

# Quick Study®

## ACADEMIC

# ESL English as a second language

Vocabulary, Popular Phrases and Expressions, Nouns, Pronouns, Adjectives & More

## THE ALPHABET

There are twenty-six letters in the English alphabet:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	

## MEASURES

### Distance

1 inch = 2.54 centimeters  
 1 foot = 12 inches = 0.3048 meter  
 1 yard = 3 feet  
 1 mile = 5,280 feet  
 3 miles = 4.83 kilometers  
 1 acre = 43,560 square feet

### Weight

1 ounce = 1/16 of a pound  
 1 pound = 16 ounces

### Liquid

1 pint = 0.5505 liter  
 1 quart = 2 pints  
 1 gallon = 4 quarts

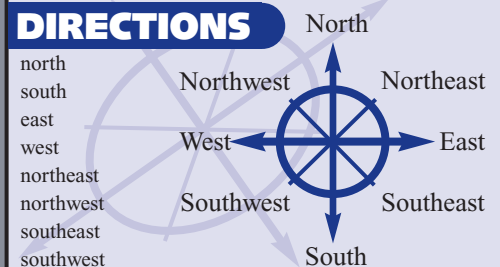
## CARDINAL NUMBERS

0- zero	21- twenty-one
1- one	22- twenty-two
2- two	23- twenty-three
3- three	30- thirty
4- four	31- thirty-one
5- five	32- thirty-two
6- six	40- forty
7- seven	41- forty-one
8- eight	42- forty-two
9- nine	50- fifty
10- ten	51- fifty-one
11- eleven	60- sixty
12- twelve	70- seventy
13- thirteen	80- eighty
14- fourteen	90- ninety
15- fifteen	100- one hundred
16- sixteen	200- two hundred
17- seventeen	1000- one thousand
18- eighteen	10,000- ten thousand
19- nineteen	1,000,000 - 1 million
20- twenty	1,000,000,000 - 1 billion

## ORDINALS

1st	first
2nd	second
3rd	third
4th	fourth
5th	fifth
6th	sixth
7th	seventh
8th	eighth
9th	ninth
10th	tenth
100th	one hundredth
124th	one hundred and twenty-fourth

## DIRECTIONS



## DAYS OF THE WEEK

- "What day is it?"
- "Today is January 1st, 2001, a new century!"

Monday  
 Tuesday  
 Wednesday  
 Thursday  
 Friday  
 Saturday  
 Sunday  
 the weekend = Saturday, Sunday

## MONTHS OF THE YEAR

January	July
February	August
March	September
April	October
May	November
June	December

## THE SEASONS

spring summer fall winter

## TIME

### The Past:

- last week  
 - the day before yesterday  
 - yesterday

### The Present:

- today

### The Future:

- tomorrow  
 - the day after tomorrow  
 - next week

### The Time:

"What time is it?"

"It is a quarter of two."

morning – AM (before noon)

afternoon – PM (after noon)

evening – after 7PM

night

12 PM – noon

12 AM – midnight

2:10 AM – two ten (in the morning)

3:15 PM – three fifteen or quarter past three (in the afternoon)

4:30 PM – four thirty or half past four (in the evening)

5:35 AM – five thirty-five or twenty-five of six (in the morning)

11:45 PM – eleven forty-five or quarter of twelve (in the evening)

## WEATHER, CLIMATE

"How's the weather?"

"It's sunny."

"What's the temperature outside?"

"It's cold, it's 20 degrees."

1. It's cloudy.
2. It's freezing.
3. It's cold.
4. It's raining.
5. It's snowing.
6. It's stormy.
7. It's sunny.
8. It's hot.
9. It's thundering.
10. It's windy.

## COLORS



## A FEW GREETINGS

Hello  
 Good morning  
 Good evening  
 Good night

### GREETINGS

"How are you?"  
 "What's your name?"  
 "Thank-you."  
 "Let me introduce you to Mary."  
 "Speak slowly, please."  
 "Goodbye."

