





# **HOW CAN I PREPARE MY FUTURE ENGLISH CLASSES?**

### 1. ENGLISH VOCABULARY

Here we would like to share with you some tips to improve your learning process about English Vocabulary.

A.- You can download some of the new Apps

https://noticias.universia.net.co/educacion/noticia/2016/06/14/1140764/9-aplicaciones-gratuitas-aprender-vocabulario-ingles.html#

B.- Some recommendations to learn English vocabulary:

https://www.aprendeinglessila.com/2014/05/trucos-aprender-vocabulario-ingles/

## 2. GRAMMAR

You have different online resources to practice Verb tenses and other Grammar topics. Here I recommend you just two of them:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/hygiene/lowerintermediate-syllabus http://www.isabelperez.com/grammar.htm

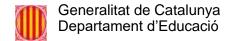
#### 3. IRREGULAR VERBS

If you need to improve the "Irregular verbs" you have to review the 4 pages of irregular verbs you have attached here in this dossier. Try to write them down, paying attention to the **spelling**.

Moreover, you can play to the next game: <a href="https://www.quia.com/cb/8111.html">https://www.quia.com/cb/8111.html</a>

#### 4. TIME

If you have any problem with "**Time**" you can watch the following video: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-bnbKgQl9h0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-bnbKgQl9h0</a>







### 5. DICTATION

It includes some tips to practice writing, listening and reading

- Practice it using the next link: <a href="https://www.learnenglish.de/dictationpage.html">https://www.learnenglish.de/dictationpage.html</a>
- Listen some audiobook. You can find them through Google. But also in YouTube you can find a lot of them. Here, I attach 3 of them, because they speak slow and include basic vocabulary you have to know like "Now" -"Live" - "House" ...

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kNw49VtretQ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ge7c7otG2mk https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=65lv5KaDCsl

<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=byKELv7gcDE</u> (La Bella y la Bestia. Siempre ayuda saber de qué va la historia)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UpxfeK-2Yxg (es una especie de entrevista que habla de temas muy cotidianos y que puede ayudarnos a pronunciar palabras básicas y comunes del idioma)

#### 6. READING

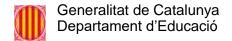
http://elpais.com/elpais/inenglish.html (el diari en la seva versió anglesa. És un bon mètode d'anar llegint notícies del dia a dia del nostre entorn en llengua anglesa).

## 7. WRITING

<u>https://writeandimprove.com/</u> (You can write about some topics they suggest you, even choosing your level, and then you can check your mistakes and can improve your writing step-by-step)

# 8. GENERAL ENGLISH - App

5555 English Grammar Tests (you have 2 versions: basic or Pro. Last one, just costs 1,99 €). It can help you to improve your Grammar.





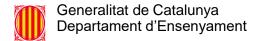


# 9. DOCUMENTS INCLUDED IN THE DOSSIER

In this dossier you will find informations about some topics you must know the first days of the English classes:

- Present simple
- Present continuous
- Past simple
- Past continuous
- Punctuation marks
- Irregular verbs
- Numbers
- Time









# **Present Simple and Present Continuous**

What's the difference between the Present Simple / Present Continuous and how to use them.

We use the present simple tense when we want to talk about fixed habits or routines – things that don't change.

We use the present continuous to talk about actions which are happening at the present moment, but will soon finish.

Compare these two statements:

- (present simple) I play tennis.
- (present continuous/ progressive) I am playing tennis.

(present simple) 'I play tennis' tells us that playing tennis is something the speaker always does. It is part of a routine or habit. We can call this a permanent situation.

(present continuous/ progressive) 'I am playing tennis' tells us that the speaker is playing tennis right now. Soon the game will be over. We call this a temporary situation.

### With the present simple we say:

I play tennis

You play tennis

We play tennis

They play tennis

He/she/ it plays tennis.

#### With the present continuous we say:

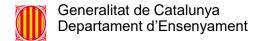
I am playing tennis

You are playing tennis

We are playing tennis

He/she/it is playing tennis









### Frequency Adverbs we use with the Present Simple

With the present simple we use these frequency adverbs:

(Notice that the adverb comes before the main verb in the sentence.)

