

Grammar for 6 – 11 year olds	Grammar for 11 – 14 year olds	Grammar for 15 – 19 (Plus) year olds
Singular and plural General questions Indefinite article Simple present Present continuous The time Do.....Does (Plus verb) Saxon genitive Adjectives Possessive adjectives Can (questions) Asking for directions	Simple present of 'to be' and 'to have' Demonstrative pronouns Present simple & Present continuous Questions with auxiliary Personal pronouns complement Comparatives & superlatives Future Possessive pronouns Simple past Conditionals - zero and first Prepositions Paradigmas Saxon genitive Future with 'will'	Past continuous Future with 'going to' Future with the Present continuous Present perfect Present perfect continuous Past perfect Past perfect continuous Conditionals – second and third The passive Verb + infinitive Must vs have to Used to vs to be used to Question tags

ACLE'S ENGLISH GRAMMAR

ARTICLES

Definite Article: THE

Indefinite Article: A, AN

PRONOUNS

Personal subject pronouns: I, YOU, HE, SHE, IT, WE, YOU, THEY.

e.g. I play, you play, etc

Personal object pronouns: ME, YOU, HIM, HER, IT, US, YOU, THEM.

e.g. He likes her. Listen to us.

Demonstrative pronouns: THIS, THESE, THAT, THOSE.

e.g. I like this. That is good.

POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES AND PRONOUNS

Possessive adjectives are followed by a noun. They do not stand alone.

MY, YOUR, HIS, HER, ITS, OUR, YOUR, THEIR.

e.g. My shoes are brown.

Possessive pronouns are not followed by a noun. They stand alone.

MINE, YOURS, HIS, HERS, ITS, OURS, YOURS, THEIRS.

e.g. Yours are black.

PREPOSITIONS OF PLACE

These words are used to describe states.

AT, IN, TO, FROM, INTO, BETWEEN, NEAR, BESIDE, OVER, UNDER, BEHIND.

e.g. I live in Milan.
 I am standing behind you.
 It is under the table.

PREPOSITIONS OF MOVEMENT

TO, FROM, INTO.

e.g. I am going to Milan.
 I have just arrived from Paris.
 I am moving into your flat.

PREPOSITIONS OF TIME

IN, AT, ON, PAST, TO.

e.g. In the morning / In the afternoon / In the evening / In December.
 At 3 o'clock / At night.
 A quarter past ten.
 On January 21st. On Sunday.
 It's a quarter to eleven.

<p>PRESENT SIMPLE</p> <p>The present simple is used for actions that take place always, often, seldom, never; it is used for statements of fact.</p> <p>e.g. I study every night.</p> <p>Form: subject + verb (+ object)</p>	<p>PRESENT CONTINUOUS</p> <p>The present continuous is used for actions that are in progress at the time of speaking.</p> <p>e.g. I am studying (right now).</p> <p>Form: subject + (be) + -ing</p>
<p>PAST SIMPLE</p> <p>The past simple is used for actions completed at a specific time in the past.</p> <p>e.g. I studied last night.</p> <p>Form: subject + past simple (+ object)</p>	<p>PAST CONTINUOUS</p> <p>The past continuous is used for actions that lasted for a period of time in the past. It can also be used to contrast two past actions, one interrupting the other.</p> <p>The past simple is used for the action that is interrupting the past continuous.</p> <p>e.g. She was driving home last night at 7 p.m. I was cooking dinner when the telephone rang.</p> <p>Form: was/were + verb -ing</p>
<p>THE FUTURE WITH 'WILL'</p>	