### COMMON RESPONSES

"I am fine, thank-you, and you?"  
 "My name is Peter."  
 "You are welcome."  
 "Hello Mary, delighted to meet you."  
 "I am sorry."  
 "Goodbye, it was nice meeting you."

# NOUNS

Nouns are names for:

- People: *boy, woman, Mary*
- Places: *New York, Paris, home, store*
- Animals: *dog, horse, worm*
- Things: *car, book, computer*
- Ideas: *honesty, beauty*

There are:

- Common Nouns:** building, planet, boy
- Proper Nouns:** White House, Earth, George

There are two types of nouns:

<b>Count Noun</b> a book, a store	<b>Noncount Noun</b> water, honesty
<b>Count</b> [singular & plural] <i>two</i> books <i>some</i> books <i>a lot of</i> books <i>many</i> books <i>a few</i> books	<b>Noncount</b> [no plural] <i>some</i> water <i>some</i> water <i>a lot of</i> water <i>much</i> water <i>a little</i> water

- In grammar, **noncount** nouns cannot be counted.
- The **verb** following a noncount noun is always **singular**.  
A lot of water **passes** under the bridge.
- A **noncount** noun never takes the indefinite article **a/an**.
- Here are a few common noncount noun categories and examples:

<b>Whole groups</b>	<b>Abstract nouns</b>	<b>Small items</b>
mail food traffic	beauty luck music	hair salt sugar
<b>Big masses</b>	<b>Languages</b>	<b>Other</b>
ice smoke paper	French Arabic Spanish	weather heat soccer

- Expressions of quantity come before a noun:
- Some are used with only count nouns.
- Some are used with only noncount nouns.
- Some are used with both.

Expression of quantity:

<b>Count noun:</b>	
one	book
each/every	book
two/both/a couple of	books
three, etc.	books
a few/several	books
many/a number of	books

<b>Noncount nouns:</b>	
a little	water
much	water
a great deal of	water

For both count and noncount nouns:

not any/no	book/water
some	books/water
a lot of/lots of/plenty of	books/water
most	books/water
all	books/water

# PLURALS OF NOUNS

-For most **regular plurals**, add an **-s** to the word:  
(coins, apples)

**Other Noun Plurals**

- When the singular ends in **s, sh, ch, x, z**; add **-es** (classes)
- When the singular ends in **o**, add **-s** exceptions: tomatoes, potatoes, echoes, heroes
- When the singular ends in **y** (preceded by a vowel), only **-s** is added (toys)
- When the singular ends in **y** (preceded by a consonant) **-ies** is added (babies)

Nouns that end in **-f** or **-fe** change to **-ves** endings:

calf, calves	life, lives	shelf, shelves
half, halves	loaf, loaves	thief, thieves
knife, knives	self, selves	wolf, wolves
leaf, leaves	scarf, scarves	

**Exceptions:** beliefs, chiefs, cliffs, roofs

-Following are some **irregular plurals**:

child, <i>children</i>	mouse, <i>mice</i>
foot, <i>feet</i>	ox, <i>oxen</i>
louse, <i>lice</i>	tooth, <i>teeth</i>
man, <i>men</i>	woman, <i>women</i>

-Some nouns in English come from other languages and have **foreign plurals**:

analysis, <i>analyses</i>	hypothesis, <i>hypotheses</i>
appendix, <i>appendices</i> , <i>appendixes</i>	index, <i>indices</i> , <i>indexes</i> medium, <i>media</i>
bacterium, <i>bacteria</i>	memorandum, <i>memoranda</i>
basis, <i>bases</i>	oasis, <i>oases</i>
cactus, <i>cacti</i> , <i>cactuses</i>	parenthesis, <i>parentheses</i>
crisis, <i>crises</i>	phenomenon, <i>phenomena</i>
criterion, <i>criteria</i>	stimulus, <i>stimuli</i>
curriculum, <i>curricula</i>	syllabus, <i>syllabi</i> , <i>syllabuses</i>
datum, <i>data</i>	datus, <i>theses</i>
formula, <i>formulae</i> , <i>formulas</i>	vertebra, <i>vertebrae</i>

# ARTICLES

- Articles are words that modify nouns.
- There are two types of articles:

## DEFINITE ARTICLES (THE)

*Definite articles* are used with **singular count nouns**, **plural count nouns**, and **noncount nouns**.