Always: 'I always read before I go to bed.'

Often: 'Her sister often comes shopping with us.'

Frequently: 'Michael frequently visits his family.'

Sometimes: 'You sometimes go to the gym, don't you?'

Occasionally: 'It occasionally rains in summer.'

Seldom:'They seldom ask for help.'

Rarely: 'He rarely goes out without his backpack.'

Hardly ever:'I hardly ever eat pizza.'

Never: 'Japanese people never wear shoes inside.'

# Time Expressions we use with the Present Continuous

With the present continuous we use these time expressions:

(Notice that the time expression can come at the start or at the end of the sentence.)

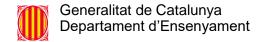
At the moment: 'I'm watching TV, at the moment.'

These days: 'Paul's living in Cardiff, these days.'

**Now:** 'What are you doing, now?'

Nowadays: 'I think you are smoking too much, nowadays.'









# **PAST SIMPLE**

### **Forms**

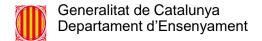
With most verbs the past tense is formed by adding -ed:

call >> called; like >> liked; want >> wanted; work >> worked

But there are a lot of irregular past tenses in English. Here are the most common irregular verbs in English, with their past tenses:

be was/were begin began break broke bring brought buy bought built choose come came cost cut do did
break broke bring brought buy bought build built choose chose come came cost cost cut cut
bring brought buy bought build built choose come came cost cut cut
buy bought built choose come came cost cut cut
build built choose come came cost cut cut
build built choose come came cost cut cut
come came cost cut cut
cost cost cut
cut cut
do did
uu julu
draw drew
drive drove
eat ate
feel felt
find found
get got
give gave
go went
have had
hear heard
hold held
keep kept
know knew
leave left
lead led
let let
lie lay
lose lost
make made
mean meant
meet met
pay paid
put put
run ran
say said
sell sold
send sent
set set
sit sat
speak spoke









spend stand	spent stood
take	took
teach	taught
tell	told
think	thought
understand	understood
wear	wore
win	won
write	wrote

#### Use

We use the past tense to talk about:

Something that happened once in the past:

I met my wife in 1983. We went to Spain for our holidays. They got home very late last night.

- Something that happened again and again in the past:

When I was a boy I **walked** a mile to school every day. We **swam** a lot while we were on holiday. They always **enjoyed** visiting their friends.

Something that was true for some time in the past:

I **lived** abroad for ten years. He **enjoyed** being a student. She **played** a lot of tennis when she was younger.

- We often use phrases with **ago** with the past tense:

I met my wife a long time ago.

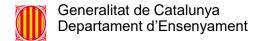
# **Questions and negatives**

We use **did** to make questions with the past tense:

When **did you meet** your wife? Where **did you go** for your holidays? **Did she play** tennis when she was younger? **Did you live** abroad?

But look at these questions:







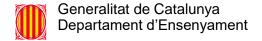


Who discovered penicillin? Who wrote Don Quixote?

We use **didn't** (**did not**) to make **negatives** with the past tense:

They didn't go to Spain this year. We didn't get home until very late last night. I didn't see you yesterday.









# PAST CONTINUOUS

The past continuous is formed from the past tense of **be** with the **-ing** form of the verb:

We use the past continuous to talk about the past:

For something which continued before and after another action:

The children were doing their homework when I got home.

Compare:

I got home. The children did their homework. and

The children did their homework when I got home.

As I was watching television the telephone rang.

This use of the past continuous is very common at the beginning of a story:

The other day I was waiting for a bus when ... Last week as I was driving to work ...

For something that happened before and after a particular time:

It was eight o'clock. I was writing a letter.

Compare:

At eight o'clock I wrote some letters.

In July she was working in McDonald's.

• To show that something **continued for some time**:

My head was aching. Everyone was shouting.

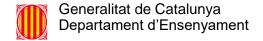
For something that was happening again and again:

I was practising every day, three times a day. They were meeting secretly after school. They were always quarrelling.

With verbs which show change or growth:

The children were growing up quickly. Her English was improving. My hair was going grey. The town was changing quickly.