<p>The future with 'will' is used in these situations:</p> <p>a. volunteering to do something e.g. "I'm thirsty." "I'll bring you a glass of water."</p> <p>b. deciding to do something at the moment of speaking e.g. I know! I'll go to Zimbabwe next summer.</p> <p>c. forcing someone to do something e.g. You'll finish your homework or I'll send you to bed early!</p> <p>d. making predictions e.g. I think the Russian economy will improve.</p> <p>Form: will + infinitive (+ object) Note: We do not usually use "will" for fixed plans or scheduled events.</p>	<p>THE FUTURE WITH 'GOING TO'</p> <p>The future with "going to" is used when something has already been planned or decided. It is also used to talk about something that is about to happen or to predict the future on present evidence.</p> <p>e.g. We are going to buy a house next year. Watch out! That dog is going to bite you. It looks as though it's going to rain.</p> <p>Form: to be + going to + infinitive</p> <p>THE FUTURE WITH THE PRESENT CONT.</p> <p>The present continuous structure can be used for the future if you are discussing plans or arrangements which are certain. e.g. I'm visiting the amusement park tomorrow. She's playing tennis with Sue next Thursday.</p> <p>Form: subject + (be) + -ing</p>
<p>PRESENT PERFECT</p> <p>The present perfect is used for actions completed in the past which are still true at the time of speaking. The exact time is not important. e.g. I have already studied chapter one. She has been to Nepal three times.</p> <p>Form: Subject + (have) + past participle</p> <p>Note the difference between 'has/have gone' and 'has/have been': e.g. She's gone to the store. [And she's there now.] I've been to India. [The trip is completed and now I've returned.]</p>	<p>PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS</p> <p>The present perfect continuous tense is used to describe how long something has been happening up to the point of speaking. "for" or "since" are generally used with this tense. e.g. I have been studying Latin for ten years. She has been working as a nurse since 2002. I've been working a lot.</p> <p>Form: has/have + been + verb + -ing</p>
<p><u>PAST PERFECT</u></p> <p>The past perfect is often used to relate to events which occurred in the past; it demonstrates which of two or more events occurred first.</p> <p>e.g. <i>By the time I arrived, the film <u>had started</u>.</i> <i>I <u>had</u> already <u>been</u> to the store by the time you</i></p>	<p><u>PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS</u></p> <p>The past perfect continuous tense is used to talk about actions that lasted for a longer period of time up to the point of speaking.</p> <p>e.g. His eyes were tired because he <u>had been</u></p>

returned home.

Form: had + past participle

reading all day.

We had been living in India for three years when we first met Ingrid.

Form: had + been + verb + -ing

ZERO CONDITIONAL

Conditionals consist of an 'if clause' and a main clause. The 'if clause' usually comes first, but the clauses can also be reversed.

The zero conditional is used for a small number of 'if' propositions. It is more definite than the other conditionals.

e.g. *If water is heated to 212 degrees, it boils.*

Form: If + present simple + present simple.

FIRST CONDITIONAL

The first conditional is used to express the possible occurrence of an event; the outcome of the main clause depends to some degree on the 'if clause' becoming true.

e.g. *If you leave before ten, you will/can catch the train.*

Form: If + present simple + will or can.

SECOND CONDITIONAL

The second conditional is used when the 'if clause' is unlikely or untrue in the present or future, or to express hopes and desires.

e.g. *If we had £500, we could go to Italy.*

Form: If + simple past + would or could.

THIRD CONDITIONAL

The third conditional is used to talk about things which did not happen in the past. It is often used to express regret or criticism.

e.g. *If I had studied more, I would have done better in the exam.*

Form: if+ past perfect + would (OR could, OR might) have + past participle

THE PASSIVE

The passive (vs. active) tense shifts the positions of the subject and object; in passive sentences, the subject (in the object position) is generally not expressed. The passive tense is more frequently used in writing than in speaking.

e.g.

	<i>is</i>	
	<i>is being</i>	
	<i>was</i>	
<i>The work</i>	<i>was being</i>	<i>done.</i>
	<i>has been</i>	
	<i>had been</i>	
	<i>will be</i>	
	<i>will have</i>	

MUST VS. HAVE TO

When used to express obligation or necessity, "must" and "have to" are interchangeable in the present simple.

e.g. *I have to finish writing this essay.
I must finish writing this essay.*

"Must" does not have a form in the past simple to express obligation or necessity. Use "had to".

e.g. *She had to work late last night.*

"Must" and "have to" can be used to express certainty in the present simple.

