
incontrollable

good

fast  
hard  
early  
late  
right  
wrong

### adverb of manner

carefully  
quickly  
slowly  
badly

happily  
easily  
noisily

reasonably  
incontrollably

well

fast  
hard  
early  
late  
right  
wrong

### spelling changes

most adverbs  
> add **-ly**

adverbs ending **-y**  
> change **-y** to **-i**  
> add **-ly**

adverbs ending **-le**  
> change **-e** to **-y**

irregular adverb

adverbs that have  
the same form as  
the adjectives

# ALTERNATIVES TO IF IN CONDITIONALS

## UNLESS

=IF NOT

*I won't go to the party unless you go too. (=I won't go if you don't go too.)*

## IN CASE

BECAUSE SOMETHING MIGHT HAPPEN

*I'll take an umbrella in case it rains. (=I will take it because it might rain.)*

*I'll take an umbrella if it rains. (=I will take it only if it rains.)*

## WHETHER OR NOT

SOMETHING WILL HAPPEN IN EITHER OF TWO POSSIBILITIES

*I'll help him if he needs me. (=I will help him only if he needs me.)*

*I'll help him whether or not he needs me. (=I will help him if he needs me, and I will help him if he doesn't need me, too.)*

## EVEN IF

(=WHETHER OR NOT). MORE EMPHASIS

*Even if you apologise, he'll never forgive you.*

(=Whether or not you apologise, he'll never forgive you.)

## AS LONG AS, PROVIDED/PROVIDING THAT, ON CONDITION THAT, ONLY IF

(=IF) TO EMPHASISE THE CONDITION

*I'll tell you what really happened as long as/only if you can keep the secret.*

*I'll lend you the money provided/on condition (that) you pay me back next month.*

## SUPPOSE/SUPPOSING

(=IF) IMAGINING A SITUATION

*Supposing I got a job, I wouldn't be able to travel with you next summer.*

*Suppose she doesn't believe you, what would you do then?*

# PREPOSITIONS OF PLACE

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## AT

### AT A POINT

- at the door
- at the crossroads
- at the traffic light

### TOP/BOTTOM/END OF

- at the top of the stairs
- at the bottom of the page
- at the end of the street

### GROUP ACTIVITIES

- at a party
- at a concert
- at the cinema

### SCHOOL/UNIVERSITY

- at school
- at university

### HOME/WORK

- at home
- at work

### SHOPS

- at the bakery
- at a café
- at the chemist's

## IN

### IN A 3D SPACE

- in the bag
- in the classroom
- in a box

### TERRITORY

- in London
- in Europe
- in the Alps
- in the world

### CAR/VAN

- in the car
- in a van

### WATER

- in the sea
- in a river
- in a lake
- in the swimming pool

### PRINTED MATERIAL

- in a book
- in a picture
- in the newspaper

## ON

### ON A SURFACE

- on the table
- on the carpet
- on the roof
- on the sofa

### FLOOR

- on the first floor
- on the fifth floor

### RIGHT/LEFT

- on the right
- on the left

### PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- on the bus
- on the train
- on a plane

### MEDIA

- on the radio
- on TV
- on the Internet
- on a website

# PREPOSITIONS OF TIME

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## AT

### TIMES OF DAY

- at 4 o'clock
- at 10:30
- at noon
- at midnight

### MEALTIMES

- at lunchtime
- at dinnertime

### HOLIDAYS

- at Christmas
- at Eastern
- at the weekend

### EXPRESSIONS

- at present
- at the moment
- at night

## IN

### MONTHS

- in April

### SEASONS

- in the summer
- in the spring

### YEARS

- in 1990

### DECADES

- in the 80s


### CENTURIES

- in the 20th century

### LONG PERIODS

- in the ice age
- in the present
- in the past

### PARTS OF THE DAY

- in the morning
- in the afternoon
- in the evening
-  at night

## ON

### DAYS

- on Tuesday
- on Saturday
- on my birthday
- on Christmas day
- on Halloween

### DATES

- on 15th June
- on 20th May
- on our anniversary

### PARTS OF SPECIFIC DAY

- on Monday morning
- on Friday evening
- on Saturday night
- on Sunday afternoon



LAST/NEXT

at/in/on



Call me ~~at the~~ next weekend.