# PAST SIMPLE AND PAST CONTINUOUS

1. The most common use of the **past continuous** tense is to talk about something that was happening around a particular time in the past.

What were you doing at 8 o'clock last night? I was watching television.

I started watching television before 8 o'clock and I continued watching it after 8 o'clock.

In 1994 he was working in a small town in Poland.

At 6 o'clock on Saturday morning we were travelling to the airport.

2. We often use the **past continuous** and the **past simple** tense together. When this happens, the **past continuous** describes a longer, 'background' action or situation and the **past simple** describes the action or events.

When I woke up this morning it was raining and my father was singing in the kitchen.

I was walking home, whistling happily, when I saw two masked men run out of the bank.

Often, the 'action' described by the **past simple** tense *interrupts* the 'situation' described by the **past continuous** tense.

I broke my leg when I was skiing.

I was playing a computer game when the doorbell rang.

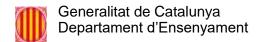
Notice that the **past continuous** describes 'situations' that go on for some time – 'skiing' and 'playing' but the **past simple** describes 'actions' that happen quickly – 'broke' and 'rang'.

Notice too the important difference between these two sentences.

When they arrived, Jeff was cooking dinner. Jeff started cooking before they arrived.

When they arrived, Jeff cooked dinner. Jeff started cooking dinner after they arrived.



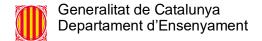






# **PUNCTUATION MARKS**

	SPANISH	ENGLISH
	el punto y seguido el punto y aparte	full stop full stop, new paragraph
,	la coma	comma
:	dos puntos	colon
;	el punto y coma	semicolon
\	las comillas	quotation marks or inverted commas
1	el apóstrofe	apostrophe
()	los paréntesis	(round) brackets
[]	los corchetes	square brackets
{}	las llaves	curly brackets
?	el signo de interrogación	question mark
!	el signo de exclamación	exclamation mark
	los puntos suspensivos	ellipsis (formal), dot dot dot, three dots
&	-	ampersand
@	arroba	at or at sign
_	el guión	hyphen or dash
_	el guión bajo	underscore
/	la barra / barra oblicua / diagonal	(forward) slash
\	la barra inversa / barra oblicua / barra invertida	backslash
*	el asterisco / asterisco del teléfono	asterisk / start key
#	la almohadilla	number sign



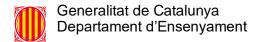




# **IRREGULAR VERBS**

INFINITIVO	PASADO SIMPLE	PARTICIPIO PASADO	TRADUCCIÓN
Arise	Arose	Arisen	Surgir, Levantarse
Awake	Awoke	Awoken	Despertarse
Be/ am, are, is	Was / Were	Been	Ser / Estar
Bear	Bore	Borne / Born	Soportar, dar a luz
Beat	Beat	Beaten	Golpear
Become	Became	Become	Llegar a Ser
Begin	Began	Begun	Empezar
Bend	Bent	Bent	Doblar
Bet	Bet	Bet	Apostar
Bind	Bound	Bound	Atar, encuadernar
Bid	Bid	Bid	Pujar
Bite	Bit	Bitten	Morder
Bleed	Bled	Bled	Sangrar
Blow	Blew	Blown	Soplar
Break	Broke	Broken	Romper
Breed	Bred	Bred	Criar
Bring	Brought	Brought	Traer Llevar
Broadcast	Broadcast	Broadcast	Radiar
Build	Built	Built	Edificar
Burn	<b>Burnt /Burned</b>	Burnt / Burned	Quemar
Burst	Burst	Burst	Reventar
Buy	Bought	Bought	Comprar
Cast	Cast	Cast	Arrojar
Catch	Caught	Caught	Coger
Come	Came	Come	Venir
Cost	Cost	Cost	Costar
Cut	Cut	Cut	Cortar
Choose	Chose	Chosen	Elegir
Cling	Clung	Clung	Agarrarse
Creep	Crept	Crept	Arrastrarse
Deal	Dealt	Dealt	Tratar
Dig	Dug	Dug	Cavar
Do (Does)	Did	Done	Hacer
Draw	Drew	Drawn	Dibujar
Dream	<b>Dreamt / Dreamed</b>	Dreamt / Dreamed	Soñar
Drink	Drank	Drunk	Beber
Drive	Drove	Driven	Conducir
Eat	Ate	Eaten	Comer