<div style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto; padding: 2px;"> been </div> <p><i>Tolstoy completed "War and Peace" in 1869.</i> [Active] <i>War and Peace was completed in 1869.</i> [Passive]</p> <p>Form: subject + to be in the relevant tense + the past participle</p>	<p>e.g. <i>She <u>has to be</u> the brightest student in the school.</i> <i>He <u>must be</u> the best footballer in Argentina.</i></p> <p>To express certainty in the past, use "must".</p> <p>e.g. <i>He <u>must have failed</u> the test because he never studied.</i> <i>I <u>must have forgotten</u> my watch at home. I can't find it anywhere.</i></p> <p>In the negative, "must" and "have to" have different meanings. "Must" means something is prohibited. "Have to" means that there is no obligation to do something.</p> <p>e.g. <i>You <u>mustn't smoke</u> in the train.</i> <i>I <u>don't have to</u> wake up too early tomorrow morning.</i></p>
<p>VERB + INFINITIVE</p> <p>There is a small group of verbs which are normally followed by the infinitive. Among the most common are: <i>want, need, get, ask, prepare, offer, help, decide, learn, seem, prefer.</i></p> <p>e.g. <i>She wants to eat a bar of chocolate.</i> <i>He has decided to visit Borneo.</i> <i>The teacher asked him to close the door.</i></p>	<p><u>USED TO VS. TO BE USED TO</u></p> <p>"to be/get/become used to something" is different from "to used to do something" and is used to show that the speaker has been habituated to something.</p> <p>e.g. <i>After awhile you <u>get used to</u> the smell.</i> <i>I <u>m used to</u> my schedule.</i></p> <p><i>I <u>used to</u> live in Russia.</i> <i>I <u>used to</u> play soccer.</i></p>
<p><u>QUESTION TAGS</u></p> <p>Question tags are short questions placed at the end of declarative sentences. If the main part of the sentence is affirmative, then the question tag is negative; and vice versa. If the main part of the sentences uses an auxiliary verb (or 'to be'), then this is part of the question tag.</p> <p>e.g. <i>You're from England, aren't you?</i> <i>She's been to Chile, hasn't she?</i> <i>You're washing the dishes this time, aren't you?</i> <i>You haven't eaten yet, have you?</i></p>	

They went to Ibiza last summer, didn't they?

DIRECT AND INDIRECT SPEECH

Indirect or reported speech (vs. direct or quoted speech) is used to report what someone has said. When speech is reported, it usually changes by moving back one tense from that which is used in original speech.

e.g. *"It's hot."*-----*She said (that) it was hot.*
"I'm finishing my homework."-----*He said (that) he was finishing his homework.*
"I've been busy."-----*She said (that) she had been busy.*
"I swam 3 km yesterday."-----*He said (that) he had swum 3 km yesterday.*
"I've been working a lot."-----*She said (that) she had been working a lot.*

RELATIVE CLAUSES

There are two types of relative clauses: defining and non-defining.

Defining clauses provide essential information about the subject; if removed, the meaning of the sentence changes. Defining clauses are not preceded by a comma.

e.g. *Teachers who don't give clear explanations are not well respected.*

Non-defining clauses provide extra information about the subject. They are enclosed by commas.

e.g. *Peter, who just returned from Lebanon, is giving a speech about his travels.*

There are several relative pronouns which introduce relative clauses; they take the place of the noun-subject which appears earlier in the sentence. With non-defining clauses, the use of relative pronouns is less strict, especially in speech.

	Person	Thing	Place	Time	Reason
Subject	who/that	which/that			
Object	who/whom/that/ø	which/that/ø	where	when	why
Possessive	whose	whose			

e.g. *A carpenter is someone who builds furniture.*
A pharmacy is a place where you can buy medicine.
A knife is a tool which you use to cut things.

PARADIGMS

The Italians are very aware of the different forms of verbs (what they call the Paradigmi). These different forms are the simple present, the simple past, the past participle and the gerund.

§ For regular verbs, the simple past, the past participle are the same. The past and the past participle are both formed by adding an "ed" onto the simple form of the verb.

§ However, there are many irregular verbs.

e.g. Simple present: I play football.
Simple past: Yesterday, I played football.
Past participle: I have played football for 3 years

I go, I went, I have gone.
I see, I saw, I have seen.