Call me next weekend.



I met her ~~on the~~ last Friday.



I met her last Friday.



# COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVES

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1 SYLLABLE	OLD	OLDER
+ -ER	CHEAP	CHEAPER
	HIGH	HIGHER
1 SYLLABLE VOWEL-CONSONANT-VOWEL	HOT	HOTTER
DOUBLE CONSONANT + -ER	BIG	BIGGER
	THIN	THINNER
2 SYLLABLES ENDING -Y	HEALTHY	HEALTHIER
-Y ⇒ -IER	HAPPY	HAPPIER
	NOISY	NOISIER
2 OR MORE SYLLABLES	FAMOUS	MORE FAMOUS
MORE + ADJECTIVE	GENEROUS	MORE GENEROUS
IRREGULAR ADJECTIVES	GOOD	BETTER
	BAD	WORSE
	FAR	FARTHER/FURTHER

# COMPARATIVE & SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES

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1 SYLLABLE + -ER/-EST	OLD	OLDER	THE OLDEST
	CHEAP	CHEAPER	THE CHEAPEST
	HIGH	HIGHER	THE HIGHEST
1 SYLLABLE VOWEL-CONSONANT-VOWEL DOUBLE CONSONANT + -ER/-EST	HOT	HOTTER	THE HOTTEST
	BIG	BIGGER	THE BIGGEST
	THIN	THINNER	THE THINNEST
2 SYLLABLES ENDING -Y* -Y ⇒ -IER/IEST <small>*ADVERBS ⇒ MORE/MOST MORE SLOWLY (NOT SLOWLIER)</small>	HEALTHY	HEALTHIER	THE HEALTHIEST
	HAPPY	HAPPIER	THE HAPPIEST
	NOISY	NOISIER	THE NOISIEST
2 OR MORE SYLLABLES MORE/MOST + ADJECTIVE	FAMOUS	MORE FAMOUS	THE MOST FAMOUS
	GENEROUS	MORE GENEROUS	THE MOST GENEROUS
IRREGULAR ADJECTIVES	GOOD	BETTER	THE BEST
	BAD	WORSE	THE WORST
	FAR	FARTHER FURTHER	THE FARTHEST THE FURTHEST

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# DEFINING VS NON-DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSES

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## DEFINING

### NO COMMAS

**NECESSARY INFORMATION.** Essential to distinguish which thing or person we are talking about.

*I called my brother **who lives in Ontario**.*

(=I have more than one brother and I called the one that lives in Ontario)

### WE CAN USE *THAT*

We **CAN** use *THAT* instead of *WHO/WHICH*.

*That's the mug **WHICH/THAT** I bought in Paris.*  
*I didn't know the man **WHO/THAT** was there.*

### RELATIVE PRONOUNS CAN BE OMITTED

We **CAN** omit *WHO/WHICH/THAT* when they are followed by **SUBJECT + VERB**

*Do you like the song **(WHICH/THAT)** I wrote?*  
*That's the man **(WHO/THAT)** I like.*

## NON-DEFINING

### BETWEEN COMMAS

**EXTRA INFORMATION.** Not necessary to distinguish which thing or person we are talking about.

*My brother, **who lives in Ontario**, is older.*

(=I have only one brother and I'm just mentioning that he lives in Ontario)

### WE CANNOT USE *THAT*

We **CANNOT** use *THAT* instead of *WHO/WHICH*.

*These bikes, **WHICH** cost a fortune, are made in Japan.* (NOT ~~*that cost a fortune*~~)

### RELATIVE PRONOUNS CANNOT BE OMITTED

We **CANNOT** omit *WHO/WHICH*

*They introduced me to John, **who** I liked immediately.* (NOT ~~*John, I liked immediately*~~)

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# DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSES

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PEOPLE



**WHO/THAT**

RELATIVE PRONOUN

That's the man **who/that**  
saved my life.