- When the noun is **known** to the speakers:  
The car I have is very expensive.  
The question they want to ask is about homework.

-When the noun is **"the only one"** of its kind:

- The sun rises in the east.
- The moon is full.
- The door is locked. (There is only one door.)

-When the noun is a representative of a **general class** of items.

- The computer is the most important invention.
- The piano is a beautiful instrument.

## INDEFINITE ARTICLES (A, AN)

-*Indefinite articles* are used with **singular count nouns** only:  
**a** bird, **a** boy, **a** book, **a** dictionary, **a** piece of cake.

-Use **an** with a noun that begins with a **vowel sound**:  
an apple, an examination, an hour; (a university, a hotel because "university" and "hotel" begin with a consonant pronunciation).

-When the noun is **unknown** to the speakers:

- I have **a** car.
- Mary has **a** test tomorrow.
- They want to ask **a** question.

-When the noun is being introduced for the first time:

- A** banana is usually yellow.
- A** book is a good friend on a long trip.

## NO ARTICLE

Plural count nouns and noncount nouns do **not** need *definite articles* when they are referring to ALL of the items.

**Plural count nouns:**

I love apples.	(apples, in general)
The apples in this box are bad.	(specific apples)
Books are expensive.	(books, in general)
The books in that store are cheap.	(specific books)
That store has computers.	(computers, in general)
The computers they have are old.	(specific computers)

**Noncount nouns:**

I love coffee.	(coffee, in general)
The coffee in this cup is cold.	(specific coffee)
Japanese enjoy rice.	(rice, in general)
The rice I ate last night was good.	(specific rice)
Water is necessary.	(water, in general)
The water here isn't good to drink.	(specific water)

**REMEMBER:** A singular count noun CANNOT appear alone.

It must have;

- an article: **a** book, **the** car, **an** uncle
- a demonstrative: **this** TV, **that** radio, **this** newspaper
- OR
- a possessive: **my** pen, **her** key, **Mary's** room

# PRONOUNS

Pronouns take the place of a noun; they are **noun substitutes**:

- boy = **he**
- book = **it**
- Mary = **she**

## PERSONAL PRONOUNS

-**Subject pronouns:** (refer to the subject)

I (I speak English)	we
you	you
he, she, it	they

-**Object pronouns:** (refer to the object of the verb)

me (Jan called me.)	us
you	you
him, her, it	them

-**Possessive Pronouns:** (indicate ownership)

mine (This book is mine.)	ours
yours	yours
his, hers, its	theirs

-**Reflexive pronouns:** (refer to the subject, sometimes used for emphasis)

myself (I like to drive myself.)	ourselves
yourself	yourselves
himself, herself, itself	themselves

-The expression **by** + a reflexive pronoun usually means **"alone"** (He lives by himself.)

-**Indefinite pronouns (non-specific):**

- everyone (Everyone has his or her idea.)
- everybody
- everything
- someone
- somebody
- something (Did I leave something on the table?)
- anyone
- anybody (Anybody is welcome.)
- anything
- no one (No one attended the meeting.)
- nobody
- nothing

## IMPERSONAL PRONOUNS

-**One** means "any person, people in general."

(*One should always be on time.*)

-**You** means "any person, people in general."