REGULAR VERBS

They form the simple past and the past participle by adding **ed** to the simple present.

Simple Present	Simple Past	Past Participle	Gerund
love	lo <u>ved</u>	lo <u>ved</u>	lo <u>ving</u>
play	play <u>ed</u>	play <u>ed</u>	play <u>ing</u>
dance	danc <u>ed</u>	danc <u>ed</u>	danc <u>ing</u>
kiss	kiss <u>ed</u>	kiss <u>ed</u>	kiss <u>ing</u>
work	work <u>ed</u>	work <u>ed</u>	work <u>ing</u>
live	liv <u>ed</u>	liv <u>ed</u>	liv <u>ing</u>
jump	jump <u>ed</u>	jump <u>ed</u>	jump <u>ing</u>

IRREGULAR VERBS

<u>Simple Present</u>	<u>Simple Past</u>	<u>Past Participle</u>	<u>Gerund</u>
see	saw	seen	see <u>ing</u>
do	did	done	do <u>ing</u>
go	went	gone	go <u>ing</u>
write	wrote	written	writ <u>ing</u>
know	knew	known	know <u>ing</u>
eat	ate	eaten	eat <u>ing</u>
think	thought	thought	think <u>ing</u>
drink	drank	drunk	drink <u>ing</u>
leave	left	left	leav <u>ing</u>

GERUNDS

A gerund is the simple form of the verb followed by an "ing".
Gerunds can be used as nouns or in the present continuous.

e.g. **Running** (Noun) is fun.
Now, he is **running**. (Present continuous)

NB: This is difficult for Italians because Italians say: Now he runs, or to run is good.

SAXON GENITIVE

Shows possession by adding an " 's " to the end of the possessor.

e.g. That is Jack's dog.
Jack's dog runs very fast.

NB: Not to be confused with contractions ending in "s". Such as "that's". The possessive "its" does not take an apostrophe: Jack's dog runs to **its (Jack's dog's)** house because **it's (it is)** raining.

THE AUXILIARY VERB TO DO

TO DO can be used as an auxiliary verb to form questions and negatives in the simple present.

e.g. Do I speak? Do you speak? Does he speak? I don't like pizza. He doesn't like pizza.

Negative: Subject + do/does + Not + Verb.

In the past tense, questions and negative responses are formed with the auxiliary DID.

DID + subject + verb?

e.g. Did I speak? Did you speak? Did he speak?

Negative: Subject + DID + not + verb.

e.g. I did not speak. He did not speak.

NB: The words Do, Does and Did do not exist in the Italian language.

e.g. Italians say:

You speak? or Speak you?

You have a car?

In English, we say:

Do you speak?

Do you have a car?

You should emphasise the importance of these words to the children.

ADVERBS OF FREQUENCY

ALWAYS, OFTEN, FREQUENTLY, USUALLY, NORMALLY, GENERALLY, SOMETIMES, OCCASIONALLY, RARELY, NOT OFTEN, HARDLY EVER, NEVER.

They are before the verb but after the verb **TO BE**.

e.g. I **always** play football

He is **always** late.

COMPARATIVES AND SUPERLATIVES

Irregular adjectives:

good

better than

the best of/in

bad

worse than

the worst of/in

Short adjectives (with one syllable):

old

older than

the oldest of/in

young

younger than

the youngest of/in

Long adjectives (with two or more syllables):

Beautiful

more beautiful than

the most beautiful of/in

Intelligent

more intelligent than

the most intelligent of/in

MODAL VERBS

A modal verb has the same form in all persons.

e.g. I/you/he/she/it/we/you/they **can** come.

Can/Could: talks about ability or opportunity.

e.g. I **can** drive.

In the past tense, we always use **could**.

e.g. **Could** you drive?

I **couldn't** play.

Must and **have to** are modal auxiliaries that express necessity.

e.g. I **must** go (I have decided)

I **have to** go (someone has decided for me)

In the past tense:

I had to go.

Did you have to go?

You did not have to go.

In the future tense:

I will have to go.

Will you have to go?

They will not have to go.