THINGS  
ANIMALS

**WHICH/THAT**

RELATIVE PRONOUN

He has a car **which/that**  
costs a fortune



PLACE



**WHERE**

RELATIVE ADVERB

That's the place **where** I  
met my husband.



# DURING vs FOR vs WHILE

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**DURING**

When?

**FOR**

How long?

**WHILE**

At the same  
time

+ NOUN

- ➔ Some people got lost **during** the journey.
- ➔ I will finish the novel **during** the summer break.
- ➔ Most burglaries happen **during** the night.

+ TIME PERIOD

- ➔ We have known each other **for** a long time.
- ➔ I waited **for** more than an hour, but I got tired and went home.
- ➔ He worked in this company **for** over 30 years.

+ SUBJECT + VERB

- ➔ I had tea **while** you were in the shower.
- ➔ I always listen to the radio **while** I'm cleaning.
- ➔ You shouldn't use your phone **while** you are driving.

# ADJECTIVES + PREPOSITION

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## to

**addicted** to someone or something  
**close** to someone  
**different** to/from someone/something  
**kind** to someone  
**married** to someone  
**rude** to someone  
**similar** to something or someone

## for

**bad** for something or someone  
**famous** for something  
**good** for something or someone  
**sorry** for someone/ something or for doing something

## at

**good** (and synonyms) at something or doing something  
**bad** (and synonyms) at something or doing something  
**angry** at someone

## in

**interested** in someone, in something or in doing something

## on

**keen** on something or doing something  
**hooked** on something

## of

**afraid** (and synonyms) of something or someone  
**capable** of something  
**fond** of something or someone  
**proud** of someone or something  
**tired** of someone or something

## with

**angry** with someone  
**bored** with something  
**tired up** with something or someone  
**obsessed** with someone/something  
**pleased** with something/someone

## about

**angry** about something  
**excited** about something  
**sorry** about something  
**worried** about something or someone



# FIRST CONDITIONAL

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Use the (first conditional) to talk about something that might happen in the future if a condition exists.

If clause (condition)

If a condition exists

comma

,

main clause (result)

the result will be true.

present (simple, continuous or perfect)

future (any type), imperative, modal

- If you study, you will pass the exam.
- If he doesn't call, you should tell me immediately.
- If you have come to class, the exam is going to be easy.
- If we win, we will be celebrating soon.
- We will be celebrating soon if we win.

NO COMMA when you put the main clause at the beginning

Do NOT use will in the IF clause: I'll help you if you need me (NOT-if-you-will-need-me)

# FIRST VS SECOND CONDITIONAL

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## FIRST CONDITIONAL

Present or future POSSIBLE situations.



- If you **study**, you **will pass** the exam.
- If he **doesn't call**, you **should tell** me immediately.
- If your room **is** tidy, you **can leave**.

## SECOND CONDITIONAL

Present or future UNREAL situations.



- If I **won** the lottery, I **would buy** a yacht.
- If I **had** a better salary, I **could travel** more.
- If I **were** you, I **might wait** before making a decision.

## First conditional vs second conditional

First conditional  
(possible)

If present, **will**

Example (=Maybe I will find her; it's possible)

If I **find** her, I'll **tell** her that I love her.

Second conditional  
(not possible)

If past, **would**

Example (=I will not find her; it's improbable)

If I **found** her, I'd **tell** her that I love her.

# First conditional

If clause (condition)	comma	main clause (result)	Examples
If present	,	will imperative should could, can must might	If you <b>call</b> him, he'll <b>be</b> happy. If you <b>have</b> time, <b>call</b> him. If you <b>have</b> time, you <b>should call</b> him. If we <b>go</b> out, we <b>can go</b> to the movies. If you <b>know</b> the truth, you <b>must tell</b> me. If you <b>run</b> so fast, you <b>might fall</b> .

# FUTURE CONTINUOUS

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will be + -ing

This time tomorrow, this time next week/etc.  
At 9 tomorrow, at 10 next Tuesday/etc.  
In two weeks, in 5 years, etc.  
In two weeks' time, in 5 years' time, etc.  
When ...