(*I am lost; how do you get to the train station from here?*)

# ADJECTIVES

## ADJECTIVES

Adjectives give more **information** about nouns:

- The following are called **descriptive** adjectives; they describe the noun.  
**good** student, **bad** student, **intelligent** student, **hot** day, **hot** food, **cold** day, **cold** food.

-The following **endings** are often found on adjectives:

- y (*milky*), -ous (*joyous*), -ful (*hopeful*),
- able (*workable*), -less (*helpless*)

**Example:** He is a joyous child.

## COMPARISONS

**Two nouns with adjectives can be compared:**

-In most cases, add **-er** to an adjective to make a comparison.

- Earth is big. Uranus is **bigger** (than earth).
- Sugar is sweet. Honey is **sweeter** (than sugar).

-In adjectives with more than two syllables, use **more** to compare.

- John is handsome. Peter is **more** handsome.
- Algebra is difficult. Calculus is **more** difficult.

**When comparing more than two nouns with adjectives, use the superlative:**

- Add **the** and **-est** to adjectives which use **-er**. Use **the most** with adjectives with more than two syllables.
- Earth is big. Uranus is bigger. Jupiter is **the biggest** of all planets.
- Algebra is difficult. Calculus is more difficult. Nuclear physics is **the most difficult** of all subjects.

## POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES

-Describe ownership:

my (My car is blue.)	our
your	your
his	their
her	their
its	their

**Possession with 's**

-Another way to show possession is with 's.  
This book belongs to John. (John has a book.)  
This is John's book. (It's his book.)

-If a noun is singular, use only 's.  
the boy's book      the dog's food  
the girl's hat      the man's car

-If a noun is plural, use only 's.  
the boys' books      the dogs' food  
the girls' hats

-If a noun has an irregular plural with no s, then use 's.  
the men's cars      the children's toys

-If a noun or name has an "s", use either ' or 's.  
Thomas' book or Thomas's book

**DEMONSTRATIVE ADJECTIVES**

**-Singular**  
*this* book (CLOSE to speaker)      **This** book is red.  
*that* car (FAR from speaker)      **That** book is blue.

**-Plural**  
*these* houses (CLOSE to speaker)      **These** books are red.  
*those* chairs (FAR from speaker)      **Those** books are blue.

**ADVERBS**

-Adverbs give information about **verbs, adjectives** and **adverbs**.

-Adverbs are often formed by adding **-ly** to an adjective:  
He spoke quickly. (adjective=quick)

**Adv**  
They are extremely intelligent.

**Adv**      **Adj**  
She opened the box very carefully.

-Adverbs often answer questions:

**Adverb**      **Answer**  
"How?"      She opens the present **quickly**.  
"Where?"      She opens the present **inside**.  
"When?"      She opened the present **yesterday**.  
"To what extent?"      She opens the present **very quickly**.

-Adverbs express **time** (tomorrow, yesterday, today, early, late, etc.):  
John arrives tomorrow.

-Frequency Adverbs (**sometimes, usually, often, never**, etc.) tell "how often" some action happens:

"How often do you smoke?" "I never smoke."  
100% <=> 50% => <=> 0%  
always usually sometimes rarely never  
often occasionally seldom not ever  
hardly ever

-Adverbs of frequency come **BEFORE** verbs

[simple present & past]  
(**usually comes, never ate, often do, never had**):  
She usually comes at 8 PM.

-They come **AFTER** the verb "**be**" [simple present & past] (**is usually, are never, was often, were rarely**):  
She is usually on time.

-Frequency adverbs come **BETWEEN** an auxiliary and main verb  
(**has always been, will never eat, had often come**):  
She has always been on time.

**COMPARISON WITH ADVERBS**

-With one syllable adverbs, use **-er** when two persons or two things are compared:

He came **later** than I did.  
She wakes up **earlier** than the rest of us do.  
Mary types **faster** than I do.

-With three or more nouns add **-est** (latest, earliest, slowest, etc.).  
Alice types fastest of all of us.

