English grammar pills

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Some images are taken from the Web



Language is a system



Phonetics and phonology

	monophthongs			diphthongs		Phonemic		
S	i: sh <u>ee</u> p	I ship	კ	U: sh <u>oo</u> t	IƏ here	ei wait		Chart voiced unvoiced
NOWELS	e bed	ə teach <u>er</u>	3: ^{bird}	C: noot	ປັ ວ tourist	DI boy	əប _{show}	
	æ	∧ up	a: _{far}	D	eə _{hair}	ai my	aʊ ៰៰ <u>w</u>	
TS	p	b	t tea	d dog	t j cheese	dz June	k	g go
CONSONANTS	f ®y	V ⊻ideo	θ think	ð	S 500	Z	∫ shall	3 television
00	m	n	ŋ	h	Ι	r	w	j
	man	now	sing	hat	love	red	wet	yes

The 44 phonesteen of Received Protocolated based on the popular Adrian Underhill layout

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Parts of speech

Invariable words
<u>Conjunction</u> (aka connective or linking word)
Preposition (it shows relationships)
Interjection (expressive word)
Adverb (descriptor of a verb)
<u>Article</u> (defining a word)*



*or better quantifier and modifier.

Per approfondire le parti del discorso in inglese, clicca qui.



Examples of *a/an* vs. the

A/an	The
I saw <mark>an</mark> old dog yesterday.	The boys in the garden are having fun.
What a wonderful world!	The dog I saw yesterday was very old.
I am/work as a teacher.	I am the Doctor!
I go to the gym twice a week.	The Earth rotates around the Sun.
	I love playing the piano.
	Let's go to the cinema!/Let's go to the movies! (American English)
	You're the most beautiful in the world.
	The Lannisters always pay their debts.

No article

General references (with plural and uncountable nouns), also with abstract concepts.

Ex.: _Love is only a feeling. I love_dogs. With some nouns (*home, work, school, church*) after *at/to/from*.

Ex.: I came back_home two minutes ago. Before meals, days, and months.

Ex.: I have_breakfast at 6:30 am.

On_Sundays people usually go to_church, often to_work, never to_school. Then they go_home. Before *last/next* + day, week, month, etc.

Ex.: _Last Saturday my boyfriend and I ate out with a couple of friends.

_Next year I am getting married.



SOME

SOME & ANY



Some is generally used in positive (affirmative) sentences.

- There are some flowers in a vase on the table.
- He needs some medicine.

Exception To The Rule: 'Some' can also be used in questions if you are offering something to someone or asking for something by thinking that the answer is yes or hopes for such an answer.

• Would you like some cofee?

Any is generally used in negative sentences.

- There aren't any students in the school.
- I dont want to drink any fruit juice.

Any is used in questions.

- Do we have any bread in the house?
- He hasn't received any e-mails yet.

Exception To The Rule: Any can only be used in positive sentences if it is used with conjunctions such as If and weather.

• We'll always help you if you have any problems or troubles.

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ANY

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PLURAL NOUNS

Rules and Examples

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Rules			nples	Exceptions
			Plural	
General rule	General rule -s to the end of the singular form.		Cars	
			Bags	
			Tables	
Nouns ending in		Bus	Buses	Fez - Fezzes
's', 'x', 'z', 'ch',	Adding -es	Bench	Benches	Gas – Gasses
'sh', 'ss'		Box	Boxes	
Nouns ending in	Changing the ending to -ves.	Calf	Calves	Cuff – Cuffs
'f' or 'fe'		Shelf	Shelves	Chef - Chefs
		Wolf	Wolves	Belief - Beliefs
Nouns ending in 'o'	Navana dibark and in 's' supported by a visual	Radio	Radios	and the states?
	Nouns that end in 'o' preceded by a vowel are made plural by adding -s.	Stereo	Stereos	
	are made pour de by adding s.	Video	Videos	
		Potato	Potatoes	Piano - Pianos
	Nouns that end in "o" preceded by a consonant are made plural by adding -es.	Hero	Heroes	Photo – Photos
		Domino	Dominoes	Halo – Halos
Nouns ending in 'y'	When the 'y' follows a consonant,	City	Cities	
,	changing 'y' to 'i' and adding -es.	Candy	Candies	
		Lady	Ladies	
			Days	
	When the 'y' follows a vowel, the plural is formed by retaining the 'y' and adding -s	Тоу	Toys	
			Donkeys	