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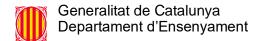


Fall	Fell	Fallen	Caer
Feed			
	Fed	Fed	Alimentar
Feel	Felt	Felt	Sentir
Fight	Fought	Fought	Luchar
Find	Found	Found	Encontrar
Flee	Fled	Fled	Huir
Fly	Flew	Flown	Volar
Forbid	Forbade	Forbidden	Prohibir
Forget	Forgot	Forgotten	Olvidar
Forgive	Forgave	Forgiven	Perdonar
Freeze	Froze	Frozen	Helar
Get	Got	Got / Gotten	Obtener
Give	Gave	Given	Dar
Go (Goes)	Went	Gone	Ir
Grow	Grew	Grown	Crecer
Grind	Ground	Ground	Moler
Hang 	Hung	Hung 	Colgar
Have	Had	Had	Haber o Tener
Hear	Heard	Heard	Oir
Hide	Hid	Hidden	Ocultar
Hit	Hit	Hit	Golpear
Hold	Held	Held	Agarrar Celebrar
Hurt	Hurt	Hurt	Herir
Кеер	Kept	Kept	Conservar
Know	Knew	Known	Saber Conocer
Kneel	Knelt	Knelt	Arrodillarse
Knit	Knit	Knit	Hacer punto
Lay	Laid	Laid	Poner
Lead	Led	Led	Conducir
Lean	Leant	Leant	Apoyarse
Leap	Leapt	Leapt	Brincar
Learn	Learnt / Learned	Learnt / Learned	Aprender
Leave	Left	Left	Dejar
Lend	Lent	Lent	Prestar
Let	Let	Let	Permitir
Lie	Lay	Lain	Echarse
Light	Lit	Lit	Encender
Lose	Lost	Lost	Perder
Make	Made	Made	Hacer
Mean	Meant	Meant	Significar
Meet	Met	Met	Encontrar





Mistake	Mistook	Mistaken	Equivocar
Overcome	Overcame	Overcome	Vencer
Pay	Paid	Paid	Pagar
Put	Put	Put	Poner
Read	Read	Read	Leer
Ride	Rode	Ridden	Montar
Ring	Rang	Rung	Llamar
Rise	Rose	Risen	Levantarse
Run	Ran	Run	Correr
Say	Said	Said	Decir
See	Saw	Seen	Ver
Seek	Sought	Sought	Buscar
Sell	Sold	Sold	Vender
Send	Sent	Sent	Enviar
Set	Set	Set	Poner(se)
Sew	Sewed	Sewed / Sewn	Coser
Shake	Shook	Shaken	Sacudir
Shear	Shore	Shorn	Esquilar
Shine	Shone	Shone	Brillar
Shoot	Shot	Shot	Disparar
Show	Showed	Shown	Mostrar
Shrink	Shrank	Shrunk	Encogerse
Shut	Shut	Shut	Cerrar
Sing	Sang	Sung	Cantar
Sink	Sank	Sunk	Hundir
Sit	Sat	Sat	Sentarse
Sleep	Slept	Slept	Dormir
Slide	Slid	Slid	Resbalar
Smell	Smelt	Smelt	Oler
Sow	Sowed	Sowed / Sown	Sembrar
Speak	Spoke	Spoken	Hablar
Speed	Sped	Sped	Acelerar
Spell	Spelt	Spelt	Deletrear
Spend	Spent	Spent	Gastar
Spill	Spilt / Spilled	Spilt / Spilled	Derramar
Spin	Spun	Spun	Hilar
Spit	Spat	Spat	Escupir
Split	Split	Split	Hender / partir / rajar
Spoil	Spoilt / Spoiled	Spoilt / Spoiled	Estropear
Spread	Spread	Spread	Extender
Spring	Sprang	Sprung	Saltar