## Actions in progress at certain time in the future

- This time next week, I will be travelling to Paris.
- Tomorrow at 10, you 'll be doing your exam.
- When you get off the train, I 'll be waiting at the platform.

## Future plans and arrangements (=present continuous or be going to)

- We 'll be coming next weekend. (=We're coming next weekend)
- I will be leaving tomorrow at 8 a.m.

# FUTURE FORMS

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## will

predictions (we think something will happen)

- ➔ He **will be** a good doctor.
- ➔ I believe they **will win** this match.

instant decisions (taken while speaking)

- ➔ A: "We don't have sugar"  
B: "I'll **buy** some then."

promises and refusals

- ➔ I **will help** you but I **won't lend** you any money.

offers

- ➔ I'll **carry** your bag. / Shall I **carry** your bag?

suggestions

- ➔ Shall we **eat out** today?

requests

- ➔ Will you **open** the door please?

## be going to

predictions (we see - present evidence)

- ➔ Slow down! We're **going to have** an accident!
- ➔ Look at the clouds. It's **going to rain**.

decisions (taken before now - intentions/plans)

- ➔ Are you **going to watch** the game tonight?

## present simple

timetabled events

- ➔ The train **leaves** at 4 o'clock.
- ➔ The exams **start** next week.

future time clauses (when/ as soon as/until, etc.)

- ➔ I'll retire when I **am** 70. (NOT ~~when I'll be 70~~).
- ➔ Call me as soon as you **arrive**.

## present continuous

plans (arrangements have been made)

- ➔ I'm **flying** to New York tomorrow morning.
- ➔ I'm **seeing** the dentist at 6.
- ➔ We **are getting** married next week.

may / might

Use **may** or **might** to talk about future possibility

- ➔ I **might go** to the party tomorrow; I'm not sure.
- ➔ Temperatures **might go up** next week

## Future in the past – future expressions

be about to

The new app for electronic payments **is about to be** launched.

was/were about to

I **was about to confess** what I had done, but Sarah advised me not to do it.

be on the brink/verge/point of

Artificial Intelligence **is on the verge of revolutionising** the world as we know it.

was/were on the brink/verge/point of

He **was on the verge of saying** something, but he stopped and kept quiet.

be to + infinitive

The president **is to sign** the agreement before he leaves office in December.

was/were to + infinitive

The victim, Eric Watts, 24, of Dayton, **was to arrive home** for his wedding on March 22.

be due to + infinitive

They **are due to leave** the country next week when their visas expire.

was/were due to + infinitive

He **was due to leave** the country on Saturday, but the judge didn't allow him to leave.

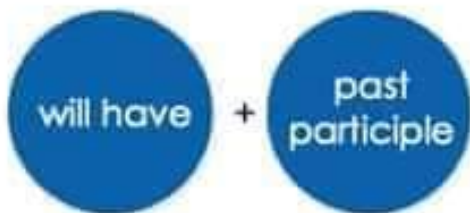
## Future in the past – future forms

<b>will</b>	<b>would</b>
We think he <b>will win</b> the election.	We thought he <b>would win</b> the election.
<b>is going to</b>	<b>was going to</b>
We're <b>going to have</b> a drink to celebrate my birthday this evening.	We <b>were going to have</b> a drink after work, but the boss made us work till late.
<b>present continuous</b>	<b>past continuous</b>
We <b>are getting</b> married soon, and I'd like you to be my maid of honour.	She <b>was getting</b> married soon and she wanted me to be her maid of honour.
<b>future continuous</b>	<b>would be + -ing</b>
<b>Will you be going</b> home this summer?	When she told me she <b>wouldn't be going</b> home that summer, I felt miserable.
<b>future perfect</b>	<b>would have + past participle</b>
He says he <b>will have finished</b> the book in a couple of weeks.	When I found him, he said he <b>would have finished</b> the book in a couple of weeks.



# FUTURE PERFECT

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By tomorrow, by next week, by 2050, etc.  
(By) this time tomorrow, (by) this time next week, etc.  
By the time + subject + verb (you arrive)  
In two weeks (' time), in five years (' time), etc.  
When..., Before...

Actions finished before some time in the future



Duration of a situation until some time in the future