-Most adverbs that end in **-ly** use the word **more** when comparing two verbs + adverbs:  
He runs more quickly (than his brother).  
She speaks more clearly (than her classmates).

-When comparing more than two verbs and adverbs, use **the most**:  
He runs more quickly than his brother, but his cousin runs the most quickly (of the three).

-Some adverbs change their forms completely when they are used in comparisons:

well      better      best  
badly      worse      worst  
much      more      most  
little      less      least

**PREPOSITIONS**

-Prepositions are words that show a special **relationship** between two things.

-Prepositions also answer such questions as **where?** **when?** and **how?**

The students are **in** the library. (Where are they?)  
John is coming **by** bus. (How is he coming?)  
She leaves **at** 8:00 a.m. (When does she leave?)

**Common Prepositions:**

about	before	despite	of	to[ward][s]
above	behind	down	off	under
across	below	during	on	until
after	beneath	for	out	up[on]
against	beside[s]	from	over	with
along	between	in[to]	through	within/without
among	beyond	like	throughout	
around	by	near	till	
at				

-Many verbs are **followed** by prepositions.

-It is important to learn both the **verb** and the **preposition**.

-The meaning of a verb will change depending on the preposition which follows it.

**Verb and Preposition Combinations:**

get on	listen for	stand for	wait for
get out	listen to	stand out	wait on
get up		stand up	

**CONNECTING INDEPENDENT CLAUSES**

-An independent clause is a sentence [Subj + Vb] that has meaning when it stands by itself.  
I need help.

S V  
She likes soccer.  
S V

-Independent clauses can be combined with "connectors" or **conjunctions** which show the relationship between the first and second clause.

-The first clause in all the examples below is the same; however, the second clauses are different.

-**AND** signals an addition of equal importance:  
John is sick, **and** he is not going to school today.

-**BUT (YET)** signals a contrast:  
John is sick, **but** he is going to school today.

-**OR** signals choice:  
John is sick, **or** he is a very good actor.

-**SO** signals a result:  
John is sick, **so** he is not going to school today.

-**FOR** signals a reason:  
John is sick, **for** he got a cold in the rain.

-Use a **comma** between the first independent clause and the second.

**PAIRED CONJUNCTIONS**

-When two subjects are **connected**, the subject closer to the verb determines whether the verb is singular or plural.

(**not only + noun + but also + noun**):  
**Not only** my brother **but also** my sister is in Europe.

(**either + noun + or + noun**):  
**Either** my brother **or** my sister will be in Europe.

(**neither + noun + nor + noun**):  
**Neither** my brother **nor** my sister is in Europe.  
**Neither** my brothers **nor** my sisters are in Europe.

-When two subjects are connected by **both**, they take a **plural verb**:

**both + noun + and + noun**:  
**Both** my brother **and** my sister are in Europe.

**THE ENGLISH SENTENCE**

-A sentence usually has a subject [S] and a verb [V].

**Boys run.**      **People eat.**      **Fish swim.**  
S V      S V      S V

-Some sentences also have an **object** [O].

People eat **food**.  
S V O  
Mary enjoyed **the movie**.  
S V O  
They need **passports**.  
S V O

-Some sentences also have an **indirect object** [IO].

John gave a present to **me**.  
IO  
John gave **me** a present. [no preposition]  
IO

**CLAUSES**

-Basically, a sentence is a "clause."

-A clause has a **subject** and a **verb**.

-There are two basic clauses in English: **independent** and **dependent** clauses.

**I'm going to the store**      *because I need milk.*  
[independent]      [dependent]

-The dependent clause needs the independent clause for complete meaning.

-There are **THREE** types of **DEPENDENT** clauses in English. Each of them has a name which describes what each does in a sentence:

**adjective clauses, noun clauses, and adverb clauses.**

-**Adjective clauses** work like adjectives; they give more information about nouns they are describing.

-**WHO** is used for persons.