StealStoleStolenRobarStickStuckPegar EngomarStingStungPicarStinkStank/StunkStunkApestarStrideStrodeStriddenDar zancadasStrikeStruckGolpearSwearSworeSwornJurarSweatSweatSudarSweepSweptBarrerSwellSwelledSwollenHincharSwimSwamSwumNadarSwingSwungColumpiarseTakeTookTakenCogerTeachTaughtEnseñarTearToreTornRasgarTellToldToldDecirThinkThoughtThoughtPensarThrowThrewThrownArrojar TirarThrustThrustThrustIntroducirTreadTrodTroddenPisar, hollarUnderstandUnderstoodUnderstoodEntenderUndergoUnderwentUnderstoodEmprender
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UndergoUnderwentUndergoneSufrir
Undertaken Emprender
Officer taken Officer taken Emprender
Wake Woken Despertarse
Wear Worn Llevar puesto
WeaveWovenTejer
Weep Wept Llorar
Wet Wet Mojar
Win Won Ganar
Wind Wound Enrollar
Withdrawn Withdrawn Retirarse
Wring Wrung Torcer
Write Wrote Written Escribir





# **NUMBERS AND TIME**

#### 1. CARDINAL NUMBERS

Cardinal numbers are one, two, three, etc. Ordinal numbers are first, second, third, etc.

# A. FIGURES AND WORDS

Here are some examples of cardinal numbers in written English.

- Free for 10 days
- 450 million trees
- Aged 2 to 11 inclusive
- 35,000 free air miles to be won
- An apartment for 6

Sometimes numbers are written in words rather than figures. This happens especially with small numbers.

- One of four super prizes
- Two bedrooms (one double and one single)
- Ten megabytes of data
- A child of eight
- The Thirty Years War

We do not usually use a figure at the beginning of a sentence.

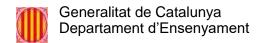
Five hundred and seventy-one people applied for the job.

# B. <u>NUMBERS 1-100</u>

1 one	11 eleven	21 twenty-one
2 two	12 twelve	22 twenty-two
3 three	13 thirteen	30 thirty
4 four	14 fourteen	40 forty
5 five 6 six	15 fifteen	50 fifty
7 seven	16 sixteen	-60 sixty
8 eight	17 seventeen	70 seventy
9 nine	18 eighteen 19 nineteen	80 eighty
10 ten	20 twenty	90 ninety
	20 mornly	100 alone hundred

Be careful with these spellings: fifteen, eighteen, forty, fifty, eighty.

We put a **hyphen** in compound numbers below 100, e.g. twenty-one, three hundred and sixty-five.







# C. NUMBERS OVER 100

102	alone hundred and two
164	alone hundred and sixty-four
596	five hundred and ninety-six
7,832	seven thousand eight hundred and thirty-two
256,940	two hundred and fifty-six thousand nine hundred and forty
1,000,000	alone million
8,330,000	eight million three hundred and thirty thousand
1,000,000,000	a/one billion

We use 'and' between hundred and the rest of the number. E.g. two hundred and fifty.

Americans can leave out 'and'. E.g. two hundred fifty.

'Hundred', 'thousand', 'million', etc do not have an '-s' when they are part of a number. E.g. A microscope costs more than nine hundred pounds. But for phrases like hundreds of people.

We can write a thousand in figures as 1,000; but we do not use 1.000 for a thousand. We use a point only in decimals.

For the numbers 1,100 - 1,200 - up to 1,900 we sometimes say 'eleven hundred', 'twelve hundred', etc.

The bottles of reagents used to have less than fifteen hundred.

One billion (in UK and US) means one thousand million (1,000,000,000).

# D. A AND ONE

We can use 'a' or 'one' before hundred, thousand, million, etc.

• We've got a hundred members / one hundred members in the Technical Laboratory Association.

'A' is more informal, and we use it when the number is not an exact figure.

I've told you a thousand times not to do that.

'One' is usual in longer numbers, e.g. when we use both million and thousand together.

Unemployment stands at one million four hundred thousand-

We can not leave out 'a' or 'one'.

 NOT: We have got hundred members in the Technical Laboratory Association.





# E. INFORMAL EXPRESSIONS FOR NUMBERS

In informal English we can use 'a couple of' for two.