Pronouns + possessive adjectives

Pronome personale SOGGETTO (prima del	Pronome personale COMPLEMENTO (dopo il	
verbo - persona o cosa che compie	verbo - persona o cosa su cui ricade l'azione -	Aggettivo possessivo
l'azione)	compl. Oggetto, di compagnia, di privazione,	
l (io)	me (me, con me, senza di me,)	my
you (tu, voi)	you (te, con te, senza di te,)	your
she (lei)	her (lei, -la, -le, con lei, senza di lei,)	her
he (lui)	him (lui, -lo, -gli, con lui, senza di lui,)	his
it (esso/essa)	it (esso/essa, lo/la, con ess@, senza di ess@,)	its
we (noi)	us (noi, ci, con noi, senza di noi,)	our
they (loro, essi/esse)	them (loro, con loro, senza di loro,)	thei r
	Examples:	
l live in San Giuseppe Vesuviano.	Call me./Come with me.	This is my pen.
You are a queen.	I love you.	I am your princess.
Is she beautiful?	George/He loves her.	Gaia reads her book.
He is handsome.	Luisa/She loves him.	Andrea plays with his friends.
The dog/It plays with the ball.	Eat the banana/ it.	The dog plays with its ball.
We are dancing.	Play with us.	These are our friends.
They're not American.	I am happy with them.	Their cat's name is Arya.



The verb: the paradigm

- Reference system for any verb.
- It is composed of 3 voices:
- 1. Base form = bare infinitive: GO
- 2. Simple past: WENT
- 3. Past participle: GONE



Tenses formed with ...





Simple present (I am, I play)



Present continuous

[I am (not) playing basketball./Are you playing basketball? Yes, we are. No, we aren't.]





Verb patterns: when to use -ing? When to? When both?





Short answers:

Yes, I was//No, I wasn't. Yes, you were/No, you weren't. Yes, he/she/it was.//No, he/she/it wasn't. Yes, we/you/they were.//No, we/you/they weren't.



To have

I/you/He/She/It/We/You/They had

I/you/He/She/It/We/You/They didn't have

<u>**Did</u> I/you/he/she/it/we/you/they <u>have</u>?**</u>

Yes, I <u>did.</u>//No, I <u>didn't</u>.

Simple past - regular verbs (sogg. + base form of verb + -ed: I played)



REMEMBER: NO -s in the third singular person!!! I/you/she/he/it/we/you/they PLAY<u>ED</u>!!!



Group one word: monosillabic verbs





Group three words: -i-/-a-/-u-,-e/-wn, -en





Other verbs (groups 2 and 3)

Group 2 words	Shine, shone, shone/ win, won, won	(Be)come, (be)came,	Make, made,	Dig, dug, dug	Beat, beat,
Group 3	Go, went, gone/	(be)come Wear, wore, w	made vorn/		beaten
words	do, did, done	bear, bore, b	oorn		

Simple past - irregular verbs (sogg. + 2° voice of paradigm: I went)



REMEMBER!

- Group 2 words usually have TWO (LONG) vowels (keep, dream, sleep) and usually end with:
- 1. $-II \rightarrow -Id$ (sell, tell \rightarrow sold, told);
- 2. $-Id/-nd \rightarrow -It/-nt$ (build, spend \rightarrow built, spent);
- 3. -ch \rightarrow -ught (teach, catch \rightarrow taught, caught).
- Group 3 words with -en usually have ONE (SHORT) vowel (give, take, hide).
- Group 3 words with internal vocal change (-i-, -a-, -u-) are to be pronunciated this way: -i-, -e-, -a-.
 Sing /sin/ sang /sæn/- sung /sʌŋ/.

Simple past - Negative and interrogative forms

(I didn't play/go, Did you play/go? Yes, I did/No, I didn't.)



Past continuous = background scenes (I was/wasn't eating, Was she eating? Yes, she was/No, she wasn't.)