-**WHICH** is used for things.

-**THAT** is used for both.

**Examples:**

**Which** girl?      The girl **who is talking** is my cousin.  
**Which** doctor?      I have a doctor **who is very famous**.  
**Which** actor died?      The actor **who was in that movie** died last month.  
**Which** book?      The book **which you borrowed** is my sister's.  
**Which** flight?      The flight **which we were taking** was canceled.

-**WHOSE** is used for possession:

My friend **whose car was stolen** went to the police. (his car)  
I met a girl **whose mother is a pilot**. (her mother is a pilot)

**NOUN CLAUSES**

-**Noun clauses** are used like nouns. A noun can be a **subject** or an **object** in a sentence. A noun clause can also be a subject or an object of a sentence.

**Subjects of Sentence**

Lateness  
Your coming late  
That you came late  
That he didn't do his work  
His absence  
} makes me angry.

-When a noun clause is used as a subject, the word **that** must be used.

-The subject **it** can also be used by placing the noun clause at the end of the sentence:

**It** makes me angry **that** you came late.  
**It** makes me angry **that** he didn't do his work.

**Objects of Sentence**

I know { something  
your name  
French  
\*[that] your birthday is tomorrow.  
\*[that] Washington was the first president.  
\*[that] is optional.

**ADVERB CLAUSES**

-Adverb clauses are used like adverbs.  
 -They answer questions like **when?**, **why?**, **how long?**  
 -Adverb clauses show **relationships** between two sentences:  
**-Time**  
 I've been here **since** I was young.  
 They came **after** we had eaten dinner.  
 The student stood **when** the teacher entered.

**-Future Time Clauses**  
 -When talking about the future:  
 -The verb in the TIME CLAUSE is always **present** tense.  
 -The main verb is **future** tense:  
 When I get home, I will call you.  
 Mary will be here when she finishes her work.  
 When you press this button, the police will come.

**-Cause & Effect**  
 We can't go swimming because it's raining.  
 It's raining so we can't go swimming.

**-Opposition**  
 Although it's cold, I'm going swimming.  
 She got a good grade even though she didn't study.

**-Condition**  
 If it rains, we will cancel the picnic.  
 I would have gone if I had known about the party.

**-Purpose**  
 She came early so that she could get a good seat.

**MAKING SENTENCES NEGATIVE**

-You can make a sentence negative by putting the word **not** with the **auxiliary** form of the verb.

Verb Tense	Auxiliary	Negative	Contractions
simple present	do/does	do not/does not	don't/doesn't
present continuous	am/are/is	am not/is not/are not	am not/aren't/isn't
simple past	did	did not	didn't
past continuous	was/were	was not/were not	wasn't/weren't
simple future	will	will not	won't
future continuous	will be	will not be	won't be
present perfect	have/has	have not/has not	haven't/hasn't
presperf continuous	have/has been	have not/has not been	hadn't/hasn't been
past perfect	had	had not	hadn't
pastperf continuous	had been	had not been	hadn't been
future perfect	will have	will not have	won't have
futperf continuous	will have been	will not have been	won't have been

-Do not use **DOUBLE NEGATIVES**, they are always incorrect.  
 Correct: Don't touch anything.  
 Incorrect: Don't touch nothing.

**ASKING QUESTIONS**

There are two kinds of questions:  
**1. Yes/No Questions** (Require either a "yes" or "no" answer.)  

Auxiliary	Subject	Verb(base form)	?
[tense+sing/plur]			
Do	they	live	here?
Are	you and I	going	tomorrow?
Did	he	do	his work?
Will	she	come	next week?
Has	Mary	eaten	yet?

 -Remember that the auxiliary carries tense information and sometimes "number" information about the subject.