I was carrying a couple of suitcases.

Sometimes a couple of means 'a few'.

Wait here. I'll only be a couple of minutes.

We sometimes use 'a/one dozen' for twelve and 'half a dozen' for six.

I need half a dozen eggs.

To express a large but not exact number, we can use 'dozens of', 'hundreds of', 'thousands of', 'millions of', and 'billions of'.

- There were hundreds of people in the square.
- · A drop of water consists of millions of atoms.

But compare with: 'There were eight hundred people in the square'. NOTE: We can use a number with the of-pattern for part of a quantity

Four of the passengers were injured.

# F. ABOUT, OVER, ETC. WITH NUMBERS

We can use words such as 'about' to show that a number is approximate.

- About two years
- Around a thousand pounds
- Approximately four miles

Here are some other ways of modifying a number.

- More than 100 destinations
- Over 5 metres long
- · Less than ten miles
- Below ten per cent
- Children under 3
- Only £14.99
- At least 3 weeks
- Sleeps up to 6 people

#### NOTE

- a. For 'over' and 'above' with numbers
- b. We can use or 'so' and 'odd' informally in the following way
  - There were thirty or 'so' people in the queue. (= about thirty people)
  - There were thirty-'odd' people in the queue. (= between thirty and forty people)







# G. NUMBERS USED TO IDENTIFY

We use numbers not only to express quantity but also to identify things. For example, a credit card, a passport, or a telephone has a number to identify it. We read each figure separately.

- Express Card 4929 8063 1744
   'four nine two nine, eight zero six three, one seven four four'
- Call us on 01568 927 869 'oh one five six eight, nine two seven, eight six nine'

We say 'zero' or 'oh' for 0. When a number is repeated we say e.g. 'four four' or 'double four'.

#### NOTE

When we talk about the figure 0, we call it 'nought' (British English) or 'zero'.

• You've missed out a nought / a zero from this number.

### 2. ORDINAL NUMBERS

- A. Ordinal numbers are first, second, third, fourth, etc. First, second, and third are irregular, but we form the others by adding '-th' to the cardinal number.
  - e.g. ten --- tenth

Or changing the ending -try to -tieth

• e.g. forty --- fortieth

When we use figures, we write the cardinal number and add the last two letters of the ordinal numbers.

• e.g.  $4 + th = 4^{th}$ 

1 of Gret	8th eighth	21st twenty-first
1st first	9th ninth	22nd twenty-second
2nd second	12th twelfth	54th fifty-fourth
3rd third		100th (one) hundredth
4th fourth	13th thirteenth	347th three hundred and forty-seventh
5th fifth	20th twentieth	347ML Video interest

#### NOTE

Be careful with these spellings: fifth, eighth, ninth, twelfth, and twentieth, thirtieth, etc.





- B. Here are some examples of the use of ordinal numbers.
  - Her 25<sup>th</sup> birthday
  - On the 83<sup>rd</sup> floor
  - In the 21st century
  - The third and fourth adult passengers in your car can travel free.

An ordinal number usually comes before a cardinal.

The first four runners were well ahead of the others.

#### NOTE

- a) We also use ordinal numbers in fractions
- b) Monarchs have Roman numerals spoken as ordinals. George V is 'George the fifth'

# 3. FRACTIONS, DECIMALS and PERCENTAGES

# A. FRACTIONS

In fractions we use half, quarter, or an ordinal number.

1 a half one half $1\frac{1}{2}$	one and a half
$\frac{1}{2} u \text{ tail} \text{ follows:} 2^{1/3}$	two and a third
1/torlong quarter - 0/4	six and three quarters
4/5 four fifths	6 fifteen sixteenths

With numbers less than one, we use 'of' before a noun phrase.

- I waited three quarters of an hour.
- Two thirds of the field was under water.

With numbers above 'one', the noun is plural.

- I waited one and a half hours.
- The room is three and three quarter metres long.

Compare the fractions in these examples.

- Three **quarters** of a metre (less than one metre).
- Three and three quarter metres (more than one metre).

With one and a half / quarter, etc + noun, there is an alternative pattern.