How to form the present perfect simple: sogg. + have/has + past participle (3° voice of paradigm)



Use of present perfect simple

(I have/haven't played/gone; Has she played/gone? Yes, she has/No, she hasn't.)

- Past actions with visible consequences/results in the present: I've cut my hair (now my hair is short).
- Unfinished past actions: We have lived in Naples since 1988 (we still live in Naples)
- Vs. Finished past actions: We lived in Naples (now we live elsewhere).
- Present perfect simple is often accompained by "already/yet/still/just/never/ever/since/for" (see next slide).
- P.p.s. is accompained also by "after/until/as soon as" (see next slide) + clause with will.

Signals indicating when to use the present perfect tense

- Already (già)/yet (non ancora)/still (ancora)/just (appena)/never (mai) /ever (mai – nelle domande)/since (da)/for (da)
- 1. We have already had dinner vs. We have not had dinner yet.
- 2. I still haven't found what I'm looking for.
- 3. I have just missed my train.
- 4. You have never been to Singapore.
- 5. Have you ever been to Singapore?
- 6. She has lived in Naples since vs. for
- After: After you 've had something to eat, you'll feel better.
- Until: Wait until he has gone.
 - As soon as: As soon as I've finished, I'll come.

Since vs. for: most used with present perfect SIMPLE AND CONTINUOUS

•Since = punctual moment (beginning/end).

•For = duration.

For

•HOW LONG has it rained?/HOW LONG has it been raining? It has rained/It has been raining since/for ...

Since	 8 o' clock Monday 12 May April 1977 Christmas 	
	 Iunchtime she was a child 	

 One/Two/three/four seconds/minutes/hours/days/weeks/months/years

• Ages

• A short/long time

Present perfect continuous

(I have been painting/I haven't been painting/Have you been painting? Yes, I have/No, I haven't.)

> It is similar to present perfect simple, but ...



Past perfect simple = io avevo mangiato (I had/hadn't eaten, Had you eaten? Yes, I had/No, I hadn't.)

It expresses an action completed before the last one.




Habits



Future tenses and the degrees of probability.





--The last *Harry Potter* movie begins at 8:45 p.m..--



Future tenses (III): will

• I will love you until my dying day.

 I see somebody carrying some heavy suitcases and I want to help him/her. → I'll help you.

• You won't feel held back. Instead, he will challenge you to do what is most difficult, and inspire you to take on a tougher challenge. Listen to him and heed his advice.

• I think you will pass the exam.

Will is also used in the socalled *if clauses* (see next slide).

Promises Immediate decisions Fortuneteller. horoscope To express one's opinion

If clauses





Future perfect = avrò fatto qcs.

Sogg. +Will
(already/just)
have +Past participle

By the time we get to the cinema the film will already have begun. Next year they will have been married for 25 years.

Modal verbs



Characteristics of modal verbs



Passive form (I)

	Active	Passive
Simple Present	Once a week, Tom cleans the house.	Once a week, the house is cleaned by Tom.
Simple Past	Sam repaired the car.	The car was repaired by Sam.
Present Perfect	Many tourists have visited that castle.	That castle has been visited by many tourists.
Past Perfect	George had repaired many cars before he received his mechanic's license.	Many cars had been repaired by George before he received his mechanic's license.
Simple Future <i>WILL</i>	Someone will finish the work by 5:00 PM.	The work will be finished by 5:00 PM.
Simple Future BE GOING TO	Sally is going to make a beautiful dinner tonight.	A beautiful dinner is going to be made by Sally tonight.

Passive form (II)

	Active	Passive
Used to	Jerry used to pay the bills.	The bills used to be paid by Jerry.
Would always	My mother would always make the pies.	The pies would always be made by my mother.
Future in the Past (<i>W^{OULD})</i>	I knew John would finish the work by 5:00 PM.	I knew the work would be finished by 5:00 PM.
Future in the Past (<i>WAS</i> GOING TO)	I thought Sally was going to make a beautiful dinner tonight.	I thought a beautiful dinner was going to be made by Sally tonight.