Examples	Question with auxiliary
They speak English.	DO they speak English?
He smokes.	DOES he smoke?
I am doing well.	AM I doing well?
She is listening.	IS she listening?
We are leaving now.	ARE we leaving now?
She cooked dinner.	DID she cook dinner?
They arrived late.	DID they arrive late?
It was raining.	WAS it raining?
They were working.	WERE they working?
He will understand.	WILL he understand?
He will be leaving soon.	WILL he be leaving soon?
He has been sick.	HAS he been sick?
They have eaten.	HAVE they eaten?
You have been eating well.	HAVE you been eating well?
It has been snowing a lot.	HAS it been snowing a lot?
They had come early.	HAD they come early?
She had been eating.	HAD she been eating?
You will have been living here one year tomorrow.	WILL you have been living here one year tomorrow?

2. **"WH" Questions** (To ask for specific information.)  
 -"WH" questions follow the same pattern as yes/no questions, **except** the first word in a Wh-question is the WH-word, not the auxiliary.

WH-word	Auxiliary	Subject	Verb
?	[tense + sing/plur]		[base form]
When	do	you	eat dinner?
Where	has	he	learned English?
Why	did	Mary	come late?
Whose car [noun]	will	you	borrow?
Which hotel [noun]	have	they	chosen?
How	does	Bob	go to work?
X	X	Who*	is going tomorrow?
Who[m]**	are	you	marrying ?
What	has	she	bought me?

\*Who in this sentence is asking a question about the SUBJECT of the sentence. When you are asking any kind of **WH-question** about the SUBJECT of the sentence, do **not** use an auxiliary in your question.

**Three children** have been injured. [subject]  
**HOW MANY CHILDREN** have been injured? [no auxiliary]  
 She has **three children**. [object]  
**HOW MANY CHILDREN** does she have? [auxiliary needed]  
 The **blue car** has more power. [subject]  
**WHICH CAR** has more power? [no auxiliary]  
 We prefer the **blue car**. [object]  
**WHICH CAR** do you prefer? [auxiliary needed]

\*\*Whom is used when asking a question about the OBJECT of a sentence.  
 -It is often very FORMAL.  
 -Today, many people do not use the form **whom**; instead, they use "**who**."  
 -There is one exception:  
**Whom** are you talking to?  
**TO whom** are you talking to?  
 -When a preposition comes **before who**, you must use **WHOM**, such as, for **whom**, by **whom**, with **whom**, against **whom**, etc.

WH-word	Meaning/use	Example Answers
when	time	Tomorrow. Two weeks ago. Now.
where	place	At home. Here. In New York.
why	reason	Because I'm sick. To eat lunch.
whose	possession	Mary's book. The man's car.
which	choice	The math homework.
how	manner	Quickly. By bus. Very well.
who	person [subject]	The boy. Mary and John.
whom	person [object]	The boy. Mary and John.
what	things	The dog. The car. The radio.

**TAG QUESTIONS**

-Tag questions are added to the **end** of a sentence to make sure the information is correct or to seek agreement:  
 Mary can go, **can't she?**  
 Robert can't come, **can he?**  
 -Affirmative sentence + negative tag = affirmative answer  
**you like coffee, don't you? = yes, I do**  
 -Negative sentence + affirmative tag = negative answer  
**you don't like coffee, do you? = no I don't**

**NEGATIVE QUESTIONS**

-When asking a negative question, use **not** with the auxiliary and follow the same procedure for asking either "yes/no" or "WH" questions.

Questions	Answers
Didn't you go last night?	No, I didn't.
Why weren't you in class?	I was sick.
Hasn't the mail come?	Yes, it has.
Who didn't come yesterday? [subject]	John & I didn't.

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**CREDITS**

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**NOTE TO STUDENTS**

NOTE TO STUDENT: This **QUICKSTUDY®** guide is an outline of the major topics taught in ESL courses. **Keep it handy** as a quick reference source in the classroom, while doing homework, and as a memory refresher when reviewing prior to exams. Due to its condensed format, use it as a **ESL guide**, but not as a replacement for assigned class work.  
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