- One and a half hours / an hour and a half
- One and a quarter pages / a page and a quarter







# **B. DECIMALS**

We use a decimal point (not a comma).

0.2 'point two' / 'nought point two' / 'zero point two'

Zero is more typical of American English.

Each figure after the decimal point is spoken separately.

- 7.45 'seven point four five'
- 15.086 'fifteen point oh/nought/zero eight six'

We can use a plural noun after a decimal.

- There was 0.6 seconds between the leaders.
- 1.2 metres is the length of the wall

A phrase of measurement usually takes a singular verb.

# C. PERCENTAGES

Look at these examples.

- Save 25%! ('twenty-five per cent')
- A 2 per cent growth in population ('two per cent')
- Inflation of 3.72 per cent ('three point seven two per cent')

# **NOTE**

For the use of a singular or plural verb after a percentage.

### 4. NUMBER OF TIMES

We can say *once*, *twice*, *three times*, *four times*, etc. to say how many times something happens.

- I've only met your cousin once, so I don't know him very well.
- Peter goes to evening classes twice a week.
- I've run the New York Marathon three times now.

For more expressions of frequency with *once*, *twice*, etc.

Once also means 'at a time in the past'.

Dinosaurs once walked the earth.

#### NOTE

For twice, three times, etc in expressions like twice as big.







#### 5. THE TIME OF DAY

A. Here are some examples of how we refer to clock time.

eight (oh) five two ten five twelve eleven fifteen nine thirty one thirty-five ten forty-five seven fifty-two

As well as past and to, Americans also use after and till.

- Twenty-five minutes past / after six.
- Five minutes to / till four.
- B. We use o'clock only on the hour
  - I got home at six o'clock.
     (But NOT: I got home at quarter past six o'clock).

We can leave out o'clock in informal English.

I got home at six.

We do not use o'clock with am/pm, and we do not write it after the figures 00.

(NOT six o'clock pm) and (NOT 6:00 o'clock).

C. In most contexts we can use either way of saying the time: half past ten or ten thirty. We usually prefer ten thirty when we are talking about a timetable.

We use the 24-hour clock in timetables.

The next train is at 15:30 (fifteen thirty).

# NOTE

In official announcements, you may hear times on the hour spoken as e.g. 'oh nine hundred hours' or 'thirteen hundred hours' rather than 'nine o'clock' or 'one o'clock'.

(But NOT thirteen o'clock).





- D. We can use am meaning 'in the morning' (up to about midday) and pm meaning 'in the afternoon or evening'.
  - The match starts at 3:00 p.m.

We can also say in the morning / afternoon / evening.

The phone rang at half past four in the morning.

Twelve o'clock in the day is midday or noon. Twelve o'clock at night is midnight.

#### NOTE

am and pm are sometimes written with full stops: a.m. / p.m.

- E. We usually leave out minutes after 5, 10, 20, and 25, but we usually use it after other numbers.
  - Seventeen minutes past/to six

In informal speech we can leave out the hour if it is known.

• It's nearly twenty past (four) already.

#### 6. THE DATE

A. These are the three most common ways of writing the date in English.

Cardinal number + month: 3 May 15 August
Ordinal number + month: 3rd May 15th August
Month + cardinal number: May 3 August 15

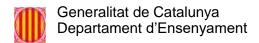
Ordinal numbers, e.g. 15<sup>th</sup>, are becoming less usual. Americans normally put the month first, e.g. August 15. For a comparison of usage in Britain and the US.

In speech ordinal numbers are usual.

'the third of May' 'the fifteenth of August'
'May the third' 'August the fifteenth'

This version without 'the' is also possible and is common in the US.

'May third' 'August fifteenth'







B. We write the year without a comma after the thousands, and we say the year like this.

1998	'nineteen ninety-eight'
347	'three (hundred and) forty-seven'
1500	'fifteen hundred'
1801	'eighteen oh one'
2000	'(the year) two thousand'
2005	'two thousand and five', 'twenty oh five'

We can also use plural numbers in expressions like these.

- Life in the 1980s ('the nineteen eighties')
- Pop music of the 60s ('the sixties')
- A man in his fifties