Reported speech - a jump in the past (I)

DIRECT SPEECH	REPORTED SPEECH
<u>Simple Present</u> (He said: "I live in Naples".)	<u>Simple Past</u> (He said he lived in Naples.)
Present Continuous (Paula said: "I am playing volleyball now ".)	<u>Past Continuous</u> (Paula said she was playing volleyball then .)
<u>Simple Past</u> (Tom and Jack said: "We lived in Canada".)	
<u>Present Perfect Simple</u> (Tom and Jack said: "We have lived in Canada".)	<u>Past Perfect Simple</u> (Tom and Jack said they had lived in Canada.)
<u>Past Perfect Simple</u> (Tom and Jack said: "We had lived in Canada".)	

Reported speech - a jump in the past (II)

DIRECT SPEECH	REPORTED SPEECH	
Past Continuous (Robb said: "I was having dinner with my wife, when they sang and played <i>The Rains of</i> <i>Castamere"</i> .)	Past Perfect Continuous	
<u>Present Perfect Continuous</u> (Robb said: " I have been having dinner with my wife, when they sang and played <i>The Rains</i> <i>of Castamere"</i> .)	(Robb said he had been having dinner with his wife, when they had sung and played The Rains of Castamere.)	
Past Perfect Continuous (Robb said: "I had been having dinner with my wife, when they sang and played <i>The Rains of</i>		

Castamere".)

Reported speech - a jump in the past (III)

DIRECT SPEECH

REPORTED SPEECH

Future I (*going to*) (Arya said: "I **am** going to become a warrior".) (My father said: "You and Michele **are** going to fly to Canada **next year**".) was / were going to (Arya said she was going to become a warrior.) (My father said that Michele and I were going to fly to Canada the following year.)

Future I (*will*) (Sabrina said: "I will help you".)

Conditional I (*would*) (Sabrina said she **would** help me.) (Barbara said she **would** move to London if she had been able to.)

Conditional I (*would*) (Barbara said: "I **would** move to London if I could").

Place and time expressions

<i>Today</i> (direct speech)	That day (reported speech)
now	then
yesterday	the day before
days ago	days before
last week	the week before
next year	the following year
tomorrow	the next day / the following day
here	there
this	that
these	those

Linking words = connective words = conjunctions

Sequence

- Firstly
- First of all
- Initially
- Then
- After + -ing
- Later
- Moreover (inoltre)
- In addition/Furthe rmore (in aggiunta a ciò)
- Not long after (poco dopo)
- Meanwhile (nel frattempo)
- Finally
- At the end
- In the end

Question-answer

Wh- questions (Who, Where, When, What, Which, Why, How) + aux. + subj. + resto della frase + ?
Yes/No: Aux. + subj. + resto della frase + ?

• It could be that ... • One may conclude ...

Problem-solution

- One reason for the ... is
- The question=issue is .../The questions=issues are...
- A problem is ...
- A solution for ... is/was/could be
- One answer is/was/could be
- Recommendation s include ...

Compare and contrast

- Likewise (similarmente)
- Similar to
- •On the one hand on the other hand ...
- The difference(s)
 between...
- As opposed to ...
- But ...
- After all ...
 (dopotutto)
- However ...
 (comunque)
- Yet... (eppure)
- Nevertheless ...
 (tuttavia)
- Although (nonostante)
- In spite of + noun
- Despite + ing form

Cause-effect

- Since/For (poiché)
- because
- •Because of/Owing to/Due to (a causa di)
- On account of ...
- This led to ...
 (ciò ha portato a)
- As a result of ...
- For this reason
- That's why ...
- Then ... so (poi è successo questo evento pertanto/perciò
- Thus/ Therefore (perciò)
- Consequentially

Descriptionhierarchical list

- ·For example/e.g.
- For instance (per esempio)
- ·i.e. (cioè)
- Such as (per es., elenco)
- also (anche) = .
 too.
- In fact/Indeed (infatti)
- To begin with ...
- And to illustrate

 I'll show you
 this graph/pie
 chart ... (e per
 illustrare ... vi
 mostrerò questo
 grafico/grafico
 a torta...)
- ·It shows
- It deals/handles with (ha a che fare con)
- · As you can see
- •It describes ...
- •It is about ...



